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## The Cauldron, 2015, Issue 01

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# THE CAULDRON

Cleveland State University's FREE Alternative Student Newspaper • [www.csucauldron.com](http://www.csucauldron.com) • Sept. 1, 2015 • Issue 1

## DROWNING IN DEBT

STUDENT LOAN CRISIS TAKES CENTER  
STAGE IN PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE



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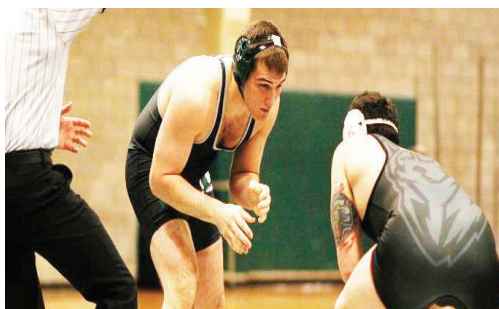


# What's brewing this week



## Annual Week of Welcome

Student Life welcomed new and returning students back to campus for the Fall 2015 semester with its Week of Welcome.



## Wrestling prevails

CSU wrestling prepares for a tough season following the team's successful effort to avoid being cut from CSU Athletics.



## Food review: Saigon

The Cauldron reviews Saigon, an authentic Vietnamese restaurant located on East 4th Street in Downtown Cleveland.

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### Sept. 1 to Sept. 7

### >> Weekly Calendar

#### Tues >> Sept. 1

Blood Drive, MC Auditorium, 10:00 a.m.  
Volleyball Home Game, Woodling Gym, 3:00 p.m.

#### Wed >> Sept. 2

Public Humanities and Modern African Symposium, FT 303, 8:30 a.m.  
Fenn Tower Musical Theatre Troupe Auditions, FT 102, 11:00 a.m.  
Dance Team Tryouts, Middough 523, 5:00 p.m.

#### Thurs >> Sept. 3

Fenn Tower Musical Theatre Troupe Auditions, FT 102, 11:00 a.m.  
VikeHealth Kickoff, UR Atrium, 12:30 p.m.

#### Fri >> Sept. 4

Volleyball Home Tournament, Woodling Gym, 10:00 a.m.  
TEDx Launch Party, SC 311, 5 p.m.

#### Sat >> Sept. 5

Volleyball Home Tournament, Woodling Gym, 10:00 a.m.  
Black Studies Hip Hop Workshop, MC 136, 2:00 p.m.

#### Sun >> Sept. 6

Lacrosse Camp, Krenzler Field, 8 a.m.

#### Mon >> Sept. 7

GIV Ice Cream Social, EC Courtyard, 3 p.m.

Want your event featured on our calendar? Send the event name, date, time and location to [cauldroncalendar@gmail.com](mailto:cauldroncalendar@gmail.com). Submission deadline is every Thursday by 5 p.m. Please submit entries one week prior to scheduled event.

# NEOMED building open for business

## High-tech building offers new opportunities, services



Photos by Abby Burton

**Top Left:** Junior Nursing students Melissa Vandenplas (left) and Jessica King utilize new space made for studying in the NEOMED building.

**Bottom Left:** An out-of-service iron lung now serves as a decoration in the new building, which is located on Euclid Avenue, across from the Student Center.

**Top Right:** An outside view of the NEOMED building from Euclid Avenue. The building took \$45 million and a year and a half to complete.

**Bottom Right:** A simulation hospital room for students to practice medical skills on mannequins that resemble human patients.

By Erin Black and Abby Burton

As the new year starts up, so does the newest addition to the Cleveland State University's campus.

The Center for Innovation in Medical Professions, sponsored by Northeast Ohio Medical University's (NEOMED), is now open for its first fall semester.

After about a year and a half of construction, this \$45 million, 100,000 square-foot facility is now home to Cleveland State's Health and Wellness Clinic, Speech and Hearing Clinic, Audiology labs, Nursing labs, and Occupational Therapy/Physical Therapy training rooms, according to the Northeast Ohio Medical University website.

With a new building comes new opportunities, and both students and

administration are noticing the major impact it will have on the success of CSU's medical program.

Brigitte Culliver, clinic administrator of the Speech and Hearing Program, thinks the new building is the key to more successful students.

"I think it's wonderful. The new building gave us at least six more therapy rooms," she said. "It is definitely high-tech. Our students are going to benefit from all of the technical support."

With new labs and equipment, the students now have an opportunity to learn from a real-world perspective.

CSU students are also beginning to see the impact of the building.

Nursing student, Jessica King, 20,

thinks the new building's environment is perfect for learning.

"It's higher tech and the environment is vibrant and fun and

**"It's higher tech and the environment is vibrant and fun and gets you to learn."**

gets you to learn," she said.

With plenty of open space and tables for students to sit and study, Culliver is hopeful the programs housed in this building will begin to support and utilize each other as a resource.

Doreen Binnie, CSU's Speech and Hearing clinical supervisor, hopes to see the medical programs come together while they share this building.

"We [the Speech and Hearing Department] do therapy here when the other programs don't," she said. "They have a lot of simulations, but I would love to see us co-treat some of our clients and I think that is something that this building allows us to grow into,"



# CSU welcomes students back to campus



Photos By: Abby Burton

**Left:** Junior Film Major, Johnnie Benson checks out an on-campus organization table at the organization fair held in the Student Center Atrium on Tuesday, Aug. 25th.

**Right:** Students browse the selection of tables set up at the organization fair, which was a part of CSU Student Life's annual Week of Welcome.

By Francesca Gariano

To mark the start of another academic year, Student Life hosted its annual Week of Welcome beginning Saturday, Aug. 22.

Cleveland State University's Student Life department offers services and programs for the purpose of enhancing a student's college experience.

In addition to the Week of Welcome, the department offers leadership training, judicial affairs and other campus activities throughout the semester for the CSU student population.

Throughout the week of Aug. 22 to Aug. 29, various fun and interactive events took place in an effort to welcome new and returning students to campus. Events ranged from ticket giveaways to organization fairs to paint parties and barbecues.

Many students may argue that it isn't a true college event if free food isn't offered. Throughout the week, plenty of events offered a college student's dream — free things, and

free food.

For the eighth year in a row, Rock the Rec, held at the CSU Recreation Center to promote Rec Center activities, gave students a chance to let loose and get active. Students had the chance to climb a rock wall, run through inflatables, enter some giveaways and enjoy free food and music.

"[The organization fair] is a good way to see how I can get involved on campus."

While it might be fall semester, it's still summer — and what is summer without a barbecue? The Campus Activities Board (CAB) held their annual Welcome Back Barbecue in the Student Center Atrium on Wednesday, Aug. 26, offering free food and T-shirts to students, coupled with games and giveaways.

VikesCommute hosted an ice cream sundae bar that offered free sweets and a chance to speak to staff about commuting to campus.

VikesCommute also offered free pastries and coffee to commuter students both morning and evening in the Student Center and Main Classroom buildings on Thursday, Aug. 27.

To end the week, students had the opportunity to splatter paint on each other — all in good fun.

Students were able to mingle at the CAB Paint Party on the Music and Communication building's lawn to celebrate the end of the first week of classes.

Student organizations gathered twice during the Week of Welcome, setting up booths and tables at both Magnus Fest at the Wolstein Center and the Fall Student Organization Fair in the Student Center.

These fairs gave organizations a chance to recruit while showing new and returning students how they can get involved on campus. Junior Film major Johnnie Benson has been attending organization fairs since his freshman year.

"I like coming to the Organization Fair because it is a good way to see how I can get involved on campus," he said.

Both commuter and residential students got to enjoy Week of Welcome events. Students became more comfortable with Cleveland State University's campus while interacting and meeting new people outside of the classroom.

# Dining Services' Chili's contract delayed

By Abby Burton

Cleveland State Dining Services has decided to replace Bar Uno, a restaurant located on the first floor of the Student Center, with a Chili's Bar and Grill set to open in Spring 2016.

Dining Services planned to open the Chili's in Fall 2015, but due to the complicated process of bringing in an entirely new company, they have delayed the grand opening for an extra semester.

One of the main forces behind the switch is CSU's director of Dining Services, Jim Razzante, who agrees with the decision to delay the opening of Chili's.

"We don't want to do it incorrect, we want to get it right," he said.

CSU franchised with Bar Uno when the Student Center was first built, but in the restaurant's last few months, they were struggling financially.

This financial struggle prompted

Dining Services to consider other options to take Bar Uno's place. Chili's was a restaurant that Chartwells, the company that heads Dining Services at CSU, had franchised at another state institution, Montclair State in New Jersey.

According to Razzante, Chartwells had extreme success with Chili's.

"We were looking for a brand that would attract people," Razzante said. "We need to draw more customers than just the campus population and we think that Chili's is a more recognizable name that will bring more customers."

Chili's will still be accepting Dining Dollars and — while they are still working on prices — Razzante said the pricing will be very similar to Bar Uno.

With the addition of Chili's and a new Starbucks location in

the NEOMED building, Dining Services hopes to add about 20 new student jobs this year, said Chris Hall, marketing director for Dining Services.

"There's always something happening in Dining Services."

Not only will there be jobs at the new dining locations on campus, but the catering service at the Wolstein

Center is always hiring students, according to Kathleen Mooney, assistant director for Campus Support Services.

"[The Wolstein Center catering job] is a real, professional opportunity, to do event catering where [students] see what it means to get that experience to operate a dining program in a free-standing, arena-type situation," she said.

Cleveland State Dining Services plans to keep adding dining options like Chili's far beyond Spring 2016.

"There's always something happening in Dining Services," Hall said. "There are always new, exciting promotions. There [are] always hiring opportunities available."

*For more information on careers with Dining Services, visit their website at [www.compasscareers.com](http://www.compasscareers.com).*



18th Annual Education Abroad Fair

# EDUCATION ABROAD FAIR

STUDENT  
CENTER

10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

TUESDAY  
SEPTEMBER 15





# Moondog, say hello to Magnus

## Quicken Loans Arena partners with CSU Athletics, Wolstein Center

By Gregory Kula

"20,562 rise to their feet..." for the Vikings?

Cleveland State University and Quicken Loans Arena announced a partnership last Wednesday, Aug. 26. As part of their partnership, at least five CSU basketball games will be played at The Q, and The Q will provide ticketing services for the Wolstein Center.

This union is the newest in a long line of partnerships between the CSU campus and the city of Cleveland.

In a press conference announcement, CSU President Ronald Berkman highlighted the university's partnership with PlayhouseSquare, and its collaboration with the Cleveland Municipal School District.

The union with Quicken Loans means more activity not only for CSU but also for the entire Downtown Cleveland area.

Berkman praised The Q and the

Cleveland Cavaliers for their help in boosting excitement for CSU's basketball teams and detailed the positive effects this collaboration will have on the city.

Berkman thanked both the Cavaliers and The Q CEO Len Komoroski.

"[The Q has] provide[d] a real home for Cleveland State University," Berkman said. "[It] help[s] us extend downtown in both directions."

Komoroski welcomed the new era in CSU basketball with much support for the partnership.

"Having two terrific venues like this literally three blocks apart just gives that type of flexibility," Komoroski said. "One plus one can truly equal three."

Berkman said a major focus of this plan is promoting more interest in the CSU basketball program from fans and recruits because the games are

played at an NBA arena.

However, this is just the beginning of the changes. The Wolstein Center will also now use the same service as The Q for ticketing. Veritix, which will lead to a more streamlined approach in selling tickets for events.

The Q is one of the 50 most active buildings in the world, according to Komoroski, and Berkman boasted about the flexibility of the Wolstein Center as a venue for diverse events.

The CSU basketball teams will make their debut at The Q Dec. 5 with a double-header of both the men's and women's teams.

At least four more men's games are scheduled as of now from December to February, and more may be added in the future.

When asked about a possible complete conversion to playing games at The Q, Berkman replied neutrally.

"[We] haven't taken it off the radar

screen as a possibility down the line," said Berkman.

This season will be a test run to determine the success of having the basketball team play at two separate arenas, according to Berkman.

The Q is a staple venue in Cleveland that services not only Cavaliers basketball, but also Lake Erie Monsters hockey, Cleveland Gladiators arena football, and various concerts and conventions.

It is now one of the strongest links CSU has to the city, and the Vikings stepping out on the floor will solidify that.

President Berkman was excited for this new phase of Cleveland sports.

"I can't wait to see Cleveland State's men's and women's teams come out of the dressing room and out on to the floor of The Q," he said.

# CSU golfer competes in National Championship

By Gregory Kula

Former Cleveland State University golfer Michael Balcar plays over 100 rounds of golf every year.

Those rounds, paired with years of practice, have brought Balcar back onto the national golf stage this year.

Balcar, no longer eligible to play for the CSU team because he is a fifth-year student, is still making an impact on the CSU community and golf as a whole.

He recently took part in the U.S. Amateur Championship in Olympia Fields, Ill. Aug. 17-23.

Although Balcar has been in big tournaments before, he was incredibly excited to be back on the tee.

"Makes you feel like [part of] a big-time tournament," Balcar said. "[It was] nice to have some fans."

Championships are not supposed to be easy, and when asked about the biggest challenges at Olympia Fields,

Balcar had a lot to say.

"Biggest challenge is hitting the fairways. They're not overly wide," said Balcar. "Other than that, greens. Championship greens."

However, Balcar said these greens and fairways were not always challenges. They are also "perfect" for smooth putting.

According to U.S. Amateur's webpage, Balcar shot a 72 in his first round and a 74 in his second round, but this was not enough to get him into the next round of 64 qualifying golfers.

Balcar said he wished he had done better putting in his Championship performance. He also offered advice for fellow competitive golfers.

"The whole game is played inside 120 yards," said Balcar. "Keep it in play. You don't need to hit it far and long."

Balcar has been at CSU all five years of his college career, and even though he is no longer able to compete with the CSU team, he been helping with coaching this season.

He was optimistic about the team's upcoming season.

"Hopefully we can get them to a three-peat for the conference championship," he said.

Balcar is in his final year at CSU, where he is majoring in Marketing. Afterward he plans to move out to the western U.S and try to qualify for a job as a pro-golfer.

He will be competing in the Toledo Open next month, and said that he will continue to compete as much as he can between school and coaching.

Balcar has a long journey ahead of him as a golfer, but he is prepared for it, and although the journey to the PGA is long, Balcar may soon have his name next to Jordan Spieth and Jason Day.



Photo courtesy Greg Murphy

# Vikings wrestling back stronger than ever

## Thankful team ready to wrestle after near-elimination last semester

By Gregory Kula

Cleveland State University's wrestling program has had an eventful year. The team — which saved themselves from being cut last season — is ready to start a new year filled with opportunities.

The program survived by a student vote for an athletic fee that adds one dollar to a student's tuition for each credit hour above nine credit hours. This fee will continue to be raised in the coming years.

CSU wrestlers Mike Kostandaras, a sophomore Business major, and Riley Shaw, a senior Political Science major, had much to say about the support they received during the vote that saved the school's program.

When the team was told the program was going to be cut, they still maintained their training and drive.

"They were told on Monday and lifted [weights] on Wednesday," Stehura said.

This team bond continued to grow throughout the process, as Kostandaras spoke about how the normal "awkward friendships" on a sports team disappeared, and they truly began to speak with one voice to reach their goal.

Although Shaw spoke about the flaws with attempting to eliminate the wrestling program, he also spoke about the team's efforts to overcome the problem.

As the team moves forward into this upcoming season, they have to prepare for a lot of potentially intimidating opponents. Not only will they face Ohio State University, the reigning national champion, but also Edinboro University, the third place finishers last season.

These two opponents highlight a tough schedule for the Vikings this season, but Shaw and Kostandaras say they are ready.

Having finished 7-3 last season, Shaw said the Vikings are poised to have an even better season this year.

"Cleveland is where it's at in wrestling," Shaw said.

Kostandaras also stated the wrestlers' commitment this summer to prepare for the new season.

He said that many other wrestlers worked out extensively throughout the summer to prepare for this important season in CSU's program.

Stehura is excited for the season with eight returning starters ready to take on the Horizon League.

Not only was Stehura excited about the returning members of the team, he also spoke highly of the new recruits who just recently joined the Vikings.

Even when they were told of the potential eradication of the program, the new wrestlers waited patiently for a solution.

"None of [the recruits] wavered,"

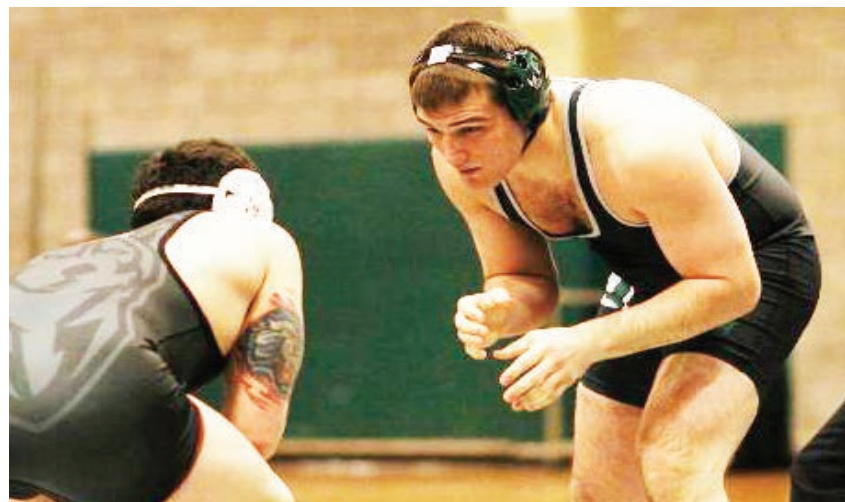


Photo courtesy Greg Murphy

Senior Viking Riley Shaw (left) is ready to start a challenging season with meets against OSU and Edinboro after an eventful past year for the wrestling program.

Stehura said.

This year's newly recruited wrestling class brings in amazing talent, including past state champs and runners-up.

With teams like OSU coming to town with hundreds of fans, Shaw wants CSU students to show that the Vikings have pride too.

Shaw wants to see stands filled with more green shirts than red that day, and he hopes green will be his view for the entire season.

The campaign to save the Vikings opened the wrestlers' eyes to the amount of wrestling fans that CSU holds.

Both Shaw and Kostandaras said the hundreds of fans who signed the referendum last year should cheer on the Vikings at Woodling Gym this season as much as they can. Kostandaras wants fans there throughout the entire season.

"Actually make it a home duel," he said.

Both players agreed these fans can mean the difference between a win and a loss at a match.

Not only was the Vikings' record last year the best in a decade, but the team went through something their opponents did not when they had to save their own program.

The wrestling team is on a mission

to continue to get better every year, and this year will prove no different.

The hardest fought victory is behind them, so doing better than last season should be no problem — Sports are easy once you've taken down what's trying to destroy the actual sport.

"[The] validation of the people around you [is] the highest compliment."

"[I] didn't know that many people cared," said Kostandaras.

Shaw complimented the students on their support throughout the long process.

Head coach Ben Stehura also mirrored the sentiments of the wrestlers.

"[The] validation of the people around you [is] the highest compliment," he said.

In addition to thanking the students, he also praised his team for coming together to show the amazing talent and heart that exists within the wrestling program.

"Cleveland is where it's at in wrestling."

Stehura had nothing but praise and hope for his athletes and the new season.

"Anytime you go through adversity like that or any kind of adversity — and come out on the other side, you're a stronger person," he said.



# Drowning in debt

## Student loan crisis takes center stage in presidential debate

By Elissa Tennant

Shelby Brooks graduated from Cleveland State University in May 2015 with a bachelor's degree in Health Sciences and big plans for a career in speech therapy.

To kickstart her career, Brooks began applying for graduate schools before she even finished her undergraduate program.

She knew a master's degree would be required to practice speech therapy and had no plans to take a year off.

However, the perceived freedom of post-grad life quickly proved to be unreachable to Brooks, who applied to multiple grad schools, but was only accepted into one after some time on the waiting list.

"I got the notice that I was off the wait list the week before spring finals week," she said. "Up front, they wanted a \$500 deposit, background checks, immunization records, the whole nine yards. They gave me one week to decide and have the payment made."

After calculating the financial cost of attending the only graduate program that accepted her, Brooks realized she could not afford to continue her education.

For just two years of grad school, she determined she would need to take out a total of over \$100,000 in federal and private loans, adding to the \$30,000 of debt she accumulated during her undergrad.

Instead of taking out such a large amount of loans, Brooks opted to put grad school on hold to save

money and work at her current job, which is unrelated to her career plans.

This burden of student loan debt and the tragic tale of a dead-end job, post-grad life has become increasingly common.

According to the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, student loan debt has recently passed the \$1.3 trillion mark in America and continues to grow.

As millennial voters sit on piles of student debt, the issue has become increasingly important in the upcoming presidential election.

Presidential candidates who recognize this problem have begun to capitalize on the discontent of students by promising reduced tuition and debt solutions.

As student debt finds its way into the U.S. spotlight, candidates are offering solutions and promises. But as debt rises well into the trillions, students are growing more and more unhappy with the current system.

### The loan system

In 1840, Harvard University introduced the first student loan program. In 1992, the federal U.S. government introduced the Federal Application for Free Student Aid (FAFSA), which guarantees various types of aid for students and is required to qualify for federal loans and grants.

Rachel Schmidt, director of

Financial Aid at Cleveland State, views these guaranteed loans as an option that benefits students.

"As long as you're in school in a degree seeking program, enrolled half-time or more and you have a valid FAFSA on file, you will be awarded a student loan," she said. "Normally loans require a credit evaluation and these don't. They're guaranteed, and that's the beauty of them."

"I should not have to work three jobs just to pay for the class I am taking to get the degree I need for the career I am chasing."

According to collegedata.com, in 2013, 55 percent of Cleveland State's graduating students took out loans, and the average undergraduate walked across the stage carrying \$23,616 of student loan debt.

Federal loans come with a variety of repayment options meant to accommodate all students, regardless of income.

One of these options is the new "Pay As You Earn," which calculates

monthly payments based on income and can reduce payments to as little as \$31 dollars per month.

Schmidt believes this to be a valuable repayment option for many students — like Brooks — who may be struggling to find a career related to their major.

Schmidt firmly believes that with so many options, every student should be able to repay their loans.

Though Schmidt believes in the power of financial aid, Brooks may not agree.

Brooks enrolled in an autism certificate program at CSU to keep herself familiarized with student life before finding a graduate school.

However, because a certificate is not considered a degree-seeking program, Brooks is not guaranteed any financial aid from the federal government.

In her quest to begin her career, she must pay for four certificate program courses with no aid. All while paying off her \$30,000 in undergraduate loans.

"I should not have to work three jobs just to pay for the class I am taking to get the degree I need for the career I am chasing," Brooks said.

### From 0 to 1.3 trillion

It doesn't take an expert to recognize most parents and grandparents of millennials cannot relate to this burden of student debt.

According to Reuters Online, a business news publication, tuition costs began to rise rapidly only in the late '90s, jumping 73 percent between 1999 and 2009. The phenomenon of crippling student debt is fairly new.

**"As long as you're in school in a degree seeking program, enrolled half-time or more and you have a valid FAFSA on file, you will be awarded a student loan."**

There are multiple theories as to why student debt and tuition costs are now prevalent issues.

Audra Malek, senior Political Science major and former leader of the Young Americans for Liberty political student organization on campus, blames government involvement.

"Since the 1980s, tuition has increased by 500 percent, and a lot of that has to do with the fact that government guarantees loans to students," said Malek. "And because all this loan money is being thrown at students, colleges think, 'Hey, we can increase tuition because students have all these loans that will cover the cost of the tuition.'"

Meanwhile, Pat Mahoney, sophomore Political Science major, Student Socialist Society member and self-identified communist, blames our current capitalist system, which treats higher education as a commodity rather than a public good.

"[At CSU] and in many other

schools, we have to sell this education to people to get them to invest," Mahoney said. "Which means we're paying a lot of money for things that really don't belong at a college in the first place."

Using Germany — which provides free higher education to its students — as an example, Mahoney pointed out German schools don't normally provide student organizations, recreation centers or student services.

When U.S. schools tack these features on as a selling point, tuition and loan debt must rise to pay for such unnecessary expenses.

Emily Halasah, senior Health Sciences major and SGA President, blames state funding.

According to Halasah CSU continues to struggle with receiving state funding due to low retention rates, and the university has to cover this funding gap by putting the cost on the students.

#### Proposed solutions

No matter the cause, students clearly believe the U.S. needs a solution to its student debt problem.

In response to this concern, student debt has become something of a hot topic for the Democratic Party in the upcoming presidential election.

According to The New York Times, Republican presidential candidates generally have yet to speak on the issue of student debt while the Democratic candidates have proposed a variety of solutions.

Democratic front-runner Hillary Clinton has a detailed plan outlined on her website to make community college free and ensure students enrolled in public, state schools do not have to take out loans. She plans to implement a tax on citizens with high income to achieve these goals.

Self-identified Democratic-Socialist candidate Bernie Sanders proposes initiatives to treat higher education as a public good and pay for university operations through small sales tax increases.

Martin O'Malley, another Democratic candidate, has also proposed a plan to help students avoid debt, but has yet to provide specifics.

Mahoney agrees with Sanders' plan to reform higher education.

"I think right now we need to view higher education for what it should be, which is a public good," Mahoney said. "And the government should be paying for it through a little bit of extra taxes, but it's going to pan out in the long run."

**"This is not the best humanity can come up with."**

However, Mahoney disagrees with many of Sanders' other stances on political issues, and plans to either abstain from voting in the upcoming election, or vote for a Socialist Party candidate.

Audra Malek, a self-identifying Libertarian, said she has been attracted to Rand Paul's plan to reform higher education by keeping government out of the education system.

"Before government got involved, people went to school and funded it through charitable donations or their churches," said Malek. "And then as soon as government got involved, colleges thought it would be a good idea to raise the tuition costs because now all this loan money is being thrown around, and I think it's unfair to students."

Brooks, sick of her debt problem, sees Bernie Sanders as a viable candidate.

"I obviously lean toward Bernie who thinks college should be free," she said. "I've always loved his statement, 'Education should be a right, not a privilege.'"

Schmidt, however, does not see the logical benefit of making universities free for students when

there are so many financial aid options to assist with tuition.

"If you make universities free, what happens to all the research dollars? What happens to the computer labs? How would the university maintain the systems needed to make the university roll?" she asked. "I don't know if that's the answer. I think what we need to do, as our university is doing, is we need to not raise tuition," she said.

As SGA President, Halasah said SGA attends the Board of Trustees tuition meeting each year to advocate a tuition freeze.

However, the ultimate decision to raise and lower prices lands in the hands of the Board each year.

#### Waiting for change

While candidates battle for the primary vote, student loan debt continues to grow with no solution, much to the dismay of students, including Mahoney.

"We need a new system," he said. "This is not the best humanity can come up with. At the very least, let's let our students go to school and learn that themselves."

Malek voiced similar concerns.

"I just worry that our generation is not going to want to go for their dreams because they're going to be stuck at a dead-end job just to pay off their student loan," she said. "And we aren't getting a generation of people [who] want to truly impact the world."

Emily Halasah said the irony of the current political system is how students are billions of dollars in debt while candidates who preach debt solutions spend huge sums on campaigns.

She believes the best way to make a change is to vote based on individual values.

"If you think that public schooling should be a public good, then you should vote for it," she said. "This is so important, and I think people our age especially need to take ownership of that. If you want to see change, go vote for someone." ■



# CSU student designs Snapchat geofilter

By Morgan Elswick

Every ad in the world is meant to be seen and absorbed by a multitude of people. That's the name of the game — graphic designers want their work to make an impression on those viewing it.

The path to achieving success in designing can often be long and difficult to follow, but Pedro Huertas, a fifth-year senior majoring in Graphic Design, has already made a small step in the right direction.

This past summer, Huertas designed a "geofilter" for Snapchat, an app that specializes in taking photos and videos to send to others. Users also have the ability to add text and designs to photos before sending them out. Geofilters are overlaying designs that can be applied to photos while the user is in certain locations.

Huertas designed a geofilter for Tremont, one of the oldest neighborhoods in Cleveland. Anyone

with the time and effort to design a geofilter is able to do so through the Snapchat website. Huertas discovered the option through another Cleveland State University student and thought it was a good opportunity.

"I saw it as a moment to showcase my skills as a designer and as a chance for people from Tremont and all around to share what they love about [the] great neighborhood," he said.

Tremont is located south of the Ohio City neighborhood and west of the Cuyahoga River. Whenever Snapchat users are in the area, Huertas' filter will appear as a design option. The city of Tremont and its history was the main inspiration for the geofilter, according to Huertas.

"The earthy tones and green that color 'Tremont' [in the design] represent the foliage and the environmental consciousness that the neighborhood has adopted through



Photo courtesy Pedro Huertas

The geofilter designed by Huertas is available on Snapchat within the city limits of Tremont.

the years," Huertas said. "The one element that draws the eye is the 'O,' and the tree growing from it. The tree — simply going back to the name Tremont — has multi-colored leaves growing from it, representing the cultural diversity that is evident throughout [Tremont], from the restaurants, to the churches and everywhere in between."

Huertas also considered the strong LGBT community in Tremont, where residents often raise the LGBT flag in

support.

Designing an app filter that is only seen when in the limits of the city can seem trivial, but it's still important to Huertas.

"It may not seem like a big deal for some, to know that a filter made it to Snapchat, but it means a lot for me as a designer developing here in Cleveland," Huertas said. "With the help of the great design professors at [CSU], I have begun to hone my skills and apply them to the real world."

## Short Story Review: 'Little Man'

By Morgan Elswick

Having the hero win in every battle against his nemesis can sometimes be repetitive. Hearing only their side of the story can be boring, especially if they're really, truly "good" inside. Sometimes it's nice to hear the villain's side of things. In Michael Cunningham's short story "Little Man," it's easy to see how a villain's character isn't anything like the way they're portrayed.

Based on the fairy tale "Rumpelstiltskin," this short story is told in second-person from Rumpel's perspective. His one wish in life is something he just can't seem to get — a baby. People are hooking up right and left, swaddled toddlers abound from every home and hearth, but Rumpel can't get one.

The adoption agency doesn't give babies to 200 year old, four-foot-tall hobgoblins. It's simply not done. So when he hears the miller — a poor, simple-minded man — tell the king his daughter is special and can spin straw out of gold, he's interested.

He knows she can't possibly do as her father boasts. The king, however, is not one to be duped without consequences and deems she will die if she can't spin the gold. Rumpel, a being with minor magical powers, decides to help her achieve this goal.

Each night he helps her, she grants him a small token of gratitude. On the third and final night, after the king has decreed he will take the miller's daughter as his wife if she succeeds, she has nothing

left to give Rumpel after he spins the gold for her. Desperate and a little bit

in love with her, Rumpel demands her firstborn as payment.

When he comes to collect the child, finally successful in his attempts to obtain a baby, things don't work out exactly as he planned.

The plot of this story is essentially the same as the original, except it's told from

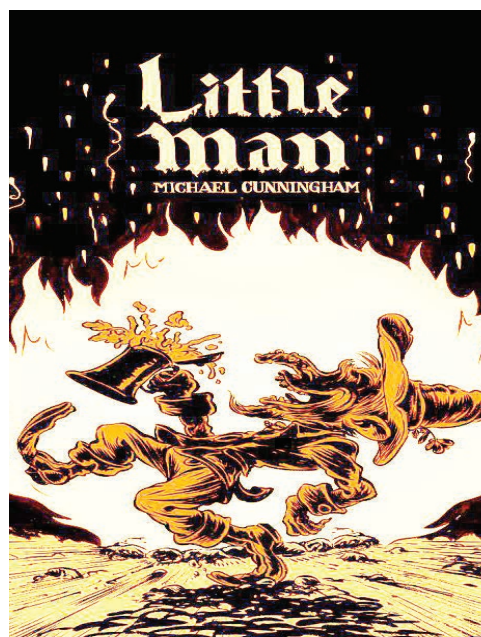
the perspective of Rumpelstiltskin. Instead of being an evil, conniving baby snatcher, he's a morally neutral

being with hopes for something other than the life and body he was granted.

Cunningham's emphasis on details in "Little Man," specifically the tiny ones, made the scenes easy to visualize. Rumpel is portrayed much like a regular human with normal thoughts and feelings. This side of him wasn't mentioned in the original and adds to the overall story.

The more you read, the more you learn it is basically impossible for anyone to be entirely good or evil. This adaptation of "Rumpelstiltskin" adds humanity to an otherwise singularly driven antagonist.

"Little Man" proves to be a great take on a classic, modernizing the story in a way that doesn't clash with the original. It is definitely worth a read.



# Old spy show receives new coat of paint

By Roman Macharoni

It's about time we got a movie based on one of the shows that hooked an entire generation on the spy genre. Released Aug. 14 and based on the hit '60s TV show, "The Man from U.N.C.L.E." promises to bring those good times back and make a new generation of fans fall in love.

Two agents with opposing codes of ethics — CIA agent Napoleon Solo (Henry Cavill), a former safe robber, and superstar KGB agent Illya Kuryakin (Armie Hammer) — must work together to stop a terrorist group.

Aside from Solo's smooth talk and Kuryakin's pride preventing them from seeing eye to eye, a wild card is thrown in when they're tasked with protecting Gaby (Alicia Vikander). The two agents must learn to tolerate and use each other's skills in order to stop a possible World War III.

This is the kind of movie we've come to expect from action flick director

Guy Ritchie. He blends comedy and action incredibly well while balancing characters' importance and creating plot twist after plot twist. The action flows smoothly yet is tightly choreographed.

The humor is sharp and delivered with an almost noir feel. "The Man from U.N.C.L.E." is unpredictable and doesn't pander to the audience, nor does it take itself too seriously.

Cavill hasn't had a lot of chances to really show his acting since "Man of Steel." This movie proves he can work with other big-name talents and still hold his own.

Hammer is also great as the straight man in their comedy duo routine and is one of the best things about the film. Vikander is suave, sexy and witty as Gaby, and even Hugh Grant is as charming as ever as their boss, Waverly.

Overall, "The Man from U.N.C.L.E." treats the source material with great



Photo courtesy henrycavill.org

Henry Cavill (left) and Armie Hammer are spies with major differences in "The Man From U.N.C.L.E.," released Aug. 14.

care while also providing a modern cinematic approach with lots of interesting action scenes and great performances. It's a great way to end the summer blockbuster season. Make sure to bring popcorn and enjoy the show.



# Stoner comedy screams new Hollywood



Photo courtesy liveforfilms.com

Jesse Eisenberg is a likeable stoner with extraordinary powers in "American Ultra."

By Roman Macharoni

Moviegoers rejoice — we finally have a stoner comedy that's actually funny.

Before diving into the movie itself, I should mention the screenwriter, Max Landis. Known for sci-fi thriller film "Chronicle" and his series of hilarious short films on YouTube, he thrives on the zaniness of sci-fi

thrillers that boasts hints of comedy and loads of pop culture and comic book references.

I only mention Landis because knowing who devised "American Ultra," released Aug. 21, provides enough context to explain why the story weirdly works.

Mike Howell (Jesse Eisenberg),

a likeable stoner screw-up with a fading memory and crippling anxiety disorder, enjoys a simple life with his loving girlfriend Phoebe (Kristen Stewart), until he learns everything he knows is a lie.

C.I.A. agent Victoria Lasseter (Connie Britton) "reactivates" Howell's extraordinary abilities that he always had but didn't know about when she discovers that fellow agent Adrian Yates (Topher Grace) is planning to kill him.

Howell must come to terms with the skills the government taught him and use them efficiently without stumbling over his own shoelaces or smoking pot.

Before Howell is faced with fighting off the mentally deranged musclemen under Yates' control, several scenes are squeezed in to show the powerhouses responsible for Howell's transformation. These inserted scenes are jarring at best.

Once the cards are in place, "American Ultra" makes for great entertainment. Even with some

tiresome storytelling elements like the bumbling henchmen and the government mumbo-jumbo talk, the movie finds a way to laugh at itself. It's self-aware and screams modern Hollywood.

Eisenberg was meant for roles like this. His wit is sharper here than in most of his recent work. Stewart works well with Eisenberg, and they have decent chemistry from past projects, with some unfortunate, groan-worthy delivery. Grace and Britton are also really funny together.

Overall, I recommend "American Ultra" to anyone who wants a unique movie-going experience. Some of the aesthetic choices and non-linear storytelling may be confusing at first, but the unorthodox style works with the insane story. It's a lot of good — and very adult — fun.







Photos by Roman Macharoni

**Far left: Delicious sweet and sour chicken with succulent chicken strips and vegetables**

**Top center: Traditional stir fry, served with squid in a tasty sauce**

**Bottom center: Mouth-watering lemongrass and chili stir fry**

# Saigon

Monday-Thursday: 11 a.m.-10 p.m.  
Friday: 11 a.m.-11 p.m.  
Saturday: 5 p.m.-11 p.m.  
Sunday: Closed

2061 E. 4th St, Cleveland, OH 44115  
(216) 344-2020

By Roman Macharoni

There are several Vietnamese restaurants downtown, but few feel as authentic and vibrant as Saigon. Located on East 4th Street, Saigon offers several styles of Vietnamese dishes in a welcoming environment in the heart of Downtown Cleveland.

The menu has many unique dishes, but the entrees are recognizable to most Asian cuisine fans. Stir fry dishes, as well as platters with curry and other aromatic spices, headline the menu and are available with many different meat, seafood and vegetarian options.

You can enjoy the style you prefer the way you want it. You also get a choice of rice — white or brown — with most entrees. The brown rice is an earthy whole grain, which skillfully absorbs the flavors of the food.

One of my favorite dishes is the lemongrass and chili stir fry (\$14-18),

which I ordered with the chicken. It's like Asian comfort food and it's full of flavor. It also has a hint of sweet heat. The sauce complements the vegetables served with it, including hearty chunks of celery and crisp, sweet red peppers. It smells as good as it tastes, as the spices excite all the senses.

Whether you choose to let the rice absorb the flavors as you eat or eat it separately, the dish will satisfy you without making you feel overly stuffed.

Other great entrees include the traditional stir fry (\$14-17), sweet and sour stir fry (\$14-18) and the clay-pot seafood (\$16-17). The sweet and sour dish is prepared with similar veggies as the lemongrass and chili, but the sauce is much richer and has a milder taste.

Diners have the option of ordering

the clap-pot with catfish, a rarity in non-specialty restaurants for the downtown area. Saigon also offers dinner-portioned soups and salads, like the wonton soup prepared with barbecue pork (\$11).

There are several tasty appetizers as well, like the lettuce-wrapped chicken (\$8) and spring rolls (\$5-6). The spring rolls in particular are crispy and make a great pre-meal snack.

The portion sizes are large for the price — some may need a doggy bag for later.

The atmosphere is to be expected for East 4th. I personally love the scenery there, and it's even more beautiful at night. The inside of the restaurant is dimly lit with a more modern dining room setting as well as a stocked bar and lots of open space.

It gives the impression of being

outside, which is nice on a quiet afternoon or bustling late night. The music they play during the day is a little loud but gets better at night when it's drowned out by the sounds of other patrons.

Saigon isn't a place for everyday meals, but it is a great choice for an intimate dining experience with your special someone and a place to go for a celebration.

The food is fresh and flavorful, the environment is vibrant yet simplistic and the service is great. It's one of the better restaurants on East 4th, and it's just waiting for you to stop in and try authentic Vietnamese dishes.





# Arts and entertainment commentary

## CSU student happenings: Summer 2015 edition



Photo courtesy Larissa Czupik



Photo courtesy Larissa Czupik

Larissa Czupik (above right) travelled through Europe twice this summer with her family. Her favorite European places included Olympia, Greece (left) and Dubrovnik, Croatia.

By Giorgiana Lascu and Abe Kurp

This summer, Cleveland State University students scattered across the globe, bringing their favorite music, shows and books with them. This week, The Cauldron tracked down a few to ask what they did this summer — and what they were reading, watching and listening to as they did it.

### Taylor Swift in Saudi Arabia

We first encountered Nouf Alqurashy, a 23-year-old graduate student studying in Biology, and her husband Majed Althagafy, a senior Civil Engineering major, in the Main Classroom building as they waited in line at Campus411. Our heads turned at the sight of the big, bright smiles they wore as they took a selfie together. We spotted them again later in a nearby computer lab, uploading GoPro footage of a trip to Cedar Point for their family back home in Saudi Arabia.

Alqurashy did most of the talking during our interview, but when we asked them how long they had been

married, Althagafy was quick to answer.

"Two years, one month," he said. That made his wife smile.

They told us they were international students who spent much of this summer in Jeddah, a major city on the western coast of Saudi Arabia.

They said the music of artists like Rascal Flatts, Celine Dion and Taylor Swift provided the soundtrack to their travels as they visited family and took a memorable boat trip on the Red Sea.

After graduating, they hope to return home to Jeddah to start a family. Alqurashy plans to become a scientist and a college professor. Althagafy said he spent much of his summer playing soccer and dreams of starting a soccer academy.

### Sci-fi on a trip to Europe

In the Student Center, when we met Larissa Czupik, a 19-year-old, sophomore International Relations major and member of the CSU Swimming and Diving team, she wore a striped top that reminded

us of sailing, and she had an air of international adventure about her.

Did she ever really go sailing? We never did find out, but our instincts were right about her worldly ways. While many are content to take one trip to Europe in a lifetime, Czupik took two just this summer.

As she crisscrossed through Croatia, Italy, Greece, Austria and Germany with her family, she spent her downtime reading "The Fifth Wave," a sci-fi book series set in Ohio.

She didn't have a ton of free time, but when she wasn't wandering through Paris or marveling at the beauty of Venice, Czupik said she ran and worked out to keep herself in shape for the upcoming swimming season.

### Closer to home

Not everyone we spoke to went gallivanting across the globe this summer.

Freshman Anthony Haywood spent the summer working as a manager for five public pools and training

lifeguards. His favorite song for the summer was Ed Sheeran's "Thinking Out Loud," and he seemed enamored with the charming Pixar film "Inside Out."

Ben Heacox, a sophomore Marketing major, worked at Best Buy almost full time and spent 20 hours a week at an unpaid internship with the Cleveland Orchestra.

"I went out partying at night into the wee hours and took naps between my two jobs," he said.

While his days were filled with classical music, at night he turned to the likes of Florence and the Machine, Jessie J and Shakira. It wasn't exactly Venice, but it wasn't exactly prison either.

For everyone we spoke to, the summer has faded into the past and — like it or not — they've been thrust back into the business of schooling. Whatever happens this semester, at least they'll have their favorite books, music and shows to keep them company.





# Advice with Amara

Dear freshmen: there are a few things you should know

By Amara Alberto

Let me be the first to tell you all — welcome to Cleveland State University!

It's been one week since campus came back to life, and if you're reading the paper today I'm going to go ahead and assume you successfully survived your first week in college — and have moved onto the second with varying degrees of enthusiasm.

At your first and second orientations, you will have received lots of advice, and most of it is pretty darn good stuff. There are some things, though, that you won't have been told, and they are worth knowing. So here are a few more things for you to add to your stash of valuable college hints.

1. It's been a week since school began, and you may have been one of those people who made a resolution to dress like a professional every day when you started. If you've stuck to

that resolution, I salute you. It's tough. But no one will judge you for showing up in a T-shirt and yoga pants.

2. When someone offers you that Rascal House Pizza coupon book in the Student Center Innerlink, take it. Even if you don't like cheap pizza it's the best deal around campus.

3. Learn how to use the Innerlink as soon as possible. Trust me — when it's freezing and windy outside and midterms are on the inside, you won't want to be asking for directions.

4. Always carry extra pens and pencils. Not only is it good to be prepared, but it's an excellent way to make friends with the people sitting next to you.

5. You can wait until the second or third week of classes to get your

books. And when you do get them, rent. Or buy online.

6. No one worth knowing cares that you're "just" a freshman. Any student who refuses to hang out with freshmen has clearly forgotten how it feels to be a freshman.

7. Your advisor is one of the most valuable adults you will have in your academic career. Make use of them, and don't wait until the last minute to talk to them.

8. You don't have to wait to be an upperclassman before you join things! It may be tempting to believe that the clubs and groups you see around campus are cliques designed only for those students who have moved past their freshman year, but it's not true. Join a student organization!

9. It is entirely too early in the school year to pull an all-nighter. There are assignments due the first and second weeks of class, but don't let your new status as a responsible college student who does all of their work early ruin your sleep schedule. Which leads to my last piece of advice:

10. Sleep. A lot. Sleep is a precious commodity, especially on a college campus, and you'll be wanting more of it soon enough.

11. And last, but not least — don't forget to have fun! There is homework to do, readings to finish and papers to start, but this is an exciting time and there is a lot to enjoy about it. Don't forget that learning is exciting, and that you are doing great!

*Amara Alberto is a junior Studio Art major at CSU.*



# Textbook competitor sites win my vote

Why the CSU bookstore profits from our refunds

By Sara Liptak

The first week of classes are done, and we now have this standstill, "what do I do now and how do I do it" attitude lingering within us.

Sure, you might have received a nice little refund from the school, but really where's that money going once it's in your hands?

You've received your syllabi, met your professors and hopefully got a feel for how this semester is going to play out. But about that money...

We all have options as college students. There is a thin line between priority and preference. However, surprisingly enough, you're able to make both of these adult-like decisions and put them into the same category of spending money wisely.

I'm not ashamed to admit that I'm a "super senior." I graduated high

school in 2010, and here I am now in my senior year of college, expecting to graduate in 2016. I have experience with the whole "spending precious money while in college" thing. And here's my personal opinion on what to do with your money, both in preference and prioritizing.

You may be taking six to nine credits, or full time with 12 or more. Either way, you're going to need to buy books to succeed in most classes.

In the early years of my college education at Tri-C, I proceeded to use the campus book store for all of my class materials. Let me say it simply — my "refund" from my student account was more of a profit to the college.

If you're buying books for your classes, don't get them from the campus bookstore unless you

absolutely have to. Other places online may be out of stock, in which case you don't have much of a choice. What do you mean by "other places," Sara? You know, that thing called the Internet, the place where you can type a single set of ISBN numbers into your browser and have numerous websites selling your required textbook?

Although the campus bookstore is convenient for some things, the long lines, which I'm sure you either saw or experienced yourself, are not — nor are the prices on their books.

Even renting textbooks or buying them used is astronomical compared to the prices of competitors such as Amazon, CampusBookRental and Chegg.

The downside to getting textbooks online is usually the shipping cost, but

even then, you're probably paying less than you are in the campus bookstore, not including the tax.

All of these options give you the calculated time to buy, use and return the books by the end of the semester.

If you have a required textbook for a class and think it'll come in handy later down the road, buy it from Amazon Prime, which has free two-day shipping for college students.

Your wallet will thank you later, because we all know having that extra spending cash to use on the all-you-can-eat buffet during long days on campus is an amazing thing.

*Sara Liptak is a senior Journalism & Promotional Communications major at CSU and Opinion editor for The Cauldron.*



# Rant time: moving out

Breaking the bad habits of a generation, leaving the nest

By Giorgiana Lascu

Saving money is the predominant goal of our terrified, student loan-soaked generation, and "stay home for as long as possible" is our anthem.

I've always lived at home, and at the ripe old age of 23, this is a source of shame I've been stockpiling every year since age 18.

The fact that I come from one of those vaguely Old World cultures where girls don't really leave the nest without being married does nothing to assuage my shame because deep down in my millennial heart, I feel like I've been missing out on some secret to adulthood. As a generation, we lose more than we know by playing it safe.

While living at home, it's so easy to rely on a mother to do laundry, an uncle to change the oil and someone

else to place our wet sneakers by the furnace.

Living with family makes it so easy to be lazy about things we should have already learned how to do.

Every few days, a meme about "Things They Should Have Learned in High School" pops up in my Facebook feed. Among these are doing taxes, ironing and many other adult chores. Clearly I'm not the only one worried about not being a competent adult yet.

It has occurred to me that our parents haven't always known how to fix a toilet or cook a pot roast either, despite the fact that right now they're probably simultaneously doing both.

They learned those things slowly and painfully, because they took that first step and left the nest.

**As a generation, we lose more than we know by playing it safe.**

There are hundreds of things a person needs to deal with when living alone. Turkeys catch on fire, fire extinguishers are put to their intended use — but unless you're a complete dunderhead, you'll learn to

remove that plastic wrap from that turkey.

You'll learn a hell of a lot of lessons from moving out. Maybe you'll even learn just how much you love your mother.

I'm afraid that without this rough-and-tumble practical course in life, I — and a substantial chunk of our generation — will be stuck in a bog of low self-confidence and ineffectuality.

That's why I'm moving out (into a mother-in-law suite above this lady's garage), in return for childcare. Baby steps are better than no steps.

*Giorgiana Lascu is a junior Theatre major at CSU and Business Manager for The Cauldron.*



# You, me, us: being politically correct

An overly offended generation of millennials

By Regan Reeck

Lately, I have noticed the words "Oh, I'm sorry" spill from my mouth more and more frequently. Perhaps it's because I come from Minnesota, infamous for being close relatives with Canada and staggeringly polite.

Or maybe it's because nearly any offhanded comment I make is met with glares and "You really shouldn't say that, it's offensive."

It's possible I may have several distasteful opinions, but I find it more likely that we as a generation are overly sensitive and retaliate needlessly.

Why are we an offended generation? Because any personal rhetoric that is challenged can cause an uproar and backlash. In some cases, a sharp retort is necessary, but I find there is a point when it becomes theatrically exaggerated.

I find it slightly ridiculous to watch

a teacher be berated by students after asking the class to stand up.

A female student at CSU, who wished to remain anonymous, was being called out by her peers in the class because she couldn't stand due to being wheelchair-bound.

There was no malice behind what the teacher said as a reflex and in fact, when asked, the girl who was so strongly defended by her classmates saw nothing to be offended by. In fact, she was affronted more by the fact that people thought she should be offended.

"The only thing they did was bring more attention to my disability, which I find is not conducive to an environment that is supposed to be all-inclusive," she said.

This isn't a unique situation, for any group that finds themselves to be different from the "norm" is at

one point attacked for one reason or another.

Surprisingly, it isn't by individuals who have an actual problem with them, but by those who say they're fighting for equality among all. In Glasgow, Scotland, before a pride parade, drag queens were banned from performing in the parade.

Why? Because there was a group of transgender individuals who feared the trans community would be mistaken as drag queens by attendees.

Their argument is wholly understandable, but in an event that is at the forefront of trying to spread acceptance and equality, why is there any sort of discrimination in how people choose to present themselves? Why are they demanding the outright exclusion of any other group? The irony is astounding.

There is a fear of offending that

has become rampant in our society. Not all millennials are inclined to be so politically correct, but the small minority that does shouts the loudest. It causes needless arguments that not only promote distance among individuals with differences, but focus solely on said differences.

We begin to see people only as the sum of their differences rather than recognizing all the traits we have in common. While we as a generation are trying so hard to fight for equality, I fear we are only causing dissent amongst ourselves as we fail to accept each other as simply being human.

*Regan Reeck is a sophomore double major in French and Journalism at CSU.*



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