Obama Steps It Up With Student Loan Policy

by Maggie Felisberto
News Editor

Chances are that if you are in college, you have student loans. Pay attention, because President Obama wants to make it easier for you to pay them back. In 2010, the President signed into law a student loan reform that ensured borrowers’ loan repayments could be no higher than ten percent of their disposable income. Partially as a result of the Occupy Wall Street movement, President Obama is moving up the timeline on the new law.

Effective this coming January, guaranteed and direct student loan payments can be rolled into one payment—cutting interest rates. Under the new policy, student loans are forgiven after twenty years of payment—five years sooner than the current law. For teachers, nurses, members of the armed forces and others in public service careers, loans can be forgiven after ten years of payments. Under last year’s reform, this new policy would not affect students enrolled before 2014. Now the President is speeding up the program so that it will affect students this year, helping over a million college students nationwide.

In order to qualify for these programs, borrowers must have student loans in 2012 and in at least one of the previous four years. This would include the majority of Nyack’s student body.

By changing student loan policy, President Obama aims to help students from lower and middle income backgrounds afford a college education. He also claims that the new policy will help the national economy. The change, according to Policy Director James Kvaal on Barack Obama’s website, adds no cost to taxpayers across the board. Opponents of Obama’s plan argue that changing this law will have the opposite effect of the President’s intention.

The importance of Occupy Wall Street cannot be ignored in discussing the speed with which the President plans to change student loan policy. A large sector of the protestors consists of students or recent graduates who are demanding that higher education be more affordable. The Washington Post notes that because of the renewed attention on student loan debt created by Occupy Wall Street, the President will be using his executive authority to start the policy now.

President Obama revealed the new timeline for the plan on October 26, 2011, at the University of Colorado in Denver. He said, “Student loan debt has now surpassed credit card debt for the first time ever, and when a big chunk of every paycheck goes towards student loans instead of being spent on other things, that’s not just tough for middle-class families, it’s painful for the economy and it’s harmful to our recovery because that money is not going to help businesses grow.”

Extra Extra: Potential Incoming Freshman Perspective

B. Wetherill
Staff Writer

Visitor Weekends. For those of us living on campus, those two words may cause us to cringe a little. But, for those actually visiting our fair campus, the visitor weekends can mean everything. This past weekend, Nyack was bombarded with several of these hopefuls, including Kari Felisberto.

Felisberto is a senior in high school planning on studying youth ministry. While she’s not sure what she wants to do after college just yet, she definitely knows what she wants while she’s there. “I want to further my education and further my relationship with Christ,” she said, very much to the point. As we sat together in her sister’s dorm room, it became evident that she was a rather straightforward kind of girl.

Felisberto decided to come to Nyack this past weekend when she received a letter in the mail about fall visitor weekends, the first of which had already past. She really wanted to visit, so she made sure she would not miss the second weekend.

So what was her reason for looking at Nyack? For that she had many answers. Nyack has a very strong presence in her church and youth group. Her older sister, Maggie, already attends the college, which seemed to give Kari another reason to attend Nyack next year. Felisberto and her mother spent the weekend in her sister’s dorm. Because of possible scholarships and CMA awards, Nyack is also a good choice for the family financially.

Of course, Nyack isn’t the only place Felisberto is considering. She intends to visit several other colleges, including Crown College in Minnesota, which she was rather excited about.

The fact that Nyack does not have a tennis team is a huge disappointment for Felisberto, who has been playing the sport for four years and loves the game. Still, she gives Nyack a positive review, and loved the beautiful campus, saying it would be a “big factor” if she decided to go here.

Submit to The Fine Print: Nyack’s Literary Magazine

by Elizabeth Kendrex
Guest Writer

On Monday, November 14th, a small group of students and faculty gathered in the Reference Room in Bailey Library to hear poetry and prose read from last spring’s Fine Print, Nyack’s literary magazine. At the end of the reading, Dr. Gates, the faculty adviser of the Fine Print, announced that in two weeks’ time there will be a meeting held for the literary magazine, which will be open to everyone.

The meeting will be held on Monday, November 28th, at 8:30 pm in Sky Island. The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss ideas and suggestions for next spring’s issue. So, if you have any ideas that you would like to share, come on by! Any and all suggestions are welcome—if you want to request to change the name of the Fine Print back to the Unicorn, feel free! If you want to be part of the Fine Print staff, just ask!

We are always looking for new members to read over submissions. Not only will you be able to give ideas, you will also be able to meet and speak with the new editors, Elizabeth Kendrex and Audrey King, as well as the faculty adviser, Dr. Gates, and talk to them about their ideas for the literary magazine. We are continuously looking for ways to make the Fine Print better every year, and you can be a part of that process. If you can’t attend the meeting on November 28th, then consider submitting a short story, poem, or photograph for the 2012 issue at fineprint@nyack.edu. We hope to see and talk with you soon!
Verse of the Week

“Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law.”
Psalm 119:18 ESV

A tragic story of a toddler

by Bruno Christian
Staff Writer

A two-year-old girl named Wang Yue was run over by two cars on October 13, 2011 in a market in the southern province of Guangdong, which is located in China. A surveillance camera captures footage of eighteen people walking past her body as it lay bleeding on the ground. Wang, who was responsible for tracking Iraq’s weapons program before and after the war.

The hospital went all out and treatment had no effect,” Su Lei, the doctor who treated Wang, said. “Her injuries were too severe and the fact that he has had multiple marriage failures. In May of this year, Gingrich officially announced that he would be running for the Republican nomination for President of the United States. He is running on his record of political experience of carrying out what the people want. Like all of the other Republican candidates, Gingrich promises to repeal Obamacare, because “it creates layers of new taxes, regulations, and bureaucratic red tape that will ultimately make our problems worse, not better.” According to his website, he also wants to replace it with patient-centered reforms. Newt believes in protecting the right to life and religious liberty, introducing a twenty-first century learning system and an American Energy Independence plan. He wants to help grow the economy and create jobs by bringing down our suffocating debt among other pro-growth policies.

Almost eight years and seven months to the day since first deployment of troops to Iraq, President Barack Obama announced that he would be withdrawing all American troops, thus ending the nearly decade long conflict known as the Iraq War. According to the Associated Press, President Obama stated that he could “report that, as promised, the rest of our troops in Iraq [would] come home by the end of the year.” Obama then said, “After nearly nine years, America’s war in Iraq will be over... Over the next two months, our troops in Iraq, tens of thousands of them, will pack up their gear and board convoys for the journey home.”

In 2003, the United States launched a war against Iraq on the intelligence that Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein had weapons of mass destruction. Though this claim was disputed by the media, it was later proven to be true according to a declassified Defense Department report. Fox news wrote in 2006: “Since 2003, coalition forces have recovered approximately 500 weapons munitions which contain degraded mustard or sarin nerve agent.” Mustard and sarin nerve agents are considered to be weapons of mass destruction, and U.S. forces found mass graves filled with the bodies of Saddam Hussein’s WMD victims.

This was not the only evidence; according to Newsmax in 2006, an ex-top Pentagon official claimed there was evidence that some of Iraq’s other WMD’s had been moved: “The short answer to the question of where the WMD Saddam bought from the Russians went was that they went to Syria and Lebanon,” according to John A. Shaw who was responsible for tracking Iraq’s weapons program before and after the war.

The Obama administration is calling the withdrawal a completed campaign promise, and some are calling it a great win for him. This may or may not be the case, but there is something that the President failed to mention in his press conference. The true reason that we are leaving Iraq is because the administration’s negotiations to stay in the country failed.

The Washington Post reports: “The Obama administration is claiming it was always intended to withdraw all U.S. forces from Iraq by the end of this year, in line with the president’s campaign promise, and some are calling it a great win for him. This may or may not be the case, but there is something that the President failed to mention in his press conference. The true reason that we are leaving Iraq is because the administration’s negotiations to stay in the country failed.”

Politics are very fickle and can change in the blink of an eye, so Newt Gingrich is a good name to keep an eye on. The U.S. Withdraws Its Troops From Iraq

by Aaron Reale
Staff Writer

American Troops will no longer be stationed in Iraq
Photography submitted by The Forum Editors

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Politics are very fickle and can change in the blink of an eye, so Newt Gingrich is a good name to keep an eye on.
by B. Wetherill
Staff Writer

England has had many notable royals in its history, but it has been known for its queens. What is not widely known is that until recently, no royal woman could ascend the throne if she had any male siblings. A male heir would always be first in line to the throne, even if he was a younger brother of a capable princess. Luckily for England’s future monarchs, a recent Commonwealth of Nations summit, made up of the sixteen Commonwealth countries that still hold the Queen as head of state, passed a motion to give female royals equal rights to the throne of England. Basically, if Prince William and Kate have a daughter first, she would inherit the throne before a younger brother, unprecedented in England’s history.

The meeting was held in Perth, Australia, and unanimously passed changes to several different laws. As well as the change to succession, fewer descendants of George II will be required to ask the Monarch permission to marry. The Monarch can also now legally marry a Catholic, something that hasn’t been allowed to the British Monarch since the ruler of England became the official head of the Church of England over 300 years ago.

As quoted in BBC news, Prime Minister David Cameron explained in his speech to the nation: “Let me be clear, the monarch must be in communion with the Church of England because he or she is the head of that Church. But it is simply wrong they should be denied the chance to marry a Catholic if they wish to do so. After all, they are already quite free to marry someone of any other faith.” Catholics across the globe cheer this elimination of discrimination. Others are calling the summit’s decisions an historic event in British history.

Stepping Out of the Comfort Zone: Winterim 2011

by: A.L. White, Staff Writer

Winterim Global Service Learning trips are a rewarding opportunity for Nyack students to participate in during the beginning of the spring term. A variety of choices are offered to students who want to do something exciting during their winter vacations, but it isn’t all fun and games; these are classes offered to students who have the desire to learn on a global scale. It might include advanced nursing students working with underprivileged children in India or social work students discussing human trafficking in the Philippines.

The Winterim trips give first-hand knowledge and personal gratification a whole new meaning, but it isn’t just about going somewhere and having a good time. The opportunity to share the Lord’s love should be foremost in the student’s mind. While the grades count, the opportunity to serve is right there before your eyes.

I sat down with Thressa DaSilva, a junior sociology and Bible major and discussed her first Winterim opportunity to participate in. She shared where she will be going and what she is looking forward to. She said, “Well I am going to Israel and I am looking forward to everything from the Dead Sea and the Dome of the Rock, to the Valley of the Shadow of Death, as well as Bethlem. Oh my gracious I can’t wait! It is going to be exciting to see all these places that I’ve known about for so long come to life.”

I asked her how she expected to be changed and enriched through the trip. Tree responded candidly with a bright smile, “I hope this experience will enrich me as a person by broadening my understanding of Israel and the history that it holds. I don’t see how I could choose to travel without being enriched. I feel like it comes so naturally, whether traveling overseas or even to any different culture really is a chance to learn about different people and their lifestyles and be enriched.”

As far as interaction with the local peoples of Israel is concerned, Tree admitted that she has no problems, and looks forward to it with great enthusiasm. She said that she is “most definitely going to interact with the local people of Israel.” She feels that people travel often miss out on a huge portion of the experience due to lack of interaction with the culture. “I’m just expecting to be surprised…I really hope to hear from the Lord during this once in a lifetime opportunity. Most of all I’m just grateful and ready to absorb everything I learn, to really take it all in, and make every moment of this Israel Winterim count.”
Another Movie Review: In Time

by Nelson Silva
Staff Writer

Although the “time equals money” concept of In Time is a clever and fertile plot device, it is ultimately wasted on a weak and preachy story that teems with unlikely strokes of luck. It falls tragically short of its potential, and although it had a few exciting moments, the ironic truth is that watching it was kind of a waste of time.

The story of “In Time” takes place in a futuristic New York that looks suspiciously like present day Los Angeles. It opens up with a narration by the main character, a morally flawless Justin Timberlake who lives in the ghetto and loves his mom. He explains to us that in this world, the time you have left to live is earned and spent in place of money. Rich people have thousands of years to live, and poor people literally live day by day. Also, nobody ages past twenty five.

Supposedly people are like this because they have been genetically engineered. Now this would be an acceptable concept if the writers explained why it came about, but instead they insert a huge middle finger to the audience by having the narrator/main character say “I don’t know how it happened. It is what it is.” The plot is basically a sort of Robin Hood-esque story where Justin Timberlake steals from the rich to give to the poor. I don’t know; it is what it is. A series of illogical and improbable events drive the story and the ending brings little resolution to anything, comically pleading for a sequel.

As I stated before, this movie is ex-haustingly preachy. It spends two and a half hours redundantly reminding us that rich people treat poor people unfairly. It’s important to note that this movie came out at the same time as Occupy Wall Street. There’s nothing wrong with a film maker putting a moral in his film, but he should keep it general and not turn it into a sermon that reflects a current controversial event in the world.

If you do decide to watch In Time, I would suggest comparing it to Christopher Nolan’s Inception. These movies were similar in that they each were built on an interesting concept;

Unfit for Society: Are You A Misfit?

by Nicolette Facey
Staff Writer

The Misfit Tour was created by Chris Durso he is the author of the book Misfit: Dealing With Our God-given Discomfort. It’s a nationwide tour that has seven popular Christian musicians and spoken word artist. The artist on this tour are Da’T.R.U.T.H, The Ambassador, Mali Music, Sean Simmonds, Rhema Soul and spoken word artist Oraia. Nyack College was blessed with the opportunity to hear from these artist and meet them. I was able to sit down and talk to a student who helped run the concert and was in attendance. This student is Alisa Haughton.

I asked her how the Misfit Tour came to Nyack College. Alisa replied, “Christopher Smith and I discussed having a fall concert this past summer, and I mentioned that ‘Mali Music’ should definitely be one of the artists. By the end of the summer, Chris said to me, ‘The Misfit Tour will be at our school in November. Are you ready to work?’ My jaw dropped, and I responded, ‘YES! LET’S GO!’ and we went on from there with promoting.”

I was curious about how it was working with all the music acts. She told me, “It was nerve wracking and exciting at the same time,” she said, “but it was a pleasure serving such great Christian artists.” She explained how awesome the concert was, so I asked if she thought this was a successful event. She answered “It was a very successful event. I worked with a great team!” She explained how some students volunteered to help out with the concert, they helped with setting up and being good hosts to all the artists. The volunteers were very excited to meet the artists.

As we moved on with the conversation, I asked her if she felt like the student body was pleased. She said, “We heard a lot of good reviews from the student body that attended.

Simpson Girls Fellowship Through Football

by Katylin Giberson
Staff Writer

This past Sunday was the first annual Nyack College powderpuff football game sponsored by the Simpson Hall Residence Life Staff. A powderpuff football game is a game of football where the girls are the players. In a powderpuff match there is a slight variation to the rules, where the players pull off flags from the opposing players instead of tackling them. The game took place at Moseley field. There were two teams, the Chiefs, who wore black and red, and the Pink Gorilla Warfare, who flaunted black, white and pink. Each team had an RA, who acted as a team captain, and a male Nyack College, who took on the role of a coach.

The game started off very clean. The girls had high spirits and pride for their team and they were very excited about the game. The girls played great together as teams. From the sidelines you could hear them communicating and encouraging each other through out the game. As soon as the game began I saw touchdown after touchdown being scored and it was hard to keep my eyes off of the game. As the game continued it started to get heated, tension rose a bit and it started getting a little rough. By the end the Chiefs pulled in a win and everyone walked away with nothing more than a few scratches and bruises.

The powderpuff game was a lot of fun to watch and it was for a good cause. Many of the students on campus are familiar with our Missionaries in Residence, Amy and Steve Nehlsen. They are full time missionaries in Burkina Faso.

Dorca’s House is a place for young girls to come and learn life skills and Christianity. While they are there they learn valuable skills that help them to support themselves beyond the walls of Dorca’s House. The Nehlens would like to help them further by giving each of the girls that graduates from the house with a sewing machine and the ladies of Simpson are trying to help make that happen. At the game there was a concession stand with hot dogs, potato chips and sodas. Every purchase went towards providing the graduates of Dorca’s House with a sewing machine. If anyone is interested in making a donation to Dorca’s House, the Residence Life Staff of Simpson Hall is accepting donations all this week. Just stop up and give your donation to one of the Area Coordinators.

Photography submitted by Amanda Taylor

People were very excited.” She also stated that there were a lot outside visitors from all over New York. We both agreed that it was awesome that not only did Nyack College get to experience something great, but other people did as well. Alisa stated that she could see herself being a part something like this again. “I love stuff like this. Just because we’re Christians doesn’t mean we can’t have fun!”

Photography submitted by Forum Editors

Inception backed it up with a strong story while In Time embarrassed itself. Once again, Hollywood has failed to realize what is really at the core of a good movie – a good story. But hey, “it is what it is.”

Photography submitted by Forum Editors

The Misfit Tour had a big turnout and held multiple christian artists.
Counseling Services at Nyack College

by Elisabeth Scheffel
Staff Writer

Nyack College has an excellent program for those who feel that they need counseling. Whether a student is struggling with anxiety, a mental illness, life issues, or social problems, there are ten counselors available to help. The Counseling Services office is open Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M.

Jessica is one of the counselors that work for Counseling Services. She mentioned that all of the counselors are master level counseling interns studying at the Alliance Graduate School of Counseling (AGSC). Because all of the counselors are graduate students, they have flexible schedules that accommodate students’ necessities.

To make an appointment, students can fill out a form, called an intake sheet, when they visit the counseling services office during regular office hours. The director of Counseling Services, Drusila Nieves, meets with each student that needs counseling and assigns him or her to a suitable counselor. Students can sign up at any point in the semester, but it is recommended that students sign up for counseling as early as possible.

The Counseling Services maintains a strict confidentiality policy. Upon signing up for counseling, students have to fill out two forms about confidentiality before even discussing any information with their counselors. Everything shared between the student and the counselor will be kept in confidence. As well as one-on-one counseling, during the spring semester, counseling services provides small groups that focus on a particular topic. The problems professed by the majority of the students in the fall semester affect the topics of the small groups in the spring semester. In the spring, there will be signs posted in Boon regarding what types of small groups will be meeting. Some counselors are available as late as midnight. However, late counseling is available by appointment only. If an emergency, such as thoughts of suicide, arises in the middle of the night, Jessica advises that one should talk to his or her RA or call 911. The door to Counseling Services is always open to serving the students of Nyack College.

Nyack Has a Radio Station

by Bruni Christian
Staff Writer

WNYK? What is that, you may ask? It is our very own Nyack College radio station. It is non-commercial, educational radio station first licensed in 1982.

WNYK-FM is Rockland County’s only non-commercial FM radio station. You can find it on 88.7 FM. The variety of music played will surely keep you entertained. The radio station can be heard up to ten miles off campus.

The village of Nyack plays our radio station quite often in the shops and stores downtown. You can also call in and give shout outs or requests; they have gotten phone calls even across the country and also from different countries.

There are different radio shows that take place. A bunch of students have their own radio shows, along with a few professors who also have their own shows. Darlene Pinkerton, who is the faculty advisor, and Marcos Fernandez, the radio station manager, have been promoting the radio station by having Warrior Wednesdays, where they give out WNYK t-shirts and every Wednesday you have to wear it in order to enter in the raffle. If your name gets chosen you receive a prize.

You can also tune in to the radio station online at www.nyack.edu/wnyk. If you are interested in having your own radio show, feel free to contact Marcos Fernandez.

More Than Empty Shelves at Nyack Bookstore

by B. Witherill
Staff Writer

Perhaps the first thing a student notices when they walk into the Nyack College Bookstore are the empty slots on the shelves, the stacks of books and boxes cluttered in front of them. But perhaps what they should be noticing is the girl on the phone behind the counter.

Tatiana Frost, the manager of the bookstore, is often seen taking conference calls or on the line to buy merchandise and can be found there almost everyday. She has worked in the bookstore since October of 2008, and now manages four other employees, all of which are Nyack students or Nyack graduates. Her duties include overseeing the shop and ordering the merchandise, among other things.

Frost chooses what items go into the store based on suggestions from the student body. In fact, Nyack College Bookstore now has a Facebook page where students can suggest new items, as well as find out what is new at the bookstore right now.

When asked about the clutter now inhabiting the store, Frost commented, “We’re in the process of returning books to the publishers to set up for next semester,” and didn’t seem too worried about it, perhaps because she knows she’s got it under control.

There are a total of five employees at our college bookstore working to ensure that they have what we need to complete our schoolwork or what we need to make our day a bit easier to get through. So the next time you stop by the bookstore for that book you forgot, or that pack of gum to get you through a boring class, or that bathroom item you don’t have time to stop at Target for, remember to thank whoever is behind the counter, especially if she’s the one on the phone.
**Piermont: Cute Shops, Beautiful View**

by Bruny Christian  
Staff Writer

Tired of downtown Nyack? Then Piermont is a place you need to visit. Not only is it a great place to relax and hang out with friends; it is also the perfect location for a fancy dinner overlooking the Hudson River and Tappan Zee Bridge.

I go to Piermont quite often with my friends on our free time and just have fun. Feeding the seagulls some bread and getting away from campus for a little bit is always pleasant. The village of Piermont has a lot to offer: an incredible view, a myriad of shops, and a wide selection of restaurants.

The pier itself is beautiful. You can drive your car all the way down to the middle of the Hudson River. How could it get any better than that? It is described as the village’s most prominent physical feature.

Also, on the pier, there is a dog park where local residents bring their dogs to run around and play with other dogs. While you are walking down the pier, there is a list of the types of fish that you can find in the Hudson River. You can always find a community of people fishing by the pier. Piermont is definitely one of my favorite places to visit and I hope you will enjoy it too.

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**Visit the European Chocolate Shoppe!**

by Elisabeth Scheffel  
Layout Editor

Are you craving chocolate? There is a delicious European chocolate shop in downtown Nyack. The European Chocolate Shoppe, the Chocolaterie, is owned by a very friendly woman from Holland, Annette. The store is located on the corner of North Broadway and Main Street.

Annette was very open to being interviewed, and she was excited that the students were going to be informed about her store. In addition to the friendly workers, the store itself emanated a welcoming vibe.

The European Chocolate Shoppe is filled with famous chocolate specialties, such as chocolate-covered pretzels, as well as chocolate shaped like ducks, pumpkins, and fruits. Although the store mostly advertises chocolate, it also has a selection of tea, gummies, cookies, mugs, and cooking aprons. The people at the store can also make gift baskets.

Frequent members of the Chocolaterie can sign up for the membership program. The store has a system where, if a member goes a certain amount of times, the member will get ten percent off his or her purchase. With all of the delicious delicacies that one can find in the European Chocolate Shoppe, it is very easy to become a frequent member!

The store is very popular in the town of Nyack. Annette claims that she gets a few customers from Nyack College. She even delivers chocolate to the relatives of students from Nyack College who live out of state! Most of Annette’s chocolate comes from Belgium and Germany, but some of the chocolate also comes from Italy, Austria, and Denmark.

Chocolaterie is open on from eleven o’clock in the morning to six o’clock in the evening. Satisfy your sweet tooth and visit Annette and her store!
Look Into My Cybernetic Eyes: Why Online Courses Shouldn’t Be An Option

by Stuart Guild
Staff Writer

The days of face to face contact are waning. Psychologist of Religion Robert Bellah has detailed how technological advancements have made possible less and less contact with individuals, paralleled, for instance, in Western religion. You may be surprised to know that there exist “cyberkoinonias” or “online church/es/mosques,” modern expressions of Western individualism found in both Christian and Muslim circles. Not only is the internet playing a prominent role in religion, but also in our college experience.

Ask most people on campus who have taken an online course, and the chances are you will get negative feedback. According to the Pew Research Center, “barely half of highly selective schools (51%) offer online courses, compared with 80% of mid-tier schools and 86% of colleges with low levels of selectivity.” Of the 1,055 colleges interviewed, 77% of them offered online courses with only 29% of the public saying they are comparable with classroom learning. Why the skepticism and low-inclusion of such classes at “highly selective schools”? Nyack College will offer approximately 30 online classes next semester, and it looks like this trend will only increase. Alumnus Michael Goodlin pointed out several problems with online courses, both at his community college and at Nyack: “they are not nearly as rigorous”; “they don’t generate ideas”; and “they don’t allow people to build relationships.” These are essential aspects of the college experience.

One need merely peruse the gospels to see how Jesus interacted with his disciples. They walked with him daily, scrutinizing his life. Jesus was constantly accountable. He didn’t just teach them—he lived an example to be followed (Mt 3:14, Matt 11:29). This Eastern Master-Disciple model is biblical and much more effective as opposed to the Western Aristotelian-Socratic method of dumping information into your head. Face-to-face contact rather than forums and blogging should characterize our education.

Students should seek models to imitate. An education is more than knowledge—it should be rooted in a lifestyle, a worldview. Every person without exception, as psychologist William James points out, has to integrate various aspects of life into a coherent and consistent whole, an “integrative function.” So, would it not behoove us to examine the various worldviews that exist and choose what we will base our entire lives off of? Shouldn’t attending (a Christian) college be a time to grow and forge your faith?

What this requires then are teachers—role models, who are put through the ringer. Having a PhD if you aren’t walking out the Christian life, which, unfortunately, few professors do. Many intelligent professors at much better schools exist—few are godly role models. Also required are students eager to be Christian disciples, which also seem few and far between at his community college.

So, are online classes the way of the future? I will look into your cybernetic eyes and emphatically say no, every time.

Perspective: e e cummings and clichés by Nick Cialini, Guest Writer

“I’d rather learn from one bird how to sing/ than teach ten thousand stars how not to dance.” ee cummings

I have an overall negative disposition toward clichés. Too many people spouting tiny trite truisms that neither explain, nor expound, on subjects that need both explanation and explication: love, truth, innocence, etc. These abstractions—concepts or words that have little-to-no basis in concrete reality—are the very things that modern poets set out to explain.

Modernists like Eliot, Pound and Auden advocated the use of knowledge and logic to attain an understanding of these abstractions. They believed that the world in which we live, and the lives we attempt to live in this world, are complex: so complex in fact that they are inexplicable. Modernists conclude that these complex subjects must have complex treatment. They attempt to explain the inexplicable by talking or writing around the subject. They know it sounds a little crazy, and it is, but it works—most of the time. It is these abstractions that tend to become clichés. When these abstractions are talked about directly, they are said so simply, as if those talking about them knew them well enough to assume others did too. Few people, if any, assume complex issues are simple. We aren’t the only ones who know about these abstractions well enough to talk about them properly, which is why most modernists write around them. They are unfamiliar territory at best.

Enter ee cummings into the situation. cummings was a hyper-modernist, some say, in style, but a romantic at heart. His mission was the reverse of traditional modernists: to reveal abstractions as simple through a highly complex style. It might sound the same, but it is altogether different from the traditional modernists. cummings attempted, not to explain away abstractions through logic and knowledge, but to present them in ways no one ever had. cummings’ challenge was to say what had been said to death without killing it again.

While a traditional modernist feels they must earn their revelation of abstractions through logic, cummings begins where they left off. He attempts to reveal these abstractions in a form beyond language. He begs us to experience to know—a drastically different goal from the traditional modernist. He calls his readers to wisdom, something he deems much greater than knowledge.

If you are still reading this, I do have a reason for trudging through what may seem dry literary jargon. In the not-so-traditional tradition of cummings, I challenge you to take what may be a cliché, something said or seen on a daily basis, and see it, re-see it, in a different way. If it doesn’t look like anything you have seen before. Shift a perspective into a new one, or an old one you haven’t explored in a while. As cummings himself said, “(for whom the departure of everything real is the arrival of everything true)” Do not be afraid to bend out of the cold dimension of reality for a moment to explore the truth or love in a different dimension in which it was meant to be explored. Just think: are we bored with hope, truth, love, and innocence because they are truly boringly obvious? Or because we never truly understood them?

Injustice Is Just In Us: Justifying the Margins of War

by M. Felisberto
News Editor

Two years ago, when I was into the slam poetry scene, I listened to a lot of spoken word artists. One of my favorite pieces was “How to Write a Political Poem” by Taylor Mali. In the act of satirizing political poems, Mali jabs the audience with profound statements about politics and humanism in general. My favorite line from this poem goes, “Injustice isn’t injustice; it’s just in us, just as injustice is just in ice, yeah.”

This is a bit of a stretch, isn’t it? Just in us? What is human? Humanit is not by nature just, even though we cry out for justice. For the sake of justice, social workers and aid workers travel around the world feeding starving children, treating AIDS, rescuing sex slaves. For the sake of justice, murderers are punished. For the sake of justice and world peace, nations go to war.

At least, that’s what we’d like to believe. In the pursuit of justice, we collectively fail on a regular basis. Because rescuers don’t cooperate with legislation, children remain enslaved. Innocent men are convicted and sentenced to death. Nations go to war. Yet we think that the different wars and conflicts that the USA has been involved in over the past decade, we see armed invasions, weapons deals, overthrowing dictatorships and different series of bombings everywhere from Haiti to East Timor. If we think about it, we don’t even make national news, and the ones that do are split into ‘just’ and ‘injust’ categories.

For example, before the invasion into Iraq, US citizens were told that Saddam Hussein was so evil that the Iraqi people would welcome our military intervention with open arms. However, once the war began, the media flipped the situation and began portraying US involvement as a hated, negative thing. Conversely, in our recent foray into Libyan politics and the deposition of Muammar Gaddafi, the media touted the justness of US intervention. The Libyan people were portrayed as welcoming us with open arms.

In two separate wars with similar political endgames, how come one is lauded as justice being served and the other is given the stigma of rampant injustice? One major difference is people—our people, specifically. Despite the killing of innocent civilians in Libya being roughly $896 million dollars to taxpayers, and despite the 1,210 air strike missions flown between April and August, ABC News reported that the “price tag includes the amounts for daily military operations, munitions used in the operation and humanitarian assistance for the Libyan people.”

Despite the violent bombings of Libya which killed innocent civilians, US involvement is still labeled ‘just,’ at least partially because no soldiers were put on the ground. If President Bush had decided to bomb Iraq to pieces instead of sending in troops, there would be no need to cover the stigma this side of the world needed it. It doesn’t look like anything you have seen before. Shift a perspective into a new one, or an old one you haven’t explored in a while. As cummings himself said, “(for whom the departure of everything real is the arrival of everything true)” Do not be afraid to bend out of the cold dimension of reality for a moment to explore the truth or love in a different dimension in which it was meant to be explored. Just think: are we bored with hope, truth, love, and innocence because they are truly boringly obvious? Or because we never truly understood them?
Top Five Winter Pieces: Keeping Warm In Style

by Megan Brokenborough
Staff Writer

Winter has definitely crept up on us. The snow decided to accompany Halloween and turn our trick or treating into a scene out of The Day After Tomorrow. This being said, it is time to start bundling up, which means raiding our closets for winter clothing. And by winter clothing I do not mean time to start bundling up, which means raiding our closets for winter clothing.

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raiding our closets for winter clothing.

Those hand made reindeer printed sweaters that our grandmothers knitted for us because they have too much time on their hands. I mean the crucial pieces that everyone must have in their closet: the Top Five winter pieces.

The first winter piece would be the coat. No matter the weather, a great coat can be the period on the end of a sentence when it comes to style. One of the important winter staples has to be the scarf. This item will never steer you wrong, besides the fact that it’s practical and keeps your jugular extremely warm, it’s an accessory and can pull an entire outfit together. No to mention, a fun colorful or printed scarf can effortlessly brighten up any mood or unexciting outfit.

Hats and gloves count as the third and fourth winter pieces. The fun thing about hats and gloves is their versatility, and mixing and matching prints and colors is definitely welcomed. Now for a wild card—the last winter staple is ties! Yes ties, they can spruce up any outfit, and have the delightful ability to you give shorts and skirts an afterlife during winter. Try your hand at these fun winter pieces and remember to look for pieces that offer function, fun and fashion; and of course, feel luxurious doing it!

Make Up with Your Make-Up

by Megan Brokenborough
Staff Writer

Resist the urge to throw away troublesome products; they may in fact be salvageable. More often than not our products find themselves heading to an early grave. Once packaged with care in red tissue paper and elegantly housed in Sephora bags, these products in no time find themselves hitting the back of the trash can, sliding down into the remnants of last nights dinner (Ramen noodles presumably). But seriously, when it comes to luxuries like make-up and various other beauty products, it’s important to put them to good use, even if they do not meet expectations. So, here a few tips for giving your make-up and products longevity.

The first tip pertains to shadow and pressed powders. More often than not, in the busyness of life, we can drop things. Yes I said drop things. And it seems I drop things that break quite easily, like powder. Powders are fragile and if they get dropped or shattered in our purses it may seem that they have lost their usefulness, but the resourceful ladies at Glamour magazine think otherwise. They say “If a shadow or pressed powder breaks, you can add a few drops of rubbing alcohol to it and press the pieces back together, the powder will reset in the products metal pan”.

The next tip deals with conditioner. Although everyone loves conditioner, some conditioners work better than others. So if you wind up buying a conditioner that’s just not doing it for you, instead of throwing it out, use it as a shaving cream. It will moisturize your legs wonderfully while protecting them from cuts.

The next tip works in conjunction with the former one. Preserving the life of your razor can be tricky because they can get dull. Glamour magazine suggests, “After you finish shaving, shake your razor dry and soak it in baby oil, the baby oil prevents dulling minerals in your water from hanging out in the blade and it keeps the metal from oxidizing. This will keep the blade sharper for longer.” So try out a few of these product salvaging tips and feel luxurious doing it.

Healthy and Happy Thanksgiving

by Megan Brokenborough
Staff Writer

Five Health Tips to Practice Over Thanksgiving

1. Try eating your delicious turkey dinner at a table, instead of in front of the television. Eating while watching the t-v can cause you to over eat, because you are not aware of what you are doing. This causes you to shovel more food in there than necessary.

2. Turkey can work like a sedative. Make sure to not pile on too much turkey or you could sleep through the football game of the century. But who knows if it will be the game of the century if you’re sleeping?

3. Actually eat the vegetables! As stated by Edwin Soto, “Just because its Thanksgiving doesn’t mean you can skip your greens!” Having a wide variety of colors on your plate, will often mean that you have incorporated many different foods, satisfying the requirements of the food pyramid.

4. Engage in a little activity. Get up and get active with family and friends! Because Thanksgiving is about friends and family not just the buffet. Play tag with your little cousins or go for a walk with your significant other, either way try to move.

5. Be grateful! Having an “attitude of gratitude” will make you feel happier and more connected with the ones you love. Stating what you’re grateful for is not just for elementary school children anymore. We can continue to verbalize what we are thankful for and let the ones around us know how much we appreciate them.

Winter Fashion has never looked better than this
Photography submitted by Gabrielle Do