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THE *Sahar*



The Future of Our Campus



THE Saber

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Cover Art by Kayleigh Dickson



EDITOR'S LETTER

Progress is a such an important theme here in Columbus. It's really what drew me to CSU in the first place. There is an atmosphere here, and in the city as a whole, that we can and will get better, that we will take the great things we already have and make them even greater, that this school and this town are special, and that we can make it a world-class place to live and learn.

That progress can take many different forms. In this issue, we looked at how the physical campus at CSU has changed in the last few years and what we can expect it to look like in the future. You'll find news of a completely redone METRA city bus system that aims to make the service easier,

cheaper and more attractive to use. You'll learn about programs to restore the historic Claffin School and the groundbreaking of the Westville living history museum near CSU's Oxbow Meadows Environmental Learning Center.

The great thing about working here at The Saber is that we're always talking about progress as well. Last month, we spent some time in Washington D.C., listening and learning from guest speakers from the Washington Post, Slate, and Politico, as well as from people like Bob Woodward, Edward Snowden and Donna Brazille. We toured the offices of National Public Radio and visited the White House, the Newseum and the U.S. Archives. We came away from our trip with a lot of ideas for how to make The Saber better.

There's some prep work to be done, but we're getting closer to realizing the vision for what we want this paper to be. I hope we'll be able to show that vision to you soon. Until then, please make sure you follow us on Facebook and Twitter for online-only content and breaking news. Enjoy this issue, and as always, thank you for reading.

-Scott Berson
Editor-In-Chief

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Photos by Ambria Morris, Brooke Burns

Back on the Prowl

Cougars looking to repeat stellar basketball season

By Javere Johnson
Photo by Alex Hamm

November 16 marks the beginning of the men's basketball season at Columbus State. Coming off a 21-8 season and winning the regular season championship title, the Cougars are looking not only to replicate their last season, but also to achieve even more.

However, this will not be an easy task, with only two players returning from last year's squad.

When asked about how preseason went and how he felt coming into this season, Coach Robert Moore said that he "liked the attitude" of all of the players because they come into practice every day ready to work hard.

He is looking to take his team not only to the division championship once again, but also to go further into the NCAA tournament. Moore says that "We have the talent... We just

have to play defense" to make it further into the competition.

Defense and team chemistry are the only weaknesses that Coach Moore said his team needs to improve on.

The Cougars do have their strengths. CSU has always had the ability to put up a high volume of points game after game. Last season the team averaged 86.9 points per game and Coach Moore believes that fans this can still look forward to high scores this year.

Moore said that fans can look forward to "up-tempo and fast-paced" games this season, and says that the team this year has some of the most gifted athletes who show up ready to give their all.



\$3 Million Gifted to English Department

By Sam Sachs

Illustration by Kayleigh Dickson

On Sept. 26, the English department received a \$3 million endowment to go towards the creation of an endowed chair for creative writing, a permanently funded position created by the funding generated by the endowment. While the majority of the English Department faculty and students were unaware of the incoming gift (for the privacy of the donor, according to English department chair Judith Livingston, Ph.D.), the CSU Foundation worked with the College of Letters and Sciences to draft and create the programs to be funded by the endowment.

Donald L. Jordan, a local author and businessman, gave the gift to CSU for the purpose of promoting creative writing in a direction of “traditional American values.” While some professors from the English Department were troubled by the vague language of the endowment’s purpose, as the phrase “traditional American values” tends to carry some political baggage.

Jordan’s meaning of traditional American values is based more on traits such as “responsibility, gratitude, generosity, faith and love,” according to both Mr. Jordan and Livingston.

The endowment is meant to help CSU foster writing in a method similar to what Jordan views as canonical American writing, such as the work of “writers like Fitzgerald or Cormac McCarthy,” rather than following the current writing culture of “excitement, titillation, vampires and violence,” said Jordan.

According to Tom Helton, Ed. D, the Vice President for Business and Finance, the \$3 million endowment is split into two different portions. While the university received a \$1 million cash gift, the remaining \$2 million value of the endowment comes in the form of a commercial property that will provide its value as paid rent, received monthly beginning January 1, 2017.

The monetary portion of the endowment will not be available for access until Oct. 2017, at which point it will begin to earn a four percent interest for use by the university, according to Jill Carroll, the Development Director of the College of Letters and Sciences.

In addition to the endowed professorship, the endowment provides funding for a new service-based, humanitarian study abroad program to provide an opportunity for student writers to gain worldly experience and inspire writing on the subject of their travels, as well as a contest for creative writing.

A gift of this size also begs the question of how involved the donor will be in managing the program. Jordan has chosen to take a more hands-off approach, preferring to “leave that direction [of defining what writing fits the program’s focus] to the staff and the members of the judging board” of the endowed writing contest as well as the discretion of the endowed professorship created by the program.

“I want to return old-fashioned values to modern writing,” said Jordan. “Publishers now are more interested in making money. My purpose is to encourage young writers, not just chronologically, to look towards making real characters and real people, who you believe in and love, and right now we’re losing that.”





Roommate HORROR

By Maddie Fuerte

Illustration by Brittney Green

When you're living on campus, you can be lucky and gain a best friend from being a roommate. But sometimes, having a roommate can be a nightmare.

Columbus State pre-nursing major Kayla Medina hasn't always had the best luck with her roommates.

Even though she had a private bedroom, she wasn't spared. "We shared the common room, which was always messy and disgusting," The roommates wouldn't clean up after themselves and "left their trash everywhere, and not only on the table, drawing bugs to the dorm since we lived on the first floor," said Medina. She never used the common areas, but since her room was directly off the kitchen, she had to face the mess every day.

One time in particular, Medina said, "I saw a dead cockroach on the stove that was there for a whole week." She had to clean

it up because she grew tired of seeing it. There were many times where there were "dead bugs on the floor from one of my roommates killing them but leaving it there."

As if trash and bugs weren't enough, Medina's roommates would leave food on the counter to rot. "There was one time I saw a banana rot on the counter for a whole month or more," said Medina. While the banana was rotting, she brought a friend over and her friend "picked up the banana and the whole thing fell out of its peel."

If the food wasn't left to rot, one of Medina's roommates would wake up at two a.m. to cook fried chicken.

It also wasn't unusual for music to be blasting in the dorm, so while she was in the shower one night, she didn't think anything of it. Even upon finishing her

shower, Medina said, "I didn't really care. I just watched a movie and fell asleep."

But not long after falling asleep, the sounds of people leaving the apartment woke her up and the music was shut off. Soon after, "There was a knock on my door. It was an R.A. I found out that my roommates had [thrown] a party with alcohol and marijuana. The R.A. wanted to ask me questions about it." She says the R.A. knew she had nothing to do with it, but she still had to go to a court hearing.

From trash, to bugs and rotting food, to 2 a.m. meals and parties, Kayla Medina didn't have great luck with her roommates. Private dorms or not, remember that, for perhaps the first time, your space will be shared with a stranger, and sometimes it's only a matter of time before their true colors shine.

Saving Claflin

First African American school in Columbus hopes to get a new start

By Destiny Trivino
Photo by Brooke Burns

Columbus's Claflin Elementary School, built in 1868, was the first school for African-American children. Today, it needs help.

Claflin did more than just educate those who attended; for instance, Claflin also provided dental and optical care. The school was once a beautiful two-story building with a courtyard in the middle. The building has been closed for about forty-five years and since then, many unwelcome inhabitants have vandalized and destroyed much of the inside by defacing walls with graffiti, breaking windows, and leaving trash.

Claflin alumnus Richard Jessie provided information on the plan to restore the building, which is set to take place over the next five years.

There is much work to be done, including cleaning, environmental testing, and getting more grants to fund the project. The Claflin

team has already selected an international construction company from Japan to help with the reconstruction of the building.

The Claflin Restoration Project is dedicated to helping the community become better educated and lift people in the community out of poverty. Some programs and services

Claflin hopes to provide are parenting classes, after school programs, GED classes, higher learning via a satellite campus, college prep testing, an autism development center, a small business incubator, and many other community outreach programs.

The mission is to turn the old elementary school into an adult, youth, and family community center. The Claflin Restoration project has also partnered with "Head Start," a preschool



program for impoverished children, and hopes to implement after-school programs for children as well. They are currently developing partnerships to help with the creation and sustainability of these programs.

The Claflin Restoration Project is in need of volunteers. If you are interested in helping out, contact the Claflin Restoration Project at <http://www.friendsofclaflin.com/>

Historic Westville Breaks Ground

Living history museum prepares for big move

By Jaquelyn DeLauder
Photo Provided by Historic Westville

Oct. 12 at 10 a.m., Historic Westville, a living history museum dedicated to the preservation of southern history and culture, broke ground at its new site. The institution, formerly situated in Lumpkin, Georgia, is relocating to Columbus near the National Infantry Museum and Columbus State University's Oxbow Meadows Environmental Learning Center.

The decision to move came after years of declining attendance. "There was a drop in visitation to that entire area and region," said Darby Britto, Director of Public Relations and Marketing at Historic Westville. "In order to preserve Westville we needed to be able to have more visitors coming to the site." The staff recently began sending artifacts to the Columbus area and will begin moving buildings to the new site if weather permits.

Historic Westville's new locale comes with exciting new changes and additions to the programs that they offer. "Westville was an 1850s living history museum," said Savannah Grandey, Director of Interpretation at Historic Westville. "When we reopen in Columbus we are going to be addressing the entire 19th century."

Currently, volunteers and Historic Westville employees, dressed in 1850s attire, demonstrate cooking techniques, basket weaving and more in efforts to accurately depict life in the Antebellum South. "Westville itself was not originally a town," said Mackenzie Eaton, a Columbus State senior and nine-year Westville volunteer and employee. "It was created by John Word West to keep the history of the south and the United States alive." Future additions to the museum will reflect upon historical events and the experiences of the Creek nation and African-American community.

The new site will open in late 2018. Staff are currently looking for volunteers to help with preparations for Historic Westville's next chapter in the local area, and encourage CSU students to get involved. Positions available to applicants include: cleaning tools, transcribing inventories, restoring costumes, performing craft demonstrations and more. Applications are available on westville.org.





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 **KEEP BURNING**

48 Hours HOMELESS

By Rachael Mockalis
Photo by Brooke Burns

On Friday, Oct. 21, members of Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity's Mu Iota chapter gathered around the clock tower for their third annual "48 Hours Homeless" charity event. In an effort to raise awareness and gather donations, the fraternity members simulated homelessness, sleeping outside in shelters made of cardboard boxes.

"48 Hours Homeless is something that we pride ourselves on within the fraternity," said junior general business major Jonathan Rodriguez, the Philanthropy Chairman of Pi Kappa Alpha. "This is a time where all of the members come together in full support of the community, but more importantly the homeless."

In January 2015, the Georgia Department of Community Affairs found a total of 13,790 homeless people in Georgia. This report also determined that 13 percent of them are "youth between the ages of 18 and 24." This same report indicated there was a "50 plus percent increase" of homeless people living in Muscogee County since a similar count in 2013.

Throughout the weekend, fraternity members collected monetary donations, toiletries and gently-used clothing. Additionally, the fraternity ran a page on gofundme.com to collect monetary donations online.

The chapter plans to send all donations to Valley Rescue Mission and Open Door Community House, two local nonprofit organizations. Valley Rescue Mission runs several shelters in the greater Columbus area. Open Door Community House runs a Community Case Management program, a showering program and the Virginia D. Jackson Home for Women.

Despite a high turnout of participants and supporters, the event was not as successful as it has been in years prior. "Unfortunately we did not receive as many donations as we have in the past," said Rodriguez. While the first 48 Hours Homeless raised about \$8,000 and the second raised around \$12,000, this year's monetary and food donations totaled about \$1,000. The fraternity is in the process of appreciating the value of other donations, however with Rodriguez hoping "to break last year's record and continue to raise the total amount of donated items for years to come." He says the expected value of the donated toys, gifts and other items raises the haul to around \$9,000.

48 Hours Homeless has concluded, but Valley Rescue Mission and Open Door Community House are always accepting volunteers. For more information on how to donate or volunteer with either organizations can be found on the websites <http://www.valleyrescuemission.org/> and <http://opendoorcommunityhouse.org/>.



"We'd like to Heal Our Community Through Art"

SPARK, a group of Columbus artists, came into being on December 15, 2015 when founding members Rachel "Smiley" White, Stevie Mauro, and Juanilda Diolosa's friend Keely had to move away because she couldn't support herself with her art here.

"Columbus didn't appreciate art," said White, "So, we came up with the idea to change that."

White, 32, works at Freeze Frame Frozen Yogurt Shoppe on Broadway and teaches art at the Fox Elementary after-school program. White learned about a miniature art project in Atlanta where someone can put \$5 in a cigarette machine and get a small painted canvas. That sounded ideal, but SPARK didn't have money for such an investment, or anything else for that matter.

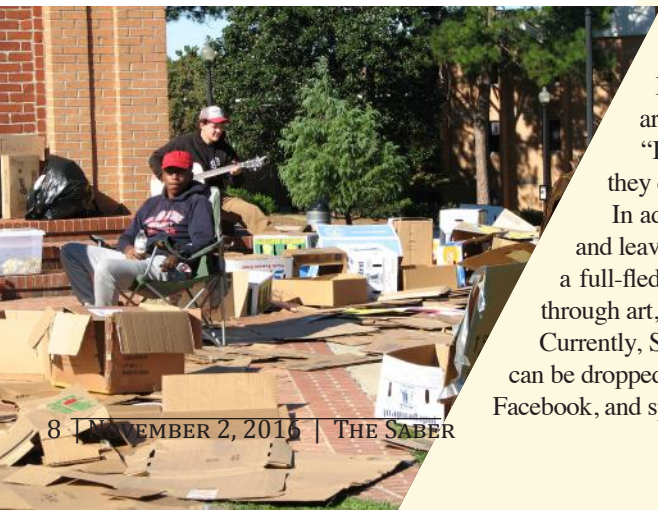
With money saved from Christmas and a \$200 donation, SPARK purchased a gumball machine and placed it in Freeze Frame. For just fifty cents people can get a piece of miniature art like a keychain, jewelry, painted rocks, magnets, and other pieces, all made by local Columbus artists. Any profits go to buying more supplies. "It's a way to get art out into the community," said White, "and a way to give local Columbus artists exposure."

Since its inception, SPARK has brought arts and crafts to 33 different community events. They work with children and also visit nursing homes and special needs facilities. Frank Braski, co-founder of ColumbusMakesIT!, donated a button-making machine to turn children's art into wearable buttons.

"I really like seeing the look on people's faces when they didn't think they were creative and then they create something beautiful with the tools we gave them," said White.

In addition to the Miniature Art Project, SPARK has the Spread Kindness Project where they make and leave inspirational cards around Columbus to "brighten a stranger's day." SPARK hopes to become a full-fledged non-profit organization. "We feel that art can heal and we'd like to heal our community through art," said White.

Currently, SPARK is looking for artists to participate by donating art to fit the 2-inch capsules. Donations can be dropped off at Freeze Frame Yogurt. SPARK may be contacted at sparkart360@gmail.com, SPARK@Facebook, and [sparkart360@Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/sparkart360).





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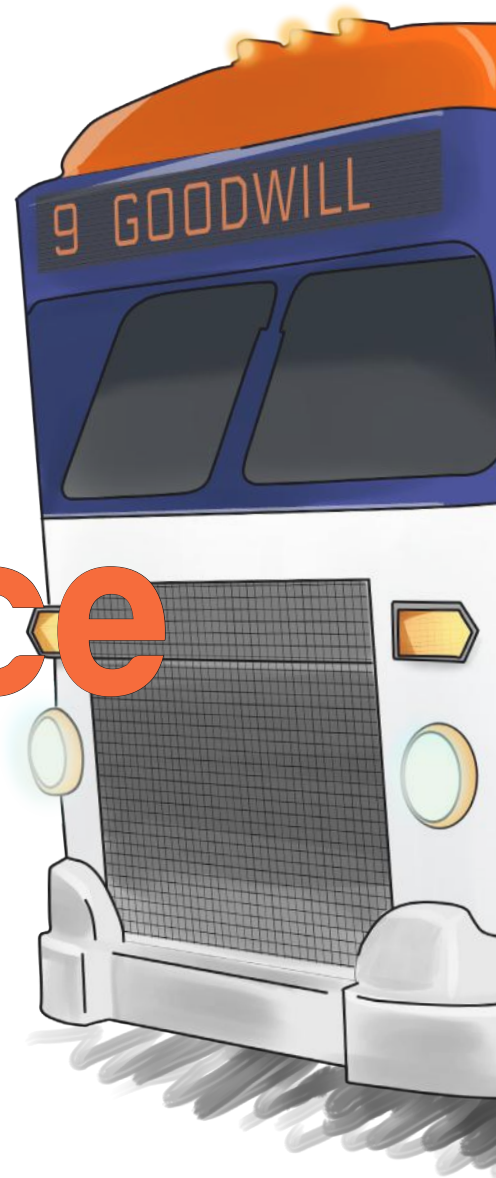
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METRA Launches New Service

Hoping to Attract Riders, City Bus System Debuts Longer Hours, New Routes

By Scottie DeClue

Illustration by James Morgan



Head of METRA? It's the public bus system in Columbus, and last month it debuted some long-awaited service improvements to encourage more students and citizens to consider taking a ride.

Before, METRA operated 16 buses on nine routes in the Columbus and Fort Benning area. Hours of operation were Monday through Friday from 4:30 a.m. until 8:30 p.m., with discounted prices for students, seniors, and disabled citizens. But that's all changing, says Rosa Evans, newly appointed Director of Transportation for METRA.

Evans, who has been with METRA for almost 30 years, expressed that changes were prompted by community demand. "The city conducted a study to see what people wanted to change about the bus system, so we got some statistics and went to work," she said. "They needed shorter wait times at the bus stops, new routes to places where the buses didn't go, and they needed the buses to be available at night."

The number of routes has leapt from nine

to 12, with hourly service that runs until 11:30 p.m. With the addition of several new hybrid-electric vehicles in the fleet, updated bus routes that take patrons all over the city, and extended hours of operation, METRA is starting to look like a metropolitan city transit system. "We are very excited to get things moving," said Evans, "This should really benefit the loyal patrons who use our services daily, and bring a lot of new people in as well."

In celebration of the changes, METRA held a soft launch of the new transit system on Oct. 22, offering free rides to passengers all day. "We want[ed] the people to have an opportunity to get used to the modifications, and we also wanted to welcome newcomers to try the new buses and routes free of charge." Evans also expressed hopes that the allure of free transportation would attract a newer audience, mainly Columbus State University students.

"One of the most important changes for our system is [to] the hours of operation," said Evans. "Buses will be en route from 4:30

a.m. until 11:30 p.m., and this is great for students who don't have cars but want to stay out a little later in the evenings."

With a valid student ID, students can purchase a one-way METRA pass for \$1.00 or a monthly Swipe Card allowing unlimited rides for \$23.00.

Despite these new changes, CSU students who were asked about using public transportation were quick to express their wariness. In a poll, students were asked to rate the METRA buses by dirtiness and dangerousness on a scale from one to ten; they were then asked if they had ever even ridden a METRA bus.

Out of 43 students surveyed, only eight had ever ridden the bus, but those eight students were far less likely to rate the system as dirty or dangerous. In other words, many students seem to have negative thoughts about the bus system even though they have never ridden it.

One student said the bus system helped him out in a pinch. "My car broke down, and I had to rely on the bus to get to and



from work and school for 3 months,” said junior Joshua Collins. “Once I figured out my routes, which was easy,

Many students seem to have negative thoughts about the bus system even though they have never ridden it.

I actually ended up saving money with the student month-long pass.” Collins explained that students are probably biased because of what they see on television. “You’re just interacting with regular people who don’t have cars,” Collins added. “You sit next to people in a restaurant right? Why is that any different?”

Students seeking to use METRA can view its numbered and color-coordinated bus routes, city parking maps and other information on

METRA’s website: www.columbusga.org/Metra. The website also offers two services that many people may not know about: the rental service of a green trolley bus and a free guided tour of the “Freedom Express,” a Rosa Parks bus museum where you can “witness public transit desegregation.”

The green replica 1948 GMC comes complete with Rosa Parks and James Blake, the bus driver from the Rosa Parks incident, as mannequins, which converse with one another at the press of a button. The bus was restored by Gurvish Walker and the METRA repair shop with the help of city funding and a federal grant. “The desegregation of public transportation is an important part of the bus system’s history,” said Evans of the Freedom Express. “We are so fortunate to have this unique attraction.”

For more information, contact METRA at 706-225-4673.

The most important stuff I’ve learned I think I’ve learned from **novels**.

It has to do with empathy. It has to do with being comfortable with the notion that the world is complicated and full of grays, but there’s still truth there to be found, and that you have to strive for that and work for that. And the notion that it’s possible to connect with someone else even though they’re very different from you.

- Barack Obama

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Parking lot could be turned into sports fields in the long term

Howard and Arnold renovations completed in 2015, 2016

Library addition roughly three years away

LeNoir addition will add classroom space

Location of Clearview residence hall

LOOKING

AHEAD

By Scott Berson

Five years ago, the administration of Columbus State decided to take a long, hard look at the campus. The University was growing, RiverPark had settled into a unique creative hub and then-President Timothy Mescon was looking towards the future. A team of urban planners from Sasaki, a world-renowned landscape design firm, arrived in Columbus. They set out to achieve three goals: to evaluate the current spaces on Main and Riverpark campuses, to create a “long-range vision” for the future of both campuses, and to better facilitate connections between them.

They looked at everything. How many buildings did we have at CSU? How old were they? How interesting were they? How many parking spaces did we have? How many parking spaces did we need? What about trees, athletic fields, green space and study areas? What do we want from our campus, this place where we spend so much of our time?

An online campus survey called “MyCSU” was released. On an interactive map, students, faculty and staff could tag locations that they liked or disliked, and provide comments and suggestions for making them better. Using these answers, along with focus groups and discussions with students, faculty and administrators, the plan was finalized in February of 2012.

Five years later, it’s time for us to evaluate that plan. What has been done and what has yet to be done? Five years later, what do we want from our campus, and what can we expect it to look like as CSU evolves?

What has been done?

Here is a small list of what the plan calls for in the short term: the expansion of the Davidson Student Center and the dining hall area, the renovations of Howard and Arnold Halls, the construction of more residential dorms, an additional wing to LeNoir Hall, an expansion of the Schwob Memorial Library, and the demolition of Woodall Hall to make room for an open quad area.

By all accounts, we’ve made great progress. Many of those projects have

already been completed. The expansion of the Davidson and the renovation of Howard Hall were completed in Fall

“The student-friendly classroom buildings and the new dorms are creating a campus that is more involved and engaged.”

2015. The Clearview Hall dormitory and a shiny new Howard went up a year later in Fall 2016, and the brand new College of Education and Health Professions is scheduled to open this spring on Broadway in the old Ledger-Enquirer headquarters.

Feedback on the renovations has been supportive. “Arnold is a vast improvement for the English department and the psychology department from where they were,” said Pat McHenry, Ph.D, Interim Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education. “There’s still some kinks being worked out in that building, but I think everyone agrees that it’s a really beautiful space.”

Student Government Association President Chelsey Rogers agrees. “The student-friendly classroom buildings and the new dorms are creating a campus that is more involved and engaged. I am a political science major so the majority of my classes take place in Howard and I absolutely love the building,” she said.

Increasing residential space (building dorms) is a vital part of the plan. The plan suggested building dorms along the intramural field, but Clearview wound up being the concept that worked best. The idea is that when students live on campus, they are more likely to be

actively involved in their University experience.

“We’ve always recognized that if we had more students living on campus, then we could have more of a lively campus community that’s vibrant all the time,” said McHenry. “That’s a good thing—it engages students; it gives them a better experience, [and] it makes the campus more attractive to potential faculty and staff. So Clearview, especially, helps serve that purpose.”

Brett Evans, Senior Director of Development and the CSU Fund, says that student engagement over the last five years is up, and that he hopes it will continue to grow over the next few years. “We... know that the more time a student spends on campus, the more likely they are to achieve higher grades and develop deeper relationships with their peers. This makes for a more vibrant campus and ultimately leads to more engagement with CSU after graduation.”



What's Next?

Next on the pipeline is a new addition to LeNoir Hall. Eric Pittman, Director of Campus Planning and Development, says that that project is well underway.

"LeNoir Hall is in design. Construction is tentatively scheduled to start in February, [so it's] approximately an 18-month project from December or January," he explained. The new addition will add specialized classrooms and lab spaces, and will allow science faculty to begin moving to Jordan Hall, which will be vacant when the education department moves downtown. "We have science faculty spread across the campus and we want to put them in a central location. It's to make their world a little better," said Pittman. "What that creates back there in that area is a kind of 'science island.'"

The completion of the new nursing and education building will also allow the Honors College and the Faculty Center to move into Illges Hall. "It gives [the Honors College] a much larger space for gathering," said Pittman. "Dean Ticknor tries to get them together pretty regularly, so that will allow her a large gathering venue, and it's right there. Everything will stay together, everyone can come visit, and it's a pretty good situation altogether." The Faculty Center, which will also be in the building, is a space where instructors can discuss and test teaching methods.

Once those transitions are completed, the next item on the list is the expansion of the Schwob Memorial Library. It will add a new glass façade that will make the library seem less "inward-looking," and will create a more inviting study and eating space.

The demolition of Woodall Hall will be bundled

in with the library expansion project. Woodall Hall previously housed the English department, but now only serves as a temporary space for the ACT tutoring center. It will be demolished in order to create a true quad between the clock tower and the library. Plans were floated to temporarily move the UITs help desk into Woodall before its demolition, but they were abandoned. Eventually the help desk and the tutoring center are expected to be housed in the newly-expanded library.

Mr. Pittman said that the completion of that project is some time away. "On the library, right now the Board of Regents have recommended funding for design, and that's the recommendation that will go forward to the legislature this year. That funding will cover the design cost, and the design timeline will take approximately a year." After the design is complete, the school can request funding for construction. The project is expected to be completed in a minimum of three years.

The Future

The master plan outlines some long-term projects as well. After the library addition is constructed, the plan proposes a widening of the sidewalk to create a "pedestrian spine" that establishes a central thoroughfare through campus, with a lush canopy of trees providing shade over the path as it passes by the clock tower and through Howard Hall. This would have to be completed after the other developments, as there would be too much heavy equipment moving throughout the area if it were done beforehand.

In the even longer term, and in what is sure to be its most controversial proposal, the plan



Newly renovated Howard Hall

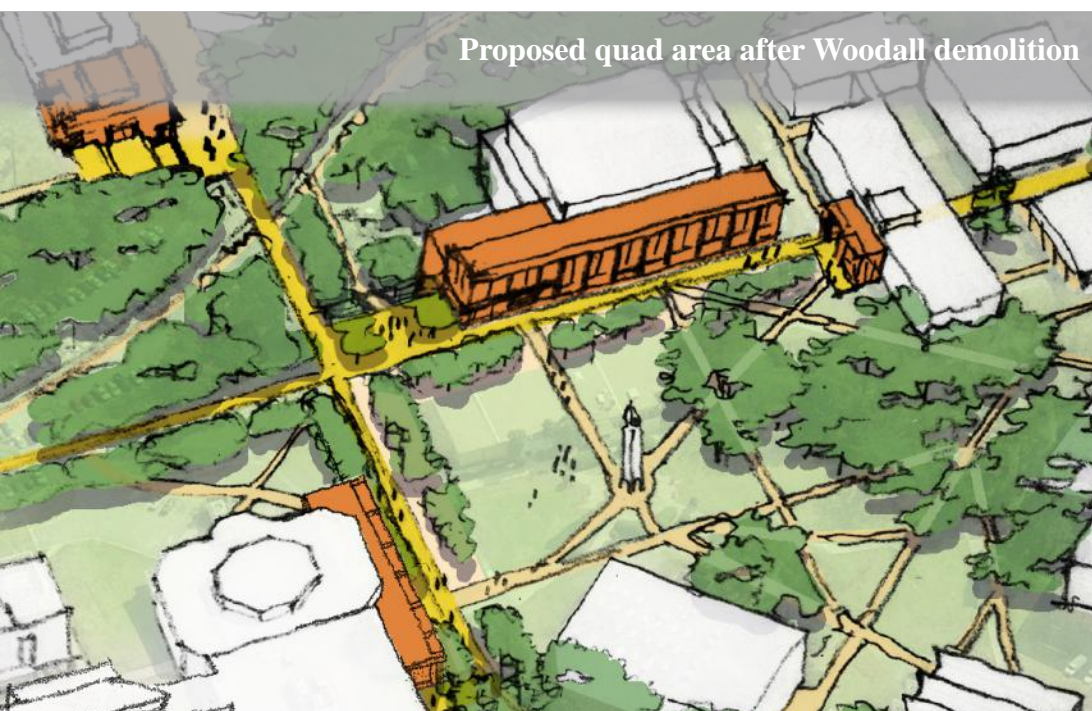
calls for the elimination of all parking spaces in the large surface lot by plant operations, and the construction of a second parking garage at the current site of Lot 3, next to the tennis courts.

Those parking spaces would be turned into recreation and sports fields, creating a higher "acropolis" of academic buildings and a lower "recreation district" of fields, parks and green space. Plant Ops would move to another location, possibly across the street from Courtyard on University Avenue.

Eric Pittman says that this plan is not only feasible, but responsible. "One of the long range transitions is to take up less of a hard-surface footprint. So it's more ecofriendly if we convert all [that] to green space, and just go to vertical parking. It creates a more economically feasible approach, a more ecofriendly approach, and I think in the long run it's a better situation for students."

It would be a long way off. In order for such a large change to pay off, the University's student population would need to grow, and its percentage of residential students would need to make up a larger share of that population.

SGA President Chelsey Rogers said that she "truly believes [that] the key to university growth on the large scale, and individual student experience on the small scale, is involvement and engagement." That's what it's all about, really. What can we do to create spaces that make engaging with each other easier? The Master Plan attempts to answer that question, but the community will decide whether its noble goals are realized.



Proposed quad area after Woodall demolition

"THAT WE HAVE THE VOTE MEANS NOTHING. THAT WE USE IT IN THE RIGHT WAY MEANS EVERYTHING."

REPRESENTATION



Au



Autumn

Art and Story By Elaine Hoffmeyer

Nostalgia

Even as the natural world is dying, it makes us feel more alive.

What is it about this time of year that makes us want the full autumn experience, to take part in the viral cultural atmosphere of pumpkin spice, sweaters, and rainy days? There's a nostalgia associated with the season – but why?

To begin with, autumn is the most sensory season, and so its arrival is triggered by concrete, real sensations. We can hear the crunch of leaves, the patter of rain. We taste the hot chocolate, tart apples, turkey and cranberries. We feel the crisp, brisk air and celebrate cooler weather. We smell cinnamon and pumpkin pie.

Warm colors gently blanket the world, and we rejoice in plaid shirts and scarves. The steamy breath and gloom of fall arrives in a much stronger fashion than the beginnings of spring, summer, or winter's cold can hope to match.

In essence, it's a time of change, and we seek the opportunity to start over. Breaking up stagnation in our lives after a long and humid summer gives us the energy to contemplate new tasks and possibilities.

Fall is both a beginning and an end. Autumn kicks off a new school year, and it restarts our personal calendar more than New Year's Day does. All the good TV shows and movies come out, and advertisements start capitalizing on the

snugginess of the season. People feel more alive in the evenings, and as they get longer there's more to enjoy. But on the other hand, there is a catharsis in having all the green come to an end, in seeing all of this decay around us. Some of us suffer from sadness around this time of year, an ennui or listlessness also associated with the creeping winter.

For Thanksgiving, it's a ritual that connects us to another era. Although we're all aware that we, or someone else, will be spending hours preparing a feast that'll be immediately devoured, the effort is not wasted because it fills a social need.

The tradition of the holiday is what links us to the past. Doing the same ritual has power, and as we grow older, it's inevitable that we want something to remind us of days when life was less complicated and we had others to worry about our problems. For some of us, our parents used to cook us turkey, but now we have to do it ourselves, and that's sometimes hard to deal with, at least underneath the surface. For others, the anticipation of the most fun holidays of the year like Halloween or Christmas remind us of our youth.

Nostalgia makes us feel as if our lives are meaningful and helps us cope with feeling alone or disconnected. If you're especially sensitive to the autumn season, it could be you're craving a familiarity that only comes amidst the crinkling leaves and rain puddles of fall.



TOP FIVE

Autumn Activities

By Taylor White

One of the best seasons of the year is finally here: autumn.

There are tons of things to do this time of year, especially with Halloween and Thanksgiving taking place, so it's best to narrow down your choices.

Stalk the Leaves

That's right, stalk the leaves. Worship them as they take on new hues and fall off their branches. After that, pick them up and use them anyway you want. Paint them, hug them, jump into them, make a nest out of them, just love the leaves. Leaves can be used in any almost any craft, so use them. Don't let them go to waste.

Drown Yourself in Pumpkin Spice

Pumpkin spice lattes, pumpkin spice jello, pumpkin spice candles, pumpkin, pumpkin, PUMPKIN. The flavor of pumpkin spice is one of autumn's signature drinks, so try it at least once. You can find it almost anywhere in Columbus, even at Einstein's Bagels. You don't have to love it, just drink it once. As they say, don't knock it till you try it.

Break the Pumpkin Smashing Record

Or don't. This season try to break a world record by either smashing more than 11 pumpkins in one minute or wearing more than 247 shirts at once. If you have a friend, you can try to break the record for most times an egg was caught and thrown (without breaking) in a minute. The current record is 87 tosses. Seems impossible, but you won't know for sure until you try. This IS the season of change, so change the records!

Illustration by Madi Steele

Prepare Yourself... Winter is Coming

The seasons are changing, and while the weather was once hot and icky, now we face the cold harshness of winter. Enjoy the fall weather's cool breezes and warm rays as it will soon change. It's almost time to put away the booty shorts and wife beaters and pull out the sweaters and scarves. But before that happens you can mix up your wardrobe and blend the different seasons' typical clothing together.

Discover a Fun Festival

It's fall and there are tons of farmer's markets and festivals to attend! In Atlanta alone you can attend the Chomp and Stomp Festival where the city's local restaurants participate in a chili cook-off and enjoy the best bluegrass music has to offer. You can also check out the Buried Alive! Horror Film Festival where you can view the best independent horror films from across the Southeast.

In Savannah you can attend the Savannah Food & Wine Festival where you can try food and wine from around the world, age permitted. Locally, you can go to the Saturday Morning Market Days in downtown Columbus on Broadway and buy anything from made-to-order empanadas to homemade candles and veggies out on the street.

Enjoy the season to the fullest with the people you love by making unforgettable memories.



Why I Hate Thanksgiving

By Toni Stauffer
Illustration by James Morgan

When I was a kid, my family didn't celebrate Thanksgiving—mainly because I didn't have a family.

Between the years of seven and eighteen, I grew up in a catholic orphanage and in a foster home. I don't recall Thanksgiving at the orphanage, but I imagine it consisted of kids lining up in the cafeteria, plates in hand for some of Chef's turkey and dressing—a brief and somber affair under the watchful eyes of the nuns.

I spent eight Thanksgivings in the foster home, but now the memories all merge together. The grandfather and his son watched football in the den, talked about guns and teams. Never politics. The son was a long-haired, pot-smoking commie-lovin' hippie; the old man, son of a Blackfoot, never smiled. The women were always in the kitchen—cooking, cleaning, and gossiping. I stayed in the front room where I watched Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. If an eight-year-old could have a crush, mine was Gene Wilder.

We ate the usual Thanksgiving fare: turkey, dressing, cranberry sauce and pies. I went through the motions, but always felt that I only had one foot in their world; the other foot was always firmly planted with my mom and little brother.

I grew up, got married, and had nineteen years of Thanksgivings with my husband and children. He didn't like turkey, so we also had ham. We'd go to the in-laws, who didn't like turkey either but served both because my daughter insisted that it wasn't Thanksgiving without a turkey. My mother-in-law's turkey was always bone dry, the skin curled into jerky. The ham was always perfect. Then came the separation and later the divorce. The first year of our separation was the most painful. I asked what he wanted to do about Thanksgiving. "Oh, we're doing it here. She...we...are going to cook. You're invited."

I hate Thanksgiving because it is complicated. My daughter has a boyfriend. Will she want to go have Thanksgiving with his parents? What about their stepmother? What are her plans? My stove is broken, and the ghosts of Thanksgivings past get dredged up by innocent questions.

I returned to college, because I couldn't find a job after my separation. I've thrived at school. I'm happy and I have friends here, a family that fits me better than any I've ever known. I might not like Thanksgiving, but I do have a lot to be thankful for, and I hope that others will realize that they have a lot to be thankful for, too.

Restaurant Reviews by Scottie DeClue

Tour De Chow



EPI© restaurant was my second home once—my second family. I experienced the *début* of the first menu, which featured dishes the likes of which I'd never seen before. I trained under a sommelier—our savant of wine culture. I learned about foie gras, and sauce perigourdine, and sous-vide eggs, and I experienced the camaraderie found between those warriors on the battlefield of hospitality—fought valiantly with them. I poured Tommy Lee Jones's and Meryl Streep's chardonnay. I waited on a three star general, and even met Shaquille O'Neil; he consumed an entire cheese-cake and downed a gallon of southern sweet tea single-handedly. My business card read House Barista, but I dabbled in all affairs, of which there are many in a world-class restaurant like EPI©. Anyone who has been knows the experience begins at the front door.

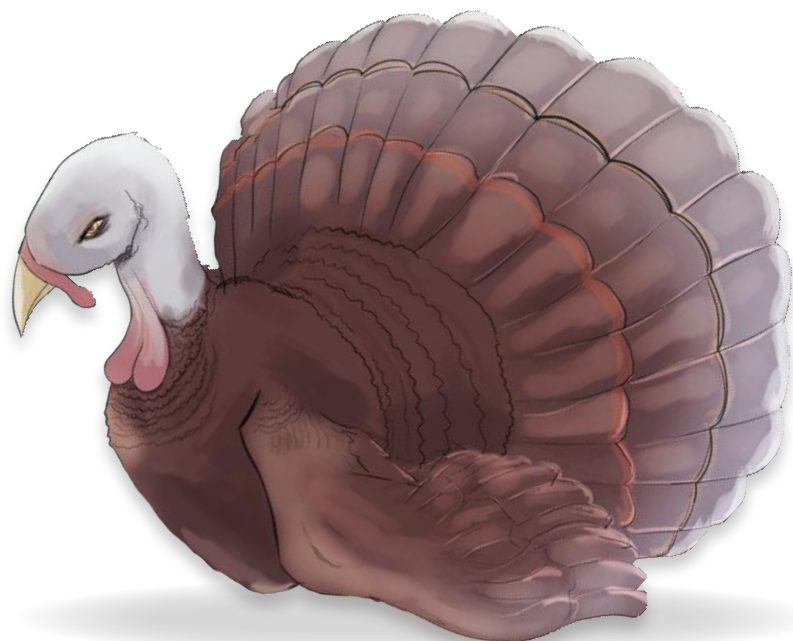
Elegant scotches, whiskeys, and cognacs glisten atop a glass mirror *étagère*. The bar, in-laid with glowing Morse code symbols that spell out the word EPICUREAN, hosts a mixologist who crafts a myriad of colorful cocktails with gastronomic flair. Five towering leather banquettes seat parties comfortably with seclusion at black, lacquered, mahogany tables. The most prominent table, aptly named the "family booth", sits beneath paintings that picture the chef and his family.

EPI© is the brainchild of Executive Chef Jamie Keating and his wife Melissa. He lives his life by the rigorous mantra of "failure is not an option," and he means it. By applying this code to his staff and himself, Jamie brought esteemed notoriety to EPI© in the form of a Four Diamond Recognition by AAA, and a rating of Top Forty Restaurants in the world by Gayot for phenomenal cuisine and exemplary service.

He goes above and beyond to find new ways of experimenting with food and his guests. In his kitchen, you can find immersion circulators for cooking in the style of sous-vide, a Polyscience Antigridle and liquid nitrogen for freezing ingredients to make sorbets and iced treats, dehydrators for making fruit garnishes, and even a table for having dinner.

Yes, at EPI©, Jamie and his chefs invite you to have dinner in the kitchen, but this is no normal dinner. The dishes you eat are usually experimental, and could be literally anything. I have seen smoking guns that tainted duck breast with hickory and apple-wood, siphon vac pots that infused ingredients to create sauces that dressed diver scallops, and even Ishi-Yaki where you cook Wagyu beef and octopus on Japanese hot rocks at the table. The chef's table experience, as unique as it is, is quite different from the intimacy of the *a la carte* experience in the dining room.

EPI© is truly a sight for sore eyes. The luxurious interior, expansive menu, creative drinks, and knowledgeable wait staff lure you in for a unique culinary adventure that you won't find anywhere else in Columbus.





By Destiny Trivino

2016 Fall Fashion Trends

Although the fall weather in Georgia can be a bit troublesome, there are still plenty of ways to bring in the new season with style.



Dresses are easy to throw on and sweater dresses will keep you warm on those chilly days. You can pair them with simple booties or knee-high boots.

Hats can take any outfit to the next level. Whether it's a baseball cap or floppy hat, they can add some character to your look. The best-colored hats for fall are black, burgundy, army green, or tan.



Palazzo pants are also great for fall because of how nicely they match with any light sweater. They can still be light enough for Georgia weather, but if you need a little extra warmth, pair them with a sweater and a nice hat.



In the morning it can be freezing cold and two hours later you start to sweat. Layers make it easy and convenient to avoid the temperature changes that occur throughout the day. To stay warm during the cold mornings, simply wear any t-shirt with a cardigan or sweater. By the time the afternoon sun hits, you can easily remove them.



Crystal Phillips business

Denim skirts seem to be making a comeback, especially this fall. A cropped sweater or turtleneck would go nicely with this look, and a baseball cap can be more than just a way to hide a bad hair day.



Mariah Jackson exercise science

Animal Attraction

Art and Story By Elaine Hoffmeister

In the animal kingdom, courtship is a Darwinian struggle dating back eons in which species preen, parade, and pummel to impress the opposite sex. Today we will attempt to understand the patterns of the classic Human Male (*Friendus zoneus*) in his natural habitat.

Your Man is a Bird

Do you ever meet a guy who just does too much? He may be channeling the bird kingdom's rituals. For instance, the Human Male will attempt to court a potential mate through a show of good grooming. Akin to the peacock's bright tail feathers, he may sport waves of lush locks, knowing his celebrity hairstyle is sure to appease the Female. Or like a bird or paradise, he may garb himself in colorful, expensive clothing, dance with her, and generally draw attention to himself by whatever means necessary.

Elaborate dance rituals are cleverly disguised as flirtation by the Male; instead of a crane's dance, the Male may use an arsenal of winks, smiles, laughs, head tilts, raised eyebrows, fidgeting, and even drawing attention to his crotch area. Like the penguin, he may present the female with a small token of affection clearly indicating he is ready to mate. However, if the Male feels himself

slighted by the Female, he may withdraw back into his flamingo-like pack of similarly attired Male companions. They can many times be recognized by a plumage of polo shirts and cargo shorts.

Your Man is a Deer

At times the Female may notice Male aggression toward one another as they vie for her attention. This is perfectly normal behavior; sometimes, Males must compare the size of their antlers in order to feel more secure about their position in the pack. Like the deer, if a Male sees a competitor attempt flirtation with a Female they consider their own, they will resort to violence and swagger in order to intimidate the rival. Once established as the Alpha in the situation, the Male will leave territorial markings, request sandwich services of the female, and leave the toilet seat up.

Your Man is an Insect

Summoning a Female can be difficult for the Male. Like crickets, who call to potential mates over long distance, the Human Male may engage in an activity known as catcalling, whereby they attempt to charm random Females

in passing. While this may end in disappointment for an inexperienced Male, he has other members of the insect family he may turn to. For example, he could buy expensive watches or gold jewelry to glint in the sunlight, not unlike the flash of a firefly, thus attracting the attention of the Female and alerting her to his status and wealth. However, more often, one will see the male engage in accruing wealth in order to present the Female with gifts, be it candy, flowers, or jewelry. In this way, he truly exemplifies the hardworking efforts of the dung beetle.

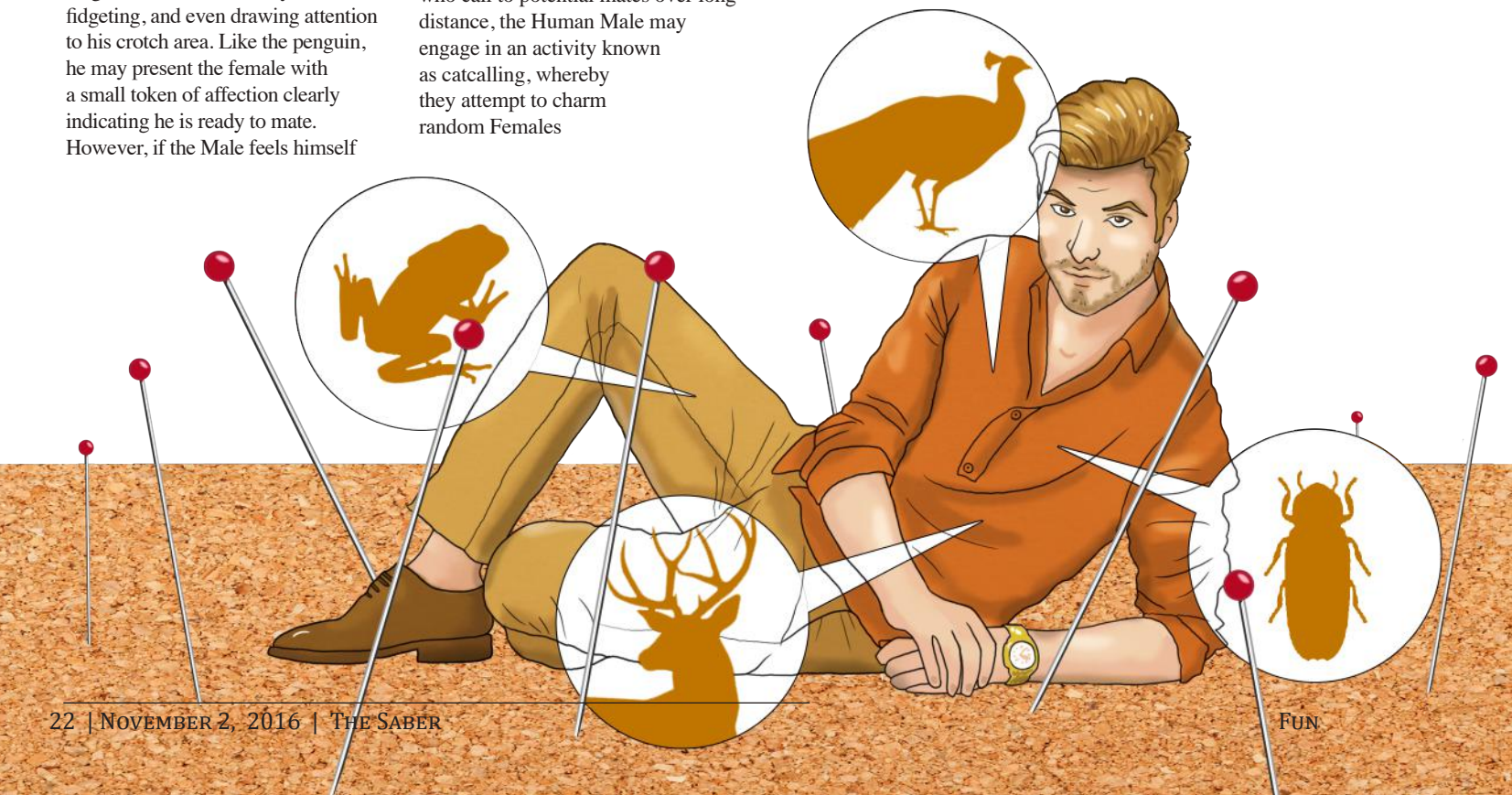
Your man is a Herptile

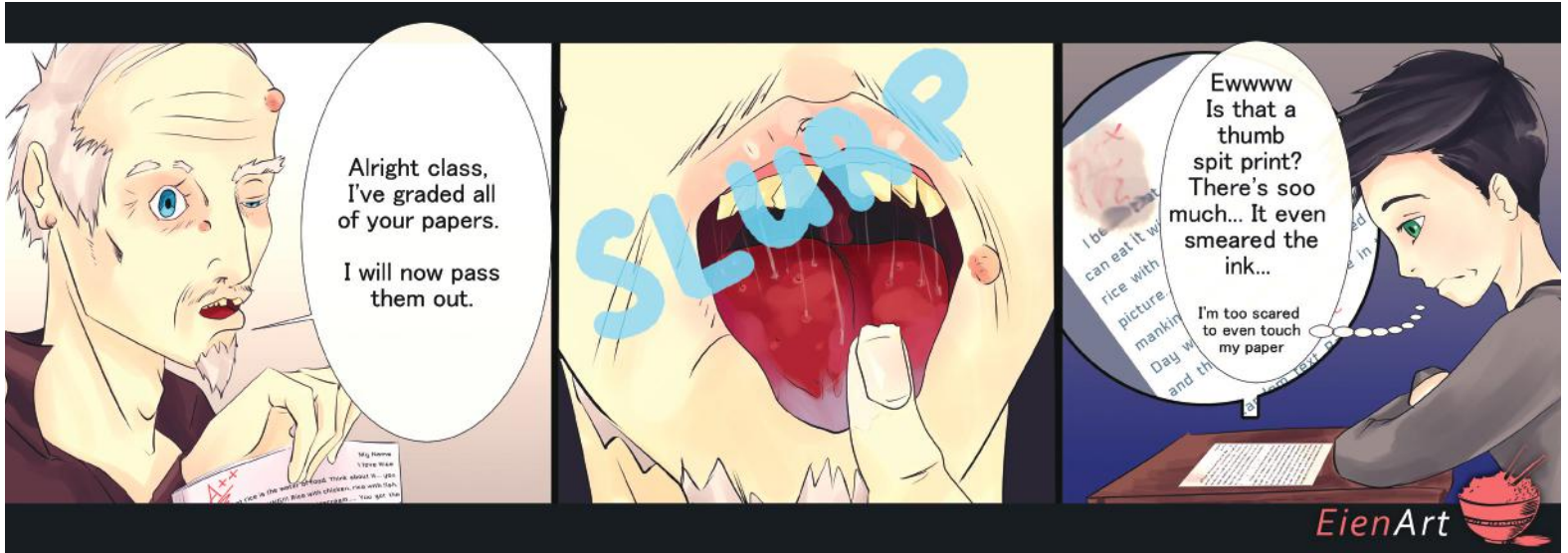
When threatened, a common Anole lizard will do pushups while extending its neck and displaying a large red flap of skin in warning, which serves the purposes of asserting territory, status, and courtship. When threatened, the Human Male may be seen taking a similar approach, often substituting

neck flaps for mentions of cars and trucks.

In studying the Male, the choices of words used are not unlike the songs of frogs; asking a Female to commit to coffee or a drink at the bar is easily paralleled with the deep throated croaking of a frog asking its general vicinity who's interested in mating. During the beverage session, the Male may puff himself up to look impressive, listing achievements and general desirability. Ain't he a beaut?

We hope you enjoyed this program on the courtship rituals of the Human Males. Stay tuned next week as we explore the Human Female's ability to bite a man's head off after sex.





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