

ECHHOES

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“HI, I AM...”



Gianna Bolla -
Head Editor

“Hi, I’m Gianna.” 300 introductions. 300 hands shaken. 300 names to memorize. My palms were sweaty, and my face flushed red with embarrassment. I was jittery and anxious for this evening, but even more nervous for the upcoming school year.

My first handshake was genuinely one of my most nerve-wracking experiences. I was a brand-new freshman surrounded by older, cooler, more sophisticated peers that knew way more people than I did. I was finally a high

schooler, and I felt an immense desire to fit in, be involved, and do well in my classes.

To make my anxiety even worse, I was the first freshman to go through the line. However, as I met person after person, making sure to smile and nod, my nerves started to subside. The fears I had were nowhere near reality. People were friendly, wel-

coming, and I began to enjoy myself.

That night I learned to value the unknown, even through fear and anxiety. My first handshake turned out to be the start to a remarkable year. Sometimes the best thing you can do is push yourself out of your comfort zone. I’ve found this to be extremely true during my time at UCA; you never know where those experiences will take you.

Those could be the hands of new lifelong friends. That could be the hand of your next boyfriend or girlfriend. It could be the hand of the next person you cry with. Or the hand of a teacher who becomes your biggest support. Nerves and anxiety are normal, but these are your high school years, where you’ll make some of your best memories. Embrace the nerves, but also anticipate new experiences and connections. All it takes is reaching out and saying, “Hi, I’m...”



THE GOOD PEOPLE



Hurricane Ida, a Category 4 hurricane, ravaged the United States in the Southeast and caused immense damage to the surrounding areas. Beginning on August 26th, the storm hit Louisiana, where winds reached up to 150 mph.

Immediately after the hurricane struck, mutual aid

networks jumped into action. These groups, “allow everyone, no matter their status, to contribute what they are able,” Tanya Gulliver-Garcia mentioned.

A lot of the 800 mutual aid groups in the United States were created during the COVID-19 pandemic. Now they have returned to work and have succeeded in helping to save hundreds of people. These networks and groups each contributed differently, whether it was by rescuing people from rising flood waters or driving around on a bike handing out money.

Many individuals, such

as Delany Nolan, who is part of the Southern Solidarity group, spent hours handing out money to those who needed places to stay and food to eat.

Similarly, GlobalGiving, a solidly founded philanthropic group, sent out funds to other mutual aid groups. Having worked in Louisiana before, GlobalGiving was able to act fast and refer to the list of groups they were giving funds to.

Though Hurricane Ida was a disaster that killed many, there are still a lot of people out there who want to put effort into saving and helping others.

hard years, making it the longest war and evacuation process in American history. Then, on the 30th night of August in 2021, U.S. troops finally pulled away and flew the last plane out.

Delighted about America’s departure, a fighter for the Taliban, Hemad Sherzad, said, “The last five aircrafts have left, it’s over! I cannot express my happiness in words. ... Our 20 years of sacrifice worked.”

Most people in Afghan-

istan began late in July, getting around 122,300 people, including U.S. citizens, out of the country. Though mass evacuations didn’t start until April 14th, 116,700 people were flown out.

The Taliban are making promises to let the people have more rights, as well as granting women more liberties. They also promised the continuation of commercial airlines flying to Afghanistan. But from what has been seen in the areas under the Taliban’s control, this is not likely going to happen.

The Taliban have finally gotten what they wanted for the past twenty years. But now they must lead and rule a poor country that’s faced the hardships of war.



THE TWENTY-YEAR WAR



It was the infamous terrorist attack in 2001 that caused the U.S. to launch a strike against the Taliban in Afghanistan. Forcing them out of power, America then put billions of dollars into rebuilding the country, creating new politics, and establishing people’s rights.

Since then, the disputes between the two countries have been going on for twenty



istan are desperate to make it out and fear the Taliban takeover. Evacuations from

CLASH OF THE CLASSES



Claire Christensen - Campus News Editor



Blinding lights illuminated the field on Sunday, August 12 as students made their way up to the field. It was time for UCA's annual Class Night; one of the highlights of the year for many. Students could be seen gathering with their classes in their colors and flags. The freshmen wore green, sophomores in blue, juniors with red, and finally seniors in white.

The night's activities started out with the annual opening game: anything goes. Each class brings a bunch of random objects up to the field and then Mr. Spano calls out for random items. When an item is called the class's designated runner brings the item to the mat in the center of the field where the judges are. The judges then decide who gets the point.

The winning class of each round takes a victory lap through a tunnel of high fives

and cheers from the other classes. While the freshman class was bounding through the Junior class tunnel during one of their victory laps, one of the leading freshmen runners tripped and fell. The other freshmen behind him charged on celebrating their victory and failed to notice their fallen comrade and their momentum pushed them directly on top of him. This caused a chain reaction of tripping and falling, and a massive dog-pile. Fortunately, no one was badly injured, and the night's fun activities carried on.

To the surprise and confusion of the classes, Mr. Spano called for a "married pregnant woman." However, the confusion turned to excitement when the freshman class runner brought Mrs. Gladding up to the mat. Cheering broke out all over the field followed by the Gladdings being surrounded by students chanting their names.

After a quick intermission of watermelon and fresh water, that excitement and energy carried on throughout the rest of night. The next class

games consisted of mattress surfing, dizzy izzie, and tug of war. The juniors dominated mattress surfing and freshmen won dizzy izzie. The evening's final event was much anticipated tug of war between classes. The female class winners were the seniors, and the juniors took the win for the boys in tug of war.

To close off the evening, classes gathered to take class photos and then one big school one. Students then mingled with friends taking photos to commemorate the ultimate schoolwide clash of the classes before heading back home or to the dorms for the night.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Midterms - September 21

Picture Day - October 5

Class Elections - September 22

Fall Classic - October 7-9

College Fair - September 28

PSAT - October 13

LAKE DAY...OR WAS IT POOL DAY?

On Tuesday, August 31, students and staff left campus to drive up to Camp MiVoden for UCA's annual Lake Day. To people's frustration, they were met with cold temperatures and high winds. This, however, did not stop staff and students from enjoying the day.

At the beach, students could be seen playing volleyball or watching and relaxing on the grass. Many people also enjoyed swimming in the camp's pool and a few brave souls even took the plunge into the lake.



Out on the lake, students and staff enjoyed wakesurfing, wakeboarding, and tubing, although many exited the water shivering. Some



students tried new watersports for the first time and others got to do old favorites once again. Due to the cold temperatures, the lines for watersports were smaller than they have been in recent years.

Horseback riding and mountain biking were also introduced as activities to participate in this year. Students in the horsemanship program went overtaking, rode around the arena, and went on a trail ride. Meanwhile, those who decided to do mountain biking rode up the hill and around a dirt track before coming back down.

The day was broken up by a delicious meal of hotdogs provided by the caf for lunch and



Isaac Acker -
Campus News
Editor

Domino's pizza for dinner. Finally, to finish off the day, students and staff gathered on the grass by the beach for song service lead by the ASB officers and a worship thought by student taskforce dean, Mark Abrio.



WONDERFUL FIRST WEEK IN REVIEW

The first week of school was a blur of excitement, confusion, and fun. The week started off during registration on Sunday, August 22. There was a hectic rush of getting teachers' signatures, moving into the dorm, and waving goodbye to parents. Following goodbyes was a pizza picnic dinner with a schoolwide handshake after; this involved walking around the soccer field saying your name 300 times, and shaking hands with people you won't remember the next day.

UCA is historically known for having many different schedules that confuse even the returning classmen. Nervous students had to navigate different schedules for Week of Prayer and sports tryouts. Many kids had blank stares as they wandered the halls, searching for the classroom they were supposed to be in.

Before lunch each day were cheerful song services, which were then followed by talks given by Pastor Sid. The week's messages centered around God's love and grace, which ended on Friday evening when Jonathan Coleman and Pastor Fred gave powerful and personal messages.

The week started off with soccer and volleyball tryouts happening Monday and Tuesday, August 23- 24. This gave the students no time to settle into their classes before being thrown into the process of changing their schedule even more to accommodate if they had made it onto the teams. Gymnastic tryouts happened Tuesday and Wednesday and the team was chosen by Thursday.

HYPE, HYMNS, & HALLELU- JAHS

“New Life” by Lovkn

Bright acoustics from one of my favorite artists. This song is a great reminder for every moment of the day.



“How to Be Yours” by Chris Renzema

A song that gives me ALL the feels, and a hope in the midst of my humanness.



Send any worship quotes or music recommendations to Gabrielle Townsend on Teams, I would love to hear your input!



Gabrielle Townsend - Spiritual Editor

A SNAPSHOT OF JESUS

Worship can come in many forms, and I hope this section will add great music and content that inspires. “Sing to the Lord a new song! Sing to the Lord, all the earth.” Psalms 96:1

“‘Glory to God in the highest’ is when we are being brought back to oneness with Him.”
~Mr. Gladding

“Are we willing to be real?”
~Mr. Spano

“Jesus and God pour out all kingdom an heaven for YOU!” ~Pastor Fred

“FEW OF US ARE WHAT WE SEEM.” - AGATHA CHRISTIE

Few of us are what we seem because we are trying to be someone else. Few of us are what we seem because we are hiding. Few of us are what we seem because we don’t know how much we really can be.

When debating the challenge of writing a spiritual column this year, this quote on Mrs. Riffel’s wall jumped out at me. As teens we often hear that these are the years we find out who we really are. That may be true, but at the same time many of us learn to HIDE who we are.

Ephesians 2:10 says, “For we are God’s masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.”

This verse clearly states that we are a masterpiece, not a secondhand copy. This year I challenge you to break the mold. Try something new just because it sounds interesting or share one of your hidden talents.

Most importantly, spend time with your Creator who has a plan for you. Soon you will find the root of who you are as the child of a loving God.

UCA'S 2022 OCTECT



Laura Wertz -
Music Editor

Since 1999, UCA has cultivated a vocal octet of eight highly skilled singers. The 2021-2022 school year has a promising lineup: Melody VanDoozer (soprano 1), Ally Benado (soprano 2), Makena Vonbergen (alto 1), Micalyn Haugsted (alto 2), Kole Grey-Eyes (tenor 1), Trace Rolle (tenor 2), Camron Bordeaux (baritone), and Isaac Gessele (bass).

"I am looking forward to performing," says senior Ally Benado. "Mr. Anderson picked a great group, and we connect well. The song we are learning right now is awesome and energetic."

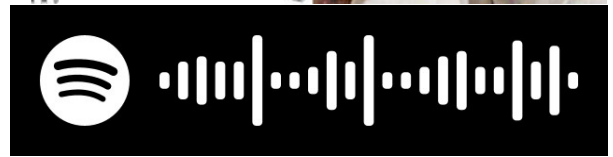
Curtis Anderson,
UCA's vocal director and

music chair, intends to send the group on music tours to nearby churches this year, despite COVID-19. Upcoming performances include a tour September 24-26, as well as on campus on October 2. UCA is looking forward to hearing their beautiful voices!

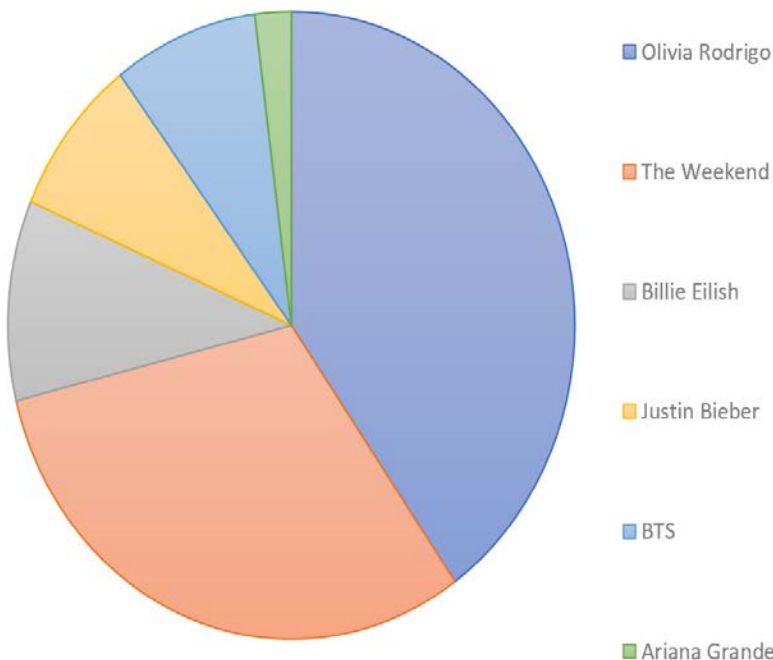
MONTHLY PLAYLIST



WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING ARTISTS WAS UCA'S SUMMER FAVORITE?



Music Poll



PRIDE AND PREJUDICE AND ZOMBIES: THE ADAPTATION NO ONE ASKED FOR



Jillian Petersen
- Entertainment
Editor

Pride and Prejudice is a classic book; it's been around for a while, and it's written in old English. What a fantastic read. And then, for those who don't like to read, and/or don't have the patience to read a book like that, there's TV shows and movies. Yes, movies, plural.

Hopefully you've heard of the movie adaptation with Keira Knightley and the other guy (I don't find it worth mentioning his name because nobody knows who he is).

What you probably haven't heard of is the movie adaptation with... wait for it, zombies. I'm not totally sure who thought it was a good idea to produce this film. I might need to write him or her a letter questioning their decisions in life.

When Pride and Prejudice comes to mind, I think of old timey language, people, and dresses. What I do not think of are zombies. However, somehow

this film did get approved, and we now have the film Pride and Prejudice and Zombies to leave behind and show future generations



what the past generation was capable of. But who doesn't want to watch a whirlwind of a movie with Elizabeth Bennet and Mr.

Darcy falling in love amidst the chaos of saving the world from zombies? Realistic, right? One moment the Bennet women are elegantly dancing at a ball and the next they've pulled out muskets and rifles because, surprise! Turns out one of the party members is a zombie that needs to be terminated before the rest of the members are infected.

The whole film is filled with random volleys of violence within a storyline that was not written for such dramatic outbursts. To me it's like taking a classic film like Titanic, except the ship is in space, and the iceberg is the sun. Perhaps my big break will be as the producer of Titanic: A Galactic Tragedy.

RANDOM QUOTES

“Never swallow a pill with root beer- that was weird.” - Natalie Trujillo

“Tell your mouth I said I'm sorry.” - Arman De La Paz

“I only like Thanksgiving because of the dog show.” - Chaz Kastl

“I may be shiny but I'm not bright.” - Ally Benado

“SOMEBODY SEDATE ME.” - Jillian Petersen

COVID-19 CAN'T STOP US!

As the past year has shown, COVID-19 and sports do not mix well. Sports have become activities that can no longer be taken for granted. In the 2020-2021 school year, all of UCA's sports were pushed back several months. The volleyball team was able to play most of their season, but basketball was cut short, and soccer was nonexistent. This year, however, things are looking hopeful.

UCA's volleyball team has just played its first game against Reardan on September 7, and they came out with a win.

The team's captain, junior Lauren Moody, is thrilled with the outcome of the game.

She says, "Our team played really well together, and I think we have a lot of potential. I am excited to see how much we grow this season!"

In addition to volleyball, soccer is also up and running. The team will be playing its first game here at UCA on September 21.

So, it appears that sports will be up and running this year, but what COVID-19 protocols need to be followed?

The Washing-

ton Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA) has released the protocols for the current sports seasons. As per their guidelines, spectators are allowed to attend the games as long as masks are worn during indoor events. Even vaccinated individuals are required to wear a mask. There are, however, no limits to the number of spectators.

Our girls' volleyball teams and our boys' soccer teams play their first home games on September 21. Be sure to come out and support your Lions teams!



Mia Pierce -
Athletics Editor



THUMB WARRIORS: E-SPORTS AT UCA

E-sports is a concept new to UCA and the WIAA. Never before has UCA taken part in a sport such as this. Over 70 students signed up to tryout in hopes of securing one of the six spots on the roster.

The roster has been formed, and the team consists of Omar Entezar, Maddox Mack, Logan Henneberg, James Molineaux, Matt Hermanson, and Tommy Aitchison. The head coach of the team is none other than UCA's very own Adam Colcord.

Matt Hermanson, a junior this year, has this to say about the E-sports team. "We play video games, but it's not just playing games. This is a team sport, elevated to a competitive level. We will all take it seriously, and we'll practice just like any physical sports team would."

E-sports is sponsored by the WIAA, and UCA will be competing with other schools in our league. UCA is excited to be a part of this new program and we look forward to watching the competitions.



THE CAFETERIA CONTROVERSY



Chaz Kastl -
Campus Life
Editor

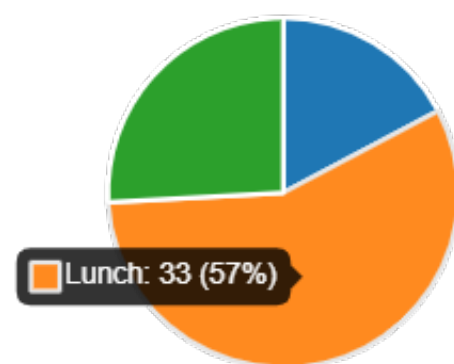
With the first couple weeks under our belts, new and returning students got a taste of the primary food source for the rest of the year: the cafeteria. Students got to see the wide range of foods offered, such as waffles, tacos, salads, and many other yummy options.

Many students have participated in a poll to stand up and vote for their favorite meal in the cafe. Some honorable mentions for “most scrumptious meal in café” was pasta with seven votes, rice and curry with six votes, and burritos with five votes. Spaghetti, enchiladas, and haystacks were also some popular meals.

Now, the moment you have all been waiting for: the meal with the highest votes in the caf for the first two weeks was... Burgers and curly fries with 20 votes! This favorite, top of the line, bussin bussin meal was served during the lunch hour, which was shown to be the preferred mealtime over any other time.

Regardless of what your favorite food was or your feelings about the food served, the cafe staff deserve a massive

round of applause. They are the people to thank for our full stomachs. However, one question still remains; a question that threatens the very fabric of our existence: Who the heaven removed the CHOCKIE MILK!?!



UPPER CLASSMAN ADVICE

With this new year kicking off, many of us don't know which way is up. With some of the students being new, here's some advice from the professionals. The seniors have experience and tips that

“Get involved with as many activities as you can.”

- Elijah Workman

“Surround yourself with people that truly care about you.”

- Ayden Lee

“Don't do anything I would do, don't do anything stupid.”

- Jonathan Coleman

“Don't let comparison steal your joy. The grass is greener where you water it.”

- Makena VonBergen

“A 4.0 isn't as important as making friends, don't sacrifice friends for academics.”

- Caleb Brusett

“Find yourself before you lose yourself.”

- Camron Bordeaux

“Sometimes it's okay not to know what to do with your life.”

- Sky Seong

“Everyone feels the same kind of anxiety, don't feel afraid to put yourself out there.”

- Ashley Cox

GIRLS THIRD FLOOR GETS A MAKEOVER



Abigail Robertson - Dorm Life Editor

This year, those who live on the third floor of the girl's dorm have the privilege of living in rooms that have been freshly renovated. After years of comments suggesting a change, Dean Dani finally initiated the hall makeover.

After much debating, a grey and white carpet was selected, and fresh white and dark paint was added. There are also new honey maple cabinets. "I still have carpet samples here I think," Dean Dani says with a chuckle.

Unfortunately, Maranatha, the volunteer work crew, had conflicting projects this summer, causing the reconstruction to begin a month late. While the work stretched into the school year, many third-floor residents are

living in the dorm guest quarters or in empty rooms on the first and second floor. Senior hall has been completed, so there are several who are currently rooming there. Despite the delay, third floor residents are thrilled about the changes.

Senior Natalie Trujillo says regarding the renovated rooms, "It's awesome! The lights don't buzz, the cabinets work, and they aren't falling apart anymore." She also remarked that the desks have new built-in desk lamps that are very convenient.

Many students can agree that these new changes were desperately needed in the dorms. Many of the rooms on the lower floors are unchanged and have

dysfunctional drawers, peeling paint, and splotches of color left over from past years. The rooms have old carpet in colors that don't match things very well.

On behalf of the girls' dorm, Dean Dani wishes to thank everyone for their patience. The hope for the coming years is to do the second floor, and then the first. Once that is completed, the plan is to renovate the bathrooms and laundry rooms. The cost comes down to roughly \$1.5 million to complete the whole dorm. The future of these renovations depends on when those funds are finally established.

DIVE IN AND MEET THE DORM FISH

Typically, pets are exempted from the dorms. However, there is one exception. Fish! The girl's dorm houses several of these slippery friends.

At some point, you'll likely notice Mr. Bingley the Betta fish, who is dwelling in his circular home with his devoted tankmate, a snail by the name of Bing, in the dean's office. Mr. Bingley is named after the Mr. Bingley from *Pride and Prejudice*.

Another dorm pet is Maddaly Franklin's female Koi Betta fish. Her name is Kaiyō, which in Japanese means ocean. For home leaves, Maddaly plans to bring Kaiyō home with her in a mason jar.

Maddaly explained that "My mom said that if the fish

was left at home, she wouldn't take care of her, and she would die. So, I figured I had to bring her."

Though no pet fish have been confirmed to be in the boy's dorm, there is rumored to be a "collective" pet fish. This mysterious pet is allegedly passed around in the dorm. Sources say that the fish may or may not be alive.

The moral of the story is that if you have a fish, you need a plan for home leaves, and it is not a good idea to lend your pet to someone else in your hall!



STUDENT HIGHLIGHT



Kaelyn Olson -
Editor

"I AM FROM"

I am from a suitcase.

From sunscreen and lotion.

I am from the story within the picture.

(Sweet, warm, you can never get enough.)

I am from Hibiscus,

whose swirling peddles resemble my imagination.

I'm from long deep conversations and wild dreams.

From Michelle Ray Mayhew and Julia Ember Fowler.

I'm from "I gotchu" and "I'll sit in the middle!"

From "You can be anything" and "I love you to the moon and back"

I'm from bedtime Bible stories,

prayer while walking through the woods.

I'm from Wenatchee, Washington and Europe,

Salads and strawberry smoothies.

From the accident that left a scar on my sister's knee.

The modeling job my mom started at 14.

A bin sits in a corner in the garage,

filled with pictures and toys from a childhood long forgotten.

Sweet and bitter memories of places far away,

reminding me of the experiences that made me who I am today.

If you'd like to contribute to the continuous story, contact Kaelyn Olson on Teams.

KATIES CONTINUOUS STORY

Part I: The Beginning of Questions

The crisp morning stung my eyes as I walked towards the cafeteria. Loud shouts and laughter reached my ears, friends shouting back and forth to one another. A wave of nostalgia hit me, 2021 was finally starting to feel normal. I smiled and waved at a couple of my friends from across the campus, waiting to meet up with them for breakfast. Today was the kind of day that made me love CAU, and I was ready to grab some juice and maybe some fruit. As I made my way past the ad building, I observed the near perfect weather, which almost vibrated with a strange energy. I had almost reached the door to the cafeteria when something in the parking lot caught my eye. A teacher, Gyle Kladding, was hastily walking towards the gym, putting something back in his pocket. I had almost turned away when something fell onto the concrete from his pocket; however, he took no notice as he disappeared from sight.

Sympathy compelled me to help Mr. Kladding out, so I made my way to the fallen object, looking for its owner as I went. Curiously, he had inexplicably disappeared from this side of the CAU campus. I decided I must have just missed him and bent to pick up the small item. Turning over what seemed to be a blank card, I realized I had picked up his driver's license. Carelessly glancing at it, I scanned the card, looked up, then did a double take. My jaw dropped, as I started to question how the words right in front of me could make sense.

Next to the Gyle Kladding's picture was the following sentence: issued in 2500.

This story can be continued by YOU ! Send in submissions to Kaelyn Olson on Teams (must be within 200-300 words).



CAUGHT IN A HAIRY SITUATION



On September 6, Carson Huenergardt, a junior at UCA, made a big decision. Carson shaved off all of his hair! Carson's had long hair for a long time, but he had to switch things up after an unexpected turn of events. Last April, Carson was a part of the guys' club volleyball team. After winning a scrimmage against the varsity girls' volleyball team at the beginning of the season, he was confident with his team's playing abilities. This being the case, at the end of the season Carson decided to make a bet with the girls' team. If his team lost, Carson would shave off all of his hair. However, after the guys ended up suffering a loss of 3-0, Carson soon regretted his decision.

After his sister's wedding, Carson promised he would shave his hair. After dreading the big day for six months, he kept his word and followed through. Now, after a group of students eagerly helped him with his new haircut, Carson is bald.

Although Carson misses his hair, he's a good sport and states, "I regret making a dumb bet, but I'll look back and laugh in about five months."

(Carson Huenergardt gave consent to the meme and content of this article post.)

SID'S SMOOTHIES



Lauren Moody - Editor

Although school has begun, the summer sun is still hot and shining. On warm days, a refreshing drink is craved by most students. Everyone has their own version of a perfect beverage, whether it's water, lemonade or iced tea.

Sidney Folkenberg, a junior at UCA and a designer for Echoes, loves making smoothies, her favorite drink. Sidney loves to stay healthy, and smoothies are a great way to get enough hydration and vitamins all in one.



Photo Credits: Ryan Hughes

Sidney will drink a smoothie anytime if it includes her favorite fruit: lemon! Using lemon as her key ingredient, she wants to share her three favorite smoothie recipes that she makes in the dorm all the time: a berry, tropical, and green smoothie.

Berry Blast

- ¼ cup blueberries
- ¼ cup raspberries
- ¼ cup blackberries
- 1/3 cup water
- Half a Lemon

The Green Dream

- 1/2 cup Spinach
- 1/2 cup Blueberries
- 1 Carrot
- Chia Seeds
- 1/2 cup water

Mighty Mango

- ½ cup mangoes
- ½ cup pineapples
- ¼ cup peaches
- ¼ cup orange juice
- Half a lemon



Photo Credits: Ryan Hughes

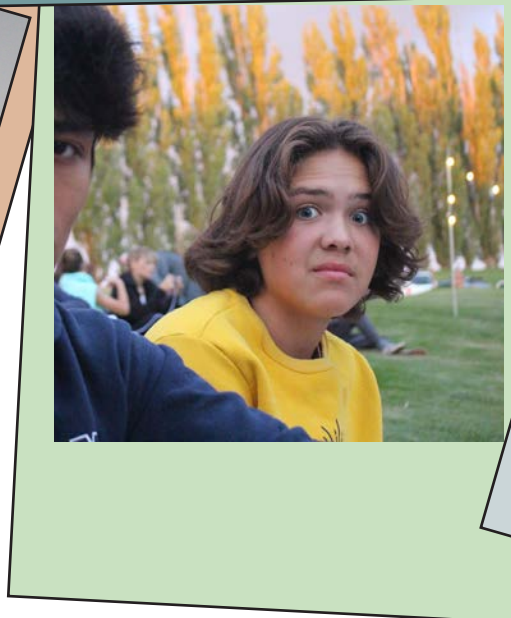
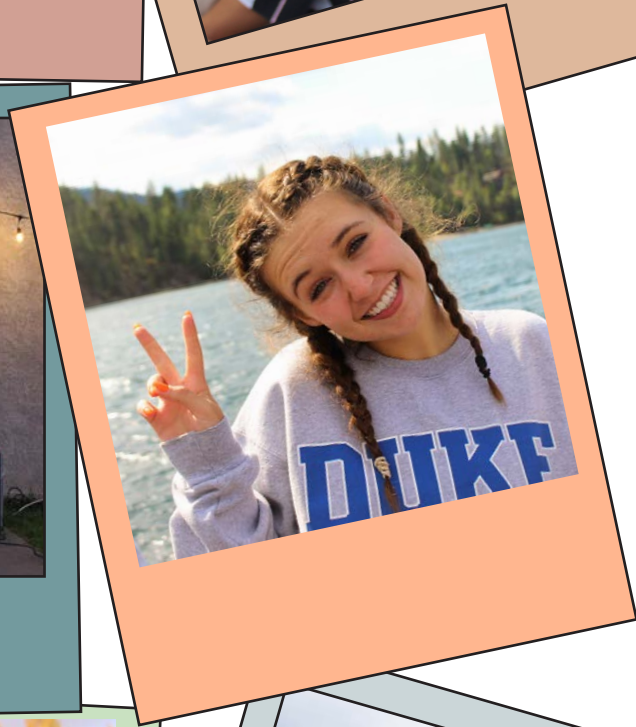
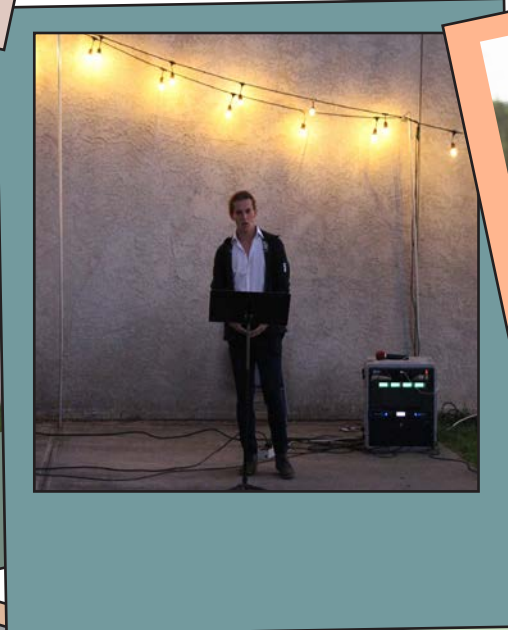


Photo Credits: Ryan Hughes

WEIRD HOLIDAYS

Greetings children, let me introduce myself. Some may know me as Jesus, but I am nothing in comparison to the fellow. My name is Asher, and I have a knack for coming up with some fairly ridiculous ideas. My spectacular teacher has made a grave mistake by allowing me to take over the Backpage this year. Welcome to my dungeon! In order to live up to the Backpage legacy left behind by ASB President Ayden Lee, the first subject I have chosen to write about is - yes, you read correctly - five extraordinarily stupid holidays that somehow exist. Let's begin!

1: Fruitcake Toss Day

On January 3rd, thousands of Americans toss away the old, hard, smelly, and frankly heathenish family fruitcake. Allegedly, this holiday was created in 1995 in Colorado. I personally believe this to be a force for good in a world of chewy, tasteless, and unsatisfying fruitcakes. Unfortunately, however, it gets much worse.

2: Be Late for Something Day

This charming holiday, celebrated on September 5th, was created by the Procrastinators' Club of America (trust me, I too have questions), who are based in Philadelphia. They say it is a day to

stop, breathe, and smell the roses. My immediate response to this is: Why not simply get up 5 minutes earlier than usual, so you don't get lectured at work and can still do that? Sometimes, however, questions go unanswered, and death comes to us all, so I guess I'll always have questions. Anyway, the clock on my life is ticking, better get to number 3.

3: No Beard Day

They say there's a Bane, a Joker, a two-face to everyone's Batman existence. On October 18th, millions of clean-shaven men (and women), come together to celebrate not having a beard. If you couldn't guess, I have taken much offense to the presence of this holiday. First, why celebrate the lack of testosterone among mortals who fail to produce a chin-scarf?

Second, it takes five minutes for a bearded man to become clean shaven. But it takes a clean-shaven man months, years of discipline and meditation until he achieves ascension. Although I have countless other issues with this holiday, the vast majority of the people reading this are most likely beardless, so I guess we'll move on.



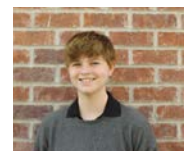
Asher Mack -
Chaos Editor

4: Lost Sock Memorial Day

Every year, mourning citizens across the globe celebrate this day on May 9th in honor of every mismatched pair of socks in their drawer, each of which representing a single missing sock. The tradition is to spend a small amount of time searching, rummaging, scrounging for those missing socks. After what will probably be a failed rescue, you spend a minute reflecting on the comfortable feeling of those fuzzy socks, and the souls that will suffer as a result of their absence. As you finish wiping the tears from your eyes, please get ready to move on.

5: Beheading Day

If the term "save the best for last" manifested as a homunculus, he would be first in line at the guillotine. This lovely day, celebrated on September 2nd, was created in remembrance of the countless beheadings of kings, princes, queens and peasants of old..



Sienna Duffield -
Cartoonist

Cartoon by:
Sienna Duffield

