

THE ECHO

SINCE 1913



"One may expect a musical based on Poe to be melancholy and self-involved, much like the troubled author himself. Dismiss this thought." — JUSTIN CHISHAM, ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Volume 98
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2010

Sports
**BEDÓN
COMPETES
NATIONALLY**

Life & Times
**A FALL
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Opinions
**WON'T YOU
BE MY
NEIGHBOR?**

IN BRIEFS

"STAND UP FOR YOUR SISTER" PROGRAM

Women's Programming is hosting an event for all women on campus to be held on Thursday, Oct. 28 at 8 p.m. in the Recital Hall. At the event, Women's Programming will lead an activity called "Stand Up for Your Sister," which has been performed on other campuses and has become a catalyst for addressing difficult topics and issues women face. Any woman wishing to attend and looking for more information can seek out her floor/wing leaders for any questions. Also anyone with further inquiry can contact Madelyn Wiley, cabinet member, or Meleca Consultado, Graduate Director of Women's Programming.

Madelyn Wiley

NEW DEAN NAMED

Dr. Lawrence Belcher has been named Dean of the School of Business at Taylor. Belcher comes to Taylor from Stetson University in DeLand, Fla. According to the Stetson website, Belcher has been recognized with five teaching awards at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, including the School of Business Teacher of the Year. He has also been recognized three times for innovative curriculum projects at Stetson. Belcher will officially begin his Taylor assignment July 1, 2011.

Jim Garringer, director of media relations

WEEKEND WEATHER

Today
66°
45°

Saturday
73°
56°

Sunday
74°
58°

TAYLOR TO VOTE ON CONFERENCE ADDITION

MANDOLYN HECOX
NEWS CO-EDITOR

Taylor University will vote on whether to add another school to our conference, the Mid-Central College Conference (MCC), on Nov. 10. President Eugene Habecker will travel to Huntington University to cast Taylor's vote as the Council of Presidents gathers to make the final decision of whether Mount Vernon Nazarene University in Ohio should join the conference.

While there is no clear statement yet as to which way Taylor will vote, Habecker has been conferring frequently with Dr. Steve Bedi, Taylor's Provost and Dr. Angie Fincannon, director of athletics, to make the best decision for Taylor.

The MCC includes eight other schools: Bethel, Goshen, Grace, Huntington, Indiana Wesleyan, Marian, Saint Francis and Spring Arbor.

Mount Vernon, the school requesting to join the conference, is currently a member of the American Midwest Conference (AMC). However, several schools in the conference have moved to Division II, leaving Mount Vernon without much competition.

Mount Vernon previously applied for acceptance into Division II, but their request was denied under the strict and competitive process that can turn down applicants for a variety of rea-

sons. Mount Vernon then had to decide whether to wait and reapply to Division II or approach the MCC and apply for admission, which they did.

The question now facing the MCC schools is whether they would benefit if a tenth team was added. The presidents and athletic directors are weighing the negatives and positives for both sides of the issue. Mount Vernon does not have a football or a track and field program, though they do plan on adding the track program within the next five years.

This factors into one of the concerns Taylor has in considering the issue. If Taylor is funding four or five more sports than a rival school, Taylor funding for each program is being stretched thinner than its competitors. By competing against schools that have a similar number of sports programs, Taylor is ensuring a more level playing field.

Another concern with including Mount Vernon in the MCC is the distance. The potential new addition is 317 miles away from Taylor, with a travel time of over three and a half hours. This has considerable potential to impact academics as student athletes would have to leave class earlier.

Due to Taylor's strong academics, this is cause for concern.

"I have a firm commitment to, along with athletics, [students having] the best academic opportunities," said Fin-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

MID-CENTRAL COLLEGE CONFERENCE

Taylor is among eight other schools in the Mid-Central College Conference (MCC) considering the request by Mount Vernon Nazarene in Ohio to join the conference.

TAYLOR ADAPTS TO WIRELESS

STUDENTS EXPERIENCE A FEW HICCUPS AS THEY ADJUST TO CHANGE



Freshman Dan Aust enjoys two of the University's pastimes, a Polar Pop and some wireless access.

HILLARY MAY
NEWS CO-EDITOR

Wireless Internet may be fast, but it doesn't come without a few glitches.

While Taylor students have enjoyed the new wireless connection, several have experienced difficulty staying connected to the network, and more than a few Ethernet cords have been brought out and put to good use.

"I have had a little bit of trouble with the wireless," said sophomore Krista Hull. "At random times I will lose Internet connectivity. I will be connected one minute and then lose connection completely the next. When this happens, my computer won't even see the TUCAN server. It usually appears again within 15 minutes or so."

With an average of 600 active users using residential wireless each day, problems can arise, according to T.R. Knight, director of Technology Services. Students often disconnect wire-

less access points "as a joke," causing a large area of a residential hall to lose connection to the network. The IT department has been working with the residential hall directors to prevent this from happening.

Knight also said that some student-owned laptops may have "outdated firmware or software causing connection difficulties." Updating the firmware will provide students with a "stronger, more stable connection."

Students who have weak antenna signals should find a location in their dorm room where the signal is strongest, although this problem is not confined to the dorms, he said.

The wireless network does not extend to every location on campus, and some students may be trying to access the Internet in areas that are not wireless-supported. While wireless signals are able to travel longer distances beyond the supported areas, there is still no guarantee that the signal will be strong enough.

"Wireless can sometimes still be accessed in these edge areas, but the university cannot guarantee access," Knight explained. "The university plans to continue expanding the campus wireless network over the coming years into faculty, staff, student offices,

"THE UNIVERSITY PLANS TO CONTINUE EXPANDING THE CAMPUS WIRELESS OVER THE COMING YEARS..."

locker rooms, athletic buildings, athletic fields and outdoor spaces."

Because wireless is based on radio signals that are impacted by weather, walls or other devices, cell phones and other wireless electronics have the potential to interfere with the wireless

connection nearest them. While these interference incidents are not common, they can happen in isolated areas.

For Hull, the wireless network has remained fairly reliable, and she has only experienced trouble four to five times since school started.

"When I had trouble, I just waited a little while until my computer found the TUCAN network again. Thankfully, it never happened when I was in a hurry or in the middle of something important."

Having a few Internet problems is a small price to pay, she said. Working on projects in her room and in other locations without using the Ethernet cable is made much easier than in previous years.

Knight says he has been very pleased with the wireless network up to this point. Because of the overwhelming approval of students, staff and faculty members, the IT department hopes to expand to other areas as soon as possible.

TAYLOR VOTES ON CONFERENCE CONTINUED...

cannon as she mentioned the inevitability of athletes missing more class time. The distance could also drive up costs, as Taylor could potentially have to transport and lodge students on a larger scale, particularly if an overnight stay was required.

Despite the possible negative academic effects, there are numerous benefits to adding a 10th school.

"MVNU represents a faith-based institution, with high academic standards and a quality athletic program," said J.D. Collins, Commissioner for the MCC. "Strengthening the conference from nine institutions to 10 could bring additional benefits including scheduling and national reputation."

It is better for a conference to have an even amount of teams—because there are currently only nine teams in the MCC, situations such as a bye week, where one team sits out, have to occur. In addition, if the MCC reaches 10 teams, two teams from the conference are then able to go on to nationals, instead of the current limit of one (except for basketball and baseball). As the presidents and athletic directors

of the various schools in the conference weigh the decision, they have been looking for assurances from Mount Vernon that they will meet the 55 percent rule instituted by the MCC. The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) has limits in place for how scholarship money is handled, and the MCC dictates that schools should be meeting 55 percent or less of those limits.

This is in an attempt to be as competitive and fair as possible since the logistics of how scholarship money is handled can play a huge role in athletic programs. Mount Vernon is a highly-funded scholarship institution, so Taylor officials want to make sure that the playing field is as level as possible.

Mount Vernon just submitted an official proposal application this week, in which they had to include a five-year plan for athletics highlighting where they intend to go with their programs. The detailed proposal seemed to have a positive impact.

"Overall, I think our conference is in favor of it," said Fincannon, looking through the detailed application proposal. "They have done a diligent job in the process; the book is quality."

This potential addition to the MCC

comes at a pivotal time as plans to make changes in Taylor's football conference, the Mid-States Football Association (MSFA), are also in the works. There currently are not enough football teams in the MCC, which requires six teams, to necessitate a football division, which is why Taylor has joined the MSFA.

Any possible changes will affect around 280 athletes and the larger Taylor community, since athletic schedules play a large role in the planning of university events such as Homecoming. While Homecoming dates have previously been named three years out, the possibility of adding and changing athletic schedules leaves current plans in limbo.

Many factors are in play for this upcoming important decision, but whether or not a change is made, students, staff and faculty should know Taylor administration is taking their responsibility very seriously.

"An important aspect of my job is to promote opportunity," Fincannon said. "We want students to have the best competitive experience they can, while at the same time, a successful educational experience to prepare them beyond these four years. Those are the things we are about."

THE ECHO

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The Echo aims to represent the views of diverse voices on Taylor University's campus fairly and without bias and to be a vehicle of accurate and pertinent information to the student body, faculty and staff. The Echo also aims to be a forum that fosters healthy discussion about relevant issues, acting as a catalyst for change on our campus.

Student journalists have published The Echo weekly since 1915, except for January term, exam week and school holidays. The Echo is a member of the Associated Collegiate Press and the Indiana Collegiate Press Association.

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Victor Gomez, who will be visiting Taylor next week, is shown visiting with Aché chiefs.

ACHÉ EXPERT VISITS TAYLOR

CORRIE DYKE
STAFF WRITER

Victor Gomez, Aché expert and Taylor partner, will be visiting campus next week. Gomez relies on relationships to build up his work. Like many missionaries, the support of others can change his world. Taylor is providing that transforming support for Gomez. As an advocate and expert on the Aché people and their rights and injustices, Gomez is heavily involved in One Verse's Bible translation for the indigenous people of Paraguay.

According to Doug Laskowske, Taylor's OneVerse Director, Taylor has contributed \$71,541.87 toward the Aché translation. There are 346 verses of the New Testament left to be translated.

"The incredible news is that we're actually only \$3,500 from our goal," said Laskowske.

When achieved, Taylor will be the sole funder of the Aché New Testament. Gomez's relationship with Taylor has prompted him to visit the campus tomorrow through next Wednesday.

"His visit will shed tangible light on the

process and what's going on down there," said senior Maggie Burns, Lighthouse Co-Director.

Gomez will speak multiple times in his duration here at Taylor starting Sunday at Vespers at 8 p.m. On Tuesday the 26, Gomez will speak at the OneVerse Aché night at 7 p.m. in Alsbaugh East. He will also attend and speaking in multiple class sessions, including Greek, missions technology and an international development class.

Gomez is not at a stranger to the Taylor community. He and his family host and work with the Paraguay Lighthouse teams.

Last January, Burns was a part of the Paraguay team and stayed with Gomez and his entire family while living with the Aché.

Burns described the Paraguay trip as open-ended compared to other Lighthouse trips that focus on a particular major.

"It was a ragtag bunch of people, the most spread out trip major-wise," Burns said.

The Paraguay team spent a majority of their time working with kids. Burns enjoyed building relationships with

Gomez's two teenage daughters Ricio and Jazmin.

The team spent two weeks in the village of Arroyo Bandera. With the help of the Aché people, they built a school from the ground up. By the end, the Aché had a building they were proud of.

In the evenings, Gomez and Bjarne Fostervold, the other host for the team, led worship. The team joined with the Aché through sharing testimonies and singing. Gomez and Fostervold translated the stories from English to Spanish, then from Spanish to Aché.

"It was hard to learn to just be with people. We had to tell ourselves, 'Don't do, just be,'" Burns said.

The Aché lost their culture and heritage when the Spanish forced them out of their hunter-gatherer lifestyle. The Aché's past treatment has caused the people to be very skeptical of other cultures, but Gomez has established a positive relationship with the people. The Bible translation process shows the Aché that someone values them.

"There's a school over in America telling them they have value and care about them," Burns said.

RECESSION IMPACTS STUDENTS

MANDOLYN HECOX
NEWS CO-EDITOR

In what is being declared the worse economic climate since the Great Depression, focus is generally placed on the unemployment rate and its impact on working-class families. Although college students are rarely mentioned, they have nevertheless been impacted by what has been titled the "Great Recession." Taylor students are not exempt from the current situation.

Living off cheap and plentiful Ramen noodles and scrimping for expensive textbooks have been common issues associated with college for years, but the past few years have been particularly rough for students. Aside from the strain of funding one's college experience and trying to find an on-campus job, discretionary spending is an area where many students have had to cut back.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics has found that 16.6 percent of potential workers are either underemployed or out of work altogether, which resonates with findings from a recent Pew Research study. According to the study, 62 percent of responders stated they have reduced their personal spending since the recession officially began in December 2007. Like the general population, Taylor students have been adapting their spending habits in a similar fashion.

Freshman Becca Castro is from New York and misses her family out east.

"I didn't get home over fall break because I need to save money for a flight home for

Thanksgiving," Castro said.

She admits she loves to shop, but between the recession and the inability to get a coveted on-campus job, her finances are cramped.

"My online shopping carts are full, but I don't really buy anything," jokes Castro. "I have to spend my money wisely—I also have to buy textbooks for J-term."

Some businesses are rising in popularity with college students because of the recession. Instead of buying all their books at the bookstore, students may purchase only one or two there and instead use online resources. Chegg.com, a book rental company that offers low prices, free return shipping and plants a tree for every rented book, has been quickly becoming a favorite among students, in addition to sites like half.com.

Instead of paying full price for back-to-school clothing or layers to weather J-term, students can instead visit Plato's Closet in Muncie, which sells gently worn name brand clothing.

While day-to-day plans to save money are part of being a student during the "Great Recession," more is at risk than cutting back on a daily coffee habit. The demand for college degrees has aided the many online colleges that have popped up, regardless of that school's actual quality, leaving many students to distinguish

themselves through internships and additional skills.

"The days of a college degree being enough to distinguish an applicant are coming to an end," said senior and student body president John Fowler. "What matters now is what unique skills and qualities a hiree would bring," he said, adding that he has had distinct advantages that he wouldn't have if he had gone to another school.

"For myself, the impact of the recession goes beyond my daily habits," Fowler said. "The greater question is how the influences surrounding us here are changing us and whether or not those changes are giving us an advantage in the tough job market we're going into once we graduate."

While some may question the decision to attend college and potentially take out loans in such a tough economy, Sandy Baum, senior policy analyst for the College Board, touched on that decision in a USA Today article.

"Most of the stories that say maybe it isn't worth it anymore find some unemployed college graduate," she said. "But unemployment among college graduates is still half that of high school graduates. A college education payoff is at least as high as it was before the recession. You're so much less likely to struggle if you have an education."

"I didn't get home for fall break because I need to save money for a flight home for thanksgiving."

THE BUBBLE

We read the emails that you delete

FRIDAY

C. S. LEWIS CHAPEL
Rediger Auditorium
10 a.m.

MARGOT & THE NUCLEAR SO AND SO'S
Student Union
8:15 p.m.

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

VESPERS
Rediger Auditorium
8 p.m.

MONDAY

CHAPEL - DR. STEPHEN UM
Rediger Auditorium
10 a.m.

JOB SEARCH STRATEGIES
Presented by Career Development
Metcalf 002
4 to 5 p.m.

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

CHAPEL - DR. STEPHEN UM
Rediger Auditorium
9 p.m.

THURSDAY



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Taylor senior gains new perspective through Lithuania trip

BY MIKE HENRY {CONTRIBUTOR}



Lauren Tello, Bekzhan Upeshov, Martha Barrett, James Madej, Kimberly Strauch, Calvin Ruth, Stephanie Mings jump for a photo in Nida, Lithuania.

L abas! Lessons from Lithuania! Now that I've finally gotten to study abroad as a slightly-jaded senior, I'm loving my time in Lithuania. Here are 10 things I've learned that surprised me (and hopefully surprise you, too).

First, America is not the center of the world. This sounds like common sense, but when you're questioning if the lowly hamburger is American or not, it can be earth-shaking.

There are also some serious stereotypes about Americans (wealthy, rude, self-centered), but luckily those things can be overcome. In fact, simply smiling and sharing your peanut butter is enough to break most of those stereotypes based on my experience in Eastern Europe.

Second, the world is huge, and you can never see it all. You may certainly want to, but it's not possible. Travel all you can, but be content where you are.

Third, study abroad if you can. At all. Seriously. If it means taking a summer course or two, do it. I put it off until I had to make the decision and almost didn't go. I'm so glad I'm here. I have nothing against Taylor, but it's so good to get out of the bubble.

College is about more than classes, and I recognized that at Taylor. It's about people. It's about experiences. Studying abroad is an experience you'll never have at Taylor.

Fourth, everyone swears in English. Even the Ukrainians. Russian swear words are still used, but are more 'expressive,' and so are saved for special occasions.

Fifth, going abroad rocks your spiritual world. I grew up in the bubble. I thought I knew what I believed. I could explain it while using the term "erogenous zones." But that doesn't work when someone asks you why you believe, when that person is one of

your roommates. When they're full of questions about Christians and faith, when they refuse to become a Christian because Christians are hypocrites and terrible people.

A quote by Gandhi is commonly used here, "I like your Christ, I do not like your Christians. Your Christians are so unlike your Christ." It's so painfully true. But being a good example in their lives isn't going to convert them to Christianity.

They aren't going to come to faith because you keep your side of the room clean. You have to have those difficult, deep conversations. You have to defend your faith. I've had to defend it to myself.

Being stretched spiritually is nothing to be afraid of, but it is something that has terrified me. Still does, actually. But when you do not have the choice to back down without losing your faith, you discover what you actually stand on.

Sixth, relax, unwind, take a breath. I, like so many of you, am guilty of rushing through my college life. The compulsive e-mail checking, the "too busy to go to an IFC concert" mentality, the procrastination by playing Halo 3 or walking the loop. I am personally challenging you to take two hours of your life in the next 48 hours to sit and think. Or walk the loop and think. Or go to the prayer chapel and think.

Take paper, write everything down. If you need more time, take it. (Conversely, if you can't spend two hours,

take what time you can.)

Next, take time for God. Thank him for everything. Then sit for five minutes and thank him for everything else. I've never been a superstar Christian, but now I (finally) feel like I can begin to see God in this world everyday. I had to lose the tunnel-vision mindset to do so.

Next week, take that time for thinking and for God again. Ask Him for guidance, question what you want to accomplish next week. Question what you want to accomplish this semester. Question where you want to be when you graduate from Taylor. Start today on those goals. Baby steps. Put one foot right in front of another. Maybe even take a sabbath day! (Crazy, I know).

Seventh, a three-hour dinner is totally acceptable. You should all try it. Get kicked out of the DC after a deep 3-hour conversation with someone. It gives you life. It makes you want to throw yourself back into the world.

Eighth, remember that you are so fortunate you speak English as your primary language. (If it's not yours, you understand.) English is a painful thing to try to learn. Don't take the fact that you know where to place articles (words like an or the) for granted.

Ninth, not everyone speaks English, but everyone understands (some) hand gestures. Smile, but don't stare. It works wonderfully. The little things go a long way.

Tenth, you have to buy bags at the

WORLD VOICES

"They will be stopped, tracked down and punished, in Lyon and anywhere else, with no weakness. Because in our democracy, there are many ways to express yourself. But violence is the most cowardly, the most gratuitous, and that is not acceptable."

-French President Nicolas Sarkozy warns violent French protesters to find new ways to express their unrest.

grocery store here. No paper or plastic choice for you. Save your quarters, America, I'm betting we'll be buying our plastic bags within two years.

And a random bonus note—some McDonald's in Europe have a McWalk instead of a drive through. Yeah, you walk up to the outside of the building.

Tourist kidnapping in Mexico

Mexico is a major drug-producing nation, and this problem has begun to spiral out of control in recent years as the drug abuse has turned violent. President Felipe Calderón took office in 2006 with a renewed effort to fight the drug infiltration, but violence has only increased since that time. President Calderón has sent over 40,000 troops to the most violent states in Mexico.

Many skirmishes have occurred between soldiers and gang members trafficking drugs. Since 2006, 23,000 people have been killed because of drug-related crimes, according to the Wall Street Journal. Journalists near the Texas border have stopped reporting on drugs altogether because of intimidation, according to the Economist.

Less than a month ago, 20 Mexican tourists were allegedly kidnapped in Acapulco, Mexico in September.

The missing individuals were part of a group of friends from Michoacan going on an annual guys-only retreat to the seaside. They drove over in four vehicles, which were found later filled with their suitcases and food. The police suspect that they were taken by gang members involved with drugs.

None of the men had ever been involved in drug-related activities. The men's ages range from 17 to 58, and their occupations include a mechanic, an accountant and a physician.

Though the government is receiving pressure from the men's families to take action to find them, they appear to be reluctant to make any real effort to aid the search. The government does not consider the group to be real tourists because they were not traveling with family members, though there have been some possible leads to their location.

This is just one of many violent drug-related acts committed throughout Mexico. In May of

CHRISTEN GALL
STAFF WRITER

2008, Mexico's acting top police official, Edgar Millan, was shot and killed by the drug cartels, and a brigadier general who was about to take over the chief of police in Garcia, a northern Mexican town, was also murdered by the same kind of criminals.

The rise of violence is to be expected from an economical standpoint, because those high up in the drug business make a good deal of money selling it, and they will do anything to protect their means of wealth. Mexico was the largest foreign supplier of marijuana to the United States in 2007 and on Oct. 18, 2010 one of the biggest drug busts of marijuana was discovered. Over 105 tons of marijuana was found in Tijuana, Mexico, all of which was about to be sent on to the United States.

Mexico's drug-related violence seems to be increasing without hope of an end, but Mexican officials think the violence will soon decrease.

"Taking on the cartels is parenting a child having a tantrum. When you start disciplining the child, the tantrum increases at first. But if you stay firm, it eventually works," Mexican Interior Minister Fernando Gomez Mont said in an interview.

President Calderón is one of the first presidents in years to attempt to fight the drug lords, so many view the added violence as retaliation against the policies he promotes.

Sophomore Maribel Magallenes, who has family from Mexico, has different views on how long the violence will last.

"I think it will take a long time to stop," she said. She explained that the cartels already have control over a large amount of the money of Mexico and even some of the soldiers in the government, so it will be much more difficult to stop them as time goes on.

On This Day in History

1746 - The College of New Jersey was officially chartered. It later became known as Princeton University.

1879 - Thomas Edison conducted his first successful experiment with a high-resistance carbon filament.

1954 - The Federal Republic of Germany was invited to join the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

1962 - U.S. President Kennedy went on radio and television to inform the United States about his order to send U.S. forces to blockade Cuba. The blockade was in response to the discovery of Soviet missile bases on the island.

1995 - The 50th anniversary of the United Nations was marked by a record number of world leaders gathering.

www.on-this-day.com



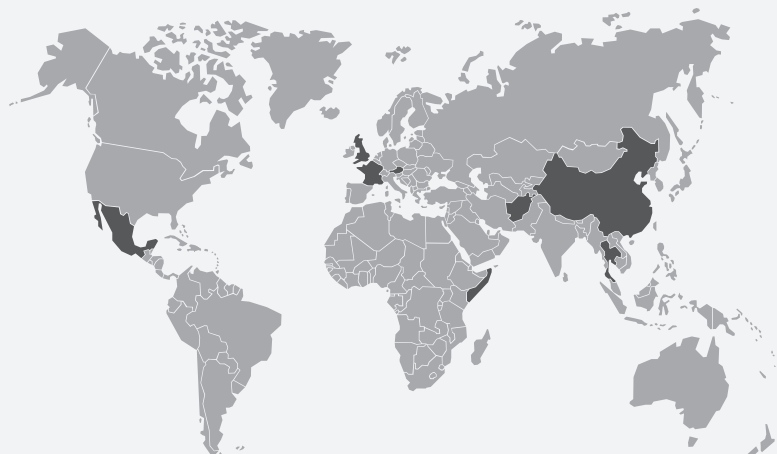
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Around the World in 30 Seconds



Man with bionic arms crashes car
Austria- Twenty-two-year-old Christian Kandlbauer lost both of his arms four years ago after a serious electrocution accident. Kandlbauer was fitted with mind-controlled robotic arms which allowed him to pass his driving test. He was found alive this week in the wreckage of a car crash. It is still unknown if his arms played a role in the crash.

China entangled in Darfur attacks
China- The UN claimed in a report that Chinese bullets were used in Darfur attacks. A panel of experts on Sudan recently reported that a dozen brands of bullet casings found at sites in Darfur were from China. Chinese officials have been working to disprove and suppress the report.

Somalian tension escalates
Somalia- Fighting darkened the Kenyan border Saturday in Somalia. The transitional government in the country has set up a slight offensive against Islamist insurgents. At least

one town changed hands between groups during the fights.

Pension age change causes uproar
France-- The French government has made plans to raise the pension age from 60 to 62. Protests and riots have occurred as a result. Riot police with body armor and water cannons have been necessary for some demonstrations. French unions have announced that Oct. 28 and Nov. 6 will be two more national protest days.

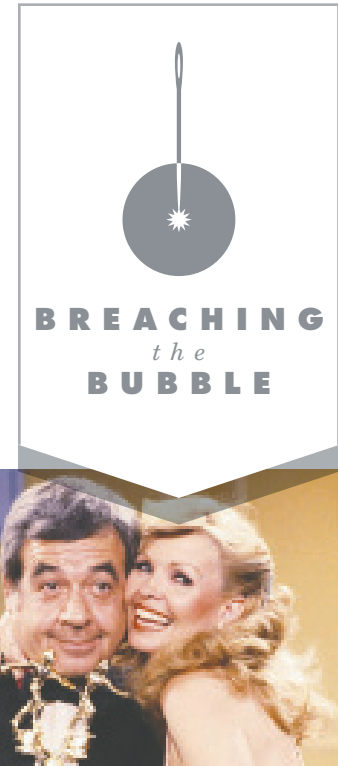
Military base burns drug pile
Mexico- One hundred and thirty-four tons of marijuana, the equivalent of several hundred million joints, was burned on a platform in a military base in Tijuana. According to the New York Times, the Mexican authorities called it the largest seizure of the drug in Mexico's history.

Extreme flooding causes death toll
Thailand- Almost one-third of the 33 major reservoirs in Thailand are

overflowing and dumping water downstream. The heavy rainfall has also caused deadly floods throughout northeastern Thailand. At least 17 people have died in the past two weeks and entire villages submerged.

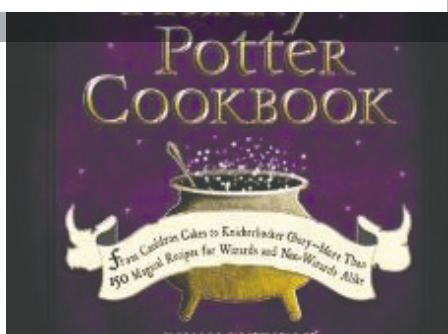
Peace talks exclude parties
Afghanistan- According to the New York Times, recent weeks have shown meetings between the Afghan government and a group of the Afghan Taliban in Pakistan. The Pakistani government has not been included in the meetings. Analysts fear that the peace in Afghanistan and relations with Washington and Kabul could be ruined.

Deficit talks result in protests
United Kingdom- News was released Wednesday that a deficit-reduction program will be implemented in the UK. Several repercussions are to scale back the government size, cut welfare benefits and shrink the armed forces.



HAPPY DAYS NO MORE

Tom Bosley, the beloved father figure on *Happy Days*, died Tuesday. Besides his role as a bumbling but genuine father on the show, he appeared on countless others such as "Bewitched," "Mission: Impossible" and "The Love Boat." His contributions to sitcoms will always be remembered in the hearts of many.



QUIDDITCH OUPCAKES

In anticipation for the latest *Harry Potter* movie to be released, "The Unofficial Harry Potter Cookbook" is for those who want to delve deeper into Rowling's magical world. Items like Paddington Burgers and *Hagrid's* Bath buns are among the many recipes given and enough to wet any avid fan's appetite.



FOOD THAT'S FIT TO EAT

After the Department of State Health Services found traces of *listeria monocytogenes* in celery in a San Antonio produce plant, they shut it down. Ten people have become very sick after consumption, and five have died. With past food scares like spinach, lettuce and peanuts, people are not taking chances, though the president of the company involved, Sangar Fresh-Cut Produce, is fighting the charges.

LIGHTER THAN AIR

Apple introduced, once again, another product. This time, it's the newest MacBook Air yet, weighing just under three pounds and less than .11 inches at its thinnest. Without a hard drive, one of the biggest components Apple took out, the MacBook Air runs on flash memory, similar to the iPad. But running at \$1,200 for the cheapest version, you might want to wait to salivate over its glossy new thinness.



Aaron Lee Martin and Tyler Sheaffer perform Tuesday night to educate students about mountaintop removal.

YOU'RE IN GREENPEACE, RIGHT?

WHAT BEING A "STEWARD" REALLY MEANS

JACK GALBRAITH
LIFE AND TIMES
EDITOR

Jokes can be made about Stewards of Creation (SOC). The easiest shots could be a general lack of bathing, worship for Al Gore and closets stuffed with hemp. But SOC is not simply a mixture of peace-loving hippies looking to riot against chemical plants or sit in an ancient elm about to be cut down as an act of passive resistance. It is a club based, as it the webpage states, on "seeking to glorify God through the care and protection of his earth." Dustin Sutherland, senior and president of SOC, gave his time to speak about its importance. He discussed how we, as students here, should incorporate being stewards of our world into our daily Christian ideologies. "Nature is evident of God's image and glory," he said, "and we will answer for how we use creation." The responsibility Christians have—to take care of the environment—is something easily missed. Even with its prevalence, being green is not always emphasized as a top priority. Sutherland himself is not an environmental biology major. He's in Christian Education, but he believes that loving God means exemplifying it through all aspects, including an awareness of how Christians treat the world. Sutherland went on to

talk about the general disconnect between being a "Christian" and an "environmental Christian." SOC is simply an effort to bridge that gap and help educate fellow students and allow them to take action by events like bringing in Restoring Eden, which stopped by on its tour Tuesday.

the video. SOC decided to bring the organization to Taylor to help foster a greater understanding of mountaintop removal, which subjugates the natural resources, and even people in the area, to very poor conditions.

SOC members hope students hear messages like the one Tuesday and choose to become involved. The organization is about giving students opportunities to not only help the community at large and to understand the significance of their own faith.

On Oct. 31, SOC has plans for a canoe trip down the Missisniewa River to clean up a section ravaged with large amounts of garbage ranging from 50-gallon drums to televisions. But this is only one of the multitude of events sponsored by different "action groups," all under the umbrella of SOC.

For those that enjoy the outdoors, SOC Nature Immersion promotes hikes and camping trips. If allergies are a hindrance, SOC Sustainability focuses on the recycling program and making the campus utilities greener.

For SOC, bringing a green movement within administration and the student population is not the resonating theme behind what they do.

"We're in this to glorify God, what his creation is about," Sutherland said. "We're stewards because we love God."

Restoring Eden brought cataclysmic images and video of mountaintop mining in the Appalachian Mountains, all of which melded into the warming guitar melodies of Aaron Lee Martin, a singer-songwriter who vibrated the Union with his heartsick voice.

"We have a connection to nature," said an Appalachian man affected by its repercussions during

"Nature is evident of God's image and glory," he said, "and we will answer for how we use creation."

FROM SOUTH AFRICA, WITH LOVE

New professor finds a place in Taylor's heart.

Professor Nicholas Kerton-Johnson of the political science department was reared in a South African home centered on Christianity and education. His passion for Christian involvement in politics has grown and strengthened since South Africa's system of apartheid fell.

"Growing up in Apartheid South Africa was in many ways surreal," he said. Being in a white family made it difficult for him to reconcile what he knew with what he heard, especially since the long-established system of apartheid fell when he was sixteen.

He was later eligible to vote to "unban the ANC," the African National Congress, and to vote in the initial general elections. His father, an Anglican priest, was part of negotiations before the elections. His involvement is now remembered through deerkins from Goodwill Zwelithini, the Zulu king, and a photograph of Nelson Mandela.

This part of Kerton-Johnson's life greatly impacted his worldview.

"I learned how important it is that good people oppose evil," he said. God ignited his interest in politics and fanned the flames, eventually bringing about The Ephesus Initiative, which researches and collects evidence of hostility toward Christians in the West.

"I believe that the Western world is marginalizing Christians and that this process of persecution is in its early forms," he said. The Ephesus Initiative's goal is to trace trends of marginalization. Through it, Kerton-Johnson hopes to see Christians grow more active and Christ-like in politics.

"Christians should be politically engaged," he said. "We have a vision of life which is redemptive and we must bring the gospel into politics—no element of society must go without our influence."

Along with his political ideas, Kerton-Johnson brought his passion for rugby to Taylor. At the suggestion of some students, he organized an intramural team.

"We knew that there was enough interest for at

MEREDITH SELL
CONTRIBUTOR

least a social team to play touch rugby (which is co-ed) and also the prospect of students enjoying full contact," he said. "The game flows more than football so I thought the exercise might appeal to students too."

Kerton-Johnson says he loves the high degree of interaction with students. His position at Taylor is more focused on teaching than the schools where he was educated.

"While I do at times crave more time for research" he said, "I am grateful for the significant contact with the students."

He also appreciates that his son and daughter can grow up in Upland, which he says reminds him of his childhood environment in rural South Africa. As he works with students and transitions with his family into American life, Kerton-Johnson continues seeing God at work.

"I see friendships forming that will last a lifetime," he said, "and I love the fact that I can pray with students, bless them and in turn be blessed by what God is doing in their lives."

On Wednesday night, Kerton-Johnson kicked off a three-part seminar sponsored by the political science department by delving into the justifications for war of the U.S. presidents.

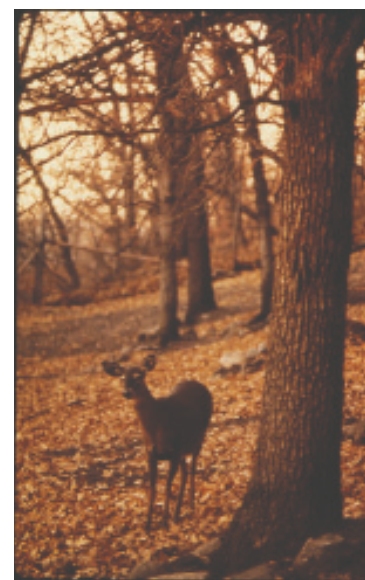
Ranging from the complexities of war to the U.S.'s movement towards "egoist morality" that had arisen through Sept. 11, his knowledge of the deep issues caused by the subject became apparent through his soft-spoken South African palette.

Everything from the intricacies of the Gulf War up to one of his main focus points, the Iraq War, were described clearly with a dry wit concerning the foibles of democracy and our more idiosyncratic presidents.

"Think about the ramifications," he said, tossing the question out to the audience to evaluate, ending the night with general political food for thought.



Professor Kerton-Johnson brings love of rugby and politics to Taylor's campus.



FALL FOLLIES

MEREDITH SELL
CONTRIBUTOR

Fall's pretty neat-o. Here's some suggestions to add a little warmth back into these chilly days.

Mornings:
Hot chocolate
Walk around the lake
Brisk group jog
Blankets and poetry

Afternoons:
Make leaf angels
Pumpkin carving
Apple picking
Play soccer, frisbee or football
Bike races
Scavenger hunts
Write a letter

Evenings:
Star-tripping
Roast apples
Jack-o-lanterns
Camp-wide hide-and-seek
Moon walks

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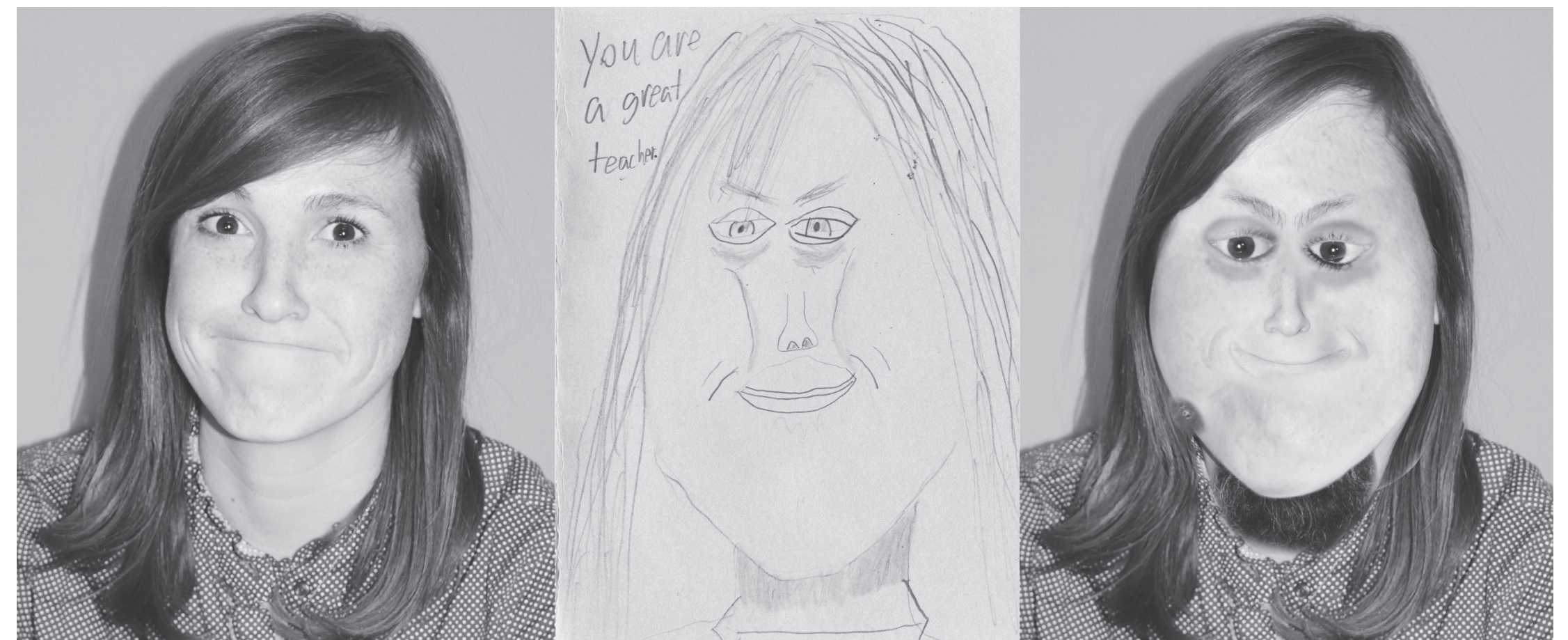
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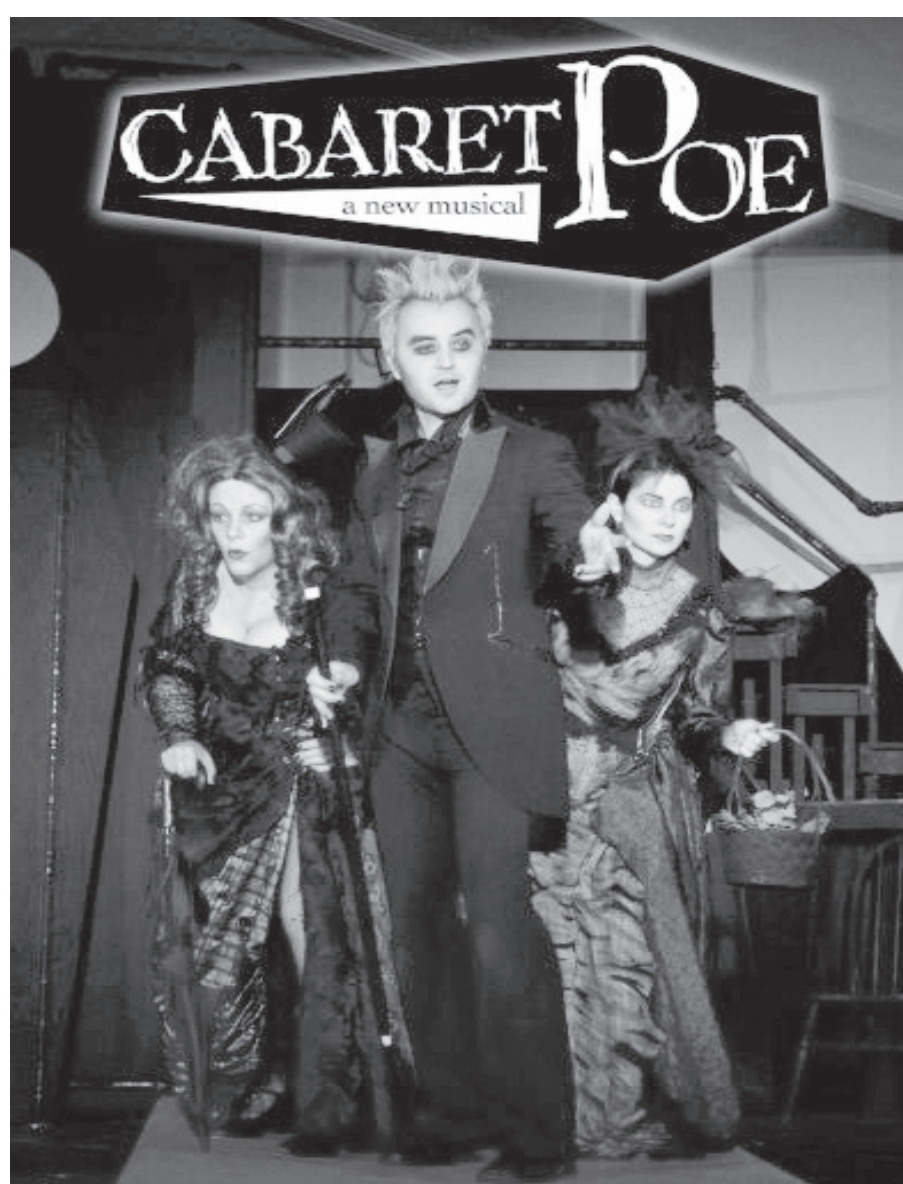
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COMIC BY MARK LEDGERWOOD



22 October 2010



Renae Stone, Ben Asaykwee, and Taylor's own Julie Lyn Barber honor the classic work of Edgar Allen Poe.

Review: Cabaret Poe

Edgar Allen Poe. The king of melancholy and macabre. The troubled author who details murder, mutilation, torture and psychosis. He has been merged with musical theatre.

Q Artistry, a non-profit artistic troupe, crafted "Cabaret Poe" by dramatizing the work of the 19th century author and adding an original score. Their Facebook page promises "a blend of the classic macabre fashion of Poe with humor and fright while conjuring up the American literary master's most famous stories and poems."

This combination concerned and thrilled me. I have read Poe since early childhood (take that fact up with my mother) and musical theatre provided a unique venue for his tales. "Unique" meaning not necessarily appropriate. I was immensely curious during the drive to Irvington Lodge, a small theatre on the east side of Indianapolis.

As I flipped through the playbill, I was floored. This reaction stemmed from an unexpected Taylor coincidence. Julie Lyn Barber, adjunct music professor and vocal coach, performs in "Cabaret Poe."

She plays one of the three principle hosts of the morbid evening. Her character is Berenice, an inside reference for the Poe-faithful. Morella (Renae Stone) and Zoilus (Ben Asaykwee, director and creator of "Cabaret Poe") join her in a musical guide to a madman's darkest thoughts.

A fourth character, deemed "The Shadow" (Sara Lukaszewski), enacts the scene shifts and occasionally makes an appearance within the tales. A small ensemble of musicians, all cloaked in appropriate Poe (think Hot

JUSTIN CHISHAM
A&E EDITOR

★★★★

Topic) regalia, accompany the cast. The initial Taylor-centric coincidence, coupled with the delightful pop-up-ghost-house ambience of the set, promised a memorable production.

As I walked out after the show, I made a beeline for the table labeled "Buy the CD." This is one of the most creative musicals I have seen, and easily one of the most entertaining.

This is one of the most creative musicals I have seen, and easily one of the most entertaining.

One may expect a musical based on Poe to be melancholy and self-involved, much like the troubled author himself. Dismiss this thought. The melancholy was superbly underscored by jaunty tunes and moments of light-hearted enjoyment. "The Pit and the Pendulum" is reimagined as macabre amusement, "The Cask of Amontillado" plays like sketch comedy, and "The Masque of the Red Death" is

summarized in upbeat jovial tunes. However, "Cabaret Poe" does not become too weightless, a common pitfall of musical theatre. Asaykwee sings a moving version of "Annabel Lee," Barber recounts "The Tell-Tale Heart" like a haunting ghost story, and Stone presents "The Raven" with skin-crawling fervor.

Asaykwee and cast grant Poe his rightful credit, but never become too attached to his malaise. This is where the true genius of "Cabaret Poe" resides. It takes the best of Edgar Allen Poe, but replaces his shortcomings with ironic humor. Do not miss this masterful piece of local theatre.

For more information, visit cabaretpoe.com or visit their Facebook page. Tickets are \$15 for students and \$20 for adults. It is recommended for ages 10 and up. Dates and times vary, but many performances are scheduled during Halloween weekend. How appropriate.

Review: The Social Network

"The Social Network," also known as the "Facebook movie," was released a few weeks ago to rave critical reviews and solid box office numbers, with many already saying that it's a lock for several Academy Award nominations (including Best Picture). But is it really any good? Is the "Facebook movie" worth your time?

In a word, yes. The movie is worth seeing because "The Social Network" isn't really about Facebook. It's about the people who created Facebook. And anchoring all of these people is Mark Zuckerberg, played by Jesse Eisenberg in the film. Eisenberg completely sheds his Michael Cera-esque persona in this movie and becomes a truly unique character whose motivations of fame and prestige send him to unimaginable heights.

He's also a fairly unlikable character, and the film makes no apologies for this. In fact, there aren't many likable characters in the film. The only character who is fairly sympathetic is Eduardo Saverin, one of the co-founders of Facebook and Zuckerberg's best friend. Saverin is played by Andrew Garfield, who creates a relatable character for the audience.

However, in terms of acting, Justin Timberlake (yes, you read that correctly) is the big surprise. Timberlake plays Sean Parker, the founder of Napster who winds up becoming heavily involved in the marketing and

BRADY SCHAAR
CONTRIBUTOR

★★★★

popularity of Facebook. Timberlake does a great job as the charismatic and smooth Parker, who works his way into Facebook with talk of keeping it "cool" and making it worth a billion dollars. Timberlake isn't extraordinary, but he is convincing in his performance, and that in itself is an accomplishment.

Of particular note for this film is Aaron Sorkin's screenplay, a veritable

I expect to hear this film's name a lot when the Oscar nominations are released, and they'll be well deserved.

marathon of fast-paced and razor-sharp dialogue that will have your head spinning on multiple occasions.

The opening scene of the film, in which Zuckerberg and his girlfriend Erica have a conversation in a bar, is one of the fastest, sharpest dialogue exchanges I've heard in a movie. The film also uses a framing device which shows Zuckerberg testifying in two separate depositions involving different lawsuits regarding Facebook. The time jumps are brilliantly written by Sorkin, who sometimes interweaves

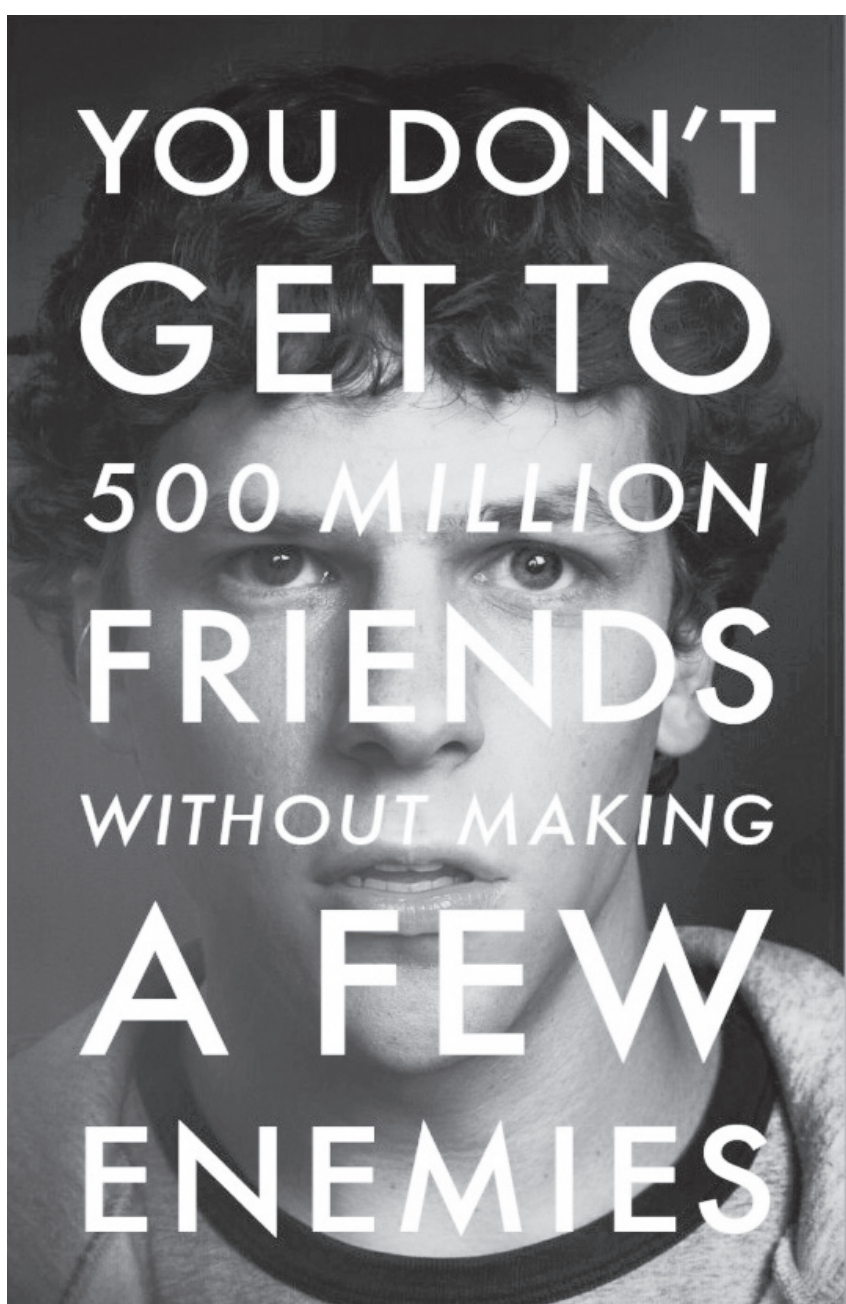
the dialogue between the past and the present.

Also of note in this film is the soundtrack, composed by Trent Reznor (the founder of Nine Inch Nails) and Atticus Ross. The score is both synth-heavy and electronics-heavy, but it works well to enhance the tech feel of the film. However, the score is surprisingly dark, with a few meditative piano solos that can be quite melancholy and brooding. This enhances the atmosphere of the film, and it's a meaningful accomplishment.

Everything comes together under the hand of the film's very capable director David Fincher (of *Se7en*, *Fight Club*, and *Benjamin Button* fame). His guidance mixes a lot of darkness, finesse, and nuance. It's much more restrained than previous Fincher films, but that's a good thing in this case. Fincher's restraint allows "The Social Network" to take on a much more realistic feeling than his previous films.

With great acting, writing, directing and music, "The Social Network" really hits it out of the park. It's not being overhyped by the critics. The film is well worth your time and money. I expect to hear this film's name a lot when the Oscar nominations are released, and they'll be well deserved.

"The Social Network" is one of the best films of the year, right up there with "Inception" and "Toy Story 3."



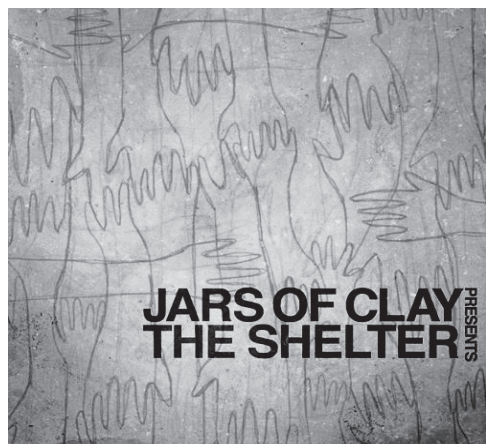
Review: Jars of Clay

RACHEL KIELY
OPINIONS EDITOR

★★★★☆

creative quartet's repertoire.

The name of the album stems from old Irish words: "In the shelter of each other, the people live." Eleven songs reinforce a message of community among the church. The album is a collaborative work in itself: Christian musical greats such as TobyMac, Brandon Heath, David Crowder and others contribute both voices and songwriting prowess. Furthering the metaphor, the songs were written to be sung aloud, with others. Songs such as "We Will Follow" and "Lay it Down" combine singable melodies with repeti-



tive lyrics to fit in a church environment—a new territory for the band.

The first track, "Small Rebellions," showcases the ever-increasing musical maturity of the band with a much fuller sound. "We Will Follow" is reminiscent of a Sufjan Stevens concoction. A haunting and inspiring melody line backed by a harmonious chorus permeate the whole song.

The genius combination of Mac Powell, Derek Webb and Burlap to Cashmere produce a bag of musical fun in "Eyes Wide Open." Counter-melodies intermixed with hand clapping move the sound into the realm of swaying Baptists.

The band slows the pace with the title track "Shelter." In contrast to their album "Good Monsters," which had a darker tone and was littered with soul-searching questions, "Shelter" reveals a hopeful message of grace and redemption with uplifting melodies.

In the meat of the album, "Love Will Find Us" is a tasty musical treat for those waiting long enough to hear it. The slow loping song is set in a minor key, but switches back and forth in the chorus for a continuous musical surprise, a rarity in Christian music and borderline edgy for the genre.

Overall, the album shows a musical maturity as well as a spiritual one. Jars of Clay remains an elite Christian band comparable in both the secular and Christian music stream. For anyone looking for an album entrenched in creativity, collaboration, and a message of community, give this one a listen.

LOCAL EVENTS

Clowes Memorial Hall is shooting for spectacle with America's Got Talent Live! The show will feature the top 10 performers from this season. Acts include young singers, opera performers, blacklight dance troupes, extreme bicyclists, magicians and even Jerry Springer as the host.

For more information, visit www.cloweshall.org.

If you are feeling the onset of Christmas, you may enjoy the Beef and Boards Dinner Theatre presentation of *White Christmas*. Based on the 1954 film of the same name, it follows a group of performers as they fall into holiday hijinks. If you are dreaming of a white Christmas in late October, this is the show for you.

For more information, visit www.beefandboards.com.

Comedian Brian Regan is coming to the Murat Theatre and promises a night of observational humor. "His clean, off-center humor has been praised by critics and contemporaries alike. His work has been applauded by such sources as Comedy Central, The Onion and the Wall Street Journal."

For more information, visit www.eventful.com.



Be sure to catch Margot and the Nuclear So and So's tonight at 8 p.m. in the student union. This local Indiana band has received widespread fame from appearances on late-night shows and was named one of the best unsigned artists of 2005. IFC promises this will be a concert to remember. Tickets are \$7 at the door and can also be purchased today in the DC.

The Taylor Buzzwords

BY ANNIE NELSON {CONTRIBUTOR}



Image by Kelly Werner

We hear the terms “global engagement” and “intentional community” constantly at Taylor, but what are we really por-
traying through these two ideas? The term global engagement means exactly what it says: being engaged globally, meaning . . . the world. Taylor is great with sending groups to other countries, providing Bible translations and being engaged “globally.” However, since when does “global engagement” disregard community in our own backyards? Last time I checked, the world includes Upland. We get involved as a community, once a year, because it’s required. Great. We help out with Red Barn, Bassycs and youth groups. Awesome, that needs to be done. However, where is the rest of the engagement?

We are tearing down houses and becoming more exclusive. We are taking away from the economics of the com-

munity. Not only that, but we are making our community so “intentional” that we are completely ignoring the community around us. Where is Christ in that? We go all the way to Marion to get simple groceries that we could get at the local grocery store. If we go to the one that is actually in Upland, we are keeping the dollar in the community and building up the community we live in. We spend more time trash talking and making fun of the people who serve this community than we do getting to know their stories. And yet, we are so “globally engaged.”

Then we come to this whole idea of intentional community. Taylor has a community, and a good one at that, but our community is not as great as we make it sound for promotions. There is no such thing as a perfect community, but we should be striving for one. In seeking an intentional community, we should be challenging each other. We should not be afraid to step on each other’s toes. We should push each other to be better.

Not too long ago, I had a conversation about some stu-

dents who got kicked out for drinking and driving. Yes, they were in the wrong for what they were doing, but if we are living in this “intentional” community, can we also take some of the blame? Think about it this way: how many times have you watched someone in Taylor’s community bring danger to themselves and said nothing? How many times have you stepped in and actually been a brother or sister in Christ? So often, we either stand by and say nothing, or we take it straight to an authority. If the person is in danger, there is nothing wrong with taking it to an authority, but if it is taken to an authority before actually talking to the person, it is not the kind of intentional community we are striving for.

I am not trashing Taylor University. It is my home, and it is my school. I do take pride in it, I do love it, and that is why I am calling it out. I am calling everyone (including myself) to really look into what we are standing for. And if you are reading this, thinking, “Hey, that’s not me!” remember that you are just as much to blame. We are a body, and we work as a body. We all take the blame. We call ourselves Christians, we are called out and we are set apart from this world. Well, let’s prove it. Let’s prove it to the world, to Upland and then to our actual Taylor community. It’s time to step up and step out of our comfort zones.

How many times have you watched someone in Taylor’s community bring danger to themselves and said nothing?

Mailbox



Finally, someone who understands what love is! Thankfully, Brian Wong’s article about love was spot-on. Soon after I began dating the amazing woman whom I now call my wife, we took a walk around the loop as I sincerely told her for the first time that I loved her. She promptly asked me, “What does that mean?” I wish I had a tape recorder running, but I think I said something like, “It means that I am committed to making this relationship work, no matter what happens. It means that, despite my changing emotional feelings for you, I will still care for you and want what’s best for you. It means that I want to love you like God loves me, even if I’ll never be able to do it perfectly.”

Now, a year and a half later and four months after my wedding, I can tell you that I had no idea what I was in for. Truly loving another person is both a difficult chore and a wonderful blessing, but if you tie the act of loving to your giddy emotional state, you are guaranteed to be let down hard. When you are in the midst of a huge fight, do you explode in anger, or do you give up your position and humbly seek reconciliation, no matter how long it takes? When your “other” is being a crab, do you escape into your hobby, or do you continue to pour out undeserved affection and acts of service for them? Truly, it would be disaster if we all “followed our feelings.” If I’ve learned so much about love in only four months, I can’t imagine what I’ll learn in the next 30, 40 or 50 years. True love entails a lifelong commitment, so, God willing, we’ll still be here decades from now, learning more about God’s love every day.

-Jesse Denardo

Send letters to the editor at rachel_kiely@tayloru.edu by 3 p.m. Wednesday. They should be no longer than 400 words. Due to volume, we cannot print all opinions articles that we receive. Please keep your opinions as concise as possible. The Echo reserves the right to edit for length and content.

LETHAL LYRICS

THE PLIGHT OF MODERN DAY WORSHIP MUSIC

We talk frequently about intentionality here at Taylor: intentional community, studying and participation, among others. Why is intentional worship not stressed and discussed just as often? Jeremy Weber asks a similar question. He recently published an article in a Wheaton publication called “How Then Should We Worship?” that touches on very similar points, so let’s look at this question.

Much of our current worship music is self-centered and emotion-based. The music is written to elicit a very specific response, but my first question is, when we “respond” to the music with tears and raised hands are we doing it because of the words or because the music makes us feel a certain way?

I have wrestled with this on a very personal basis: I used to peep out of my eyes during worship, and if I didn’t “feel” like crying or raising my hands, or even worse—if I happened to yawn in the middle of a worship song—I was convinced that I was not a good Christian, and I suffered deeply because of this. I caution that you should be aware of what you’re singing. What do the words mean at that time in your life? Decipher this on a personal level—ignore what others are doing and stop trying to impress and compete.

Sadly, that leads us to yet another problem. When people begin to focus on the words of worship music, if they are truly honest, they will find that they are worshipping themselves and even at times proclaiming theologically inaccurate sentiments. Some argue that we need to look at context or overall themes of a song. That may be, but if we are meant to be intentional in community—living,

BRITTANY UNRUH
CONTRIBUTOR

speaking, taking communion—why would singing a song to the Creator of the universe be an exception?

I find selfish and sloppy worship music an abomination and an insult to the greatness of God. I wonder why people are so quick to justify music instead of taking a critical look and changing it. I have limitless examples of selfish, inaccurate worship, and some of those lyrics are found in our very own chapel services:

I am begging for lyrics that are inspired and are about the constancy and goodness of God.

“I won’t be afraid/ I will face the wind/ I will embrace the flame.” First of all, what does this even mean, second of all, I will be afraid. I will not “face the wind” or “embrace the flame.” I can do nothing by my own power. Some may argue that it’s implied that it is by God’s power, but that’s sloppiness. We should be precise and meticulous in what we offer the Lord. Also, “My sacrifice is not what You can give/ But what I alone can give to You.” Are we serious with this statement? I thought it was all about Christ’s sacrifice and what he did for us.

Overall, I am tired of God being implied in our statements such as, “Give us clean hands.” Too much self-elevating

worship has more “I’s” than anything about God and says all the wonderful things we do and will accomplish.

Some of the songs we sing don’t really mean anything at all such as “Let the Winds Blow.” I am begging for lyrics that are inspired and are about the constancy and goodness of God, things we fall short of and songs that admit how short we fall! I am begging for our worship to be intentional and for us to examine ourselves before we worship just as we do before we take communion. I want meaning.

THE AIRBAND HANGOVER

BY JONATHAN HAUSLER {CONTRIBUTOR}

The blinding lights. The spectacular choreography. The screaming fans. The tough competition. The celebration of winning. These are the things that people love about Airband. These are the things that make Airband one of the best traditions at Taylor.

Sadly, Airband is over. Now we will have to wait another year to see the lip-syncing madness. Now we will have to wade through the effects that Airband leaves on its participants and biggest fans. After impressive shows like Wavin’ Flag, Battle of the Boy Bands, Hey Pachuco, and Intergalactic, everyone (including me) is already craving more.

This is where the Airband hangover comes in. Since Airband ends so suddenly and is a total blast for the performers, there are undoubtedly going to be aftereffects. As I walk down my wing, I hear the occasional Backstreet Boys song or the extremely catchy flag song. YouTube hits escalate, and it has become a battle for the most views with Wavin’ Flag currently in the lead. (You can help support your favorite act by joining in on the YouTube madness and giving them a few more much-needed views.)

Even though Airband is over, its effects haven’t faded. Since there are no more practices, the performers suddenly find

themselves with a lot more free time at night, which allows students to actually get their homework done. No longer can you use Airband practice as an excuse to get out of everything. Now it is harder to say “no” instead of “yes” all the time. Soon, life gets back to normal and everyone starts to forget about Airband.

Yes, the performances were memorable (Battle of the Boy Bands, especially), but you have more important stuff to think about now, like who you are going to take on the upcoming pick-a-date, and how late can you put your homework off.

But then come the withdrawals. Random outbursts of un-choreographed dance moves become a common occurrence. Singing and humming of “Oh, oh, oh, oh, oh” can be heard almost everywhere. I have even seen some surviving glowsticks around campus. All of these things point to the fact that people want more Airband. But regrettably, it only comes around once a year (sad face).

This hangover isn’t necessarily a bad thing, though. It’s good to remember the glory of Airband and to remember

your experience in it. Just don’t get addicted. Airband isn’t everything, but it is one of the best events of the year, and it’s definitely something you don’t want to miss. Don’t get so hungover with it that you can’t do anything else or think about anything else.

So what can you do to help get rid of the Airband hangover? First off, busy yourself with other activities such as midnight bosco stick runs and Polar Pop trips. Sport your Airband T-shirt as often as possible. Listen to the Airband songs until you get sick of them and can listen to them no more. Watch the Airband commercials until you can quote them word for word. Tell all your friends and family about it and get them to watch your favorite act. Get a group together and audition for MyGen.

Then, once you’ve done all that, sit down with people from your wing and start planning for next year’s Airband. You can never start too early!

*As I walk down my wing,
I hear the occasional
Backstreet Boys song or
the extremely catchy flag
song.*

