

The New | Perspective

CARROLL UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT
NEWS PUBLICATION **SINCE 1874**

May 2017

FAREWELL, DOCTOR

Where do professors go?
What do they do? In a
bittersweet goodbye,
Dr. John Garrison
tells us his future plans

PIONISSIMO PERFORMS AT MILLER PARK | HUMANS OF CARROLL | GORSUCH NOMINATED | LEGALLY BLONDE REVIEW

Our | Perspective

The *New Perspective* is Carroll University's official student-operated newspaper. Its goals are twofold: to inform and connect the Carroll and Waukesha community, and to give students an outlet to hone their skills in both print and online journalism. In order to further these goals, the *New Perspective* is constantly finding new ways to create an innovative media publication that best serves the public interest. The *New Perspective* staff believe in fostering a newspaper that reflects not just publications past and present, but one that will help shape the future of college level journalism for decades to come.



Photo by Robert Graf

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Looking back, it's been an incredible year. What more can we say? There have been changes, many of them, both here on campus and on a grander scale.

Some changes have been great. We've rebranded our newspaper and created a publication we're proud to stand behind, highlighting the accomplishments, struggles and trials of students and staff along the way. We've covered exciting things like the construction of buildings on campus, the search for a new president, and personal stories through Humans of Carroll. Outside of Carroll, we've seen unprecedented movements for women's rights as well as meaningful discussions on the future of business, taxes, climate and immigration. More and more, people are listening to each other.

There have also been some great episodes of SNL lately.

Other changes have been difficult. Take, for example, the fact that the end of the year means we lose our seniors - dedicated staff members who make The *New Perspective* possible in so many ways. Through content, photography, administrative work and more, they've increased the efficacy and quality of this publication. We can't begin to thank them enough.

We also want to thank the notable faculty and staff members who are moving on as well. Dr. Garrison is featured in this issue and has touched the hearts and minds of many students. He is not the only one. Dr. Zukas, too, will be missed for his dedication to journalism and the larger field of communication. And of course, President Hastad's departure impacts us all. To all of them and others who are leaving, we extend our gratitude for their time and devotion.

Some people might call this time of year bittersweet. We, however, won't. With spring's end, we look forward to a restful summer and the start of another year, full of fresh faces and stories.

- LINDA BRAUS AND JACK SHERMAN, EDITORS-IN-CHIEF

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Cover photo by Ben Thorpe

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The *New Perspective* will accept letter submissions from the Carroll University community regarding questions or comments on printed material as long as they are sent via email to:

JACK SHERMAN | jmsherman@pio.carrollu.edu

LINDA BRAUS | lbraus@pio.carrollu.edu

ADVERTISING

For advertising rates, quotes, and other inquiries, please contact:

ALLIE WILFER | awilfer@pio.carrollu.edu

Staff | List

EDITORS-IN-CHIEF

Jack Sherman

Linda Braus

VICE PRESIDENT

Ben Thorpe

SECRETARIES

Dakota Pesold

Annie Englehardt

SECTION EDITORS

Michelle Orr | News

Colleen Buetow | A&E

Marissa George | Spread

Dena Abu-Saif | Op/Ed

Ben Thorpe | Feature

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Robert Graf

ACCOUNT MANAGER

Allie Wilfer

STAFF REPORTERS

Noah Johnson

Sierra Trojan

Elaina Barbieri

Emma Thorpe

GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Emily Gaggioli

Staff list refers to members who contributed to the current issue.

PIOnissimo Hits it Out of the Park

By Dena Abu-Saif | Op/Ed Editor

Sunday, April 9th, marked a special occasion for Carroll University's acappella group PIONissimo. The group of 19 members kicked off the Brewers vs Cubs game by singing the national anthem.

"I think the performance went really well!" said Erin Oberdorf, president of PIONissimo. "After the chaos of getting everyone to the park on time, the whole process went very smoothly."

This venue is the largest to date for PIONissimo, but the nerves did not overpower their voices. "My adrenaline was pumping to be out in Miller Park in front of thousands of people," said Mark Wampfler. "During the performance, I felt amazing. I knew we were blending well and we sounded fantastic."

This performance doubled as a bonding experience for the group. "We all arrived early to tailgate," said Oberdorf. Following the performance the whole group stayed for the game. They received 10 free tickets and half off on the extra one they purchased. "I couldn't have asked to sing the national anthem with better people," said Wampfler.

The process to get to Miller Park was not as daunting and hard as it would appear. "Natalie Hartwig, a member of PIONissimo, works with the Brewers and she informed us of the opportunity," said Oberdorf. "We sent in an audio recording to the Brewers in February and heard back a week later that we were selected to sing."

Hearing about the date of the performance in February allowed the group ample time to practice. "We rehearsed the anthem a few times after being selected, but we pretty much had it memorized, so we could really work on being musical," said Oberdorf. "My biggest concern was the echo we would hear while we were singing, but it turned out not to be an issue because we were so well rehearsed with each other."

This was an amazing opportunity for the new acappella group to get out there and show off what they have worked for. "We are always looking for events and performances to be a part of and if any other opportunities like this arise, we will be sure to snatch them up," said Wampfler.



Photo courtesy of Erin Oberdorf

Members of PIONissimo arrive at Miller Park excited and nervous to sing the national anthem on April 9, 2017.

Carroll's Search for A New President Continues

By Dena Abu-Saif | Op/Ed Editor

Following the withdrawal of Sarah Stoelinga this past February, Carroll's Presidential Search Committee continued its efforts in selecting a new candidate. The Committee, composed of trustees, alumni, faculty, staff and students tackled the job last semester; therefore, they plan to repeat the same process.

To give anyone wanting to apply a fair chance, the committee started from scratch. The job application and qualifications were re-posted in early March with a closing deadline set for the middle of April. "I am very encouraged by how the process is progressing and I am excited about Carroll's future," said Student Senate President and member of the search committee Kristen Riekkoff.

Jim DeJong '73, Chair of the Committee, provided the following statement: "The continuation of the search for Carroll's next president is in full swing.

The university's search consultant, Myers McRae, has been receiving applications and referrals for the position from across the country. The committee is actively reviewing applications and will be meeting soon to identify the top candidates who will then come to Milwaukee for off-site interviews with the committee. Following off site interviews, the committee will identify finalists who will be invited to Carroll's campus for meetings with the various campus constituencies. According to DeJong, the committee hopes to recommend a candidate to the University's Board of Trustees prior to the end of the spring semester."

President Hastad, although completely removed from the search, had this comment: "I have great confidence in the committee and that they will be successful in identifying the best person for the next president of Carroll."

Dr. Theresa Barry, vice president of Student Affairs, sent an email to all Carroll Students at the end of

April with this additional statement from Jim DeJong: "On Wednesday, we participated in a conference call with Myers McRae to review the applications. During that call, we identified a group of semifinalists who have been invited to Milwaukee for off site interviews with the committee. We expect to select two or three finalists from that group who would then be invited to visit Carroll's campus. Each finalist's campus visit would include scheduled forums with the various campus constituencies. Although still tentative, we hope to schedule those visits on May 1st, May 2nd and/or May 3rd. We will provide you with further information as soon as possible."

It appears that the process will be similar to how it was last semester. The candidates will be kept secret for confidentiality purposes and then faculty, staff and the student body will be notified once a decision is finalized.



Photo courtesy of Jack Zandi

Students can download Capptivation's sexual assault resource app, Reach Out, on the iOS App Store and Google Play.

Reach Out

| A Sexual Assault Resource App

By Dena Abu-Saif | Op/Ed Editor

"One in five women and one in sixteen men are sexually assaulted while in college." - National Sexual Violence Resource Center

Capptivation, the company that created the sexual assault resource app, began fall of 2014 in Chappaqua, New York with Jack Zandi, Racquel Giner and Billy Sadik-Khan. These three recent college graduates were shocked that - at the time - one in four college women would be sexual assaulted during their time at school, according to the Capptivation website. Since then, the number has gone up.

"Our belief is that if we can eliminate the inconveniences a survivor would normally have to deal with, then there is a much higher likelihood that they will get the help they need, and if they do that, then the odds are they will be more likely to report, and if they are more likely to report, there is a greater chance the perpetrator(s) will get caught, and if there is a higher chance they get caught, then there is a lower chance that another potential victim will be assaulted," said Zandi.

The Capptivation team began creating the app right when the company got up and running. When they first started to look into sexual assault resources on college campuses, they discovered that, with most campuses, the information on where to turn in these situations was hard to find - buried inside codes of conduct and student handbooks.

Instead of leaving it at that, Zandi, Giner and Sadik-Khan wanted to use the technological boom that the nation is going through to provide help to those who want it. "We created the app because we identified an opportunity to provide technologically innovative solutions that would help people who have experienced some form of sexual misconduct, who often find themselves confused and unsure where to turn in the aftermath of sexual violence," said Zandi.

The current app is a newer version of their previous app Reach Out. "The app is 100% free and 100% anonymous," Zandi said.

The process of making the app took lots of searching through websites and talking with college campuses. "We started at stage 0," said Zandi. Now, however, the app works in conjunction with 132 universities across the country.

The app launched in the summer of 2016 and is constantly pushing updates to make it as helpful as possible for those who use it. The app not only provides resources for students but also for faculty and staff. The app has a function that allows for the user to anonymously contact a resource via email and also lists campus and local resources.

"Anonymity is important because survivors are more likely to utilize these resources when they feel safe and trust that they can maintain their privacy in its totality," said Zandi. One main feature of the app is the guide, which walks the user through the process: Get to a Safe Place, Preserve the Evidence, Talk to an Advocate, Get Medical Attention, Arrange Interim Measures, Report the Incident, Heal.

The app has the option of going international, but at this moment the company has not pushed their international campaign. The app is available on the iOS App Store and on Google Play.

Got Jeans? Denim Day Sparks World Wide Participation

By Sierra Trojan | Reporter

Individuals around the world participated in the Denim Day campaign on Wednesday, April 26 to raise awareness and show solidarity with survivors of sexual violence.

The campaign originates from an 18-year-old Italian woman who was raped by her 45-year-old driving instructor in the early 1990's. She prosecuted the man and the case went to the Italian Supreme Court.

The chief judge argued that because the woman wore tight jeans, the rape must have been consensual because the man would need help taking her jeans off. Female Italian Parliament members wore jeans to work to show solidarity with the young woman and protest the verdict.

The organization Peace Over Violence has run its Denim Day campaign for the last 18 years. Since 1999, Denim Day is held on a Wednesday in April, which is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. According to The Maine Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MECASA), 1 in 5 women are a victim of sexual violence in their lifetime. For college-aged women, 1 in 4 are likely to be a victim of sexual violence.

Under Title IX statute, educational institutions must have a procedure in place if a student reports sexual discrimination, harassment or violence. At Carroll University, any student who reports a sexual misconduct will be contacted by the Director of Student Conduct, Abby Meddaugh.

When meeting with a student, Ms. Meddaugh takes as much information as they would like to give. Ms. Meddaugh will then tell the student their available resources, which varies from filing a police report, having the assailant go through the conduct process or doing nothing.

After Ms. Meddaugh meets with the student in person, she sends an email within 24 hours to provide additional support.

"I follow up via email as well, because we know that people in trauma need to hear things multiple ways. So we want to make sure they have those different points of contact," Ms. Meddaugh said.

If students would like to discuss sexual violence without reporting the incident, the university has three confidential reporting options: the nurse practitioners, the chaplain, or the personal counselors in the Walter Young Center.

Carroll University partners with The Women's Center and Police Department in Waukesha, Wis. to provide training and resources to professional staff members on violence against women.

For more information on resources for victims of sexual violence, contact Abby Meddaugh at ameddaug@carrollu.edu, or The Women's Center at (262)547-4600.

Farewell, Dr. C

INTERVIEW BY LINDA BRAUS AND BEN THORPE
| Editor-in-Chief and Feature Editor

Dr. John Garrison, one of Carroll University's most beloved and influential professors, is about to finish his last semester here as he prepares to join the English faculty at Grinnell College in the fall. We seized the opportunity to talk to him about his time here, his future at Grinnell, and what's in store for Carroll.

LINDA BRAUS: When did you start at Carroll? How long have you been here?

DR. GARRISON: Fall 2011, so six years.

LB: How would you say you have changed since starting here, if you would say that?

DG: Working with the Carroll students has helped me become an instructor who is sort of more open to having fun, laughing.

LB: Well that's interesting because that's something you're known for-- so you weren't like that at the beginning?

DG: No. I moved away from feeling like I had to be like a professor should be, quote-on-quote, to thinking about how to be the right professor for the Carroll students.

LB: You often talk about the feel of Carroll and the unmatched Carroll student-- think of an experience you've had or maybe an anecdote, however specific, that encapsulates the Carroll experience?

DG: I can think of two experiences, one is that I had a hybrid English 170 course about a year ago and the students loved meeting together so much that they unanimously voted to make it non-hybrid, so we all met in person the whole time.

Another anecdote is when two of my students sensed that I was a little bit sad and for some reason so two students made me a cake but it was a golden retriever cake because they wanted me to have a cake in the office that reminded me of my dog, Ella.

LB: Aw. So moving from that, is there anything you want to say? Specifically about Carroll or about anything-- leaving it open for you if you want to.

DG: Like, stay gold?

LB: I don't know. I'm not asking for parting words or anything. Unless you want to give parting words.

DG: I was really touched that many students nominated me to be the Baccalaureate speaker at this year's graduation, so I'm going to end in grand Garrison style. I'm going to speak and give a talk for the ages. A Garrison Greatest Hits.

LB: Do we have a sneak-peak?

BEN THORPE: A teaser, if you will?

DG: It's just going to be a best of. It'll surprise and delight even those who have taken ten classes with me.

BT: I have a question concerning the department. I was going over your employment history and you are a man who has gone far and wide, very successful, so my question to you is, how was the department when you came in and now that you're leaving how has it changed-- what are changes you have implemented? Progressions, signs of development?

DG: Well since I arrived we've added to the major a visual studies requirement and one of the two courses that fills that is a course I teach which is this course on global film theory and that's been a really neat course to add for students to get to the heart of literature-- narrative, setting point of view-- and to get at those issues in radically new ways and it also enables us to have conversations that are all about the now, for example in my film course right now we're watching a movie called Moonlight, which won the academy award for best film and it's allowed us to have a conversation about race, class, important issues.

BT: When we had a president suddenly leave and we don't have a president. As you leave, your vacuum must be filled and also the president's vacuum must also be filled-- what would you hope for in a future president for Carroll?

DG: Well, I'm a big believer in radical change and sort of new thinking and innovation and part of that comes from my background having worked in business and from my background having worked in community based organizations trying to radically address social issues. So I think it would be great to have a president come in and sort of help us rethink what we're doing for the next ten years.

BT: Any of your favorite memories at Carroll, anything that stands out?

DG: In my survey of early British literature, I started including a component where students competed in the Norton poetry recitation contest, so each student made a video of themselves reciting Shakespeare's sonnet 115, and there were some really utterly amazing ones. One student performed the sonnet in a full suit of armour. One student performed the sonnet sort of simultaneously with a set of these really somber black and white drawings and that one made it to be a finalist in this international competition and I was very pleased with that. It's a way that engaging with literature engages with the world.

Also, in my courses I often have people create table tents with made up names for themselves including superhero names, top-secret hideout, their medieval occupation, their favorite spell to cast... and many of those students have requested that I refer to them by those names in subsequent classes as well. So in my film course right now I have a character named the Elf, a character named Senior, a character named I Heart Naps.

LB: Last thing, what are you looking forward to about Grinnell?

DG: I've always wanted to get lost in a corn maze. Grinnell is known as the jewel of the prairie and I'd like to see why that is. There are bison living on a wildlife refuge fifteen minutes from campus that I'm looking forward to visiting... and possibly brushing their hair.

Garrison



STUDENTS SAY...

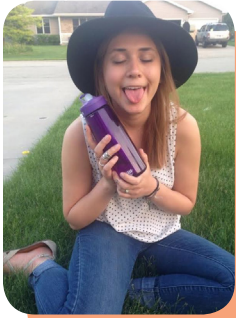
VINCENT WARTENWEILER: I can hardly begin to put to words how much Dr. Garrison has done for my education, my self-esteem, and my overall college experience. Coming into Carroll, I was very reserved and often didn't speak in class. Dr. Garrison's courses and teaching style definitely coaxed active participation out of me, which impacted my performance in all my classes. Furthermore, Dr. Garrison made me a much more confident, effective writer. I owe much of my success with pharmacy school applications to the instruction and guidance I received from Dr. Garrison both in and out of the classroom.

TIFFANY MARCH: Dr. Garrison has had a huge impact on both my education and personal endeavors. My first class with him made me challenge my own thoughts and gain an entirely new perspective in my day-to-day life. Initially, his impact was academically, but -- after taking additional classes -- he became a great advisor. He helped me when I contemplated my major, my career and my future. I can confidently say I would not be where I am today without his continued encouragement and support. I feel so blessed to have had an experience with a professor who invests so much of himself in his student's studies, career and life.

ANDRIANA LAZIC: As a freshman, I started out as a business major. I didn't have any interest in it at all and I didn't really have an idea of what I wanted to study. I have always loved to read, it was what I spent most of my time doing. So, I thought to change my major to English. I walked into Dr. Garrison's British Literature class and immediately thought I was missing a pre-requisite course. It was my first college literature course and I was super intimidated, but I soon ended up loving the class so much. Dr. Garrison influenced my love to analyze literature so much. Although it was challenge, he made the class so comfortable and welcoming. Every idea, no matter how small or big, was important to the class discussion.

SIERRA TROJAN: I have had the pleasure of knowing Dr. Garrison as a professor and working alongside him as an Orientation Mentor. I've never had another professor who pushes their students towards success and supports them in ways that go unnoticed.

Adieu Seniors



Allie Wilfer

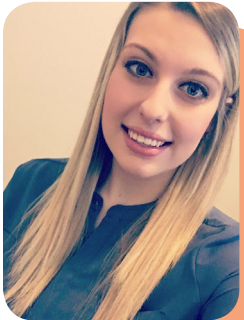
| Account Manager

"I started at the New Perspective my Freshman year when it had just been reborn. Not only have I seen it grow immensely throughout the four years I've been involved, but I've also been able to take a mature responsibility in my various positions. The New Perspective has not only been training for my career and resume, but the staff have been an incredible force to both work and laugh with. You will always be my newspaper family."

Marissa George

| Centerspread Editor

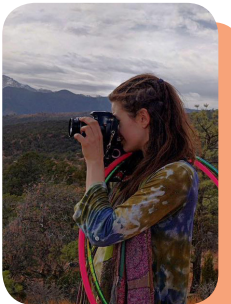
"My time on the NP has been an amazing journey. From the first time laying out my first center spread to my last one has been fun. I have learned so much, from all the late nights of finishing issues, to laughing for no reason. It has been a blessing. All the wonderful skills I have learned will help me with future layouts."



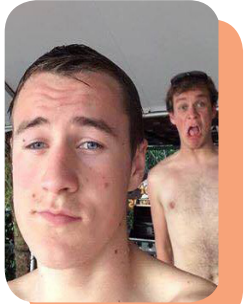
Colleen Buetow

| A&E Editor

"I have drastically grown in my reporting and editing skills since joining The New Perspective; first, as a staff reporter and then the Arts and Entertainment editor this year. I will greatly miss writing, editing, and being a part of The New Perspective staff, but hope to incorporate aspects of what I have learned about journalism into my middle school English classroom next year."



Erin Hickey | Photographer



Noah Johnson | Staff Reporter

The Gorsuch Effect



Photo courtesy of slate.com

By Noah Johnson | Staff Reporter

On April 10, Neil Gorsuch was confirmed and sworn into his appointment to the Supreme Court. At face value, taken with none of the cultural context, this is no big deal. However, this confirmation is farther reaching than most people may realize.

Before we even talk about people, let's talk about the seat that's being filled. The last inhabitant of the seat, Antonin Scalia, tipped the court toward a more conservative majority - his vacating the seat, however tragic, gave liberals a morbid hope. Under President Obama, the Democrats expected to appoint a liberal justice and retake the Supreme Court, but Senate majority leader Mitch McConnell blocked the Democrats nomination of Merrick Garland. That hope died Monday. Now, with the Supreme Court in a 5-4 split toward the conservatives, it seems that the whole of America's power rests in one party's hands.

Now, let's talk about Neil Gorsuch. He, like his seat's predecessor, looks at the Constitution as an originalist and a textualist, claiming the vagueness of the document should be interpreted in a way most like the original signers thought. This may not necessarily help Trump get things done, but it does mean our progressivism wave is over. This could affect recent decisions (like the legalization of gay marriage), current events in the country (like the federal apathy regarding state-by-state legalization of marijuana), and will almost certainly protect

future actions of the government (like, hypothetically speaking, invading Syria).

Perhaps the most serious implication of the Gorsuch confirmation is what it means for Trump's plans for deregulation and minimization of the federal government. Trump has been vocal of his plans to close several government agencies he deems unnecessary, such as the Department of Education and the Environmental Protection Agency. Given the partisan composition of all three branches, it seems that these cuts will meet minimal resistance. In terms of deregulation, important landmark decisions from the Supreme Court are in jeopardy of being overwritten; Progressive decisions on gay marriage and abortion are at risk of changing and future questions on voter ID and campaign finance reform are now looking bleak at best.

Given all this information, all I can really do is laugh. I'm not laughing at the misfortune of others and I'm not laughing at the people trying to accidentally kill my country. I'm laughing at the situation we find ourselves in as a species. With so many metaphorical fires roaring around me, I can see why Nero picked up a fiddle.

"In a world with so many enemies, losing friends kills."

Burnout: A Letter to My Younger Self

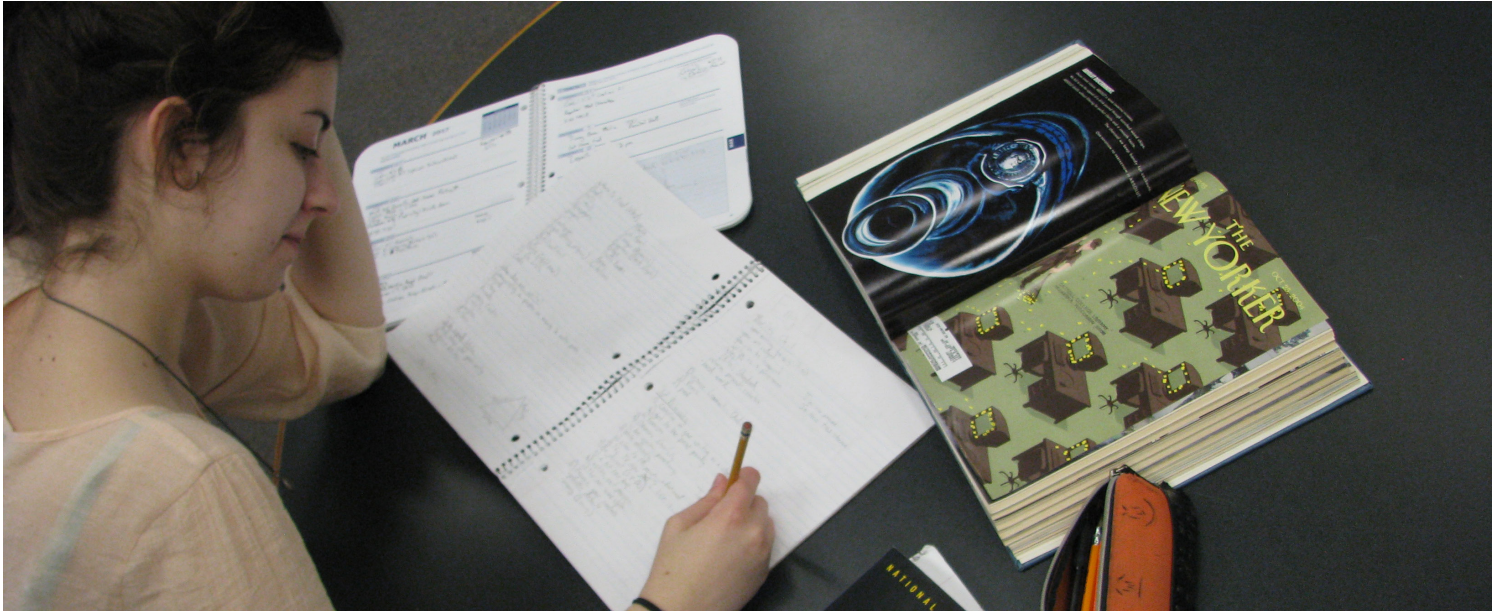


Photo by Robert Graf

By Elaina Barbieri | Staff Reporter

Dear Ten-Year-Old Me,

Aren't you the cutest? You got that shaggy brown hair, clear grey eyes, a voice like you've been consistently huffing helium, and a thin crooked smile that you're still learning how to properly compose (and still learning, ten years later). You're also a great student - like you are annoyingly good at what you do. I remember, I was you. I remember folding my hands on top of the desk and politely raising my hand for each question. I remember wriggling in a complement to the teacher whenever I could because I wanted to be a teacher's pet. I know you. When the cool kids ask "Do you like doing homework?" you proudly chirp "Yes!" as if there's no other conceivable option in the world.

Man, you're kind of obnoxious in a "do-gooder" sort of way, and that's all fine and good. Your rigorous determination to have a successful high school career certainly didn't fail. By that I mean, you are both not pregnant and not doing hard drugs. That could change soon since your twenty-year-old self is gleefully zipping on a downward spiral, but perhaps I'm being too harsh on my current self.

I write this letter not to chastise you about your perfect study habits and clear ambition- it may be in excess but there's no shame in harboring such vibrant energy and excitement for learning. No, I am writing to you to deliver a warning. That lust for knowledge, that unknown thrill of the future, boundless enthusiasm to succeed, all that begins to go down the drain in college. You will burnout. It's time you put some of that childlike energy you so proudly exude on reserve.

You see, in middle school you experience your first struggles with loneliness, bullying, self-doubt, acne, pretty much all the fun stuff that comes wrapped in the

package called "puberty." You have a little more fun in high school and your time in the theater department may be the best time of your life. Still, you will begin to notice the emergence of this... something inside of you. Imagine a black whirlpool sucking away whatever motivation you have, slowly and quietly so you don't realize anything is truly happening at first. Around your freshman year of high school, you will realize you have depression. You may not know what depression is yet so I recommend hopping on that old Dell laptop that you use to play Harry Potter games on, googling some of the symptoms and buckle up for a wild ride.

See, you think the world is agonizingly hard now. You can't eat all the Goldfish crackers you want because mom has you on portion control. Jokes on you. You going to be exhibiting your own portion control in future years because one handful of Goldfish adds two pounds to your thighs. You think the next English project will ruin your life if you don't get an A on it. Oh boy, if you could see yourself now.

As a college student, I have managed to write papers the morning they were due even after they were assigned two weeks in advance. I have lied through my teeth, convincing teachers that "Yes, of course I did the reading. Here are my thoughts. Please accept the BS pouring out of my mouth." Frankly, I'm kind of good at just skating by. I'm impressed in some ways though not necessarily proud.

Sometimes I don't go to class. I just do not go. No primary reason or exterior motive. I just have no desire to leave my bed. Sometimes I spend too much time on perfecting my eyebrows (Do. Not. Over-pluck. This will become a serious trend in the later half of the 2010's. Trust me.) and I become so late that I skip class just to

avoid the embarrassment of being tardy. So, the good news is that I do not violently snort cocaine or make out with boys in the back of trucks. In fact, congratulations, you make out with no boys and are still terribly lonely even after ten years of trying find someone to love. That sounds disheartening so I recommend thinking of it as an accomplishment. Not many people are that undesirable. You are truly one in a million. I recognize that this may not be the most uplifting advice but you got to learn about it at some time so why not hear it from your best friend- yourself.

Truth is, little Elaina, you are going to burnout. You spent all the energy and passion you had as a kid on panic attacks over stupid math equations that you won't even touch during your years of higher education. You are wasting that little reserve filled with motivation inside of you. You stress punctuality and perfection so much in your daily life that, in ten years, all of that ambition will snap. on Nickelodeon. All I ask is that you retain one simple thing in that ADD ravaged brain of yours: Do not

It's hard to put things in perspective as a ten-year-old. Your perspective is largely limited to whatever is let yourself burnout. Give yourself some slack. Create some breathing room. Do not strive for perfection. In a decade you will find that, despite your best efforts, you have reached nothing even close to your concept of success. That's not because you are a failure. Your expectations are simply too high.

This may be a bitter spoonful of reality but, like medicine, it is necessary to swallow. Save your energy for when it truly matters and allow yourself to have some fun. You are a cute kid. Act like one.

From Opening to Extended

| Legally Blonde Found Guilty of Catchy Music and Overall Success

By Dena Abu-Saif | OP/Ed Editor

The Otteson Theater was overrun with pink balloons and eager audience members on opening night of *Legally Blonde: The Musical*, and the atmosphere continued into the extended showing. Directed by Professor Jennifer Dobby, the production featured over 30 members that followed the story of Elle Woods and how love led her to Harvard Law School. The musical features songs that will stay in your head long after the production finishes and a plot that will make you laugh.



Photo by Ryan Drake

Rachel Verhoef, playing the lead role of Elle Woods, showcases what it truly means to be “legally blonde” through her inflection and killer vocals. Singing in almost every song may seem daunting, but Verhoef appears to take the challenge in stride. She fluidly holds long notes while remembering dance moves and staying true to Elle’s witty and quirky personality. Elle’s love interest in the musical, Emmett, played by Jack Sherman, has his

fair share of singing. Although Sherman does not have as many song and dance combinations as Verhoef; his challenge comes in the form of legal jargon and keeping a fast pace in his delivery - on top of the music. Like Verhoef, Sherman accepts the challenge and performs with stable confidence, earning his right to a “chip on his shoulder.”

Every love story needs a great group of backup singers and a friend that arrives at just the right time. Serena (Allison Klauke), Margot (Karley Dyer) and Pilar (Andrea Kohn) “bent and snapped” their way through humorous dialogue delivered with a sassy attitude that can only stem from real life experiences. They brought in their own personal flare, adding a unique sense of realism to characters created to be comedic. However, the comedic music does not come from the Greek Chorus but from Paulette’s (Francesca Steitz) song, Ireland. Encapsulating the spirit of Ireland, Steitz boasts strong notes with a solid spirit to back it up; flowing from dialogue to these powerful notes with great ease.

The wardrobe acts both as an identifier for the characters and as a tool for plot progression. Throughout the musical, Elle changes from flashy and vibrant pink dresses and skirts to a standard professional navy dress; ending the musical in - the best of both worlds - a classy tweed pink suit. With each wardrobe change, Elle’s character moves on to a different point in her life. Being able to find that many different shades of pink - with



Photo by Ryan Drake

one outfit being sequence overload - and making them function for quick changes could not have been easy. I praise and applaud the costuming department for all of Elle’s outfits and all the costumes in the production.

I am not a huge fan of musicals, but this show had me laughing and smiling with the occasional eye-roll in tandem with dramatic irony. The pink decorations were tasteful, the set as a whole functioned as it should, and the cast seemed to genuinely enjoy themselves. I give a wholehearted well done to the cast and crew. Omigod You Guys -- it was truly a show that I will remember for a long time.

One Weekend, One Afternoon, One Breathtaking Show

By Dena Abu-Saif | OP/Ed Editor

Fefu and Her Friends, directed by Regina Aiuppa (‘17), opened on April 21 for one weekend. Seeing the play opening night in the intimate space of the studio theater made the incredible performances even more memorable. Taking place in the 1930s, *Fefu and Her Friends* carries through in one afternoon, following the conversation of eight women and each of their internal and external struggles.

Laura Gray (Fefu) beautifully flows through the various emotions that Fefu feels. Not only do her gestures and stance convey the emotions, but her voice and face change with the ease only an amazing actress could possess. Kim Magsig (Cindy) brings forward a delicate charm with a soft spoken voice and lighthearted delivery of her lines. She counteracts the grandiose attitude of Fefu while easing Christina (played by Sierra Trojan) into the crazy world of Fefu’s living room. *Fefu and Her Friends* was Trojan’s first production, but her performance was nothing close to a rookie’s. Her character’s blunt, confrontational attitude mixed

with a slight amount of fear was wonderfully showcased through her comforting tone with Magsig and slightly shaky voice when speaking to Gray. Trojan’s questioning attitude can be compared to Taylor Deplazes’ (Sue) happy-go-lucky attitude showcased through her blocking where she dances around the stage. Although her character seems to be the comic relief, there are brief moments where Deplazes’ humanises Sue by showing the hurt and fear for Julia through a waver in her smile, or short quick steps.

Bailey Pietsch (Emma) embraced the true meaning of a devoted thespian in multiple ways. Pietsch has a grand performance in the play and she says the lines with such ease, almost as if the character was made for her. She moves across the stage to entice the audience into her speech and her smooth voices acts as the final reel in. Pietsch’s character opposes Frankie Steitz’s character Julia. Along with standard struggles of performing -- general nerves and remembering lines -- Steitz’s has the added challenge of operating a 1930s wheelchair.

This takes away the usual eye-catchers, gestures and blocking, but Steitz’s uses her head and eyes to capture the dark feelings and thoughts that haunt Julia throughout the production.

Tiffany March (Paula) and Natasha Goeller (Cecelia) are two characters who appear to have their own narrative outside of the main plot. March’s more aggressive tone towards Goeller’s character juxtaposes with her lowered shoulders and bashful face when talking with the other women. It’s this juxtaposition that showcases Paula’s internal struggle with fitting in while staying true to herself. Goeller’s more reserved wardrobe also enforces the internal battle March needs to portray by giving the audience a visual contrast.

Knowing nothing about the play previously, I could not be more thrilled with the performance. The play presents feminist themes with the added element of belonging in the world. All the praise to Regina Aiuppa for her amazing direction and everyone who had a part in everything coming together. It went off with a bang!

Why Do People Care About Playboi Carti?

By Grant Wuerslin | Staff Reporter

He's been rapping for 5+ years now, has not released any type of full-length project and has less than 20 songs officially released. So why is Jordan Carter (AKA Playboi Carti), an Atlanta-based rapper currently living in New York under the A\$AP Mob label, relevant in the modern rap landscape? Carti represents a growing percentage of current rap listeners who eschew traditional release cycles and distribution methods in favor of a more relaxed release style. Rabid listeners hungry for more of the artist converge from all corners of the internet to search for leaks and compile old snippets of songs played off of Instagram's live stream function into full songs in one of the most obsessive communities this side of Frank Ocean. He is a consummate unprofessional, toying with his audience well into 2017 by teasing his



Photo courtesy of genius.com

newest work and endlessly delaying its release. His refusal to deliver on a project scans as a punk gesture, the mumble rap version of the major-label stunts that punk-rap trio Death Grips pulled in 2013. Thrilling and confusing in equal measures, Playboi Carti is one of the rockstars of rap in 2017.

Of course, none of this buzz would matter if the music wasn't compelling - and that's where the controversy around Carti really brews. Carti is not a rapper's rapper in any traditional sense: his lyricism tends to be lacking (he relies heavily on the ability to repeat a phrase into relevance); his subject matter is exclusively about drugs, money, women, guns, or his ability to easily acquire any of the previous four; and his words often come out mumbled and nearly unintelligible. Nas he is not. Carti's initial draw tends to come from his beats and ability to rap effortlessly over them. In his most popular single,

'Broke Boi,' Carti flexes over a beat that sounds like the trap equivalent of a Baskin-Robbins, ping-ponging over languid, relaxed synths and heavy 808's. Carti's beat selection has consistently brought him attention, such as with the initial salvo of music uploaded to his Soundcloud in 2014, which brought the PS2-sampling 'YUNGXANHOE' or the cloudy '#pray#4#me' (both produced by Ethereal, a member of Atlanta hip-hop collective Awful Records, the first group to pay attention to the young star). Carti as a rapper splits the difference between drill mainstay Chief Keef and pre-prison Gucci Mane. Keef in particular stands out as a serious influence, both in his mumbled, lean-influenced flow and his forward-thinking and bubbly beat selection. Carti's ability to synthesize these two influences into something new and exciting is what brings so many to adore him.

What Carti brings to the table that others don't is a serious sense of stardom not found in many underground rappers. His relaxed, fashion-focused mindset is very similar to the superstar big brothers that he associated with (namely Awful Records founder Father and A\$AP Mob star A\$AP Rocky). There's an inimitable, indescribable charisma that these three convey through both their music and their interviews that has led to their cult following. To achieve this level of buzz without a single concrete project surpasses even his mentors, who both created their followings by catapulting off of genre-defining mixtapes ('LiveLoveA\$AP' for Rocky and 'Young Hot Ebony' for Father, for the folks at home). This sort of rabid following and fame can only be a good sign for Carti - as long as he can capitalize on what he has now.

Carti is infamous in the rap world for a multitude of reasons, though by far the most notable is his lack of organized releases. He has never released a proper mixtape (the closest equivalent being a three-track SoundCloud release that featured approximately 5 minutes of actual rapping), even as he has appeared on 100+ tracks scattered throughout the internet. When asked about the tape, Carti has been unreliable at best - first promising that it would be released in March 2015, later posting in September 2016 that the tape was coming soon. After another 6 months of radio silence, a teaser for the album popped up on his twitter along with two collaborations with popular Soundcloud artist Lil Uzi Vert. These songs were quickly gobbled up by fans, with 'woke up like this' shooting to #1 on the Soundcloud charts off the back of a hypnotic beat by unknown producer Pierre Bourne and one of the most exciting Uzi verses in recent memory.

Every discussion about Carti seems to feature the same lack of organization that his discography has - tracks seem to appear out of thin air with no immediate knowledge of their date ("fa\$ter"), while snippets of songs will be teased out for months at a time (such

as "tats on my neck", which had been traded around the internet for almost a year) before popping up on a throwaway Soundcloud account not linked to Carti's official account (which boasts 250000+ followers). This puts Carti fans in an unsavory situation - they seem to care more about his music than the man himself, and are stuck being teased with low quality snippets of his music and forced into essentially making their own tracks out of his pieces. Carti seems to enjoy every part about being a rapper besides actually rapping, and unlike the countless amounts of others who envy his position, he seems to possess the chops to walk the thin line between breezy fame and irrelevancy.

Recently, however, the possibility of somehow tying down the strands of Carti littered throughout the internet has become a little bit more realistic. Sites like datpizz.com and the discussion posts on Kanyetothe.com have done a lot to tame the madness that is Carti's discography, and those who know where to look can find a fully tagged and organized library of his work and features. Many of these songs are held on YouTube channels specifically devoted to uploading Carti tracks (a community that is rife with hostility between channels) and update weekly. That his fans have internet turf wars over his music only further demonstrates the cult-like nature of the Carti brand.

So where does that leave Carti now? With a tape rumored to be dropping within the month (or week), this period is undoubtedly the closest we've been to seeing a unified body of work out of the young star. Carti Season is now - we'll see if it's worth the wait soon.

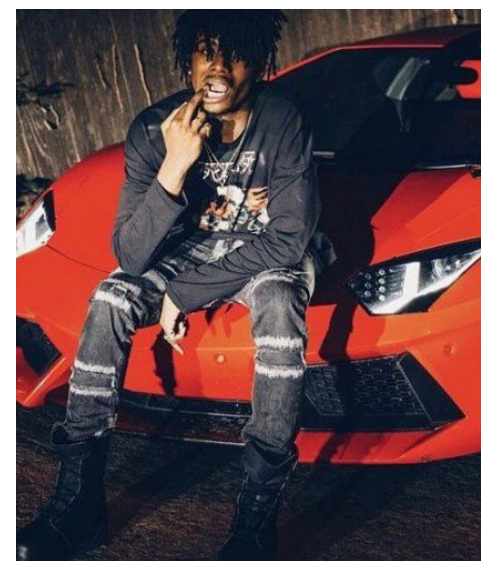


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262.524.7237

