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Have you ever felt strongly about something The Saber has published? Have you ever thrown down the newspaper in anger or gotten excited enough to show it to your friends? The Saber is the voice of the campus. If you want to have your opinion heard or to create a dialogue with us or other students, I’d like to encourage you to write to us and tell us how you feel about any of the subjects we publish or about any issues or topics in general. For more information about that option please email me at CSUSaberEditor@gmail.com or see the bottom of our staff box to the left of this letter.

This issue we continue in a similar vein to our last issue. Human rights, both on campus and in the world at large, remain one of the largest concerns facing students. To see what students have been up to in regard to support of women, see the article on “Yes All Women.” Or check out an updated look at marriage equality in “Marriage Equality in the United States.” Also be on the lookout for world news next issue where we will report on the protests for Democracy in Hong Kong. On another note, as always there are shifts on campus issue to issue, including changes in SGA and daily life at Courtyard I. Don’t miss out on the changes which could be affecting you.

The Saber would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our outstanding members of the month on staff, Cam Krafthefer and Marjorie Pierce, for their continued excellence on the paper. We unceasingly strive to produce the best content, and all staff and editors are invaluable to that effort.

- Catherine Saavedra
Editor-in-Chief

In response to criticism for our previous issue:

Over the years The Saber has received some memorable feedback. There’s been uproar over some of the more illicit articles, including coverage of Fifty Shades of Grey, dental dams, and BDSM. People have questioned our degree of support of liberal issues, particularly of gay rights and feminism. We’ve been accused of bias, libel, and general ignorance, and yet we find this reproach comforting. It’s good to know that there are people out there who look at what we say and care about these concerns enough to put their word in, be it positive or negative.

I would like to remind everyone of the powerful position they find themselves in. Out of all the avenues of free speech and opportunities to speak of liberty and inequality, college campuses are perhaps the most open to ideas regarding humanism and topics which cannot or will not be heard elsewhere. Colleges have always been a nexus of liberal ideas and hotly debated issues. Remember the Vietnam War protests? Occupy Wall Street? Chances are that what you speak here so freely will be privy to restriction and legal ramifications later in your career, so why censor yourself now?

Of course, this does not mean that The Saber should address only that which some would consider left-leaning. In no way do we attempt to disregard religion, gun freedoms, or any of the other topics some feel we ignore. But as a student run newspaper, our staff and editors will focus on what is relevant to themselves and the students of this school, and considering the atmosphere on campus in recent years, our swing toward activism is less a liberal statement than a response to the times.

- Elaine Hoffmeister
Managing Editor
Get To Know the AMA
CSU’s American Marketing Association celebrates its annual marketing week

Founded in 2007 by Sean Russell, Columbus State University’s American Marketing Association strives to provide its members with the tools to succeed in their future career goals.

Jay Armstead, a senior Marketing major and this year’s president, desires nothing more than to aid in the professional development of students at CSU. “We want to reach out to students in a way that CSU hasn’t seen before,” said Armstead, who believes that everyone has something special they can do as well as give. His goal is to give members more opportunities to use and practice their natural skills, which will allow them to develop as professionals.

Last week AMA celebrated its Annual Marketing Week, with the intent to build awareness for the club. “Every day of the week is a chance for potential members to learn something new about the association,” Armstead explained. The week started with an AMA Mixer & Social on Monday, Sept. 29 and ended with a social gathering on Friday, Oct. 3.

“AMA was better than an internship. I got to learn important lessons and gain real experience that could easily be applied in my life. Things like this are what made AMA precious,” said founding member Sean Russell. Russell currently works as a marketing specialist for the Turner College of Business.

“AMA is all about preparing for the future and reaching for your goals,” said president Jay Armstead.

AMA meets every first and third Tuesday of the month at 12:30 p.m. in CCT 307. Students of all majors are welcome. For more information, email amacolumbusstate@gmail.com.

#Yes All Women
Collegiate Women of CSU host a silent protest and self-defense class

On Sept. 30 students of Columbus State University were surprised to discover a group of young women protesting outside of the Davidson Student Center. Each young woman had duct tape over her mouth with the word “no” written in red ink, as well as a sign with a personalized message about women’s rights. The silent protest was comprised of members of the Collegiate Women of Columbus State University, and was part of their weeklong event. The event, entitled “Women’s Empowering Week,” included a variety of events ranging from a cookout in front of the Clock Tower to a kickboxing class. The aim of the event was to celebrate women’s empowerment as well as inform people of the issues women around the world continue to face today.

The silent protest began at 10:00 a.m. and ended about 1:00 p.m. There were around 10 young women standing outside, with at least eight of them committed to silence. The signs they were carrying ranged from phrases such as, “I shouldn’t have to hold my car keys in hand like a weapon and check over my shoulder every few seconds when I walk at night,” to “Because in about 30 states, rapists whose victims choose to keep the baby can get parental rights, like weekend visitation.” Each sign also included the familiar hashtag, “#Yes All Women.”

The hashtag is a reference to the social media trend “#YesAllWomen” that became widely popular after the Isla Vista, California shooting in May 2014. 22-year-old Elliot Rodger killed six people and injured 13 individuals before committing suicide near the campus of The University of California. Prior to carrying out the killing spree, Rodger uploaded a video to YouTube in which he explained the motives behind his violent actions. His decision to go on a killing spree was motivated by his intense hatred towards women. After the horrific incident, the social media trend “#NotAllMen” appeared in an attempt by some to express the sentiment that not all men are misogynistic or violent. “#YesAllWomen” appeared shortly after, in reaction to the “#NotAllMen” trend.

This story, among others, was shared by the Collegiate Women of Columbus State University at their event “#Yes to All Women Self Defense Class.” The evening event aimed to inform women about the many gender issues that plague the world today, as well as teach women how to defend themselves if the need arises. The late night seminar attracted around 30 young women and lasted about two hours. A good portion of the event was spent detailing stories of misogynistic violence and sharing personal experiences of sexism in day to day life.
Change in the Weather at CSU
Faculty and SGA president react to retirement of Timothy Mescon, Ph.D.

President Mescon’s departure is viewed by many as the end to a tumultuous relationship between Columbus State University administration and faculty. Many faculty members were upset due to sweeping changes made to their positions and colleges without their input. They also did not approve of many proposed changes to make tenure qualifications more rigid, a practice usually reserved for research institutions where professors have fewer teaching hours. Two years after Mescon’s arrival, faculty held a vote of no-confidence when their requests for mediation were ignored. With 85% of full-time faculty voting, the results were 62% against Pres. Mescon and 77% against Provost Inessa Levi, who later resigned.

Pres. Mescon continued as the head of the university as the vote of no-confidence was purely symbolic and ignored by the State Board of Regents. While some decisions were reversed, the backdrop came too late to stop the process. The vote did serve to bring faculty grievances to public light, though some would argue that the bad publicity was not worth it.

Susan Hrach, Ph.D., an English professor and director of the Faculty Center, served as the senate’s Executive Officer during the 2010 vote. She said of her role during that year as senate exec to represent the thoughts and feelings and concerns of my colleagues.” When asked if she thought Pres. Mescon ever regained faculty trust, she answered: “I think we all got better at working together and certainly the university has grown in lots of positive ways since then. So, I think it’s a much more positive, productive relationship at this point in time than four years ago.” She also said regarding his retirement: “Well, it was unexpected. But, it sounds like a great opportunity for him and I wish him well.”

Professor and Assistant Chair in Biology, Brian Schwartz, Ph.D., also present during the 2010 vote, talked about that time by saying: “He [Mescon] did start trying to lead in a different way after that, and I think that he had regained some of the trust that was lost initially; I think it varies a lot depending on who you talk to as to how much was regained. I wish him well in his new role, and think it’s important for students and the people in the community to realize that CSU is not just about one person. CSU is going to be fine and I think we will move on. I hope that we’ll get a permanent president sooner rather than later, but I think we’ll have an interim president for half a year, maybe a year.”

As for what faculty would like to see in a new president, professor Hrach stated: “There are four institutions now within the university system of Georgia who are now looking for a new president. If anything, we’re a little bit concerned that we’re competing at the same time as a number of our peer institutions for a new president. We want to make sure that it isn’t bad timing. The Board of Regents is going to be kind of pressed to fill all those spots as quickly as possible. I think faculty, in general, are hoping for someone who is an academic, who has their eye on the real mission of teaching, learning, research and intellectual development as the core of who they are and what they see our business as being; their discipline wouldn’t necessarily be the only thing to determine that, but their philosophical approach.”

When asked to comment, Student Government Association President Rachel Green said: “I was saddened when I learned of Dr. Mescon’s retirement. Dr. Mescon has been the President of Columbus State University throughout the entirety of my college career and has been one of my greatest supporters.”

Pres. Mescon will remain at CSU until the end of December, and an interim president will likely be announced next month.

Fast Five with a Professor: Dr. Kristen Hansen

Reading sheet music. Playing an instrument. Keeping up with the rhythm. All things professor Kristen Hansen, Ph.D. knows a lot about. Secluded in an office that lies within the quiet spaces of CSU’s music library, she is a lover of both music and learning about music. In addition to that, she enjoys adventure and obtaining knowledge. Recently The Saber sat down with the CSU Horn Studio, Convocation, and Music Theory professor to discuss what life’s like inside as well as outside the Schwob School of Music.

Where are you from?
KH: I’m from upstate New York. Originally the Finger Lakes area, it is known as the wine country of New York.

How many years have you been at CSU?
KH: This is my eighteenth year. I arrived in the fall of 1996. Before I came to CSU, I was finishing up my doctorate at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York.

What would you be doing if you weren’t a professor?
KH: I’d love to sail the seas. Oxford, England is also an option. I made friends there while doing study abroad. I would love to move there and just be a professional scholar. This is all fantastical, of course.

What do you want your students to take away from your class?
KH: I want my students to learn how to teach themselves. And I want them to become curious and joyful about their learning.

What’s an interesting thing about you that your students don’t know?
KH: I have a Latin minor, and I was supposed to be certified to teach it in public schools after I graduated.
Sweeping Changes Hit Student Government
New president, new budget

Sept. 25’s Student Government Association Forum was a meeting of change. Notable alterations in the SGA this past meeting included: then-President Chelsea Pike’s resignation, the swearing in of the new President, Rachel Green, new budget limitations, and the first funds request of the semester.

President Pike had been markedly absent from the SGA office much of the week leading up to the forum on Sept. 25, with no explanation offered to the student body. At the beginning of the meeting, Vice President of Scholastic Affairs Rachel Green called the meeting to order and announced the resignation of Chelsea Pike before being sworn in. A detailing of the position changes was given, with some positions being shuffled. Through the swearing in of President Green, the position of VP of Scholastic Affairs is now left open for election, with candidacy able to be claimed through Oct. 17. While no detailed explanation was given, further questions about the resignation of Pres. Pike revealed that she has both resigned from the position and withdrawn from school for personal reasons.

In addition to the change in presidents, the budget available for funds requests by registered student organizations was reduced to $10,000. This change, while determined earlier in the semester by the executive board, had not been clearly announced at the time it was decided, and was reiterated during the meeting by Pres. Green. The original budget for the SGA for the year was $31,000, split evenly between the fall and spring. Of the roughly $15,000 originally allotted for each semester, the remaining $5500 has been reallocated for operational costs, and will no longer be available for registered student organizations to request. Following this announcement, Kappa Sigma submitted a funds request of $3,200 to aid in the fraternity’s efforts to put on the Shave-to-Save event in November. The overall funds request was reportedly reduced to $2,200 by the SGA executive board prior to the forum meeting. After a short presentation by the president of Kappa Sigma, the SGA representatives voted for a discussion of the request to acquire more details as to the use of the money. While some representatives were outspoken against giving such a large amount to a single organization, the funds request was approved.

As of this moment, speculation and concerns abound as to the state of both the SGA’s funding and who will become the new VP of Scholastic Affairs.

At this point, only time will tell whether or not the changes will be a hindrance to the budget breakdown for the SGA.

Alarms Fill Jordan Hall and the CCT Building
Security concerns arise after frequent fire alarms

On Sept. 17, 2014, a multitude of fire alarms filled the floors of Jordan Hall and the Center for Commerce and Technology. At the time, students and faculty had little to no information about the cause of so many alarms. Columbus State University responders from University Police and Plant Operations answered immediately when the first of what would later tally out to be eight alarms sounded in Jordan Hall.

At first, Plant Operations workers believed the problem to be a simple malfunctioning read from the smoke alarms, and thought they had fixed the problem. However, following the first alarm that went off in Jordan Hall, alarms in CCT continually sounded throughout the afternoon. Students and faculty who had been repeatedly evacuated from the buildings due to safety policies stood outside and wondered if the alarms had been caused by a student prankster, or if it was simply a computer failure of the emergency system. The cause of the chorus of alarms ended up being a simple system failure of the fire alarms caused by an electrical short. This issue was looked at by the Plant Operations workers, though their attempts at fixing the issue failed. A consultant was called in to trace the cause and location of the electrical short and repair the system. The final root of the problem ended up being the smoke alarms misreading their sensors and detecting a fire where there was none.

Since the incidents, the systems have been fully repaired, and there have not been any occurrences since Sept. 17. Due to the systems being fixed and repaired, CSU will not be offering any official statement on the subject.

If you are interested in learning more about the fire alarm incident of Sept. 17, information can be found in Plant Operations through Michael E. Medlock, the Director of Plant Operations.

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Community Awareness at CSU

The Voices Against Bullying Festival raises over $1,000

A few weeks ago, with the commencement of the Student Government Association’s Project Bookbag, over 350 book bags were given away to a local school, Key Elementary. Following this project, another community awareness event was organized by CSU, this time aimed directly towards anti-bullying. From 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sept. 20, 2014, the Voices Against Bullying Festival was conducted in the multi-purpose room of the Student Recreation Center. The event was centered on a little girl named Lola Thompson.

Lola was born with a condition called Apert Syndrome, which causes a person’s skull to close prematurely. After pictures of Lola went viral degrading her condition, Lola’s mom Robin Thompson and a few supporters created an organization called Lola’s Voice. The mission of Lola’s Voice is to “protect innocent children who are targeted and publicly degraded through social media.” In addition, it also aims to “educate the public on those with disabilities and the challenges they may face.” After being active for about a year, it has already reached over 8,000 supporters. The Voices Against Bullying Festival took up the task of helping to promote Lola’s Voice. The event became one of the organization’s biggest support occasions of the year.

The event was hosted by the Student Government Association, Sigma Gamma Rho, and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sororities, as well as the Collegiate Women. It involved tables filled with activities and games promoting anti-bullying. The event also included live performances, and various guest speakers including CSU’s Pres. Timothy Mescon, Ph.D. He addressed the event by saying, “Our goals are to help Lola and her family, and also to work against bullying.” He ended his address by stating his appreciation of everyone’s support. T-shirts for the event were sold before, during, and afterward. Meanwhile, a bake sale was conducted during the event by the Collegiate Women. The event raised over $1,000 in proceeds, which was donated to a local Alee Shrine of Savannah, Georgia. Rachel Green, SGA President and a conductor of the event, thought the event went well, remarking how “Our student body is filled with students who care so much about others.”

For more information on Lola’s Voice, visit their Facebook profile at Lola’s Voice, Twitter at @Lolasvoice, or Instagram at @Lolasvoice.

Courtyard I Mired In Controversy

Main campus dorms may face sanctions and increased surveillance

Courtyard I, one of the three student housing complexes on Main Campus, has been under increased scrutiny lately after some residents have been caught repeatedly violating Residence Life regulations. Courtyard I is noteworthy for being exclusive to freshmen residents.

Although representatives of CSU could not be reached for comment, one male resident, who did not wish to be identified, spoke of “almost daily” busts for marijuana or underage alcohol possession. The resident reported that in the final week of September, searches were conducted on several apartments looking for contraband items.

Another issue of note has been visitation in the freshman housing area. Visitors who are not residents are required to sign in and be escorted by the resident they are visiting, and the housing office must be notified in advance if they are to stay overnight. This is true of all housing operated by CSU.

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For now, the police presence is noticeably greater at the dorms, especially at night. Freshman Nursing major Brianna Wilson said that there are “at least two officers there every night, usually. It really does not make it seem like a safe place to live.”

When another resident, who also wished to remain anonymous, was asked if the current situation at the dorm made her feel unsafe, she said that it did not, but added that “some people just need to calm down and realize that we’re here for school and not plants.”
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JunkFest Wraps Up Yearly Music Festival
Hopes to continue trend of growth next year

This year’s JunkFest music festival wrapped up on the evening of Sept. 27 as dozens of spectators enjoyed the last sounds of local folk and rock artists under a vibrant orange sunset. JunkFest, a yearly folk, rock, and Americana music festival, is Columbus’ own three-stage festival featuring musicians, artists, and food vendors all from the Chattahoochee Valley area.

Located behind Gina’s Junk Shop on Buena Vista Road, the venue is a marvel to see. Trees, some laden with summer fruit, surround a grassy central gathering area. Chandeliers hang from trees, and repurposed junk is transformed into sculptures and towers. On the festival day, between the three stages which were all built by locals out of recycled materials, vendors set up tables to sell their own works of art. This art ranged from handmade necklaces and bracelets, to benches and furniture, to knitted hats depicting beloved cartoon characters.

People gathered at each stage to listen as each group of musicians started to perform, with some spectators deciding to dance (even hula hoop) along with the music and then meet up with the musicians afterwards. Many people came from Alabama, and some even from Florida, to attend the event, and all seemed in great spirits. This year ticket sales for the event benefitted Columbus Hospice, a local nonprofit hospice that accepts patients from several counties in the surrounding area regardless of their ability to pay.

“Wildman” Steve, a radio host operating out of Auburn who was in charge of music production for the event, as well as a performer himself with the Bibb City Ramblers, stated: “This is our first time as a benefit, and that’s very exciting for us. JunkFest is really all about bringing awareness to the incredible music and art in this area, and giving those people a chance to share their work in a way that they sometimes aren’t really able to otherwise. That’s really what it’s all about. But we thought, we have all this amazing art, and amazing music, why not raise money for wonderful charity at the same time?”

Sean Rox, co-founder of Junkfest said: “This year, we’re about 30% bigger right now than we were the entire day last year. And with that the awareness of the event and what we’re doing is going up too.” Rox hopes that as the event grows each year, more and more people will be attracted to what they are doing and want to help out. But Rox says that it’s not really about the numbers. “What it’s about, is why don’t we come together as a community, and make things instead of consuming them?” Rox went on to say, “What we have here with the festival is, really simply, the perfect blend of creativity, community, and just coming together to do something great.”

Shady Branches performs in the “Pickin’ Coop”

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Update on ISIL
What America has done to put an end to this terroristic group

Since President Obama’s address to the nation several weeks ago, the United States has conducted multiple air strikes directed at ISIL. Though this was the plan that was explained during Obama’s address, there are still those who are against this type of warfare and criticize Obama’s efforts.

In addition to laying out the plan for airstrike, Obama claimed that he would not send American troops into combat. However, multiple experts, such as Ambassador Seyed Hossein Mousavian, claim: “The current US strategy in combating [ISIL] through air strikes may provide some short-term success, but as in Afghanistan, Iraq and Libya, ground forces would be vital in fighting against guerrilla and irregular combat forces.”

Many Americans fear that this issue, like many times before, will carry on for an extended period of time and put the lives of American troops at great risk.

Despite these concerns, the United States continues to conduct airstrike. It was reported that the US targeted makeshift oil refineries in Syria. These refineries are where ISIL is believed to be receiving its funding, selling oil on the black market and making upwards of three million dollars a day. The US hopes that by destroying these refineries ISIL will no longer be able to finance their operations, and will begin to weaken as a group.

Though Iraqi rebels are fighting with ISIL, the formal Iraqi military is fighting against this terroristic group. However, Iraqi officials have recently startled Americans and the French by claiming that attacks have been planned for the subway systems in both the United States and France.

Ben Rhodes, a deputy national security adviser to Obama, has reassured Americans that these threats were phony. Iraq’s Prime Minister, Haider al-Abbadi, revealed the threat, but had no credible information to support his claim. French security services have also not found any reason to worry over the accusation. It is believed that Iraq released this information because France had recently launched airstrike, responding to the death of a French tourist who was murdered by ISIL.

Moving forward, Turkey has decided to join the coalition to fight ISIL, as their borders are threatened. Though Iraq is working only with Shia volunteer fighters, the efforts to recover over 30 villages from ISIL-control has been successful. The US will continue to move forward as planned, in the hopes of eliminating this terroristic group.

Rockefeller Fortune to Fund Clean Energy

The Rockefeller family announce plans to invest in clean energy

John D. Rockefeller was once the wealthiest man in America through oil. Today, heirs to the Rockefeller family have decided to sell their investments in fossil fuels and reinvest in clean energy. The move to disinvest up to $50 billion worth of coal and tar sands assets was made a day before the UN Climate Change Summit. The Rockefeller Brothers Fund, which was founded in 1940 by John D. Rockefeller’s sons, is joining a coalition dedicated to investing in clean energy. The coalition, entitled Global Divest-Invest, is made up of around 650 individuals and 180 institutions.

Many have noted the irony of funding clean energy with money made from fossil fuels. Stephen Heintz, director of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, has addressed the irony of the decision, making a public statement saying: “We are quite convinced that if he were alive today, as an astute businessman looking out to the future, he would be moving out of fossil fuels and investing in clean, renewable energy.”

The decision has been mostly met with praise, with people cheering and stomping at the press conference after hearing the news. However, some argue that the decision’s impact will be largely symbolic. John Aziz, an economics and business editor for The Week, notes that the global energy trade is a multi-trillion dollar enterprise and that $50 billion worth of disinvestments will only amount to one percent of the global energy trade’s size. The effects of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund’s decision may not change the energy industry overnight, but the symbolism of the decision has caught the attention of the world.

Days before the UN Climate Change Summit, thousands marched through the streets of New York City, protesting what they believed to be global inaction against climate change. The protesters stormed in from over 2,000 locations all over the globe. The event, which was organized by The People’s Climate March, aimed to achieve action against climate change and carbon emissions.

Valerie Rockefeller Wayne, great-great granddaughter of John D. Rockefeller and chair of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, spoke in solidarity with the climate change protesters. She informed the Washington Post that “there is a moral imperative to preserve a healthy planet.” The Rockefellers have helped reenergize the climate change discussion, but whether their investment decisions will have any effect on the global energy trade is yet to be seen.
Got Ideas For a Better Columbus?
Knight Foundation offers five million dollar grant for urban development

Students, activists, concerned citizens, and future urban planners rejoice. The Knight Foundation, a philanthropic organization that, according to their website, “supports transformational ideas that promote quality journalism, advance media innovation, engage communities and foster the arts,” has allocated five million dollars to be used for their new Cities Project to generate ideas on how to make cities like Columbus better.

These ideas could come in any form as long as it in some way focuses on, as the foundation writes, “attracting and retaining talent, expanding economic opportunity, and/or creating a culture of civic engagement.” From Oct. 1 to Nov. 14, students, organizations, and anyone else can submit ideas and projects for how to make Columbus a more successful and livable city.

Applicants will have a chance at getting a portion of the five million dollars, and the support to make their idea a reality. The application, which can be found at knightcities.org, is very easy to submit and only consists of two questions to encourage a diversity of ideas. There is a potential for student and citizen-led projects to do great things for the community.

As Carol Coletta, Vice President of Community and National Initiatives at the Knight Foundation writes, “imagine what could happen if we could gather up ideas from America's most ambitious civic innovators—activists, designers, artists, planning professionals, hackers, architects, city officials, educators, nonprofits, entrepreneurs, block captains, social workers, neighbors—and put them to work in cities across the nation over the next eighteen months. And then imagine that we introduce these civic innovators to one another to share and spread their ideas.”

Columbus residents are encouraged to take part in this opportunity in order to make Columbus an even more enjoyable city to live in.

Marriage Equality and the United States
An update on the status of same-sex marriage

Nineteen states in the country have legalized marriage between same-sex couples. This does not include states that recognize same-sex marriages from other states, but do not license same-sex couples themselves. While only two states, Oregon and Pennsylvania, have actually legalized same-sex marriage in the past year, 12 others have declared the ban on marriages between same-sex couples to be unconstitutional in 2014. Unfortunately, the court cases striking down the bans in these 12 states have all been stayed, meaning their mandates cannot take effect yet.

To ‘stay’ a court case is to temporarily halt the proceedings. Almost every case in the 12 states mentioned above has been halted by a circuit court of appeals, or by the Supreme Court themselves. While the cases are being held, no same-sex couples will be allowed to marry in these states.

Though the various stays on rulings have stopped same-sex marriages from occurring in these 12 states, they were not entirely successful. In the time between the court’s decision to strike down the same-sex marriage ban and the stay on the ruling, many couples were able to get their marriages licensed. The same-sex marriage ban in Wisconsin was declared unconstitutional on June 6, with hundreds of same-sex couples being issued a marriage license in the following days. The ruling was stayed on June 13, halting the number of marriage licenses issued to same-sex couples at 573, although over 600 had applications in.

The Supreme Court held the first conference of its upcoming term on Sept. 29, releasing the first list of cases that they plan to review. There were no marriage cases present on the list. Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg stated that the court would attempt to wait until a disagreement occurred between appellate courts on same-sex marriage. The court has multiple conferences scheduled throughout their term, and there is no sure way to know when the court will decide to hear another case concerning marriage equality. Until then, the official tally is: 19 states that allow same-sex marriage, 19 states that ban it, and 12 states whose appeals to overturn the ban have been stayed.
Wal-Mart on Schomburg
How another shopping center could help the area

A Walmart Neighborhood Market is planned for Manchester Expressway, adjacent to Columbus Technical College. It is being built on an eight-acre lot at 1042 Manchester Expressway, the former address of Daniel Elementary School. The Muscogee County School District still owns the land, but the school board approved the sale to Bright-Meyers Manchester for a price of $1.2 million. Immediately upon signing the purchase agreement, Bright-Meyers petitioned to have the area rezoned from multi-family residential to general commercial. The 41,983 square-foot supermarket will be accompanied by a 12-pump gas station and 10,500 square-feet of extra retail space.

Columbus Technical College President Lorette Hoover has stated that she welcomes any improvement that can slow down traffic and make the area safer. Hundreds of students cross the expressway every day as they move between classrooms and parking lots on each side of the five-lane road.

Soldier’s Stories
The life of a female soldier, recently home from Afghanistan

Tori Maxey is a 21-year-old female soldier in the United States Army who has just recently returned from a seven-month deployment to Afghanistan. Her husband was in the Army, stationed at Ft. Benning, and got out before Maxey decided to join for herself. She completed basic training at Fort Leonard Wood in Missouri, and is currently stationed at Fort Carson, Colorado.

Upon Maxey’s arrival home in the United States, she agreed to answer a few questions for The Saber. The first being: “What is it like being a female soldier in the US Army?” Maxey replied: “Being a female in the military, you get treated the same as the males. The military is all about equal opportunity. We can do just as much as the males.”

When asked about her deployment, Maxey replied: “Afghanistan was quite an experience. The culture is so different. It is also very hot—a very dry heat. A lot of water was consumed.” Maxey explained what her duties were as well: “While in Afghanistan, I was a part of ‘Operation Enduring Freedom.’ We shut down some surrounding TT’s (tactical infrastructures), as I was on a CST (combat security team). I was a .50 cal gunner and a 240 gunner in a MATV. It was hot, dusty and dirty on missions, but I loved every second of my job.”

Deployment can be hard on soldiers, as well as the families and friends that wait back home for the soldier’s return. Because this was Maxey’s first deployment, The Saber asked what was the most difficult part about being overseas. She responded: “The most difficult thing about being a soldier and deploying, to me, was trying to understand that life back home keeps going. Just because you left for an extended amount of time doesn’t mean life back home just pauses and waits for you. While we are working, everyone back home is asleep, and while we are asleep, everyone back home is enjoying life. Not being able to make time to talk to your family back home sucks. But having your battle buddies to talk to, hang out with, and relax with, makes it a little bit better.”

It is not uncommon for soldiers to turn towards comradery in order make life a little easier while away from home. Maxey agreed and described her own experience: “Before I left for Afghanistan, I only knew the guys in my company. After having worked with some of the guys in the other companies, and just talking to them while we hung out at the picnic table, I realized that I had a family out there. As months passed by, we all got closer, played cards, smoked cigarettes and just hung out. We helped each other get through the difficult times. I missed my family back home, but my Army family made it a little bit easier to get through it.”

Maxey is now safely home, enjoying time spent with her husband. She plans on taking an extended leave during the holidays so that she can visit family and friends, whom she has not seen in some time. Though there were tough times on her deployment, Maxey says that she loves her job and wouldn’t change it for anything.

Private First Class Tori Maxey
Study Now, Don’t Panic Later
How to deal with midterms

Midterms are right around the corner, so it’s time to start getting prepared. The key elements to successfully studying material are to read it, to write it, and to say it. Think of these key elements more as a way of living life, a way to use better studying techniques to become a better version of you.

There are many ways to study. Pinterest is a popular website and can be useful in finding different ways to accommodate an individual’s study needs. Some students say that flashcards, practice tests, and study groups are a major help in understanding and remembering the material for midterms. Teymur Etemadi, a senior and Computer Science major, said, “I take my time, plan ahead, and spend my time in the library.” Finding a healthy environment can increase the chances of successful studying.

What to do and what to avoid are two questions to ask when getting ready for midterms. “Eat, sleep, exercise and try not to procrastinate,” said Dr. Cherly Yatsko, Assistant Director of the Counseling Center. Keeping a balanced diet, getting plenty of sleep, and exercising can help relieve stress when preparing for midterms. Procrastinating only brings more stress. Plus, when it comes time for finals, most if not all information is lost.

There are some students who use drugs as a tool to study. The most common drug aid used by students while studying is Adderall because of its ability to increase short-term alertness and focus. However, Adderall can not only hurt a person in the short-term, but it can also hurt a person in the long-run. Some of the short-term effects include sleeplessness, loss of appetite, increased blood pressure, and heart rate. Some long-term effects are addiction, paranoia, long-term insomnia, and extreme weight change.

Making the right grade, an overwhelming amount of subjects to study for, and calculated percentage weight are just a few things students stress about during midterms. As such, there are pros and cons to having midterms. Alissa Schwaerzli, a sophomore and International Business major, said, “I think they are good because they take pressure from final exams and forces you to study the material.” Midterms are meant to help both students and professors, who are then able to use midterms as a checkpoint in seeing what material has been grasped and what material has not. Oussama Zoghliami, a junior and a Psychology major, said in regard to his opinion on having midterms, “No, because it is going to stress people more.”

Whether a student is for or against midterms, midterms are happening this semester.

Farewell Captain
Derek Jeter plays his final Major League Baseball game

When Derek Jeter announced before the start of the 2014 baseball season that it would be his last, nobody pictured that it would go the way it did. No one could have predicted that he would go through one of the worst slumps of his career, and the Yankees would miss the playoffs for the second consecutive year.

However, in his final game in Yankee Stadium, he reminded sports fans all over of the magic of Derek Jeter.

He entered the ninth-inning expecting to be finished after going 2-2 at the plate with a pair of RBI’s, and with the Yankees being up 5-2. Yankee closing pitcher David Robertson gave up three earned runs thanks to a pair of home runs in the ninth, and give “the Captain,” as he is called in the Bronx, one more at bat.

The Yankees got a leadoff single to start the bottom of the ninth. The base runner was moved to second off of a sacrifice bunt. Jeter would come up nobody out, and the crowd all chanting “thank you Jeter” in unison.

He swung and hit the first pitch into right field for a walk-off, RBI single. Not bad for a game that was supposed to be rained out. He finished his career in Boston as the designated hitter.

Thanks for the memories Captain.

Jake Hall
Staff Writer
Photo: Wiki Commons
Dig Pink Night

CSU Volleyball announces breast cancer awareness night

CSU Volleyball will finish their series of promotional events with a Dig Pink night on Oct. 17. Dig Pink is the Side-Out Foundation’s national October breast cancer rally. The volleyball team will wear pink jerseys, and collect donations for each “dig” the team records. In volleyball, a “dig” is when the team is able to keep the ball from hitting the ground after a hard spike or shot. The event is the final promotional night for them after hosting Military Night on Oct. 3 and a Kids Day on Oct. 4. For more information please visit csucougars.com.

CSU Homecoming Calendar
(Sports-Related Events)

When: Wednesday, Oct. 22 at 8 p.m.
What: Cougar Madness
Where: Lumpkin Center

When: Thursday, Oct. 23 at 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
What: CSU Game Day Experience featuring NPHC Yard Show
Where: Clock Tower and in the event of rain the Multipurpose Room

When: Thursday, Oct. 23 – Tailgating from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. and Game starts at 7 p.m.
What: CSU vs. Ft. Benning Doughboys
Where: Ft. Benning Doughboy Stadium

When: Friday, Oct. 24 at 7 p.m.
What: Women’s Volleyball vs. Flagler
Where: Lumpkin Center

When: Saturday, Oct. 25 at 1 p.m.
What: Men’s Lacrosse vs. Point University
Where: Intramural Field

When: Saturday, Oct. 25 at 3 p.m.
What: Women’s Soccer vs. Lander
Where: Walden Soccer Complex

When: Saturday, Oct. 25 at 4 p.m.
What: Women’s Volleyball vs. AASU
Where: Lumpkin Center
The Book of Life
A preview of the soon-to-be released film

It’s October, and that means at least one thing for many families and children out there: Halloween has returned. This year, there’s a special kind of family film coming out on Oct. 24 for those wishing to have an entertaining family outing. The film is Guillermo del Toro’s animated film called “The Book of Life,” which is a computer-animated film following a young man called Manolo as he struggles to meet his family’s expectations against finding his true love.

Complicating matters is another man after the same woman whom Manolo has set his sights on, and a sinister bet between two spirits on which of the two men will gain the beautiful Maria’s hand. As their competition grows, one of the spirits kills Manolo, and now his spirit must try to return to his body in the human world in order to be with Maria. To do this he embarks on an epic quest through the spirit world in order to return. Find out how Manolo’s journey ends and where it takes him at the end of this month, as he fights through fear and danger with nothing but his guitar and a couple of swords.

College, Love & A Pen
Inequality in Relationships

What does it mean to have inequality in a relationship? It stems from one partner feeling as if they do not have the same control and/or if they believe that their feelings do not matter in a relationship.

Relationships can be filled with love and support. Being in a partnership can have a special way of making a person feel as if they are on top of the world. The Interactional View theory by Paul Watzlawwick states that a relationship can be three things: symmetrical, complementary, and neutral. One type of relationship is neither better nor worse than another. However, they can turn troublesome very easily.

For instance, the symmetrical relationship, which is the type of relationship that deals with quality in a partnership, is positive until both parties involved have the same interests. The change in the dynamic can cause the relationship to become a competition where one party tries to one-up the other. This is when you have inequality in a relationship because there is a power struggle. This is relevant today because in many instances, college students in relationships could be on unequal footing when it comes to a companionship.

“I’m not the type to have meaningless relationships,” started Biology major Aldrin Evangelista, “I believe both parties are supposed to work together to accomplish a goal and that’s to make each other happy. It’s not about money. Well, money is important, but it shouldn’t run the relationship. My lady and I would be on equal footing. Support. That’s what we both need. Support. Inequality comes when you’re not on the same page as your significant other. Talk to each other and understand, that should help.”

“Inequality means we aren’t bothering to meet half way,” stated Psychology Major Jazzmine Vann. “What I mean by that isn’t just one person over the other, it’s about both people not wanting to compromise. I had a friend who called me the other day stating that her boyfriend wasn’t talking to her as much as she wanted. But, she knows he has a lot of different things going on. I told her that she needs to sit down and talk to him so that they can compromise. It’s all about coming to an understanding.”

Essentially, to have an equal standing in a relationship, there needs to be compromise in a relationship. If two partners do not know what the other truly wants out of the relationship, it can cause strife and miscommunication. Compromising is key.
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