

The Cumberland Chronicle

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Cumberland University, Lebanon, Tennessee

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IT'S THE FINAL COUNTDOWN



By Brittany Huffman

For those of us who will be joining the ranks of Cumberland Alumni on May 3rd, 2008, the ever looming threat of the “real world” has suddenly become a reality. Well, not suddenly. We’ve known about it for four years (or five, or six!). We realize that in a matter of months, the comfort of college will be gone. Our lives will no longer have class schedules filled with syllabi to dictate important future dates for us. Yes the exams will be over, but so will everything we’ve known for the past several years. And then what?

What will we face after proudly walking across the stage and grabbing that glorious piece of paper? For those most fortunate to have a job already lined up, the “real world” will become a quick reality. For some, the search for a job in a specific field of study will begin. And for others, the life of higher education has only just begun. Many may plan to further their education in Graduate school and possibly to even at the Doctorate level.

Whether you already know what you plan to do after graduating, or are still seeking some direction concerning the future, one thing is certain: graduating from college is an amazing accomplishment.

We should all feel a sense of pride as we think back to the achievements we have made and the obstacles we have overcome. Even if you are not graduating this May, the fact that you are in college is important! Due to life’s unpredictable nature, many are unable to finish their degree. It should only be natural for those of us who have been both fortunate and determined enough to complete our degree to feel good about what we have done. And for those who have yet to finish, be encouraged! The end, though perhaps still far off, is nonetheless in sight!

For those of us who will be official college graduates in 97 days (as of Monday, January 28, 2008...not that I’m counting or anything), congratulations! And as for that ugly, yet ever-so present disease commonly known as “senioritis”, well, take comfort in knowing that we all have it! Just try to finish strong. Remember that you have not spent the past several years working ridiculously hard to fall short at the very end.

A word to wise: if you are planning on graduating this May, be sure that you have done your part to get everything arranged regarding the Business Office. They are really busy this time of year and we, as adults, are responsible for making sure that we have done everything we can in order to assure our graduation. Take the time sooner rather than later to check the “loose ends” of anything concerning your graduation. It could be worth it!

As we prepare to leave the comfort of the familiar we can only hope that we have taken every opportunity to prepare ourselves for the exciting future. We now get to “test the waters” and make our mark on an ever-changing world!

Parking Outrage?

By Emily Keene-Reyes

Students have hundreds of things to worry about, without the additional stress of having to compete with school sanctioned vans for a parking spot, but University vans are causing quite a controversy for student and faculty commuters who park in the Fine Arts parking lot.

For those of you who do not know, our University has several large vans that are specifically used for outing events for sports teams and other organizations. These fifteen passenger vans are rather large in size, and they are almost always sticking out of their parking spots because of their length. This makes for an interesting situation for any person driving in or around these vans, especially since the parking lot at the Fine Arts Center is small with parking spots close together.

These vans are not only sticking out of their spots, causing potentially dangerous situations for drivers, but they are also taking up many of the few parking spots designated for faculty and students at the Fine Arts. I took a poll of commuting and non-commuting students, and the results were unanimous.

Students are enraged at University vans parked at the Fine Arts, and several faculty members are upset with the parking situation as well. The fine arts lot has approximately sixty parking spots, which are supposed to be designated for commuting students and for the Fine Arts faculty members.

However, when there are four to six large vans added in the mix, it is easy to see why these vans are causing such an uproar among students and faculty. So why are these vans parked at the Fine Arts? I asked Pete Cannon (University Security Personnel) this

exact question, and he had an able response. University vans are parked at the Fine Arts for security purposes and convenience.

The vans were formally parked behind the football field, but they were relocated due to the unfortunate reoccurrences of vandalism to the vans. Parking the vans at the Fine Arts allows security personnel to carefully monitor and easily regulate those who use the vans.

Unfortunately Cumberland University’s population is quickly outgrowing our campus, and our commuting vehicles have also outgrown our parking lots. Sadly there really isn’t a good solution to this situation. Hopefully, sometime in the near future, Cumberland will invest in some new parking lots for its students and school sanctioned vans and these problematic parking situations will become a thing of the past.



Editorials

A Conservative's Guide to the Primaries

By Justin B. Bradford



As many of you know, our country is in the heat of the Presidential primaries. If you did not know this, where have you been, and how have you been able to avoid the never-ending news about it? This year is a very important election, and the vote of 18-25 year olds really can have a large impact. There are many issues on which we can base our vote, and we also have many candidates to choose from. With the recent news of Fred Thompson dropping out the race, we are left with (in no particular order) John McCain, Mitt Romney, Mike Huckabee, Ron Paul, and Rudy Giuliani. Not one candidate is a front-runner in the primary. Here are some of the issues that you should look for when voting for a candidate:

The economy: Are we heading in the right direction? If we do head into a recession, how would your candidate handle it? Find out if they have past experience working in a position that would help them make decisions about the economy. Also think about if you think tax breaks would help boost the economy or not. Each candidate has differing views on every issue.

Immigration: This is a big one for conservatives. What is your stance on immigration? Some may want a wall built on the border; others may just want stricter laws. No matter what, immigration laws need to be revamped to make our country more secure. For some, immigration is not as high on the list, but it is up to you to decide how you think this should be handled.

The war in Iraq: Hot topic right here with many different views from each candidate. One wants complete pullout as soon as possible, some want to finish the job, and some want to set a date to leave over time. This is obviously an issue that affects many people, and the person we elect as president will ultimately decide our country's fate in the Middle East.

Health Care: For the majority of conservatives, Universal Health Care is out of the question, but it is up to you to research and see if your candidate agrees with your stance. Figure out their stance on fixing some of the problems with the healthcare system.

Social Issues (Gay rights, abortion): It is a primary full of moderate Republicans. Are you one of them? Some of the candidates are more moderate than others in terms of what they believe on gay rights and abortion. Some are more lenient than others on gay rights and laws restricting abortion. Others want very strict rules out-lawing gay marriage and unions and abortions.

These are the main issues that you should know about. Each candidate does have their own website that will tell their views on each issue. Basically it is up to you to decide who gets your vote. All that I ask for is that you are an informed voter and that you do vote. The basic saying goes, "If you don't vote, then shut up! Primary voting for Tennessee is on February 5th, also known as "Super Tuesday." For more information on voting or to register to vote please visit <http://www.state.tn.us/sos/election/outlines.htm>.



Vote 2008

By Lindsey Cannon

As everyone knows, the 2008 election is right around the corner. With the Tennessee Primaries on February 5th and many debates about who should replace Bush as our next President, Republicans and Democrats are campaigning like crazy. So who should you vote for? Consider

this: Democrats are promising many solutions to today's greatest concerns.

With popular candidates like Hillary Clinton, John Edwards, and Barack Obama, Democrats are pushing to end discrimination against age, race, and gender. Another issue on every American's mind is the war in Iraq. Democrats are actively encouraging a withdrawal of troops while keeping us safe on the home front, too. They want to rebuild America's image overseas.

Democrats are also pushing for equal health care and child care so no American has to worry. Democrats are promising tax reforms as a way to strengthen the middle class, encourage saving money, and safeguard social security for our elders. And perhaps most important to us as college students, Democrats are figuring out ways to make college more affordable. Democrats want to keep Americans safe and give every American an equal opportunity.

Still undecided? Confused on how to actually register so you can vote? Try visiting some non-partisan supporter websites such as: www.justvote.org; www.mtv.com/chooseorlose; www.bet.com/news/decision08; and www.register-vote.org

These websites offer both Republican and Democrat views, as well as some useful forms to fill out and mail in to become a registered voter. Your local Department of Motor Vehicles has registration forms and absentee voter cards, so even if Tennessee isn't your permanent home, your vote can still count. Our age group, 18 to 25, is the largest potential voting group, so we CAN bring about change. Remember, if you don't vote, DON'T complain!!

Apathy

By Jeremiah Donnell



"Who Cares?" "Whatever." "Meh." Such are the battle cries of the much anticipated Generation Y. A general feeling of indifference toward commonly perceived "relevant" matters has infected those of us between the ages of 18-24. Yes, I admit my place among the uninspired masses crowding our college classrooms and entry-level work positions. Apparently, the popular conception of university campuses as hotbeds of social activism is a thing of the past.

Speaking personally, I have trouble seeing the immediacy of issues such as politics, climate change, or even education (at least where it doesn't concern me). Perhaps it is my penchant for instant gratification and the knowledge that my status will likely change before any meaningful progress is made, but frankly most issues don't seem worth stressing over. This position spares my fragile mind and makes life so much simpler.

Unfortunately, though it may be easier not to care about most things, it may not be in our best interest. For example, while we probably do not care about Federal policy regarding Social Security benefits today, with any luck we will someday. However, decisions will be made without us if we persist in this attitude of nonchalance. Furthermore, the generation who caused our environmental crisis will not live to suffer the consequences, and that is only one potentially devastating problem we are about to inherit. Just because a situation does not seem worthy of our concern now doesn't mean it won't in the near future, and by then it may be too late.

Suddenly, our apathy forgotten, we cry out in frustration against what we see as injustice, not realizing our own indifference allowed it to happen. So, while it may sometimes be best not to care about what we cannot change, situations should be analyzed very closely to make certain we will not regret our stance of unconcern later.

Mission Statement

The Cumberland Chronicle is a student written, student run, faculty supervised publication. It is produced through the cooperation of the English & Communications Department and the Office of Student Life. All stories, cartoons, and pictures are created by the students [except for CU press releases & public domain clip art] with minimal input from the faculty, staff, administration, or Board of Trust of Cumberland University. We strive for accuracy, balance, and objectivity while producing an interesting, relevant, and informative news, culture, and campus life outlet for the CU community.



Fashion Your Financial Future

Take Control of your future steps... and feel the stress is solved!

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(As with any WCLP event, men are welcome to participate, too!)

saturday, January 26th, 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
students are FREE and Faculty/Staff are only \$5.00!!!

please RSVP with Lane Crockarell at 615-547-1293 or lcrockarell@cumberland.edu

Arts, Entertainment, and Reviews

Art on Campus

By Jaclyn George

Kim Rushing and Easton Selby were on campus Tuesday night to present their artwork currently being displaying in the Fine Arts Centers and talk about their craft. Rushing went first, opening with an admission of how his favorite photograph in this collection is actually a mistake. The film he was using had twenty-four exposures but never advanced within the camera, so he has twenty-four shots piled one on top of the other. Rushing's "happy accident" as he described it is a mixture of Christmas lights and one man's silhouette.

Rushing admits that he always has a camera with him, perhaps two or three, but he hardly ever preconceives what the image is going to be about. The collection with the Christmas lights photograph is more about the subject and less about the people, while the black and white photographs turned out to be portraits of people. Rushing has a waist camera that he likes to use because he can just glance down at the screen instead of holding the camera up in front of his face.

This comes in handy whenever he is taking pictures of people because they do not know he is taking a picture and they do not prepare themselves for it. Rushing talked about the facial expressions of the pancaker, the spinner, and the old guy with the TV tube. These are expressions that only lasted for a fraction of a second, and he captured them on film. For Rushing, that is what he loves about photography, the challenge of capturing a moment in time that will never again be experienced. Photography is describing a moment and, while it is a world of fun for him, Rushing admits that, if for no other reason, we do it because we love to.

One last image that has to be mentioned is Rushing's polished stone. The stone he was taking a picture of told a story of invaders who were coming into the land and destroying the people's lessons. So the people decided to put the lessons into stone so that they would not be lost. The reflection in the stone is of Rushing and the gardens behind him, creating an extra depth and adding color to the photography. The image has to be seen in person to really be understood. The camera may lie often, but this mixture of the old and the new emphasizes what a great piece of art this image is.

Switching from old to new, Easton Selby opened by giving a little personal background and shared the fact that Rushing had actually been his teacher in undergraduate school. Selby's method of craft is quite different from his mentor's. Unlike Rushing, who seldom thinks about what an image is going to be about, Selby is often working within a running theme. The photographs on display are from a series Selby calls an Unconscious Reality and have been taken in the last two to three years.

Selby described photography as an experience. He admitted that one of his favorite parts is meeting people, and he also enjoys the fact that he is not stuck inside a studio all day long. The shots that Selby takes are often about a particular moment for the artist. He describes it as a moment when he had an "apocalypse" – a point in time where something changes within him.

Selby's artwork is also unique in that he has put a beeswax coating of sorts on top of the image. He admitted that one drawback of photography is that you cannot encounter it. Selby described himself as a textural person who often wants to go up to an image and just touch it. After meeting an artist in Italy whose drawings were textural, Selby was inspired to somehow make his photographs textural, and he created a method to do just that. Of course this had added a whole new dimension to his work, and Selby likes the fact that his images will change over time. He also likes that he sometimes finds bee parts in the wax and the he can smell the honey on the image for a little while.

Selby's philosophy that art is meant to change, just as people and their own philosophies change over time, is inspiring. One image of Selby's that must be viewed in person is his Trapped Spirits. It is a photograph of a Hindu tree located in his parents' backyard. Not only is the title a play on words due to the type of bottles on the tree, but as soon as he developed the negative, all the ivy on the tree died.

Rushing and Selby's artwork is on display in the Bill and June Heydel Fine Arts Center.

El Orfanato at the Belcourt Theatre

By Tim O'Guin

Un cuento de amor. Una historia de terror.

Let me preface this review by saying that, growing up, I was never a big fan of horror movies. Over the past few years I've been venturing into a whole wealth of films with no prejudice for genre, just quality. I'm not at all a fan of blood and gore, being of the Hitchcockian belief that, if executed properly, what you can't see is multitudes more frightening than what you can.

That being said, *The Orphanage* (*El Orfanato*) scared me more than any movie I've ever seen. My entire body was tingling during the length of the film, and it tingles again when I talk about the movie to anyone. I jumped many times, but the jump was often accompanied by a tightly-gripped shaking of the theatre armrests. I did not eat popcorn or drink soda during the film. I sat bolt upright or leaning forward with each of my hands gripping an armrest. The reactions of the rest of the audience to the film were the same. People whispered and gasped, and no one quite knew what to do when the film was over.

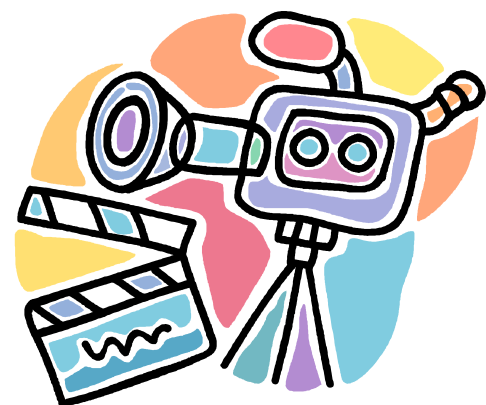
The Orphanage is a Spanish film written by Sergio G. Sánchez and directed by Juan Antonio Bayona. It stars the popular Spanish television actress Belén Rueda in the lead. However, the big buzz from the film most likely comes from the fact that it was produced by Guillermo del Toro, director of *The Devil's Backbone* (2001) and last year's fantastic *Pan's Labyrinth*.

It opens with a flashback of a six-year-old Laura (Belén Rueda) playing a game with other children at the orphanage. She is adopted shortly thereafter but returns years later with her husband Carlos (Fernando Cayo) and buys the place to turn it into a home for sick children. They have an adopted son named Simón (Roger Príncipe), who is sick but unaware of either his sickness or his adoption. He has the normal imaginary friend or two in the house, but these friends begin to increase rapidly in number. They begin playing games together and telling him things and it's not long before strange things start to happen. A strange social worker shows up at the house for an awkward visit with Laura. Simón begins to know things that he shouldn't. Then Simón disappears.

The rest of the film is Laura and Carlos trying to find Simón. They don't know if he was kidnapped by a relative, if he drowned in a nearby cave, or if the spirits in the house have done something with him. The more Laura begins to delve into the spiritual history of the house, the more Carlos begins to doubt her sanity, urging her to just move on. The ending is emotional and probably about as perfect as it could have possibly been.

The suspense is masterfully managed, with constantly increasing levels of tension throughout. The acting, cinematography, and set design were all beautifully done. This is a film that will stay with you afterwards. I found myself peering into the dark for Tomás (if you see it, you'll know) after the film, imagining him being in the middle of the road around a curve while I was driving or on the other side of a door once I got home.

I saw *The Orphanage* at the fantastic Belcourt Theatre in Hillsboro Village in Nashville. As of this writing, the only place I know of that is playing it around here is the Regal 20 at Opry Mills. For those of you who can't stand to read subtitles, first of all, it's a shame because you're missing out on a lot of great stuff. There is supposed to be an American remake planned, but we'll wait and see how that turns out.



Fashion, Relationships, & Sage Advice

I'm Irritated, But My Skin Doesn't Have to Be!

By Sabrina Garrett



While scraping the ice off my car last week, I had a thought, "If being exposed to the freezing cold could do this to my vehicle, imagine what it could do to my skin!" I'll admit, there have been times recently where it has been especially dry and even flakier than a snake when it sheds. No, that is not dandruff on my sweater; it is my skin giving up hope that moisture will ever come. (Okay, maybe I am exaggerating a bit.) Winter weather can destroy your once beautiful creamy complexion and turn it into something wicked.

Fortunately, thanks to advances in the cosmetics industry, the body's largest organ has a fighting chance! I did the research and got some helpful insights on three of the best products and treatments to care for skin during the harsh winter months. Check it out:

1. Clarisonic Skincare Brush

The Clarisonic Skincare Brush was created by the makers of the Sonic-Care Toothbrush. It actually looks like a larger version of an electronic toothbrush and works to deeply cleanse skin. The bristles are extremely soft and vibrate to loosen dirt from pores. Included in the kit is the Clarisonic cleanser, but any nonabrasive soap will work. Although it is an expensive remedy (\$195 at www.clarisonic.com), this brush is worth the money! My mother bought the Clarisonic brush and within a week her skin looked firmer and more vibrant. Great choice, Mom!

2. MAC Strobe Cream

Any glamorous girl or guy knows how harmful tanning beds are to the skin. However in the winter, what other choice do we have to achieve a bronzed glow? In her book, *That Extra Half an Inch*, former Spice Girl Victoria Beckham reveals her secrets to a year round fake tan and recommends MAC's Strobe cream because "it really catches the light and glows on your skin in the dark."

3. Clinique Redness Solutions

Clinique carries an amazing line that targets another effect of winter: Redness. This line includes cleansers and creams that soothe and calm irritated skin. Prices range from around \$17-40 and are oil-free to prevent breakouts.

Top Ten Reasons Cumberland University is the best...

10. The Bulldogs!

9. Football field and soccer field!

8. Our Huge theatre!

7. Starbucks—open so much...

6. No more mold in Labry

5. Our cutting edge physical science lab

4. Oliver Cromwell – Sigma Tau Delta's Mascot

3. The creepy dead animals!

2. Clock Tower

And...in case of aliens attacking we have:

1. Emergency poles all over campus!

Do You Have Superwoman in Your Class?

By: Helen Libanan



A few days before the deadline for a major research paper in one of my English classes, Jennifer came to class one Monday morning last semester. I noticed that she had no makeup, looked really tired, and was obviously very upset. I thought something terrible had happened to her, so I asked her what was wrong and if there was anything I could do. She looked at me with an expression of sheer frustration, and said that she had had one of the most stressful weekends of her entire life.

"What happened?" I asked.

"I spent most of my weekend keeping my niece and helping her with a school project," she replied. "I couldn't get any of my own work done, and now I am really behind!"

Later, Jennifer and I talked some more about her experience keeping this young child over the weekend, and she was amazed at the amount of time involved in dealing with a young girl still in grade school. She told me that she thought that you would have to be an expert in time management just to maintain your sanity. "One day of being a student and a Mom was absolutely stressful and unbearable," she said.

Fortunately, for Jennifer, this was only one weekend. But for many other women students here at Cumberland, her experience is a part of our everyday lives. For us, there is much more than simply going to class, reading our assignments, and completing our written work. We have to take our children to school before our eight o'clock class (then pick them up after school), take one to basketball practice, take another one to dance class, go to weekend basketball games, help with homework and school projects (trips to Wal-mart, Kroger's, etc.), figuring out what to feed them for dinner and fixing it, wash dishes, wash and iron school uniforms...oh, my gosh! I'm out of time again, and I have another paper due tomorrow...but first I have to go to my own rehearsal tonight (memorizing lines?...when?).

Despite all the worries and extra stress of raising children and attending school at the same time there is a wonderful joy and happiness that exists only in the special relationship with your own children. There are moments and times with your children that will be great treasures in your life. So, for those of us who are single moms here at Cumberland, we do know and understand that in many ways we have been greatly blessed.



Dear Betty Bulldawg

Dear Betty,

I've been dating this guy for two years now. Over Christmas break, I noticed that one of his friends had pictures of my boyfriend and another girl kissing on New Year's Eve on his MySpace page – yes there was a 2008 sign so I know it is current. Both of them were wearing very little clothing. He came back to school acting like nothing happened. What do I do now?

Seeing No Evil

Obviously, drop the guy. Not before talking it over with him though. Let him know exactly what it is he did and how you found out about it, but definitely don't let him sweet talk you into taking him back. Excuses like, "Oh I was too drunk to notice," or, "I only kissed her because it was midnight," just don't cut it when you are in a relationship. The only person's lips his should be touching are yours, and that's that.

Dear Betty,

Over the break, my little brother was diagnosed with leukemia. The doctors say that he has maybe 3 -5 months left. My parents want me to stay in school and finish the year (I will graduate in Dec if I do). Would it be incredibly selfish of me to say here instead of being there with him?

Soon to be an Only Child

All I can tell you is don't do anything you will regret. For some it may be a bit selfish, for others it may just be the smarter decision life wise. Whatever you do, spend some time with him before he goes. This is all just a heart decision for your self. You could even try to make time for both.

Dear Betty,

My dad wants me to be a Business major – I HATE business stuff. I want to major in history, but my parents don't want to pay for a college education that wouldn't let me get a job when I get out. How do I get them to let me major in history?

Stumped

Why don't you start by finding some job possibilities with a history major. Maybe talk to the history advisor and ask about some options or even internships that you can be a part of while you are in school. Try writing all of your options down or possibly even deciding what type of career you would like in history then sit down to discuss it with your folks. They just might notice that history isn't quite the dead major they thought it was.

Dear Betty,

I really love my girlfriend, we've been together for 5 years now and are planning on getting married when she finishes college. Lately, I've been really turned on by this blond in one of my classes. How do I get my girlfriend to dye her hair blonde?

Tired of Brunettes

Women can get really touchy when you mention them changing their appearance. Every woman wants to hear that she is the spitting image of what you think is the perfect girl. So, maybe you should go about it by first discussing her strong points, physically speaking. Then mention that she is so good looking you bet she could pull off anything she tried, maybe even being blonde, lightly state that it might be fun. If she begins to get offended back off quickly, but if not let her know that change can be fun, you are only young once.

Got Questions? Let Betty Help

Send Your Questions to Betty: cumberlandchronicle@cumberland.edu



The Juice Stand: Celebrity Buzz

By Imma Tellin

Hollywood heartthrob Heath Ledger was found dead in his Manhattan apartment on Tuesday, says the Associated Press. Police speculate the death was accidental and possibly drug related. The twenty-eight-year-old actor starred in movies such as *Casanova* and *A Knight's Tale*, and garnered an Oscar nomination for his performance in the 2005 controversial cowboy film *Brokeback Mountain*. Ledger left behind a two-year-old daughter.

In the latest installment of the bizarre Brittany Spears saga, the Associated Press reports that an unnamed media outlet has already written her obituary. Is there any hope for the fallen pop star or will she join the ever-growing ranks of Hollywood's twenty-something crowd who have met untimely deaths?

According to the AP, Lindsey Lohan and Eddie Murphy are among the worst actors Hollywood has to offer. Both stars were nominated for the "Razzies," an Oscar spoof showcasing films of the previous year, that everyone involved would rather forget. Lohan "won" her nomination for double roles in *I Know Who Killed Me*, and Murphy was nominated for playing both husband and wife in *Norbit*. The announcement of Razzie "winners" will take place on February 23rd, just one day before the Oscar winners are announced.

The Current Writer's Strike: Striking the Hearts of Millions

By Brittany Huffman & Jeremy Jenkins

Did you see the last episode of "Grey's Anatomy"? How about "The Office"? "Law & Order", maybe? Well, get use to viewing reruns for the weeks and, maybe even, months to come. For television viewers, the world has come crashing down. November 5, 2007, initiated the third official strike of the Writer's Guild of America. This strike has resulted in no new material provided from major networks such as ABC, NBC, CBS, FOX, HBO, etc. Simply put, America's most watched shows are no longer in production, and may not be for some time.

There are several different reasons for the Writer's Strike. The most obvious reason being that they feel they are not receiving fair compensation for their involvement in the show. Due to new technology, there are different mediums of television viewing including IPODs, internet downloads, and On Demand capabilities from cable services, the writers feel that they should benefit from these modes of viewership. Studios argue that since the medium has been changed (i.e. DVD Box sets, internet streaming) the writers should not be paid for these new ways of viewing. Writers are simply arguing against this. In support of this, many actors and producers have resolved to not "cross the picket line." This has forced studios to seriously consider renegotiating the writer's contracts.

However, the recent Writer's Strike does not mean that new material will not be produced. Reality television, such as "Survivor", "American Idol", and "Celebrity Apprentice", are either on-air now or will be in several weeks. ABC's hit-drama "Lost" will be returning for its fourth season on January 31st; however, only eight episodes will be aired. CBS has bought the rights to the first season of Showtime's drama series "Dexter", which will air on February 17th. Certain shows have made deals with their studios to allow for the production of new episodes. However, the majority of current shows are still being unproduced.

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Out and About with Nothing to Do?

By Lillian Davis

Not living on or near campus can sometimes create serious inconveniences. This semester, I happen to have a lovely four hour break between two of my afternoon classes on Wednesdays from 2pm to 6pm. This would be spectacular if I happened to live close by, for long nap between classes is most divine. However, I am one of many who commutes daily to school, and with the cost of gas (and let's face it, the nice tuition of school), I cannot afford to drive home on this break. Thus, I have been pleasantly forced to become acquainted with the many things Cumberland and the Lebanon community has to offer other students and myself when we have absolutely nothing to do. So, if you know you are going to have some extra time on campus this semester, here are a few ideas of how to spend your time.

Fortunately, I brought my laptop along with me to school on my first long Wednesday. I figured I could use it to take notes in my classes. However, my laptop came in handy in quite a different way. When I became rather bored on one of my breaks during the day, I happened to discover a quiet cozy corner on the second floor of Labry. After making myself comfortable, I popped a DVD into my laptop and relaxed and enjoyed a nice movie break. I highly recommend this experience for people who have extra time on their hands. Of course, please do use headphones so as not to disturb those who use their extra time to study.

On one side of Memorial, there is a building that I know many students never use while earning their education at Cumberland. It is a mystical building full of computers, books, and many other types of media. It is what we like to call a "library." Oh yes. I said the "L" word. Why not spend some extra time in this great storage unit of knowledge?! You might just find that often books are useful and entertaining. The library also has a wonderful selection of videos on a wide variety of topics. I highly recommend that EVERY student check out the American Film Institute's Top 100 Films collection. There, you are sure to find a classic movie that anyone can enjoy. Besides, I think it is very important for people to be familiar with classic Hollywood films. (Personal suggestion if you do not know what to get: "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington" starring Jimmy Stewart).

Another option on how to spend your free time is a favorite past time of mine: antique browsing. Cumberland University just happens to be within spitting distance of Lebanon's fantastic antique district (though I do not recommend any form of saliva expulsion in public). There are tons of antique stores located on the town square (the street that goes in a circle) in Lebanon that are full of wonderful treasures from the past. Even if you are not in the market for an antique, a great way to kill time is browsing through the stores just admiring the many things for sale.

A favorite perk of mine for being a Cumberland student is the available access to the Jimmy Floyd Family Center on North Castle Heights Avenue. The J.F.F.C. has many past time activities to offer. You can take a fitness class, anything from pilates to belly dancing. There is even an indoor pool perfect for doing a couple of laps in your spare time. And there is of course a weight room and fitness room to help you get in tip top shape for bathing suit season which, let's face it, is just around the corner. There is also a gymnasium for anyone looking to shoot some hoops between classes. All in all, this is probably my favorite place to go on my Wednesday break.

Lastly, I have the most befuddling suggestion of all: why not spend that extra time studying or doing homework?! I know, I know. How could I even suggest such horrors? But still, there is nothing else like finishing homework and papers between classes and having all the time in the world at night to do the most fun thing of all: absolutely nothing!

As you see, there are many things to do with extra time on or around campus. So the next time you are bored trying to find something to do, why not try some of these things? You might just discover a new favorite pastime!



Iranian Naval Confrontation Raises More Questions Than Answers

By Rick Brown

Iranian patrol boats allegedly confronted American ships in the Strait of Hormuz on January 6th, but the American government's description of the incident has since generated more skepticism than agreement. According to U.S. officials, the incident began as a result of five armed Iranian vessels allegedly harassing and threatening three U.S. warships in the Strait of Hormuz, a major oil shipping route near Iran in the Persian Gulf. Over a period of twenty minutes, the Iranian ships repeatedly approached the American vessels, moving at "distances and speeds that showed reckless, dangerous and potentially hostile intent," according to Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman.

At one point, according to US officials quoted in BBC News, the American ships even received a transmission saying "I am coming at you. You will explode in a couple of minutes," before the Iranian ships disengaged. Prior to the Iranians breaking off, the Americans had also assumed battle stations, threatening to use deadly force to defend themselves before the confrontation abruptly stopped. According to the US, the entire incident occurred in international waters.

American officials immediately decried the event, and several, including Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, described the Iranian actions as provocative and dangerous to international relations. Iranian officials responded by calling the incident an "ordinary occurrence," claiming that US sources had blown the incident, which one Iranian foreign ministry spokesman described as commonplace, out of proportion. The Pentagon later released a brief video showing the dangerous behavior and threatening transmission to combat such claims.

New revelations, however, have brought the validity of the video, and the incident, itself, into question.

The transmission in the video, in which an Iranian speaker threatened US ships, actually turned out to be to be added to the video at a later date from a separate radio recording. The New York Times also noted that the audio seemed to contain little of the background noise one would have expected from the Iranian patrol boats seen in the encounter. Additionally, according to BBC News, experts now claim that the transmission could have come from a transmitter on shore, or from a different ship in the area.

The Iranian government later released its own video of the event, depicting Iranian ships approaching the US vessels with no indication of threatening behavior. The video, which does not show the Iranian speedboats coming into close range with the American ships, depicted a standard hailing between the vessels. Iranian sources quoted on BBC News have also continued to describe the incident as little more than a routine contact.

Several new sources including IPS News have also noted irregularities between the Pentagon's descriptions of the Iranian ships and the videos themselves. Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman called the ships "highly maneuverable patrol craft" that were "visibly armed." Analysis of the videos released by the Americans and Iranians, however, has shown the Iranian vessels to be small two to three manned craft that are typically armed only with machine guns. According to IPS News, analysis further shows that the only Iranian boat close enough to be seen by the American ships was actually unarmed.

American officials now acknowledge that the threatening transmission may not have come from the Iranian ships, but the Pentagon still alleges that the Iranian vessels acted in a provocative manner. Iran continues to deny the incident constituted anything more than a routine ship-to-ship check.

All these irregularities have left several news commentators describing the event as, in the words of Bob Koehler, a syndicated columnist in the Tennessean newspaper, little more than a minor incident "Pentagon-edited for media consumption to create the illusion of provocation."

New iPod Innovation

By Kyle Winterbottom

If you are one of the many people that owns an iPod, you will be happy to know there is a new product coming out called MiShare. The question remains, what is MiShare? Have you ever picked up your friends iPod and wanted some of the songs they have stored. Well with MiShare you can swap songs, videos, and even files between iPods on the fly. MiShare is simply a bridge device that connects two iPods allowing swapping from one iPod to the other. Unfortunately, it will not work for the Shuffle or Touch model iPods. If your iPod is anything other than those two models, then you will be able to purchase your very own MiShare at mishare.com for one hundred dollars. Though it might be a little pricey, once you start sharing music quick and easily with your friends, you will save in the long run.

Is there a doctor in the *House*? – a Review

By Megan Lee

“I noticed a trend: if no one does anything, sick people often get sicker.” This and other bits of dry witticism are a routine part of Dr. Gregory House’s approach to medicine. House (played by British actor Hugh Laurie) uses unusual and sometimes unethical methods to lead his trusted team of doctors on a hunt for the bizarre medical maladies which trouble his patients.

In the four seasons the series has run, it has garnered numerous awards, including two Golden Globes for Laurie and an Emmy for the creator and executive producer, David Shore. A large fan following has sprung up around the unorthodox, pill-popping doctor and his staff, and this reviewer has recently been drawn into the fold. Although the real world would find an MD with House’s complete lack of social grace and total disregard for legal and ethical standards in the unemployment line and on the wrong end of several lawsuits, I find him endearing. Laurie’s performances give the character depth and dimension. The audience is able to believe that, despite his toughened, sarcastic approach, House really does have his patients’ best interests at heart. Viewers find themselves rooting for him despite all conventional protests. The creative team behind the series should also be given credit for unearthing such a strange collection of medical disorders to provide new material for each new installment. Several diseases and their treatment options are explored in every episode, each failing until that one crucial missing link is found. The audience keeps guessing until all the pieces come together at the very end.

At the end of last season, two of House’s trusted associates left the fictional Princeton Plainsboro Hospital and the third was fired. I, for one, believe Foreman (Omar Epps), Chase (Jesse Spencer), and Cameron (Jennifer Morrison), will be sorely missed. Morrison played Allison Cameron as both a strong female character and a moral balance for House’s unorthodox approach. Foreman provided a steadfast integrity which was also much needed. As for Chase, I believe the loss of his clean-cut good looks and Australian accent will be mourned by women everywhere.

Regardless of my personal opinion, change is necessary to keep a series fresh and insure a long-running career for its participants. The fifth season will open with Dr. House choosing a replacement team from the top five applicants he has handpicked out of all those who requested a shot at the positions. The season premiere airs on Fox at 8pm, Tuesday, January 29th. Visit the official network website (www.fox.com/house) for more information.

The Eighties are the Coolest Decade Ever....

1. Roos...shoes with pockets!
2. Michael Jackson actually had a nose.
3. Christopher Reeve was Superman
4. Family Ties
5. Being bored in a car—no DVDs. No hand held gaming systems
6. Watching Indiana Jones in the movie theaters...
7. Tiffany and Debbie Gibson
8. Big, poofy bangs
9. Pong
10. REM and U2 just starting out..
11. Fraggle Rock
12. TV ended at midnight
13. “Islands in The Stream” by Dolly Parton and Kenny Rogers
14. No Britany Spears or Paris Hilton
15. No Reality TV...



The Lyre of the Phoenix
is
Looking
for
YOU!!!!



16. Movie seats were not tiered
17. Going to the movies did not require a second house mortgage
18. Pets did not need health insurance
19. A presidential election did not play out two years in the media
20. He-Man cartoons
21. Original Nintendo with original Super Mario Brothers and Zelda
22. Cheers
23. Twist-a-beads
24. Station Wagons instead of mini vans!
25. Understanding the song “1985”
26. White Snake



Wanna Win a Wii?

By Charley Hodge

During Cumberland University’s basketball game half times you can get more than popcorn, Reeses, or a soda. For the rest of the basketball season, you and any other Cumberland student that attends the basketball games could possibly win a Nintendo Wii. Nothing comes to you without a price, but if you follow these few simple steps you could be the lucky chuck that takes this game system home.

The first step is to sign up right outside the gym in the front lobby. Toss your name in the draw box and wait to see if you are one of the few chosen ones. Out of the list of those that signed up, four people are chosen to compete for the Nintendo Wii. If the first step gets you down and your name doesn’t get chosen out the draw box don’t give up! You can continue to sign up at every game for the rest of the season.

Here is what happens next. Once your name is drawn out of the draw box, each contestant is given thirty seconds in which they must make a lay up, free throw, three pointer, and half court shot, in the order stated. If the contestant misses a shot they are allowed to start back from where they left off and keep shooting till the whistle is blown. The contestant that has made the most shots, in succession, during the thirty seconds given, will then move on to the final competition at the end of the season. After each game has its own winner, each will compete in a tournament style shoot off until there is only one Champion left. The winner of the tournament will take home the Nintendo Wii.

For those that are not Cumberland students there is also another competition in which anyone can compete. This goofball contest is called the Silly Shot. Some of the shots have already included things like a backwards or blindfolded shots. You have one chance to make your basket and if you do you win free ice cream at Maggie Moo’s.

Tell me this, why would anyone say no to a free Wii? Get off your patooty and make your way to that Wii, remember, every game counts.

CU’s Literary Magazine is now taking submissions for the 2nd Edition – all original poetry, short fiction, drama, nonfiction prose, and essays written by CU Students, Faculty, Staff, Alumni, and Wilson County residents will be accepted.

This issue also will also feature Photographs and Original Artwork
Submission deadline: 29 February



THE DAWG POUND



Men's Basketball

By Jeremiah McElwain

Entering January 17th's game against Mid-Continent, the men's basketball team was coming off a loss to TranSouth opponent Union. Cumberland took a 34-31 lead into the locker room at halftime, and kept that lead throughout the second half, claiming a 72-69 win. With the win, the Bulldogs moved to 5-1 in the TranSouth, and 11-4 overall.

DeCorey Young and Rontreal Braxton lead the Bulldogs with 17 points each. Braxton also lead the team in rebounds with six.

Hot shooting and rebounding has helped lead the Bulldogs to a No. 28 ranking in the NAIA poll. Against Mid-Continent, CU shot 50% from the field and is shooting just under 50% from the field on the season.

Saturday the men's team traveled to Lambuth to take on the 8th ranked Eagles. This first stop on the 3 game road trip for the Bulldogs led to another W. This win was huge for CU, as it was Lambuth's first home loss in three years.

Cumberland lead by as many as 13 in the first half, and held on to a 10 point lead at halftime. Thomas Douglass led the Bulldogs with 32 points, as the Bulldogs shot a season best 58% from the field to win 81-79.

The win pushed the Bulldogs to 6-1 in the conference, tied for the lead with Lambuth, and a 12-4 record overall.

Women's Basketball

By Jeremiah McElwain

After dropping out of the NAIA top-25 for the first time in three years, the Cumberland woman's team beat Mid-Continent 60-52, Thursday January 17.

Kiesha Brown led the Lady Bulldogs with 25 points in the 95-79 loss. With the loss the Lady Bulldogs drop to 2-4 in the TranSouth and 10-8 overall.

CU took a 29-19 lead at the half and lead by as much as 20 before settling for an eight point win.

The Lady Bulldogs were lead by Renae Williams with 14 points. The Lady Bulldogs also out-rebounded the Lady Cougars 44-37.

The Lady Bulldogs traveled to Lambuth in a rematch of last years NAIA National Championship game.

Lambuth out shot the Lady Bulldogs early on and jumped out to a 38-18 lead. They held on to a ten point lead at the half, and closed out the Lady Bulldogs by outscoring them 50-44 in the second half.

Kiesha Brown led the Lady Bulldogs with 25 points in the 95-79 loss.

Both the men's and women's basketball teams next home games are on Thursday 31 January against Trevecca University.

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Personals

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Just email a description of who you are looking for to: cumberlandchronicle@cumberland.edu and let the Classifieds do the rest – all ads are subject to editing for clarity and



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Looking to off load stuff? Skip EBay and try Cumberland's Classified – save on Shipping & Handling – Sell Locally

No charge for CU students, Faculty, & Staff

Send your ad & contact info to: cumberlandchronicle@cumberland.edu



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Looking for Something Special? See if anyone on Campus has one they're willing to part with.

Run an ad in Cumberland's Chronicle - \$5 per ad for 2 weeks

No charge for CU Students, Faculty, & Staff

Send your ad & contact info to: cumberlandchronicle@cumberland.edu



Open Mic Nights

Last Tuesdays of the Month
Come share your original Poetry, Short Fiction, or Personal Essays!
No Critiques Just Applause

January 29 Tuesday Night 6 – 7 pm
The Rudy House!