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The Student Movement Volume 106 Issue 14: Climb Every Mountain, Tube Every Hill

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Climb Every Mountain, Tube Every Hill



Photo by Darren Heslop

Humans

HUMANS

Getting to Know AU's New Photography Professor Dan Weber

Interviewed by: Karena Lee [02.18.22](#)



Photo by Dan Weber

Could you tell me a little bit about your background?

I was born in Boston, and then, when I was about two and a half, my parents moved us here, and I lived here basically until I was 23. I was a student missionary for two years in Iceland. I met my wife there. She was a student missionary from the

Atlantic Union College. When you're the only two Americans on an island, guess what happens?

Coming back here was a thirty-year journey, because I graduated from here in '91. I went to California for 11 years, I went to Maryland for 19 years, and then, I came back here exactly thirty years after I first graduated, to come and teach.

How did you get into photography?

I did not know what to take when I was going to go to college. I knew I was probably going to come to Andrews. I have a twin brother who knew he wanted to study business, and all my other friends had an idea of what they wanted to study. I had no idea.

I had to come that summer before school started in 1986. My cousin was living with us, and he was in the PT program and had to take a class in the summer. He asked, "Can you drive me to drop me off?" And I said, "Sure." So I dropped him off, and I was walking around the student center, and they had a display up for a program. It was called Media Technology.

At that time, the College of Technology was new, and they had photography, radio, audio, and music. I am a child of MTV; I grew up on MTV. My dad had one of those big ten-foot satellite dishes in his house. For me, those early music videos, which we all look at now and laugh, were the start of an art form. I thought they were the coolest things. When music videos came out and I started watching films, I was drawn to that medium. And I'm thinking, "Oh, I can actually go to school and study this. This is cool." So I signed up.

Then they made a mistake. You could do a media technology major or a photography major, but they put me down as photography. I went to my advisor at the time and I said, "Hey, they made a mistake." He goes, "The first year you take the same classes anyway. Just take the classes and then we'll switch it afterward." I took my first photography class, and I fell in love with photography.

I learned how I could take a camera, capture experiences, and share it with other people, and I've been blessed with many opportunities. I've traveled to more than 120 countries on assignment. What's cooler than getting paid to go have an adventure, experience something, capture it, come back, and share it with people?

You worked for the NAD in Maryland. Were you also working for the Adventist church when you were living in California?

No, I graduated here in '91, and the recession hit here. There was no work and I

couldn't find a job. I was getting married, and I was freaking out. Dave Sherwin, a professor of mine, said, "Hey, I know a photographer in California. Why don't you call him and see if he's got work?" I called the guy up the day I graduated, and said, "Hey, if I come out, can I talk to you about a job?" He said, "Oh, yeah, sure." A week later, I showed up at his door, and he's like, "I was just being nice. I never thought you'd come." And I said, "I need a job. What am I gonna do?" He said, "I don't have any work. But here's a list of photographers."

I called, and the last one hired me. I worked for him for a couple of months, and then, the recession hit there too, and the work dried up. I ended up working for myself doing freelance. One of my clients, a large corporation, took me to lunch one day. I was working on a project with them, and they said, "We want you to come work for us." I went, "Why?" And they said, "We like your work. But we also know you're a really good person, too. We like your ethics and your values." And I said, "I'm an Adventist. We don't work on weekends." And they said, "Yeah, that's one of the reasons we like you because we know that." I'm like, "Okay, cool." And I worked for them for five years. That was a real growing experience, which got me into video. I learned about corporate work. I got to travel throughout the United States, work on cool assignments, and meet good people.

Out of the blue in 2002, the General Conference called again. Someone contacted me and said, "Hey, you ought to apply for this." I actually laughed at the person on the phone. They worked for the church, and I never wanted to work for the church. My father-in-law was a pastor, and I saw his struggles, but you do what God wants you to do, and you don't make it about yourself; you make it about Him. He provided a unique opportunity for me, so I was at the General Conference for ten years, and then nine years in the North American Division. I did things backward because most people work their way up and end up at the General Conference. I started there and worked my way down.

Is the church the reason you got to go to all those countries?

I went to work at the beginnings of what we call now the Hope channel, which is a broadcast. I was the producer for the church's first news program. I was producing TV shows, and then, that show went away, and I was the senior producer of the network, but I didn't like being in a studio. I love being out in the field, meeting people, and experiencing cultures. The church was creating a new job where they wanted someone to produce documentary films for them—document short mission stories. I applied and I got the job, so I did that for eight years.

Could you share one of the stories?

One of the stories that really touched me was actually a documentary that I produced. I was going to China, and while I was on the plane getting ready to fly to China, someone emailed me and said, "Hey, there's a story here you need to go get." By the time I got to Shanghai, we were able to line up to go get this story.

It was an eighteen-year-old girl who was living in a leper colony. She was volunteering her time to live among the lepers, work with them, help them, and I got to go film it. That was such a cool experience to see such a meek, simple person, who was just putting her life out there for God.

I titled the story, "Another Communion," because I filmed a scene where this guy takes a red bowl like we would use in the foot-washing service, and he's washing this guy's feet. The leprosy sores are all over his foot. He's gonna lose his leg. But with his bare hands, he's washing this guy's feet and cleaning the wounds. In my mind, that was the ultimate act of humility. To put yourself out there for the betterment of someone else. To be able to capture those types of stories was just a unique experience.

What are you most looking forward to at Andrews? What kind of things do you want to impart to your students?

I really like connecting with my students and I try to share my experiences with them. We've got a good balance in our department of people that are academically trained to teach theory, and I'm on the other side. I've got thirty years of real-world experience. I'm going to share from my practical experience what I've learned, and hopefully, they can learn from that. I want the students that come out of here to graduate and be able to go out in the real world and make a difference, to be impactful, in their corner of the world.

Before we close, is there anything else you would like to say?

I'm excited about being at Andrews. I'm passionate about Andrews. I know Andrews isn't perfect. No place is perfect. I think what's great about Andrews is it is very reflective of the church, not just the global church, but the church in North America. We're a diverse church, and this campus is very diverse, not just ethnically or culturally, but also in ideology. The fact that you can actually sit and have conversations with someone who may feel differently than you, or be in a different place than you allows us to learn from each other. That really excites me because we're in a world right now where we don't do that. The main thing is to be aware of where your sources of information are coming from and find a way to

actually have viable conversations with people who may disagree with you because that's how we learn from each other.

HUMANS

Interview with BSCF President Khaylee Sands

Interviewed by: Timmy Duado [02.18.22](#)



Photo by Khaylee Sands

This week, I had the opportunity to sit down with Khaylee Sands (junior, pre-physical therapy), President of the Andrews Black Student Christian Forum (BSCF), as she shared her experience as the BSCF president and what being Black means to her.

What are some of BSCF's goals and what things are they doing on campus?

BSCF is for the Black students here on campus. Our main priority is the cultivation of our Black community. We aim to provide a safe space and social support within our club. Some of our other primary goals are to showcase our culture through the use of education and worship. In doing so, we are able to highlight the beauty within the Black community. Some of our recurring events on campus are Impact Vespers in University Towers every Friday evening and fun, but informative short courses during assembly time.

What is your role as President, and what are some of your future plans for this year?

My role as President is overseeing everything within the club, making sure everything runs smoothly, and that each sector has what it needs to succeed. I ensure that all of my VPs and their respective teams, as well as our other club officers, are supported with their projects, whether it be religious, educational, or social. I also serve on the Black History Month committee. There, I attend meetings and serve as a spokesperson for our club.

For the remainder of the year, we are trying to finish out Black History Month strong. We have our Black Like Me Comedy Slam, our banquet, and some other events to end out Black History Month. We also have some events centered around Women's History Month starting in March, and some other exciting things to end out the year, but no spoilers, so stay tuned.

What are some of your favorite memories of being part of BSCF?

Some of my favorite memories are from things that we do every year, but I really can't compare them. I can give you my top 5.

1. The Dating Game during my freshman year was really fun. It is essentially a game that BSCF puts on to play matchmaker here on campus.
2. Black Out in 2020. This event was put on by the social vice president at the time, Belissa Etienne. Black Out is a cultural showcase that had a 90's/early 2000's theme and had different talent showcases and performances centered around that

theme. They had the event in all black and had neon lights to give it a really cool vibe.

3. The Tiny Desk concert this year was also one of my favorites. It highlighted people you don't really see in the forefront that often, including underrated artists here on campus, so that was really cool.

4. Caribbean Impact every year is definitely a favorite of mine. I feel like I might be a little bit biased since I'm part of the Caribbean, but it's a great opportunity to worship and uplift Caribbean culture at the same time. But every Black History Month impact is a top 10 favorite for me.

5. My last one is probably our last banquet in 2020. I love the banquet because it's a time for all of our Black kings and queens to step out, dress up, and do something nice while having fun together.

What does being Black mean to you?

For me, there's a certain confidence that comes with being Black. It's about being beautiful on the inside and out. It goes beyond our skin color and extends to our culture, personality, intelligence, and everything, it's all-encompassing. Exuding Black excellence is an important factor about being Black. We are smart as a people, have a wonderful sense of loyalty, and set the pace, tone, and standard. Whether it's fashion, music, or trends, we make waves.

HUMANS

Military to Music: Interview with Marcus Carter

Interviewed by: Grace No 02.18.22



Photo by Marcus Carter

Marcus Carter currently works as an Office Manager at the Andrews Department of Music. After an undoubtedly challenging two decades of life in the military where he faced many dangers, he now enjoys connecting with faculty and students over music. From being in multiple rock bands to having studied music education at Andrews, he has had a long interest in music. His dedication to students and passion for music remains a large inspiration for AU students and staff.

Where does your passion for music come from?

I have no idea. It just happened. Neither my parents nor my siblings have any interest in music.

Did you always plan to pursue music in your life?

I took an early interest in music. My voice changed early (I was 11 years old) so I became the only Bass in the 5th/6th grade choir of 1973. Something led me to form a Christian rock band in 1976 (before Christian rock was cool) and we went semi-professional from 1980-1986. After 22 years in the military, I made my living as a professional musician in a classic rock band from 2006-2018.

What do you plan to do with your music major in the future?

I had planned on teaching music, but my plans changed when I was hired as the Office Manager for the Andrews Department of Music.

Why did you decide to come to Andrews?

When I retired, I had some G.I. Bill money that I hadn't used yet, so I came here to get a degree in Music Education because Andrews has a reputation (even among secular circles) as having both an outstanding music program and an outstanding education program. Also, I wanted to attend a Christian university.

What was your military experience like, and were there any chances to play music while in the military?

As you would expect, there were some challenges. I spent a lot of time away from home and missed a lot of birthdays and such, but thank God my wife and kids were very supportive and knew that what I was doing was important. I was involved in two different wars and was deployed to hostile fire zones for probably 25% of my career. Of my 22 years in active military service, I spent four years on the Army wrestling team and four years directing the Infantry Chorus at Fort Benning, Georgia.

What was your favorite part of being a music major at Andrews?

Getting to know the people (both students and faculty) was my favorite part. This is why, when I was offered the job at the Music Department, I didn't hesitate at all. I love the people here and consider them part of my extended family. Many of the current students actually call me Dad when they come to my office.

Arts & Entertainment

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Black Entertainers Who Inspire Me

Hannah Cruse 02.18.22



Photo by Public Domain

Times have been hard during these pandemic years, but that has not stopped the sports and entertainment industry from pushing forward and giving us quality content from incredibly talented and inspiring people. During this Black History Month, I would like to list 5 people that I think have impacted the world recently and inspire me.

1. Megan Thee Stallion is a worldwide phenomenon who has songs that have been streamed by the millions on [Spotify](#), and during all this time, she was

able to finish her college degree, a bachelor of science in health administration from Texas Southern University. She plans to use her degree by opening an assisted living facility, supported by her [rapping career](#). I love that even though she really didn't need to go to college, she finished her undergraduate studies and still aims at using it. It emphasizes how important education is, and it motivates me to not drop out of school, even though we all know we've thought about it more than once.

2. Silk Sonic and the genius that is Anderson .Paak have broken into the music scene to give us that old school Motown and funk vibes, and it's [exquisite](#). This one is a bit personal to me because it makes me so happy to see other mixed Koreans on top of their game in entertainment; it makes me feel like anything is possible for me as well. Also his music slaps so hard that it will leave a handprint for centuries.

3. Directing a movie is a hard enough feat in itself, but Jeymes Samuel went above and beyond by not only directing, but also composing most of the original [soundtrack](#) to his debut film, "The Harder They Fall." I would have never thought that reggae and western movies would work well together, but Samuel convinced me that they were a good pair. How he got Netflix to fund his first feature film is beyond me, but I think it was a great investment. His love of cinema and music radiates in every scene; this film is hopefully the start of many more amazing projects from him in the future.

4. Mental health is becoming more normalized to talk about in public circles and Naomi Osaka decided to put herself first when she decided not to attend the press conferences during the French Open last year. She expressed that she has been suffering from depression ever since her win over Serena Williams in the US Open in 2018. Even though she eventually had to pay a \$15000 fine for her decision, it sparked a larger conversation on the importance of taking time off for [self care](#). Your mental health matters, even if corporate entities might not believe it.

5. When Lil Nas X came out with "Old Town Road" I thought that we were seeing another one hit wonder, but he has proved me wrong. I may not be a huge fan of his music, but the singular fact that he is a queer artist making it in a genre that has been dominated by traditional masculinity is impressive and inspiring. He hopes that his presence will usher in more [queer rappers](#), and I hope the same.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

In the Words of AU: Why Black Art is Important

Solana Campbell 02.18.22



Photo by russn (Unsplash)

This week, I interviewed your fellow classmates, many of whom are artists themselves, on why they think Black art is important to our world and society. The answers range from the importance of infusing art with culture and the pain of past experiences to the factual truth: so much of our music, fashion, paintings, and more wouldn't exist without the involvement of Black artists. Use this moment to take in their carefully chosen words and spend some time appreciating Black art today.

I think Black art is unique in the way that it represents so much! Black artists create art that represents and expresses so much emotion from pain to freedom, joy, redemption, and beauty. They bring their experiences along with their art; stories that others cannot tell. So much art would not exist without Black people. Black is the blueprint! Their influence is in everything! I believe that diversity is so important to art because all should be able to access the beauty that Black creators

have brought to this world. Without the unique perspective that Black artists bring to the table, the world would be pretty dull.

Julaine Phillips (sophomore, medical laboratory sciences)

To me, art is a form of communication; it's a way to reach people that you may never see, that you may never know and still inspire them. What I love about art is that through it others can connect to my culture, Black culture, not just on a mental level but in a way that resonates with their souls.

Keith Bullard (senior, graphic design)

Whether or not we are aware of it, artists of every ethnicity sing from a space, an experience that is personal to us. In creating from this space, we cannot help but infuse our culture into our art; it is who we are. As a Black, Bahamian artist, I have the chance to invite others into my world through the stories I tell; a world that is unique to me. I can use language and expressions that are true to my Black, West Indian background, while still creating art that resonates with so many outside of this sphere. This is a privilege because it means that as a Black woman, I have a voice and my art makes room for me to be heard.

Evin-Nazya Musgrove (senior, psychology)

I think the Black community creates the most beautiful art out of our experiences. Pain can sometimes be the greatest motivation and inspiration. I have never looked at a Black artist's work and not felt a connection. Our work never leaves me blank or emotionless; it inspires me and draws me in. I remember growing up, when I would visit my grandma, I would see pieces of Egyptian art all around her house. I always loved how our people were represented. We were royalty and something about that made me feel special. I think over time the world has taught our people to think less of themselves. But our work, our creativity, and our individuality has proven us to be exceptionally talented.

Sarah Coleman (sophomore, nursing)

Just like every different culture in the world, they all bring a different perspective. Black culture brings color and a unique spice that others try to duplicate but never replicate. Black artists have been the movers and shakers of the art world, and it has threatened others for generations. A lot of the music we enjoy today would not exist without Black people. I mean, America as we know it would not exist without Black people. As a Black artist myself it is my job to make sure people like me are seen. I want Black people to infiltrate the upper rooms and to sit at the tables with the CEO, or even be the CEO. They love to steal our art, but think about how much

more beautiful the world would be if everyone worked together and collaborated.

Reyna Samms (senior, photography)

I think that Black art is important to the world, just like I think all art is important. I appreciate the story that Black art tells us today. Music communicates different experiences, and when you listen to Black art you're listening to a story unique from others. You're listening to a group of people who overcame all the negativity thrown at them, and became something great.

Eli Wilson (freshman, business)

Maya Angelou, Bob Marley, Aaron Douglas, and Spike Lee are just a few of the plethora of iconic Black creatives that shaped not only Black cultural art but art as we know it today.

Through music, poetry, paintings, and film, Black creatives have demonstrated how to turn pain to power, struggle to success, and hardship to happiness. To the contributors recognized and unnoticed we thank you. Without you, art forms such as Rock n' Roll, Jazz, Rhythm and Blues and forms of abstract expressionism, to name a few, would not be around today.

Matthew Jackson (senior, finance)

Black artists bring their own unique way of doing things. What I mean is that Black artists that tend to brainstorm and use their own ideas instead of leaning on the ideas of other people, usually stand out the most. For example, back in the 90s Tupac was a big influencer in both fashion and music; without Tupac I believe people wouldn't have been inspired to dress in a certain style that they found appealing. I believe as a Black artist I help inspire others or give them advice when it comes to fashion. As a fashion influencer, it isn't easy giving advice because everyone may not share the same aesthetic. When I say "aesthetic" I mean the way people put their clothes together. When I put clothes together, I style my clothes differently than most people. I personally like standing out when it comes to styling clothes. I want to leave people thinking, "I've never seen someone style clothes like that," or, "The way he wears his clothes is unique or different."

Nehemiah Barthelemy (sophomore, pre-physical therapy)

Black art is important because it has the ability to display the unique and abstract parts of our culture. It depicts our struggles, our creativity, and the love we have to

give all at once. One example of an art form that would not exist without Black creatives is abstract expressionism and realism. This type of art is an important part of art culture and communities today, which illustrates how much influence Black art has on culture as a whole.

Jennifer Jean (sophomore, medical laboratory sciences)

I think the first thing to note is how much variety there is within Black art. I personally paint and draw, but there are so many other forms of art to explore and it's important to do so. Within music alone, genres like R&B, soul, hip hop, and rock & roll were all shaped by Black artists. The Black diaspora itself has so many different distinct traditions and influences. The perspective of a Black person living in South America can be so different from the perspective of a Black person living in North America, the Caribbean, the U.K., or Africa. Being able to share stories and experiences through visual and other mediums of art creates a world where we can understand each other better. It's also important to note just how much Black art has impacted the rest of the world. I remember reading something a while ago that said that pop culture is Black art. Growing up this was something I understood without seeing it in writing. Streetwear, hip hop, AAVE, and so much more are used every day for marketing and design by companies, artists, and influencers alike. It's so apparent, especially on social media. Black art spreads so quickly now, and sometimes gets misconstrued to benefit others. I think sharing Black art is important, but I think giving credit when due is important, and not silencing the voices of Black artists is even more important. In summary, Black art has been a very powerful tool for our communities to express ourselves, individually and as a group. It shapes stories and goals and feelings and I love that. I think that our art has become so influential because of the fact that we exist in so many different cultural communities. I love being a Black artist and helping other Black artists spread their work, because that means I'm sharing perspectives of the past, present, and the future as well.

Ciera Phillpotts (senior, psychology)

We are living in a time when Black artists and creatives have the opportunity to control the narrative of their culture and how it's represented to mainstream society. This allows for Black creatives to create, circulate and publish their unique and untold stories that authentically exhibit their culture, character and beliefs.

Qualyn Robinson (senior, digital communications)

The thought of a world without Black art is to me a world without inspiration, excellence, and influence. From our great music to fine arts, the contribution that

African Americans have made to this world has truly made it a world of greatness and excellence. To me, different views bring different perspectives which create chances to reach new horizons. The diversity in art made in part by amazing Black artists has now created a world where excellence blossoms and continues to expand.

Jonathan Lutterodt (freshman, nursing)

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

“Know Your Roots” by Marcel Mattox

Interviewed by: Kaela McFadden [02.18.22](#)



Photo by Marcel Mattox

Marcel Mattox (sophomore, social work) speaks about one of his works of art.

What is this piece about?

This piece is about knowing our roots. It's about knowing that not all of our history is rooted in trauma. In the media I feel like it's easy to focus sometimes on all of the bad things happening to Black communities. In this piece, I wanted to emphasize that those bad things do not define us. Racism and discrimination happens to us, but our roots have never stemmed from that. Our roots are stemmed in strength, resilience, some darn good music, and ultimately greatness. We have a narrative, and with this piece I wanted it to be focused on the honestly awesome legacy we are rooted in, not the things that have happened to us.

What was your inspiration for “Know Your Roots”?

Honestly my dad. He's recently gotten into Ancestry.com where you can find relatives and find out more of your history. He always emphasizes how important our roots are; how important it is to know what you're rooted in.

Do you have a favorite element in this art piece?

My favorite element is the rooted crown, ultimately the main focal point of this piece. It sits on top of the head, rooted in it, and emits a glow on top of it.

How long did it take you to put together “Know Your Roots”? What was your thought process going into it?

This piece took about two hours. My first priority in this piece was for it to be about Black joy. I didn't want it to focus on the struggles and discrimination. Black History Month often tends to be used to bring attention to those issues, and often overshadows some of the awesomeness of being Black. We have a glowing legacy—hence the crown shining in this piece—and I honestly believe we're rooted in greatness.

As a black artist and creator, what does Black History Month mean to you? How does it affect you and your artwork?

For me, Black History Month is for celebration and appreciation for the unique style we bring. As an artist, I take pride in all the things Black creatives bring to the table. We make dope music, movies, and books, and I hope to add to that amazing art.

What is the inspiration for your art style?

I've always been a fan of simple art styles such as cartoons or graphic novels and how, even in that simplicity, they can communicate complex and still meaningful messages.

How long have you been drawing?

I've been drawing for as long as I can remember. As long as a crayon or anything with marking capabilities was in reach, so was a drawing. I've been illustrating for the newspaper for about a semester, and it's been really fun so far.

Where can people go to see your work?

You can see the rest of my work on my Instagram [@smallspark](https://www.instagram.com/smallspark)

News

Embracing the New Normal

Jenae Rogers [02.18.22](#)



Photo by L.M. Pittman

If you had walked through the Howard Performing Arts Center (HPAC) doors on Friday, February 11 at 6:00 pm, sounds of conversation would have met your ears. The J.N. Andrews Honors Program's Agape Worship centered around the topic "Declassified Pandemic Survival Guide." Honors president Elianna Srikureja (senior, English) explained the decision behind this theme: "We chose to focus the

discussion on the effects of the pandemic and surrounding issues of loss and pain because we really wanted to spotlight the need for a mental health check-in. As we had conversations about what Agape Feast could look like, we noticed in ourselves a desperate need for advice, community, and vulnerability on topics that oftentimes aren't talked about in public. As we sought to find a safe place to talk about our personal fears, we also wanted to encourage students by giving hope for the future no matter what it holds. For these reasons, the loss that the pandemic has brought to a lot of people, and the various ways that it has affected our community, were the topics we chose to focus on."

Circular tables of varying sizes were arranged in the lobby of the HPAC, reminiscent of pre-pandemic Honors Agape Worships. Because of necessary safety precautions, food was not served. However, attendees were given a bag filled with goodies, and the Honors officers prepared food items for people to take with them.

The evening's program began with praise singing as several Honors scholars led us through familiar songs, such as "Blessed Be Your Name," "Blessed Assurance," and "10,000 Reasons."

Then, attendees were directed to discussion questions placed on their tables. Time was spent discussing the following questions:

- What new activities/hobbies have you tried?
- What are some things that have been difficult for you?
- What coping strategies have been working for you?
- What have you learned about being a human and about community during the pandemic?
- What are you still unsure about?
- How to see beyond disappointment?
- What do you think we should expect for the future?
- What can we hope for the future?

After attendees got the opportunity to formulate their own answers and listen to those of others at their table, a panel of students and faculty shared their answers to these same questions. One of the panelist speakers, Isabella Tessalee (senior, biochemistry), urged, "Take time to step back and see times of change and challenge as opportunities to implement how you want to grow."

Similarly, Honors president Elianna Srikureja, another speaker, shared, "I really wanted the attendees to know that it is okay to struggle with fear, loss, and uncertainty. Sometimes we assume that in order to live in a community we have to

present ourselves as perfect even as we are struggling with private issues. This is not the case. By being vulnerable, we allow for deeper connections and community. I hope that the audience left Agape Worship and reflected on mental health strategies to implement in their own lives, ways to encourage the people around them, and the knowledge that there are people out there to support them.”

Overall, the event prompted deep discussion and hopefully challenged attendees to think about their own lives during the pandemic in a different way.

NEWS

Mask Off: Andrews University Updates Covid-19 Guidelines

Abigail Lee [02.18.22](#)



Photo by Pam Menegakis (Unsplash)

On February 17, an official statement was released by President Andrea Luxton and Provost Christon Arthur announcing new changes to masking restrictions which will come into place on March 1. The changes being made to the current protocol involve moving to “mask-optional” expectations for most public places on campus. Currently, the only locations explicitly defined as being optional for

masking includes the residence buildings like Lamson and Meier Hall, and the list for places where masks are still required is listed more clearly. These places include classrooms, the line and serving area of the cafeteria, and in “large gatherings across campus,” which are defined as the following, “New Life Fellowship, One Place Fellowship and Andrews University programs in Pioneer Memorial Church and the Howard Performing Arts Center.” However, on March 1, these guidelines are expected to relax as the university moves to more widespread mask-optional policies.

According to the emailed statement, the reasoning behind this decision was made after the University, “[monitored] the changing environment and now growing hope that surrounds the current situation with the global COVID-19 pandemic, especially as it relates to current statistics and case trends for Andrews University, Berrien County and southwest Michigan.”

With this shift to more relaxed guidelines, Andrews University takes part in the current trend with state governments around the country, like [New Mexico](#) and [California](#), to change or completely remove mask mandates that are currently in place. With [four documented cases in isolation](#)—as last checked with the release of this article—students on campus are ramping up towards the end of midterms and the incoming spring break. Whether cases on campus will stagnate or rise in reaction to these changes of the protocol will be revealed in the oncoming weeks.

NEWS

Panic: Understanding the War Over Ukraine

Chris Ngugi 02.18.22



Photo by Tomas Ragina (Unsplash)

There are reportedly 100,000 Russian [troops](#) posted on Ukraine’s eastern border. Russian field hospitals are being set up on this border. Russian [warships](#) have been stationed on the Black Sea. The American and British governments are beginning to send diplomatic staff and their families back home. Western [powers](#), like the U.S., have committed to sending troops to Eastern Europe, and they are actively sending weapons and munitions to the Ukrainian army. In the [words](#) of journalist John Harris, “This is what preparation for war looks like.” When the Ukrainian president, Volodymyr Zelensky, was asked about the situation and the imminent threat of war touted by Western officials, he [said](#), “Take a breath. Calm down . . . This is panic.”

To further explain his response, a BBC [article](#) stated, “Mr. Zelensky reminded people that his country has lived with the threat of Russian aggression for years—it goes in cycles—and despite the unusual size of the current deployment, he seemed determined to play down the danger.” He continued by saying that Russia amassed a similar presence in the area last spring and “he [does] not see a greater threat

now than [then].” Based on his public perspective, the true victims of Russia’s display of strength, and the West’s response, are the Ukrainian economy and the fear of the Ukrainian people.

Russia has long had a strong presence in the area that is now Ukraine for centuries. In fact, both peoples trace their [origins](#) to the Kievan Rus empire (879-1240 CE) which began in modern-day Kyiv, Ukraine. In the recent past, Ukraine has continued to be linked to Russia but in an unequal position. For example, when Ukraine was a republic of the Soviet Union, they faced a man-made famine that we call [Holodomor](#), under the Soviet leadership of Joseph Stalin. The famine lasted from 1932-33 with conservative estimates of 5 million dead in the Soviet Union, and with [at least](#) 3.3 million of those being Ukrainian. By early 2019, 16 countries, along with the Vatican, officially recognized this event as a genocide, and it continues to be a scar throughout the nation of 45 million.

In 1949, NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) was [formed](#) with the U.S., Canada, and many Western European nations as its first members. Its original goal was to act as “a deterrent against Soviet aggression [in Europe]” during the Cold War. When the Soviet Union fell in 1991, NATO was not disbanded and has even grown to include former Soviet states that have continued to Westernize. One by one, these countries have become more influenced by “the west” and less by Russia. Ukraine, however, has not yet joined NATO and the Russian President, Vladimir Putin, intends to keep it this way. He has called the separation of the Soviet republics from Russia the “Greatest geopolitical catastrophe of the 20th century.”

In [2014](#), the Ukrainian public seemed to be gaining more independence from their Russian neighbors, and they voted out their pro-Russian president. In response, Russia annexed the Crimean peninsula of Ukraine. Russia then proceeded to support Ukrainian separatists in taking large areas of Eastern Ukraine, particularly the regions of Luhansk and Donetsk. Since this point, the pro-Russian separatists have continued to resist the Ukrainian military. As of now, this conflict has taken over 14,000 lives.

Bringing events to the present, according to the [Washington Post](#), “Tensions between NATO and Russia have risen to their highest level in years, as Washington and its European allies attempt to deter a potential invasion of Ukraine by Russian forces massed at the border.” Putin made a list of demands: NATO needs to stop expanding, NATO troops must be taken out of countries that joined after 1997

(Eastern Europe), and the U.S. can't protect its Eastern European allies with nuclear weapons. Putin has [now said](#) that "the U.S. and its allies have ignored Russia's key security demands." The Kremlin has also said that Ukraine has not fulfilled their side of the 2015 Minsk peace deal, a deal that was meant to end the conflict between Ukrainians and the Russian-backed separatists, that occurred after Russia annexed Crimea. Ukrainians have said that the deal is unfair and they will support it if it is restructured. The Ukrainian Defense Minister, Oleksii Reznikov, added, "Ukraine stands ready for negotiations in Istanbul, as well as in Geneva, Vienna or any other place that is impartial and doesn't depend on one of the sides, namely Russia." As of the time this article is being written, the Kremlin has not responded to this request.

The U.S. [now says](#) that Russia has 70% of the forces in place that would be necessary for a full-scale invasion. According to the [Washington Post](#), General Milley, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, said that "A full-scale Russian attack, especially if it reaches urban centers, would be 'horrific' and 'terrible.'" Biden has [said](#) that "Russia will be held accountable if it invades." Meanwhile, Ukraine's President continues to respond with a message of calm and the idea that the threat of war is simply "psychological pressure." He has also continued to accuse Western officials who he associates with widespread panic and destabilization in Ukraine due to the idea that "tomorrow there will be war." He has also criticized NATO for not making up its mind about whether to admit Ukraine into their alliance, especially due to Russia's demands against it and the fact that some NATO countries do not feel obligations to help Ukraine as it is not in the NATO alliance.

The summary of what the general public should know is this: Russian forces are currently posted at Ukraine's border, Russia has a history of invading Ukraine and aiding its dissidents, Russia has made demands of NATO that include not allowing Ukraine into their alliance, NATO has ignored these demands, and western powers have said that there will likely be war while the Ukrainian president has expressed doubt. If there will be war, Russia, Ukraine, and their allies have said that they are ready.

NEWS

Winter Storms Flurry Through the Midwest and South

Nathan Mathieu 02.18.22



Photo by Colin Lloyd (Unsplash)

Around early February, a [storm](#) dubbed “Groundhog Snowstorm” —due to it having occurred on February 2, Groundhog Day—spread across the country. Traveling through the South and Midwest and eventually reaching Maine, the storm covered 2,000 miles and impacted 19 states along the way. More than 91 million people received a winter weather warning or advisory, and several states suffered from the extreme weather.

One part of New Mexico received more than 3 feet of snow while several Midwestern states received more than a foot of snow. Several states in the Northeast received up to 24 inches. The widespread storm caused dangerous road conditions in many places, including states from Arkansas through Ohio. In New Mexico, one person died after a car fell 100 feet down a mountain in Bernalillo

County, and a chain-reaction crash killed another person in Guadalupe County. Many states reacted to these dangerous road conditions. Illinois closed several highways due to wrecks, and [Arkansas](#) ordered their state officers to go change to teleworking. The storm also canceled thousands of flights from DFW to the Northeast. In fact, on February 3rd, 70% of flights at DFW and 75% of flights at Dallas Love Field fell victim to the [cancellations](#).

Alabama also had tornado watches in 14 of its counties, with one “likely tornado” killing one person and injuring three. Other states like Georgia, South Carolina, and Tennessee faced thunderstorms with flash flood warnings and flood watches. Areas around Memphis and Covington in Tennessee saw ice accumulations of 0.5-0.75 inches of ice.

Major cities such as [Dallas](#), Houston, and Louisville faced extreme weather and had to close schools for [145,000 students](#). In Massachusetts, [Boston](#) and Worcester announced a closure of schools on February 4. Texas also had to consider their power grid, which did not fare well in the arena against the weather last February. Still, 33,000 Texans were without power this year due to the storm. Texans are not the only ones without power; 140,000 [Tennesseans](#) lost power due to the heavy rains converting into freezing rain. Other states without power due to the storm included Arkansas, Mississippi, Ohio, Kentucky, Oklahoma, and Illinois. Luckily, except for Alabama, power has mostly been restored across the board according to <https://poweroutage.us/>.

In these times of such destruction and danger from the weather, it is important for us to be prepared for extreme weather. For example, [weatherproofing](#) your home and creating an emergency car kit are important steps to remain safe in extreme weather. For [power outages](#), keeping an inventory of items that need electricity, maintaining a food storage, and having power banks are great steps to take to ensure your safety. However, more importantly, these storms continue to remind us of the fragility of safety, how quickly a situation can turn south, and to appreciate the value of life in the face of its storms.

IDEAS

Kanye West and Paternal Accountability: Why it Matters

Alyssa Henriquez 02.18.22



Photo by Steph Chambers (Getty Images)

On Superbowl Sunday, Kanye West posted on Instagram. A lot.

Many of the photos centered around Pete Davidson, his ex-wife Kim Kardashian's new boyfriend. The captions were written entirely in all caps, and the statements were so erratic that Kanye dedicated an entire set of posts to clarifying that his account was not hacked.

Among the slew of poorly-cropped photos was an image of a text message from Pete. It seemed to say something along the lines of “I’d never get in the way of your children . . . How you guys go about raising your kids is your business and not mine. I do hope one day I can meet them and we can all be friends.” Kanye responds to this message in the caption, stating “NO YOU WILL NEVER MEET MY CHILDREN.” Four hours after it was posted, the photo had over 1,400,000 likes, and the internet was going wild.

To many people, this online spectacle may have seemed frivolous and undeserving of attention. However, the fact is that Kanye West holds an immense amount of public sway, and the manner in which society responds to him is often telling—in other words, it reveals trends that we might not otherwise notice. In many cases, the point is not really about people like Kanye; it’s more about how we react to them. And for many years, the public’s response to his behavior has been markedly disturbing.

Kanye is currently 44 years old, and he was diagnosed with bipolar disorder in 2016. Last Sunday is not the first time that he has spoken out against ex-wife Kim Kardashian since she filed for divorce, as exemplified by his [previous](#) comments on twitter (posts that follow his recent capslock trend). This is also not the first time in his life that Kanye has done something decidedly erratic—remember when he ran for [president](#) in 2020? Or when he [admitted](#) to the public that he and his wife had considered aborting their daughter North? He has also spoken openly about his experience with bipolar disorder, through songs that many of us are familiar with. I think of driving to work during the summer of 2019, streaming “Yikes” in my car and listening to him say “That’s my bipolar sh*t / . . . That’s my superpower, / . . . I’m a / superhero! I’m a superhero! / Ahhh!”

To quote Susannah Cahalan from the [New York Post](#), “it’s not easy to tell where Kanye West the showman ends and Kanye West the troubled man begins.” It is widely known that he has [opted out](#) of taking medication, as his ex-wife Kim has openly admitted when discussing his situation to the public. He has acted out in ways that have explicitly aggravated his family, and vocalized statements that will likely haunt his children the moment they are old enough to comprehend them.

For many years, the public’s response to Kanye’s behavior has been to laugh.

Sunday was no exception, as people contorted his posts into memes and goaded him on in the comments under the photos. He has since removed them, but one does not have to go far on apps such as TikTok to find a slew of videos making light

of the situation. One user posted a [video](#) with the text “Kanye posting verification so Instagram doesn’t remove his account is THE pop culture moment,” to which a user commented “Dude is going fully manic. It’s hella meme worthy but he’s legit struggling,” and another said “It’s not even a manic episode just let the man do what he wants, it’s his thing.” Comments such as this exemplify the ways that Kanye’s weekend tirade served as a primary source of entertainment for many over the weekend—in addition to the ways that some people brushed his behavior off as normal.

I’ll be honest, I too was initially amused on Sunday when I first read the posts. Perhaps one of the most famous captions literally included the statement “I DIDNT WAKE UP AND FIGHT FOR MY FAMILY TO TREND OVER THE SUPER BOWL [sic] BUT IT HAPPENED . . . I WISH MY WIFE WAS WITH ME AND OUR CHILDREN SITTING AT THE 50 YARD LINE @kimkardashian ALWAYS REMEMBER WEST WAS YOUR BIGGEST W.” This was an incredulous, striking gesture that did initially seem comical. But several hours after the posts surfaced, I sobered up when I came across an important point.

To paraphrase a [statement](#) by one critical viewer: If the roles were reversed and Kim Kardashian was humiliating her family, making bizarre accusations, and writing manic sentences in all-caps, we would make a petition for her mother, Kris Jenner, to put her in a mental facility and demand that she lose full custody of her kids. But many of us are still refusing to hold men accountable.

In other words, would we tolerate this behavior from the mother of four small children? Would we allow her to walk around perpetuating this rhetoric and exploiting her private family business for the world to see? Would we laugh instead of growing concerned and calling for someone else to take custody of her children? Why is it acceptable for a father to do this and then take his children to a football game without tangible repercussions?

This example serves as a reminder of a critical mental exercise: reversing everything. This was a helpful endeavor when, for instance, Trump’s “grab ‘em by the pu**y” [comment](#) surfaced in 2016. How far would a female candidate have gotten in a presidential election if she had bragged about grabbing male appendages in secret? Would she still have a realistic chance? As disgusted as many Americans were in light of this comment, it can be difficult to sense our underlying prejudices until we flip the situation around and consider our instinctual reaction—and that includes all of us, across party lines, racial groups,

cultural associations, and genders. Once again, it proves especially critical with this frenzy of Kanye posts over the weekend.

Furthermore, in light of this weekend's events, it remains vital to consider what we accept as public entertainment. Cahalan makes a fantastic point when she [asks](#), "If we were told that Kanye's behavior came as a result of untreated early-onset dementia, would any of us still laugh?" Perhaps it's time to consider what it says about our culture when we have thousands of people enabling and encouraging the manifestation of an untreated, well-known psychological disorder.

This weekend raised a multitude of questions about accountability, double standards, and the types of behavior that we tolerate and uplift as a society. As we process these concepts, it becomes more crucial than ever to evaluate our instinctual response to public manifestations of mental illness. On the bright side, it seems that after the haze of this weekend, many of us are starting to wake up.

Ideas

IDEAS

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IDEAS

Should Joe Biden Cancel Student Debt?

Elizabeth Getahun [02.18.22](#)



Photo by NeONBRAND (Unsplash)

As a full-time college student who intends on getting a masters degree and possibly a JD, the thought of massive student debt scares me, as it does many students around the US. There are adults old enough to be my parents who are still paying off their student loans 20 years after they've graduated. Younger generations like millennials and Gen Z are heavily advocating for student debt forgiveness, and they are questioning whether the system is fair and whether it works for the American people. Many individuals are unable to pursue higher education when factoring in the costs of loans, and numerous Americans agree that student debt is a major problem.

Student loan debts in the US are a total of 1.75 trillion dollars, and this number grows 6 times faster than the US [economy](#). This presents a pressing problem. Thus in order to take steps toward rectifying it, Senator Elizabeth Warren [unveiled](#) a proposal to forgive up to \$50,000 in federal student loan debt. Weeks after Joe Biden's election, a CNN town hall took place where he was asked about this proposal. Biden stated plainly that he refuses to make that [happen](#). Biden claimed that it would benefit students from elite private universities more and that the money would be better spent in early education. He advised that people ought to prepare, as payments on previously frozen student loans will resume.

Student loan debt is an issue that greatly affects racial minorities and is the kind of economic justice issue that Biden and Kamala Harris are expected to address by those who voted for them. Biden can wipe out the debt with an executive order; however, that may impact the economy negatively. Biden has been deferring student loan repayments, first through August of 2021, then through January 31 of 2022, and then for an additional 90 [days](#). While deferring student loan repayments is helpful, it is a Band-Aid on a much bigger issue. Biden was expected to ask Congress to forgive \$10,000 of federal student loan debts per borrower, but there would be many implications in doing so. Canceling student debt would have a positive impact on low-income borrowers and especially on women and people of color, because it would act as a stimulus to the economy as borrowers would then invest that money elsewhere, and it would also increase the median wealth for Black [households](#). However, some Americans argue that canceling student debt would only benefit a privileged class of people and that it doesn't solve the bigger issue of high costs for higher [education](#).

If not forgiving student debt, Biden should and has made other changes by working

on various initiatives pertaining to college costs such as increasing Pell Grants, broadening loan forgiveness programs and cutting payments of undergraduate federal student loans in [half](#). Various countries in Europe have free or low-cost tuition for higher education. Students are even considering leaving the US to study in these countries rather than pursuing higher education for higher rates within the states. Lowering education costs may be something to consider and focus on that would help solve the bigger issue of expensive tuition rather than forgiving loans in one fell swoop, which only puts a Band-Aid on a much deeper core issue.

IDEAS

Who Has to Save The World?

Qualyn Robinson [02.18.22](#)



Photo by Matt Palmer (Unsplash)

Heightened by the crisis of Covid-19, the examination on individual vs. governmental responsibility has shifted to an equally heated topic—climate change. Many Americans say that the effects of climate change are evident and it's happening in their communities, with [two-thirds of Americans](#) believing that the government has proved itself inadequate in reducing the effects of climate change. Others argue that individuals should hold themselves more responsible for the

devastations of climate change. As public concern over climate change continues to grow, so does the threat, but alas, the debate continues.

Many Americans can agree that the government is quite tentative in its efforts to protect the water quality of rivers, lakes and streams, protect air quality, and reduce the effects of climate change, among other environmental actions.

A [report](#) published in 2017 recognized that 100 companies are the source of 70% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions. Oil firms like [Exxon](#) were running research on climate change for decades. To reduce any ability of their company's emissions being cut, Exxon took the lead in stressing climate denial and stirring doubt about scientific research that the oil firm had already been aware of.

But to acknowledge fossil fuel companies and their unwillingness to reduce emissions, we must acknowledge the carbon footprint of their consumers. A 2020 [study](#) analyzed that across 86 countries, the richest 10% of people consume around 20 times more energy than the poorest 10%. Utilizing airplanes and large cars for long travels are some of the high contributions rich people make to climate change. Certainly, blaming rich people is not the intention, nor is it constructive. People with high carbon prints exist in a system that facilitates and even supports their high consumption.

[The United States](#) has released more CO₂ than any other country to date and is accountable for 25% of historical emissions. Many Americans themselves are likely to consume more energy than is necessarily essential. However, we live in an environment where the line between communally destructive goods and environmentally friendly services are not always identifiable. Many Americans have become reliant on cars and other motor vehicles to travel to work or school. So, it becomes difficult to find hope in a solution to climate change that involves persistent self-sacrificing and individual responsibility while neglecting to condemn, and even worse, rewarding the highest consumers of energy.

I don't believe that personal sacrifices are going to solve our climate crisis alone, but changes at the individual, household and community level are more significant than many are willing to acknowledge. We need improved political change and action to avoid devastating consequences from climate change. But this process is happening at an unprecedented speed—meaning this is now everyone's business. A 2018 [report](#) identified 30 behavioral solutions that can diminish 19.9-36.8 percent of global emissions from 2020 to 2050. Reducing food waste, eating fewer animal proteins and products, carpooling, and using energy efficient lightning are just a

few of the many behavioral solutions listed. Undeniably so, implementing sustainable practices in our everyday practices is a vital element of fighting climate change. But this process won't work if we don't first understand the ruling, law-making and power that initially impairs our planet.

Pulse

PULSE

Cardinals vs. Golden Eagles: A Few Last Flights at the Season's End

Alannah Tjhatra [02.18.22](#)



Photo by Darren Heslop

On Saturday night, February 12 at 7:30 pm, the Andrews University Cardinals (men's team) played a game against the Golden Eagles of Kent State University at Tuscarawas (KSUT) at the Andreasen Wellness Center. Although the final score was [65-79](#) (Cardinals - Golden Eagles), everyone brought their best to the court. It was one of the last games of the season, and the bleachers filled up quickly. Everyone grew more and more invested in the game as it progressed. It was, for the most part, a good-natured competition—the atmosphere buzzed, and cheering erupted for the home team whenever a basket was made. Cheers could also be heard for the opposite team when KSUT's players made a good shot or dunk. The familiar chants of “defense” could be heard during particularly intense plays, shoes stomping against the bleachers and vibrations emanating through the floor. The players dashed from end to end, their sneakers squeaking against the shined floor in basketball-appropriate hues of neons, bright reds, and clean whites.

By the end of the first half, the score was a very close 27-29. A break was taken to honor the graduating seniors on the team. Applause broke out through the gym as the names were called: Jacob Jemison (senior, marketing) (number 25, forward/center), Andrew DeArbreu (senior, English) (number 4, guard), and Mylon Weathers (senior, criminal justice) (number 1, guard) were commended for their hard work throughout the years as their families gathered on the court for pictures.

Shortly after this ceremony, the second half began. Shouts flared up through the room when players from both teams missed a shot or made a foul—some excited, some upset. It seemed that the second half was following the trend started in the first half: Kent State was always ahead by just a few points.

The players seemed to play faster and harder in the second half. Player 0 of Kent State was going crazy with the dunks, but the Cardinals were doing their best to counter the moves. Each person's hard work was displayed as the plays unfolded.

Halfway through the game, however, it seemed the odds were not in the Cardinals' favor. The scores fluctuated, and the Cardinals would often catch up to the Golden Eagles only to fall behind again. With seven minutes left, the score became a close 51-53. Adam Cassell (junior, engineering) (number 24), a forward/center, proved his shooting skills by tying the score with six minutes left on the clock. He took two steady, successful shots during a free throw, countering Player 12 on the Kent State team, who also seemed to be a skilled shooter.

Mylon Weathers was another key player, making some impressive two- and three-point throws. He made a total of ten field goals. Meanwhile, Jesse Franklin (junior, wellness) made some great dunks, and Jacob Jemison held his own.

Unfortunately, Kent pulled ahead again after another free throw round. With two minutes left, Kent was 12 points ahead. Fouls grew frequent in the last minute, the Cardinals trying to buy time as the seconds dripped away. The teams alternated free throws, the players putting everything they had into the last twenty seconds.

And finally, the buzzer rang. The audience took one last look at the scoreboard. Kent State had won.

People reflected on the game as they filed off of the bleachers out of the gym. Hope Bollin (junior, pre-physical therapy) summed it up like this: “It was an entertaining game to watch since the score was fairly close throughout the game. Although we didn’t win, it was nice to see the players work as a team and it turned out to be a pretty good game for senior night. I’m glad I was able to attend.”

Kwesi Tuffor (junior, biology), adds to the comments: “It was an electrifying game with lots of lead switches between both teams. The Cardinals definitely played their hearts out, but unfortunately, the Golden Eagles seemed to want to win more.”

The Cardinals were disappointed, but they remained good-natured. And with one game left in the season, they decided to stay hopeful. Mylon Weathers (senior, criminal justice), who carried his share of the night’s plays, explains that his father worked with him a lot as a young boy. He says that it’s all a lot of repetition in practice.

Reflecting on this particular game, he says, “It was a surreal moment to be here playing one of my last two games. I came here yesterday [Friday] to just take it all in, memorize all the years I’ve been here, giving my hardest for Andrews—through the injuries, through the heartbreaks, through Covid, through everything. I’m not proud because we didn’t get the W, but I think I played hard and tried my best for this team. I just wanted to come out here and just honor God in the right way, play hard, and leave it out there on the floor.”

Fun Weekend Winter Activities

Shania Watts 02.18.22



Photo by Dawson Par

Over the past few weeks of the Spring Semester, Berrien Springs has been pelted with a series of winter storms. It's very easy to stay in our dorms and sulk around with the current state of the weather, but it looks like the blanket of snow is here to stay for the foreseeable future. So, why not find ways to make it more bearable? Here is a list of six fun and affordable locations to visit while the snow lasts (and even when it melts).

1. Sarett Nature Center - Benton Harbor, MI

Driving distance from campus: 15-20 minutes

Description: The Sarett Nature Center offers 5 miles of beginner friendly trails around the surrounding prairie, forest, and wetlands. Rentals are available for cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and Yaktrax. More information is available [here](#).

2. Love Creek Winter Trails - Berrien Center, MI

Driving distance from campus: 7 minutes

Description: The Love Creek Nature Center is open from 10am-5pm, Wednesday through Sunday. Ski rentals, bike rentals, and snowshoe rentals are available. More information is available [here](#).

3. Five Pines Camp - Berrien Center, MI

Driving distance from campus: 6-11 minutes

Description: The Five Pines Camp offers a sensational 400ft tubing hill PLUS a mile's worth of cross-country skiing trails. After some fun on the slopes, enjoy their Harv Chrouser Activity Center where you can enjoy a warm wood stove, free games, and the Snack Shop/General Store. More information is available [here](#).

For those of you who aren't up for a day in the snow and would much rather spend your time in a nice, heated facility, you might consider treating yourself to some of these fun, indoor venues.

4. South Bend Chocolate Company - South Bend, IN

Driving distance from campus: 30 minutes

Description: For only a \$5.00 entry fee, indulge your sweet tooth and enjoy this 58,000 square foot factory and museum with hundreds of chocolates and sweets to choose from. More information is available [here](#).

5. Puzzlemental Escape Room - St. Joseph, MI

Driving distance from campus: 22 minutes

Description: The Puzzlemental Escape Room offers three challenging escape rooms that will be sure to keep your mind engaged. Walk-ins are welcome based on room availability, but customers are encouraged to make reservations in advance. More information is available [here](#).

6. Forte Coffee - St. Joseph, MI

Driving distance from campus: 22 minutes

Description: Forte Coffee offers a wide selection of coffee, lattes (caffeinated and non-caffeinated), smoothies, frappes, tea, and baked goods. Treat yourself to a nice cup of coffee (or a non-caffeinated drink) and a bakery goodie. More information is available [here](#).

PULSE

Thoughts on the Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics

Kaela McFadden 02.18.22



Photo by Vytautas Dranginis (Unsplash)

For most of my life, the Olympics have been a highlight, a time for comradery and excitement. I remember sitting with my mom as we watched the Beijing 2008 Summer Olympics. It was the first Olympics I remember watching. I was utterly enamored by the displays in the opening ceremony. We watched athletes from all over the world compete. I looked up to all the athletes, wishing I could be just like them—though I suppose I’ve failed in that regard; I’d rather write than compete in sports. But still I dreamed. It has been a tradition ever since then for my mom and me to watch the Olympics together—both summer and winter.

Watching this year’s Olympics has been a mixed affair. I relived the excitement I felt as a little girl when the athletes marched in the Parade of Nations through the Bird’s Nest, the same stadium used in the 2008 Summer Olympics. I have enjoyed following my favorite athletes, Chloe Kim and Nathan Chen, as they’ve won gold medals for the US. I’ve cheered on Shaun White, the snowboarding legend, in his final Olympics. I’ve gathered around the TV with my family to watch an assortment

of events. All of this has been enjoyable, but a darker side has corrupted the experience for both me and others.

After some [controversial calls](#) in speed-skating events ended with China winning gold, the integrity of the judges was questioned by other athletes. Yuzuru Hanyu, a figure skater representing Japan, said his short programme was ruined by a divot in the [ice](#).

In addition, the Russian Olympic Committee figure skating champion, Kamila Valieva, tested positive for the doping drug [trimetazidine](#). Russia's Olympic history of doping has caused the International Olympic Committee to bar them from officially competing in the Olympics since [2017](#). The Russians are only allowed to compete as the "Russian Olympic Committee" and are not allowed to use their national flag. Valieva was [cleared to compete](#) in the women's singles figure skating event because she is a minor and not held accountable for her actions. This allowance on the part of the Olympic Committee has people questioning the controversy surrounding [Sha'Carri Richardson's](#) disqualification during the 2021 Summer Olympics. [Adam Rippon, Johnny Weir, and Tara Lipinski](#), former figure skaters, expressed their displeasure over the IOC's decision regarding Valieva, claiming that it was not fair to the other athletes.

All of these scandals and the inevitable politics that ensued have twisted the Olympics, making it far less enjoyable. The Olympic games are meant to showcase the best athletes in the world. It's a time for worldwide comradery as nations from all over gather together to set milestones and break records. Barriers are supposed to be pushed. Opportunities are supposed to be created. The Olympics and the incredible athletes should inspire people all over the world to chase their dreams. But here we are, watching the Olympic flames waver as their integrity is being questioned. Can we as a global society no longer put aside our differences and allow a symbol of worldwide connection to run smoothly, without corrupting it with personal greed?

"Recognizing the fact that the Olympics can sometimes represent the worst of human selfishness and ego, there is nothing like seeing a figure skater execute a seamless jump. It brings a different kind of joy. A kind of transcendent peace I generally only feel while watching figure skating at the Olympics," says Alexander Hess (junior, English).

Even with all of this negativity, I still believe there is hope for the future. I will continue cheering on both of my countries (USA and Canada) through it all. I want

to see underdogs rise to the occasion. I want to see athletes live out their dreams of standing on that podium. I still enjoy watching the skaters, snowboarders, skiers, and everything in between competing in their events. One day, I hope that the future will be brighter; that the games will be more about coming together as a world than needing to beat everyone else.

Andrews University is often described as one of the most diverse universities in the US. With students from all over the world, I believed that the Olympics could serve to be something that brings us together in celebration. However, with all of these controversies and politics being pulled into the games, we as students need to unite and celebrate our different heritages through other methods. Even with all of the negativity, I think the Winter Olympics have been worthwhile to watch and I recommend it for anyone who is looking to cheer on their country's athletes.

The Last Word

THE LAST WORD

Please Lamson Hall, Can I Have Some More?

Abigail Lee 02.18.22

★ Restroom Recap ★
The Go-to Paper for When You Got to Go ~3

OCTOBER 2021

Third Time's the Charm: Lamson Hall Loves Fire Alarms

<p>Pound the Alarm! Lamson Hall Fire Alarms: LAMSON HALL. - This last month, the Lamson Hall fire alarm somehow managed to go off three separate times in the short span of two weeks. How did this happen? Many readers may have received the emails sent by the deans explaining the situation. The first alarm was triggered by the second-floor kitchen, the second alarm by "hair products" (but many students swear on having smelled oil frying while passing the first-floor kitchen), and the third alarm by the third-floor kitchen.</p>  <p><i>@msaffirmations on Instagram</i></p> <p>While most students are aware of the highly sensitive state of the dorm's smoke alarms, many may not be aware of recent changes made to assist with this issue. Along with candles, many Lamson Hall residents may be</p>	<p>shocked to discover that even thinking about fire has now been banned. Students have been advised to avoid "hot thoughts" including the Sun, matches, celebrity heartthrobs (sorry Timothée), and even just getting really angry in general. In a statement for Restroom Recap, Andrews University said, "We're sorry to everyone who is staying in Lamson Hall, but we are doing what we must to keep students safe. For your pains, we give you our thoughts and cool-temperature prayers." Similar to other fire hazards, there will be a \$25 fine for the first heated thought by a resident, consequences will increase upon further offenses. •</p> <p>The Vending Machine Work Hours: Top-secret documents from Dining Services have been leaked revealing the inner workings of the Lamson Hall vending machine schedules: Monday: Full (both drink and snacks) Tuesday: Half-full, no good options. Wednesday: Nearly empty (trail mix?) Thursday: Completely empty. Friday: Leave empty still for another two weeks and create a mild famine. Saturday: End the hunger, fill both machines again like God's mama. Sunday: Machines broken. Good luck getting something to eat when you woke up late and the Caf is closed. •</p>	 <p>Clean Your Dishes From the First Floor Kitchen I'm Begging You: A Poem Here I lie in the kitchen sink, Gaining scum, making stink. Leftover bowls of ramen noodles rest Amongst burnt pots with discarded chicken breast. Cookie sheets left oily on the granite, They drive me mad, I just can't stand it. Hate me, love me, but please listen to my plea: CLEAN YOUR DISHES IM BEGGING YOU AAAAAAAAAA AAHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH GHHGHHSJAFNKJDFGLKHLF</p> <p>WHAT WE'RE READING: <i>Instagram Edition</i> Whether you're seeking eringe, motivation, a quick laugh, or hearsay, check out some of these accounts for one or all of the above: 1. @msaffirmations 2. @au.trash 3. @au_mingle Like, follow, or ignore! •</p>
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The 2nd Most Important Paper in the Stall

Photo by Abigail Lee

I'd like to confess a secret:

I have been the anonymous creator of "Restroom Recap", the secret and forbidden bathroom newspaper in the stalls of the first and second floors of Lamson Hall. I know that this must be a shock to the entire campus. Who could have expected

that this mastermind plan had been conducted by a member of “The Student Movement” staff, nevertheless, an editor! I’m a plain-dealing journalistic villain, a real rebel-with-a-restroom-cause.

Wait ... Are you a part of the majority of the population that doesn’t live on the first and second floors of Lamson Hall and therefore have never heard of “Restroom Recap”? Well, to explain, “Restroom Recap” is a satirical paper I created to humorously “complain” about the state of Lamson Hall and other little issues on campus (like the fall semester closures of The Gazebo). Each month, I would compose and print an issue of the paper and secretly tape it onto the inner stalls of the Lamson Hall bathrooms. None of this was allowed. Residents are not allowed to post anything that has not been pre-approved by the deans, especially not onto bathroom walls. While I could have gotten permission beforehand, I highly doubt I would have gotten approved. With the way I was jokingly calling out the state of the building, it’s very unlikely that it would have been viewed with fondness, and I’m a huge fan of the First Amendment.

It’s easy for us to laugh at the things which bring us collective pain. When someone on [@auaffirmations](#) sends in a photo of [their dorm sink collapsed on the floor](#) or a fellow Lamson resident bemoans the excessively strict ways in which we’re checked in, we are able to laugh with them in a moment of knowing. There is solidarity in the ability to turn the “serious” into something silly. A chance to turn to your neighbor with an exasperated look that says, “Well, this is just ridiculous.” But when dorm rooms frequently become infested with mold, [smoke alarms go off for a straight week](#), or when residents in the basement are met with flooded floors—should we keep on laughing?

Maybe we have become too normalized to these afflictions.

Yes, I understand that it could be a lot worse, but in our piety, I believe that we have all forgotten that it can also be so much better. At most, a frequently out-of-order vending machine is inconvenient, but when it’s contrasted to Meier Hall’s three working vending machines, it feels a bit unjust. Beyond snacking inequality, the quality differences between the two residence halls prompt the question: how long will it take for the majority of female residents on campus to have an equal and satisfactory housing opportunity—especially when moving off-campus is not an accessible choice? Understandably, repairs are expensive, especially for a building as old as Lamson Hall. This is a place meant to house a significant amount of the student population yet it is also home to many of the following:

- The recurring smell of sulfur throughout the halls.
- Rooms which are on average smaller than the ones in Meier Hall.
- Washing machines that break and lock with your wet clothes inside.
- Painted over tape and bugs on the walls of the dorm rooms.
- House centipedes.
- Students being unable to leave the doors of Lamson Hall after getting checked in, no matter if the distance is only a foot away from the front.
- Doors to dorm rooms that jam and won't fully close.
- Cloudy water from the faucets in the sinks.
- Brown water from the faucets in the sinks, after the pipes get shut off.

The list goes on.

My ultimate wish to the residents of Lamson Hall is that we learn to ask for more. So often women are made to fear being too much or try to avoid being a burden on others. But at this point, with both safety and satisfaction at stake, I think it's time to start doing some questioning. We shouldn't have to live like this. Our tolerance of this situation is less of a reflection of good moral character, and instead, a test of how much the college student's will can handle at the stake of saving a buck.