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The Cauldron, 2015, Issue 06

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THE CAULDRON

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Irish rock group Kodaline stopped at House of Blues Cleveland as part of their "High Hopes" tour Wednesday, Sept. 30. P10

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Oct. 6 to Oct. 12

>> Weekly Calendar

Tues >> Oct. 6	Global Medical Brigades 1st Meeting, SR 158, 12 p.m. Faculty Concert on WCLV, Drinko Hall, 7:30 p.m. "God's Not Dead" Movie Night, FT Theater, 7 p.m.
Wed >> Oct. 7	CSU Fencing Recruiting Event, Woodling Gym, 6 p.m. Men's Soccer vs. Northern Kentucky, Krenzler Field, 7 p.m.
Thurs >> Oct. 8	Coming to America with CISP, SC 315, 11:30 a.m. Coming Out With CAB, SC Atrium, 11:30 a.m. New Lawyer Meet and Greet, LB 60, 11:30 a.m.
Fri >> Oct. 9	Secular Student Alliance Meeting, SR 398, 5:30 p.m. "The Attaining Gigantick Dimensions," Zuppa Theatre, 7:30 p.m. CSU Chorale and University Chorus, Waetjen Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
Sat >> Oct. 10	Ohio City Glass Blowing Trip (CAB), SC Atrium, 12 p.m. Run! Zombies! Run!, SC Atrium, 7 p.m. - 10 p.m. Women's Soccer vs. Milwaukee, Krenzler Field, 7 p.m.
Sun >> Oct. 11	SEM Beach Clean-up, Sim's Park Beach, 10 a.m.
Mon >> Oct. 12	No events scheduled.

Want your event featured on our calendar? Send the event name, date, time and location to cauldroneditors@gmail.com.
Submission deadline is every Saturday by 5 p.m.

Commuter corner hours lengthened

Student opposition causes change

By Elisabeth Weems

On Sept. 15, a sign on the Commuter Corner's door announced the extension of its operational hours.

The notice mentioned an open discussion that was held between students and the Department of Student Life two weeks prior. This meeting addressed students' concerns about the reduced hours of the Commuter Corner — known by many as the Commuter Lounge.

Last year, the lounge was open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., but at the beginning of the Fall semester, administration slashed hours to 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This move effectively cut the lounge's hours of operation in half. After student outcry, new, extended hours will begin after Oct. 13, when the lounge will be open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

There were many reasons for the original hour reduction, according to Student Life.

Boyd Yarbrough, vice president of Student Affairs, said a decrease in available funds coupled with low use during certain hours justified the initial reduction.

Yarbrough said in anticipation of decreased enrollment this fall, he implemented a five percent reduction of the Department of Student Life's budget.

However, according to Tom Geaghan, director of CSU's Department of Institutional Research, total enrollment has not decreased since last year. This fall, first-year enrollment actually increased by 18 percent.

Yarbrough further explained the need for the effective allocation of funds because the department's financial resources are limited this year.

According to the Office of Budget and Financial Analysis, the 2016 fiscal year budget for Student Life shows a \$44,725 increase from the last fiscal year to a total of \$938,318 this fall.

The second rationale for the hour reduction was supported by data collected by staff members who

physically counted students as they entered the lounge entrance last year.

Results indicated that before 10 a.m. and after 4 p.m., students used the lounge less frequently. Those counts were collected on paper and were not kept by Student Life.

Junior Chris Nahra, former marketing and commuter assistant for Student Life, was one staff member who collected head counts.

He said data collection methods may have been problematic due to human error. Also, while sitting at the front desk, workers can only see students entering from one of the two entrances.

Nahra resigned from his position during the second week of this semester for multiple reasons, but mostly because his pay was cut from \$10 per hour last year to \$8.60 per hour this semester.

Also, he said he no longer felt comfortable with one particular new responsibility delegated to him after the lounge's hours changed.

Every day at closing time, workers in the lounge are now required to ask students to vacate the room, and Nahra said he felt uncomfortable telling other students to leave.

Commuters who use the lounge were disgruntled by the change in hours and did what they could to voice their opposition.

During the first week of the semester, Nahra witnessed many students collectively refusing to leave the lounge when asked. He said this unified reaction reflected students' disagreement with the new hours.

"I think that students are upset about the hour change and about the new staff, and they were trying to orchestrate what they want done with the lounge," Nahra said.

Although Yarbrough said the majority of students have expressed no direct concerns to him at all, one student has acted as a representative for what she considers to be the students' general response.



Photo by Elisabeth Weems

Students gather at one of the many tables in the Commuter Lounge to hang out and joke around during a break between classes.

Senior Ashlynn Rotta attended the aforementioned forum just one day after she created and circulated a petition that amassed 235 signatures within two days.

"[Students] signed [the petition]

"I think that students are upset about the hour change and about the new staff, and they were trying to orchestrate what they want done with the lounge."

because they realized that we only have one space designated for us to go," said Rotta. "[The lounge is] really the only place where a lot of students feel comfortable, welcome and at

home, and they've experienced that on a personal level. To them, it's like someone is invading their home, and they want to see a change."

Yarbrough had no knowledge of the petition, but he assures students that Student Life always welcomes their input and takes it into consideration.

With this outcry from commuters, Student Life decided to change things in the Commuter Lounge to better suit the students who use the facility.

In the coming weeks, Student Life will implement a plan of action that considers both the community goals of students and the physical space of the lounge itself.

This plan entails electronically tracking the hourly usage of the lounge after Tuesday, Oct. 13 and the continual involvement of commuters in the conversation.

Students who use the lounge will need to sign what Yarbrough calls a "Commuter Creed." This set of "housekeeping rules" is an agreement for access, and student contribution to its creation is welcome.

Phi Mu hosts CSU's first dance marathon

Proceeds benefit Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital



Photos By Abby Burton

Left: Five-year-old Maxwell Powalie introduces himself to the dancers after running through a human tunnel made to welcome him to the event. Max was a child born four months prematurely. He survived under the care of Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital.

Right: Junior Accounting major Megan Harkins (left) and Junior Business Administration major Abby Hovanic bust some moves at the halfway point of Phi Mu's dance marathon.

By Abby Burton

The Phi Mu Rho Lambda chapter at Cleveland State University held their first annual Dance Marathon Saturday, Oct. 3 in the Student Center Atrium.

The sorority held this event as a fundraiser for University Hospital's Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospitals, also referred to as Rainbow.

"These events help [Rainbow]. They are a fantastic organization."

Each dancer paid a fee of ten dollars to register to participate, then recruited sponsors to donate money to support them while they danced.

About 167 people participated on

the dance floor to raise money for the cause. The event started at 3 p.m. and ended at 12 a.m. — nine hours of nothing but dancing.

Rainbow helps children with medical issues like premature birth, cancer and even open-heart surgery, according to Faith Powalie, a supporter of Rainbow whose 5-year-old son, Maxwell, spent the first four months of his life in Rainbow.

Maxwell, who was born four months prematurely, spent three months in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and one month in step-down at Rainbow until he was strong enough to go home. Today, the only problem he has is his vision — a small price to pay, according to his parents.

Maxwell and his parents, Faith and Tony, attended the dance marathon to show their support for Rainbow and all of the work they do helping children and their families.

"These events help [Rainbow]. They are a fantastic organization. With all that they did with Max, we were just so in love with the people

there," Faith Powalie said. "Anytime that there is a fundraiser or anything like that we try to get involved and help out."

"I am happy that I could help spread awareness, raise money and make a difference in the lives of others."

Max spent the day dancing and playing with his friend Vincent, who had also been in Rainbow when he was little. Max seemed to be a nice boost of energy and motivation for all the people dancing.

Megan Harkins, a 20-year-old

Accounting major at CSU, heard about the event through one of her friends and was instantly drawn to join because it was such a good cause.

"I was so inspired by Vincent and Max's stories," she said. "I am happy that I could help spread awareness, raise money and make a difference in the lives of others."

Other than dancing, the event had plenty of food, a kid's corner filled with games and an artist who would do portraits for the participants when they were taking a short break from the dance floor.

With music loud enough to hear outside of the Student Center and even into the next building, Phi Mu's event raised a total of \$7,827 for Rainbow.

More photos of Phi Mu's Dance Marathon are available on The Cauldron website at www.csucauldron.com.

CSU researchers receive \$1 million in grants

NSF awards funds for biomechanical investigation

By Elissa Tennant

When was the last time NASA recruited anyone you know for research on astronaut exercise? And did the National Science Foundation (NSF) award them \$800,000 to continue their research back on Earth?

All in a day's work for associate professor of Mechanical Engineering Dr. Hanz Richter, who has been teaching and researching at Cleveland State University for the past 11 years.

Richter is part of a team of four CSU faculty who received grants totaling \$1 million for their research from the NSF this year. The team received an \$800,000 grant for their collective work and Richter received a \$200,000 grant for his individual work. The grants total \$1 million in funding for CSU researchers.

The team of Richter, Dr. Dan Simon and Dr. Antonie van den Bogert of CSU's Washkewicz College of Engineering, and Dr. Kenneth E. Sparks of the College of Education and Human Services are using the funds for a project developing cyber-enabled exercise machines.

According to Richter, the cyber-enabled exercise machines are

designed to sense which muscles are being used the most and which are being used the least during exercise, then adjust resistance appropriately to involve the underutilized muscles.

NASA originally recruited the team to conduct research on smarter exercise machines for astronauts, but Richter said after they presented their findings to NASA, they began considering the applications of such technology on Earth.

Richter hopes their research will help with practical athletic conditioning as well as rehabilitation of stroke victims and amputee patients.

Richter said each team member has an important role in completing the project. Sparks has experience with human testing and can recruit and screen volunteers for research and development, van den Bogert can create a biomechanical computer to measure the efficiency of the exercise and Simon can create mathematical models telling the computer how to react under certain conditions.

According to Richter, some research is considered applied research, and its results have the potential to be sold

and licensed to third parties. However, he said this particular research is more fundamental in nature, and the team's focus is on testing the technology and spreading knowledge of the results.

The second grant, \$200,000 awarded only to Richter, also relates to efficiency through mechanical engineering.

"I have another [grant proposal] I wrote on my own," Richter said. "It's about control systems for robots. It's trying to make industrial robots more energy efficient."

Though \$1 million seems like a staggering amount at first glance, Richter assured that these types of grants are not as large as they seem.

The \$800,000 grant is for a period of four years and is split between the four team members. Do the math — that's \$200,000 per team member and only \$50,000 per team member per year.

Additionally, the university takes approximately 42 percent of the grant as an overhead research cost. Richter said this cost is standard and is always factored into the grant request. In fact, CSU's rate is much more competitive than private universities, which can

charge closer to 50 percent.

Funds from the grant are also used to pay doctoral students assisting with research projects, who can require stipends of about \$20,000 per year. Richter also employs graduate and undergraduate research assistants.

Finally, because faculty are on a nine-month contract, funds from the grant go to paying the team members' salaries over the summer months while they do their research.

At the end of the day, \$1 million is significantly divided up, but Richter is no less thankful for the grant. He said the NSF has a team of expert readers who pick through grant proposals to pinpoint the ideas they think may one day be profitable. In fact, they're more interested in fundamental research than applied, potentially commercialized research.

Richter believes this support of fundamental research is the future of the innovation the world depends on.

"We can't focus on the things that we already know and the everyday industrial things but then there wouldn't be any innovation," he said. "You have to place your bets on some ideas that could be big ideas someday."

Indians finish strong, miss playoffs

A fan's look at the 2015 season and where to go from here

By Gregory Kula

I do believe in jinxes. A few short months after players from the Cleveland Indians were featured on the cover of Sports Illustrated and picked to win the World Series, the team was eliminated from the playoffs.

Pitcher Corey Kluber and outfielder Michael Brantley graced the cover before the season, and now because they are not in the playoffs, they will have time to read the article inside the issue while they think about next year.

The 2015 season was full of normal Cleveland clichés — ups and downs, potential and “maybe next year.”

"This season has left a sour taste in my mouth, but going forward I am excited."

The season has left a sour taste in my mouth, but going forward I am excited.

Three major themes stand out from this season — starting pitcher strength, bullpen confusion and first base.

It is no mystery that the Indians have an amazing starting rotation. Kluber, Carlos Carrasco, Danny Salazar, Josh Tomlin, Cody Anderson — along with Trevor Bauer — brought an unstoppable force to the team that led to strikeout after strikeout.

Kluber may not have had another Cy Young Award season, but he actually had a lower WHIP (Walk and Hits per Innings Pitched) at 1.054 compared to 1.095 last year.

Carrasco continued his success and showed he has grown up tremendously from that little kid who kept intentionally hitting people and getting suspended.

Salazar had an adequate season, going 13-10 as of Oct. 3 and seems to have become more than just a fire-

baller, as he has learned to pitch not just for strikeouts.

With Tomlin coming back from an injury and posting a 3.02 ERA (Earned Run Average) and Anderson emerging from the minors and achieving a 3.05 ERA, the Indians solidified five strong starter spots going into 2016.

The bullpen confused me. Jeff Manship shocked the world by moving a little on the pitching rubber. He posted a .93 ERA after he had never had an ERA lower than 5.28 in his career.

Cody Allen had 32 saves, but he was wild at inopportune times and generally inconsistent, especially at the end of the season.

Bryan Shaw needs to rest his arm. Although he had some great stretches this season, he seemed to have burned out by the end.

I think this goes back to the last few long seasons of work, and I worry he will become the next Vinnie Pestano and be gone next year.

Kyle Crockett is still a fun, young kid to watch, and others showed signs of improvement, but overall the bullpen is not by any means a “mafia” like the days of Joe Smith, Chris Perez and Pestano.

The Indians have a good pitching staff, but as Abbott and Costello would say — Who’s on first? It should not be Carlos Santana. I repeat, it should not — during any game next season or ever again — be Carlos Santana.

First base should be handed to newly acquired Chris Johnson.

The switch-hitting “walk-machine” that is Santana gave the Indians 107 walks along with plenty of amazing loopy swings that resulted in outs.

He had a batting average of .232 along with a on-base percentage of

.358 and around August, I began to wonder why he brought a bat to the plate at all. He either walked or made an out almost every time.

First base should be handed to newly acquired Chris Johnson. He has shown he can produce at the plate and that then leaves the DH (Designated Hitter) spot open.

He is also four inches taller than Santana — which is always a plus at first base — and he has played the position before.

With first base filled by Johnson, Jason Kipnis at second base, Francisco Lindor at shortstop and Giovanni Urshela at third base, the Indians infield is locked down.

This new look is an incredible difference from the Swisher, Ramirez, Cabrera and Aviles games we all had to sit through.

"Free Lindor" has come to rest and the team has someone who can play third base.

The outfield has Brantley in left. Center field may be handed to Tyler Naquin or Abraham Almonte and right field should go to Lonnie Chisenhall.

Catcher Yan Gomes rounds out a fairly good fielding team and hopefully the Indians pick up a decent DH.

Looking at this lineup, I do not know if the 2016 Indians will be good or if they will collapse into the ragtag team of guys they usually become.

I am hopeful they will continue to grow together and can somehow make their way to the top of the American League Central Division.

Now that “Free Lindor” has come to rest and the team has someone who can play third base, this offseason should be quiet and peaceful.

Don't expect the Dolans to spend

any money, and with Shapiro gone, don't expect any new renovations to “The Jake.”

The season is over, but I am already counting down the days until Spring Training.

We may not have made it in the playoffs like people predicted, but at least we solved some years-old problems and set up for the future.

Also, does anyone in Atlanta want the domain name BournToBeWild.com? I don't need it anymore.

Greg's Predicted 2016 Roster:

Lineup:

1. Jason Kipnis (2nd)
2. Francisco Lindor (SS)
3. Michael Brantley (LF)
4. Chris Johnson (1st)
5. Yan Gomes (C)
6. Lonnie Chisenhall (RF)
7. Ryan Raburn (DH)
8. Tyler Naquin (CF)
9. Giovanni Urshela (3rd)

Starting Rotation:

1. Corey Kluber
2. Carlos Carrasco
3. Danny Salazar
4. Josh Tomlin
5. Cody Anderson

Bench:

1. Roberto Perez
2. Jose Ramirez
3. Abraham Almonte
4. Erik Gonzalez

Bullpen:

1. Cody Allen
2. Bryan Shaw
3. Kyle Crockett
4. Trevor Bauer
5. Jeff Manship
6. Austin Adams
7. Shawn Armstrong

CSU women's golf sets new school record

Vikings finish 36-hole tournament with team score of 608



Photos courtesy csuvikings.com

Left: Senior Madison Lomas, along with the rest of the CSU women's golf team, is trying to take the next step in competing this season, while continuing to improve at the individual level. Lomas tied for 11th with a 155 at the Youngstown State University Kickoff in late August.

Right: Sophomore Hannah Bennie putts during the YSU Kickoff where the Vikings set a school record for a 36-hole with a total team score of 608. Bennie finished with a 73-77 for a total for the weekend of 150.

By Matthew Johns

It's hard to find a team that puts in more work than the Cleveland State University women's golf team.

In preparation for the University of Toledo's Rocket Classic Monday, Oct. 5, the CSU golfers practiced as a team every day, and put in many hours of individual preparation.

This combination of hard work is what led the team to a second-place tie at the Youngstown State University Kickoff golf tournament back in late August.

The women's golf team shot a school record score of 608 over 36 holes at Candywood Golf Course in Vienna, Ohio.

Senior Allyson Hackman, sophomore Hannah Bennie and freshman Rayna Oosterhuis all finished in the top ten at the tournament.

Hackman chalked the success up to the work the team puts in everyday of the week during the season.

“We practice just about every day, and play either nine or 18 holes as much as possible” Hackman said.

The team's primary goal for the

Rocket Classic is to beat as many conference rivals as possible to help improve their place in the standings in the Horizon League.

Aside from the stiff competition the team faces, balancing school and golf has posed an even tougher challenge, and the long distances the team has to travel to tournaments only adds to the amount of work.

“It's definitely hard sometimes,” Hackman said. “We miss a lot of lectures and exams.”

This challenge only adds to an already stressful game.

The team knows golf is considered one of the hardest mental sports in world — and they concur.

Senior golfer Madison Lomas praises the work the entire team does on and off the greens. She knows that golf is only one part of the student-athletes' lives, and they make sure to keep it less than completely serious.

“At times, it is very stressful, but it's important to remember that it's just a game.” Lomas said. “It takes a lot of trust and confidence.”

That mindset will certainly be a

virtue as the girls prepare for Catawba Island Club, the over 6,700 yard, par-72 course in Port Clinton, Ohio.

"At times it is very stressful. But it's important to remember that it's just a game. It takes a lot of trust and confidence."

Out of the seven golfers on the team, five are either freshmen or sophomores, but somewhat surprisingly, the team has had fewer struggles with player commitment

this year.

The two seniors have been able to help the younger players adjust to the tough schedule.

Helping with this process is head coach Steve Weir and new assistant coach Ann Ciavarella, who was hired this summer.

Ciavarella has two seasons of coaching experience from Youngstown State University — one of which resulted in a YSU Horizon League title.

Through all of the hard work and the excellent coaching, it wouldn't be a surprise for the team to make a splash in a few more tournaments this season.

Hackman and Lomas know the team will continue to prosper as long as they continue to push each other and themselves in practice and during tournaments.

Results of the Rocket Classic were not yet available at press time. To see scores from the tournament, visit www.csuvikings.com.

50 years later

How the 1965 Voting Rights Act impacted racial equality

By Gregory Kula

On Aug. 6, 2015 — exactly 50 years after the United States government ensured all citizens would receive the right to vote — President Barack Obama took the podium.

“In theory, everybody is in favor of the right to vote,” he said. “In practice, we have state legislatures that are deliberately trying to make it harder for people to vote.”

Almost 250 years after its founding, a country that hails itself as a democracy still does not know whom it wants to give the right to vote.

President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act into law Aug. 6, 1965 and put to rest some of the turmoil in the country. This act was made law in order to enforce the 15th Amendment, which had been passed 100 years earlier and gave everyone the right to vote — regardless of race.

As time passed, the Voting Rights Act has been amended to perform better, and the Supreme Court has heard numerous cases that have sought to demolish the act's power.

Even with the recent surge in the Black Lives Matter movement — among other rising racial tensions in the country — the 50th anniversary of this act has come and gone with very little fanfare.

Although the Voting Rights Act has been around for five decades and has been hailed as one of the biggest moments in the history of U.S. equality, many people still question how much progress we have made as a nation.

Hindsight is 20/20

The Voting Rights Act, passed during the Civil Rights Movement, came almost exactly 100 years after the 15th Amendment, which tried unsuccessfully to give everyone the right to vote.

Even though everyone had the Constitutional right to vote, many new, state-specific barriers were put in place to prevent everyone from exercising this right.

Dr. Michael Williams, associate professor and director of Black Studies at Cleveland State University, said the amendment was not actually effective until 1965 because of all these obstacles.

“For about a hundred years — even though technically people had the right to vote — the former slave owners [and] the states in which they lived put in place things like poll taxes [and] registrations to prevent people from voting,” he said.

These restrictions were fueled by the Ku Klux Klan and other pro-segregation groups like the White Citizens Council in Mississippi.

“The White Citizens Council ensured that blacks and people who sympathized with black causes couldn't vote,” Williams said.

According to PBS.org, The White Citizens Council used scare tactics — such as tracking down and spying on civil rights supporters — and supported pro-segregation candidates in government to oppress black people.

These tactics helped to force the creation of laws the Council saw fit to keep black and white people separated, which included keeping

black people out of the voting booths.

Williams said he believes the views of these hate groups were among the main reasons the 15th Amendment did not work as planned during the 19th century. The country needed something even stronger to grant everyone the right to vote.

“[The Voting Rights Act] was a way of reconfirming what took place over a hundred years previously,” he said.

The Voting Rights Act may have provided the U.S. with some much-needed social reform, but Williams believes Johnson merely wanted to appease both the segregationists and the civil rights activists in passing the law.

Williams said Johnson walked a thin line between the two camps, and wanted to maintain support from both of them.

Although John F. Kennedy set the country up for the Civil Rights Movement, Williams said Johnson was the one who truly fought for equality.

However, because Johnson had gathered so many votes from the South, he knew he would not be able to create a fully pro-civil rights bill, but he also knew something had to be done to reform society, which was his reasoning behind the passage of the Voting Rights Act.

Laying the groundwork

Williams admits the Voting Rights Act in 1965 provided groundwork for the Civil Rights movement.

In many ways, it also laid out the plans and procedures for future movements of all types.

Tom Dorrance, a visiting assistant professor in the Department of History at CSU, said the Voting Rights Act influenced the way people attempt to solve issues by connecting the government to citizens.

“[The Voting Rights Act was] one of those really radical moments where state actions and popular movements really converged,” he said. “[This was a] powerful way to shake off a really intractable status quo.”

The civil rights activists did not wait for the government to tell the states they had to follow the 15th Amendment and allow everyone voting rights. Instead, they went out, marched and solved the problem.

Although the government sets forth laws and regulations, it is the passionate people behind the passage of these laws that are the difference makers.

“It's less about waiting for government to fix and more about government enabling [to] fix,” Dorrance said.

Race is not the only context where Dorrance believes these values can be applied.

Women's rights and others groups are now active when going about government change and he believes this was inspired by the Voting Rights Act

Now what?

As the U.S. continues to battle



Photo courtesy PBS.org

Left: Protestors march during the Civil Rights Movement in the 1960s. The "I am a man" slogan symbolized equal treatment under the law, including voting rights.

Right: 50 years after the Civil Rights Movement "ended," the question of whether racial equality has been achieved is still present in the modern Black Lives Matter movement.



Photo courtesy twitter.com/JusticeGearUSA

racial issues, a look back at the triumphs and failures of the Voting Right Act shows people accomplished much during the Civil Rights Movement. At the same time, however, much was lost in the victory.

Matt Mahoney, a senior Political Science and History double major at CSU, thinks the voting act pushed racial problems to the back of people's minds for 50 years, because they believed racism vanished when the law took effect.

“Because people have seen that racism has been ‘solved,’ they don't see it as a problem anymore,” he said. “People don't want to bring it up anymore because they think it's over.”

Not only do everyday citizens seem to believe racism is over, but racial inequality is barely spoken about in the political field. Even though the Black Lives Matter movement took the country by storm the past year, hardly anyone running for office seems to be talking about the issue.

“[It] seems to be ignored by [all the candidates] but Bernie Sanders,” Mahoney said.

Mahoney does not think this

passive, forgetful nature in respect to civil rights has cured the country of any of the racial tension prevalent 50 years ago.

He believes the Voting Rights Act is one of the only things standing between a virtual segregation in voting rights and other civil liberties.

Mahoney believes the country would still be the same as it was 50 years ago without the voting act.

“In the South, there would still be restrictive [laws] for minority groups,” he said.

He thinks the country needs to revisit the Voting Rights Act and other civil rights legislation to see how much still needs to happen for equality to really be achieved.

“There needs to be a refresher in certain ways to the Voting Rights Act because it has left [the] public eye,” Mahoney said.

Dorrance echoed Mahoney's overall views.

“Society certainly advanced because of the act, but that doesn't mean that racial problems become solved,” he said.

Williams said, although many voting problems were solved with the passage of the Voting Rights Act, today new forms of restriction

seem to be prevalent, including ID registration practices, different time restrictions on voting and gerrymandering — the redrawing of districts by a party in power to gather more votes in the next election.

Although the act helped minorities gain voting rights, Dorrance, Williams and Mahoney all believe it created the false sense racism had gone away completely.

The new movements for social equality take the shape of the old ones, but Williams believes all the energy fueling them is being wasted.

The collective wasted opportunity cost of all those individuals who had to fight — and still have to fight — just for the right to vote is immeasurable.

“Think about if a Martin Luther King [Jr.], a Malcolm X, any of those types of people, had not had to spend their lives thinking about race,” Williams said. “What might have come out of that? It's a shame if you think about how much progress could have been made.”

In a nation that preaches the value of democracy to the world, Williams only sees confusion and unrest.

“How much do we really value

our democracy that we have to constantly reassure or constantly be vigilant around a basic right of a citizen to vote,” he said. “If we constantly do this, it doesn't tell us that these things are secure.”

Williams also said he did not believe the Voting Rights Act was anything completely new. He believes it was merely a way of validating the 15th Amendment.

Between the passage of the 15th Amendment and the passage of the Voting Rights Act, not enough had changed in the country that everyone felt equal. Those who felt oppressed had to march and protest to make change.

If the same types of marches are happening right now, 50 years after the passage of the Voting Rights Act, has equality really been achieved?

Williams, a black man, has found the best way to test for perfect equality. When asked about black versus white lives, he has one question.

“Would you trade places with me?” he asked.

If the answer is no, then our country has quite a few more steps to take. ■

Kodaline concert fulfilled 'High Hopes'

Irish rock band astounded crowd with devotion to music



Photo by Francesca Gariano



Photo by Abby Burton

Left: Kodaline singer Steve Garrigan wandered the stage at the beginning of the concert, introducing himself to the crowd. **Right:** Guitarist Mark Prendergast explained the joys and pitfalls of touring new cities, including how easy it is to get attached to new places and the difficulties of leaving them.

By Francesca Gariano and Abby Burton

"When it comes to a gig, all of your inhibitions are gone," Kodaline guitarist Mark Prendergast said. "You've just lost yourself. The crowds are always exceptional."

That was clearly evident in Kodaline's performance at the House of Blues last Wednesday, Sept. 30. Presented by SiriusXM, the Irish quartet brought their two-album catalogue to Cleveland for the first time, along with their opening act, Philadelphia-natives Good Old War.

The energy that spread through the air before they even stepped out was contagious. You could feel Kodaline's love for touring just by their stage presence alone.

"Being on tour is strange because [a] whole new city every night is great," Prendergast said. "I absolutely love it. But sometimes you can get really attached to one city, and sometimes you might even hate a certain city." So it's cool to jump and change. I think on

this tour we're going to 12 cities we haven't been to before."

Kicking the night off with their track "Lost," an eerie tune from their newest album, "Coming Up For Air," vocalist, Steve Garrigan managed to capture the room in a trance as he wandered around the stage, introducing himself to the crowd.

The group took no time jumping into the third single from their latest release and enticing the crowd with the high-energy track, "Ready."

The setlist contained a fair mix of songs both old and new, switching between their broody and haunting first album tracks to their electric and exciting new material.

No matter the origin of the material, the group managed to capture the essence of their music and deliver it with fervor.

Each song on the setlist had a big sound, with each note lingering in the air after it was delivered. All emotions

were brought on stage that night, no matter the circumstances each song required to deliver its story.

The setlist was delivered within an hour, leaving little room for conversing with the crowd. The show came down to music and music alone. Due to the small stage and nature of their music, the group put sound first, stage presence falling second.

The band's lack of communication with the audience could have been an issue, but the group made up for it through their powerful execution of songs.

Whether it was due to time constraints or a personal choice, both Kodaline and Good Old War appeared to put emphasis on their sound over the performance.

Good Old War front man Keith Goodwin swayed through some of the group's popular tracks, such as "Tell Me What You Want From Me," "Coney Island" and "Small World."

Guitarist Dan Schwartz periodically switched between an acoustic and electric guitar — typically layering them over each other to avoid removing a tertiary limb.

Kodaline's live performances aren't carbon copies of their album — a note here and there off-tune, added or excluded harmonies elsewhere. It's that kind of perfect imperfection that makes their concert so much more exciting.

If there's anything clearly evident about Kodaline, it's that they truly possess the talent showcased on their records.



Students who rock: Mike Abbadini



Photo courtesy Mike Abbadini

Mike Abbadini, a senior Music Education major, plays keyboard for Essential Groove.

By Elissa Tennant

"Our sound is like — it's rock with a little bit of pop mixed in and undertones of jazz and Latin. It's a little bit of everything."

Senior Music Education major Mike Abbadini's specific, convoluted way of describing his band's sound is surprisingly accurate. Abbadini has played keyboard in rock band

Essential Groove for the past two-and-a-half years. After playing in various high school bands, he was recruited by fellow Cleveland State University Music students to join Essential Groove.

Essential Groove's lineup is constantly shifting, which Abbadini blames mostly on the academic

priorities of its members. Currently, the act has a keyboardist, one drummer — who doubles as a vocalist — a bass guitarist, a trumpet player, trombone player and saxophone player.

According to Abbadini, the band got its name from an old music fundamentals book belonging to the trumpet player.

Abbadini has played dozens of shows with multiple bands and is now easily able to determine the difference between a good show and a bad show — and it's not just about the size of the crowd.

"We've had shows with, like, 15 people that were really cool, and then we've had shows with huge crowds that went horribly," he said. "So it's really just the luck of the draw."

He recalled one gig at Beachland Tavern where Essential Groove supported a touring band from Florida. Anyone who has been to Beachland Tavern can tell you how

small the venue is, but Abbadini said the room was packed and the show went surprisingly well due to his band's synergy.

"The difference between a great show and a bad show really depends on the night," he said. "Because sometimes we'll rehearse a really good set with cool transitions from song to song...and then we'll get to the show and it just falls apart because someone's sick or someone's not really feeling it on their instrument that night."

Abbadini assures that Essential Groove's next show will be a great one. It's a Halloween show at The Foundry Concert Club, and the band plans to dress up. Tickets are \$7 in advance. Doors open at 8 p.m. Oct. 31.

This article is one of many in a new column dedicated to CSU students in local bands. Know a student in a band that rocks? E-mail us at cauldroneditors@gmail.com.

CSU professor's play to run at Playhouse

By Delaney Canfield

Most people believe the process of writing a play (though mentally grueling) follows a simple path from point A to B. You come up with an idea, write a draft, edit it down, get some actors and set designers, rehearse and boom! On the stage it goes.

However, this wasn't the case for Mike Geither, an associate English professor at Cleveland State University, who has once again watched one of his scripts, "The Attaining Gigantick Dimensions," come alive on stage — though not in the most traditional way.

The Cauldron sat down with Geither to chat about his play, which will be performed at the Helen Rosenfeld Lewis Bialosky Lab Theatre in PlayhouseSquare Oct. 9-10 at 7:30 p.m.

"Gigantick Dimensions" follows the story of a man who served in the Canadian military as an Afghan translator and has just returned to his home in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Unlike most plays, Geither's does not have a huge, engulfing climax the whole story is building toward. It takes a more cinematic approach and focuses on the little things that make life what it is. It shows life after war and all the adjustments of re-existing in a place of one's past.

Geither took a jigsaw puzzle-like approach and found himself piecing scenes and plot together during rehearsals. The approach that influenced this play is called "devised theatre." It involves the performers having a role in the overall development of the play, even though the script was written by Geither.

The performing team took scenes and concepts and rehearsed during the day before Geither went home to continue to write and tinker with them in the evening. It was this process that made him realize a driving, climactic plot wasn't necessary to tell the story he wanted, because real life doesn't typically have those elements.



Photo courtesy thechronicleherald.ca

A performance of "The Attaining Gigantick Dimensions" in the Neptune Studio Theatre in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Geither described his play as "not realistic" and much more representative than most traditional plays. The team essentially eliminates the fourth wall, which makes the audience feel the events of the play would be happening regardless if they were present or not.

Instead, "The Attaining Gigantick

Dimensions" is more presentational, and Geither joked this was the only performance option unless the play was made into a movie.

Tickets for this show are free for CSU students and \$5 for non-students. They can be purchased online at www.playhousesquare.org or at the PlayhouseSquare box office.

Annual Ingenuity Fest filled with creativity

By Delaney Canfield

If there's one thing Clevelanders are good at, its bracing against bad weather for the sake of having a good time.

Despite the sudden wind and rain this weekend, art lovers across the city bundled up and headed down to North Coast Harbor and Voinovich Park for the 10th annual Ingenuity Fest — a unique festival combining art and technology to showcase brilliant and innovate creators.

The theme for this year's festival was "Transitions," which was not only representative of our changing city but also of a changing festival.

In the past, Ingenuity Fest took place in and around the warehouses behind the Great Lakes Science Center (6181 Lady Hammond Rd.). This year the festival abandoned the warehouses and expanded around the entire harbor and into Voinovich Park, making room for even more artists and musicians.

Another noticeable difference was

a smaller space for fewer vendors, allowing more space for music stages and artists.

The festival grounds were broken into various sections, each containing different artwork and interactive spaces for festival-goers to enjoy.

"ART-chi-TECH-tonica" was a space for performance artists to show off their skills and for visitors to explore small, portable trailers filled with unique galleries.

The "Possibility Promenade" was an open space where select artists worked on unique paintings throughout the evening.

Even more fun could be found after dark over at "Illumination Island" where artists lit up the night with magnificent art as part of the "Platonic Playground and Harmonograph" with spectacular projections flashing onto the side of the Science Center.

One of the most eye-catching exhibits — and not just because of its immense size — was the incredible



Photo courtesy clevescene.com

Ingenuity Fest included several interactive exhibits and varying collections of artwork.

artwork of Tim Willis at the "Moto-Magination Station." It featured everyday vans and cars painted and transformed into massive monster trucks and demolition vehicles, along with a robot that dwarfed the massive trucks it guarded.

This was my third year at Ingenuity Fest, and every year the creative minds behind it all impress me more

and more.

Walking around the festival grounds and seeing people smile and interact with the artists and their exhibits made me realize what a unique city Cleveland really is. I am excited to see brilliant minds like the ones at the festival work together to bring about change in such a lovely city.

'The Green Inferno' wasted potential, letdown



Photo courtesy nukethefridge.com

Lorenza Izzo plays Justine, a woman who joins a group of activists, in "The Green Inferno."

By Roman Macharoni

It might just be me, but the image of a child gleefully running around holding someone's severed leg is funnier than a dozen pies to the face. Unfortunately, the other viewers at the cinema were less than enthused and probably more horrified.

From the director of "Hostel" and

"Cabin Fever" comes Eli Roth's next horror film, "The Green Inferno" — released Sept. 23.

When Justine (Lorenza Izzo) joins a group of extreme environmental activists at her college — led by conceited and vaguely foreign Alejandro (Ariel Levy) — she learns

of their plan to visit the Amazon rainforest for a protest. A construction company plans to tear down hundreds of acres of forest and destroy a native tribe's village unless they go and make a statement.

After unsuccessfully protesting, their plane home crash-lands dead center into said village, which is inhabited by crazed cannibals with an odd fascination with female circumcision.

The special effects are good — for the most part. The use of jerky editing makes instances of body mutilation exciting and intense. The film could have benefited from more of this but chooses to focus more on its bland characters.

For fans of gore, "Green Inferno" is a clear sendoff to classic American and Italian horror films like "Cannibal Holocaust." While the vibe of those movies is here, Roth has made much better homages to these films — like his aforementioned "Hostel."

There's not much to say about the acting. Izzo fits the bill for "screaming woman running for her life," and that's about it. The rest of the cast is about the same. Levy delivers some memorable lines and plays a jerk quite well.

In short, "Green Inferno" has some great comedic moments — even for those of you without morbid senses of humor like myself — and some serviceable special effects. The acting is substandard, but that isn't why you see these kinds of movies.

Roth has the capability to create much better horror films than this. Even with its high points, "The Green Inferno" still feels like wasted potential for something that could have been truly terrifying.



'Quantico' a must-watch for drama lovers

By Shannon Sharkey

The fall TV season is in full swing. One of this season's "must-sees" is "Quantico" — a new action-packed drama that premiered on ABC Sunday, Sept. 27.

It wastes no time cutting to the chase. The first episode leaves you hanging at the very beginning of what will probably be a season-long, surprise-riddled, cat-and-mouse game.

The series premiere opens with Alex Parrish (Priyanka Chopra) lying among rubble in what turns out to be the Grand Central Terminal in New York City. There has been a terrorist attack.

A flashback to three months before shows her and the rest of her group — reminiscent of an incoming college freshman class — who have been carefully selected by the government as newly accepted agents-in-training on the FBI Academy campus in Quantico, Va.

It's this camp and this camp only that will decide if Alex will be a special agent for the FBI — until she finds herself the main suspect in the New York City terrorist attack.

With no answers for the explosion and the police and FBI claiming she's a terrorist, Alex must not only find out who's framing her but stop them before they strike again. And the first place to start looking is back at the FBI Academy.

Of course, there's always a little bit of sex to go along with the action of a good drama and "Quantico" has plenty of it.

Ryan Booth (Jake McLaughlin), another agent-in-training, has certainly taken a liking to Alex, but whether she likes him — other than in his car — is definitely up in the air.

With all its flashbacks and flash-forwards, "Quantico" will have you trying to figure out what in the world you don't know. With a storyline that's



Photo courtesy newsday.com

Priyanka Chopra plays Alex Parrish, a FBI agent-in-training, who wakes in a pile of rubble after a terrorist attack in "Quantico," a new TV series on ABC.

already got me wanting more, I don't know why everyone isn't already glued to their TVs every night it's on.

Check ABC every Sunday night at 10 p.m. for new episodes.



'Grandfathered' lacks anything substantial



Photo courtesy hitflix.com

John Stamos (left) is Jimmy Martino, a philandering playboy whose past comes back in full force in "Grandfathered."

By Morgan Elswick

New TV shows often try too hard to become hits. It's especially disappointing when directors use tropes or clichés to hook the audience's attention. In "Grandfathered," a new FOX series that premiered Tuesday, Sept. 29, the tropes are rampant

without garnering many laughs.

Jimmy Martino (John Stamos) is a philandering playboy and restaurant owner with an arrogant attitude and little human empathy. He discovers one day he has a son, Gerald (Josh Peck), who was conceived without

his knowledge some 20 years before. Gerald also has a daughter, making her Jimmy's granddaughter.

As expected, Jimmy is unable to process this turn of events. After being guilt tripped by his staff, he decides to learn more about his son and granddaughter — even though he can't quite say the word "grandpa."

From there, he learns Gerald has relationship issues with his daughter's mother and requests Jimmy's help to fix them.

From the start, "Grandfathered" was built on a weak premise that had to be carried completely by the cast. The average trope of a playboy finding out he has a son was taken a step further with the added appearance of a granddaughter.

These types of shows always lead down the same path — redemption for the philanderer and some sort of happy ending for everyone. I have no problem with everyone getting what they want in the end — it's just so very boring.

One aspect of the show I did enjoy was the banter between Stamos and Gerald's mother (Paget Brewster). Both of them try to be "cool" people, and it shows how they're similar. It might also hint at them possibly getting back together in the future.

My favorite character of the whole show, though, was the baby. All of her lines were performed perfectly, without a hitch. (In case you're wondering, no, the baby does not talk.)

Overall, "Grandfathered" wasn't even passably entertaining. Filled with overdone tropes and a lack of real humor, this show needs some actual plot before it's worth the watch.

If you really want to, tune in to Fox Tuesdays at 8 p.m. to catch more episodes of "Grandfathered."





Too many lives lost in Cleveland

Senseless gun violence needs to stop

By Sara Liptak

A few weeks ago I was looking into national crime statistics. I may have just been bored, procrastinating or simply pissed about the stage of chaos in our country.

I happened to cross a website called Law Street Media. Not knowing how statistically correct this site was, I did some digging and found it's pretty legit.

The site's focus is on educating and informing millennials, and its information was staggering. I clicked on a link for the top ten most dangerous cities in America, and Cleveland was ranked number five.

With a seven percent increase in Cleveland's violent crime compared to last year, it's no wonder the community here is up in arms about the recent shootings of innocent children — as we should be, regardless

of the statistics.

In the past month, four children have been shot in Cleveland and three of the four were killed. From drive-by shootings into living room windows to approaching a stopped car at a traffic light and firing shots — I can't fathom a rhyme or reason to this cruel insanity.

To be honest, I haven't even looked deeply into these tragedies because the headlines say enough. It disgusts me to the point that I am nauseated even writing this.

The crime and violence needs to stop. We are supposed to be a city of transformation, acceleration, prosperity and rebuilding new hopes.

Sorry, not sorry, but the never-ending construction supposedly making our city look better physically — mainly for the Republican

National Convention next year — does absolutely nothing when we have people running the streets and shooting into cars and homes.

We're constantly under attack — physically, mentally and emotionally. There needs to be stricter gun control laws enforced. We need to start spending our money on smarter tactics that will reduce the crime rate, not only in Cleveland, but nationally as well.

I agree with Cleveland's Police Chief Calvin Williams, enough IS enough. I don't agree with the constant violence in this city, which police should be patrolling more closely.

Guns do not kill people, people with guns kill people. We can't get every gun off the streets, obviously, but stricter gun regulation doesn't seem like rocket science.

With the technology available there should be no reason we can't find these suspects and make them accountable for their bullets.

When will the violence stop? When will we really start coming together as one city, nation and world to find peace?

I understand crime will always be out there. Our world is not perfect, nor is our nation. But a city is a community, or at the very least, has potential to be one.

Maybe it's just wishful thinking, but I believe peace can come to Cleveland if we stop these senseless acts of violence.

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



Words affect our sexual practices

A letter from a morally bankrupt liberal

By Giordiana Lascu

My mother — raised by her staunchly Orthodox great-grandmother — constantly says in her adorable Romanian accent, "A woman must have rules."

Every time she says it, my blood nearly boils over with rage, because she is — of course — talking about sex.

The anger comes in two waves. The first burst ignites right after "a woman."

Don't men need rules too, Mom? No? They're just wild animals who can't be expected to control their libidos? That's why women are in charge of not getting raped, right? And if something like that were to happen, it's on the woman in question, right? Great! Just clarifying.

Of late, I've been escaping to the bathroom to calm down before hurtling stuff like this at my poor mother in line at the grocery store.

Rules for sex — how prudishly Puritan! The extra toilet time has given way to a more subtle rage regarding "rules."

I've decided the word "rules" is a direct attack on our Netflix-generation's create-your-own-adventure ideals.

It makes me as angry as the time my Saturday morning cartoons were interrupted by Ronald Reagan's death and the subsequent five-hour memorial documentary about his life — a struggle our children will never know.

I believe in the immortal words of The Burger King (and I could be paraphrasing) "Sex: have it your way".

So it came as a huge shock when I found myself spouting a slightly altered version of my mother's inane catchphrase to a friend who felt bad about sleeping with random girls.

I hope that by now we are all aware

that sex is constantly shoved down our throats by the media, but it took my male friend not knowing why he felt bad about the idea of no-strings-attached sex to make me realize what other ideas have been shoved in there.

It made me question my own sexual values and where those values came from.

I didn't realize it, but "values" has become a corrupt word to me, colored by phrases like "Christian values" which is stigmatized by racism, intolerance, Fox News and the Duggar family.

I had to reexamine what values are in order to admit to myself I had any at all. I had to convince myself that it was OK to have some. It was terrifying, and it was terrifying that it was terrifying.

They're just ideas — rules, if you will — that we put stock in and follow consistently. Having values is a commitment, they force us to think

and hold ourselves accountable, and that's scary. Without them, we live unexamined lives. Swearing them off unconsciously is a monstrous way to live.

At best it makes us feel empty and at worst we are never really standing for anything. How many people like that can one world really handle?

So my mother is right. A woman and — let me be so bold as to add — a man should have rules.

The rules, or values themselves, don't matter as much as the thought we put behind them. We are responsible for ourselves either way. Someday we will be responsible for other people, if we aren't parents already, so we might as well have some sort of plan, right?

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



Gender inequality throughout history

'Separate spheres' mindset damaging to society

By Carmen Herrera

I promised myself I would not do this. Last time I wrote for The Cauldron, it was about feminism and what equality really looks like.

But now I'm going to take off my "nice feminist hat" and flip my bitch switch. Ahem.

If anyone honestly believes women are not seen as inferior to men, they must be blind, stupid, ignorant or perfectly fine with it. I will break it down for you.

In caveman times, men were hunters, and women were gatherers. They watched the kids — because, hello — without cave children, *adiós*, homo sapiens! The women cooked the meat the men returned with, and made them their dinners.

It became normal in cave society for men to be the protectors and women to be the protected.

Fast forward. The nineteenth century brought

about the "cult of true womanhood" aka the "cult of domesticity." Basically, to be a true woman you had to be domestically inclined.

Its four virtues were piety, purity, submissiveness and domesticity. You had to value religion, be a virgin, be obedient and be good at housework.

Fast forward. Many people remember their mother staying home to do the cooking, cleaning and caring for them. Their father went to work to provide for the family. This arrangement was known as the "nuclear family."

If you happened to be from a different type of family where your father stayed home or you had a single mother, then your father was emasculated by society for doing "women's work."

Your single mother was pitied or hated, and society believed she had either driven your father away or

wasn't good enough to keep him.

Fast forward. Today, the fight for women's rights is ever-present in the media.

With a rise in technology and an awareness of our equity, women have been trying to change their place in the world. Even though there are women's rights advocates all over the place, there is still a "separate spheres" mindset among men and women in society today.

Research was done concerning couples and the delegation of housework. It has been shown that even when both partners have full-time jobs, women spend over ten hours more per week doing household chores than men.

And now, to the point.

While there are men and women who believe feminism is a waste of time, I ask you this: Why? Is it a waste of time because it doesn't affect you?

Is it a waste of time because men and women are already equal? Do you "let" your girlfriend or wife do your laundry, cook your meals and clean the house, like it's a privilege and she should just be happy you keep her around?

Are you afraid to oppose your boyfriend or husband not because of abuse, but because his silence hurts even more? You need political, social and economic equality of the sexes (psst, that's the definition of feminism).

I am in no way declaring that all men are bad or that all women are good because sometimes quite the opposite is true. I think everyone should learn to look at each other in fairness as people and not stereotypes.

Carmen Herrera is a junior Communication major at CSU.



Go home, Trump, and fix the hair

The truly terrifying realization of "President Trump"

By Amara Alberto

When I offered to write about Donald Trump this week, my first idea was to turn in a page with several hundred "NO's" written on it in various stages of dramatic capitalization and desperation.

After some time and deliberation, journalistic integrity prevailed. Now you get this.

I have been looking forward to next November for about two years.

I'm not normally a huge fan of making plans way in advance, but a girl only gets to cast her first presidential vote once.

I've been looking forward to taking part in this great, adult ritual of pretending the government will listen to one more person's opinion on the subject of who should lead us for the next four years.

I have been looking forward to

the idea of carefully deliberating candidate's policies, following debates and forming opinions about the new politicians who step forward every few years to throw their metaphorical hat into the ring.

Instead, I and the rest of the voting population have been introduced to the truly terrifying idea of "President Trump."

To be perfectly clear, I do not like Donald Trump. I do not like his politics, his followers or the plans he has for this county if by some chance he wins the upcoming election.

I also don't like his hair, but if we all fell into the trap of attacking people based on their personal appearance, we would all be as petty as Trump himself — who has called out female journalists, presenters and political peers based on his opinion of their

attractiveness.

Actually, based on his track record, I think I'm justified in saying he has horrible hair, and he looks like the villains from the cartoon shows I used to watch on TV.

A few years ago — even up until last year — Donald Trump was a punch line.

His stacks of cash, revolving cast of attractive ex-wives and appalling hair were accessories to a man that we all agreed was powerful, but definitely not to be taken too seriously in the grand scheme of running a country.

It worries me greatly that the moment he stepped up as a candidate, people began to take him seriously — claiming the racist, sexist and incredibly violent things he says are thoughts everyone in America is thinking, but is too afraid to say.

Of course, in the wonderful world of politics, it's pretty hard to find a candidate with whom you agree 100 percent.

It seems even harder to find a candidate with whom you agree who makes it all the way to the final rounds.

To me it seems that sometimes you just end up voting for the person you hate the least.

In my case then, I will be voting for anyone but Donald Trump, and I hope that you do too.

And if all else fails, I hear scientists found water on Mars, so maybe we can just move there.

Amara Alberto is a junior Studio Art major at CSU.

