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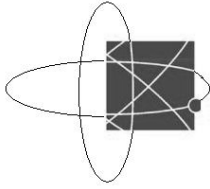
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The Academy for Math, Engineering and Science

The AMES Satellite

It's not slavery, it's unpaid journalism...with deadlines!

Volume 6 No. 2

January 2009

Upcoming Events

- January 15—End of 2nd Term
- January 16—Student Non-Attendance Day
- January 19—Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (No School)
- January 20—Inauguration Day
- January 21—Cottonwood Late Start Day
- February 3-5—UBSCT Administration for 10th Grade
- February 16—President's Day (No School)
- March 4-5—Parent-Teacher Conferences 4:30-7:30
- March 6—No School

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“Oh, The Humanities!” Race as a Social Construct

Mariah Brockman

As everyone knows, one of the greatest things about AMES is our opportunity to take University of Utah courses. One of these courses is Communication 1000: Social Construction of Race taught by Professor Matt Bradley. This has been one of the favorite U of U classes for most of the students who have enrolled. I have not personally had the opportunity of taking this class, but I did get the chance to speak with a few students currently or previously enrolled in the class.

The class primarily gives students a chance to study the things that really impact their lives, and the community they live in. It has a particularly strong focus on race and racism throughout the world, with a strong emphasis on the United States, and how it affects the students in their personal lives.

This class also requires a large scale, year long, research project dealing with race, or something else with a large impact on daily life. I had the opportunity to find out what a couple of students are doing, or have done in the past. I asked senior, Liz Pickard, about her project, and she told me

that she and her group are doing their research on stereotypes in high schools. They are looking at the different separation of groups in public, private, and charter high schools, and are also curious to find out whether or not stereotypes are detrimental to the student, or how it helps them to succeed in school.

Camilo Corredor told me about his group's project. They are curious to find out whether or not satires, like *Family Guy*, *South Park*, and *The Simpsons* are affecting children's outlook on racism. They are hoping to find out if watching these television shows are causing children to think racism is okay, as long as it is funny. These are just a couple of the research projects students are doing or have done over the course of the two years we have had Dr. Bradley teaching at our school.

Everyone loves the class, and thinks Dr. Bradley is an amazing teacher. Camilo Corredor said that he really likes when everyone sits in a

circle, and the entire class has very involved conversations. Liz Pickard said she liked the class because “Matt makes us think about the things around us and truly analyze them, but along with that we are asked to look inwardly and become something more than we are now.” When asked about the class Mazi Rakhsha commented, “I think Matt is way cool, because he has a ton of experience and really knows his stuff.”

This class sounds like a great opportunity. As our students are moving toward your junior and senior years, you must begin thinking about electives to take. If you really enjoy reading, and would like the opportunity to better yourself, and better understand the world around you, definitely take this Communications 1000 class into consideration. Based on the comments of several of his students, Matt Bradley seems to be an amazing professor, and I don't think there is anyway you could regret taking this course.



AMES NEWS

AMES Students Attend NCSSTMST Conference

Maia Bromley-Dulfano

This past October, Cesia Dominguez, Chas Blakemore, Matt Vitelli, and myself, attended the student conference of the National Consortium of Specialized Secondary Schools in Math, Science and Technology (NCSSTMST) conference in Rochester, New York sponsored by Rochester Polytech.

On the first day we were split up into groups where we were introduced

to kids, all with a focus on math, engineering and science, who attended different charter schools from Virginia, New York, New Jersey, Utah, Texas, among



Chas, Matt, Maia and Cesia

other places. According to Matt Vitelli, "It was an innovative and enlightening experience. It was great to see similar minds."

We went on different tours where we were

involved in different interactive lectures and labs that that pertained to biology,

music, genetics, chemistry, engineering, and other various topics that included making slime. We participated in a competition where we had to engineer and build various objects, such as a parachute, a robot, and bridges, all put together with inanimate objects. There was a dance with silly music, and we got to ride on a party bus to a museum on the last day! We explored the magical exhibits in the museum including an underwater adventure in the sea. Finally, at the end of the trip, one of the groups performed a rap that they had created. It was really catchy and everyone sang along.

Overall, the NCSSTMST student conference was a fun, educational experience.

AMES RUNNING CLUB HOLDS FIRST 5K

Shwan Javdan

The battles that count aren't for gold medals. The struggles within yourself—the invisible, inevitable battles inside all of us—that is where it's at. —Jesse Owens, Olympic Medalist

A struggle grew within me as I dashed past my third lap around the park. My ankles burned and my body was telling me to stop, but I kept going. I had a goal, a purpose—to complete the AMES 5K with a feeling of pride and accomplishment. My ambition drove me to continue, and soon my legs were on auto-pilot. A subtle breeze rushed past my face and fresh air filled my lungs. When it was time to complete my

final lap, my steady job began to speed up. As I crossed the finish line, I quickly became aware of how



Runners line up at the starting line.

exhausted I was, and yet how content I was with my achievement.

The AMES 5K was an exhilarating experience that brought nearly 60 students together to participate in a fun school activity. I didn't win, not even close, nor did I run the entire

time. For me, winning the race was not as important as having a great time and pushing myself past *my* limits. In my heart, I had won. I had finished the race, and that was all that mattered.

Those participating in the AMES 5K included students, teachers, principal Al Church, and even a few parents. The 5K was organized by the running club's faculty advisors John Strang and Margaret Fedder.

If you didn't run in the AMES 5K last month, you haven't missed your only chance to get on the track. Another 5K is planned for April of 2009 or perhaps earlier depending upon the weather, and even more participants are anticipated.

AMES FOOD DRIVE A SUCCESS

Tia Thomas

AMES once again held a food drive with all donations received going to the Food Bank. The AMES Student Council organized the drive. The top three advisories in terms of dona-

tions were Ms. Aho's with 367, Mr. Bigelow's with 309 and Ms. Bogaard's and Ms. Safadi's with 309. All three advisories will receive breakfast during second semester.

This year's food drive exceeded the student council's goal of 1,253 by collecting

2,708 cans which provide 7,821 meals for needy families.

In a year where more people are worried about feeding their families its good to see that so many students were willing to help others.

Black Butterflies are Beautiful

Jordan Robertson and Jewel Peterson

Many people have their own versions of what they think a sisterhood is. But when we think of "sistahood," we think of Black Butterflies. Black Butterflies was founded by Dr. Lynette L. Danley at the University of Utah in May 2006. This organization was designed for young African American women who needed help or advice in preparing for college, high school, and just life in general. Black Butterflies teaches us to speak out, to stand strong amidst the struggles that life puts us through, and to be proud of who we are and where we came from.

This year Black Butterflies has decided to spread its wings and create groups throughout Granite and Salt Lake City School Dis-

tricts. The schools included are: West, Granger, Cottonwood, AMES, and East. Dr. Danley meets with each school on their designated day of the week, ours being Wednesday, and we eat, laugh and fellowship. The AMES girls that are participating in Black Butterflies are: Lindy Clark, Ayshia Groll, Roni Lanier, Marlin Mawa, Judith Sluga, Jessica Peterson, Jewel Peterson, Jordan Robertson, Lexie Walker, and Jessica Williams. We will begin doing various projects throughout the year such as: community service (feeding the homeless), the Debutante Ball, summer

camp, etc. In the month of February, Black Butterflies will have their annual get together at the U of U where we will have a chance to meet with black girls from other schools, learn and have fun.

We hope that you have a better understanding of what Black Butterflies is. We want to send a shout out to Mrs. Jasumback, who lets us use her room, our fabulous instructor Dr. Danley and Dr.

Church, who let us have Black Butterflies at AMES. Black Butterflies has inspired and empowered us in so many ways. We hope that as each of us go throughout life we will be able to continue this organization of "sistahood" and live the legacy.



Left to right: Ayshia Groll, Jordan Robertson, Jessica Peterson, Lindy Clark, Judith —, Lexie Walker, Roni Lanier. Not shown: Marlin Mawa and Jewel Peterson

AMES DANCE— BACK IN BLACK...and WHITE!

Mariah Brockman

On Friday, November 14th, over one-hundred AMES students assembled at Wheeler Farm for the first dance of the 2008-2009 school year, "Back in Black...and White." The song list featured a variety of music for everyone's taste, from Justin Timberlake's "Sexy Back" to the obscure Swedish song "Rose Helicopter" requested by Paul Christian.

Everyone got up and moving as Kim Pehrson led us in the "Time Warp" from *The Rocky Horror*

Picture Show. One of the highlights of the dance for many people was the spontaneous karaoke version of "Put On" by Young Jeezy, which was performed by Jamal Abdinor, Daniel Thirsk, Sharoon Samuel and Hector Cardenas.



Veronic and Yanna

For the entire week after the dance I heard comments and m u r m u r s among students about how much fun the dance was, and how they can't wait to see what student council comes up with for the next dance. One student, Jordan Brockman, even described the dance as "Scrumptulescent." When

asked to further comment he included that "the night was filled with merriment and joy." Thanks Jordan. I think you were able to sum up everyone's thoughts about the dance in one simple sentence, maybe even one simple word.

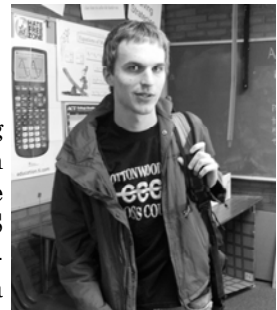
Even everyone's favorite principal, Dr. Church, showed some of the students he knows how to shake it on the dance floor. All in all, the dance was a great experience for everyone who attended, whether you are a student or a teacher. If you haven't had a chance to attend one of the AMES dances yet, you are really missing out. So on January 23rd, grab a group of friends, get yourself all decked-out, and meet me at Wheeler Farm for a night of, as Jordan so kindly put it, "merriment and joy."

PEOPLE—Get to Know Your Fellow AMESians

Chris Robinson

Mariah Brockman

“Where are my make up artists and camera crew?” The first words exclaimed during our interview with seventeen year old AMES senior, Christopher Robinson. During an interview with his younger brother David we found out that Chris’s persistence was the reason David came to AMES, so we asked Chris what it was that he liked about AMES so much. He responded with “Who wouldn’t love free college classes and all the cool people?” He also told us he was sick of the standard public school system and wanted a change from that.



Chris told us his best friends at AMES were Kate and Connor; favorite hobbies were running, building computers, and Parkour. His favorite AMES class and teacher were U of U Chemistry with Professor Owens. He also told us he prefers cats to dogs, his favorite bands/musicians were Muse, Marilyn Manson, and Bass Hunter, and his favorite holiday is Christmas Eve, because there is a big party, and still more holiday time to come. When we asked Chris for a personal quote he said “It’s not art unless it’s burning.” I am sure there will be a lot of people missing Chris next year when he leaves the AMES family to pursue his prospective Aerospace major at Utah State. Good Luck Chris!

David Robinson

Tia Thomas

David Robinson is currently a 14 year old freshman at AMES. David decided to come to AMES because, as he said, “his brother (Chris) insisted.” Nevertheless, he likes the school because the teachers are cool and “don’t hate him, yet.”

David, like most students at AMES, thinks that lunch-time could be pushed to a later time.

As for his favorite class, he doesn’t know. His favorite type of music is rock, and his favorite band is Muse. In terms of animals, he loves cats. If he could live anywhere in the world he would choose Switzerland – no particular city, just Switzerland. He likes anything with peanut butter and chocolate so Reese’s Peanut Butter Cups takes the prize for his favorite candy. It’s surprising that you never see him in red, as that is his favorite color. I would say David loves flying – he would pick that for a super power.

And last but not certainly least; he says that we should stop global warming, perhaps by finding some means to “take the carbon from the air and use it for something else.”

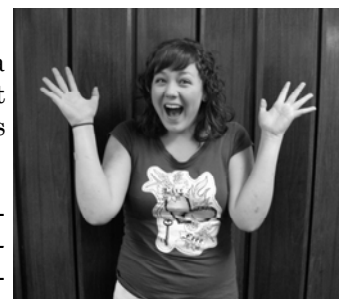


Narnia Brockman

Sam Rivera

Narnia Brockman is a 15 year-old freshman at AMES this year, and we had a chance to get to know her a little bit better. When asked what she liked best about AMES she said “Everything, the teachers are great, everyone is accepting, and it is such a fun place to be.”

We also had a chance to ask her about some of her favorites. She told us her favorite teacher at AMES was Mr. Ramsey, her favorite book was either “*The Color Purple*” or “*Of Mice and Men*”, and her favorite hobbies are singing, cooking, and exercising. We also asked her who she would consider best friends at AMES, and she told us Hanna Horrocks and Michelle Rinehart.



AMES NEWS

WHEN YOUR INTERNSHIP ROCKS

Chris Hancock

SpyHop is a media production company that houses many separate students and provides them with internship opportunities. In the past, AMES students have worked with SpyHop in film production. One film, directed by AMES graduate Maria Saavedra, was accepted at the Seattle film festival. SpyHop has also been running classes and programs for students in recording, radio production, and movie and media filming and editing.

Recently, SpyHop has hired a new music teacher, Jeremy Chatelain, who has brought new ideas with him. One of them is Musicology. The class takes a handful of musicians and works with them through the entire recording process, from writing original songs, to recording, merchandising and playing shows. Two AMES Students, Ajl Anderson, who is in the program for



his internship, and Christian Butler, who joined the program to “pick up chicks and meet the Pope”. (Yeah, it doesn't make sense to us either.) We talked to them for a few minutes at a time over the course of several days and asked them a few questions. Oh, and Ajl plays bass and Christian, keyboards.

So in all, how many people are involved in this project?

Ajl Anderson: There are eight in all, but four in our project.

How do you go about writing music?

AA: Sometimes Jeremy gives us an assignment similar to a prompt; but beyond what he

does assign for us to write, it's pretty much our job to find inspiration and write music and lyrics for our own tunes. We also work in groups to write tracks.

Christian Butler: Well, most of the musi-

cians there are talented enough to improvise along with another person's song. This being the case, most of the songs are written individually.

When you're working with others creatively there are bound to be challenges. What's the most difficult part of working together?

AA: Getting people to show up. We have a great guitarist who rarely shows up.

CB: Well, one of the best thing about the program is also one of its biggest flaws and that is that it brings together young musicians with many different tastes and ideas and forces them to work together. There can sometimes be conflicts of opinion

What is the final product from this internship? When will it be released?

CB: Each of the groups is also working with a concurrent music producing program at SpyHop. The final product will be one or more albums from each group of seven or so songs. These will probably be released around the latter half of summer along with a few performances at local venues.

It's All *Arabic* To Me

Andrew Parker

Spanish, French, maybe German, these are the language classes you usually see in an average high school. But not at AMES! This year AMES has added Arabic, and Mandarin Chinese, to it's repertoire of foreign languages. Maybe it's a little over kill to have such a variety of choices out there. Of course not! This world has more variety than we have at AMES (if that's even possible.) What's a little more diversity?

Now your probably thinking “Sure perhaps it's a good thing to have more language classes, but Arabic, it's not like we're ever going to need

to use that stuff. Right?” Au contraire. This is an ever increasingly international country. You hear about the Arab world all the time in the news. It's inevitable that you will come to a situation where you wished you'd known the language. Now do you see the importance?

I mentioned the Arab world in the news. Media being the way it is everyone only hears the bad things about it. Don't be prejudiced; most of the things you see in the media are stereotyped. Not everyone is a screaming fanatic; most are very kind and hospitable. You could walk right up to a stranger's house and if you were hungry, they'd feed you. Arab culture is a very rich culture. Much of Arabic culture revolves

around religion, including their language, which is beautiful and exotic in every respect.

Not that Arabic class is all fun and games. Of course, nothing is. It can be a little difficult trying to learn a completely new language from the very basics. I'm talking about letters, words, grammar, and pronunciation. But you get used to it, and it can be very rewarding when you finish. Arabic script is like an art in of itself. Actually all of Arab culture is an art. And you know what that makes Arabs, great artists.

Entertainment



Review: Is it Twilight for *Twilight*?

Kenan Karalic

Undoubtedly one of the most successful recent franchises, *Twilight*, directed by Catherine Hardwicke, depicts another mortal-vampire love story focusing on how the main characters struggle to understand each other, and ultimately, avoid death.

After reading the complete saga, I was excited and somewhat nervous to see the movie. I had pictured the characters in my head in specific ways and did not want them to be distorted too intensely by the movie.

For those of you who have yet to, or



have never read any of the *Twilight* books, here is the *Reader's Digest* version of the plot: Bella, an intelligent, but shy girl leaves Phoenix where she plays mother to her flighty mom to live with her father in rain-soaked Forks, Washington, where she will instead play mother to her dad. She starts high school, falls for mysteriously pale Edward and chaos, naturally, ensues.

The vampire romance genre has certainly been beaten to death. Thankfully, author Stephanie Meyer has added a bit of pizzazz to her story, creating unique rules that govern the vampires' way of life.

Even though the performances from

the case were more than adequate, the movie was a bit rushed. I noticed a handful of scenes, both pertinent and not has been altered to help the movie progress a bit faster.

Although Robert Pattison, who portrays Edward, excelled in scenes where he was required to perform supernatural abilities, he showed a lack of devotion to the more romantic scenes in the film. The chemistry between Edward and Bella is virtually non-existent. Kristen Stewart delivers a slightly better performance, but she lacks some of Bella's rashness and tendency to panic that distinguish her in the books.

All in all, the movie was adequate; but as is usual with most films adapted from books, the book is better.

Obituary: *Twilight* is Dead

Christian Bolander

The series that left that nasty feeling in my has now, officially, stepped down. That's right, fan girls and fan boys alike, the *Twilight* series has come to a sigh-inspiring, pop-culture phenomenon, close. I am one of the few individuals that read the first book and found that it was far below sub-par (let the angry girls begin their assault).

Twilight stars Bella Swan as she fights her way through high school love and somehow manages to catch the attention of not one, but five different boys. Of course, the most important of these boys is the mysterious Edward Cullen, who has found a way to plaster his face into almost every teenage girl's vision of the 'perfect' boy. You may be asking: "Why is that so bad? It just seems like an ordinary romance novel." That's where you're wrong.

After about 200 pages of thinly written suspense we find out, to much surprise, that Edward is a vampire (cue dramatic music). However, instead of roaming the countryside looking for humans to drain of blood, he is part of a select few "vegetarian" vampires, feeding on animals rather than humans. "Oh look, a werewolf! Don't worry about those razor sharp teeth and skin ripping claws, he only eats plants!" Oh wait, that's part of the book as well.

The first novel is hastily tacked off with a "damsel in distress" moment and Edward comes to save Bella. The thing that bugs me about this is that we have an intelligent young woman who can hardly take a step without needing someone to save her. The sexism continues as Bella gives up all her hopes and dreams of college to marry Edward. After all of this, I decided to put the series down.

Nevertheless, when I read an online review I just had to read *New Moon*. In *New Moon*, Bella falls apart when Ed-

ward leaves her, throwing what little is left of her already shallow personality down the toilet. She even goes so far as to put herself in harm's way just to hear her lover's imagined voice. Readers...what kind of an influence will this have on a teenager? Since the targeted audience is 12-17 year-old girls, we are no doubt encouraging them to fall apart for months when their boyfriends leave them, right?

One of the bright spots is the introduction of Jacob Black, a newly turned werewolf. It's in the Jacob and Bella scenes that we see a small glimpse of personality. The romance between the two has a greater resemblance to real teen romance. Only it's Jacob, in the end who's kicked to the curb.

Even recalling this series gives me pain. Just putting this review in here will probably secure my death by fan-girl nightmare. This effectively describes my pick as one of the most sexist, and all-around horrible series of our time.

AMES ENTERTAINMENT



Listen to Portishead

Paul Christian

Portishead's early emergence into the Trip-Hop scene cemented their role as one of the founders of the genre, and certainly one of its most important artists. Like Massive Attack, their music features a blend of trance, early hip-hop, soul and vocal music with a heavy dose of psychedelia, and classic 90's cool. The album runs the risk of leaving the listener feeling a tad gauche, "Third" is definitely not for trip-hop naive.

With their icy, blasé aesthetic, and reputation for sporadic releases, Portishead's few works are greeted with open arms whenever their subtle presence makes its graceful entrance onto record store shelves. Like the seminal "Dummy" and successor, Portishead's *Third* shares a moody, dark energy, yet on "Third", a new vitality and energy surges through the elegant compositions, carefully layered samples and synth, and the ethereal, stark and cold vocals of the incomparable Beth Gibbons.



Third opens with the frenetic, lost "Hunter" an offbeat awkward walk through foreign streets, ending as shockingly as it begins. The standout tracks on the record include the positively icy "Machine Gun" which juxtaposes the sheer lost intangible humanity of Beth's voice with the chilling heavy beat, which unrelentingly chugs onward, piercing to the listener's core. My personal favorite on the record is "The Rip" with its subtle build, and climax, shattering the overdone verse-chorus structure. A structure Portishead clearly has thrown out the window on their groundbreaking reinvention of modern music. If you're at all interested in experimental music, electronica, or classy 90s goth, Portishead's instant classic "Third" is inarguably, a must-buy.

Colts Come Up Lame in Finals

Frankie Anderson

Arriving at the stadium five minutes late wasn't the best to start the game. Yet even with out me, Cottonwood High School's football team seemed to score a touch down. The semi-finals game started well, though with many fouls for encroaching the opposing team, Point View High, benefited. (For those of you who don't know what encroaching is, it's when they are scooting forward to the ball before the referee's blow their whistle. The football team tends to do this a lot with all their games.)

The rest of the game seemed to fly by. Cottonwood won, yet their playing was cocky. They seemed to know already that they were going to win the game and put forth only nominal effort.

The 'Finals' game came the next week. Although impossible, it seemed that the Timpview side had many more fans than Cottonwood, that their cheer-

leaders seemed more preppy and organized. Even their band members seemed to be more in-sync with each other. (Sorry to all those AMES kids in band).

At the start of the second quarter Cottonwood was losing 7 to 21. Yet they caught up and tied at 21. The third quarter came around, and Cottonwood the lead 28 to 21, yet Timpview tied. For the last two minutes of the game, Cottonwoods loss was spelled out. With two minutes to go, we were down 28 to 34. Cottonwood might have gone into the finals with flare, but in the end, they lost.

Nevertheless, Cottonwood had a great season and many AMES students contributed to their success. AMES students on the Cottonwood team included: Shaun Vargo George Pedroza, Brandon Pedroza, Steven Warnick, Sione Foloumoeloa, Sia Taimani, and Jared Kichiro

Quantum of Solace: Great Movie, Perplexing Title

Sarah Monserret

If you're looking for a fun action packed flick with sexy men and hot babes. James Bond is back, and this time it is mighty personal. Daniel Craig as James Bond picks up exactly where he left off in *Casino Royale* leaving you feeling both drained and exhilarated.

There are hand-to-hand fights that make your eyes water and old-school stunts involving motorbikes, speedboats, jet fighters and expensive cars that give you whiplash just looking at them, or the whiplash comes from James Bond crashing them. Really, nobody does it better than the new 007.

I really enjoyed this movie, the fact that Daniel Craig is running around shooting at people only helps a little, if you're into action and steamy romance this is the movie for you. Overall I think anyone would enjoy this movie, it's a must see.

SPECIAL TABLOID SUPPLEMENT

ULTIMATE SECRETS OF THE UNIVERSE REVEALED

Chris Bates

For the past 60 years or so there has been a major increase in the number of reported alien sightings. There is practically no mention of aliens in historical records, so why does everyone see UFOs in their backyard these days? Many intellectuals would simply claim that it's an attempt to draw attention to oneself with a story that can't be proven false. I, a fellow intellectual, have a much more logical explanation for this phenomenon. One that makes so much sense, you just might pay attention to the skies.

If we had mastered interstellar travel, and found a new planet with primitive life forms, it can be assumed that we wouldn't interact with them. Rules would have been made that would allow a civilization to evolve naturally, without our help. Couldn't aliens have done the same? Here's the truth.

An advanced civilization, while exploring the universe, stumbles across a small, green and blue planet in a remote corner of a galaxy. The most advanced life form on this planet are some balding, apelike creatures who are running around grunting at each other and fighting. They add it to their list of planets to check up on.

About 100 years later, the time it takes them to perform one round across the universe, they come back and nothings changed. And again. And again. This goes on for several cycles until one time these violent "monkey boys" are beating

each other with clubs. Aside from that, nothing changes for many more cycles.

Then they start to evolve intellectually. After several cycles, they begin doing some primitive farming, and start hunting in packs. Despite these acts of cooperation, they still have this violent club obsession, but now they have stone axes and spears.

Time passes, and they discover bronze. They have now formed villages and the beginnings of society, and now they have stronger weapons to beat each other with. All in all, they've been evolving good and slow, like a normal society. They just have this strange club obsession.

A few rounds later, they have iron, and their cities have grown. A few after that, they have sailing and are now exploring. This stage has been pretty quick, but every life form they've watched has had their little jumps, so they think nothing of it.

Then one time they come back, and pollution has increased. Cities have grown, steam power is being used. But these ape creatures keep using their resources to build bigger weapons to beat each other with.

The next round: in no time, they've got internal combustion engines, are building faster ships, and are beginning to build flying machines. These monkey boys are evolving very quickly.

Then half way through their next cycle their scanners detect a nuclear pulse from this blue and green planet. Their first thought is "Oh dang, someone nuked the monkey boys.

They were so interesting to watch too." They hurry across the universe to arrest whichever species had the gall to break the rules and interfere in some planets evolution. When they arrive, there have been multiple nuclear detonations across the planet, but there are no other space craft to be seen.

They inspect the planet to closely examine the carnage, and find that these monkey boys haven't been bombed by another race at all. are now constructing nuclear weapons, advanced firearms, long range artillery, the whole bit. They've taken they're strange club obsession to a whole new level. And there's an even more horrifying discovery: The monkey boys, who only 40 years earlier were just researching primitive airplanes, are now researching space craft. These strange, club obsessed creatures, are taking their violent hobby to the stars. The wisest course of action: monitor them.

These creatures, in this remote corner of a remote galaxy, are evolving so fast that leaving them alone for a week is dangerous. They set up constant observation teams, and early on the underestimate the aerial weapons and lose one of their ships (Roswell, 1947). Ever since then, they have taken major precautions, and continued to watch these monkey boys. But we see them a lot more often now, because they're here. Instead of them showing up once every hundred years, they have multiple ships monitoring every second. It's a wonder we haven't seen more of them.

And that, is The Truth.

The BEYOND of Bed, Bath and Beyond

Chas Blakemore

The popular movie *Click*, starring Adam Sandler, in a tragic comedy about an architect who receives a truly "universal" remote control. This remote can pause time, turn down the volume of the world, and it can even explore your own past. This magical device originates in the "Beyond" section of the department store Bed, Bath, and Beyond. If a remote of such glorious power is only one item out of a huge warehouse, what else could possibly be in there?

Fusion reactors that transform bountiful amounts of hydrogen into helium releasing huge quantities of clean energy that could possibly be stored in the recesses of that urban cavern.

BEYOND

The government could be hiding directed energy weapons from the public. With those types of weapons, ammo would be irrelevant, only power sources would be needed.

The Russians could be using the Beyond section as a secret headquarters for their off-shore espionage operation and the fear gadgets we get to see are only covers for the Ruskies.

Alien technologies recovered from space missions

could be kept there in a sort of Area 51 lockdown or even worse...Aliens could be hiding there. It's a conspiracy!

Opinion

Get to the Back of the Bus

Sam Rivera

It's 3:40, the bell rings, students get out of their seat and rush into the halls eagerly trying to get out of school. After gathering their things they head home. Some drive, some take the school bus, some even walk, but then there are the others. Those that take the UTA bus home.

Students will chose one of their two options, the first bus stop (closest to school), or the second one which is just a little to the south. At around 3:49 the bus arrives, everyone pulls out their bus pass, but just as they're doing so, as the door opens... Patty, the bus driver lady reveals herself. Everyone suddenly pulls out their student ID to accompany their bus passes and starts to form a single file line. Why, you ask? Because Patty demands that these prerequisites are met before anyone is allowed to get on the bus. And what of those students who do not yet have their student IDs, due to make up picture day? They are

repeatedly harassed. Rachel Howerly was a victim of this persecution; "She'd be yelling at me, saying *her supervisor* told her that *my principal* insured her everyone had their ID by now. I even had a note from Ms. Crapo saying I was a student, but that wasn't good enough for that b!*%@." For the first couple of rides these demands seem reasonable, she doesn't know who we are so she asks us to show your ID, but after weeks of riding with her one would think that she'd understand who we were.

After everyone gets on the bus her next demand must be met before she can start to drive to the next stop. This demand is: that if there is a seat available you must take it, so, in other words, no one is allowed to stand as long as there is a seat available for sitting.

Finally, after her demands have been met, she drives to the next stop. At this stop the same demands must be met.

By this time, the bus is crowded, so you don't want to be at the end of the line because you might have to wait for the next bus, oh wait...that has only happened once—to Sam Rivera, Adasa de la Rosa, Marlin Mawa, and Jessica Peterson. On this one occasion, Patty did not let the groups of students stated above on the bus because it was over-crowded, even though it had been more crowded on other occasions. Her justification was that she had the right to do this as a "safety precaution." This may have made sense if there was no space for us on the bus, but his was not the case as there was definitely space for us on that bus. And maybe, just maybe, it was just a coincidence that we were all ethnic minorities.

Anyway, she has only done this once and this is because it's hard to discriminate when the people you are trying to discriminate against are spread throughout the line—as we now do intentionally every time the bus approaches.

Proposition 8: Stonewall II, Return of the GOP

Paul Christian

Proposition 8 remains a hotly contested issue, even now, a month after election day. Having attended two large, televised protests against the decision, I guess my opinion goes without saying. But first, for those who may not have heard about it, Proposition 8 is a motion to amend the state constitution of California to legally define marriage as between one man, and one woman, closing the door on same-sex couples, marriage triangles, men marrying dolphins, dolphins marrying other dolphins

Anyways. Zoophilia aside, one can imagine that, California being one of the very few states with a solid blue basis, that this decision is the result of outside factors, not actual opinion. There's evidence for religious interference, and there is a VERY ambiguous wording of Prop on the ballot, but all aside, I think expectation, voter apathy, and a strong push by the religious right and the old-

erly conservative led to this decision.

Now, I may not be Brother Brigham, but I think my qualms with religion, are few, and well founded. Religious war, prejudice, creating yet another excuse for innate cultural elitism. So I think it's understood that I want religion, to not be heavily involved in making larger governmental decisions. There has always been a push for what has long been referred to as separation of church and state. Even the Founding Fathers themselves weren't religious, and while puritans did colonize this land, the fathers themselves were less than enthusiastic about religion's influence.

"I almost shudder at the thought of alluding to the most fatal example of the abuses of grief which the history of mankind has preserved—The cross. Consider what calamities that engine of grief has produced!" – John Adams in a letter to Thomas Jefferson

And this quote is one of very, very many things the founding fathers said against the influence of faith on society. America being a "bastard" Christian nation, harbors systematic, cultural, and most of all, ecclesiastical prejudice against the LGBTQI community. Many of the other systematic forms of oppression have been demolished by civil rights legislation, and societal shift.

Think, miscegenation, glass ceiling. Sure, the glass ceiling may still exist. But it's a few panes thinner than it used to be. Miscegenation went out with nary a death rattle with the passing of the civil rights act. Societal changes, difference, between people are protected under these legislations. For those who argue that alternate sexuality is indeed a choice, let me argue that religion is a choice. Can I openly protest Catholic marriage? No, Paul, that's discrimination. Society evolves. Recognize it.

Point/Counterpoint

Chuck Norris– Man or Super Man?

Chas Blakemore



Carlos Ray Norris, commonly known as “Chuck,” was born in Ryan, Oklahoma to parents of Irish and Cherokee descent. Chuck joined the Air Force as an Air Policeman in 1958 and he worked on the Osan Air Base in South Korea. It was here that Chuck began studying martial arts. Chuck achieved a few black

belts in Tang Soo Do, his primary martial art. He also founded the Chun Kuk Do form, or “Universal Way.” After leaving the Air Force, Chuck went on to a career in acting and martial arts, simultaneously achieving an 8th degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do and starring in *Walker, Texas Ranger*.

Let us for a moment compare Rambo and Chuck Norris. Rambo is the essence of manliness. He shoots, fights, doesn’t wear a shirt and has a headband. Why then, is Chuck the revered one? He can throw a few kicks and cry on cue, but he is just a man from Oklahoma.

Examining some of the common jokes concerning Chuck Norris, we find them completely impossible. How can Chuck Norris not get wet when he gets in a pool? The water may get Chuck Norris but Chuck will still get wet. Why would the Boogeyman check his closet for an actor? The Boogeyman has amazing supernatural powers and Chuck...well Chuck is just a man...a man from Oklahoma.

Matt Vitelli

It has often been debated over the nature of Chuck Norris’s power. Some say he is but a simple bodybuilder, incapable of serious thought or reason. They claim his power to be minimal. Yet who is the man behind the muscle? Chuck has proved to be a man of quality, strength, and reason. He is an icon and a paragon. Indeed, Chuck is more an ideal than a man.



While internet facts and figures often depict Chuck in high standing, occasionally they are misinformed. Take for example the fact: “Chuck Norris’s tears cure disease. Too bad he never cries.” This is unfounded. In the early seventies, Chuck traveled to a poor Sicilian village. A young boy was ailing and was expected to die that day. Chuck was so touched by this boy that he cried one tear. That tear hit the boy and immediately turned him into the pumped, pure-muscle badass we know as Sylvester Stallone.

Chuck represents a symbol of discipline. Every morning he does ten thousand sit-ups and eats cereal with a bowl of nails. Why does he do this? To show us he cares. His acting skills are legendary and his testimonies are great. He’s encouraged many people to attempt bodybuilding lifestyles, with the purchase of a Total Gym. Indeed, his iconic nature is paralleled only by Arnold Schwarzenegger. Though Chuck’s feats may be exaggerated, he’s had a powerful influence over American culture and is a symbol of what bodybuilding is capable of.

Glad Garbage Bag Now Not So Glad

Chris Hancock

In 1963 the Glad Company was created by David Darroch. When Glad started as a major corporation they only sold Glad Wrap, which is used for sealing open jars and other containers to keep the contents inside fresh longer. Sense then Glad has been supplying Glad Wrap, trash bags and refrigerator containers to people around the globe, making them one of the most recognizable names in the world marketplace today.

Among all Glad’s fine products there is one that has crossed the line: the Flex Force garbage bag. At first sight these bags look like normal, with the classic red pull strap to seal it and the white

color. It could fool anybody. But with closer observation to the surface of the product, the viewer would find thousands of small crevasses and from a upper view see how they make up hundreds of diamond shaped figures. It is with in these crevasses and diamonds that we find the technology and the novelty of the bag.

The idea behind having the crevasses is that when the bag is stretched out by the contents inside, they will flatten out to a smooth surface. Indeed when tested it works this way. But, one must think of the bags situation in all of this chaos. After the crevasses have been stretched it is impossible to return to its original state, thus causing irreparable damage to both the physical and mental attributes of the bag.

Today we as people look at the garbage bag as a commodity, and up until less than a year ago they were. However, the common garbage bag has become to technologically advance to be a disposable item. These flex force bags were engineered for only one purpose: to house our garbage. When our garbage bag can emulate the strength of small micro facets, technology has gone too far. The human race must realize that although we have the ability to expand technology beyond that nature it does not mean that we should. For if we do not simply learn to live with what we have, then we may very well regret the outcome of the future.

Point/Counterpoint

Blonde vs. Brunette



Mariah Brockman and Courtney Lane

A blonde is driving down the road in her new mustang convertible, when she runs into a man in a pickup truck. Both drivers immediately pull over and get out of their cars. The truck driver draws a circle on the ground, and tells the blonde not to step out of the circle. As the driver smashes in the windshield of the Mustang the blonde lets out a giggle. Confused, the man looks at the blonde and again starts smashing in the windows of the cars, only to have the blonde laugh even harder. The man was now so frustrated that he lit the Mustang on fire. The blonde then fell over laughing hysterically. The man was very frustrated, so he asked the blonde why she was laughing. Attempting to recompose herself, through her scattered giggles she was able to tell him, "While you weren't looking, I stepped out of the circle three times."

Almost everyday a new joke about a blonde is made up. How would someone come up with such jokes if they were not based on some truth? Brunettes, on the other hand, are smart, therefore there is no basis for "brunettes are dumb" jokes. In fact, it would be nearly impossible to come up with one, because **Brunettes are not dumb!**

Some people try to say "blondes have more fun". Since the amount of fun some person has is based on what one chooses to do, brunettes can have just as much, if not more fun than blondes. Also, brunettes are obviously smarter, and more imaginative, therefore they are more able to expand their list of fun-filled activities, leading them to more fun. In fact, in a survey of multiple students at AMES, most came to the consensus that brunettes are better looking, better drivers, more fun, and play up the ditzy much less, which makes them easier to have a conversation with.

In fact I know everyone will agree with me, when they are reminded of the greatest blonde jokes ever...Paris Hilton.

Blondes...Brunettes...a Point-Counterpoint Counterpoint

Jason Choi

Blondes are dumb but still get the guys. Brunettes are smart but can't be the *best*. Am I actually reading this article from an alternative charter high school that takes pride in its diversity? What happened to the black haired girls? What happened to the redheads? What happened to girls with exotic hair colors? What happened to this clique free school where *everybody* hangs out with each other? But most importantly, are we really judging females by the color of their hair?

I am not a member of the female gen-

der, but I can't help but feel that this debate is demeaning to women, reducing them to objects in this Capitalistic society, and fitting them into the stereotypes of the suburban teenage girls. Reynolds brings up Barbie, and how little girls look up to her. Barbie, from what I remember, does indeed have long blonde hair and is about 9 inches tall. She's a pretty attractive girl but then, comparing her height with her waist...she's a stick! Some role model.

Looking at some of the other icons of young girls (Marilyn Monroe, Brittany Spears, Jessica Simpson, etc.) They are all physically attractive, no doubt, and

Maranda Reynolds and Cheyenne Carpentier



Ha Ha Ha! I bet you are still laughing at the joke from Courtney's side of this point-counterpoint. Think about it, without blondes, this would be a dark gloomy world void of laughter. Everyone is able to make jokes about blondes. If nothing else, blondes are good for a great laugh.

Blondes are the ideal, they have become the icon for so many movies, and commercials. This is because most people look up to blondes and think they are pretty. Think of the original icon for girls... Barbie. The corporations made Barbie blonde, because they knew kids would look up to her if she was. The movie icon of the 50's was Marilyn Monroe, a blonde. She had the ideal beauty that everyone looked up to, perchance because she was blonde? Pepsi uses Brittany Spears, Proactive uses Jessica Simpson, Wrigley's uses the Double-Mint-Twins, and Guess Jeans use Paris Hilton; all icons, and all blonde.

My last point is, blondes have more fun. It is a blatant and well know fact. You can try to argue against, but everyone still knows it is the truth... if you use the real definition of fun. Even Mr. Strang told his A2 pre-calc class a story of a comment his daughter made several years ago. She said "Dad, do you know why brunettes and red-heads spend Friday nights making blonde jokes?" he asked her why and she replied with "Because they have nothing better to spend their time doing." Oh! How's that for a blonde joke. Take that Courtney and Mariah!

So, when you head out to the voting booths today remember to vote YES on proposition Blonde! Just kidding, but blondes are still the best.

they most likely are wonderful in many ways (not physical) but they all have one thing in common...maybe three... They were all used as tools to distort human beauty. I walk down the school hallways and see girls, drowned in makeup. I wonder if I'd be able to recognize their bare faces. I wonder why they try to alter their faces in the first place. Does the hair color really matter? At all? If it really does, then show me you're serious enough by starting a revolution that strives for superiority because of the color of your hair. Let's stop reducing beauty and worth to hair color and other external traits.

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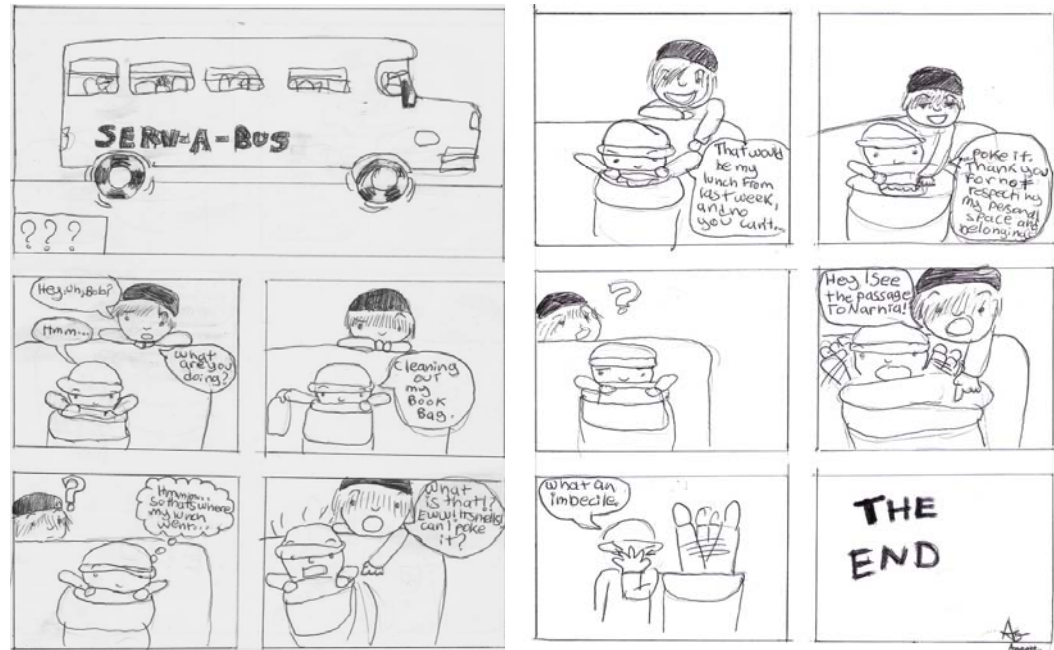
Shannon Freestone- Newspaper Advisor
Phone: 801-278-9460
E-mail: sfreestone@ames-slc.org

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Photography	

'Twas the Day after Monday

By: Clarice Ambler

'Twas the day after Monday, or Tuesday we say
The alarm clock rings, tolling away.
It's seven in the morning for goodness sake!
You know it's too early when the sun's not awake
Finally to school the students all meet
Ready to learn but more ready to sleep
The bell that starts classes soon begins ringing
Signaling headaches would soon be beginning.
First period starts, the students sit down
Except for the few who act like clowns.
Sitting on desks, standing on chairs
"Hey look I can see Russia from here!"
The teacher upon rising gets ready to lecture,
Standing in her rather stiff posture.
The students realize, quick as a flash
The best way to escape is grab the hall pass!
Pencils are writing, and pages are flipped
Notes are written but then are soon ripped
Daydreaming while the teachers instructing
Hey it's not your fault floating dust is distracting!
Forgetting ones homework is a daily occurrence.
Just be creative and you're sure to get clearance.
Just think clearly get your head out of the fog
Hey, what else could eat homework besides a dog?
The bell rings again, o joy! At last!
The students leap out of the room so fast.
O yes first period is out of the way!
Too bad you still have the rest of the day.



Comic: Annie Giardinelli



Additional photography and proofreading:
Jason Choi