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Jack-of-All-Trades: Mr. Lacey

By Mia Proffir



29 years ago, people told Mr. Stephen Lacey that working at a boarding school would be terrible. In his own words, "They were wrong."

UCA proved to be a wonderful place for him and his family and for the next nearly three decades he has taught and affected the lives of thousands of academy students.

Mr. Lacey has taught many of our current staff which include Bob Lenz, Adam Colcord, Rachel Riffel, and Sid Hardy--watching them grow and mature over the years and even teaching some of their children.

Over a quarter century of teaching, he has seen many buildings come and go on campus and can recall the demolition of the old Ad Building. In Mr. Lacey's time at UCA he has spent around 210 weekends on supervision, which is enough to fuel a lifetime of joy.

As a neighbor of Mr. Lacey for 18 years, Pastor Fred remembers the Laceys' beautiful flower garden and how sweet and romantic Mr. Lacey was with his wife.

We also remember all the time and work Mrs. Lacey put into this school as registrar for 14 years and everything she and Mr. Lacey did together for UCA staff and students.

A jack-of-all-trades, Mr. Lacey not only teaches English classes but loves photography and is an excellent guitarist. He has put an incredible amount of time into our school; managing the Echoes newspaper for 28 years and spending hours on weekend supervision.

Over the past couple of years students have donated to his infamous Altoids collection as well as continuing the legend that Lacey attended Woodstock.

Mr. Lacey's dry, witty humor, methodical plod, classic British accent, and love-hate relationship with his students will be remembered and kept in our hearts as he moves onto a new chapter.



CAMPUS NEWS

EDITOR: ISAAC GESSELE



Photo Credit: Yarely (Che) Chavez, class of 2010

Quotes From Mr. Lacey

Stephen Lacey has been a reliable English teacher for a score and eight years on the UCA campus. Many would say that he has also been an important and reliable source of dry humor. As such a good friend and mentor, we here at Echoes thought it appropriate to compile a collection of quotes that make Mr. Lacey's humor shine through the discouragement of life.

"I'd forgotten what miseries you all were."

"You pathetic specimen."

"Listen here you specimen of partial intelligence."

"I tried not to breathe while I was standing near your desk."

"Hannah, you're too close to Lorelei; Lorelei the sinner."

"Something right now is absolutely necessary." (shortly before throwing a ball of tape at a student)

"I've heard enough about nipples today."

"Once again, I take off my shoe and let's hope my aim is more accurate."

"This is a problem group. I'm going to have to bring some pills next time."

"It's annoying to be ancient and decrepit."

"You lumpish, ill-breeding lout."

"I'm losing my patience; I'm going to hit someone and run into the Palouse."

"If you wait too long to get married, you'll get old and wrinkly and ugly."

"Oooh, it's so nice to rub whale fat on yourself in the shower, OOOOo whale fat."

"I came to America on a boat... the Mayflower."

"You have a lot of life left ahead of you and it only gets worse, so don't be stressed now."

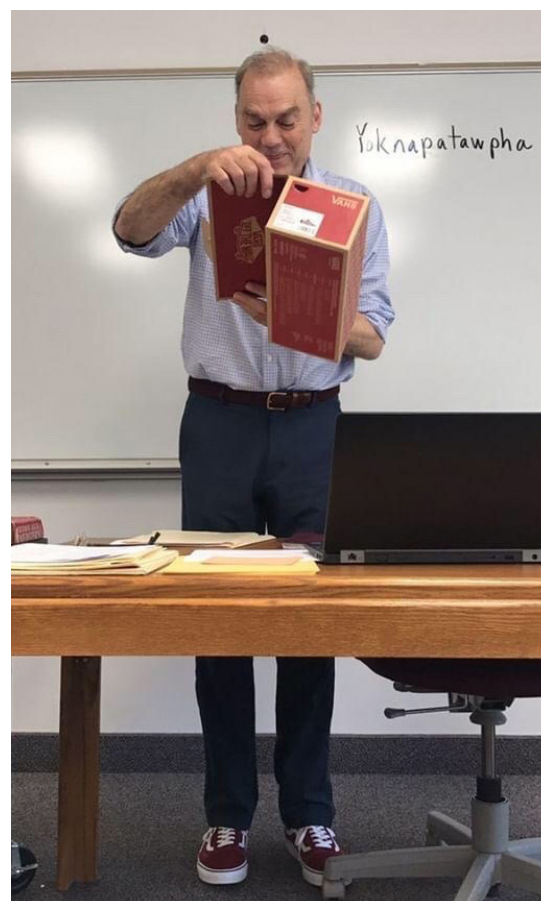


Photo Credit: Joelle Townsend, class of 2020

CAMPUS NEWS

A Day in the Life in Mr. Lacey's Class



By Jeremiah Williams

I walk to Mr. Lacey's class every other day. Usually, we talk about a poet. Those we learn about are typically male; the only one female mentioned was Emily Dickinson. For some reason, we talk about her all the time. Hearing Mr. Lacey monologue about a particular poet makes one half of the class fall asleep, and inspires the other to work on homework.

Normally after Mr. Lacey is done teaching, he will give us a worksheet, or let us leave 15 minutes early. Once class has ended, Jonathan Coleman and I stay back to talk to our witty teacher. Recalling the beginning of the year, the first thing Mr. Lacey said was that he was born in the slums of London, in a wheelbarrow. That is the only thing we could get out of him about his child-

hood, even though we asked every period.

Mr. Lacey is a very fascinating person, and we need to learn more about him before he leaves. We need to know how he became the man he is today. Background is everything.

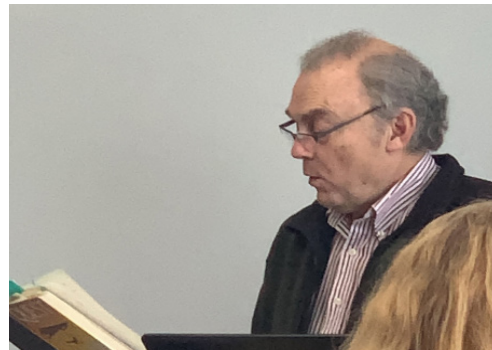


Photo Credit: McKenzie Haskin, class of 2021

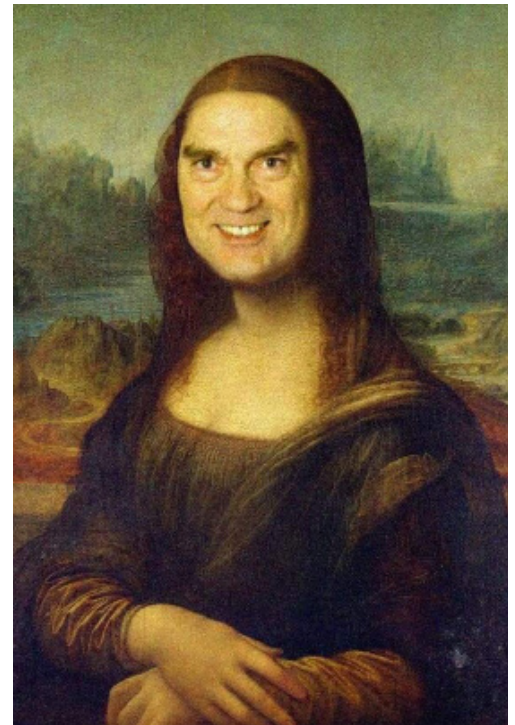


Photo Credit: Catalina Rodriguez, class of 2014

Wisdom from Mr. Lacey



By Rachel Hare

Every weekday the last year, at 1:30 PM, I have been lucky enough to get to work with Mr. Lacey. The day usually starts with a stack of papers, a list of things to do, and a quirky joke. I have gotten to talk to him about everything from a class topic to a song about chewing gum; from traveling the world to true love. When I leave work, either he or I find a way to say goodbye in a new language. He somehow always says it perfectly, whereas I butcher it. Mr. Lacey is a unique and patient person who stands and answers my daily incessant and random questions.

Hare: Lacey, do you believe in soulmates?

Lacey: Soulmates? Yeah.

H: Like one person or a bunch of people?

L: I don't know, I think there can only be one at a time."

H: How many do you think you are allowed in a lifetime?"

L: One.

Mr. Lacey is sassy, too smart for his own good, and an organized teacher who wants to seem indifferent but is very sentimental and sweet. This was my first year at Upper Columbia Academy and Mr. Lacey's last year. I am extremely thankful that I got to meet and know him.



Scan this on the Spotify App to listen to Rachel Hare's curated playlist of some of Mr. Lacey's favorite songs.

SPIRITUAL LIFE

EDITOR: MUCKEHNA VAUGHNBURGONE



Permission to Tell Your Story

Your story is worthy of being heard.

You're imperfect. You're inadequate, flawed, hypocritical, self-centered, insecure and painfully, painfully human. And you know what?

Your story is still worthy of being heard.

Honestly, I was terrified to write the spiritual column this year. It wasn't because I didn't enjoy writing or because I thought it'd be too much work--it was because I didn't feel qualified. I didn't feel like I was good enough, deep enough to share my story. After all, my relationship with God didn't matter more than anyone else's. What gave me the right to say anything?

I'm going to let you in on something I wish I'd been told six months ago. You don't need to wait for permission to talk about your walk with God. You don't need to wait until you feel "qualified" to share your story because—get ready—YOUR STORY ISN'T ABOUT YOU IN THE FIRST

PLACE. IT'S ALL ABOUT HIM.

We aren't the main characters of our story. Jesus already earned the lead; now, we get to just be participants in His incredible story of grace. Because we don't need to worry about twisting things to make ourselves sound like the hero all the time, we're a lot freer to tell our story. Suddenly, when He's the only one that really matters, our mistakes and inadequacies don't matter so much. And honestly, here's the truth: People aren't really impressed with what you got right. They're impressed with where you got it wrong and God rescued you.

We aren't the main characters. Jesus is. Because of that, your story is worthy of being heard. Always. So to whoever writes this column next, don't be afraid to tell it.

Sincerely,

Makena VonBergen

Verbatim

How God Sees Us

I found this interview from back in February. I don't remember the context, but I hope it blesses you as much as it did me.

"There's an internal peace that results from believing God's view of you. That's the universal truth that sets us free from the bondage of sin—the truth that God doesn't look at us with condemnation in His eyes.

Jesus offers us the privilege of looking at others, including myself, the way He looks at others and the way He looks at me. We get Christianity right when we live a life full of acceptance and free of condemnation."

Pastor Fred

~Lamb Jams~

It's the last newspaper of the year, which means it's my last opportunity to stuff good Christian music down your throats (but in a good Christian way). Get ready—ya'll are about to get a mouthful. A few years ago, I came across an event called Sinai Sessions. Basically, a bunch of Christian indie artists got together to hold what was essentially a Jesus Coachella. I'm not going to explain more of it because this is turning into a very long side piece, but I WILL say that out of Sinai Session was born the group Amen Worldwide. Guys, they're revolutionary. Amen Worldwide collects the very best Christian music from all genres and compiles them into fire playlists. From rap to pop to chill coffee house, AW's got you covered. Go check them out. P.S. In case you can't tell, I really love sharing music. Here's a few of my personal playlists that I hope will bring you some joy.

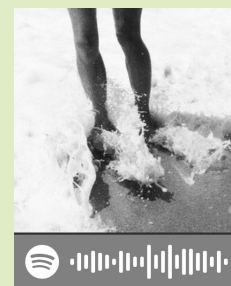
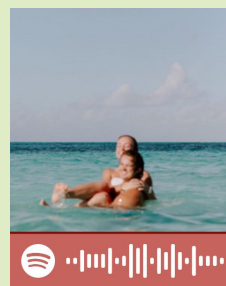
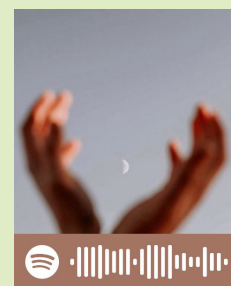
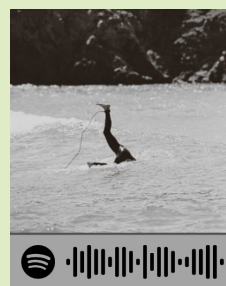
Jam w the Lamb (yeah, I really like that rhyme): hype songs to hog the aux for.

Sinai Sesh: Lo-fi-esque and chill, but with a lil kick.

Groovy God: R&B, funk, soul, and rap.

In the Quiet: The call of the Shepherd through a mel-lower acoustic.

To wrap it up, I'll end with the words of Jesus (taken only slightly out of context): "He who has ears, let him HEAR!" (Matthew 11:15)



UCA ATHLETICS

EDITOR: ASHLEY COX



PC: Sky Seong

Is Track and Field Day Biased?

Do not let the fact that UCA does not have a track and field team fool you. Many talented athletes showed up to participate in UCA's annual track and field day. Full of friendly competition and surprises, the event was a nice break from schoolwork that weighs down students as the end of the year approaches.

Students were grateful for the half day of school and field-related activities for the rest of the day. Running events included relay races, dashes, and a 5k at the end of the day. Almost all

the freshmen participated in the three-mile run.

Field events consisted of the softball throw, long jump, shotput, volleyball, and kickball. The sophomores seemed to excel in every event but finished in third place overall.

We all know that spirit week activities lean in the senior's favor, but conspiracy theories about field day leaning toward bias are being cultivated. The fact that the results decreased in order starting with the senior class makes things even more suspicious.

Regardless of how results turned out, the students enjoyed not being in classes for the afternoon.

PC: Joseph Rivera



The Supportive Photographer

Although Mr. Lacey may not have been a coach or announcer when it came to UCA's athletic events, the students knew his support. His willingness to show up at games and take pictures has been encouraging to student athletes over the years. In fact, his presence in sports embodies his presence at school. Students have been able to rely on his calm yet uplifting personality. Mr. Lacey and his camera will be missed on the soccer field and in the gym in addition to the classroom.



Congrats to the Varsity girl's basketball team on their first win of the season against Asotin.

PC: Laura Pierce



ENTERTAINMENT

EDITOR: TORI STAFFORD



Short Stories with the Seniors

RANDOM QUOTES

Shoves desk into classroom "I JUST WANT AN EDUCATION!"
~**Makena VonBergen**

"So, I hear you're handing out free affection."
~**Renae Reinke**

"I was thinking about selling my kidney to pay for college."
~**Laura Luke**

"Why would you name your kid Peanut?"
~**Gabe Moller**

"Extra credit is for the weak!"
~**Sky Seong**

"You can break anything if you hit it hard enough."
~**Honorary Freshman**

"Hey Dylan, the only difference between you and my grandpa is my grandpa's wife is Japanese."
~**Alden Wilfley**

"If my baby doesn't come out like that, I'm putting it back in."
~**Landyn Stam**

I know we're all going to be heartbroken when our dear seniors leave UCA. *Cue depressing violin music.* So, in their memory I've gathered a bunch of short stories that can be told throughout the ages. (:

"One time I started a hair cult on my hall. I had everybody cut their hair and stick it on the ceiling. I'm a proud R.A. of 2nd South and Center. We need to spread our beliefs."

"One time I tripped. The End."

"One time Kenzie scared Kytanna and I. She turned out the lights and stuff. It was scary, I got soap in my eyes."

"I have a list of blonde moments that I've done."

"Colby flipped down a mountain. We took him skiing and he's never done that before."

"Alex Wilfley literally pronounces everything wrong while Carly Haeger has a perfect Spanish accent."

"We broke pinatas on my birthday and that was fun because we didn't know each other, and it was a good introduction for how that Spanish year would turn out."

"One time my friend and I got lost on the backside of a mountain and we almost died."

"There was that one time at MiVoden we tried to go to this place that was only 10 minutes away, but it ended up being an hour with a bunch of sketchy experiences. Remember the bear spray? And the skunk smelled like coffee, and all of the bees."

"Every day Alden says, "Allyson," and every day I reply with, "Alden."

"Basically, I was at Hannah's house and Zach Damm and another tall person lifted me into a willow tree and I couldn't get out."

"My phone was in a bag of rice and Zach, Alex and Luke played monkey in the middle and played with my already broken phone."

"Caleb Shirinzadeh had stretchy pants and fit himself into one of the pant holes and ran down the road."

"After Senior Rec, there was a shopping cart in the dean's office. Kirk and I took that shopping cart around campus."

"One time I was a senior and I decided to be a part of ASB and class offices. Big time bad idea."

"One time, Alden thought that Big Ben was in Philadelphia."

"Freshmen year, I saw my dear friend Ian run down a hill. He broke his collar bone. Snap."

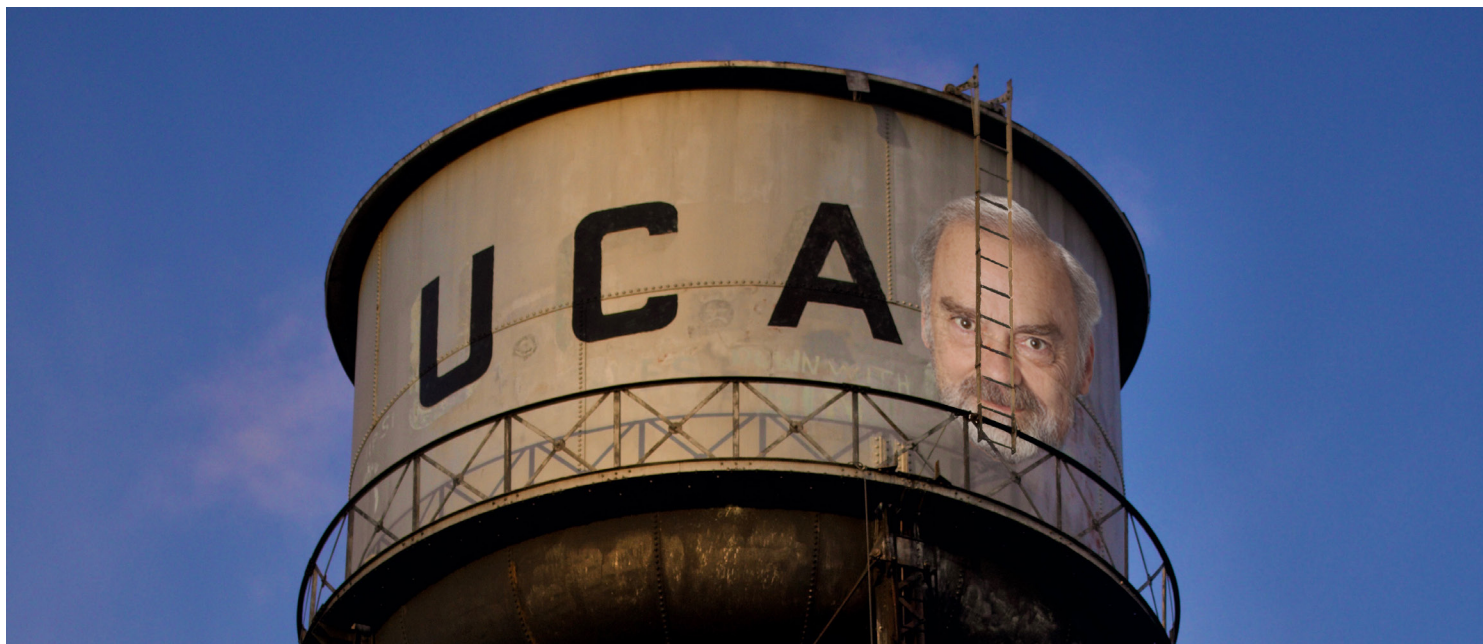
"Zach put me in a trash can because I didn't know who was playing in the Super Bowl."

"Carly Haeger almost had a seizure when Mrs. Riffel played the bad version of "O Holy Night."

"One time Gabe thought that people got tan because they take hot showers."

NATIONAL NEWS

EDITOR: RENAE REINKE



PC: Tyler Parker and Paul Hartman

Mr. Lacey's Clock and Water Tower Memorial UCA finds a creative way to send off their renowned English teacher

After his 28th year, Mr. Lacey has decided to bring his career to a close. Of course, at the news of his retirement, the student body and faculty alike are sad to see him go but are glad that he is making the next step in his life.

Like all important figures, such as presidents and other types of people that make a statement, the school has decided to paste* an enlarged picture of Mr. Lacey's face to our beloved water tower and café clock.

From these vantages, those involved with preserving his visage hoped to establish Mr. Lacey's presence even after moving on with his life. It will serve as a constant reminder to use proper grammar and imitate a British accent.

As a former publisher of the Echoes, the team thought

it would be a great idea to put his face in places where everyone could see. For a while, the team argued whether it was a good idea to put his face on objects that were within the same proximity, but eventually decided that putting him on the stained-glass windows of the girls' dorm would be a bit too much.

In the end, everyone will be very sad to see him go, including those who haven't been taught by him. There will be an Altoids-mint-shaped hole in all our hearts for years to come.

*Please note that this article is purely satirical and the actions stated within it will not be carried out on UCA campus.



PC: Tyler Parker and Paul Hartman

HIGHLIGHTS

EDITOR: ROSALYNE FOOTE



Artist Credit: (top left) Jonah Alvarado, (top right) Sarah Stathem, (bottom left) Danny Holloway-Cook, (frog) Kendra Goertzen, (flower) Jillian Petersen, (bottom right) Gracie Reynolds

Mr. Lacey Drabble

Beginning to End

Unforgettable,
Never ending play on words.
English to the last.

By Paige Sumner

I always loved Mr. Lacey's sense of humor! Every English class was always interesting, and yet I still was able to learn from him. It is teachers like him that make me enjoy school.

By Laura Wertz

A morning filled with anxiety,
Sweaty palms and shaky waves
Waiting in lines, checking a list
Once it's all done,
We head to a jungle of a dorm
Chaos, total chaos
The only way to describe it
Children running, mothers screaming
Absolutely terrifying
The first few weeks were awkward,
Slowly adjusting to a new climate
Everything around is moving
So much faster than me
But I've met some people
Some really amazing people
Who've been able to keep me running

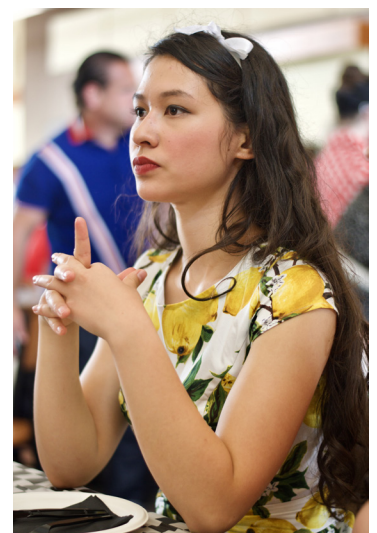
Keep me laughing, keep me smiling
I'd be lost here without them

The memories we've made,
Help to make it all worthwhile
So much so, I barely have time to
look around
It's all gone by so fast
All the vespers, the mental
health days
The club activities, and the banquets
Now it's almost over
Only a week left to go
Before we depart for three
months
And live our separate lives
Goodbye all, see you next year.

By RosAlyne Foote







THE BACKPAGE

EDITOR: AYDEN LEE



Literally and Figuratively Anything: Ur Mom

As my final article, I'd like pay homage to some iconic phrases from our teachers. I asked my Echoes colleagues to help me organize a list of their favorite phrases said by teachers and staff. Here is a top 10 of our favorite and most iconic quotes.

At number 10, we have Dr. Pierce's, "If you took world history..." As sophomores last year, students took world geography instead of world history. As a result, Supreme Overlord Dr. Pierce, Ph.D has said this to the U.S. History class more than the amount of times Native Americans were forced to move out. Similar NBA Comparison: LeBron No-look Step-back.

Coming in at number 9 is Mr. Hartman's, "You guys know we have a test today, right?" Also known as "Old Reliable," Mr. Hartman's catchphrase has been used for years. No matter how many times he uses it, it still catches students off guard. NBA comparison: Kyrie Irving Handles.

At number 8, we have Mr. Gladding's "Growth Mindset." Something he believes in almost as much as the Bible and something he preaches more than Spano says, "Wow." NBA

comparison: Kobe Fadeaway.

Number 7 is Pastor Sid whenever he talks about healthy foods, most often kale. This is not a specific phrase, but more of a broad topic. He's always munching on his favorite snacks. NBA Comparison: Michael Jordon and Scottie Pippen.

Number 6 is Mrs. C's "Chicos!" If you hear this and don't stop talking, either run, hide, or pray. NBA move Comparison: Shaq's dunks.

At number 5 is Mr. Lacey's, "You amorphous blobs." An endearing nickname used on the daily in his classroom, Lacey's love-hate relationship with his students is expressed through his witty remarks and loving roasts. NBA Comparison: Dame Stepback.

At 4 is Pastor Fred's "I'll drop you quicker than a bad habit!" With no hesitation like Steph Curry's jumper. If you are up to no good, you know what you're gonna hear. NBA move Comparison: Kawhi Leonard's defense.

Coming in at 3 is Mrs. Riffel "Oo Ahh" (not pronounced like oooooo ahhhh as if you were marveling at something, more like two

eighth notes). Mrs. Riffel doesn't do this on purpose, it's more like when you scare a mouse and it squeaks. NBA Comparison: Dennis Rodman's rebounding.

In the number 2 spot is something singers as well as seniors hear most of: "Shut up, Curtis." The biggest man on campus is also accompanied by the biggest mouth. And yet, no matter how many times he tells himself to shut up, he never actually stops talking. NBA Comparison: Gary Payton's trash talking.

Honorable mentions: Coach Irwin's "Ur mom."

In the number one spot is none other than Coach Reading's "Have Mercy." Showing his southern roots, Coach always finds a situation to use this. Whether he's giving a Bible study or coaching a basketball game, he always finds a way. NBA Comparison: Iverson Cross.

All of these teachers are great examples of practice makes perfect. They all practice their "craft" so well that they are able to use/say it without hesitation and perfectly execute it. In the wise words of Irwin, "Ur mom."

Artist: Andrew Baker

"A Leap Forward"

