

CRITERION

THE STUDENT QUARTERLY OF LA SIERRA UNIVERSITY

FALL 2011







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EDITOR'S NOTE

Personally, I hate introductions, but contrary to the saying, “First impressions aren’t everything,” is, in many cases, inaccurate. First impressions are pretty important. What you’re holding in your hands is a first impression. That is everything.

For those of you who are new to the university, the Criterion is a news publication that is student fueled, guaranteed to present objective investigations, commentary and essays for the benefit of the student body. Pieces will range from both campus/local and national news. The underlining theme of our production of our assembly of words will always be the reliability stories have to the college student. Before reading anything, the question should be asked, “Is this actually something that could effect or have any importance to me?” That’s the beauty of journalism, the “Why should you care?”

There will be slight changes from last year’s production, mostly in appearance. We’ve been fortunate to find a great printer for an extremely reasonable price. This means more pages and issues, but most crucial, color. Expect more than one installment of the Criterion in the following quarters. This is good news.

This quarterly’s main coverage lays down the skinny on the people who promise to make changes this year. SALSU President, Melody Ilacas introduces herself with a new feature entitled, Ten Questions, along with a section dedicated to familiarize her cabinet to the public. Headlining in this issue are exciting informative updates concerning student employment that explain possible lasting effects our young

generation, including La Sierra students might have to face. For your enjoyment, we kick it up with what’s going on in the local music scene with an update on the newly revamped Tuesday Tunes. Finally from overseas, an insightful correspondence on the missionary front coming all the way from the Marshall Islands, Molly McCary details life in a different culture.

This issue is an inauguration to what this news publication stands for, balance coverage of your world. Here at the Criterion we don’t stand behind aspirations, with have something stronger. Commitment. Don’t hope; count on relatable and objective stories, published in a timely and visually appealing manner. There’s no wishing to aspire to uphold a lofty journalistic integrity in my staff, but a guarantee that we will.

Change happens all the times. As creatures of constant movement, we are engines of revolutions. This year will be full of transfigurations, but that’s normal. We’ve said our introductions.

We are the medium of change. Let’s go change the world.

Best,



Israel Carreón
Editor-in-Chief



NEWS



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10 QUESTIONS

FOR MELODY ILACAS, SALSU PRESIDENT

by Israel Carreon



Major?

I am doing a double Masters program, taking a Masters in Divinity (Religion) and Masters in Business Administration.

Be honest. Why did you choose La Sierra University as your home?

I originally checked out LSU to enlighten a friend of mine who was going to attend Loma Linda School of Medicine. While doing my research I found out LSU had an MDiv-MBA program, which I found to be unique. When I applied to LSU, Dr. Doug Clark pursued me and was constantly in communication with me. Then I met Mr. & Mrs. Guerpo and knowing they were praying about my decision between LSU and Andrews put my heart even more at peace. I got an acceptance letter from LSU, and by the time I started at LSU, Andrews had only sent me a housing form. So, I chose LSU because I saw how much the people here wanted me to be here and how much they cared about my future regardless of whether I attended LSU or Andrews.

What are some new strategies you plan to bring to the table in order to bring the campus community closer together?

We would like to utilize the different departments and clubs on campus. We plan on asking clubs to help sponsor SALSU events and lead out in Rendezvous worship to try and get them to be exposed to what they can offer the campus. We also want to try to have spirit days to

help bring up school spirit and cheer on our sports teams. Another thing we want to do is build relationships with the administration, faculty and staff, so we are hoping that some of them will be willing to be the sponsors at our events and not just the people we see all the time as students.

Any special projects you're looking forward to work on this year?

Special projects? Besides working on the AIA (Adventist Intercollegiate Association) project, which is raising funds for Nile Academy in Egypt, I am excited to be seeing ways that we can improve not only SALSU but make La Sierra University better as a whole. So special projects may be in the near future, but those will be revealed in time if they happen.

What are some challenges do you think you'll have as President?

As President, I think I'll have a few challenges. One challenge would definitely be trying to bring our school closer as a community. I think that this will be hard because our campus is what I would consider a commuter campus, so it would be hard to get students to stay on campus for events. I also think that school will be a challenge. As a leader I will have to remember that I am here as a student first. So the challenge will definitely be to make sure my priorities are in order. I know that you can't make everyone happy, so I know trying to find activities that will appeal to everyone will definitely be a challenge.





Brag. What makes you qualified for this job?

I don't like to brag. I have been in student government and leadership positions since I was in 7th grade. I've been Student Association president before, in Junior High, High School, and when I attended Canadian University College for my undergrad, so I know I can do this. In my senior year of my undergraduate studies I was a student advisor to two clubs, president of both the choir and SA, and was involved with many other groups on campus. I also have served on a board of trustees and faculty council as a student representative. But most of all, I believe I am qualified because I feel that God wants me to be a leader on this campus and has placed me into this position for a reason.

Every politician makes promises. Make any yet to the student body?

Promises to the student body would be to listen to their concerns and to be the best representative of the student body that I can be.

That being said, how do you plan to deliver?

I plan on having an open ear and making sure I ask students for their opinion. I also will make sure that when decisions need to be made that I have the best interest of the students and school community in mind.

A year is long, but it isn't forever. How will you prioritize the goals that you wish to accomplish during your term?

I will look at what is needed versus what is wanted. I will also look at what is best for the students and the school not only for the short term but also for the long run.

In the future, how do you want your presidency to be looked upon?

I think I want my presidency to be one where people say that our SALSU contributed to their LSU experience in a positive way. I want my presidency to be one that future SALSU leaders can look at and learn from the way I look at past SALSU Presidents and learn from them.





vice-president

COURTNEY_YOUNG

THIS YEAR I THINK THAT THERE WILL BE A BIG CHANGE IN THE COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE STUDENTS AND ADMINISTRATION.

religious VP

EMILY_GIFFORD

THE CHANGE THAT I WOULD LIKE TO SEE HAPPENING THIS YEAR ON LA SIERRA'S CAMPUS BECAUSE OF MY INVOLVEMENT IN SALSU WOULD BE HAVING OUR STUDENT BODY KNOW THAT THEY ARE ALWAYS WELCOME TO GET INVOLVED.





social VP

RUTHIE_HEAVRIN

THE CHANGE I SEE HAPPENING ON CAMPUS WILL NOT BE BECAUSE OF ME, IT WILL BE BECAUSE OF THE STUDENTS. I AM A SERVANT TO THE STUDENT BODY HERE AND I AM JUST HOPING TO HAVE EVENTS THAT THEY WANT AND WILL HAVE FUN AT.

financial VP

JENNY_ORRALA

ONE OF CHANGES I SEE HAPPENING THIS YEAR ON LA SIERRA'S CAMPUS BECAUSE OF MY INVOLVEMENT IN SALSU IS TO HAVE A SYSTEM IMPLEMENTED IN THE ADMINISTRATION OFFICE THAT WILL ALLOW ORGANIZATIONS AND CLUBS TO ACCESS THEIR FUNDS IN A MORE EFFECTIVE, ACCOUNTABLE, AND SECURE WAY.





publications VP

ALBERDI_DE LA FUENTE

THE ONLY CHANGE THAT THAT I WANTED BEFORE THE SCHOOL YEAR
STARTED WAS THE INVOLVEMENT OF THE STUDENT BODY IN ACTIVITIES
THAT ARE PUT TOGETHER BY THE SALSU TEAM.

WE'RE ALREADY IN THE 5TH WEEK OF SCHOOL AND I'M HAPPY TO SAY THAT
THE CHANGE IS ALREADY HAPPENING.

public relations VP

GARRETT_CALDWELL

SALSU IS DOING MORE VIDEOS AS ADVERTISING THIS YEAR RATHER THAN
RELYING ON PRINTED MEDIA. THAT'S PRETTY EXCITING.





secretary

SHELDON_HADLEY

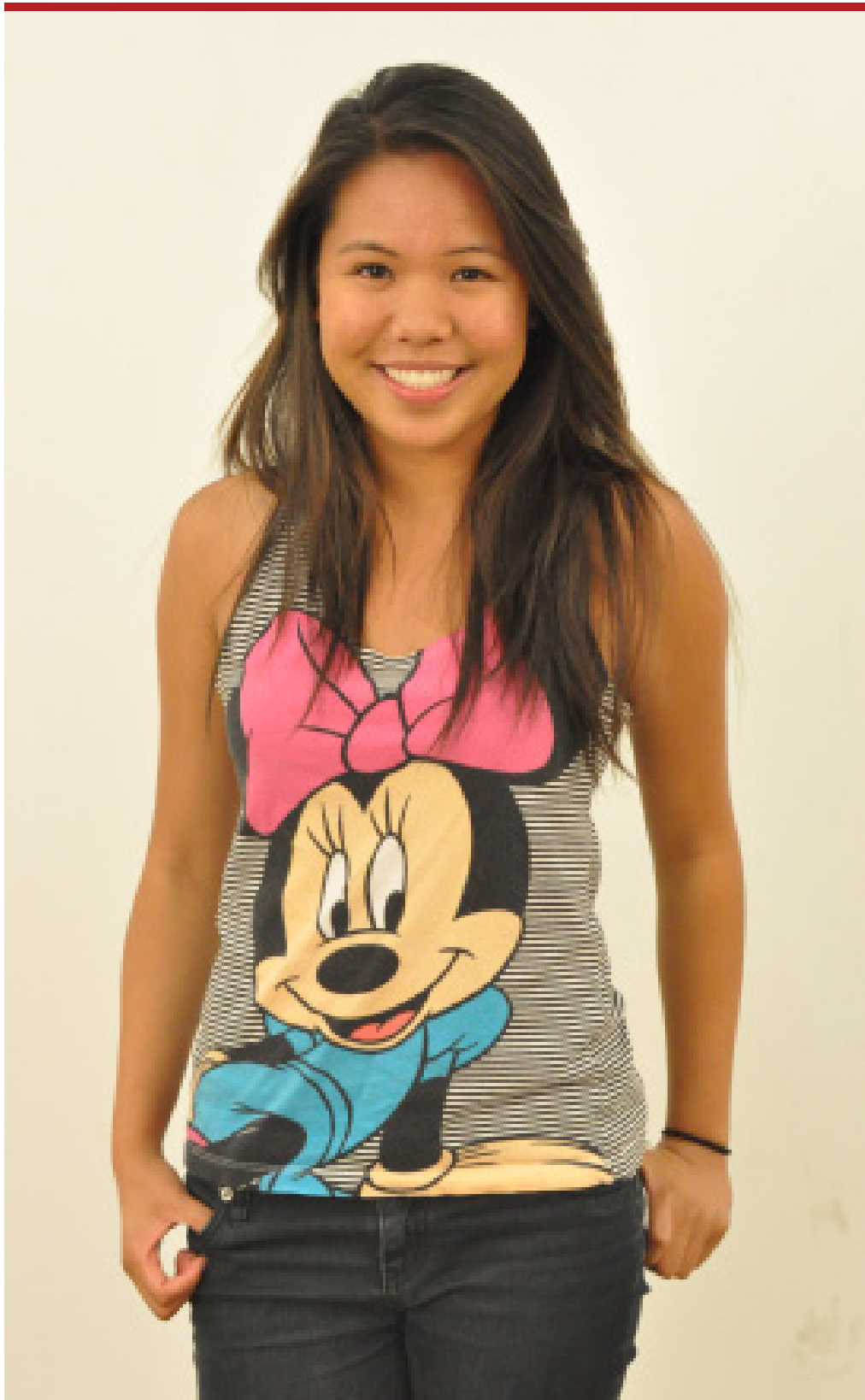
I SEE OUR STUDENT GOVERNMENT GETTING BIGGER AND DEEPER. WE WILL CONTINUE TO DO WHAT WE CAN TO FIX THE PROBLEMS THAT STUDENTS HAVE ON THIS CAMPUS AND TO MAKE IT BETTER. I SEE THERE BEING MORE ACTIVITIES ON WEEKENDS, MORE EVENTS AT DIFFERENT TIMES OF THE WEEK, AND A NEW VARIETY OF EVENTS.

parliamentarian

ALDRICH_SITANGGANG

I SEE OUR STUDENT GOVERNMENT GETTING BIGGER AND DEEPER. WE WILL CONTINUE TO DO WHAT WE CAN TO FIX THE PROBLEMS THAT STUDENTS HAVE ON THIS CAMPUS AND TO MAKE IT BETTER. I SEE THERE BEING MORE ACTIVITIES ON WEEKENDS, MORE EVENTS AT DIFFERENT TIMES OF THE WEEK, AND A NEW VARIETY OF EVENTS.





cabl director

CHRISTINE_JACOB

I SEE A CHANGE IN MORE STUDENT INVOLVEMENT WHILE VIEWING EACH SALSU EVENT AS A TIME TO HAVE FUN AND A HIGHLIGHT TO THEIR COLLEGE EXPERIENCE. I ALSO SEE STUDENTS FINDING ENJOYMENT IN VARIOUS ACTIVITIES THAT PROMOTE A BETTER LIFESTYLE.

INTERESTED IN FILM STUDIES?

THE NEW AND EXCITING MAJOR AT LSU

by *Alyssa Hunt*

Anyone who has ever sat through the end credits of a movie knows that it takes hundreds of people to pull together a film. From the director, to the make-up artist, to the screenwriter, each job is just as important as the next. Since before the 1920's, films have been captivating people all around the world. It is an undeniable fact that the film industry has a very large impact on our society.

“La Sierra University is acknowledging the importance of film by adding a new minor to the 34 already offered on campus.”

about Hollywood and American History. With a Film Studies minor, a student can create their own script in Screenwriting, generate a storyboard in Drawing, get an eye for what looks good in Photography, and learn the history of why films exist. There will even be an opportunity to direct and film an original script.

Along with the well-rounded variety of classes, Film Studies has a large range of professors teaching from departments such as Sociology, History, English, Communications, Graphic Design and Drama. The dedicated teachers create an open environment so students can always feel connected to the class. Suggestions as to improve the new minor are even encouraged by the instructors.

Film Studies also offers opportunities to listen to guest speakers who are familiar with the film industry, go on field trips and, of course, watch films. "The special thing about Film Studies is that anyone who is interested in film can do this minor." Pre-Medicine, Pre-Nursing, Biology, Chemistry, Business, and even Math majors can find an enjoyment in it. No prior experience is required; it will be gained from the courses.

“La Sierra University is offering an amazing chance to not only enjoy a minor, but also learn and experience film and its true beauty.”

The new Film Studies minor is an opportunity for La Sierra students to open the door to the world of film. With some classes, dedication, and a heart for film, you could soon be watching your own name roll by in the end credits.

For more information, contact Andrew Howe: ahowe@lasierra.edu, (951) 785-2341



Teachers and students, who have a passion for movies and the steps to creating a good film, pieced Film Studies together. Requiring 28 units, the minor offers a variety of classes; from editing in Final Cut Pro Video, to acting in Introduction to Acting. Students will learn to appreciate the true beauty of film in History and Aesthetics of Cinema while also learning

LA SIERRA, LOCKED AND LOADED

THE NEW CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROGRAM

by John Roach

Having connections with agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigations and the Secret Service and learning from a crime scene investigation supervisor completely fulfill, if not surpass any expectation for one's career development as a criminal justice major. Career development is one of the three major values held by the Criminal Justice Program, the other two being academic excellence and applied learning, which are proudly displayed with La Sierra University's colors on long, hanging banners that will immediately grab your attention upon entering the facility. How this thriving program implements this trifecta of career development, academic excellence, and applied learning is what really sets it apart from any major you have ever known.

Being somewhat isolated from the main campus raises many questions about whether the new facility is lacking in areas that the main campus is not, but it has been fitted with English classrooms, an upstairs gym, and an in-house CSAS advisor. If and when the students need to train to maintain their physical form or fulfill certain requirements within their program, they will use the track at La Sierra's main campus.

However, what this facility possesses eclipses anything it may lack. Starting with the indelible faculty replete with experience. It is a source of knowledge like which textbooks aspire to be; yet, no number of pages will ever compare to the learning that will take place when being taught self-defense and hand-to-hand combat by a trained member of SWAT. This example of applied learning,

which is so highly stressed when talking with a number of faculty and the founder of the program. What this program offers is hands-on experience in the form of analysis in the crime scene investigation lab, as well as police and military tactics training on a virtual simulator with a variety of different retired weapons outfitted with lasers in place of bullets. In this simulator, the student plays the primary role of different law enforcement officers in thousands of different scenarios, from protecting a highly wanted individual from being assassinated outside a court house to cracking down on a pair of tweakers inside a meth lab. The simulation program consists of a camera sensor, a screen, and the student yelling verbal commands and, if necessary, using his or her weapon. La Sierra is the only school on the West Coast lucky to have this program. In another classroom across the hall, the student will be presented with a court case and prepared to execute law practices. The school has built a basic courtroom setting within the same room to provide students with the closest possible experience to an authentic trial. Coupled with these intriguing encounters with real world scenarios is the opportunity to increase a student's repertoire of skills by interning with professionals working in the field that corresponds with his or her career path.

To enhance one's career even more, students within the Criminal Justice Program are anticipating the arrival of a set of new intelligence classes, such as Intro to Intelligence Collection, Intelligence Management, and Administration of Strategic and Actionable Intelligence, which will all be unveiled in the very near future. On another positive note, the success and sheer growth of this program has been astounding given that the program was started merely two years ago with around twenty students. Today, it has close to 85 students and is continuing to grow.



SOPHOMORE MENTOR PROGRAM

"Aims to retain, motivate, and connect"

by Alexander Hirata

It is nicknamed the 'sophomore slump,' the period when many second-year college students run into academic, financial, and social problems, often causing confusion and minor crises. La Sierra University saw the problem on its own campus and aimed to address it. Their solution? The Sophomore Mentoring Program (SMP).

"At its core, the SMP is a peer mentoring program."

Three or four upperclassmen from each of the four volunteering departments--English and Communications; Health and Exercise Science; History, Politics, and Society; and Psychology--and the School of Business will personally work with up to four sophomores each throughout the year. The idea is to have them work together to develop connections with same-major peers and departmental faculty, explore their major, look into areas of concern, and, above all, to build relationships.

Started through La Sierra's Center for Student Academic Success (C-SAS), the SMP is designed to increase the retention and involvement of sophomore students. Jill Rasmussen, Coordinator of the Sophomore Mentoring Program, began the idea of a peer mentoring program by asking, "What do the students need developmentally and how can we serve them?" She finds that although freshmen at La Sierra have help in a variety of forms--from summer orientations to academic coaches to first-year seminars--sophomores are often overlooked.

Rasmussen says, "Research shows that students come back in their second year and it's just 'ho-hum.'" Some of the problems that sophomores face include drops in academic performance, lack of engagement

and motivation due to major and career indecision, financial issues, decreased attention from the school, and even isolation from peers and the campus community.

Lisa Kohlmeier, Ph.D, Assistant Professor of History at La Sierra University, also sees a need, "I want the History, Politics, and Society department to provide a sense of community." She hopes that, through the SMP activities within her department, students will find what they need at La Sierra University.

"I think that peer support is really important. We want to give our students as much support as they can have."

One element common to the SMP in all four departments and the School of Business is scheduled lunches. Four times per quarter, group lunches will be held within each department, encouraging interaction between students of the same major and departmental faculty. There will also be individual sessions, in which each mentor will meet periodically with his or her "mentees" to discuss progress, look into job shadowing opportunities, and talk about any academic, financial, social or spiritual concerns.

K'dee Elsen, junior student and mentor for the Psychology department, knows the value in connecting with people. "I like how it [the SMP] incorporates the faculty. The Psychology department

is really small, and once you get to know the teachers and your fellow students, you feel like you're already a family."

Each of the participating departments and the School of Business has a different emphasis and direction within the SMP. The School of Business, for instance, emphasizes the strengths of the students; the English and Communications department focuses on active involvement during the academic year; and the Psychology department stresses advising when it comes to career opportunities and job shadowing.

Sophomores--"sophomores" here being loosely defined as second-year students, transfer students, and even students with more than 24 units that are not yet technically considered sophomores--within the four participating departments and the School of Business are encouraged to sign up for the program. It doesn't cost extra and to sign up you need only to speak with a mentor within the SMP, your department head, or Jill Rasmussen.

The SMP is not only for the sophomores' benefit, however. One goal is for the SMP to tighten all faculty and student relationships within the participating departments and school and to provide valuable opportunities for upperclassmen. "We have such rich, good students, it is wonderful to be able to give them employment and to enrich their leadership roles," says Rasmussen about the juniors and seniors chosen to be mentors.

K'dee Elsen, for instance, "Is looking forward to making a difference by not only being there, but by getting to know people within your own department." Elsen is one of the students who experienced the 'sophomore slump.' I was kind of lost as a sophomore and might be still if it wasn't for my sister." On the opportunity to be a mentor, Elsen concluded, "This was a good opportunity to help sophomore students through their second year."

The SMP is made possible by the recent awarding of a competitive \$50,000 grant to La Sierra University, one of nine minority-serving institutions chosen to receive it. Three funding agencies--The Lumina Foundation for Education, USA Funds, and The Kresge Foundation--each contributed \$500,000 toward the overall research project designed to start, observe, and share models of student success with other colleges and universities.

This being its pilot year, the SMP is under close watch by participants. There are high hopes for the program, despite the fact that it is in its early stages. Kohlmeier says, "I want students to find a home here." Rasmussen hopes that, in the future, the program is available through all the departments and that it becomes a natural next step for students, much like the academic coaching is mandatory for freshmen: "Eventually, I would like it to be something La Sierra University is known for - shepherding students through each year of their schooling."



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INDUCTION CEREMONY

by Jesse Lamog



The results are in, and the people that you, the students, voted for, took their seats in senate after lunch, Friday, Oct. 14.

As the rest of the student body prepared for the weekend, the new leaders were preparing for the rest of the year. SALSU officers and the newly elected senators held the ceremony in the Cactus room. The Induction Ceremony is the time when the new senators are sworn into their seats.

Yami Bazan, Vice President of Student Life, began the ceremony with a speech to inspire the students. She encouraged the senates to be good leaders. "To be a leader, you have to be FAT," she stated. FAT – an acronym meaning faithful, available, and teachable. Hopefully this year's senate will be FAT and eager to serve the student body.

Brazan ended by swearing the senators into their offices. Standing, they repeated their oath to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of LSU. Officially becoming members of Senate.

With official members of senate, the chairpersons of each committee took the time to introduce each of their committees and the senators that held seats in them.

“Senate is a branch of SALSU. They are the voice of the students, informing SALSU of what the students want and what their concerns are.”

There are a total of 20 seats in Senate. The Judicial, Emerging Issues, and Social committees each hold 5 seats. The Religious and CABLE committees have 2 and 3 seats, respectively. This quarter, they hope to expand the number of seats to 25 so that each committee can have a total of 5 seats.

As parliamentarian, and head of the judicial committee, Aldrich de la Fuente introduced his crew. JC Carreon, JR Legaspi, Michael Aguilar, Laura-Shay Adams, and Erik Coon filled seats 1-5. The two functions of this



LSU. Krumpa Patel, Sam Sauza, Kevin Njoloma, Janelle James, and Alyssa Hunt filled seats 11-15. They have a lot of activities planned, but won't do them unless they know that the student body will have fun.

“I want the senators to be the representation of what the students want.”
-Ruthie Heavrin

Looking for a way to better living? The CABL committee can help. With Tamara Shasky, Ian Temple, and Gianluca Gibbons filling seats 16-18, they promote better living, changing lifestyles to be healthier. They plan activities like CABL Run, which is happening this whole quarter from 6 a.m. – 7 a.m., open gym nights, ping pong tournaments, and other enjoyable activities that involve better living. “I’m excited,” said Christine Jacobs, as she explained some new ideas they hope to do this year: Cable Zumba or pilates, and a snowboarding retreat. “I hope that more students will find exercise enjoyable. As long as the students are happy, we are happy,” she ended.

committee are to approve money transactions between clubs and SALSU, and to change, and approve changes made to the constitution.

Courtney Young, the Associate Vice President, introduced the Emerging Issues committee. Dale Spenser, Tae Kim, Amanda Alonso, Chelsey Salvador filled seats, 6, 8, 9, and 10. Seat 7 has yet to be filled. Their main focus is on the issues bothering students; things they want to change immediately. “Our number one goal, and I guess priority is to go out and talk to students and see what they want and how we can impact and change it,” Young said. They have “big plans.” One thing they hope to work on is to initiate more opportunities for students in their careers. Eg. Look for internships for juniors and seniors. After graduating, some students don’t know what to do. Young wants to bring in someone to find those internships to help students expand their career before they start it. Another goal for this year is to connect the student body to community events. By doing this, hopefully LSU students can get connected with the local government, and see what other schools are doing, fostering inter-campus relationship.

“Social committee is a fun committee. It is going to be a blast!” exclaimed Social Vice President Ruthie Heavrin. This is the committee in charge of all the social events at

With only two seats, filled by Raymond Hong and Kathy Zinzun, they help plan most of the religious activities around LSU, such as Rendezvous Worships on Wednesday nights, Midnight Café, Tri-campus Retreat, and even team up with Cable to plan hikes, and other religious/healthy-living retreats. Their main focus this year is to better introduce the Bible to students by incorporating what students want to learn about the bible into the activities. They want to learn, through the senators, what the students want from them.

SALSU President, Melody Ilacas, concluded the ceremony by reminding the officers of why they were there. Senate and SALSU are the voice of the students. They are here, representing the whole school, to make your experience at LSU even better.

Looking at the new group, Ilacas thinks that this will be a great year. “The senators are passionate about being there and SALSU is passionate about what they want to do. Everyone here is involved and very dedicated,” she said. Ilacas hopes that they will be known for doing something about the students’ concerns. Her goal is to make sure that SALSU is a body that is made accountable. SALSU wants to look into particular projects that students are asking about, dealing with the infrastructure of the school. Hopefully, they will be a governing body that actually listens to what the students want, and actually take action.

MOBILE SECURITY

HOW SAFE ARE YOU REALLY?

by Rebecca Kern

Mobile phones are accessing more of the digital world through email, full Internet access and various apps. Apps allow mobile users to pay bills, order Netflix movies and Yelp current locations to find nearby restaurants. Mobile users are not protecting their smartphones as they would their home PCs.

According to Lookout's Mobile Threat Report findings reveal that mobile malware has increased. Lookout estimates that between half million and one million users were affected by mobile malware in the first half of 2011.

Android users are two-and-a-half times more likely to encounter malware now compared to six months ago. Three out of ten mobile users are likely to click on an unsafe link, including malicious and phishing links, over the course of a year.

Malware, spyware and viruses can be found hidden in apps and games downloaded to mobile devices.

Malware can perform malicious actions without user consent or knowledge, such as making charges to the phone bill, sending unsolicited messages to the user's contact list, or giving an attacker remote control over the device. Malware can also be used to steal personal information from a mobile device that could result in identity theft or fraud.

Spyware is designed to collect or use data without a user's knowledge. Most types of mobile data stolen include phone contact list, text messages, location,

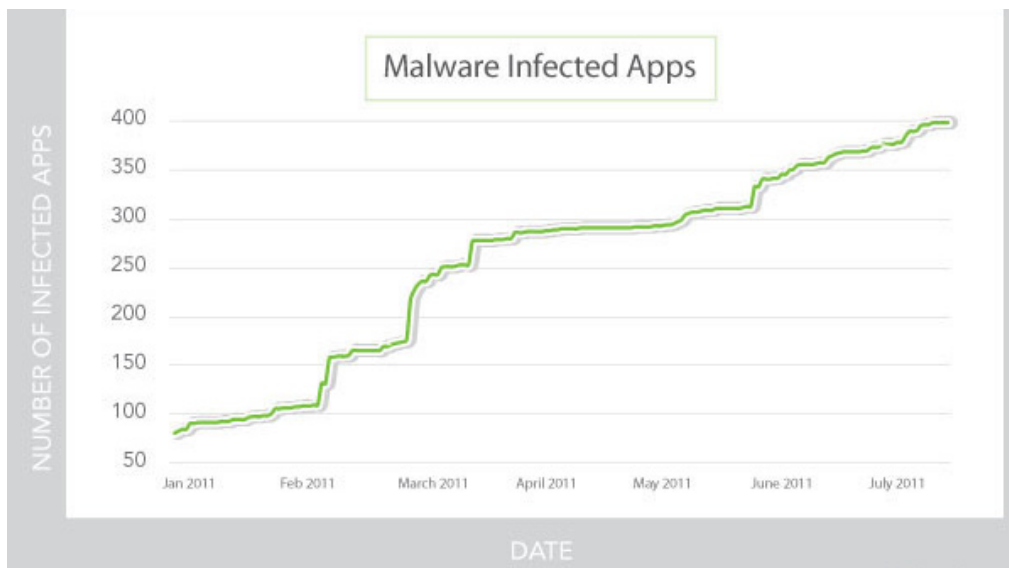
email, and photos.

New security programs like Lookout are now available to protect mobile users the same way anti-viruses and Internet security software protects PCs. Lookout is the #1 rated mobile security app by reviewers and users. It is a free app created for mobile phones to protect against threats including malware, spyware and apps that can violate privacy.

When downloading an app, mobile users can check ratings, authors and other information to ensure that it is a safe app. In addition, the user's security software will scan the app before fully downloading it into the device.

There are many things that mobile users should do collectively to stay safe and secure on their mobile smartphones: Only download apps from trusted sources. After clicking a web link, pay attention to the address and be sure it matches the claimed website. Download a mobile security tool that scans every app you download for malware and spyware. Check monthly phone bills for behaviors like unusual text messages or strange charges made.

"As mobile devices grow in popularity, so do the incentives for attackers," says Kevin Mahaffey, CTO and co-founder of Lookout Mobile Security. "We've seen the prevalence and the level of sophistication of mobile malware attacks evolve significantly in the first six months of 2011. We expect this trend to continue as more and more people adopt mobile devices."



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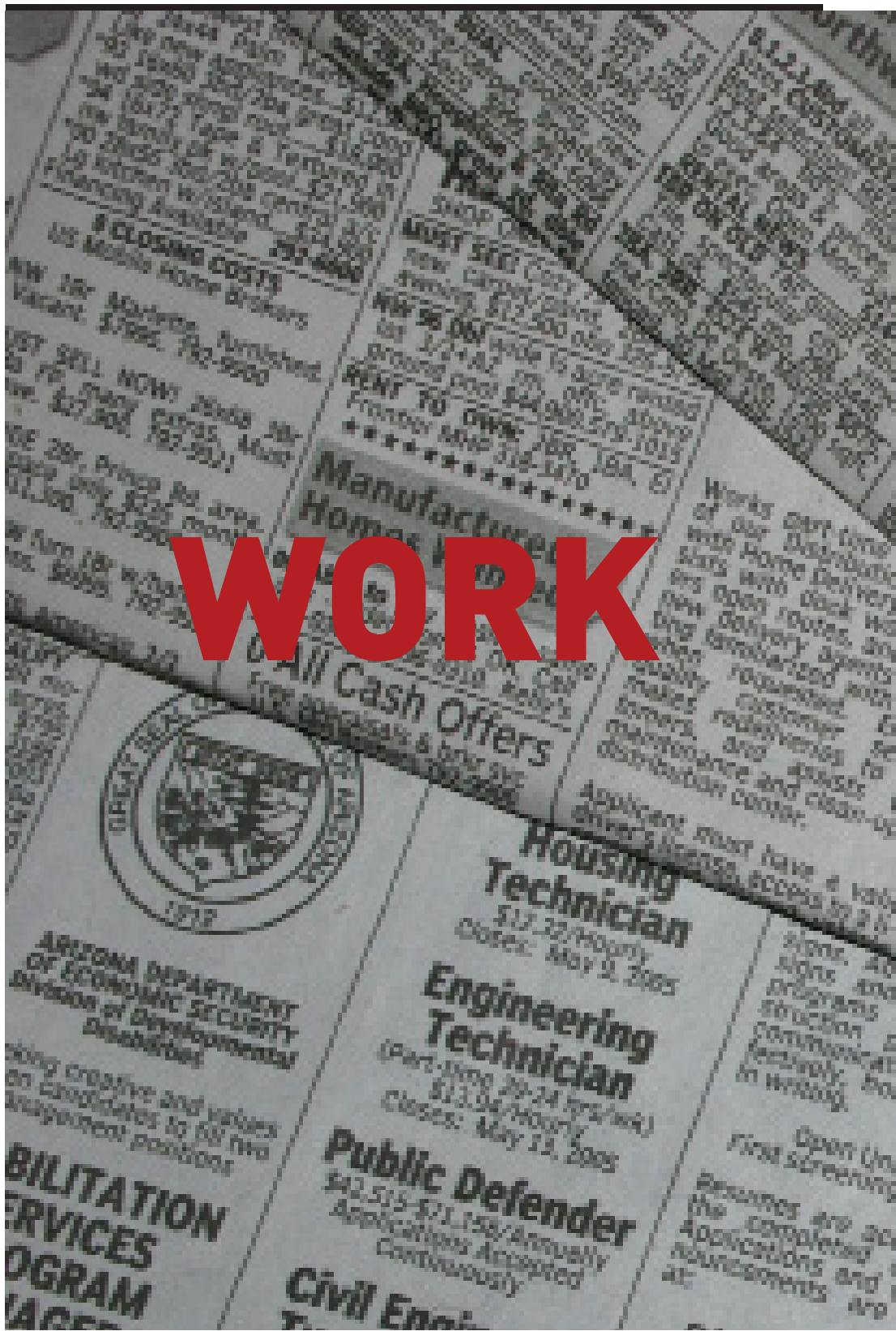








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signs, all
signs and
programs
struction
communication
effectively, both
in writing.

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the completed
Applications and
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ops. customer service exp.
along w/ 3 yrs. management
exp. Excellent organiza-
tional skills & ability to

Education/experience
• 2-year degree or equivalent
technical school
• IBM AS/400 or iSeries
• Microsoft, Apple
experience helpful

We offer great benefits to
include:
• Health insurance
• 401(k) plan
• Paid vacation
• Paid sick leave
• Paid holidays
• Paid training
• Paid relocation
• Paid travel
• Paid parking
• Paid cell phone
• Paid internet
• Paid fax
• Paid copier
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STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

by Caleb Walker

In December 2007, the United States entered into a recession, and while it reportedly officially ended on June of 2009, the economic mood is still uncertain. In fact, according to a 2011 CNN/ORC poll 80% of Americans believe we are still in a recession with one-third believing the recession to be severe. As the country revs up for another election, one of the most dominant political issues is that of the economy. Every politician has a plan and a great deal of their rhetoric is devoted to how each candidate would create jobs. With unemployment at 12% in California and 9% nationally, everyone knows someone who has been affected. As a student, I didn't think that the global economic woes affected me, at least not directly. I thought that the only way it could affect me would be if it affected my parents' employment or earnings. However, according to a recent article in the Economist, this economic situation affects the youth, those between 16–24 years or age, perhaps the most of all.

The article expounded on its position by pointing out that young people often have the hardest time finding jobs and often are the first people fired. Experience is one of the most valuable assets one can have when trying to find a place in the workforce and naturally this leaves the youth at a disadvantage. Sophomore Michael Swan found himself in just such a situation. Michael works Dispatch for LSU Security and as a TA for Chemistry. While he applied for the Dispatch position after seeing a job listing, the TA job was unlisted. Michael knew he wanted to be more involved with the Chemistry Department so he asked around about the possibility of being a TA and pursued the position. In the beginning, Michael found it difficult to get any hours. He said, "Richard had been telling me he wanted to hire me, but he had to give dibs to his senior/experienced TA's first."

In Michael's case he was able to get his foot into the door, but he was held back, at least for a time, by his lack of experience. For some, their lack of experience precludes them from even getting their foot in the door. Take the case of Junior Rosanne Ornopia. Currently unemployed, for the last few years she had been self-employed as a tutor. She is looking now for a job as she says tutoring isn't guaranteed money. Desiring greater economic stability, she is looking for a job on campus. When asked why she is specifically looking on campus she replied that she thought she would have a better chance to be hired. "Jobs at restaurants, fast food places, and retail stores usually require experience that I don't have. Plus, I'm competing for the job with tons of other people." Even though she currently has few prospects, on campus or otherwise, she remains hopeful.

However, not all young people respond the same way. Youth unemployment is at a record high and not all are so hopeful. The number of young people who have

simply given up on finding work is also at an all-time high. Usually, in July of every year, the number of employed youth peaks due to high school and college students seeking summer employment as well as college graduates entering the work force for the first time (The number of unemployed college graduates is also the highest it has been since 1970.). In July 2011, the number of youth employed in various types of jobs was approximately 18.6 million (statistics from Bureau of Labor Statistics, Aug 2011). This number is considerably lower than preceding years, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

There are a number of reasons that youth do not work or seek employment. Many become disheartened due to employers seeking employees with more experience. Even when young people do find jobs, they are usually among the first to be laid off. This results in discouragement and a reluctance to seek further employment. One of the main reasons given is that they want to continue to focus on their education and thus find little time for work, not even for part-time employment. In this economy, they choose to go to or remain in university where they hope to get a degree that will improve their job prospects. Some even choose to pursue graduate programs in hopes of improving their future wages. There is also the hope that by the time they have finished with school, the economy will have recovered. Unfortunately many find themselves unemployed and saddled with a large amount of debt. Those who pursue graduate degrees often experience diminishing returns when one weighs their future wages against the increased cost of education. Other reasons for avoiding the workforce include unrealistic expectations regarding the type of work that they would like to do as well as the wages that they will get paid. Also, many young people do not feel like they need jobs. Few young people have mortgages to pay or families to support. This removes the urgency to take just any job, jobs where they are often offered lower wages than they would like. In fact, rather than finding themselves with increased costs, an increasing number are falling back on the support of their parents, whether in school or not, and thus find themselves with even less motivation to seek employment.

Over the last year my parents had been encouraging me to find a job. Naturally, the first place I looked was right here at La Sierra University. The first place I looked was at the job listings that can be found online as well as at the Human Resources Department. I found that there were not very many jobs available and that there were even fewer that I was qualified for. Many of the jobs called for a Clerical Test as well as First Aid and/or Lifeguard training. I looked through the listings and found only a handful of jobs that I was qualified for, and of those only two that I was interested in. When I inquired about the first job I was informed that the position had already been filled. When I investigated the second one, I found that I would have to complete a lengthy interview process,



a large stack of paperwork, and that I was competing with over 20 other applicants. After making it two-thirds of the way through the interview process I became sufficiently demoralized and I gave up on finding work. My experience is not atypical. Many young people are no longer interested in working. Junior Chad Walker does not work and he is not looking to. When asked why, he replied, "I wanted to focus on school, and could achieve that goal without the need for a job." He is eschewing work in order to focus on his grades in the hope that they will help him land a better job in the future.

For those who do find jobs, they often find them through personal connections rather than through the traditional application process. Sophomore Jennie Sondakh works as a TA for the Anatomy Labs. When asked how she acquired the position she said that she had been recommended for it by the Head TA. She had previously been looking for work at LSU but had been unsuccessful. Unsure about where to look or how to apply, she found herself perusing the job listings at Human Resources as well as contemplating applying for a tutoring position with the Learning Support and Testing Center. Employers, however, were looking for more experienced workers and as a Freshman Jennie didn't have many options. Ironically, the TA that recommended her for her current job was unaware of her job search. She said, "...he initially didn't know, but once the offer came up I took it."

This is quite commonplace in this present job market. Most youth report that they have their current job because of a "hook up" – they knew someone who knew a potential employer and recommended them for the

position. However, even this is not always enough when there are few openings and many applicants.

My own experience and the experiences of the students interviewed for this article are not atypical. In fact, our experiences mirror those of the youth as well as those of the larger workforce outside of La Sierra University. We have all found that there are many deterrents for anyone who is seeking employment in this current economy. The positions available are limited and the competition for them is fierce. The wages are not as high as most would hope. However, this does not mean that one should simply become discouraged and give up on working. It does not mean that one should change one's degree in order to pursue another one simply because it would be more likely to provide one with steady employment. Rather, I would hope that La Sierra University students will continue to seek needed employment and that this information will simply help to give a realistic perspective for them as they consider their employment opportunities now and for the future.

OCCUPY RIVERSIDE

by Sheldon Benjamin

On the morning of October 22nd, Occupy Riverside, protested a Bank of America on 14th and Main. With approximately 50 protesters, the movement "denounced the companies greed". Two days earlier, around 30 protesters picketed the Wal-Mart on Van Buren boulevard, protesting the owners and the CEO of the company and their "exploitations of its workers and consumers". Occupy Riverside claims that they were in NO way protesting the shoppers or workers but instead the practices of the corporation and reports having received support from shoppers.

The Occupy movement which began on September 17th, on Wall Street, has grown to roughly 1500 different movements in over 80 different countries. Occupy Riverside, in solidarity with Occupy Wall Street, took to the Main Street pedestrian mall in downtown Riverside on October 15th in peaceful protest against the richest 1% of corporations, companies, and people of America. They believe that these people have brought down the American economy and have not been held responsible. Occupy Riverside is a leaderless movement that includes people of various nationalities, political viewpoints, occupations and lack of occupations. They consider themselves part of the 99% of America that stands in opposition of the richest 1%.

"We believe that large corporations are co-opting America's great democratic experiment with massive and secretive political donations." (occupyriverside.org) The 99% believe that the strong lack of regulation and low tax rate on major corporations that has allowed them to

monopolize the American economy without reprimand. Essentially the movement claims that free market capitalism has significant shortcomings and has led to an unstable and inhospitable economic environment across the world and is calling for reform.

There are many different beliefs, arguments, and ideas, both positive and negative, about the Occupy movements that have circulated through the media.

First, there is a belief that this movement has been violent and has involved police brutality. This is half true. Deputy Inspector Anthony Bologna (yes Tony Bologna. John Stewart had fun with this) allegedly used excessive and unjustified force by pepper spraying five women that were already fenced in by NYPD. Bologna has been subject of civil rights complaints from the 2004 protests of the Republican National Convention. However, One case in New York does not equal a violent movement when hundreds of thousands of people across 82 countries have managed to maintain peaceful protests. Still, the reputation of the NYPD is at stake. Over 200 arrests have been in New York and Boston alone.

Another element to the movement is the class warfare. In reaction to the 99%, the 53%, a group started by CNN's Eric Erickson says that they are the 53% class of Americans that pay federal income tax. They are working up to 3 jobs and can barely afford healthcare but instead of complaining and protesting, they are working for a brighter future for themselves and their families. The 99% however, still has a valid point. Representative





of Florida and economist Alan Grayson said it best on the Bill Maher show. After being criticized for being a spokesperson for the 99%, Grayson said, "If I am spokesman for all the people who think we should not have 24 million people in this country who can't find a full time job, have 50 million people who can't see a doctor when they're sick, have 47 million people in this country who need government help to feed themselves, and that we shouldn't have 15 million families that owe more on their mortgage than the value of their homes, then I'll be that person." It's clear that there is a significant problem that the American people are frustrated about and want to make the American government understand that frustration.

Another element to the movement is the 2012 Presidential election just around the corner. The Occupy movements are something that the candidates must consider and will have to address. Some have even already commented on the movement. On October 4th, Mitt Romney said, "I think it's dangerous this class warfare." but just a few days later, when meeting with voters in New Hampshire, Romney said, "I look at what's happening on Wall Street, and I understand how they [the 99%] feel." It seems as if after realizing the momentum that the OWS movement gained in just a week, Romney felt the need to alter his opinion.

One argument is that the occupy movements haven't really proposed any solution. Recently, Occupy Riverside has brought up the idea of reinstating the Glass-Steagall Act of 1933. The Act was two separate laws. The first act of 1932 was enacted in an effort to stop deflation during the Great Depression. The second act of 1933 was in reaction to the collapse of the American commercial banking system. Both were repealed back in the mid 30s.

What does all this mean for students and citizens in general? Well for starters, it means that people are getting informed. You cannot simply oppose or stand for something without a little bit of research on what you are getting yourself into, and the American people are doing just that. Many people from all walks of life are trying to get involved. Russell Simmons, founder of Def Jam even offered to pay to help clean up Zuccotti Park that had been occupied by thousands of protestors until the protestors cleaned the park up themselves. The movement which seems to be rather general in its cause, is forcing people to educate themselves in order to search for answers which is exactly the point. This is not a, "I want it fixed" movement, it's an I want us all to come together and understand the problem so we can understand the solution.

This is what people of the world calling for change looks like. Non violent protests have been a staple of the civil rights movements the world around, and although this cause is less focused on civil rights and more focused on a demand for a better economic system, non violent protests may once again inspire change.

If you would like to get involved in the Occupy Riverside movement visit occupyriverside.org. General assemblies are held every day at 7 pm on the Main Street pedestrian mall in downtown Riverside. Occupy Riverside also has a Facebook page with over 3 thousand followers that regularly post and contribute.

COTTON, MOTIVATION, AND PUMAS

"Some psychologists believe that paying for grades is a bad idea because it substitutes an external reward -- money -- for an internal sense of satisfaction and therefore interferes with developing a work ethic."

-Jon Gallo

The quote above stands true for grades K-12. The internal sense of satisfaction when receiving that A builds a work ethic preparing them for college, and henceforth, life in general. But what about those that disagree? Is paying your child for grades a positive motivation? Banking skills in the making perhaps? So what happens when graduation passes? I don't know how many parents—especially those with La Sierra University attendees—that would be willing to not only pay for tuition, housing, meal plans, and also be willing to throw in an extra wad of cash labeled “motivation” Absurd? What about teachers?

Would teachers be willing to throw out some cash to motivate a class? Perhaps \$50 to every student earning an A on a feared midterm? Perhaps \$100? \$200? How about \$500? No, not your pink and green monopoly paper money; I mean five hundred dirty, grimy, 75% cotton, 25% linen (no, the fabric softener may not work the same as it does for grandma's delicates), U.S. dollars! Five hundred of them! To the student who receives an A.

Professor X, in the School of Business at La Sierra University does just that. Business Law I is a prerequisite for every business major. There seems to be a pattern with classes that have students shuddering before entrance and exiting with a string of colorful thoughts they dare not say out loud. For example, in the Biology Dept. Dr. Sabet is one of the most feared professors. She teaches—General Biology 112, a requirement for medical school and a prerequisite for numerous science majors—with the intensity of graduate school, even knocking off 1/4th and 3/4th of a point for spelling errors. I believe these foundational classes are taught by teachers that want you to succeed and by challenging us at extreme levels now; they prepare us for not only our upper division classes, but for our careers as well.

In all his years of teaching Business Law, Professor X hasn't had one student receive an A on the final. The prize: \$500. Naturally, you may be wondering by now: what if more than one student receives an A? We're going to live vicariously through Alyssa James, one of Professor X's students, a sophomore majoring in Business Management and Marketing, to better understand this issue.

Q. If more than one person earns an A on the final do they each receive \$500? Is it coming out of his pocket? James: No. They have to split it evenly among themselves. And yes, it's out of his pocket.

Q. Professor X has a lot of confidence that nobody will get an A; seeing that he has put a \$500 bounty on it. Why is that? James: In all his years teaching this

particular class, he hasn't had one student get an A on the final—in his class, yes—but not on the final test itself.

Q. Do you personally agree or disagree on using this technique? James: I agree. It's great motivation.

Q. Do you think it (\$500) motivates the class in a positive light? James: No, not necessarily. I believe it can either be positive of negative depending on the people and their integrity.

Q. Ah, so would a student risk the chance of cheating? James: Yes, but he has zero tolerance on cheating. He will kick you out, fail you, report you—all that.

Q. But regardless? James: Yes.

Q. Do you think students take this class with new seriousness once the prize is announced? James: You would think people would take it seriously whether or not there's a reward, but I think it depends on each person. This class isn't impossible. In order to understand law you have to study it. If you study and memorize key concepts you will understand it. Although there are so many different levels and dynamics to law, as long as you study you will pass.

Q. If you had to speak for the majority of the class, how would you describe their feeling on the issue? James: They want the money.

Q. Do you think students outside of the School of Business would attempt this class to make a quick buck? Do you recommend it? James: There are a lot of stupid people in this world. Once students start getting A's I doubt he'll continue rewarding \$500. I don't recommend it.

I do not believe many teachers would agree to teaching in this manner. I believe it risks questioning the integrity of even those who wouldn't dream of cheating at a university institution. On the other hand, I also believe that it drives students to push through that “second wall.” I described this as the feeling where you've ran your fastest and with a lap to finish, you feel your joints locking up, your muscles crying out, every stride hurts, and as the thought of cooling down and jogging brings you warm fuzzies—you picture a starving puma running full-speed towards you—you run for your life, past the finish line, past your cheering grandma, and finally home, safe home. You had no idea you had it in you. You almost gave up—thinking you had given it all—but you pushed through that second wall. Professor X is the puma. The \$500 is home.

by Njeri Kuria

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LIFE IS A SPORT: PLAY IT!

by John Soto

Standing over the shoulders of thousands, I can close my eyes and remember the roar of 80,000 fans. My eyes lit up as thousands of blue and black scarves were raised in unison. My heart quickened when I heard the words, "Forza! Forza! Inter!"

I knew in that moment why I love sports and why billions more love it just as much.

Do you?

My name is Jonathan Soto, this is my second year as Sports Editor for the Criterion. Let me take you to my moment of truth. Let me take you to Milan, Italy.

It was cold and raining, the stadium loomed over the city as an icon set to test the passage of time. Thousands flooded into the arena, blue and black, red and black. I had the opportunity to witness my favorite team play against their most bitter rival in Italy's most important match up of the season. Internazionale Milano v AC Milano.

I did not know what to expect, I've been to a few NBA games and passed by the Lincoln Financial Field when the Philadelphia Eagles were gearing up for Sunday Night Football. I had no idea my eyes would be opened up on such a grander scale.

It was emotional and it was surreal. I can see it to this day still. The grey stadium colored in red, blue, and black with flags and signs everywhere. In the middle of stadium was a perfect green soccer field. And here I thought we were die-hard sports fans in the US; witnessing this game in

Milan threw that out the window. I was one with 65,000 others all in black and blue singing "Nerazzuri! Ama la Nerazzuri!"

The atmosphere was loud and the voices of thousands echoed throughout, like a strong wave crashing against sharp rocks, we shouted and shouted with all our hearts. I remember looking around from my seat and seeing a man and his boy who was looking on in amazement and wonder. I remember seeing a young couple that cared more about Inter than they did each other. I remember seeing old men sitting together, some in red others in blue. I can recall seeing hordes of young Italian men hungry for the game to start. I remember chanting our songs loudly to drown out those of the opposition. It all happened in this moment just before kick off, that I realized not just soccer but rugby and cricket and basketball and volleyball and football and tennis and badminton and ultimate Frisbee are much more than entertainment.

There is a passion rooted deep inside the individual; being a fan brings a sense of ownership for "our" team. Being a fan means crying and laughing together with millions. Being a fan brings a sense of joy that few things can match. I believe this is true for any person and whatever sport she or he may love.

Whether your sport be a test of physical strength or of mental dexterity (chess) it does not matter. We all take a strong liking to something we find appealing.

Men and women, it's a sport just getting to know the opposite sex in hope of finding "the one." Getting into Loma Linda or some other grad school is an academic





sport in itself. Waking up every morning to tell yourself to be better than you were yesterday is a sport in itself.

I spent days when I was abroad in Italy getting to know the language better so I could talk about my favorite team with people of the same country. Wandering the streets of Milan hours before kick off I saw constantly brothers and sisters wearing blue and black. Without saying a word, only a simple nod and grin, we knew he had something in common to share. How often do you see that before our Golden Eagles kick off?

"If there is one thing I would love to see happen at La Sierra is the loud atmosphere, not of tens of thousands of Milanese, but of at least a hundred students showing up to cheer on our Blue and Gold's."

What gives teams the will to push themselves, I believe, is neither their financial security nor their scholarships/pay checks, but instead from the gratitude shown from the people they play for and represent. Can you imagine that?

I dream of that, and perhaps together we could all make it a reality. After all our dreams are our destinies.

"I can't go tonight, I have a test to study for..." or "I didn't know it was a home game..." or "We always lose anyways!" are the exact excuses we make far too often. How about instead of focusing on those issues that turn us off to our teams, we band together for at least one (or a million) match day(s), and show our Golden Eagles men and women exactly why their results matter to us.

So what is the point of this editorial? It's much more than to share with you the moment I saw the value of a sport, it is more than a call for us to show our school we care, it is an encouragement also to live your life because the shot clock is ticking down.

I heard once about an old man, who on his rocking chair all-alone, broke down and began to weep. It was because he realized he spent nearly 80 years of his life working at a day to day job to work for a company he never enjoyed, pay for a house he couldn't afford, and then retire only to never leave anywhere. I do not want to be that man. I've seen value in my life, my education, my family, my girlfriend and my creed. I hope you would do the same and not live like that old man but to live like the shot clock is ticking and you have to make a shot. So please, live your life, and support your Golden Eagles.

"Some people think football is a matter of life and death. I don't like that attitude. I can assure them it is much more serious than that."

PRIME TO PERFORM

by Miles Robbins

Athletic trainers are usually readily available to treat high-level athletes with state-of-the-art equipment and exercises. Doctors and surgeons stay on-call to perform any operation that requires special or urgent attention. For example, The University of Idaho, where I was recruited to play football, has: three certified athletic trainers, five assistant athletic trainers, and three team physicians; and not to mention an underwater treadmill and million dollar facilities. On the other hand, La Sierra University, although a smaller and less athletically geared institution, has only one athletic trainer; oh, and a whirlpool not much larger than a toilet. "It's the smallest training room I have ever seen at any college or university!" said Kenny Penn, starting center for LSU Men's Basketball.

But since a recent change of division, the Golden Eagles are on the verge of becoming a dominant sports program.

Most, if not all, successful, college sports programs share one thing in common: excellent athletic training services. Top quality physical therapy allows for teams to remain healthy, and players to perform at their physical peak. Failure to provide such services, or the inability to do so, places athletes in danger of injury; and losing players due to injury is always bad news for any college program.

LSU's sports program began its first year in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics, Division 2 Independent Conference. Previously in the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division 3 Independent Conference, the 11 sports teams: men's and women's basketball, men's and women's soccer, men's and women's golf, men's and women's tennis, women's volleyball,

baseball, and softball, struggled collectively as a program. Since the switch, LSU has cut back to only six sports teams in hopes of strengthening each team, as well as the program: men's and women's basketball, men's soccer, women's volleyball, softball, and baseball.

In the two months that La Sierra has been competing in the NAIA, the men's soccer team has moved to first place in their conference and received a national ranking, the men's basketball team won the Pacific Coast Athletic Conference Championship, and the women's volleyball team is currently on a twelve game winning streak and ranked No. 2 Independent in the NAIA Conference Rankings.

The switch to the NAIA, as well as the cutback of teams, seems to be propelling La Sierra sports in the right direction. But there is still one thing lacking.

Over 100 athletes all have to report their injuries to only one, full-time, athletic trainer, Brian Murphy. If there were five Brian Murphy's in the training, there would be no need for this story. From firsthand experience, Brian Murphy does excellent work and could easily use his knowledge of physical therapy to treat any injury successfully. But he isn't the issue. With more teams now competing at a much higher level than in the past, La Sierra athletes are in great need of service. The one ice machine is always empty, lines form everyday in the training room for treatment, and all athletes are forced to share the little amount equipment inside of the training room. "On the end of the year evaluations, please ask for more athletic trainers," Brian Murphy stated.



SERVING TO NEW HEIGHTS

by James Asao

At our Lady Golden Eagles' first home game, September 28th, 2011, La Sierra students packed the gym in support of the team. The opposing team was West Coast Baptist of Lancaster and even with their school being over two hours away, many of their fans came out to support. Fans watched as their teams played hard. The thud of the ball being passed, to the whiz of the ball being set, to the pound of the ball being spiked, were the only noises that could be heard moments before the fans began to roar. The West Coast Baptist fans and Eagle fans competed to see who could be louder for their team. Their fans brought some noise but not enough to triumph our Eagles' caw. In the end, our team gained the victory beating WCB 3-0.

The team this year is strong due to the foot work which was done last season in 2010. With the recruitment of players from different states added to the effective coaching staff, the Lady Golden Eagles ended their 2010 season on a good note with a record of 12-9 despite being a brand new team.

The returners on this year's team know that they are strong only because of the hardships they overcame together in the past. Last season, several players quit the

program while other players sat out due to injuries, but these problems didn't stop their progress and the team finished their season off better than they had anticipated.

Playing in her second year on the team, right side hitter Samone Boone says "last year, we did our best. We were a new team and many of us were new to college competition but we dominated in every way that we could."

After one long season spent in the fire, our volleyball team has now been molded into a juggernaut. When watching these women play, it's easy to see how committed they are to their program. The women on the court communicate well and know how to function as team while the girls waiting on the bench are being their team's best and loudest cheerleaders. Along the effective coaching, the team has created the formula to win. The talent of the players combined with the production of the skilled coaching has transformed the team into an unstoppable force. Several of the team's players have been nominated for Riverside County's Player of the Week, and Freshman outside hitter Lina Semaia says "we are on the start to something good."



FROM STRUGGLE TO REDEMPTION:

How Our Athletics' Directors Turned Us Into Contendeers

by John Soto

If there is one person I know will make me feel good about looking towards the future of our athletics program with optimism, it's their determined Argentinean Javier Krumm. The Criterion met with Krumm in his office recently to discuss the current situation in general of LSU Athletics and important decisions made, and ones that will be made, that will impact the road that we are traveling down.

Talking with Mr. Krumm about what the chances of a playoffs birth means for our men's soccer team and our women's volleyball team, he broke it down for us. In NAIA (National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics) a new member school (La Sierra University) has a chance of reaching the playoffs within two years. This was not possible under NCAA Div II; it would have taken years for La Sierra to reach that level financially and competitively. Two years ago our Athletics department made the switch to NAIA not because of our lack of wins in NCAA Div II but because of the financial issues regarding continued eligibility in NCAA Div II. Now in NAIA La Sierra University is working itself into the system and is able to keep up with the majority of financial and competitive demands bestowed upon us from NAIA membership.

With an extremely impressive winning record, La Sierra's own women's volleyball team is clinching its playoffs birth along with our men's soccer team. According to Krumm he was sure we would make playoffs.

"I am pretty confident the two teams will qualify"

Questioning his conviction he showed us the statistics behind his allegations. In the website for NAIA anyone can see national ranking. In the men's soccer team La Sierra University is ranked in the top 38 in the national NAIA ranking system. The women's volleyball team went on an unprecedented unbeaten streak after starting the season 1-1. Poised for a playoff position both our teams are steadfast and focused on playing for each other.

Off the pitch and volleyball court, the department itself has a lot of work cut out for itself. When asking Krumm on important decisions made since the

transition into NAIA he summed up that with the financial regulations and media coverage La Sierra University has been able to recruit greatly talented players without the fear of contradicting any financial issues within NAIA policies.

Financial issues are always relevant in any department athletics is no exception. Earlier in the summer there was a golf tournament held by the Athletics department as a fundraiser for a bus that our teams could use for away games. In case it has not been noted, there is a bus located in the gym parking lot that our teams can use. It is a good thing for our department to find the fundraising needed to improve the standard and professionalism at the level our teams perform.

Speaking on the topic of financial issues and important decisions, by the end of 2012 La Sierra University Athletics will have to make an executive decision on what division our teams should compete at. At the moment we are in the Association of Independent Institutions, for next season we will have the option to join to different divisions. GSAC (Golden State Athletic Conference) or CALPAC (California Pacific Conference). Of these two we asked Krumm which would be the preferred and why.

He felt strongly that La Sierra is ready for GSAC on the competitive level. He was ecstatic at the possibility of being a member school in the GSAC. "It would bring a level of prestige to La Sierra" because it is one of the most difficult divisions in NAIA. On the other hand being in GSAC present obvious financial issues for La Sierra University in regards to the amount of money available for scholarship. We would not meet the minimum requirements of GSAC rules. Krumm explained to me that being in GSAC would be fantastic but there would need to be sufficient financial support to back our university in one of NAIA's most prestigious divisions.

The other option would be CALPAC, the benefits of CALPAC would be that La Sierra University meets all financial regulations but would miss out on the level of prestige Mr. Krumm strongly believes we deserve



and are ready for. A downside that was discussed was the inconvenience of the schedules for certain games in the CALPAC division. It would mean La Sierra would have to travel to places as far as Utah and San Francisco for a 90-minute game. Gas money and athletes travel equipment is already a stretch as it is, in the GSAC division all the games would be played from Santa Barbara to Redlands.

The last and final option would be to remain where we are now, in the Association of Independent Institutions. It would mean we would be in the same situation and league we are in this season but would give more time to prepare for a serious decision as far as direction for our athletics programs.

With that Mr. Krumm smiled and convinced us the athletics department was changing for the best and that we are headed on the right track with our sports and athletics programs.

Playoffs in November, key division decision by the end of December, it would seem that the La Sierra Athletics department has truly turned us around from where we were a few short years ago. With optimism as bright as the sun, Javier Krumm believes that he and his staff are doing what is best for our university. I for one, am a believer in our journey to redemption.

“A problem, but a good problem. It means that we are doing things the way we are supposed to be doing it”

ARTS



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BUILT TO LAST

THE TUNES TRIES SOMETHING NEW

by Patrick Garrett York

Tuesday Tunes is changing and to understand why, consider the binder clip: my favorite office supply.



I was looking for a binder clip in the library about a month ago. I had a hundred pieces of paper to keep together, so no stapler could have done the job. Pablo found one for me in the supply closet. As soon as he handed it over, I knew this binder clip was different. It was heavy. It pivoted on ball bearings. I could have thrown it into cement and it wouldn't have broken. It was a far cry from the flimsy pieces of malleable junk-tin that I've grown to love, despite their obvious functional shortcomings.

I didn't let anyone in the library pass by without showing them this binder clip. It was clip No. 30 from the Esterbrook company with a patent number stamped into its anodized surface alongside a clear imprint of its country of origin – "Made in USA." It looked as if someone had been proud to engineer and manufacture it, and I am proud to own it.

I looked up the patent number and found information for the Esterbrook Steel Pen Mfg. Co., begun by Richard Esterbrook in the late nineteenth century. Quality was key to success for Esterbrook, who started with 15 people on the payroll and built all his machinery from the ground up, because his pen manufacturing techniques were unlike any in America at the time of the company's genesis.

Slowly over time, Richard Esterbrook and his constituents acquired subsidiaries and now, they're known as one of the largest pen manufacturers of their time, producing over 260,000 pens a year. They also made binder clips. The patent for the one Pablo had given me was filed in 1927, meaning this beautiful hunk of metal could be 80 years old.

Now a couple hundred-thousand pens in a year might seem like peanuts compared to the production output of today's corporations. Société Bic, for example, has manufactured over 100 billion of their Bic Cristal as of 2004 according to BICworld.com. Even The Esterbrook company amped up their production numbers near the end of their corporate life. As they grew, they lost their

initial focus on quality and began pushing inferior pens at higher quantities. And then they collapsed.

Many manufacturers today have fallen prey to the second law of thermodynamics – in short, entropy, which is a five-buck word for "everything is falling apart." Seems like everything is going the way of the binder clip. Companies are sacrificing the painstaking precision and time-intensive assembly for cheap, malleable materials and plastic construction that have obsolescence built into them. Now you don't buy five Esterbrook binder clips and know you have something that your hipster granddaughter is going to use to develop a picture of her ironically mustached boyfriend in a dark room 80 years later – you buy a box of 50 clips and hope one or two still work in a month.

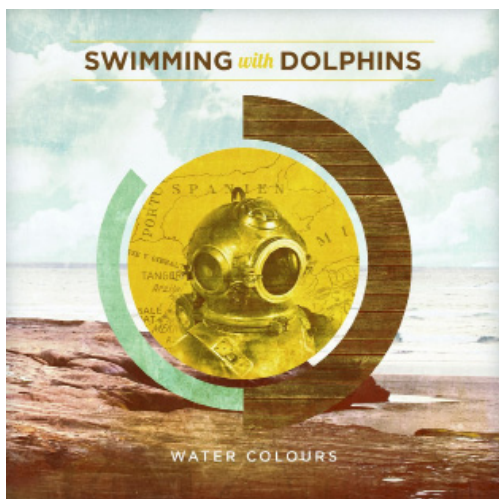
Considering this indulgent explication, I go on to Tuesday Tunes. At its beginnings, Tuesday Tunes was a weekly concert – every Tuesday night. Then it became a biweekly event – every other Tuesday night. Now, reflecting on the conflict between quality and quantity in the indelible lesson of the Esterbrook company, the only logical choice for Tuesday Tunes is to have an even smaller amount of shows with an even greater attention to detail. Now, every quarter will have one event, which will be an event that gets the attention a show of quality deserves.

Some plans still have to be sussed out and some confirmations still need making. For now, we are lining up a two-part film festival in the fall, a campus and community open mic in the winter, and a national tour stop in the spring. You'll have to wait to see who's playing, because I'd hate to give it away precipitantly and jinx us.

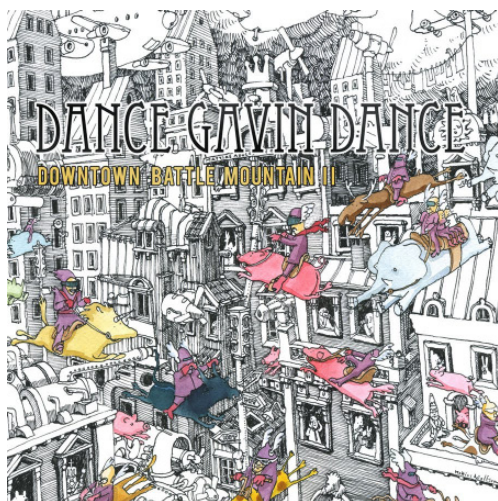
That being said, Tuesday Tunes will no longer be called thus, because it won't take place on Tuesdays. Shows will regularly be on Saturday nights. Although, when a band comes through town and has a burning urge to play for the good people of La Sierra, I will not deny them their passions. If someone wants to play a Tuesday night show, then they will have the stage. But "Tuesday Tunes" is now "The Tunes" – a paring down even of the event's name.

Hopefully this format will ensure that the memories of each show last as long as these ancient binder clips in the catacombs of the library have, not thrown into some mental landfill like so many stressed and stretched binder clips. We hope that the institution of Tuesday Tunes won't go the way of the Esterbrook company, losing sight of the quality with which it began. We pledge to bring good shows to La Sierra this year. I hope to see you there.

MUSIC



Synthpop? Yeah, synthpop. Swimming with Dolphins' first full-length album, *Water Colours*, shows off a diverse array of electronic sounds that will seriously delight your soul. Although the music is written and produced by Austin Tofte, guest vocals are featured throughout. The female voice in "Holiday" and "Sleep to Dream" captures the essence of beach days, along with the flighty, bittersweet emotions of youth. The keyboard effects in "Jacques Cousteau" are dialed-in to perfection, exemplifying the much-loved pop sound, whereas the guest hip-hop vocals in "Good Times" put the rhythms in a much different context. Overall, *Water Colours* pales in comparison to Swimming with Dolphins' previous EP, *Ambient Blue*, but it still manages to provide a few really good tracks for your music library. If you like this album, try checking out Owl City, Imogen Heap, Washed Out and The Postal Service.



Dance Gavin Dance's *Downtown Battle Mountain II* is a sequel worth your time. It starts where its predecessor left off—controlled chaos—but somehow manages to transition into an emotionally-driven and mellifluous set of tracks. Jonny Craig's spectacular voice shines through the dissonance on every single song. Often overlooked, "Blue Dream" and "Elder Goose" are fantastic examples of the sensitive melodies that can be found in post-modern hardcore. Dance Gavin Dance's music has vitality, beauty, and creativity that is personal and ever-enjoyable, and *DBMII* is continuing the beloved sound. DGD has no comparable artists, but it's worth mentioning that Sleeping with Sirens, Circa Survive, The Fall of Troy, and Sky Eats Airplane have similar idiosyncrasies.

REVIEW

by Taylor Sarrafian



Barton Hollow by The Civil Wars is just plain amazing. Harmonies saturate the soundwaves and it works wonders. The voices don't need any instrumental accompaniment—they really do speak for themselves. If the title track, "Barton Hollow," is the heart and driving force behind the album, then "Poison & Wine" must be the soul. Songs like "I've Got This Friend" and "My Father's Father" adapt this album to variety of moods. Barton Hollow is a must-have. The Civil Wars are one of many folkie singer/songwriters out there; try checking out City & Colour, Bon Iver, Iron & Wine, The Weepies, and Joanna Newsom.



If a groovy, alternative-pop band is being sought, then look no further. Fans of Arctic Monkeys, The Wombats, and OK GO will adore The Kooks' Junk of the Heart. It's unimpressonable at first, opening with a juvenile/excessively-ebullient album opener, "Junk of the Heart (Happy)", but it quickly transforms into a fun, soulful mixture of songs. The Kooks' true musicianship as writers was depicted in "Runaway", "Taking Pictures of You", and "Time Above the Earth" by using a pleasant blend of dynamics and instruments. "How'd You Like That" and "Eskimo Kiss" reward listeners with a rich, full sound that pulls the entire album together. The duration is way too short (36 minutes!), but it's absolutely worth every second.

FALL INTO FASHION

THE WINGTIP FASHION BLOG:

by *Jaqueline Flores*

As surprising as it sounds, fall is here. But it sure does not feel like it in Riverside. While other cities and are bringing out their boots and layering up, we are still wearing shorts and flip-flops. It's one of the perks of living in Southern California. With that being said, the ritual begins. I wake up, look out my window, see the sunshine, go to my closet and stand in utter confusion. What to wear? Most college students do not have the time to read through magazines and be updated with the latest fashion trends.

So allow me to suggest a new alternative, to avoid a fashion faux pas. Next time you are walking around campus, take time to admire the colors of the trees, leaves, and flowers. Nature provides a perfect way to inform us on what color scheme is in. Think about it, we base our clothing choices based on our environment. Nature basically did the work for us; we just have to put it together.

As a new season begins, we base our color and clothing choices on the changes around us that we sometimes miss. Subconsciously, we wear the colors of the changing leaves or the sky. As I was walking around campus I stopped to notice the colors that surrounded me. On the ground there was a pile of camel colored leaves that had a spec of light green to them. Next to these leaves were light pink flowers who had been blown away. As I looked at the color scheme I realized the colors I was looking at matched exactly the colors I was wearing. Who knew nature could be so fashionable!

I continued observing and found a blood red rose that was surrounded by dried light brown branches. This is a perfect example of a fall trend. Choose a dominant color in your outfits such as brown, and pair it with a

complimentary color, like red. It makes it much easier when you have a neutral color and one bold color. Remember, balance is key. This color scheme can apply to both ladies and gentlemen. For my ladies, have a signature piece. One that is bold and will be the focal point to your finishing outfit, such as the red rose was, in the midst of branches. Your bold piece can be lipstick or nail polish. Chino pants for women are very chic and can be worn during the day and into the night. Colored blazers are a great bold piece! Notice the shade of grass, which can be evergreen. This color will surely make your outfit stand out. Or try a mustard color to resemble the changing leaves. Tucking in blouses is a new trend that I have come to love! Give it a try and have fun with it. To my gentlemen, add some color to your neutral wear. You'll notice the huge difference adding color to your outfit will make. I suggest reds and oranges. Men, please do not be afraid to dress up during the week. Try wearing a blazer with jeans. Match it with a dress shirt and a bold tie. Change it up a bit from your conventional basketball shorts and t-shirt. . Add a messenger bag to your look; it'll look stylish, intellectual, and prepared. Now that we have our outfits down, let's move onto our hairstyle. Ladies, its Riverside, and we all know how windy it can become in the afternoon. To avoid your hair flapping all over the place try a high slick ponytail, elongating the face and neck making you look much taller. It will give you a very chic and professional touch, exposing your face. Don't hide it! For the gentlemen, I suggest a clean and combed look. In the end, have fun choosing your outfit! Create a signature look, made by you and flattering to you. Feel free to be inspired by your surroundings. Play around with colors and patterns and don't be afraid to try something new. Your style is one of a kind, just like you.





What is style to you?

For me, it's a way of being comfortable.

What inspires your style?

Simple, but something that stands out. Something unexpected.

Class Standing:

Freshman

What's your favorite store?

Forever 21 and thrift stores.

What are your hobbies?

Photography, Music, and sleep!

What's one downside of fashion?

The cost of things!

Sale or full-priced?

Sale! I go straight to the sale section!

CANDACE SCHNEIDER

Freshman, Business Management

Eureka, California

Shirt by Forever 21
Shorts by Wet Seal
Scarf by Target



What is style to you?
Style is the visual display
of personality.

What inspires your style?
European trends.

Class Standing:
Sophomore. Music
technology and marketing.

Favorite accessory?
Sunglasses

What are your hobbies?
Anything to do with music.

What's your fashion motto?
Dress for yourself and
not what is in style.

What's a downside of fashion?
Vanity



GIANLUCA GIBBONS

Sophomore, Music Technology & Marketing

South Hampton, Bermuda

Shirt by Ben Sherman
Pants by London Outlet
Sunglasses by Ray Ban
Shoes by Sperry

WEARING HISTORY

by *Jaqueline Flores*

Ever held history? I have. You can too, and trust me, its closer than you think. While browsing through the La Sierra University Library I came across any fashionistas dream. I had in front of me a collection of Vogue magazines dating as far back as the 1930s. I spent hours flipping through every page, each page being a new treasure I was holding. I could not believe that I was holding a piece of history.



Women before me had been flipping through the same pages and reading the same articles I was reading. I was fascinated and jealous of how inexpensive clothing was! As I gazed through each page, mesmerized by every photo I began to notice that fashion was repeating itself. This new concept has given me the curiosity to study more about clothing and its role in history. So, if you were thinking about throwing away your grandmother's old prom dress, think again! It probably will be in style this upcoming winter.

I decided to take on the task of comparing fall 1951 fashion trends with Fall 2011 trends both featured in Vogue magazine. The first thing that caught my eye was the fact that the October 1951 Vogue magazine was only fifty cents! Times have definitely changed! According to the advertisement seen in the 1951 edition of Vogue, fur was a trend. I noticed the advertisements were placed in the beginning of the magazine. To my surprise, in the 2011 edition, sixty years later, advertisements for fur coats are still being displayed in Vogue, and the ads I saw

were featured in the first couple of pages of the magazine as well. But, that's not all. I kept on flipping through the pages of both editions simultaneously and found very similar ads both advertising red lipstick. Now, if you have not seen them lately, be ready to see more of them in the upcoming months, polka dots are a trend this fall! But, they were also a trend in the fall and winter of 1951.

The more I kept on flipping through the pages the more I was in awe of the similarities. Both editions had very similar color schemes for that season. They also both suggested glittered items as part of accessories. We will never know if Vogue does this on purpose, or if fashion truly does repeat itself. But it's incredible to know that even our fashion trends are rooted in the past and are being passed from generation to generation. Our clothing trends have a style, one that repeats itself. The beauty of this is that since fashion repeats itself we become part of history and our trends are written down in history books, even if we do not realize it. We are in a position to create a signature look for our generation. But what will that look be?

"We associate poodle skirts with the fifties era, bell-bottom pants for the seventies, oversized clothes for the nineties, but what about for 2011?"

There reaches a point where clothing stops being just sewn fabric made to cover our bodies, to an actual expression of self. All, pattern, color, and cut has been done before, its our clothing's culture and origin. We make it our own by how it is that we wear it. Just because polka dots were in during fall 1951, does not mean we're going to wear them the same way in Fall 2011. We take the basic idea that is a polka dot pattern and we add our perspective to it, creating a historical piece, one that is memorable and tells a story, your story.

You may think I'm looking to into depth with this idea, but just allow your clothing to tell a story. The end result will be fascinating. So, if you haven't been to the library and held history, please do. The experience is phenomenal. But you don't have to go too far to find history, just check in your closet.

RELIGION



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WORSHIP

by Leanne Galvan



For some La Sierra University students, worship is all about testing your patience as you plow up the crowded steps to the LSU Church to obtain a colorful attendance card. For others, worship is a chance to mingle with familiar faces and tune into God through music, prayer, and the message of the week. I decided to ask a few students what they thought about worship at LSU.

“Is worship a social or a chance to spend time with God?”

“Worship is definitely both. Not only do I get to see my friends, you get to worship together,” said Jasmine Gonzales, a sophomore at La Sierra University. “I didn’t grow up Seventh-day Adventist, but I have been part of the Christian community and technically I would call myself Christian before I would call myself Seventh-day Adventist.”

Even so, do worships interfere with other areas of our life, such as studying, working, and maybe even naps?

“I don’t think so,” said Rudy German, a sophomore at La Sierra University, who grew up Catholic. “If you choose to go to a religious school, then you expect it.”

“If anything, I think we make worships interfere with school and everything else, including our nap-time” Jasmine Gonzales said. “Plus, if the worships really bother anyone, UCR is only a few minutes away.”

Are worships beneficial then?

“They make me think,” Rudy German said. “They even encourage and motivate students to keep learning about God and to remember that this campus is centered on Him.”

“Worships have really helped me this quarter,” Jasmine Gonzales said. “Last year, I had classes where teachers prayed right before class and even before exams. However, this quarter none of my teachers are doing that. So worships kind of fill in for that.”

Would more worship be better?

“Actually, maybe not more worships,” said Jasmine Gonzales. “You don’t want to make it seem like a routine. People might get the wrong idea and feel overwhelmed.”

Are worships so perfect that La Sierra University should keep them just the way they are?

“I like the message,” said Rudy German, “but it doesn’t feel like a church to me. I need to see icons and statues. And I would like it if they asked us to kneel when we pray.”

“Maybe even more singing where everyone can join in. It’s more fun when everyone can play a part,” Jasmine Gonzales said.

Is La Sierra University tending to the spiritual needs of the students?

“Well, if we set aside everything on our excuse-list, then worships can be peaceful. But that’s if we’re not studying and looking at notes,” Jasmine Gonzales said.

German and Gonzales shared complaints though: There’s too much chatter going on in the pews, but even we admit to being the cause sometimes. And we hate being hungry during service.

German & Gonzales make their way out of the church today with new insights as they turn in their cards and rush down the steps to buy some Subway sandwiches.

85° HUMID HEAT

MISSIONARY REPORT

by Molly McCary



Yesterday Mike put a tack in his mouth, Denise dipped all ten of Amelia's fingers into my blue inkpad, Kyle body-slammed Kevin on the concrete floor, and it was only Monday.

Why do I feel like the crazy one? Who goes to a remote island 4892 miles away for 10 months in year-round 85-degree humid heat to teach 23 2nd graders who barely speak English?

Me.

Last January I was sick as spoiled milk when my bath mate Kaitlin asked me if I wanted to go on a mission trip. Like, going-to-class-in-pajamas-I-slept-in-the-night-before, with-used-tissues-creeping-out-of-my-pockets sick. Now there's a cute visual. The thought of going out for a year had crossed my mind before, but "Healthy Molly" never gave it a second thought. However, the mucus-filled mind of "Under-the-weather Molly," lethargically assented to the adventure. Though I eventually rolled out of my deathbed, the yearning to be a student missionary never died.

Since then, I've left my major on hold, my family back home, my friends at LSU, and the comfort of my memory foam mattress pad for an island where air conditioning is sparse and internet is sparser.

For the next eight months I will be living, teaching, and sweating profusely at the Delap SDA School on the Island of Majuro. For you geographically-challenged Americans, Majuro is part of the Marshall Islands. Never heard of them? I hadn't either. Just trust me, it's in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. To give you an idea

of how big Majuro is, at some points you can throw a rock from one side of the island to the other. You can't even do that from the steps of the library to Price Science Complex. Please finish reading this before you go try it and accidentally hit a gardener.

I knew that moving to Majuro for a year was not going to be easy, but after a month of teaching, I can say with confidence this is the most difficult thing I've ever done. I wake up every day hoping God has filled my stamina meter enough to last me through the day. Thankfully, He always does. Most children here live in less than decent conditions and abuse on this island is at an all-time high. It is not uncommon to be met in class by glazed-over stares of non-responsive children. The burdens in their lives are arresting their rights as 7 year olds. Since poverty is also high here, many of my students eat food that is very inexpensive. Aka: junk food. Dry Top Ramen noodles mixed with red Kool Aid powder is their drug of choice and has quickly become my worst enemy. Trying to calm down twenty-three sugar-high kids is near impossible.

Although no college course could have prepared me for talking to parents who abuse their kids, or dealing with students who release their pent-up anger by body-slammng one another, there is one thing that I've found extremely enlightening—the residence of this island stare at the student missionaries. Before you freak out, let me explain. I thought it was because of our lighter skin colors. My students love to run their



sticky palms up and down my arms touching all my freckles. But the true reason they stare has nothing to do with colors...or freckles.

When Kaitlin and I do laundry in the public laundry mat, curious wide eyes peek through the window slats, my students follow me home at lunchtime to catch a glimpse of what I'm eating, and the neighborhood children thrust their baby brothers and sisters into our arms. I was told, before I left La Sierra, that as student

missionaries, we are the closest things to Jesus that these residents will ever meet. Who wouldn't want Jesus to hold their siblings? Who wouldn't want to see what He's eating for lunch? Even though the responsibility to carry His name is with me wherever I go, being on Majuro has made my purpose so much more evident.

Honestly, there are days when I still doubt why I'm here. Like when Lini won't stop slapping Marina for cutting her in line. Or when Ezekiel refuses to come in from lunch and instead decides to yell Marshallese words through my windows. But when Marilou comes running towards me, yearning to be swept up in a swinging hug. Or when Devinson is quietly humming Abba songs during math. Or even when my class spontaneously bursts into "If you're happy and you know it." It is then, when I'm glad that I'm nowhere else in the world.



If I've learned one thing so far, it's to prepare to be surprised. Maybe your major will be nursing by next fall or you'll add a drama minor to your class load. Maybe you'll wake up one morning and realize that you were meant to do something crazy. Or maybe one day you'll step off a plane 4892 miles away from home into 85-degree heat and realize it's exactly where you're supposed to be.

ESSAYS

America is known for being the country of immigrants, but it is not always possible for a country to be a magnet for immigrants. It is not possible for a country to be a magnet for immigrants if it is not possible for a country to be a magnet for immigrants. It is not possible for a country to be a magnet for immigrants if it is not possible for a country to be a magnet for immigrants.

These immigrants are not beneficial to The United States because they do not pay taxes, are a potential for crime and terrorism, and do not pay taxes.

America's economy; they are what keep the schools and all other government services running.

Maybe include later or before preparatory information, build in

Immigrants from countries such as Mexico are greatly increasing in number in recent years. They are low-skilled and take jobs that do not require a college education.

is causing problems, especially in places such as California. They are causing problems, especially in places such as California. They are causing problems, especially in places such as California.

outmigration of skilled workers and a great influx of low-skilled immigrants is causing disproportionate numbers. "This situation is steadily eroding the tax base and trapping state and local government in a fiscal bind" (McClellan).

these people are more willing to take low-paying jobs that offer no benefits. They are often hired over Americans who are native to the country. This creates a problem within the country. The government now has to be stricter with its enforcement of the workplace (Echaveste).

This basically means that there is more enforcement of the workplace (Echaveste). This basically means that there is more enforcement of the workplace (Echaveste).

Americans have to unnecessarily go through on behalf of illegal immigrants. It is obvious to American people that immigrants are coming into the country to take jobs. This causes people to worry and even become less confident in the government's ability to protect them and safeguard their jobs (Yankelovich).

ability to protect them and safeguard their jobs (Yankelovich).

Great support!

Very true.

Good!

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THE "PROSE" AND CON'S OF CAMPUS LIFE

by Joshua Boyak

To dorm or not to dorm. For some, it is not a question; it is a necessity. But what about those of us who have the option to live on campus or to commute?

La Sierra University proudly boasts over 2,000 students enrolled with 576 students currently living on campus. As a transfer student who has commuted to classes by bus or by car his entire collegiate life, I am always being told that dorm life is "where it's at." The sales pitches are all the same. You get to live on campus and meet more people; you get to take part in more on-campus events; and let us not forget all the pizza, fries, cookies and ice cream you can eat in the café.

"I like being able to get to know people in my dorm, get to know to the deans, being close to classes," says Kelli Kam, senior, who lives in Angwin Hall. "If I have a question about my homework, I can just go talk to the professors."

Access to professors within walking distance? Who can argue with that? Now I would love to experience the joys of getting to wake up five minutes before class and going in my pajamas while putting on the dreaded "Freshman 15" you supposedly gain from one too many trips to the unlimited ice cream machine. But I only live a paltry 8-mile drive from the campus to my parent's quaint little house in Corona, where my parents allow me to stay, ever-so-graciously, free of rent. So from an economic standpoint, living on campus, for me at least, is cost-prohibitive.

If you live on campus, it is expensive, though sometimes necessary. As compensation, you get to sleep where you study and get a chance to become more interconnected with the university and all of their functions, such as drama and "Tuesday Tunes." For students who commute, they do not have to worry about their bank accounts hurting from the added cost of dorming, which the facilities and utilities must be paid for with the addition of a mandatory meal plan. And let us be perfectly honest. If there is one thing that dorm students wish they could have, it is a good ol' fashioned, home-cooked meal.

"[Living on campus] I miss the comforts of home," says Alaric Vingua, senior dorming at Sierra Towers. "You know, home-cooked meals, sleeping in my own bed, and spending time with my family."

So, which student is missing out more? A commuter is bound by traffic, but enjoys all the comforts of home (your bed, mom's cooking, and no rent to pay). A dorm student has the luxury of convenience and community, but then their parents' pocketbooks are paying the price. It would seem that Shakespeare put it best in "Hamlet" when he said "There is nothing either good or bad, but thinking makes it so."



A FRESHMAN CO-ED'S DIARY

(AN ADVANCED COMPOSITION ESSAY IN THE STYLE OF JOSEPH ADDISON)



About 50 years ago, Kathryn Woertz, then freshmen at La Sierra University grabbed the headline story in the Criterion, "A Freshman Co-ed's Diary (An Advanced Composition essay in the style of Joseph Addison)," which gave a panache insight of a young 1962-woman during an average school week.

Dig it.

"I am keeping a diary of my life for five days during a typical week. I am a freshman college student who has a car and a good allowance. I don't have a steady boy friend, but I find several on the campus that are quite interesting whom I date on occasion. I am an only child so I really enjoy having a roommate for a change.

The following is the way I spent my time during a typical week.

MONDAY. (6:30-8:00) Clock radio woke me up. Got dressed. Missed breakfast because my hair gave me trouble.

(8:00-11:00) In class.

(11:00-12:00) Went back to room. Read mail and combed hair again.

(12:00-1:00) Went to lunch with roommate. There was a long line (Note. Go to lunch earlier tomorrow). Ate

lunch with Tom and Bob. Hoped Tom would ask me for a date.

(1:00-5:00) Broke zipper in skirt. Went to town for a new zipper, but couldn't find the kind I was looking for. Looked at the new fall clothes. Bought an ice cream cone.

(5:00-6:00) Got ready for supper. My hair is a problem today. It needs to be cut.

(6:00-7:00) Ate supper. There was nothing that was good.

(7:00-9:30) Went to library. Didn't feel like studying. Went to Snack Bar and got a milk shake (Note. Marshmallow shakes are good). Saw Jack at Snack Bar. He was with Sue. Flirted with John.

(9:30-10:30) Got ready for bed. Did nails. Went to bed at 10:30. Early.

(10:30-12:00) Talked to roommate about boys, etc.

TUESDAY. (8:30-11:00) Slept late and missed first class. Was late to second class at nine. Had forgotten to do assignment so did it in class.

(11:00-2:00) Lunch, etc.

(2:00-5:00) Had lab. Didn't finish, but left at five anyway.

(5:00-7:30) Changed clothes and went out to dinner. Spent only \$1.75.

(7:30-10:00) Went to the library. Decided to go to Snack Bar early and come back and study. Started talking at Snack Bar so didn't get to finish studying.

(10:00-11:00) Got ready for bed, Jeb called and asked me for a date. Told him I had plans because I thought Tim might ask me out. I didn't see him today.

WEDNESDAY. Have gained two pounds. Decided to go on a diet.

(7:00-8:00) Got dressed. Didn't eat breakfast because of diet.

(8:00-12:00) In class then Assembly. Read outside. Reading for history class. Found out Tom is going home this weekend, so he won't ask me out.

(12:00-1:00) Had cottage cheese and tomato juice for lunch. Didn't have any dressing on salad. Said I wasn't hungry.

(1:00- 3:00) Put away things and made bed. Read new GLAMOUR that came.

(3:00-5:00) Too tired to study. Took a nap.

(5:00- 7:00) Got ready for supper and went to cafeteria with roommate. Had cottage cheese again. Got some fruit and skim milk. I don't like cottage cheese but remembered my diet.

(7:00-10:00) Stayed in room so I wouldn't be tempted to go to Snack Bar. Hemmed a skirt. Started to read a chapter in my history book. Not many pictures. Don't think there will be a quiz so didn't finish reading chapter. Tried to learn parts of a frog for biology.

(10:00-11:30) Got ready for bed. Washed hair.

THURSDAY. Had lost one pound.

(7:00-8:00) Dressed. No time for breakfast.

(8:00-12:00) Had class. Went to Snack Bar between classes because I was starving. Late to nine o'clock class. Changed for P.E. today.

(12:00-2:00) Decided not to go to lunch because I had had a donut and milk shake at the Snack Bar earlier. Went to town for some toothpaste. Still couldn't find the right zipper. Got a chocolate éclair at the bakery. Got an ice cream cone (Note. Fudge-nut ribbon is delicious).

(2:00-4:00) Had to go to library to study. Couldn't find right book, so read magazines and woman's page in the newspaper.

(6:00-7:00) Went to supper with roommate. Had cottage cheese and nut bread. Only drank half of skim milk.

(7:00-9:30) Studied in room and listened to radio. Ate some cookies.

(9:30-10:30) Got ready for bed. Bill called and asked for a date. I don't really like him, but didn't want to sit home, so I decided to go out with him.

(10:30-1:30) Opened can of nuts. Remembered test tomorrow that I hadn't read chapters for. Read three of the four chapters until I was too tired to read any more. Set alarm to get up at four and finish the reading.

FRIDAY. Have gained two pounds. Will go on diet again today.

(7:30- 8:00) Got up late because I forgot to turn alarm on. Late to first class.

(8:00-11:00) In class. Did poorly on test (Remembered to read chapters ahead of time in the future).

(11:00-4:00) Ditched Assembly and went to town to cheer myself up. Bought record. Bought ice cream cone. Tried on dresses on sale. None fit, etc.

Conclusion: After reading my diary, I see that I have spent much of my time eating, dressing, or just socializing. I have to spend more time studying and keeping my things kept. I am going to make a schedule and spend some time each day studying and reviewing so I won't be unprepared for test. I also resolve to really go on a diet tomorrow!"

LIFE IN INDIA

by Rajiv Devadbason

“Did you know Hawaiians live in grass huts?” my friend asked. “Now that’s poverty!”

Oh yeah? I’m Indian. My people build houses out of dung. The kids are like, “Momma, maybe if we work hard all our lives, we can afford Hawaiian grass huts one day. Till then we’re stuck with this smell.”

Yikes, my dad used to be one of those kids living in those primitive houses, too. Sure, he probably needed a gas mask, but I think he might have had a blast: imagine the fun of wearing fashionably torn up third generation hand-me-downs, or the joy of fighting, like a glamorous pro-wrestler, for scraps at the dinner table.

I went back to see the pond my dad regularly swam in as a kid. It was full of sewage and mud.

“Oh! So you wrecked a perfectly good pond, and chose to leave it like this!” I said.

“The pond was already...” my dad started. Then, glancing at my self-satisfied smirk, he said, “Shut your piehole.”

I wish I was as big a stranger to poverty as I sometimes pretend to be. But the truth is, when I was a kid living in India, we didn’t even have drinkable water unless you boiled it first. I learned in a classroom so bare and tiny there were no crayons or books, just make-shift walls that were made of flimsy pieces of wood, walls so flimsy they’d collapse on top of the students below whenever there was a stiff wind. I had to get stitches for my skull when that happened to me. I remember bad days, bad days for my parents, anyway, when they chose to skimp on food just so that I could eat. But I never felt poor, because in India, there’s always some group of dot wearers who have it

worse than you do. Many kids my age were stuck learning how to do farm work or odd jobs instead of going to school. That’s real poverty; the kind of poverty that never lets you get rid of the ignorance or lack of options.

It took me a decade to become really Americanized. But now, I no longer use a magic carpet.

Hey, flying is overrated.

So is flute playing, so goodbye snakes!

Jokes aside, there are many tiny luxuries I’ve long since stopped marveling at. Maybe I’m spoiled. There were times when a cube of ice in my drink made my day. Because, to someone unaccustomed to frozen treats, a cube of ice is special. So are vaccines. These days, I rarely think about the simple pleasure a hot shower brings. Or of the wonder of microwaves... a nuclear device that super cooks your food within seconds? Are you kidding me?

To say India is devastated by poverty would be like saying Michael Jackson had a bad nose job or two. No kidding. Forty-two percent of the population is below the international poverty line. That’s almost one out of every two Indians and we’re talking about the bottom of the barrel of poverty-- individuals who don’t even make \$1.25 US dollars per day*. But India is hardly the only third world nation on the planet. What about Nigeria, Vietnam or China? Is Mexico that much better off? There must be so many others who feel the way I do... that we rarely think about how good we have it, even though we have it so good.

*http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/india_statistics.html.



FALL

CRITERION

THE STUDENT QUARTERLY OF LA SIERRA UNIVERSITY

WINTER 2012





EVO



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EDITOR'S NOTE

As a populous engaged in the act of academia it is imperative that our minds stay in the threshold of critical excogitation. We are in an environment where this sort of notion is not only welcomed, but a requirement for success. As a campus news source, it is imperative that we hold this virtue to the highest of calibers. We don't address taboo or controversial just for the sake of more readership. Our goal is to relay in print form conversations that are being communicated in our surroundings.

In news, there has been strong talk of President Obama's plan to lower college tuition in every state. This obviously could have very real lasting implications if his proposed policies were to become a law. Miranda Creech covers these propositions, placing relation to La Sierra students.

Headlining in this winter issue is a moving exposé headed by staff writer Alexander Hirata of the underbelly of Cambodian life. His coverage brings to life the very real misfortunate veracities that children endure on daily occurrences and REVO's plan to stand for a change. We also tackle a very touché subject: premarital sex within the Christian community. Sex is often kept over in the corner as a "hush, hush" issue. Fact of the matter is we now live in a world where sex is constantly being bombarded through many forms of media. We can't escape it. We can, however, be informed. The mantra, "Knowledge is Power," has never been so true. Our hope for this piece is that it will some bring light on the topic, allowing healthy discussion among peers.

Among the many challenges we face as a print production, is the decision of what gets to be featured in each quarterly. It's a comprehensive process in which our editors, along with our staff writers, carefully collaborate what current events are most relevant and urgent to cover. I stand behind them as a proud Editor-in-Chief of the choices they make; however, we are always looking for input. Have a question? Ask us. Have a concern? Voice it. Wanting to express an idea for a potential story to report? Tell us. We are here to cater to you, the student public. As your college news source we are always hungry for feedback. It is part of the way we grow as young journalists for the betterment of a quality creation. Meetings are every Monday at 12 PM, over at the Cactus room if you'd like to stop by for a chat. Or, email us at Criterionfeedback@gmail.com.

As always, we look forward to serving your needs. We take glee in the fact that we have this grand opportunity to present the news to you, an opportunity that won't be squandered.

We are the medium of revolution. Let's go to change the world.

Best,



Israel Carreón
Editor-in-Chief





NEWS

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THE RISING COST OF EMPLOYMENT

by Sheldon Benjamin

As college students, there are certain worries and fears that we deal with every day; most of which are centered on employment. What will life after school be like? Will you get into that graduate program? Will you get that internship leading to the career you want? The state of the economy is evidence that the world is a scary place where things don't always work out the way we plan them to.

With all the problems we seem to have to look forward to, an obvious question would be, "What is the government doing about it?" Governor Scott Walker was the first politician that promised to create jobs during his term. During his campaign, Walker promised 250,000 jobs to be created during his term. This was a time when the national unemployment rate hovered in the high 9%. No other candidates threw around numbers of jobs they could create until after Walker's initial 250k. Of course Walker won. (This American Life)

Walker, like many politicians now, intended on creating jobs by simply offering businesses tax credits and bonuses for hiring people. Now this works to a certain point, but sometimes jobs are created simply because there is a greater need. For example, Brook Dale senior living in Wisconsin reported having an increase of demand (meaning more seniors needing assisted living arrangements) and therefore needing to hire more people. They knew nothing of Gov. Walker's propositions or plans to make hiring seem more lucrative to businesses. Yet it's likely that these jobs will be counted on Walker's ticker seeing as they were created during his term.

Now the tax credits and bonuses and added deductions don't always fall to the wayside as many different employers did take advantage of the policies, but only because they were planning to hire anyway. Imagine you are running on a treadmill, and someone hands you a bottle of water (assuming you trust the person). You can now run for just a little bit longer and hydrate yourself, but you were running anyway. The water didn't get to you run, it just helped you run. So really there is no way to track whether or not the Governor's promise of 250,000 jobs will be created from anything that he or his administration has done, but he can definitely say he helped. (This American

Life)

Generally, this is what politicians do. Appeal to the private sector in order to achieve short term goals. Why short term? Well most offices are reelected every 4 years so politicians only have 4 years to prove themselves. After the 4 years, if they are not reelected, someone new will do the same, trying to prove his or her self. So long term goals that could really change the economic and overall qualitative climate of the country never get addressed. Long term goals like allocating more money to schools, highways (we all know how wonderful California's roads are) and public transportation. The government seems to be creating obstacles for education instead of removing them.

Many law schools, have skewed their graduating salaries in order to entice new students with juicy numbers. "A school might advertise salaries of \$160,000 but not report that only 10% of graduating students responded to the survey," says Kyle McEntee of Lawschooltransparency.com. The American Bar Association says that up until now, schools really get to choose what information they want to provide to upcoming students. Recently, the rules were changed so that the school has to report whether graduates are employed full time, and whether or not their job title required a law degree or not. (NPR "Do Law Schools Cook Their Employment Numbers?")

Many law schools, have skewed their graduating salaries in order to entice new students with juicy numbers. "A school might advertise salaries of \$160,000 but not report that only 10% of graduating students responded to the survey."

However, this only makes schools somewhat more transparent. It in no way relieves students of the research it takes in deciding a school especially for a graduate program. La Sierra's own records are a bit harder to come by as it was difficult to get any graduate data from Student Financial Services, Admissions and Records, or the Alumni Association. The rising cost of tuition doesn't really ease our minds either. In the 70s, UC Berkley was around \$700 per year. Today it's more like \$15,000 showing an increase in tuition prices of %2,000 percent. Sandy Baum of George Washington University says, "States are paying less of the cost then they used to...As state budgets shrink, the students share goes up." (NPR Why Is College So Expensive?)

As students, we find ourselves in the middle of competing government ideas and parties, schools treating education like a business in order to appeal to more students, and the overall rising cost of tuition. Recent studies however, show that unemployment is really a problem for the uneducated. The unemployment rate for high school dropouts and people with just high school diplomas is close to 14% while college grads have an unemployment rate of 4%. That's a huge difference. Those with P.h.ds have an even lower 2%. It seems to make sense that going to school and investing in an education yields to more jobs. Despite all the loops that we have to jump through, education is very much indeed worth the cost. Like my cousin always says, "If you're going to invest in something, why not yourself?"

These are things to consider this year with the upcoming election. Despite the fact that election has turned into what some comedians call "America's Next Top President," one of these shining stars of society will become our president. Whether Obama gets reelected or whether Romney, Santorum, or Gingrich and his King Solomon like ideals, gets elected, somebody is going to have to take the presidential seat. As students who have lived through some of the country's most economically trying times, it is important to consider the policies and ideas that these candidates are propose. Choosing someone who wants to make positive long term changes is important for the overall well-being of our generation and future generations.

It seems to make sense that going to school and investing in an education yields to more jobs. Despite all the loops that we have to jump through, education is very much indeed worth the cost. Like my cousin always says, "If you're going to invest in something, why not yourself?"



PRESIDENT CHECKS AND BALANCES COLLEGE TUITION THE NEW AND EXITING MAJOR AT LSU

by *Miranda Creech*

What do a University of Michigan football practice and President Obama's 2012 State of the Union address have in common? Obama revealed his "Blueprint for College Affordability" on both occasions. University of Michigan students and students from colleges across the nation may have reason to celebrate the Obama administration's College Affordability Plan, especially as the average price tag for a four-year degree has reached \$100,000 and is steadily increasing according to US News and World Report. With debts relating to student loans now surpassing credit card debt, there is clearly need for some adjustments. This plan has been on Obama's mind for some time considering his 2009 promise addressed to students that he "will provide the support necessary for you to complete college and meet a new goal: by 2020, America will once again have the highest proportion of college graduates in the world."

The Obama Administration's ambition for improving the economy and education in the U.S. was implemented quickly in 2009, long before the College Affordability Plan had been conceived, with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

The Obama Administration's ambition for improving the economy and education in the U.S. was implemented quickly in 2009, long before the College Affordability Plan had been conceived, with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. As the current unemployment rate, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, is over eight percent, this act is a needed investment for both American education and future job creation, with the ultimate goal of laying the foundation for lasting economic success. With \$77 billion targeted towards elementary and secondary education, \$5 billion given to beginning child education, and \$30 billion intended to maintain affordability among colleges, this act's initial educational stimulus was immense. In California alone, some \$223 billion has been received since 2009 in the form of contracts, grants, and loans. Of the \$223 billion, almost \$90 billion was reserved for educational means. La Sierra University has at least five federal grants offered to its students, with some ranging over \$9,000 for students who are California residents. To apply for these grants, simply file a FAFSA (Free Application for Student Aid) with La Sierra's Student Financial Services.

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Fast forwarding to 2012 and the College Affordability Plan, one can see that Obama's administration is continuing its ambition of improving education by lowering college tuition. The University of Michigan students and anyone who tuned in to listen to the State of the Union heard the blueprint for Obama's plan. This blueprint is made up of five key sections.

The first segment, possibly the most important part from a student's point of view, is that of "reforming student aid." The current government program for providing aid to universities is out dated and Obama



plans to revamp it with three new standards: “setting responsible tuition policy [by] offering relatively lower net tuition prices and/or restraining tuition growth; providing good value to student and families [by] offering quality education and training that prepares graduates to obtain employment and repay their loans and; serving low-income students [by] enrolling and graduating relatively higher number of Pell-eligible students. (Pell grants are those grants used by over eight million American students each year and are the chief mode of financial aid used by students to help with their tuition costs).

The second section of the college affordability blueprint is entitled “race to the top for higher education.” In summary, this section is a plan to invest \$1 billion in state governments as an enticement to update their state financing intended for higher education. This program has already seen success in the past by assisting 19 states improve their education standards for some 22 million primary school students all while using a mere one percent of their total education budget. The Obama administration hopes to see this pattern repeat itself with their investment in higher education.

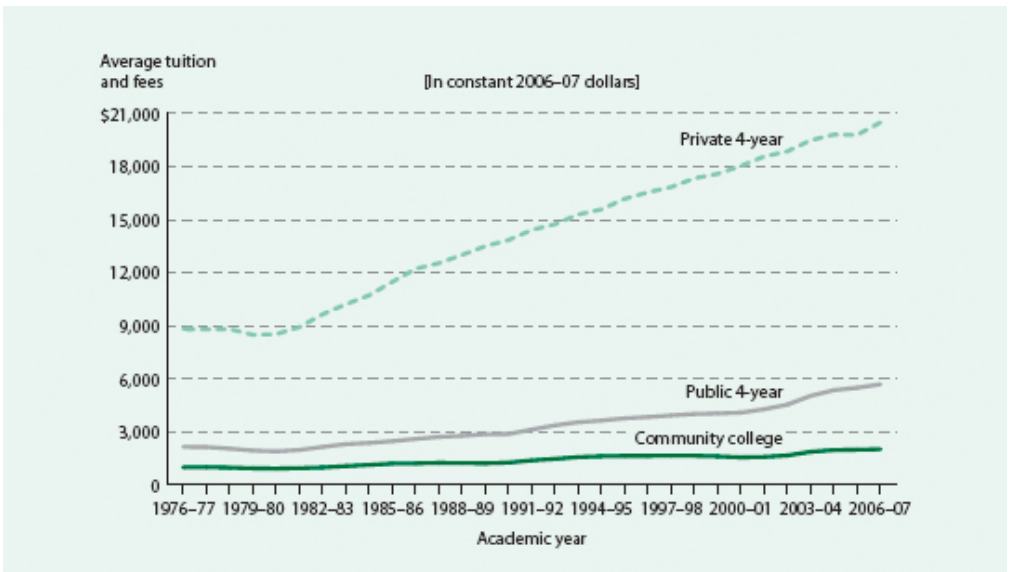
Thirdly, Obama has implemented a section with the goal of “establish[ing] a first in the world competition.” Another investment plan, this section will supply colleges that are actively updating productivity programs and renovating campuses with \$55 million. The federal government is investing this money with the hope that educational institutions all over the country will follow suit.

Obama is promoting better information for families

as his fourth blueprint section. Each year families and their soon to be high school graduates begin the lengthy, cluttered research to pick the college or university of their choice. The President wants to streamline this process for students and families by employing three new research tools: 1) a “College Scorecard” to aid students in selecting the best college for them based on quality of education and affordable price; 2) the requirement of colleges designing a “Financial Aid Shopping Sheet” that clearly states the college’s financial aid programs and; 3) a collection of post-graduating information on employment and earnings, in the hopes of giving future students an idea of post-graduate life from a particular college.

The fifth and final section of the blueprint generally aims at more “Federal Support For Affordable Education.” The federal government has already increased funds for Pell Grants two-fold and has issued the Post-9/11 GI Bill, helping over half a million veterans return to school. Beyond this, the President announced in his recent State of the Union his intention to hold the student loan interest rate at 3.4 percent. If Congress rules against Obama’s plan, interest rates will raise to 6.8 percent this July. Obama has also called for the creation of more work-study jobs, which are vital for many students who are responsible for their own tuition.

Unfortunately, however, with any government investment program, no matter how positive the intent, comes unintended effects. One such effect is the widening of the achievement gap in school districts according to Nina Chacker, a Detroit public school teacher and participant of the Occupy Detroit’s Direct Action Committee. Chacker explains that as





the government gives benefits to those schools that are successfully lowering tuition, but reprimanding those schools that are unable to lower tuition, the difficulties of “problem schools” are going to become more pronounced with no hope of improvement. Thus, the gap between “successful and unsuccessful” schools will become intensified. Though Chacker is pleased with Obama’s College Affordability Plan, she does point out that “at some point we need to be more critical about where the funding at every level is going instead of expecting it to magically reappear” in the right hands of those who can actually improve educational institutions.

From a political perspective, at a recent education-committee hearing, Republican Senator of North Carolina, Richard Burr, pointed out that he does not “believe the government’s role is to pick winners or losers,” referring to colleges who are successfully or unsuccessfully reducing tuition costs. Senator Michael Enzi, a Republican from Wyoming, asked the Secretary of Education, Martha Kanter, where the money for Obama’s plan would be coming from, considering the President’s plan to keep student interest rates at 3.4 percent alone will cost \$5.9 billion. Enzi noted that expensive programs might not be wise

with an already problematic federal deficit. Answers to budget-related questions would be presented at the President’s unveiling of the new federal budget on February 13, according to Kanter. Other Republican Senators point to complicated federal regulations enforced upon colleges as the reason behind higher tuition costs. Kanter responded to these accusations by reminding these senators that Obama has asked federal agencies to streamline regulations. With this the Senators did not seem satisfied.

Both Congressmen and the Riverside community seem to have mixed feelings towards the College Affordability Plan. From one perspective, Biology major from Riverside Community College, Mark Bonus, sees Obama’s plan as a tool to break down cost-related barriers that have in the past prevented those of different backgrounds from becoming students. Bonus also pointed out that though this plan may increase the federal budget in the short-term, educating more individuals would positively reinforce the economy in the long-term. Students from La Sierra such as Marketing Management major Devon Tinny and Strategic Communications major Peter Martinez agreed that they are pleased to see the President taking concern in college student’s



quite some time to do so. For some, this uncertainty is encouraging. Robert Martin, author of “The College Cost Disease: Higher Cost and Lower Quality,” and Andrew Gillin, Research Director at the Center for College Affordability and Productivity” teamed up to co-author an article with the goal of explaining how colleges became unaffordable in the first place. The authors make the point that as the government provides subsidies in the form of financial aid, colleges are forced to increase their tuition as a direct result. Higher education costs are linked to the inflation of the general economy, as it is commonly forgotten that universities are economic institutions, whose costs are affected by an external macro-economy, as well. Put more simply, according to Martin and Gillin, as colleges and universities receive funds in the form of federal aid, tuition payments, room and board, grants, and other federal funding, they increase their overall budget accordingly. Increased budgets give one university an edge over another university, whose budget may be smaller. From Martin and Gillin’s view, Obama’s College Affordability Plan will ironically produce more unaffordable colleges.

On February 13, President Obama unveiled his \$3.8 trillion budget request, the budget announcement promised by Secretary of Education, Martha Kanter during the education-committee hearing. On the same day, Obama announced that he “built this budget around the idea that our country has always done best when everyone gets a fair shot, everyone does their fair share and everyone plays by the same rules.” Though this quote seems to emphasize the classic “American dream,” Obama’s budget will raise taxes some \$1.5 trillion for certain families, which somehow seems to not reflect the authentic, fair, and capitalistic “American dream.” Colleges and universities around the country should make reasonably affordable tuition their goal. The President and his administration have a right to call universities out for inflating tuition to unreasonable prices. This being said, a federal program resulting in an increased deficit may not be the best avenue for balancing college tuition. Unfortunately, it may be premature for University of Michigan students and other undergraduates around the nation to celebrate lowered tuition quite yet.

concerns. Nevertheless, they also believe that another Federal Government program is not necessarily the best route to go about fixing the tuition issue. Ethan Weber, President of SIFE club (Students in Free Enterprise), noted that he also believes Obama’s intentions are in the right place, however, “on a macro-economical scale, increasing the deficit will only hurt US citizens by raising costs.” He went on to question that, “Lowering costs for students is great, but at what price?” These recurring uncertainties highlight the pressing question of whether benefits from the plan will be overshadowed by an increased deficit.

As of right now, Obama’s College Affordability Plan is just that, a plan. There is no certainty of the plan passing through Congress and even so, it would take

As of right now, Obama’s College Affordability Plan is just that, a plan. There is no certainty of the plan passing through Congress and even so, it would take quite some time to do so.



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FEATURES



REVO: CAMBODIA

by Alex Hirata

The toilet. It was the toilet that was so striking, so compelling to me. I am a fan of simple, and this toilet was definitely simple, but I still didn't like it. I stared at the square cutout in the floor of the room next to me. The three-by-three-foot space was a bathroom. The floor was a floor--that, as well as a toilet. There was no porcelain. There was no pipe disappearing under the house. Instead, there was square of empty space. Beneath that, there was water. Sewage. Trash and other unidentifiable matter floated on the thick, rainbow liquid surface. The house we were in was almost as tall as a two-story home, but it lacked a first story. Elevated by bamboo stilts, the house wore corrugated iron walls. Patches of rust and holes took turns decorating the roof. The house stood next to another one like it. And that one, next to another. The walkway in between dwellings was a collection of boards placed higgledy-piggledy in between the houses, some of them nailed down, others lying loose. They were little hovels made of ticky-tacky. Little hovels made of ticky-tacky standing, ashamed, in sewage and garbage. I could smell the poverty.

We were visiting the home of one of the children who attended the Feed and Read school where we were running a vacation Bible school. The Feed and Read teachers were dropping off some kids after school and they took us with them. They did it more to show us the living conditions than to give the students a free ride to their houses. As small as the van was, we could only ride it so far, as the houses, an unchecked urban forest, eventually grew too close together to navigate through. We got out and walked the rest of the way through the shanties. They were rough. They were nothing like the houses I had lived in. I'd seen poor before, but these houses built on stilts over the dump were still surprising--not quite shocking, but surprising.

These people,
especially the kids,
deserved so much
more.





This was Phnom Penh, the capital city.

These people, especially the kids, deserved so much more. No one should have to live in those conditions. What's sad, too, is that if they chose to, if all the leaders of all the nations set their personal agendas aside and met and pooled their resources and planned on ending poverty, they could do it.

But poverty isn't the only problem racking the country. We rode through the Floating Villages where chains of boats, like molecules, each linked to another and covered the surface of the Tonlé Sap, or "Great Lake" in English. The boats were grouped--separated, perhaps, is a more fitting word--by ethnic groups. We passed the Khmer. We passed the Chinese. We passed the Vietnamese. David Batstone's Not for Sale informed me that one in three of these Vietnamese girls I saw would be sold by their families into slavery.¹ The heart of human trafficking beats cruelly in Southeast Asia.

All of this--the houses built of trash in the dump, the floating villages, the people living shoulder-to-shoulder, the undeserving poverty--all of this was present and real.

This was Cambodia.

Officially titled the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Southeast Asian country nests between Thailand, Vietnam, and Laos on a peninsula that thumbs out into the Gulf of Thailand and the South China Sea. Nationals of Cambodia are called Cambodians; ethnic Cambodians are Khmer, descendants of the Angkor Empire who, at one time, ruled and covered much of

Southeast Asia. There are over 14 million people living there, one-tenth of them in Phnom Penh.²

The nation is renowned for its thousands of ancient Buddhist stone temples, feats of engineering and beauty, many of which have been sacked or are riddled with bullet holes. These are testament to Cambodia's rich, but troubled, history--a history that is only recently recovering from years of oppressive leadership, civil war, economic and political collapse, and genocide.

A short-term mission trip brought me here. A family friend invited me to come and help. So, I went. In March, after finals, a friend and I flew out of LAX. Our mission was to run a vacation Bible school and to help however else we could at the Feed and Read school we'd been hearing so much about in the months leading up to our departure.

The Feed and Read
is more than a
school, just as the
teachers running
it are more than
teachers.







The Feed and Read, Phnom Penh, is a child of Adventist Southeast Asia Projects (ASAP). The Feed and Read is more than a school, just as the teachers running it are more than teachers. Like the name suggests, the faculty both feed and teach the students who attend. The children get a single meal at school, which, for most of them, is the only one they'll get each day. The idea driving the concept is that because there is such a low importance placed on education, kids need an incentive to come and to do well in school. Food—something so basic, so essential, and so easy to find here in the States—is their reward. At least, at first it is. Later, when the students develop a passion for learning, one modeled after the teachers who mentor them, the food is no longer a motivator. They come to learn.

The kids at Feed and Read are taught more than math, reading, and writing. They have the chance to experience God's love, for which the teachers are the conduits. They are so loving, so full of the Spirit, that they give themselves fully to God, who accepts them and returns them to serve their neighbors. I know this because I saw them interact with the kids, I saw how the kids—who so easily see dishonesty in adults—trusted them. The teachers dedicate their lives to the kids at the school. When the school first opened, for instance, it didn't have enough funds to pay the teachers; they willingly taught without receiving a salary. All of the money they could gather went into the school and students.

That is God's work, and those are God's people, the ones who sacrifice themselves for others.

There are 80 kids who attend classes. These are

children that used to spend their days on the streets. The nation's "school life expectancy" of 10 years is evidenced by the constant presence of school-aged kids out of school during the day.³ On average, Cambodians don't graduate from secondary school. There are so many kids on the road; most of them are headed nowhere.

The Feed and Read would take more than 80 students, but their small, rented building is already maxed out. They just don't have the staff or physical space to take on more students. If given the resources, the principal said, they would get a bigger building and expand to teach more grades. Currently, the Feed and Read is unable to offer secondary education.

In the late 70's, a violent political regime came to power in Cambodia. Rising from the wake of destruction left by the Vietnam War (much of it due to indiscriminate U.S. bombings) spilling over its borders, the Khmer Rouge tried to rid the country of anything Western—medicine and education included—and forced almost all citizens into forced agricultural labor. That, and a religious, intellectual, and ethnic

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for others.

cleansing led to the deaths of over one million. Some estimates suggest almost one-fourth of the population died under Pol Pot, leader of the Khmer Rouge.⁴

Despite this terrible past—one so recent that survivors of the Khmer Rouge are still a significant portion of the population—the Cambodians don't hate. Even those who went through and survived the Khmer Rouge genocide, or whose families and friends were tortured and killed by the regime, don't speak ill against those who oppressed them. It's incredible that they can go through so much and not harbor hatred.

Cambodia's weather was great, our purpose was inspired, and I couldn't believe that any food could at once be both so delicious and so cheap. But it was the transparency, it was the love, love, love of the people that made me fall in love with the country.

Although Cambodia isn't in the most desirable state, it is recovering surprisingly quickly from decades of devastation and ruin. The economy, in particular, is bouncing back with speed. Even this, though, is a double-edged sword. Large reserves of natural gas and oil were recently discovered off the coast of Cambodia. The country, which currently exports no natural gas or oil, is expected to start drilling for these new resources next year. There is so much money to be made, but I bet you it won't benefit the people. No, they aren't lucky enough to get the rewards. After all, how can the money trickle down to the masses when the few—the rich—make sure to collect everything in silk-lined pockets already full?

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The divide between rich and poor only lengthens, only strengthens. It's disgusting. It's vulgar. In the States, we define obscene as TV-MA, as pornography, as the latest first-person shooter or album sporting a "Parental Advisory" sticker. Offensive and impacting as these are, they are only surface problems, mere pocket change compared to the very real problems

of this world. These things are only issues to people who build houses, drive cars, and drink lattes in worlds constructed on top of Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs. But what about in Cambodia?

First-world obscenities are a joke. Real obscenity is the gap between the rich and the poor. True vulgarity escapes the lips of La Sierra students in the phrase "I'm broke." I went to Cambodia and saw disgusting, but it wasn't the hole-in-the-floor toilet, it wasn't the smell of trash that hung in the city air, and it wasn't even the dump that families literally lived in. It was abstract: it was the in-between. Disgusting was the gap, that intangible divide between rich and poor, between powerful and powerless.

The Feed and Read is for Cambodia's poor. It is Cambodia's poor. Yet it isn't powerless. Through education, the teachers there try to better the world by passing on hope and knowledge to the next generation. Their devotion, backed by God, is what runs the school.

I have hope for Cambodia. I saw the love of the teachers at Feed and Read, a love that was so true and clear that it was obviously God-given. I know, too, that I can do something about the injustices of the country. Sharing what I saw is just the start.

Others are taking bigger steps to make change. La Sierra University's REVO team is committing its time and skill to further the education of these Feed and Read students. The ties between a people's education and its welfare are strong, and enabling these children to further their education furthers their well-being, as well as the health of the entire nation. In a fundraising event on April 29, they aim to raise money through a fashion show, an art auction, and by accepting donations.

The event is REVO La Sierra. The cause is sponsorship for Feed and Read students to continue on to a secondary education in Cambodia. The vehicle for change is you.

SEX IN THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

by Alyssa Hunt

80% of Christians aging from 18 to 29 years old have had premarital sex. Christians are one of the most criticized groups of people because of the standards the world has placed on how a Christian should act. However, among the Christian community, sex is one of the most hushed about topics.

The Bible tells us that God created sex as a special bond between a man and his wife. Therefore, we are taught that sex before marriage is a sin. So why is it that so many Christians are ignoring this fact and still participating in premarital sex?

One of the reasons may be the fact that many people argue that the Bible never blatantly says that sex before marriage is wrong. However, 1 Corinthians 6:18-20 tells us to, "Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins people commit are outside their bodies, but those who sin sexually sin against their own bodies. Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies."

According to this verse, premarital sex (which falls until the category of sexual immortality) is the only sin that one commits against himself. By having premarital sex you are sinning against yourself and not against God. However, 1 Thessalonians 4:3 says, "It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immortality." It is made clear many times throughout the bible that God has a perfect will for our life. It is not in Gods will for Christians or anyone to participate in premarital sex because he never intended on us sharing our special bond with more than one person. Nevertheless, it is important to look at the reality of the situation. Sex is happening and it will continue to happen in the Christian community because of influences, this generation, and Gods promises.

One of the biggest influences on the world is any form of mass media, specifically the television. It is a fact that sex sells. Our society has begun to idolize celebrities that are only famous for being sex symbols. Sex is in the movies we watch, the music we listen to, and the stories we read. It surrounds us to the point where it becomes the natural and popular thing to do. La Sierra student Victoria Magana says, "We are told its wrong, but that gets pushed back." We live in society that is constantly influencing us and as humans we want to fit in even if that means ignoring the obvious.

Aside from influences being a problem, the generation we are in creates a whole new issue. Times have

definitely changed throughout the years and for someone who is not in our generation, it is tough to understand the struggles and pressures placed on our age group. Not too long ago, the normal marring age was the late teens to the early twenties. Now, people want to finish school, start a career, buy a house, and then get married making the common marring age for this generation the late 20's and early 30's. This adds another estimated ten years to remain pure. Jawon Smith's take on this situation is that, "We are all consensual adults and we are capable of making our own decisions in life. As Christians it is between us and God as to whether it's okay or not. At the end of the day, it's no one else's concern." With the pressure of friends, media, and hormones, waiting until marriage to have sex suddenly doesn't seem like the popular thing to do.

The most important and logical reason that Christians chose not to wait until marriage to have sex is because of Gods promises to us. The Bible tells us in 1 John 1: 9 "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." We have a promise from God that if we repent our sins he will forgive us and wipe our slate clean, and God cannot lie. So, if sex happens, it's simple to ask God for forgiveness. Forgiveness is a Christians very own get out of jail free card when it comes to pre-marital sex.

LaSU junior Michael White believes that, "Premarital sex can be and often is seen as evil but I feel this view is exaggerated. In my opinion, it can also be seen as a risky life decision that could have consequences that can be detrimental to your future, psychologically, physically, mentally, or spiritually and God would not want his children to take the risky route, hence he guides us against it. In the end, however, the choice is the individual's and I'm pretty sure a loving God would understand the importance of freedom and the process of making mistakes to learn from them and still love you regardless."

God plays a different role in every Christian's life therefore everyone looks at God and the teachings of the bible different. This outlook could determine how Christians perceive the topic of premarital sex. Meanwhile, the Bible says to wait while our society says it's okay. So which is speaking to us louder?

*All statics as well as others can be found at "National Survey of Reproductive and Contraceptive Knowledge."

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MASS EFFECT 3: VIDEOGAME BLOCKBUSTER SWEEPS GALAXY

by Steve Wilson

If I were to say “N7,” would it mean anything to you? Maybe if you were one of the over a million Americans playing this year’s first blockbuster, *Mass Effect 3* (ME3). The final installment of Bioware’s trilogy has arrived and it has several people vigorously fighting to save the Earth and the Galaxy. With developers saying over 1000 variables from the previous two titles, and that over 100 scenes, conversations, and/or events will change based on the player’s previous choices, I had to pick it up. I had to see what consequences my actions in the previous titles had caused.

Throughout my play through, only a few things stood out as bad, most of which dealt with graphics. The graphical errors range from lips not syncing well to words, to entire characters disappearing due to a certain camera angle. However, these errors don’t happen too often and have been present in the past and yet the games have had incredible success. In a game with this level of good things, it’s hard to knock

it down for minor glitches that we’ve pushed through in the past.

The good things about ME3 greatly outweigh the bad. First of all, it is great to finally see myself on Earth. It’s a more personal experience since I can now see the massive scale invasion of Earth that was alluded to in the first two installments. Now, although you start and end the game on Earth, there is an entire galaxy of planets and races to visit and recruit to your cause; but while you are off planet recruiting, regular contact from officials on Earth remind you of what you are fighting for.

The artificial intelligence in this game did get a nice step up from *Mass Effect 2* and it shows. No longer are enemies standing behind a chest-high wall twiddling their thumbs. They are now more tenacious and can actually flank you successfully. This mixed with the addition of a cooperative multiplayer was a well received treat for the masses. This being the final game of the series, multiplayer ensures that people



won't just post ME3 on the shelf somewhere collecting dust after they save the galaxy. In multiplayer, you and 3 others defend key locations for 11 waves of enemies with certain objective missions sprinkled on top. Players with the right know-how can synchronize attacks with teammates making for devastating combos that add much more strategy than the normal co-op games.

For me, the best part of ME3 is that it didn't feel too much like a video game to me. It felt like a story that I helped mold and I wanted to finish it. Like the final Harry Potter novel, you have to pick it up and know how the story ends. Fans of the series know just how important each decision has been thus far, and that has not changed. This time around, certain missions don't just influence the final sequence of the game, but the fate of certain squad members and even entire races and planets. So in ME3, I felt personally responsible for things that had happened. I could remember when I made a key decision and now could see the repercussions for it. Certain characters would make appearances, people that I remember seeing or helping, now trying to return the favor by helping me. While on the other hand, other characters may no longer even exist due to a choice I made.

At the end of it all, after 17+ hours of playtime and waiting five years since the first installment, I found myself making the final decision of the Mass Effect

universe. I sat there with a tear in my eye, reaping what I had sown. I made my final decision and watched as I sacrificed it all to save the galaxy. And while this is not the ending I wanted, it was the ending it deserved. I didn't come out of the castle with the princess on my arm like most video games. Any other ending would have been wrong. It was a poetic scene deserving of the great saga which is Mass Effect. However, not many people shared the appreciation I had for the ending. A plethora of people complained about this ending, saying it did not take into account several of their decisions. Others began petitions on Facebook and on Twitter demanding that Bioware remake the ending somehow. After so many petitions and feedback, Bioware announced they would remake the ending. No one knows what their final plan is, but Bioware cofounder and general manager, Ray Muzyka, said they will be working on a new ending.

I consider this ending to be one of the greatest I've ever been through. I personally don't like the fact that Bioware is going to remake their ending, however, it's good to see a company that actually listens and cares about the feedback of their fans. I will play the new ending when it comes out, but regardless of how it finishes, I will always remember the ending that made me feel like I had finally won.



MASS EFFECT 3: WHY YOU SHOULDN'T HATE THE ENDING

by Lewes Morwery

The ending of Mass Effect 3 has been the recipient of heavy criticism ever since eager fans were able to get their hands on, and finish, the game. Critics of the ending have been so bold as to say that it ruins the entire experience of a three game franchise. I, however, am not one of those people. As I put down my controller after finishing Mass Effect 3 I felt a wide range of emotions. My time in the series was over, I had enjoyed the ride immensely, but never did I feel upset about what had just transpired. While I do not think the ending was perfect, I choose to embrace it's open ended nature for what it was. I hope to demonstrate, in a few words, why.

I would like to quickly mention where I take issue with the ending first, because I do not believe there are any absolutes, positive or negative, in this argument. Firstly, I believe the ending makes some logical jumps in it's story telling that important details are lost on the player, myself included. Several things were not clearly addressed and could have used more clarification in the events leading up to the final choice. I would argue that if things had been more clearly explained some of the anger about the ending would not exist. The second major issue I have is with the late introduction of a character that, for all intents and purposes, is completely superfluous to the events transpiring on the screen in front of you. The catalyst not only seems to be unnecessary, but the late introduction of a character is simply bad story telling. These issues were not enough to shake me to the side of unhappiness and anger, however. Now I will try to explain my view of the ending and why I think it works.

My view of Mass Effect 3 differs from the critics in that I see the whole of the game as an ending. While people have complained about the lack of closure with major stories, characters and relationships at the end of the game, I would argue you've been getting closure all along. You can choose to cure the genophage once and for all and free Mordin from his guilt, or betray Mordin and the Krogan, dooming the their ability to reproduce but making an ally of the Salarians. The conflict between the Geth and Quarians is resolved no matter who you side with, and the list goes on. By the time the climax is reached at the final battle I would argue the only remaining loose end is the fate of the galaxy. While this may seem a rather important loose end, and it is, my point is that problems and stories introduced in earlier games are resolved. After the early setup on Earth and the mission on Mars the game is begins to answer questions and barrels toward the final confrontation as conflicts are resolved. Every major plot point and mission you embark on works towards putting the final period on a

major storyline that has traversed each game, and wraps them up with a real sense of finality. The game forces you to make some excruciatingly difficult choices along the way as well, at times putting the fate of an entire race into your hands, but makes the consequences of these choices immediate. For instance if you side with the Geth the Quarians are wiped out, and vice versa. Mass Effect 3 is all about consequences of previous choices, whereas the first two games were all about making those choices. Many critics of the game have pointed to the flowchart made by gaming magazine "Game Informer" to demonstrate the multitude of different paths at the end of Mass Effect 2. In this flowchart you see all the different ways the ending sequence will play out depending on what you've done leading up to that point, but in Mass Effect 3 the whole game functions as the flowchart. When reading posts online about the lack of consequence for choices made previous to this game I was taken aback because I viewed the entirety of this game as the reaping of consequences. In that sense I think the game provides a lot of closure to a lot of different plot threads and story lines that have been playing out in this universe. I would argue the only aspect of the game that does not provide closure is the battle with the Reapers and it's result, which I believe was left intentionally open ended.

Once game play is finished and you sit back to watch the ending cinematic, things are not laid out concretely. Almost nothing is made explicitly clear for the player and I believe this was done intentionally. The critic would argue that it was lazy or unfocused writing, but I would argue it was all done on purpose. I can understand those that would be unhappy with an open or vague ending, but I think it is in line with what a lot of Mass Effect is all about. These games are about building your own adventure and story through the choices you make and things that you chose to do or not do. Because Mass Effect is a game about making your own story I think the developers want you to make your own ending in a sense. The way the ending is set up right now, every person experiences the ending in their own way and has their own views about not only what happened during the events of the endgame sequence, but the future of the galaxy as well. For instance, if you chose to destroy the Reapers they have been defeated, but all technology and artificial intelligence is destroyed. How will humanity and the other races cope without the technology to aid them? What does it mean for the fleets that came to fight the Reapers? Is earth ravaged by the energy field that destroys the Reapers? Did the mass relay's destruction wipe out everyone? All of these questions are there for you to think about and decide what the answer

is for yourself, and I don't view it as a problem. It seems the idea of the player creating their own ending is either its greatest strength or its biggest shortcoming, and that is for you as a player to decide. My view is that, at the very least, the ending is interesting and at its very best a beautiful and potentially thought-provoking way to end. I would also like to propose that if BioWare had made more definitive choices in presenting the ending there would still be unhappy people, so why not let us decide for ourselves.

Another point of contention with *Mass Effect 3*'s ending is the game's final choice. I have seen and heard many complaints that boiling the game's final moment down into a choice between three options was a cheap method to set up the three different ending cinematic scenes. In contrast to this view, I would argue that the ending of *Mass Effect 3* is a microcosm of what the series is all about. *Mass Effect* is about making choices, from simple things like which characters you want to talk to, learn about, and develop relationships with to choices that affect the fate of entire races. Why not then present the player with one final choice to determine the ending of the series? I would argue that presenting the player with one final, and difficult choice to make is brilliant and the perfect way to wrap up the game play of the series. While it does not provide a large amount of variety in those final moments, there was more than enough variety in everyone's journey to the ending to make up for it. In my opinion, *Mass Effect 3* is more about the journey than the ending itself. On your journey to the ending so many stories come to a close and repercussions of your previous choices are felt along the way. Once again it circles back to my point that *Mass Effect 3*, as a whole, is an ending.

Mass Effect 3 is a marvelous achievement in gaming. I believe it is one of the best games ever made, regardless of your feelings about the ending. Bringing together so many stories and concluding them in a satisfactory manner is something that BioWare, as a developer, should be proud of. I choose to view the open-ended nature of the game's final moments as something to enjoy. It gives players a chance to think and create their own ideas about what has happened and what will happen in the future. If you choose to embrace these aspects of the ending I believe it is something that can be immensely enjoyable. An ending of that nature gives us something to debate and discuss amongst ourselves.

Before concluding, I would like to mention my views on the very vocal group that is dissatisfied with the ending of *Mass Effect 3* and is clamoring for BioWare to do a rewrite. This is an unprecedented turn of events in narrative media. I have never seen a group be so adamant that narrative changes should be made to a story because it was unsatisfactory in their eyes, and I think that rewriting the ending would be a huge mistake. Video games are a young medium, in terms of intricate story telling, and this could prevent it from realizing its potential. For example, imagine every time that a

game has a portion of narrative that dissatisfies a group of its players, and the dissatisfied group demands the portion of the game be rewritten or changed. First off, some people are sure to have liked the original content and will be upset that aspects of a story they enjoyed are being altered. Second, not everyone will be satisfied with the changes that are made. Finally, the changes that have upset more, or different, players may snowball into more demands for more change, which could, theoretically, continue on indefinitely. And if changes have been made for one group of people and another demands more, when can the developer say no? Let me demonstrate a more concrete example. If you think there are a lot of angry people now, imagine if BioWare does an equally unpopular rewrite. Not only will they not have satisfied the unhappy players, they will have also upset an entirely new group of players and lost even more good will with their customers and fans. While this future is certainly not guaranteed under these circumstances, I see it as a very real and distinct possibility. BioWare and these dissatisfied, and even angry, players may be doing irreparable damage to games as a form of story telling. I would assert that if players begin to complain about stories, aspects of stories, or narrative decisions, game developers would become unwilling to take risks for the fear of losing money or receiving bad press. Story telling is an art form and if every artist were badgered into changing their work for its critics, art would be valueless. Whether or not you view the whole of video games as an art, the narrative aspects are and I do not see any good coming from BioWare changing the ending.

As I sat and watched the ending play out in front of me I felt a lot of emotions, but none of them were unhappiness with what I was watching. It's not a perfect ending, but I don't know that a perfect ending exists for this story. So many people have experienced so many different things along the way that pleasing everyone seems impossible. That being said, I can understand the opposing view's frustrations, but I think most reactions by both sides have been far too extreme. If you view this game as a form of story telling, or even art, then you are allowed to disagree with my opinions and BioWare's choices, and I'm not trying to make you to like it. At the same time I believe we have to respect the choices that they, and all game developers, make in the realm of narrative. While I won't try to convince you the ending of *Mass Effect 3* is a perfect ending, I think it as ending worth thinking about and an ending that can serve as a fitting close to one of gaming's most important series to date.

A GATEWAY TO THE WORLD

by Jaqueline Flores

We all have heard the expression, “A picture is worth a million words.” What if someone actually took that literal? Many of us have probably graced the halls of the Riverside Art Museum located in the heart of Downtown Riverside. RAM serves as a key location in providing fine art and exhibits for the Inland Empire community. Their mission serves to showcase local talent and help young artists began their journey into the world of art, as it was the case with Justyne Marin, a sophomore English Writing and Graphic Design major at La Sierra University. Last summer, one of La Sierra’s professor’s in the English, Communication, and Drama department, Sari Fordham informed Justyne of a creative writing internship that the Riverside Art Museum was offering. Justyne was offered the internship in the fall of last year and had the opportunity to work with seven other students from local universities that are majoring Art History and Creative Writing. Justyne was the only student representing La Sierra University. A total of eight students had the privilege of working with Curator Margaret-Mathews Berenson. The exhibition, IN-PRINT, which is still on display at RAM, focused on the metamorphosis of printmaking through the years. The internship consisted of each student intern choosing two pieces from the collection Berenson had chosen and writing either a poem or a short story for each piece. Justyne chose a piece that depicted a landscape of a forest, and a woodblock print titled, “Red Boats Under the Bridge” by Utagawa Hiroshige. Marin decided to write a short story and a poem that was made up of two haiku’s. She felt the haiku’s were fitting for the Hiroshige piece. She states, she wanted to “capture the moment” in both pieces using her words. The process continued throughout the fall and early winter. She would write and use the pieces she had chosen as inspiration for her own work. The editing process continued. After drafting, help editing, and advising from Berenson, Justyne had written her own pieces that would be published. But, this was

not the first time Marin would have her work published. In 2010, Marin submitted her poem titled, “Gypsy” to Prairie Margins and was published in 2011. When asked about how it feels to have her works published twice, she stated, “it feels good to know that complete strangers like my pieces.” Finally, on January 12, 2012, all eight students showcased their pieces in a reading to first, sponsors and donors and then to the public. The students each read the pieces they had crafted to the audience. The pieces were later published in a magazine that can be found in the RAM shop. Marin recalls that students who attended the reading approached her afterwards and commented to her how powerful her words were. They admired the influence and impact her words had on them as they too were in the path into the art world. Justyne said she never realized how powerful her words had been, but she enjoyed knowing that she had a positive impact on students like herself. Though the internship process was long and stressful at times, Marin states it was “completely worth it” and she would do it all over again. Now that the internship has ended, I asked Justyne her plans for the future, she stated that she would continue looking for internships that will lead her to essentially be the editor she desires to be. Justyne keeps busy as taking the position of the Japanese Club president on campus, she is part of the Sophomore Mentoring program, and she continues to work in her writing and in her art. Justyne enjoys short story fiction and hopes that her degree in graphic design will her in the editing business. As she is now focusing on art more she points out that, “you can learn to appreciate good art when you see it. You never know where you’ll find it.” Overall, Justyne not only represented our campus, but she represented her talent as a writer to our community. She ends by saying, “Art doesn’t require words, however, I love the power of words. They make you feel things you never would have felt. It is how I discovered the world.”

When asked about how it feels to have her works published twice, she stated, “it feels good to know that complete strangers like my pieces.”

365 MUSINGS OF THE HEART

by Gaby Panjaitan

With contemplation comes laughter. Laughter of skepticism, ridicule, or of uncontainable joy. –Gaby Panjaitan

Gabriella Johanna Bintang Tiar Panjaitan, a Psych – Biology student at La Sierra University, recently released a new album entitled, “365 Musings of the heart”

Gabriella was born and raised in Jakarta, Indonesia and first came to America when she was 18 years old. Her vocalist mother and pianist father introduced Gabriella to music at a very young age and enrolled her in both piano and vocal lessons around the age of 10.

A year later, she discontinued her vocal lessons, due to scheduling conflicts and Her mother’s decision that piano was more important at the time for Gabriella, even though Gabriella desired to focus on her voice.

Around the same time, she developed a taste for Pop Jazz, a somewhat unexpected genre for a girl around 12 years old. She attributes her early influences to her father, Ronald Panjaitan.

Gabriella’s father listened to a lot of jazz fusion/pop specifically artists like Stevie Wonder and Al Jarreau. In turn, Gabriella adopted her father’s musical tastes and these jazz pop is currently her favorite genre of music. Esperanza Spalding and John Legend are her favorite artists.

At around 16 years old, Gabriella was able to take Jazz Piano classes. This is when she first began playing and singing together. “I realized that this was my niche. To play when I sing, especially to jazz.” In high school, she began writing songs.

Her writing started with a creative writing class that she appreciated and felt gave her the opportunity to express thoughts that she otherwise couldn’t.

“I’m not a romantic person at all,” Gabriella said. “But when I write, the language just flows naturally. My friends often wonder where all my lyrics come from, because I don’t even like getting flowers hah...I think it’s sad”

Gabriella has decided to pursue a career in psychiatry even though she is musically affluent. “It’s fascinating really,” Gabriella said. “Right now, Music and my psycho are equal in my life. Music has always been a passion,

not just a hobby, so I guess I would kind of prefer that music be at the forefront, but mainly because I’m more confident and comfortable with music.”

Piano for Gabriella became a means to an end in her song writing process. “It’s where I start. I punch out a few chords and just sing out a melody ‘na nan a na na’ something like that ha-ha.” Gabriella said.

She usually has a theme in mind that she wants to sing about and it is often based off a current issue or experience. “However, I have one main rule,” Gabriella said. “Never deviate from staying true to the heart when writing music because true musical beauty comes from the heart.”

365 Musings of the Heart was recorded in 2010 in Indonesia. Gabriella’s father and his best friend Ade Hamzah produced it, and Gabriella’s brother Joshua Panjaitan was the photographer for the album.

Gabriella wrote all the lyrics herself. “I’m not the best lyricist,” Gabriella said. “But everything I say comes from the heart.” There are 2 gospel songs on the album, and the rest are more secular. “He Will Guide Me” is a reflection of the world’s current state. “Give Him All” is about a cry for help and how, when you call out, God will come through.

“The other songs...well... they’re all boy related (smiles),” Gabriella said. “I’m not very romantic, but my music is.”

Gabriella says she will always sing in church and has a special place in her heart for gospel music, but enjoys secular music as well.

“There is a place for both in my opinion,” Gabriella said. “But do whatever you can. With secular styles you can be creative in different light. I’ve always believed that you can discover yourself through your creativity in many different ways.”

Her music is her message and it is all about staying true to yourself and to whatever you want to say. “There’s no creativity in someone dictating what you want to say. Also, don’t do drugs.”

365 Musings of the Heart can be found in all ASKARA stores in malls throughout Jakarta. If you would like to get a copy, you can contact Gabriella through her Facebook page under the name Gabriella Johanna.

MEDIA



Sherlock, BBC 2010-2012

The world is in a Holmesian frenzy. In 2009 and 2011, Robert Downey Jr., Jude Law, and Rachel McAdams starred in two high-grossing Sherlock Holmes movies that were (very) loosely based on Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's books. CBS is even currently producing its own Sherlock show, but for now, all the true Holmes fans are engrossed by the epic proportions of the BBC's second season of Sherlock.

Sherlock Holmes, as everybody knows, is a private detective. He is accompanied by the ever-loyal Dr. Watson, and uses his keen observation skills and powers of deduction to solve complex mysteries. Much unlike the novels, the entire series is set in modern-day, where Sherlock is younger, and using cell phones and computers to aid with his crime solving. Surprisingly enough, it all correlates pretty well with the original Conan Doyle canon, which is a big plus for book nerds (like me).

The greatest thing about the show is Sherlock Holmes, of course. Fans of House will feel at home with the cold, yet attractive personality. Each episode

brings forth awesome character development and spectacular suspense. It's dark enough to be a crime drama in some parts, yet light enough to be a comedy. The second season is undoubtedly better than the first, because of personalities like Irene Adler and Moriarty, but the first season is fantastic by itself.

It's very well filmed. There's a ton of cool scenes where time moves slowly and Sherlock accesses superhuman observation and memory abilities that can be experienced by the viewer. Actually, the shows are more like movies than anything else: each episode is even 90 minutes. Great, right? Too bad there's only six episodes total, and we have to wait until 2013 to get more*. Did I mention Netflix?

It's imperative that this show be watched. To many, Sherlock is the best show that has been on television in a long time; it's a shame that there are so few episodes. Sherlock Holmes is one of the greatest characters to ever be imagined, and it's heartwarming to see a BBC show do him such justice.

REVIEW

by Taylor Sarrafian

The success of recent comic book movies has encouraged companies like DC and Marvel to throw familiar friends and foes at the silver screen. Although most tremble with excitement at the sound of *The Avengers*, *The Amazing Spider-Man*, and *The Dark Knight Rises*, the audiences are often getting the same stories retold in different ways. We need more than Spiderman and Batman, and *Chronicle* perfectly shows it.

The main character is a quiet kid with a hard life; his father is an alcoholic, his mother is an invalid, he gets bullied at school, and nobody likes him. He records all of his experiences with a home video camera, and through his perspective, the plot thickens. He and two others acquire abilities by unknown means, and they discover new sides of their personalities as they become stronger.

The writer, Max Landis, did a wonderful job of endearing the viewer to the protagonists. As they grow stronger in power and closer in friendship, one can't help but empathize with the heroes and villains of the tale. It's quite a dark story, but it only adds to the dramatic nature of the film. Most of the characters develop quite well, with fair acting all around.

The cinematography surprised me (in a fantastic way). The camera perspectives matured with the film's duration, as the characters' personalities deepened. The special effects weren't the greatest, but the story stood on its own without fancy CGI.

I don't want to liken this movie to *Push* or *Jumper*, because it's so much more mature and deep, but it has very similar qualities. *Chronicle* has redefined "super" in its own right without setting any precedence of what it wants or needs to be. It's a movie about being more than human. The best thing about it is that it feels so real. The characters and script are so believable, which is rare to find nowadays. Don't expect great action scenes from *Chronicle*, but be prepared for a very good set of characters and plot twists.

Chronicle, 2012





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SPORTS

GOLDEN EAGLES:

ONE FOR THE RECORD BOOKS

by *Alyssa Hunt*

Although sports are not the most popular commodity at La Sierra University, the men's and women's basketball team strived to prosper in their 2011-2012 basketball seasons. The men's team made history by breaking records and remaining undefeated in the conference while the women's teams persevered through a tough but meaningful season. In the end, both teams finished strong by putting La Sierra on the sports map.

This season, the men's basketball team successfully made history with an astonishing amount of accomplishments. Right off the bat the Golden Eagles were faced with a tough preseason schedule which included NCAA Division I teams such as Loyola Marymount, North Texas State University, and Columbia University. Despite the rocky start of the preseason by going 0-14, the Golden Eagles managed to turn their game around. With determination and teamwork, the Men's Golden Eagles went undefeated in conference play and become back to back conference champions for the first time in La Sierra history. Along with the accomplishment of becoming conference champions for the second year in a row, La Sierra also defeated Chapman University for the first time ever. With the help of some key players, the Golden Eagles managed to finish the season 13-17 putting them in 4th place in the NAIA Division II basketball. However, due to unfortunate circumstances, the team was unable to attend the Independent Conference tournament. Golden Eagles junior Bennett Shaw says, "I'm happy the way our team came together towards midseason to win conference and make school history. Next year I believe that we will have a strong returning core for the team and with hard work and discipline we can be better than we were this year and I look forward to that challenge."

Throughout the season, the Men's Golden Eagles saw many great contributions from various players. The team

was led in points and rebounds by senior Kenneth Penn who played his hardest during every game and squeezed in a dunk whenever he could. LaSU juniors Bennett Shaw and Daveon Woods also brought their A game to the court and played to their fullest level of capacity. Seniors DePaul Williams and Miles Robbins who have faithfully played for the team for four years have watched drastic improvements made to the athletic department over their many years at LSU. "I am proud of what we are able to accomplish over my time here," says Williams, "I feel like everybody is aware of La Sierra University athletics now and I can't wait to see what happens in the future."

While the men's team found their luck midseason, the women's team did not achieve the same fortune. At the beginning of the women's season, they had 15 strong players ready to hit the court. By the end of the season, they had to survive on only 8 players meaning they could only sub 3 players at a time during the games. Although their losses came tough, their wins were greatly deserved. In their finally home game which was senior night, Joirdan Jones led the team to a victory by making the game winning shot in overtime. Sophomore Natalia Hawthorne also had a good season and was often nominated for Press Enterprise Player of the Week while senior leaders Melissa Bustamante and Ashley Baumgaertel constantly motivated the team with leadership and experience. With the experiences and lessons learned from this season, next season can only get better.

In the end, both teams achieved their accomplishments with hard work and dedication. The constant theme of both teams throughout the season was to never give up. Both teams have given La Sierra University a sense of pride and excitement for the years to come. Let's Go Golden Eagles!

Golden Eagles junior Bennett Shaw says, "I'm happy the way our team came together towards midseason to win conference and make school history. Next year I believe that we will have a strong returning core for the team and with hard work and discipline we can be better than we were this year and I look forward to that challenge."

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

by Jonathan Soto

The Golden State Athletic Conference (GSAC) is the preferred conference Javier Krumm would like to take the University in. Why? The benefits of joining GSAC include; less travel to away venues, right now La Sierra University has had to make trips to Arizona just to play one night, the impracticality of these far away trips puts strain on the players, coaches and especially athletic trainers. One benefit is that the teams playing in GSAC are within a freeway drive from La Sierra University, which would save money on gas and other travel expenses as well as a convenience and time for university students. Another benefit for joining GSAC is that the teams for the university will have an actual schedule for the season and we will no longer be playing 2 to 3 games in the span of one week. With sufficient time to rest and prepare our players and coaches will be better conditioned for a full-length season. The reputation of GSAC is known in NAIA (National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics) and is recognized as one of the best conferences, for our university to perform in this conference will give the reputation and the responsibilities our athletics department is ready to handle.

With sufficient time to rest and prepare our players and coaches will be better conditioned for a full-length season.

But with all benefits comes the catch. In our universities case financial scholarships are needed in higher amount as oppose to where we are now for current athletic scholarships. The decision for amounts of financial scholarships granted for student athletes comes from the board of La Sierra University. Meetings regarding the increase or not of the scholarships for student athletes is still to be adjourned.

Imminently the athletics department should have a new face around, the position for a new Associate Athletics Director has been narrowed down to a few choices, we will not yet know who the position will go to but do keep an ear for an exciting new member to join Javier's enthusiastic athletics board. Along with a new

The decision for amounts of financial scholarships granted for student athletes comes from the board of La Sierra University.

associate there will also be the formation of a student led committee, which will be known as SAAC (Student Athletic Advisor Committee) which will serve as a representation for student athletes and will be headed by Nikky Cheong. The committee will represent students formally to the NAIA and AII (Association of Independent Institutions).

Aside from the exciting new prospects facing our athletics department, we still have performances out of the office and on the field to look forward to. Though our men and women's basketball seasons have concluded we still have America's past time (baseball) to enjoy watching. Every quarter I can always look forward to and expect something new coming from Javier and the athletics department.

RELIGION



One Step At A Time

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ONE STEP AT A TIME

ATTEMPTS AT GENDER EQUALITY

by Laura Marshall

ONE ONE in
Christ

ONE ONE in
Christ

ONE ONE in
Christ

"I'm sorry, Mrs. White, but you simply do not meet the criteria to become a fully ordained pastor. You're a woman." It is amusing to imagine how one would explain to Ellen G. White, whom is arguably the most important leader in Seventh-day Adventist history, why she could not be a church leader in this present day. In fact, Ellen G. White was given ministerial credentials in the late 1800s. Though there is no indication of an ordination ceremony by laying on of hands, the Ellen G. White Estate has possession of three of her certificates entitled "Ordained Minister."¹

Many find it ironic that a religion that esteems Ellen G. White, a woman, as a prophet of God still excludes women from higher ministerial roles. Currently, men and women are given different ministerial credentials based on gender. Men are considered "ordained" pastors while women are merely "commissioned." Since both respond to the title of "Pastor," the differences may not be immediately obvious; however, commissioned pastors are restricted to only a small portion of the responsibilities held by those who are ordained. This might come as a surprise to many young people who have grown up in the Southeastern California Conference (SECC) since there is an exceptionally strong female presence in church leadership. In 2000, the SECC executive committee resolved to issue men and women equal credentials. Since then, each SECC pastor has received a certificate entitling him or her a dual "Ordination-commissioned" status of leadership.² This procedure has continued as a method of equally affirming women and men in ministry. While this dual credential was a significant step towards equality in 2000, it was still considered to be a compromise. Now, there is one specific group hoping to push forward the final step towards full ordination of women.

Several individuals with close ties to La Sierra University have formed a campaign called ONE in Christ. ONE is an acronym for 'Ordain Now Equally.' The name is inspired by Galatians 3:28 (NRSV) which states "There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus." According to the ONE in Christ website, their mission is "to mobilize members of the SECC to urge and empower its leaders to immediately take the necessary steps that will result in the ordination of all qualified pastors without regard to gender."³ Seventh-day Adventists nationwide are encouraged to sign the ONE in Christ petition in hopes of changing ordination policy beginning at the local conference level and moving upwards towards the Seventh-day Adventist world headquarters of the General Conference (GC).

Members of the SECC are not alone in their struggle for gender equality in ministry. In November of 2011, both the North American Division (NAD) and

the Trans-European Division (TED) voted changes in policy allowing both ordained and commissioned pastors to become conference presidents.⁴ In the past, women have been restricted from this level of administration because only "ordained" ministers are eligible. It was considered a small but necessary step towards gender equality within the church. However, excitement was thwarted in February when the NAD announced they would reverse the change subsequent to receiving advice from legal counsel which stated that the policy was out of line with that of the General Conference.⁵ Despite the reversal of what would have been a positive step for women in the church, it is clear where the divisions in North America and Europe stand on this issue. In a letter to the NAD Executive Committee, President Dan Jackson states, "It is of vital importance that we affirm the women clergy presently serving in our Division, that we encourage women who may be called to gospel ministry in the future and that we enhance the understanding and unity of our membership regarding the role of women in the church."⁶

Because many Adventists are frustrated by this defeat, the timing may prove to be beneficial in garnering support for the ONE in Christ campaign. In an article for Spectrum Magazine, Dr. Warren C. Trenchard, initiator of the campaign and professor of religion at La Sierra, says, "Although on one hand this is a setback, on the other hand it is a challenge and an opportunity. Local conferences have their own constituencies and executive committees that can enact policies and launch practices to bring about the ordination of all pastors without regard to gender within their jurisdiction. To encourage and empower this outcome, beginning with the Southeastern California Conference, is the mission of ONE in Christ."⁷

Numerous La Sierra students have already taken the step of encouraging the local conference by signing the ONE in Christ petition. Many young people in the Adventist church are particularly bothered by the disparity demonstrated by refusing to fully ordain women. This generation was raised on the ideal of social equality, regardless of gender, race, or economic status. When young people see equal job opportunities in every area except religion, they are often discouraged from participating in, or even being a member of, such an institution. Ellen G. White summarized the heart of this issue well. "Not a hand should be bound, not a soul discouraged, not a voice should be hushed; let every individual labor, privately or publicly, to help forward this grand work."⁸

Those interested in supporting the ordination of women are encouraged to sign the ONE in Christ petition at <http://www.one-in-christ.com>.



DEAREST NICET

by Jonathan Soto

I feel like I'm chasing streetlights in Paris.

My feet take me down the foggy Champs D'Elysses on this cold winter night.

Scratching around the old scrap paper on my hard wood desk; I looked out my window and saw Jean Poli on his bright red bike. Snowflakes were falling and the choral children were singing. My eyes squinted when I saw a construction worker changing a flickering light on Mansiuer Avenue. I live in a second floor flat, let me tell you about the beautiful city, of Paris.

I remembered how my dearest Nicet would run around with a bright green ribbon and let it twirl behind her every move. She had the bright eyes that would shimmer in the sunlight and a smile that made you forget about the world. Her two front teeth were missing but everyone who saw this little cupcake knew she had the most adorable smile in all of Paris. Christmas time was her favorite; she loved how everything would be decorated with candy canes and ginger bread houses. She would stand at the front porch during the first snowfall with her mouth open trying to catch as many snowflakes as her tiny mouth could seize. I would sit on the porch watching her, making sure she was safe; I was her silent guardian, she meant everything to me. I can recall her childish giggle whenever snow would land on her eyes; she didn't like how fast it melting and how cold it was. To her, it was a mistake that would try to avoid; this happened to her about every few minutes. Sometimes I would be convinced she had short-term memory. Crazy girl.

Whenever the other children would come out of school, Nicet would be overjoyed that her playmates came back from a day of classes. Little Jean Poli, in his stiff formal outfits that his nanny would force him to snug into, was always present. After school he would always unbutton his shirt and mess his hair up. I can see he was a mess waiting to happen. Alice Gallais was the other little girl who would show up to play with Nicet and Jean Poli. Together the three of them would ask me to take them to the park. After they begged and nagged I would check my schedule and then call Mrs. Poli and Mr. Gallais to inform them I was taking the children to the park. With smiles I could feel through the phone, they always approved of the children leaving with me for the afternoon.

The Park was called Angelique; it was not far from where I lived on Mansiuer Ave, only two blocks down. We lived in L'Acerdon District, about 20 minutes from Notre

Dam. Angelique Park was always filled with children, their parents, lovers and writers, old men and the famous bohemian youth. The children who played were happiest when Nicet came to join in their games.

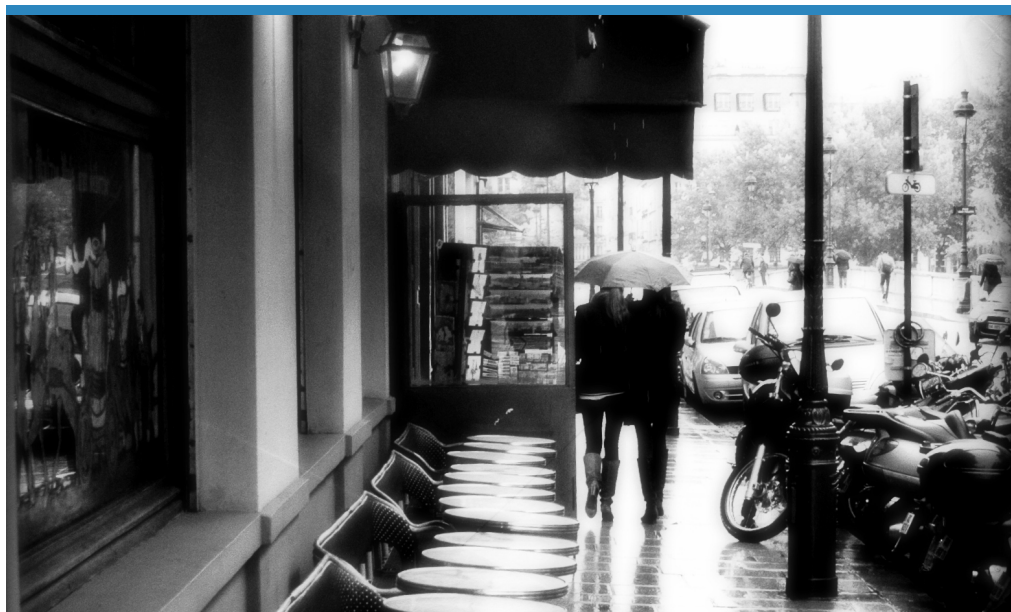
I can vividly remember the nights when I held Nicet by the hand while we strolled through the city. The parks would be closed; the dark cobble streets would be shrouded with fog, the sound of bike bells and cars in the distance echoed like a symphony in the night. When she was cold she would tug on the sleeve of my jacket, and I would know instantly that meant I had to lift her close and hold her warmly in my arms. My little Nicet, what a small smile she was.

I remember one Christmas evening, little Nicet and I were walking down Rue de Belleville and she saw a toy store with a great big redwood framed window and it had a gigantic lush green Christmas tree decorated with lights and toys. The little door next to the window read Ouvrez. There was a young man, who was about to close the shop, who spotted little Nicet who was in a daze while staring at the tree and the lights and the toys that did a kind gesture. With a kind heart and a warm smile, the redheaded man gently walked to the door and opened it, he saw us, smiled at Nicet, and invited us to look around, saving us from standing in the cold.

"Pappa! Pouvons nous Veuillez rester un peu plus longtemps?"

With a comically disgruntled look in my face I nervously asked her, "Are you sure you want to stay here longer?" And with glittery eyes and her buttercup smile she nodded her head up and down hiding behind her jackets' collar. I looked over at the young man and he simply walked to the door, said 'they were closed', and returned to ask my permission to give Nicet a personal tour of the toy store. I scratched my head, pushing aside my hair from my brow, and nodded for Nicet to go along with the man. As the two giggled their way away I turned with my hands in my pockets, gave out a sigh of breathe after a long day, looked out the window onto the street where the snow started falling. I could see the other shops on the street were shutting down and locking up, it was quiet where I was so I only heard muffled doors shutting and I saw the lights fading off into the foggy night. The sky was dark and the city looked had a dark-blue hue with a grey backdrop for the sky.

Paris in the snow is a wonderful thing to experience.



I was getting lost in thought while starrng at the snow that I did not hear Nicet calling my name until she was behind me poking me at my lower back. With a deeply confused look on my face I looked everywhere around for Nicet, I called her name, told her to show herself, when all along she was right behind me. This was one of her favorite games to play with me. Finally she showed herself by grabbing me by my collar and tugging my face down to see her little figure.

“Maintenant que j’ai trouvé que vous! Lets go home oui?” I said softly to her.

She nodded and yawned. I picked her up and laid her against my chest and rested her head on my shoulder. I thanked the young man for letting us stay a little longer; he nodded and told me to come back again to visit the shop when all the toys are out for display. I acknowledged and then parted. Standing in the quiet streets with Nicet in my arms, I looked at the snow falling and hailed for a cab. In what seemed like over a minute a taxi pulled up and an old man with thick black glasses opened the door for us and said to get in where it’s warm. We got in, and the first thing I noticed was that his taxi smelled like lavender and perfume.

“Mansiuer Avenue, monsieur” I told the driver.

“Oui!” he replied back in his cigarette heavy voice.

As the taxi drove along I asked him if he could take a detoured route. He was confused at first but then agreed with no concern. Nicet was fast asleep; car rides would always make her tired. I think the rocking on the street reminded her of when her mother used to rock her when was an infant.

So as I starred out the foggy window we came across a large plaza and on one wide avenue I saw l’Eiffel in the distance. Standing tall above Paris with her bright lights being the lighthouse of France, she glowed strongly in the snowy night. I can hear the sound of cars passing down the empty street; perhaps I was in tune with what was sounding outside the taxi. Regardless I get lost when I am in the presence of such beauty. There is no city in the world like “le beau Paris” and I wouldn’t have Nicet grow up anywhere else. I love my city and I love my daughter more. It is on snowy nights like this, that I remember the movements with my angel, Ana Claire. I miss her so much.

That Christmas night when we arrived at the apartment, I paid the man who drove the lavender smelling taxi and I waved him goodbye. Breathing through my nose, I could smell the alpine trees on the streets and I could hear little bells ringing through the snowy breeze. I looked down at little Nicet and smiled. She was in her daddy’s arms and she was safe and sound. She was warm. She was protected. These were the moments that Nicet lifted my heart and soul. Walking up the steps I saw a young couple standing under a lamppost. It was obvious they may have drunk a little too much this Christmas, but they were honest and in love. She, laughingly said:

“Vous devez m’épouser!” I was thinking she was being too honest until I saw his response.

“Je ne vous aid it ecci”, He was hard to comprehend but I knew he said that ‘he had a dream once about marrying her.’ She smiled. He smiled. With tears in their eyes she leaped into his arms and he held her tightly. It was one of the most beautiful things I had ever seen. It reminded me again of Ana Claire. Coughing to divert my attention, I turned my back in the direction facing the young couple,

opened the door and let the door shut gently behind me. I went up the flight of stairs, hearing the echo of the sound of my wet shoes along the way, I got to my door, opened it and entered. The light turned on automatically and I put Nicet on the big brown couch we had in the center of the room. After taking off my jacket and shoes, I tended to Nicet and saw that had kicked her shoes off and left them to fall next to the couch. I crept over to my room and grabbed what Nicet would call:

“Couverture grand du Pappa.”

When I got back to the center room I saw Nicet had placed her jacket over herself for warmth. I removed the jacket and covered her with the great big blanket from my bed. She instantly snuggled sheepishly deeper into the couch with my blanket. I smiled, lit a low candlelight, and turned on the little heat lamp to keep the room warm. I walked over back to my room and removed my pants and socks, threw my scarf on the bed, changed into a turtleneck and went to make my bed next to Nicet on the floor. I shut my eyes to the image of Paris, the snow, the dark-grey sky, the big wooden framed window, the young man and the toy store, and then I remembered the bright Paris street lights. I lay in the sleeping bag for what felt like 15 minutes and fell asleep with the sight of Nicet on the couch in front of my face. She was so peaceful when she would sleep. He image warms my heart to this day.

In the morning I awake and yawned, I saw that my little Nicet was not on the couch anymore. I rubbed my eyes, and yawned while calling her name. I heard her delicate cream voice coming from her room; she was excited I was awake. She told me to come quickly, that she had something big to tell me.

“Pappa! Promesse de Mamma vint vrai!” Trying to piece together what she meant by “mamma’s promise coming true”, She told me that mamma promised her once that every day after Christmas she would receive gifts in her room. I finally made my way into her room and saw that there were two big red boxes with bright green ribbons on them. She told me that she promised mamma only pappa could open her presents. I smiled graciously and told Nicet to sit on my lap, and to behave like a good little girl. Before she sat I told her to grab any of the two boxes to open first. With the giddiness and excitement only a child could have, she grabbed the nearest one and sat on my lap with the box.

“Que pensex-vous qu’il pouvait être Pappa?” Trying to take a guess at what it could be,

I said: “What is Mamma’s favorite thing in the world?”

Nicet with the biggest question mark in the world on her face said, “I don’t know, what did Mamma really love?”

I looked down at little Nicet and said; “Us.”

I opened her box and saw a large fluffy white unicorn with a big red heart with the name “Nicet” upon it. She turned red with joy and screamed and hopped up and down shaking her bed with every bop filled with happiness. I smiled and joined in the hopping, she and I laughed as I lost my balance and nearly fell off her tiny bed.

I sat down from exhaustion while Nicet was still bouncing around the room like a loose pinball. She finally gave in and threw herself stomach flat on the bed next to me. I scratched her head and told her to calm down because she still had one more present to open. She looked up with gleam in her eyes and indicated for me to open it. She got up and snuggled into my lap and asked me to grab the last present so we could discover what was in it.

I lunged towards it and pulled it close, this box felt a little heavier. As I untied the green ribbon I could tell Nicet was smiling, she was hugging the life out of the unicorn while I opened the box.

The red wrapping paper came off, Nicet squealed because she saw that there were three smaller boxes tied together. In each box was a dress for a little girl. Ana Claire always loved to see Nicet dressed her best on weekends and would make sure she had the prettiest dresses that Paris labeled as ‘popular’. I didn’t mind, I only thought they were expensive but it was always within our means. Nicet loved them, so I loved to see her in the dresses because it would make her feel more like mamma.

“Est-que je peux essayer sur men’s robes, Pappa?” I separated the three boxes and told her she could pick anyone to try on. She starred like a philosopher and honed in on the middle box. We pulled on the gentle string to undo the knot, she lifted the top case of the box, and there inside, wrapped in packing paper, a beautiful purple and grey dress with shiny inlays along the neckline. In the same box there was a little grey pouch with a white string tied at the top.

“Pappa! Je pense qu’ils ont reçu!” I didn’t doubt her, there was inside the little grey pouch the most adorable little grey and marble earrings. Perfect for the most beautiful little girl in all of Paris. She was overwhelmed, she thanked me and then thanked Ana Claire for a memorable Christmas time.

“Vous avez faim?” I asked Nicet when I stood from the bed. She looked up to me and agreed that it was time for breakfast. That morning I felt compelled to make my little Nicet happier than ever, I told her I’d prepare her favorite. Chocolate chip pancakes and raisin. Strange for a child to have such a strong liking to raisins...



WINTER

CRITERION

THE STUDENT QUARTERLY OF LA SIERRA UNIVERSITY

2012







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EDITOR'S NOTE

It's always bittersweet to say goodbye. With every year there are chapters closing throughout many of the university's populace. While completely normal it's often difficult to let go and accept change. It will be especially trying not to present the news to you, but we have one final issue to close our chapter.

In News, News Editor Sheldon Benjamin covers what could very well be a grave concern to up-coming graduating students, college loans. Benjamin gives us an in-depth analysis on the problem and our government's

role in the issue that could bring some lasting effects. Continuing our coverage on the economic struggles our nation is currently facing, Features Editor Miranda Creech brings us a powerful look into the world of the Riverside homeless that demonstrates that there are those who are hit harder in the brunt of the fiscal slump. This piece brings to light the hardships of Riverside's forgotten people. Over in Arts, Megan Lang presents our very first food review with some of the best and tastiest restaurants the Inland Empire has to offer. Our very own Pastor Sam, shares his mind and time with an



insightful Q&A session in our Religion section. Only mentioning a few of the great pieces we have in store, we are extremely excited for you to partake in the coverage we have prepared.

Strangely enough, words are often at a loss when trying to recognize the dedicated group of people who made this production a reality. It is a heavy weight to make the Criterion possible. It's amazing to know that I had a great team to help shoulder the responsibility.

I couldn't have been blessed more with the number of great graphic designers whom I have had the pleasure of working with that have created these visual masterpieces

before you; Kim Mah, you have the greatest patience a person can ever attain. Evan Aumack, thank you for stepping up to the plate, filling in big shoes, doing a phenomenal job. Nic Sanchez, you're clutch. I can't even begin to thank you enough for all your hard work. Just like old times; the "Lennon and McCartney" partnership. To all my very brilliant editors who helped oversee every section, your role is vital. You have lived up to the very lofty standards I expected. My staff writers and photographers are the engine that made this production versatile. You've endured so much. Be proud of the incredible work that is before you. I know I am.

I've said it before and I don't mind saying it again, finally, there is you, the reader. There is no possible way I could ever express enough how important your responsibility is as the public to reads the news. All the support and criticism that you have provided is something of extreme value to a journalistic team. It shows two things: a passion for discovering the truth and the willingness to allow a public discussion of all topics under the sun. You have fully accepted that responsibility.

It's been a pleasure.

We are the medium of revolution. Let's continue to change the world.

Always truly,
Israel Carreón
Editor-in-Chief



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LIGHTS, CAMERA, AESTHETICS OF CINEMA: THE NEW FILM STUDIES MINOR

by Katie Huffman

All those dreams of making it in Hollywood can now become a reality with the film studies minor as the newest addition to the La Sierra curriculum. Initiated by Dr. Andrew Howe, who spent four years thinking about the program and two years developing it, the minor was approved July 1st of last year. The purpose of the minor is to encourage students to communicate through storytelling and images. Though the degree program is housed in the Art department, the departments of English, Communication, and Drama as well as History, Politics, and Society are largely involved.

Courses offered are identified under applied and cultural skills. The “applied” courses cover the basics involved in film, from story boarding to photography, screen writing to introduction to acting, and video production to Final Cut Pro video editing. The humanities based “cultural” courses focus on gender, theory, analysis, interpretation, and history of film. Dr. Howe’s “Border Conflicts in Popular Imagination” class will cover not only physical borders, but conflicts of gender and race in film as well. Classes in Asian and European World Cinema, as well as “Hollywood and American History” have proven popular among students.

Most courses required for the program were already offered on campus, but none of the departments had sufficient resources or staff to offer the degree on their own. With Dr. Lisa Kohlmeier’s “History and Aesthetics of Cinema” as the only new class being taught next year, senior Daniel Skoretz will be the first to graduate with the film studies minor. Sophomore Alyssa Hunt has more time, and was the first of six students to officially declare this as her minor. Dr. Howe’s goal is to acquire at least four new students into the program each year in order to match the available resources with the level of student interest.

Still in its first year, the film studies minor is in its growth stage; developing new facilities, interviewing potential faculty, and networking with industry contacts in order to provide students with as many resources as possible. Dr. Howe even took a few students on a field trip to the Riverside Film Festival’s animation night. In order to help film students bond in a strong, supportive community, Dr. Howe plans to have LSU’s own film nights, like the ones he hosted for his friends in 2002. They dubbed themselves the “Alfred Hitchcock Film Club” and once a week for a year, watched fifty-one of the fifty-five available Hitchcock

movies in chronological order.

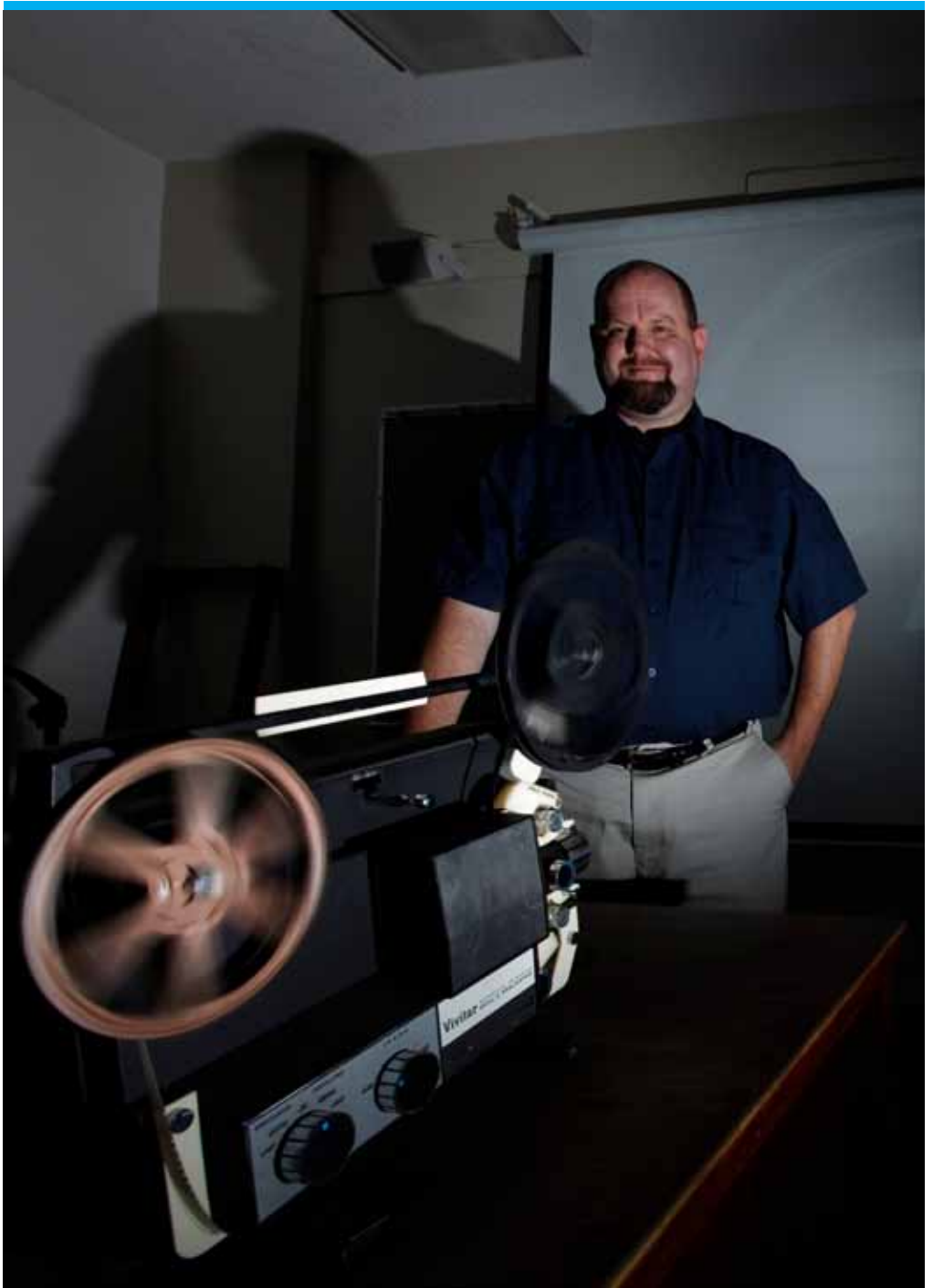
The program will expand into a major on July 1st and has already caught the attention of interested academy seniors. Current rooms in the departments of Music and Art, as well as other refurbished spaces, will be used to create a film and television studio, viewing room, recording studio, and editing laboratory. Film related workshops and seminars are also in talks for development. The Board of Trustees meets May 10th to give the final approval of the needs, curriculum, and expenses of this new degree program.

The College of Arts and Sciences Dean, Adeny Schmidt, and other faculty are supportive of the film studies program, but students don’t seem to know much about the minor yet, especially since it is not even on the academic bulletin for this school year, after last summer’s late approval date. In the future, Dr. Howe hopes that “the passion, skills, and interest of the students will magnify one another in order to better publicize the minor and maximize the talents of La Sierra students.”

Professor Carl Christman, an experienced documentary filmmaker, hosted a student film festival after his winter quarter video production course, which included short films about owl pellets, procrastination, and female pastors in the Adventist church. Although there is no budget for it yet, a yearly guest lecture series is likely the next step for the film minor. With the school’s close proximity to Los Angeles and its wealth of film festivals, including a tofu themed one, the ultimate goal is to train students in the production aspect of film.

Program Director Rodney Vance, from Pacific Union College, had a 100% success rate in job and internship placement, including at American Zoetrope, a production company used by famed cinematographers Sophia and Francis Ford Coppola, which will be accepting LSU film students as summer interns. Vance is a member of the Writer’s Guild as well as the Television Academy, and taught Dr. Howe classes in film when he was a student. Southern Adventist University currently has the number one film program of the Adventist institutions, but it is now time for some friendly competition.

Students earning the film studies degree are training to have a broad knowledge of the subject, not specifically how to be a director or actor or editor. Providing a wide



variety of classes related to film will give students the opportunity to learn about and practice their skills in a number of different areas and grasp the bigger picture of all the jobs involved and available to them in the industry. Film is not all about the fame and money; it is about hard work, dedication, and often tedious tasks, like splicing

sound clips, holding the boom, or lighting a room for filming. Whether focusing their lens on Hollywood or the SDA Media center, film studies students will have plenty of opportunity to learn, discuss, and practice their skills with this new minor.

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS 2.0

—
by Jessica Maynez





“I want students to feel like they are in the best Adventist business school,”

states Dean of Business, Dr. Johnny Thomas. This is the desire of not just Dean Thomas, but of the entire Business department. So how does a new School of Business building factor into this? Shouldn't that have to do more with the faculty than the building? Of course, but the faculty is just one part of the whole. If the students are uncomfortable or hot and stuck in a boring room, it wouldn't matter if the best instructors in the world were teaching because the students just wouldn't want to be there. This new building will be large, comfortable and very student oriented.

“We hope to make it a place where students will want to be so that they can take full advantage of a great education. With more resources at their disposal, they can be even more prepared to compete in the job marketplace,” Dean Thomas explains.

This new 60,200-square-foot building will allow more room for technology, meetings and larger classes which in turn will allow for a greater number of students and faculty. As of right now, there are about 400 students in the business program. Limited classroom space and a lack of more state-of-the-art resources play a role in this by restricting the accommodation of more students. By being able to offer current and prospective students a larger facility, more faculty and a greater number of resources, the School of Business could potentially double its enrollment and would be able to accommodate around 800 students at any given time.

The building will include an auditorium that can hold 500 or more people; this multipurpose center will use flat floors in place of stadium seating. Potential uses for the auditorium include banquets, concerts, conferences, performances by the drama and music departments and other social events. This then provides an avenue for involvement with the public as well because community organizations in Riverside may be permitted to use the facility, which in turn is a means of promoting a healthier relationship between La Sierra University and the community surrounding it. The building will also have large lecture halls; smaller, more intimate and interactive classrooms; seminar rooms where meetings can take place or where students can study or get tutored; large, open, common areas where students can get together and socialize; faculty offices and study rooms. Extra, more exciting features will include a gallery, an atrium, a new computer lab and multi-media facilities such as a recording studio, editing studio and sound room

With all of these new, important and exciting rooms and facilities taking up space in this new business building, it's hard to imagine that anything else could possibly fit, but think again. The new School of Business building

will also be home to a larger SIFE office, the Center for Philanthropy, the Business Club and space for the centers for Financial Literacy and Conflict Resolution as well as the Career Center.

So when is this epic building supposed to be complete? Those in charge of this project are aiming for it to be completed by spring quarter of 2013, which is a year from now, but there is some doubt that this feat will actually be accomplished on time. There is reason for these doubts too, because though the outside structure could very well be completed by fall, all of the features that will make up the inside of the building will take time to build. Not to mention the additional projects connected to this building such as the parking lot and the conversion of Old Pierce Street into Heritage Walkway, which will run perpendicular to the Path of the Just, connecting to the large patio area in front of the main entrance to the building. The plan for this new walkway and for the entire project for that matter, is to bring everything up to the level of Calkins Hall and the Administration building so that students won't have to walk up and down hill to this building. The only part of this that will slope down is going to be the parking lot that will lie between the school and the baseball field.

Right now, the project is in its prep stage. While it's going to take a lot of work to stay on schedule and finish everything by next spring, and though there is some doubt as to whether or not this will happen, there is still hope that we, as the student body, will be able to enjoy this new School of Business building spring quarter of next year as scheduled. Having the funds in place will help to keep this hope alive by providing an extra boost to keep things on track.

So how is this getting funded anyway? Don't worry, it's not being taken out of your tuition, but is being funded by alumni and community members. As of right now, \$12,000,000 of the estimated \$16,000,000 needed for this project has been either pledged or donated. The biggest contribution was given by Tom and Vi Zapara, alumni of LaSU who gave the starting \$5,000,000 and for whom the School of Business will be named.

So are you excited about this building yet? The School of Business sure is, especially Dean Thomas who concluded that, “It is something we want to do for the students now and in the future.”

STUDENT LOANS AMERICA'S NEXT DEBT CRISIS?

The estimated amount of student loan debt that America will see in 2012 is going to be over \$1 trillion dollars. Since 1980, the average for four-year college tuition has increased by a frightening 827%. The overall student loan debt has increased 511% since 1999. If the floundering economy, pressuring people to go back to school wasn't enough, the weight of educational loan debt is quickly becoming America's next debt crisis already surpassing auto and credit debt.

by Sheldon Benjamin

Nobody needs to tell us students about how difficult it is to manage paying for college, and many of us cringe when we think about paying it off when we finish, but it's time that the government recognize that this problem is not an individual one. With federal loans accounting for 90% of all student debt, this is a national issue that every taxpayer must understand.

Neil Gault, a U.S economist says that although the student loan crisis may not hit America quite like the housing crisis did, it could still further cripple it. Gault speculates that since students will be struggling financially to manage loan payments, many of them will most likely move back home with their parents. This removes a huge amount of buyers in the housing market and first time, young adult buyers have been the majority of the market. So the already struggling housing market will be indirectly hit by student loans. So what options do we have to combat the issue in order to become a proficient, contributor to the economy?

Suppose you get your bachelors degree and you land a great job right out of college. Well as student debt rose nearly 25% from 2000 to 2010, the average earnings for full time workers with a bachelor's degree dropped 15%. Combo punch. Well perhaps as a student you consider the fact that you don't have many assets anyway, why not declare bankruptcy?

The Wall Street Journal has a compelling story about a woman who dropped out of med-school in 1999 to care for her children after her husband passed of brain cancer. Well in 2005 Congress prohibited student debt from being discharged in bankruptcy knowing that students may be tempted to declare bankruptcy and after declaring bankruptcy in 2007, her current student loan debt is still over \$200,000. (online.wsj.com - Trying to Shed Student Debt)

President Obama has addressed the issue on a few different fronts including a freeze of the federal student loan interest to 3.4%. However Republican presidential candidates have not been sensitive to the issue. Rick Santorum called Obama a "snob" for advising Americans to pursue more than a high school degree. The White House itself is currently deciding on whether or not to extend the freeze or double it on July 1st 2012. The money from the freeze is estimated to aid in public health programs, and the Senate will vote in May of this year as to whether or not they will the interest on Stafford Loans will double. (News.yahoo.com - Explosion in Student Loan Debt)

So with the government clearly at odds on the issue, and the problem growing exponentially every year, something must be done.



This brings us to the Student Loan Forgiveness Act of 2012 or H.R 4170. This act, proposed by Rep. Hansen Clarke of Michigan suggests a few different ways to alleviate the burden that student loans have on the American populace. The bill would attack student loans on a few different fronts.

The main engine in debt forgiveness behind the bill is the new 10 by 10 plan. If 10% of the individual's yearly income were made toward loan payments for 10 years, then the federal loan debt would be forgiven. And those that have already been making payments on loans and have long since graduated would still be able to apply to the new program. They would even be credited for those payments and they have been making and those payments would be factored into the 10 by 10 rule. It would also cap the interest of federal student loans at 3.4%.

By forgiving debt, it would drastically increase the purchasing power of the graduated American who



previously would be unable to be considered for certain loans or even some insurances due to their educational debt. This could even be motive for current high school grads to further their education with the fear of post college debt relieved. The same goes for college grads wanting higher education such as master's degrees.

Last, the program would cap current borrowers at \$42,520 in possible borrowing amount based off the national average for a 4 year degree. This may sound strange, but while making students more mindful of their borrowing limit and responsibility, it would also force colleges and universities to control tuition costs knowing that students have a borrowing limit in government loans. (hansenclarke.house.gov)

This could be an incredibly dynamic move on the government's behalf with potential to benefit the country in so many ways. I've always been told that if you are going to invest in something, it might as

well be yourself. And what better way to invest in yourself than in your education. One of the greatest things our generation can do is become proactive about our society and it's issues. This must be done in order to secure our educational future.

Go to signon.org/support-the-student-loan to sign the petition. You can also visit forgivestudentloandebt.com or occupystudentloandebt.com for more information. Congresswoman Janice Hahn of California is one person who has shown her concern through support and proposal of such ideas as extending the freeze on student loan interest rates. For information on how to contact Rep. Hahn visit Hahn.house.gov.

CONFLICT FREE ADVENTURISTS

by Ruthie Heavrin

It was the 22nd century and Father Peregrin was embarking on a mission trip to Mars when he asked himself, "Leaving old sins here...on to Mars to find new ones?" Although Father Peregrin is a fictional character in Ray Bradbury's "Fire Balloons" and *The Martian Chronicles*, he becomes the avenue in which to address the question: Do new sins appear in new territories with new technologies, or do the same sins simply progress and morph into new forms? This question came to mind as I watched a documentary titled, "Blood in the Mobile."

As a Thursday night event on April 26th 2012, the Student Association of La Sierra University, or SALSU, screened this film in an effort to bring awareness of a global issue: conflict minerals. The African country of Congo is currently in a war. Even though the Second Congo war, involving eight other African nations ended in 2003, the nation is still fighting a guerrilla war. The working class people are forced to work in mineral mines under the regime of military and guerrilla groups.

Many of these groups are Congo military units that have begun to work under their own terms or are activist groups that have turned violent and given up on their vision. They go to war with each other in order to take ownership of the mines. The workers are literally caught in the crossfire.

These conflict minerals are smuggled out of Congo, refined in smelters, then shipped to western countries to build cell phones, laptops, and other technologies that have become part of everyday life. The three main mined minerals are tin, tantalum, and tungsten.⁴

The film, "Blood in the Mobile," begins with director Frank Poulsen trying to interview representatives from his phone company, Nokia. The film is not meant to be an attack of Nokia, but this is his personal cell phone provider and he wanted to know what efforts they were making in becoming "conflict free." Poulsen is refused an interview so he flies to Congo to see the mines and war for himself.

There are images and stories in the film that are hard to handle. According to the film, more than five million people have died and 300,000 women have been raped within the last fifteen years due to these conflict minerals. There were moments when the viewers gasped in unison as they watched the atrocious acts committed by the war lords and their followers. Chance, a sixteen year old miner who escaped a bloody massacre in his mining camp, lead Poulsen back to the place he called hell. "This country is dead anyways," Chance said, then continued his descent into the darkness of the mine.⁵

The hardest part of the documentary, however, is discovering that the culprit responsible for financing the war is the same person watching the film: me, you, your neighbor, anyone that has a cell phone.

New technologies may not lead to new sin, but mankind has managed to learn a new way of committing them. Father Peregrin had allusions of discovering new sins that Earth had ever heard of along with learning new techniques or doctrine that could deal with them. Although murder, slavery, and rape are not a new phenomena, the people who commit these crimes adapt to modern technologies like a bacteria becoming immune to antibiotics. If sin and evil progress with time, so must the ways in which it is dealt.

The Dodd Frank Act, signed into law in July 2010, states that American companies must trace and audit their supply lines in order to make sure their sources are conflict free and no not support the war efforts in Congo.⁶ So far, this law has not been strictly enforced so it is now up to the consumer to make the choice by voting with their dollar by purchasing from companies that produce technologies using conflict free minerals. The top six companies that are making the biggest



strides to stay conflict free are HP, Intel, Motorola, Nokia, Microsoft, and Dell.⁷ Some of the more popular companies such as Blackberry and Apple have medium to low rankings.

This idea of voting with the dollar along with the Dodd Frank Act seems to be the best solution until something better comes along. After all, it works in other markets such as fashion, cars, and food. It's a simple concept of supply and demand.

Stephanie Stenner, the young student from U.C. Santa Cruz who presented SALSU with the idea of screening the documentary says that one of the best ways to make change is to involve the administration of the university by including an article in the universities policies that requires consideration of a companies' efforts to make their products conflict free before signing an agreement.

This means that next time the university meets with a company about purchasing new monitors or computers, etc, they will weigh in the influence of the companies progress on becoming conflict free along with price and quality before coming to a final decision. Many of these contracts are worth thousands of dollars and would make a dent in the efforts to end war in the Congo. These contracts do not have to stay within the confines of the universities. Companies, law firms, and even chain restaurants around the world could join in the

efforts to make their facilities free from technologies that abuse the people of Congo.

The solution needs to be a collective effort. It's easy to point fingers at the military and guerrilla groups that are exploiting their own people for personal gain, but knowing about a problem and not doing anything about it may be worse. Are we, as Christians, willing to spend a few extra dollars on products that support peace? Somehow, the war lords of Congo found a way to continue a bloody war financed by people who have the means to bring the conflict to an end. New technologies, new ways of sinning, new ways of coping.

First Timothy 6:9 reads, "But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction"⁸ The exploitation of the African people is financed by our need to be rich in material objects. Since technology has become a necessity in today's society, we might as well support the companies that take strides toward positive change.

True, there is no guarantee that the plan will work. The problems in Congo won't go away over night, but at least our collective efforts will be a message to the the war lords that we will no longer look the other way.





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ONE IN SEVEN BILLION

—
by Miranda Creech



It was just another day of studying at Starbucks, or so I thought. A \$4.00 skinny caramel macchiato in hand and my Bose headphones blasting Coldplay, the only thing on my mind was passing a World War II midterm. That was when I looked up and out the window to see a boy standing outside the drive-through holding a cardboard sign. An odd mixture of empathy and disdain rushed through me. "Look at him," I thought to myself, "he's got to be my age." How dare he, a twenty-some-year-old conning hard-working people out of money. While I'm studying my way through four years of expensive undergrad, he is literally getting a free lunch. After this I bet my coffee he'll go back to the house he claims he doesn't have and have a good laugh with his buddies about all the people he weaseled money out of. But as most hasty judgments usually turn out, I couldn't have been further from the truth. When the boy with a Mohawk and inked arms turned, I could read the sign and then it hit me, the reason he was standing there that day, asking for food, not even cash, was because he had been turned down for every job he had applied for due to a disability. The boy was deaf. My contempt deflated like a popped balloon and embarrassment replaced it.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development defines the homeless individual as one "who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, and who has a primary nighttime residence that is: a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations (including welfare hotels, congregate shelters, and transitional housing for the mentally ill), an institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized, or a public or private place not designated for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings." However, in Starbucks that day homelessness meant something more personal to me, something much closer to "home." To me it was not some politically correct description, but the result of society casting away a "lesser-citizen," the result of society becoming so wrapped up in our own day-to-day hustle and bustle that we overlook a boy representing the larger crisis, the result of people like me judging an individual before I knew his name, which was Trevor, and much less his story.

Before I knew it, I was walking towards him, pen and notebook in hand, I asked him if I could ask a few questions in return for a Starbucks. One Venti Passion-tea Lemonade later, I handed him my notebook and for the next hour we traded it back and forth in what became the most moving interview I have ever had. Trevor grew up in Colorado. He loves to snowboard and, like most boys his age, is intrigued with fast cars. His ultimate goal is to attend auto-mechanic school and one day open his own auto-shop. After his

parents announced on his 17th birthday that he had to move out he started for California. He wrote, with a half smirk, that he was tired of the Colorado cold anyway. At this point I noticed a ring on Trevor's left ring finger and ask if there was a special girl in the picture. With that, his smirk turned into a full-blown grin and scribbled that he had to wear a ring to ward off all the girls who incessantly ask him out on dates. I thanked him for both the interview and laughs and asked if I could write about him in a paper, he obliged with one condition, I couldn't make him or any other homeless person appear insignificant. I walked away from Trevor that day pondering his condition, of which I whole-heartedly accepted. What he was asking for was what any one of us hopes for, to simply matter to the people around us, to not be thought of as irrelevant, and most importantly, for his life to have some significance.

Unfortunately, Trevor is only one of the estimated 6,200+ homeless individuals in Riverside County alone. The 2011 County of Riverside Homeless Count and Survey figured that 82% of the 6,000 are unsheltered, meaning that they reside on the street, in a car, RV, abandoned building, or encampment. One is considered sheltered, on the other hand, when he or she resides in an emergency shelter or transitional housing facility. A research project by the county also found that males tend to seek shelter in cars, females in encampments, and children (those under 18) in abandoned buildings. Homeless children are among those individuals who tend to be invisible to the society around them. There were almost 500 children without homes counted in 2011 and that figure is forecasted to only increase in 2012. For all age groups, 60% of the homeless counted were male and 40% female. Of the total 6,000, over 2,500 individuals are defined as chronically homeless, over 2,900 suffer from chronic substance abuse, another 1,800 are considered severely mentally ill, 900 are veterans, and almost 800 have suffered from past domestic violence. Understanding the situation is the first step in acknowledging its significance and to understand it, one must be aware of the facts.

Now it can be fairly discouraging to be introduced to these facts and then feel helpless in improving the situation. As I was considering what I could do it dawned on me that most powerful tool I have is awareness. Trevor wasn't asking me to change the world, or even to fix the homeless situation in Riverside. He was just asking me to acknowledge his existence and to shed light on the invisible lives of Riverside's homeless and somehow make them visible.

So what does La Sierra offer in regards to awareness? The History Department offers a class taught by Dr. Lisa Kohlmeier entitled Home and Homelessness (HIST 430NN) with a service-learning component.





Dr. Kohlmeier has been teaching at La Sierra since 2005 and if you have ever taken a class from her you would know that she emphasizes the history of those who are commonly overlooked. HIST 430NN, Kohlmeier explains, begins with a general discussion of how the idea of home is perceived in today's

society. The ideas of home and homelessness are then compared and contrasted to portray the many absent elements in a homeless life. Of course resources, shelter, and food are hard to come by, but what is not so obvious is the identity, confidence, and hope that are lost for many without a home. After grappling

with this realization, those taking HIST 430NN will then visit the Path of Life homeless shelter and participate in taking housing histories of those taking up residence at the shelter. Housing histories are taken so the student and shelter can recognize an individual's characteristics, challenges, and past. This recognition is what makes an invisible past become visible and relevant.

One history major, Monique Gramling, took Home and Homelessness from Dr. Kohlmeier during winter quarter. She explained that, prior to taking HIST 430NN, her only experiences with homeless individuals had been anything but positive. Even so, Monique wanted to help the less fortunate while taking a service-learning course and decided to push her boundaries. Her decision turned out to be a real eye-opener, as she discovered how blessed she was "to have a home to go to every night." She explained her realization "that most homeless people do not constitute the unclean, belligerent stereotypical homeless man on the street begging for money. Many homeless people are just as clean and well put together as you and I are, and I saw this first hand at the shelters we visited throughout Riverside." Dr. Kohlmeier pointed out that she strives to change misguided perspectives and negative stereotypes through her classes, teach empathy to her students and most importantly, she hopes to give a voice to

the voiceless. It seems as though she has achieved this goal with HIST 430NN, as Monique pointed out that her "whole perspective on the homeless population has changed" and that the class taught her "the true essence of gratefulness" and "that everyone deserves equality and freedom no matter what their circumstance may entail." Home and Homelessness will be taught again, with the service-learning component, this summer from July 31- August 16 with Dr. Lisa Kohmeier for anyone who has an interest in changing their own perspective.

Now while driving the 101 down the streets of Los Angeles, walking around downtown Riverside, or sipping my latte at Starbucks on Riverwalk Parkway, I make a conscious effort to not judge any of the less fortunate I may happen to see. In stead I try to imagine their stories or give them a smile. They have hopes, fears, and dreams just like I do and the fact that they may not have a home to call their own today does not make them any less significant an individual as myself. So give a head nod or wave to then next person you see on the street, whether they are a professional, a student, or a homeless individual. Who knows, maybe all they needed was that nod from society to confirm that, "Yes, I may seem unimportant in this world of 7, 011,036,236, people, but for today at this moment, I am important and I am significant."



THE TASTE OF SALT

by Angela Payaban





Rays of sun pierced through the translucent window and onto my hands. My arms steadily moved across a white piece of fabric, drawing a design on the cotton with wax. I was in my second year of college taking a class about batik, an Indonesian art form of designing fabric with wax. The process is time consuming, a balancing act between dyes and wax, resulting in a whirlwind of combinations. In order to create designs, the artist uses a tjanting tool, a wooden handle holding a copper bowl shaped piece from which emerges a spout. The artist dips the tjanting tool into hot liquid wax that fills up to the brim like water being held in the bowl of hands. The wax begins to flow down the spout and pours onto the fabric. By moving the tool with ease like a pen, the artist creates his or her own versions of magic.

After designing with the wax, the artist carefully combines dyes to invent the perfect hue. The white fabric is then washed in the newly created color. The whole fabric is transformed, except the parts that were previously waxed. Those sections remain white. From here, the fabric will hang, drying in the wind, allowing the dye to make it a completely new person.

When the fabric is dry, the artist will repeat the process of waxing and dyeing, like a magician performing their tricks. Every layer is surprising, beautiful, and new. In the end lays a new fabric, changed completely, looking nothing like the white material it once was. This is the class I had been thrown into. All the steps overwhelmed me; I was trying to create a perfect mixture of colors and meaningful designs. Although I was nervous, I was genuinely enthralled. My hands were making something out of nothing. I was the creator of my own masterpiece. Each fabric was my own story.

Sweat formed at the edge of my brow as the morning waltzed into afternoon. I was completely submerged in my work, concentrating on the next movement of my wrist, on the next placement of the wax. Suddenly, my focus was cut short by a loud vibration on the garbage bag table cloth laid out over the wooden table. Without reading the caller ID, I grabbed the phone with my free hand and set the tjanting tool down with the other. "Hello," I answered as I walked briskly into the California heat.

"Hey Ang," said the voice from the other side. The caller's tone was sweet like folding a paper crane. I immediately recognized it as my mother's.

"What's up?" I asked. "How's everything going?" I called my parents often. Most college students ignore the phone when they see their parents' names flashing on the cell phone screen. I've always loved talking to

them. Some days I call them more than they called me. We were usually chatty, so I was surprised by the extremely long moment of silence held by our two phones. "Mom, are you there?" I asked again.

"Yeah, I'm here," she answered. Her voice cracked slightly as she started speaking again, "I have some news."

"I'm still listening," I replied.

"I have cancer."

There's something invigorating about watching powder dye sink into clear water. When you mix bright colors into the nothingness of the water, it's like seeing fingers of a ghost sweeping around the glass until there is nothing clear left. The ghost of red envelops the translucent like an echo turning an empty cave into sound.

My mother's doctor told me to check myself for cancer. They said it was best to search in the shower. So, I stood there under the water droplets staring at myself. I couldn't make my hands actually hold my own breast to feel for lumps. Instead, I started poking myself lightly, scared to touch. I didn't want to check. I didn't want to know if I had cancer. I just wanted to pretend like it wasn't an issue, like this was all just a bad dream. Ten minutes past, I heard my roommates asking me how long I was going to be in the shower. Their voices were distant; I think they were yelling. For once in my life, I didn't care how long the shower took, or if they were upset; I just kept poking my breast like someone afraid of touching a spider.

I was angry with God. Why would he allow my mother have cancer? How could he let our lives be affected in this way? I was staring at a blank canvas, a white sheet. The back of my mind held a picture of what my mom would look like after surgery. Already, I desperately wanted to change that image. So, I decided to do my best and erase it. My idea was in place. I carefully thought of color sequences. I would use shades of blue. I started strategizing my plan of attack. My pencil began to sketch and soon I was waxing. The hot wax burnt my fingers, but I didn't feel pain.

I poured wax over the light sky blue fabric. Creating the outline of a nose, I held the tool with care. I wanted this piece to be perfect; I couldn't make

any more mistakes. The wax seeped through the bottom of the fabric, sticking to the wax paper beneath it. Had I wished for this? I often fantasized about disasters in order to dream up a happy ending. Half of me believed I caused my mother's disease and the other half told myself I had done nothing wrong. At this point, the angry half was winning the argument. I had hoped for this. All of my wishing resulted in this one horrible disaster. If I weren't selfish this wouldn't have happened. If I weren't cynical, I wouldn't have desired a dilemma. But of course, selfish only child me would want everything and forgot about everyone else. I started to believe that I was the cause of my mother's cancer.

I continued to pour wax, letting it slowly fall like the water running underneath ice. My hands were trying not to mess up, when I twitched. There in front of me was another mistake, a huge wax blot where my mother's nose was supposed to reside. I screwed up. I had destroyed this piece. There was no way to fix my error. I realized then I had a talent. I was wonderful at inviting disaster.

That night I crumbled in my bed. I pressed a burnt orange suede pillow to my face and screamed at the top of my lungs. My vocal cords rang like an organ in a cathedral. Tears accompanied the scream like a violin dashing through the melody. I yelled at God. I yelled at myself. At that moment I stopped wishing and began to pray.

In the matter of two days I had spent every hour of daylight in the art building, waxing and dying. Even though I made a mistake, I continued on trying to ignore it. I ironed out all the wax and laid the finished product on top of my table. I had copied a black and white picture of my mother as a child. It was my favorite picture of her. She was probably five at the time. Her healthy body was running along the rocky Washington State beach, where she grew up. Her head was in a bonnet and she had a coat that resembled those from vintage Barbie collections. My grandmother's coat was beside her, long like a barrier from the icy sea.

I liked this picture because my mother was in her youth. She was running. I imagined her playing with the rocks, throwing them into the ocean. If she had known then that she was going to have cancer, would she have lived a different life? I stared at my portrait, evaluating her innocence. I envisioned my mother after surgery. I wanted to take the woman lying in the hospital, my mother, who wasn't able to move. I longed to pull her out of bed and throw her back into this picture. Into a life where she was playing with a careless spirit and smiling without knowing that someday, she would lose her childlike energy, that one day she wouldn't be able to run with ease.

—
The morning light hits my mother's pale face delicately. The sun is on her team, rooting for her recovery. The color it bestows on her pushes her forward, and for that I look up at its honey face and whisper thank you. I've never seen my family so solemn. When words are needed the most, we are silent. My mother slouches in the front car seat dozing in and out of sleep. My dad's eyes focus on the road ahead like a shooter staring down his target.

We pull into the hospital parking earlier than required. My family is the only Filipino family I know that actually desires to be ahead of schedule. It is cold and foggy. I run inside and roll back out a wheel chair for my tired mother. Her heavy body sinks down into the seat and slowly my father pushes her past the front doors of the hospital.

I've never liked hospitals. At five years old I had to be strapped down in order for the doctors to give me a shot. Now, I want to be strapped down because I'm in fear of what my hands might do to anyone who hands me another piece of information on how cancer will affect my mother. All of the staff members I meet are nice, it is only the situation that is making me dislike them.

We enter a small room with multiple beds lined up like mousetraps. I sit my mother down on a chair where the nurses begin to take her blood pressure, temperature, and make sure she's ready for surgery. They ask her to strip down and wear their very own, trendy sea blue hospital gown. I help lift her arms and remove her shirt. I feel dehumanized even though all of my clothes are still on. Soon, the sterile gown covers her whole body, but it doesn't look like much protection. The nurses help her lie on a gurney. Her eyes still look strong and confident. The longer I stare into them, the more I break down. How can she remain unaffected? How can she hold in her emotions while I can barely keep my body from falling apart?

The nurses roll the gurney into the Pre-Operating room. My father holds my mom's right hand as I embrace her left. We only have a few more minutes with her before the operation. Time is moving by fast, nurses fly in and out, hauling patients on gurneys like luggage at an airport. At the back of the room I see a young doctor walk in with Starbucks in his hands. I'm uncomfortable. Why does he need that Starbucks? Did he wake up late? Does he like the taste of black coffee? Was he out late last night partying? Are his hands steady? I feel critical of everyone in the room. I can do a better job than them. I don't trust them with my mother's body or her disease.

Across from us lies another patient, a man, about the



same age as my mom. At his side stands a lady who I assume is his wife. She holds his hand the same way I hold my mothers'. He looks over and says hello to us. We smile and repeat his words. Then he looks at my mother, telepathically sending her a message, maybe a signal of hope. He manages a smile, but I can tell uncertainty accompanies it. "You're going to do great," he croaks. My mother nods and says, "you too."

The nurse comes back telling us it's time to leave. I don't want to go. I need to stay and watch; just to make sure they treat her right. Suddenly, my mind flashes back to a class period in Anatomy and Physiology when we watched a hip replacement. I remember seeing doctors swing an old lady's leg like butchers throwing beef. I can't trust these people with my mom. I latch on to her hands, trying to memorize the feeling of her skin. Now she's crying, all of us are.

Why am I scared? Only 1 in 35 women die of breast cancer. Plus, my mom's lucky. She isn't in a far stage, but there's always a chance for error; always room for uncertainty. The nurses urge me to let go; promising things will be fine. My aunt, a nurse at the hospital, finally grabs my hands and tightly grips them as the other nurses wheel my mother away. I can't help her. Nothing I can do at this moment can make her feel better. Nothing. I step out of the room and the doors close in front of me. My aunt lets go of my hands and

talks to my dad, hoping to reassure him. All I can do is stare at the sleek silver doors that separate me from my mom. I picture her face in my mind. I see her brown M&M eyes and graying hair, but my hand can't remember the texture of her skin.

My short Filipino aunt walks into the waiting room. Every seat is full of bodies and anticipation. Behind her stands the Plastic Surgeon, a tall Indian man lacking the accent I want his voice to contain. My father and I stand up to meet them. He says my mother did well and her lymph nodes didn't contain cancer cells. I grab onto my father's arm and let out an elephant sigh. That news means my mother won't need chemotherapy. Relief.

We are directed to the Recovery Room. My mother is still drugged from surgery. I smile to see her again. But she doesn't entirely look like my mom. Her face is worn. Her eyebrows move up and down feverishly like she's trapped in a bad dream. When she finally wakes up, she can't even speak. I see her trying to talk to us, but no words escape. Instead, my father and I talk. We tell her she's brave, that she looks good, and that we are happy to see her. I feel bad saying she looks fine because I think she looks terrible. Her face is disfigured, screaming that death was waiting at her doorstep.

The clock shines 2 A.M. while the heart monitor blinks. These are the only two lights in the room. My father's dark silhouette paces back and forth across the floor. The air captures a single noise; the sound of my parents' breathing and strangely it's in unison. I turn over on the chair trying to make it feel like a bed. My dad hears my movement and comes to my side.

"Are you okay Ang?" he asks.

I nod and answer yes. My voice is soft like the smell of laundry detergent. I want to sink into the stillness, not wanting to be heard.

My father turns his head toward my mother, who still lies on her tiny bed. He places his hand on my back and rubs it, the way my mom does when I can't sleep at night. "Your mother is so brave Ang," his words are like drum beats from a djembe pounding deep into my soul. "We need to be strong with her," he sighs. I assume he feels helpless. I know he hasn't slept in days. He rises slowly and walks back to my mother's side. He lifts her hand and speaks to her sweetly. His whispers are like magic sweeping over my mother's helpless body. Tears start to fall from his eyes and onto her pasty skin. I've never seen anything so beautiful.

In the darkness, I know I've witnessed love. I imagine my father and mother at their wedding. Standing in front of each other, holding hands. I wonder if he looked at her the same way that day as he does now. And if he had, I know he never dreamed that when he repeated the lines "in sickness and in health" he'd be sitting here in a cold hospital trying to be as strong as his wife who was fighting cancer. It seems impossible that my dad is capable of that kind of love, but I see it through the cries and I feel it in the night, through the touch of his words.

With the surgery over and my mom healing, we have a lot of time to just sit and wait. Two ukuleles stand alone in a corner of the hospital room. My musician father brought them to play in his down time. He picks up one case and sets it on his lap. His blueberry colored jeans make the Koa wood look extremely relaxed. My mother is finishing the hospital version of airplane food while I read on my pink plastic chair-bed. I watch my dad place his brown block fingers on the strings, holding them with same comfort as I held my tjanting tool. The sound of the ukulele transports me to an aunt's house in Hawaii. All three of us, along with my large extended family are sitting in a honeydew colored room playing ukuleles and singing. That was the start, where we learned to play the miniature guitar. The music causes my senses to sharpen. The walls are greener; the floor feels like refurbished wood, my father's eyes sparkle as he sings.

Hearing him play in the hospital reminds me of that moment. I pick up the second ukulele and mimic my father's strum. We are in unison, one stroke of a brush. My mother starts singing in a loud voice. Normally, we tease her for being the only one off tune, but not today. Now, she's the soloist, singing an original song. The music is hers and this day is the rebirth of her story. The pitch doesn't matter and neither does the key. We are all together, understanding where we belong. Right here, with each other. I can't make her strong or run again like in my favorite picture, but I can be the background music to her song, a guiding harmony to her melody. Today I remember the feeling of new like the first taste of salt.

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THE FAIRYTALE CONCLUDES: A BRIEF PERSPECTIVE ON FC BARCELONA

by *Jonathan Soto*

European football is on its way to becoming the most watched sporting in the world.

The UEFA Champions League has grown tremendously since more and more Americans are beginning to embrace teams like Inter Milan, Manchester United, Real Madrid, Bayern Munich, and of course FC Barcelona. True there are many other teams that I can go on and on and mention but those are just some of the big ones most Americans tend to attract to initially.

As you may or may not know, Inter Milan is my team at heart, and when they were eliminated from competition so was my desire to watch the rest of the tournament. But seeing the games between Chelsea and Barcelona reignited that spark of the beautiful game. Many will feel resentment, but many will agree, that FC Barcelona defeats themselves in the big games and it has been consistent this season now more than ever. Here's why...

My two brothers are Barça fans so it's always nice to see their team lose. Pep Guardiola who said this was his final season with Barcelona knows that his dynamic and exciting and nearly unbeatable style of play has won 13 trophies for the blaugrana over the past 4 years. He also knows that too much of a good thing is bad. When teams are forced to play so defensive against Barcelona like

Inter Milan and Chelsea, who both eliminated Barcelona IN Barcelona, Barça fans are quick to state that they both played "with 12 defenders" or "parked the bus" I'm not going to say no because it's true, when Barcelona never gives away possession, why would anyone risk keeping 4 or more midfielders in midfield and not defend? Barcelona's own powerful style of football is also their downfall.

I saw this clearer in the games against Chelsea and Real Madrid in the month of April than any other games Barça played this season. My father is a fan of Real Madrid, he and I believed that soon Barcelona's time would come to an end. Now I do believe that FC Barça was at the top and now must go back down in football to be reminded that they're still human and that Lionel Messi (surprisingly) is also one of us. I take nothing away from the joy there is in seeing a team play so dominating football; I only hated it when they dominated the teams that I really like. But that's not the point, the point is, FC Barcelona and Pep have enjoyed the honeymoon and all its highs and now, without Pep, it's time to start becoming reacquainted with the lows of the reality of football.

Barcelona is certainly in for an interesting season next year, under the assistant coach Tito Villanova; Barça fans will be biting their nails until their new season kicks off. Do not expect though an instant drop in form, not





while Lionel Messi, Alexis Sanchez, Iniesta, Pique and the constant spinning wheel that is the Barcelona Youth system have anything to say about Barcelona's future.

If you haven't seen any European football and are clueless to what I've been speaking about then this article isn't for you, but if you do care about football and especially Barcelona then I hope this has helped you see things from a non-Barcelona fan's perspective. I know I'll be paying attention to the coming season, and I hope you do as well and also invite a friend. The best way to watch football isn't from the sidelines, but it's with whom you have sitting next to you. Cheers!

BASEBALL FAN BASE: WHERE ARE YOU HIDING?

by *Eli Alonso*

As the university's baseball season came to an end on the 27th of April away to Master's College I could only wonder where the 2012 season went. In an area where professional baseball has two MLB teams, in the Los Angeles Dodgers and Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim it made me ask myself, and you probably know where this is going, "If we have two baseball teams in the area that are well supported, why is it that La Sierra's fan base is so small?" "Why drive the distance and pay for such baseball games, when on campus we have a team to support? Of course, you could say that it's a small private university, that the field is too far to walk to, that there isn't parking around the facility. But has anyone thought about the work the team put in this season?"

Every time I drove down the University's main entrance in the morning or afternoon, I slowly cruised to observe for a few moments, the batting exercises that seemed to go on for hours and the fielding practices to improve techniques. There were times as well when I could see the players working on the maintenance of their own field, but that was all people saw when driving by.

In a conversation with the Golden Eagle's left-fielder and recently acquired pitcher, Michael Rojas, we talked about the team's dire need of roster depth, consistency, and support. The Golden Eagles began the season back in January with a roster of seventeen players and ended at the end of April with about twelve. It was one of those seasons marred by ineligibility and injuries. Where the 'what ifs' and 'what could've been's' lingered after ball games and on return drives from several back to back road games. In this conversation, Michael contained some frustration he experienced this season as a freshman player who saw a lot playing time. "It's hard to compete with other competitive teams when you don't have the pitching staff to rotate or the substitutions to come in for

struggling players," he said.

La Sierra's baseball team completed the season with a record of four wins, 33 losses, and one tie. "We had a chance to win most of the games we played, but the pitching staff was so small that we experienced fatigue towards the end of games," said Michael. Although the record shows mostly losses, the team did experience good highlights. On a road trip during spring break, while others were enjoying their time off, the baseball team was putting in work. There was chemistry amongst the guys, they played very close games that even went on to extra innings, showing their will to compete against tough opponents, a positive learning experience for a team consisting of mainly freshmen." They managed to get a win over Oregon Tech and unfortunately there were other games that we lost by one run.

On paper, La Sierra was not considered a winning team, but in person, it's a team of commitment set by those 12 players that remained and completed a season in the midst of adversity and trials, when many would give up after seeing a losing record. Several articles and ratings show signs of a La Sierra coach with the desire to compete, to do big things as the other university sports are doing. "We have a coach [Gabriel Gamboa] with the experience, with the knowledge and support of the school's Athletic Department." They're quietly coming along, building a team that Michael hopes the team will be a top seed in years to come. There's a reason why this program is here, and if you've not seen these young men play, there's definitely a season to look forward to next year, as the Golden Eagles already begin to prepare for next spring, by bringing in more than fifteen new players and working towards keeping their roster's depth, not just to fill the bench, but to work towards the goals the coaching staff and athletic department have in mind.





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WHAT'S FOR YOUR LUNCH?

by *Unknown Author*

“Ask not what you can do for your country. Ask what’s for lunch.” — Orson Welles

Now I am not suggesting students be unpatriotic. Still, before they are faced with answering such serious questions for their countries, the lunch hour hits, and students need to know where to grab good grub (that is, not just Del Taco or Carl's Jr.). After all, Riverside is filled with lots of amazing restaurants that vary in food selection, atmosphere and pricing. You may know some

of these already, so my goal is to introduce you to some you might have missed. As much as I love wearing a breezy summer dress while eating flavorful enchiladas at a rustic table in the middle of the vibrantly exotic patio of Mission Inn's Mexican Restaurant, the restaurants I list here might be less familiar, yet equally intriguing.





Simple Simon's Bakery & Bistro

Simple Simon's use of heavy knobby pieces of wood, industrious piping hanging from the ceiling and large brick walls resembles old industrial buildings of the American South, a look which will bring you a warm small-town feel. Once in line, alongside all sorts of local professionals, you might first order a sandwich, salad or even some soup, but right after placing an order, your eye will catch the homemade rhubarb tart in the display case before you, stock full of delectable baked goods. There'll be a pause, and you will look back at the friendly worker to say, "Add one of those to my order." Do not fret, though; your decision will be worthwhile due to Simple Simon's marvelous home-baked goodness. While waiting to pay, you will watch the welcoming chefs at work on an array of foods. After paying, sitting will be your last decision; inside, with the artistic warm ambience, or outside, on the patio enjoying the weather, either option will be well chosen.

Pricing: \$\$

Attire: Casual

Suggested Dishes:

Hot Focaccia Sandwich

Black Bean Chili



Bann Thai

Bann Thai is one of those restaurants that you would not have visited unless you tracked its positive Yelp reviews, but although this restaurant is covered in generic pink stucco and its windows are dark, you will find the inside experience Thairific. Walking into the building, the adventure of visiting a different country will await you. As you enter, the room is warmed by various shades of burgundy included in the reddish wooden floors and rustic bamboo curtains that cover the windows and transport you. Looking around, you will see Thai relics everywhere from sculptures to decorative tapestries. Perhaps not being familiar with Thai cuisine, you will try one of the suggested dishes below, and alternatively, being a Thaiholic, you will gasp at how this Thai restaurant stands a cut above the rest. When trying, for instance, the Pad See Ewe, you will relish the richness of its flavor in comparison to many other local Thai places. Bann Thai offers its flavorsome food, authentic Thai atmosphere and all amenities bundled in a great price—no wonder this place stays packed!

Pricing: \$

Attire: Casual

Suggested Dishes:

Pad See Ewe

Yellow Curry



Luna: Modern Mexican Kitchen

The final new restaurant you will visit is Luna: Modern Mexican Kitchen. This restaurant has a trendy, classy ambience. As you enter through its large wooden door, you are brought into a cool lounge. You will have three different sections to eat. Two are inside with contemporary interior design and vibrant abstract artwork all around, and the third seating area is outside with a full covering and comfy lounge-like seating. While at Luna, you will likely run into the owners that work alongside their employees to provide the best service. Although this place does not provide the most authentic Mexican food, that is not its goal. You will notice the modern accents in their cuisine, all of which bring more interest to the flavor. For example, if you order their flan brûlée trio, you will get a dessert fusion of flan and crème brûlée, which is divided into three different sections, each with different fruit flavors depending on the day. Between its presentation and surprising combinations, Luna provides incredible food for a great price.

Pricing: \$\$

Attire: Dressy Casual

Suggested Dishes:

Enchiladas Verde (Spinach)

De Crispy Sweet Banana

MUSIC REVIEWS

by Sterling Spence



Port Of Morrow

The Shins

Let's talk about The Shins. Why? Well, I could review the up and coming Bow Wow album but honestly, whenever I hear him all I can think of is the movie Like Mike. What about will.i.am's new record #willpower? I guess it comes down to this: why write about music you'll all hear on the radio anyway? Though The Shins may get some airtime, I'm betting most of you will have to go out of your way to hear tracks off the upcoming Port of Morrow. It's been five years since the Portland band released *Wincing the Night Away*, and we can only hope this long awaited release makes up for their absence. Oh! *Inverted World*, which came out in 2001, ranks as one of the best albums of the 2000's, but that was a long time ago. Nowadays,

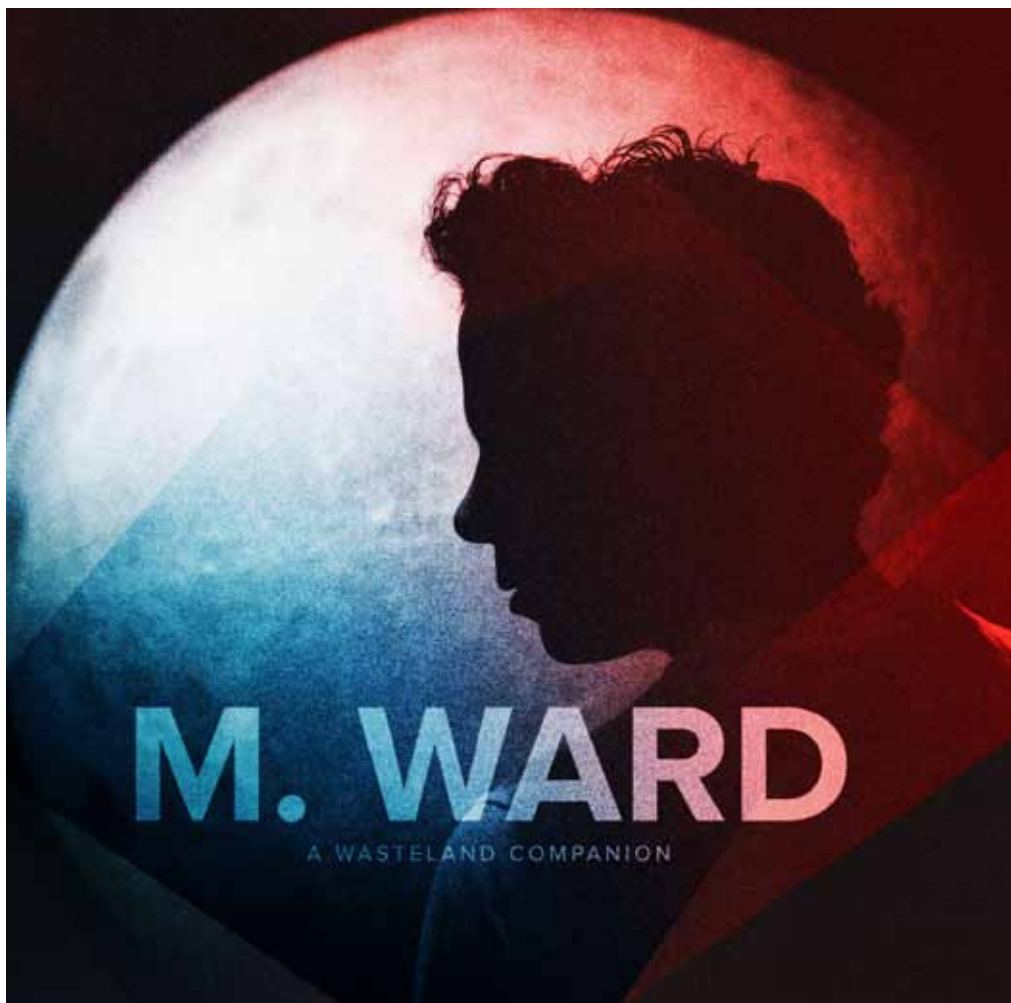
front man James Mercer seems to make up most of the band, and it looks as though he might just be using the old name solely for the recognition factor. Still, he's come through for all the fans with this release on his own independent label. I'm betting it will be as fun as classic Shins tunes like "Caring is Creepy" and "Know Your Onion."

Their signature indie, guitar-pop sound comes back as strong as ever in the first single "Simple Song" with Mercer beautifully delivering long form lyrics in his funk-influenced falsetto. It's a sound to hear. Though early recordings presented a stripped down, raw pop meant for basement dancing, Port of Morrow brings a

new dimension to the band with a larger sound filled in by keyboards, strings, and horns.

If you haven't had the opportunity to hear of them perhaps you're more familiar with their sometimes tour mates, Modest Mouse. If you love their sound, you'll love The Shins. If you don't love their sound, you may still love Port of Morrow, so give it a shot. "Simple Song" is only \$.99 on iTunes so you have very little to lose and good music to gain. Don't take my word for it,

listen to Natalie Portman. Some of you may remember the scene from the movie Garden State when Zach Braff's character asks Portman what she's listening to. She replies, "The Shins. Have you heard of them? You gotta hear this one song. It'll change your life." At that moment we all knew the best girls listen to The Shins. So don't be left out. To put plainly, The Shins are back, and that's certainly nothing to complain about. Check out the new single on YouTube and get your copy of Port of Morrow today.



A Wasteland Companion

M. Ward

Born in Newbury Park, California, M. Ward proves that folk music isn't just for those hicks in the mid-west. Since beginning his career in 1999, he has been one of the saving graces of modern music. In 2006, he released *Post War*, an album concerned with the soul of America after Iraq. It was met with high praise and finally gained the singer/songwriter the

acclaim he so greatly deserved. Six years later, he's gearing up to release *A Wasteland Companion*, his first solo album since 2009's *Hold Time*. But what has he been doing since then? The lonesome troubadour has been keeping good company recording with the likes of Bright Eyes' Conor Oberst and Jim James of My Morning Jacket under the name Monsters of Folk.

If that isn't enough, he can also be found performing with Zoëy Deschanel (the Katy Perry look-alike you'd actually take home to meet your parents) in their joint band She & Him.

M. Ward's café folk style is complemented by his distinctive, smooth river rock vocals, taking the listener on journey after journey of love, longing, and the nostalgia of growing old. The twelve track album was recorded in eight studios across the U.S. and the UK, and features eighteen musicians, making it hard to call it a solo album. Still M. Ward shines through with what Merge Records calls, "The finest songwriting and most striking delivery of his career."

I can't tell you how happy it makes me to see that a long standing American folk tradition is being carried on by such a fine musician. These are not songs with a blind disregard for struggle or overtly religious

connotations. Instead they reflect the quiet, serious contemplations of a man thoughtfully examining his life. Continuous travels and the American experience drip from the songs, making him a modern day Woody Guthrie. His story-telling is top notch, but it's his voice that makes him haunting, sure to melt your hearts and break open your wallets (or at least send you to your computers for illegal downloading).

For a little sneak peak at what will be on the album, go watch the video "The First Time I Ran Away." It might get you through the stress of finals week. Then if you're hooked, look up an older song, "Chinese Translation." You won't regret it. Finally, get out your phones and call your local radio stations. Demand that they play music worth listening to. You just might save great musicians like M. Ward from going unnoticed. Hurry to the disappearing record stores and pick up your copy.



Sgt. Peppers Lonely Hearts Club Band

The Beatles

Forty-five years ago in 1967, the stage was being set for some of the greatest events of modern music history. Jefferson Airplane was just about to release the groundbreaking album *Surrealistic Pillow*, Dylan had finally gone electric, and The Beatles were blossoming in their exploration of new deliverance of sound. The summer of love was around the corner and Woodstock not far off. Out of this ethos came The Beatles' *Sgt. Peppers Lonely Hearts Club Band*. Spending a stunning fifteen weeks as number one on the US billboard top 200 charts it crushed any debate over its significance. Here's a little background. By August of 1966 the Fab Four had gone their separate ways. The continuous stress of back-to-back touring had been too much and led to an indefinite hiatus. George was in India studying sitar and culture, Paul was writing movie scores, John was acting, and no one really cared where Ringo was. What an ugly world it would have been if the last we heard of The Beatles had been the bizarre ramblings of "Tomorrow Never Knows," the last track of the album *Revolver*. But thank the Lord!... or whatever Indian deity they had been worshipping, Paul McCartney called the boys back together for what is arguably their best work and was rated the number one greatest album of all time by *Rolling Stone* magazine in 2003.

It marks a distinct change in The Beatles' style, one that was perhaps attempted in *Revolver*, but not perfected until *Sgt. Pepper*. It is a shift from their pop-soaked melodies to more sophisticated, multi-genre influenced work. From the first track, the listener is immediately aware that this album is from another age, a time when the record was a piece of art meant to be taken as a whole: the complexities of the sitar parts in "Within You Without You" contrasting the playful banging piano in "With a Little Help From My Friends," the nonsensical lyrics of "Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds" complimenting the devastating vocals of "A Day in the Life." Good people of earth, there is such a thing as perfection! The band effortlessly transitions between influences of classical music, psychedelic, and back to rock-&-roll, leaving the listener in awe. What manner of man must you be to write that that? You get the sense that the band felt a freedom as they wrote. No style was forbidden. No topic was off limits. When The Beatles let themselves not be The Beatles, this masterpiece came flowing out.

Though it is perhaps a crime to listen to this album any way other than all the way through, you criminals out there could take any song in the track list as a single. For the romantic guys, play her The Beatles. Chicks love The Beatles. "When I'm Sixty-Four" will do the trick. "Will you still

need me? Will you still feed me when I'm sixty-four?" croons McCartney. If that doesn't work, she's just not that into you.

At this 45th anniversary, let's sit back, listen, and remember the album that changed the course of popular music forever. If you haven't had the great pleasure of listening to *Sgt. Pepper* straight through, now is the perfect time. Happy listening.

FINISHING ON POINT

by *Jaqueline Flores*

It's the end.

“Pomp and circumstance” will be playing, your cap and gown are ready, invitations have been sent and all eyes will be on you as you are handed your diploma. You are no longer an undergraduate student and your time at La Sierra University has come to an end.

How will you be remembered?

You've longed for years to wear that cap and gown that hold significance and serve as a reminder that you are an educated adult in your field. You have the power to use your knowledge and be the change needed. Though the cap and gown serve as a form of unity of a new generation, under each gown lies an individual with their own goals, hopes, and aspirations. What you wear on graduation day is a reflection of you as an individual.

Allow me to offer some suggestions on what to wear for that monumental day in your life.

For the graduating ladies I suggest sundresses. They're lightweight, comfortable and flattering to any body type. Choose a tangerine color or a bold print to make a statement. If you prefer to keep it subtle, try pastels. Pastels provide an elegant touch while maintaining you cool. Look for lightweight fabrics such as chiffon, which are comfortable and create a classy finishing touch. Floral prints allow for a feminine joyful look that will surely compliment your happiness on that special day. Pair it with loose hair curls and coral lipstick to show off your smile.

Leave your stilettos in the closet and pair your fun sundress with nude colored wedges. Stilettos will sink into the grass and will become very uncomfortable after the first hour. Wedges will not only look great, but will feel great. They are much easier to walk in and you can walk for longer distances in them. The best part is they won't sink into the grass; so don't worry about getting stuck! Ballet flats are also a great alternative for shoes, if you decide not to wear wedges.

Avoid the little black dress, you will already be wearing black, don't add any more layers of black. Remember, gowns can become very hot and you do not want to add on to the heat. Sundresses will keep you cool and will look great. It will also add a splash of color to the black gown.

For gentlemen, I suggest beige or grey colored suits. Steer away from black suits. You will be drenched in sweat by the end of the ceremony if you wear black. Add some color to your beige or grey suit by adding a pastel colored dress shirt and make a statement with a striped navy blue tie. Beige and grey will keep you cooler throughout the ceremony and it will create a clean-cut resort wear finish. You will look put together without looking or feeling uncomfortably hot.

If a pastel colored dress shirt is a stretch, keep it simple with a white dress shirt and a solid colored skinny tie. An alternative can be, wearing a gingham pattern dress shirt under your suit. Lose the tie with this look and don't forget your pocket square! Make sure your suit is fitted, as fitted suits look more professional, youthful, and appealing.

Exuberate confidence and pride in your suit. Don't aim for “swag” but class; remember you are a college graduate now. Try something new and pair your suit with brown Oxford dress shoes. Finish your look with a sterling silver tie bar.

For many, this will be the last time your colleagues will see you, so make the look your own and add your flare to it. You have worked hard this moment; now embrace it by looking your best.

Finish on point.



RELIGION





INNER LOOK: PASTOR SAM

by *Sterling Spence*

Pastor Sam has been an incredible part of La Sierra for almost 13 years. Criterion took a moment to chat with him about ministry on a diverse campus, the gospel, and Indian & Sushi day at the cafeteria.

Criterion: Ok Sam, to start off with, what in your ministry are you most excited about?

Pastor Sam: There is too much to mention in one interview! Talking with students, my breakout worship, First Service, Church@Noon, going to Music Department concerts, Wow! I love, love, loooove what I do so much. The baptismal service coming up June 1, there's nothing like it. Being a witness to people making that level of commitment to Jesus is the highlight of my year.

C: If you had to change anything what would it be?

PS: The beach would be way closer. Indian and Sushi Thursdays at the commons would be every week. Other than that my only serious wish is that some students would appreciate University Worship and Assemblies more and that they behaved with more civility. I say that in love.

C: Ok let's talk about something else. No one could argue that you're a sought after speaker in Adventism. How does this affect your ministry?

PS: I think that the story of La Sierra University is not told often or broadly enough around the world. Anytime any of us steps off campus to speak, we have an opportunity to tell that story, the accurate story about an incredible place where God is doing amazing things. I love doing that. When I go somewhere to speak I always carry La Sierra with me. I also think that lately there has been some urgency, if enough of us don't speak out when we're given opportunities to, we risk losing our voice on issues that matter so much. So I prayerfully and carefully consider every invitation to speak, because I see them as a great opportunity to have an effect on the decisions people are making every day.

C: What kind of decisions?

PS: Decisions about Jesus, about His claims, the way Adventism has understood Him. Decisions about how we proclaim the good news, about how we do church. Decisions about the role of women

pastors in our denomination. Decisions about La Sierra, I want people to have the right information about us, not just hearsay or conspiracy theories from the Internet.

C: Briefly Sam, what is the background as to why you got into ministry?

PS: A grand summary is that I believe God led me to ministry for a reason: to make a life devoted to Jesus an irresistible option.

C: What does devotion to Jesus mean to you?

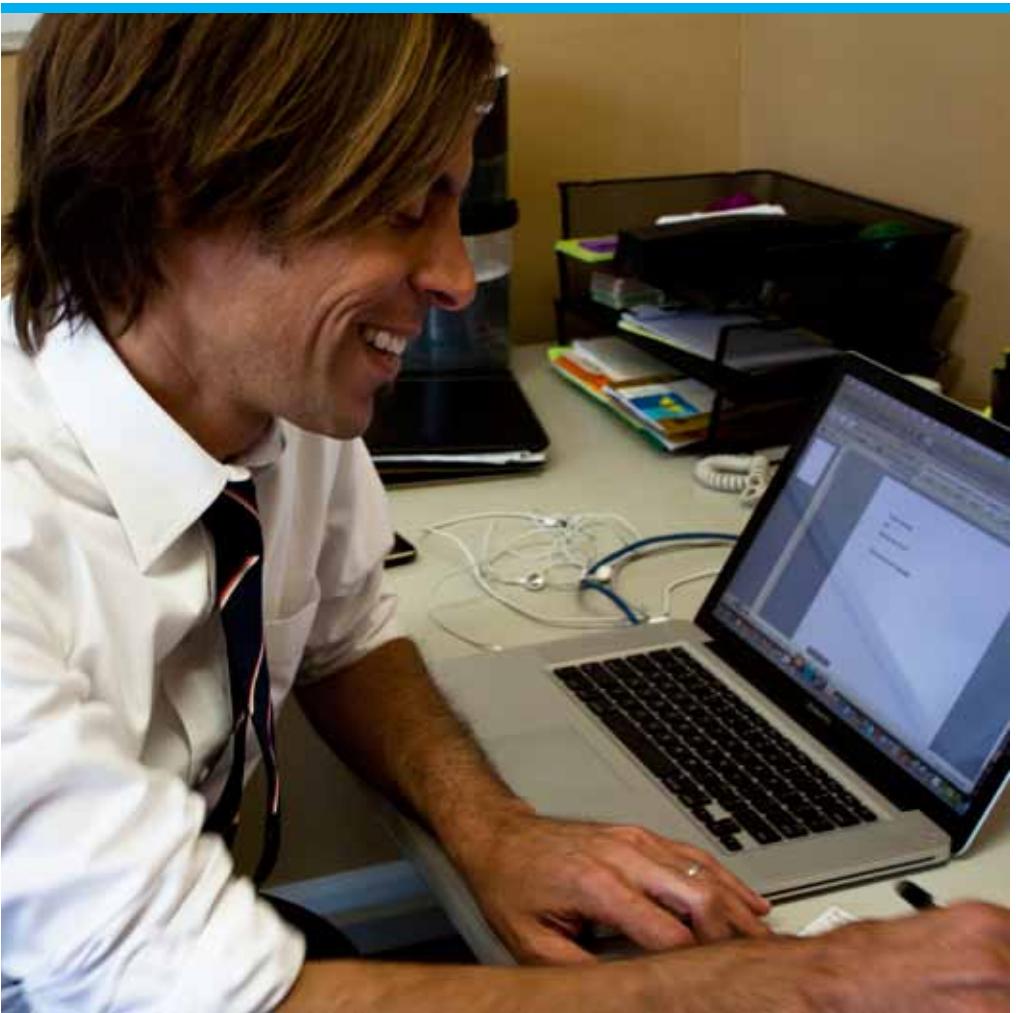
PS: I think that the faith maturation process is addressed in three stages. The first is coming to know the gospel. I think you have to know what you're encountering in order to make a decision about it. The second step is believing and the third step is mission. Mission is simply living out a faith concerned with the things that you have come to know and believe. Those steps are what I mean when I say a "life devoted to Jesus".

C: When you talk about the gospel what do you mean? Is it just the four books in the Bible?

PS: When I say the gospel I mean first Jesus the person. For me the Jesus of history and the Christ of Faith are the same. I begin with Jesus when I say the gospel, of course we could have a very long discussion about what this means but when you hear me saying "gospel" you can make this first assumption: Sam is talking about the person of Jesus, the historical figure, and the Christ of Faith. Is that too simple?

C: Would you be offended if I said yes? I'd really like to go a bit deeper and flush out more of what those terms mean to you. I think that it might be helpful for you to explain what you think this Christ wants to see in the world. What is the mission that Christ is advocating?

PS: I'm not offended at all. Jesus' mission is to save the world. That's it. I think that's where we have to start. We have to resist the temptation to complicate this too much. It's not dumbing it down or oversimplifying. It's making it concise and accessible. One reason is that we have an increasingly varied demographic on this campus. We have students for whom scripture, religion, and especially Adventism are completely foreign. We also have very committed and knowledgeable



Christians on campus. We need to adapt or adjust our language, the way we communicate so that it is understandable to everyone, no matter where they are in their journey with God. So when I speak to the campus I make it as accessible as possible. When I say “Jesus wants to save the world” to a mature Adventist Christian it will mean something different than if I were to say it to someone who is only nominally Catholic, or a Buddhist student. For some students it will mean Jesus wants to save you and for others it will mean Jesus wants you to do something about poverty or human trafficking. For others it will mean Jesus wants you to get your relationships worked out so that you don’t doom your descendants to cycles of horribly, toxic family dynamics. That’s how Jesus saves.

So we at La Sierra understand our first responsibility to be creating an atmosphere where people can encounter God. We have events like University Worship geared to facilitate this encounter. Most

of the time, our goal is to present the basic claims of the gospel. That’s why for the majority of knowledgeable, experienced Christians, University Worship can sometimes feel introductory. Our second responsibility is to provide opportunities for students to make decisions for God. And our third goal is to create opportunities for students to live out their faith, to service.

C: What does that service look like?

PS: One of the ultimate examples on our campus is the Student Missions program. That is a nine to ten month commitment to volunteering somewhere in the world. We’re trying to draw people to that!

C: Do you ever worry that when you simplify the language and the message you may be contributing to established Christians losing interest and walking away because the image of God they are exposed to is irrelevant?



PS: First of all, I don't think that simplifying the language is synonymous with trivializing it. Apple didn't invent mobile phones or mp3 players. They just simplified the interface to make it user friendly. To use more tech language: I don't think our message is the problem; the issue is our operating system. Often people don't have a way to relate to our message because our language is complicated or irrelevant. Let me use Biblical language: What is Jesus concerned with in the stories of Luke 15? The message was directed to the religious insiders, who had complicated religious language and experience so that serving God had become a burden and God was just not approachable. What they had lost sight of was that once you know God your mission is to reach others and make their path to God as easy and clear as possible. The real danger for committed Christians is that we spend more time complicating things to the point that what we're talking about has nothing to do with people who are dying, spiritually and physically. So I think Jesus is saying, "Um, I came for the lost, they are a priority." So, I would argue that simplifying is not trivializing. Simplifying is making the way clear. I would ask those of us who have accepted the claims and are growing in Christ, to turn our attention to the mission God has called us to. Something doesn't feel right about saying that our institutions exist primarily to make us more Adventist or more Christian if you already are. I think our God has given us this place for us to use to bring people to him. I'm proud of who we are and how we do ministry here. We work hard at providing students with an incredible array of options to accomplish our mission.

C: Thanks so much Sam.

ESSAY



FOR GIRLS ONLY

by *Alyssa Hunt*

“Yet it is in this loneliness that the deepest activities begin. It is here that you discover act without motion, labor that is profound repose, vision in obscurity, and, beyond all desires, a fulfillment whose limits extend to infinity.” — Thomas Merton

The Element of Loneliness

LONELY

lone-ly adj. \lɒn-l\

1: being without company: lone: cut off from others: solitary

2: not frequented by human beings: desolate

3: sad from being alone: lonesome

4: producing a feeling of bleakness or desolation

As women, we tend to think that we are the only one's going through a specific problem or a hard time. We have this strong outer layer that has fooled everyone around us into thinking that we are leading a glamour's and perfect life. On the outside, we have it all together, but what do you think would happen if we dropped the outer layer and exposed what's happening on the inside.

I believe it is safe to say that at some point or another, we have all suffered from loneliness. A few months back, when I got the courage to let down my outer layer, I discovered how lonely I really was. Like most women, I had been putting up an act and lying to myself about what was happening on the inside. However, as Christian women, what do we have to hide? It wasn't until I faced my problems and strengthened myself, that I could help other women around me.

The lonely times I spent in my life are my most vivid memories. When I was lonely, I never understood why it was that I was lonely. I thought that as God's child, someone like me wasn't supposed to feel alone and unwanted. Yet, when I looked around at everyone else life, they all seemed to be at the peak of their happiness.

If you let down your outer layer right now, are you lonely? Are you angry at God for letting your loneliness control you and your happiness? At one point in time, I was all of those. I figured that if I read the bible long enough and prayed hard enough, then poof, my loneliness would be gone. But unfortunately, Christianity doesn't quiet work that way.

Before I get into the healing part of loneliness, let me first share some of my testimony with you. It starts with my freshman year of college. I was having a very hard time adjusting to changes from high school and being dependent on family to college and being independent for the first time. My roommate and I were still getting to know each other and I hadn't gotten around to making friends outside the classroom. All of my high school friends seemed to have just disappeared when summer ended and I felt completely alone.

I remember sitting in my room one night crying because I had nothing to do and no one to talk to. I would eat all my meals in my room alone and I wouldn't go to any of the school events because I was afraid I wouldn't know anyone. I was suffering. I was so lonely it hurt like there was a hole in my body.

In my eyes, I had become such a weak person because I would cry so often. I was quick to get angry with God for allowing me to be so lonely when he was supposed to take care of me. This loneliness lasted for more than a year. I had become dependent on others for happiness and needy for attention. I would worry non-stop about who I would talk to and if I would ever make any friends.

Turns out, I wasn't the only one feeling that way. Many women of God are lonely. According to the definition of loneliness above (found in Webster's dictionary), loneliness is not just being alone. I once described loneliness as being in a room full of people and still feeling lonely. But in every lonely situation, God gives us an answer.

The turning point in my time of loneliness came when my pastor asked a simple question. He said, "What is God doing to get your attention?" After hearing that, everything changed. God wasn't punishing me with being lonely. Instead he was seeking my attention and all I was doing was throwing myself a pity party and ignoring Him. He had removed all the distractions in my life so I could hear Him and for months, I had missed it.

Now that I knew I needed to give God my attention, I assumed that my loneliness would disappear overnight. However, according to Peters letter to Christians in 1 Peter 5:10 he says, "After you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will himself perfect, confirm, strengthen, and establish you."



Even though it doesn't seem like it, God has a purpose for your loneliness. God never gives us something we can't handle. He plans to perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish us in his amazing glory. We first have to learn to be alone and suffer for the name of God.

Philippians 4:4-7 says, "Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

God wants us to rejoice in him, always. That includes our loneliest moments. It is easy to feel completely alone but God tells us he is near. So often we forget and ignore the very one who gave us life. That is why prayer is so important. We rejoice in God and give him thanks and trust that in our loneliest times, we are not alone. Once you surrender yourself and allow loneliness to be a time of growth between you and God, the peace that God will bring you will wash over you like waves in the sea. How incredible is that. When we give God our attention, he will bless us and comfort us in even our loneliest times.

My story doesn't end with me never feeling lonely again. I still have times of feeling empty and alone but I know that God is near. We are so blessed to have a God who loves us and cares for us. Us women are strong beings and with God we can handle anything. Loneliness just gives us another reason to rejoice, rejoice, rejoice.

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world" (John 16:33).

I pray that you never let loneliness bring you down, but you use it as an opportunity to get to know God more and hear his voice. I pray that you be released from the troubles of your heart so that you may be a blessing to someone else's life. Take care and God bless and have an amazing summer.



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