

Word on the Hill

“What do you think about everyone having to have Sprint cell phone service on campus?”

By Inger Furholt and Peg Williams



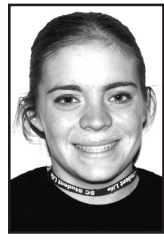
“It’s not fair if you have to pay more money.”

Chase Combs
business freshman



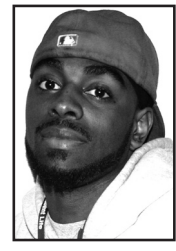
“Making it mandatory isn’t fair. It should be optional.”

Caitlynn French
theatre sophomore



“I don’t like it. I have a better plan with US Cellular.”

Erica Dunigan
biology pre-med freshman



“I already have a Sprint phone.”

Rodney Jackson
sports management senior



“I’m going to stick with Alltel. That’s what my parents are paying for.”

Morgan Stacy
chemistry sophomore



“The idea has merit. However, I’m not a big fan of it.”

Nathan Buchmueller
physics junior



“I don’t like it because I have a family plan.”

Jennifer Hendrixon
undecided freshman



“If I don’t have to pay for it, it’s all well and good.”

Keith Peck
physics senior

Random Thoughts from the editor

- I think the lunch pail should really be called a “lunch pal” because really it’s a friend more than anything.
- I’ve never seen a gopher.
- I’m thinking about getting a minor on the practice of chiropractics. That way when my back is out of place I don’t need to go to the doctor. I can just do it myself.
- I wish there was a good “itis” that I could have. Pancreatitis, tendonitis, gingivitis, they all are bad. I wish someone would come up with a positive one.
- When I went to the doctor the other day, he told me I was right on schedule for my mid-life crisis.
- My grandpa never believed in waking me with an alarm clock. Instead, he would pour water on top of me. It would usually wake me right up. Someday, when I have grandchildrn I think I’m going to wake them with the same method. If they don’t get up after I pour water on them I think I’ll use hot water instead.
- Advil is so difficult to open. Child resistant or not, I think they should revert back to good old screw tops. I’ll take ease over safety any day of the week.
- Of all the common-variety kitchen tools, spatulas offer the most quality. I prefer a metal spatula myself, but I’ve been known to use a plastic one or two in my day.
- I’m not impressed with the students in the National Spelling Bee. If they were so good, they wouldn’t have to ask the judges to use the words in a sentence.
- I think when you’re a small child, lava is something you are naturally scared of. Maybe it’s because of the Mario Brothers. At some point it just doesn’t seem like that scary of a thing. For one thing I dont even think volcanoes are real. For another, I think it moves too slow to be considered scary.
- I looked at the Billboard charts the other day, and surprisingly the top nursery rhymes were the same ones on the charts when I was young.
- If I got to choose between an extra leg and an extra arm, I’d take the extra arm every time. Juggling would be so easy.
- I bet it’s a pain in the butt to package double sided tape.
- Wal-Mart is pretty darned smart. I bought a gold fish for my niece awhile back, and the package said if the fish dies within 90 days I get my money back. The fish died the next day, but honestly, who would take a dead fish in for a replacement?

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Many messages make mess



Paige Carswell
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Someone told me once that long ago, before the days of cell phones, television and computers, people used to visit each other.

It struck me as odd to think that when people wanted to get to know each other, they actually put forth effort into seeing each other. What a strange way to live.

I remember discovering MSN Messenger when I was around 12 years old. My parents didn’t understand my

overwhelming need to be on the computer every second I was at home, but I explained to them the best I could that if I didn’t talk to people on the computer all the time, I was alienating myself from my friends.

I got a cell phone for my eighth grade graduation. While I appreciated the fact that I could now make important phone calls in an emergency, my friends at school soon showed me that I could also make my unimportant phone calls from the locker room and really anywhere else I pleased.

And the texting. Oh, God, the texting.

As I sat down to write this, I had absolutely zero inspiration.

I decided to look around on the internet for a bit to see if I could find a worthy topic

to fill this space. In a matter of 10 minutes, I received text messages from eight different people.

Personal Column Five people tried to talk to me on Messenger. Add Facebook chat into the mix and I figured out that I couldn’t even keep up with the conversations, let alone try to write something.

I’m sick of it. I’m sick of people asking me if I “got their message” on MSN last night about the meeting today. I’m tired of people texting me when they have something “important” to say.

The world is getting smaller by the day, but the conversation is getting cheaper in the process. Sure, it may be more convenient for some-

one to text or use instant messaging to try to start a conversation, but when it annoys everyone around you, it therefore becomes inconvenient for everyone.

Texting and instant messaging are probably the worst two ways to try to get to know someone. It says to the receiver, “Yes, I’d like to get to know you, but not enough to actually put forth any effort.”

Here’s a hint. If you think it can wait, then call later. Send an e-mail. Write a letter.

If you want to get to know someone, then show them you want to.

Go have coffee. Play Guitar Hero. Take a walk. Do whatever it takes, but just because you can text someone and talk to them whenever you want to doesn’t mean

that you should.

Sending out 1000 text messages a day doesn’t make you cool. Go without your cell phone for a day and see if it kills you. Chances are it doesn’t.

In the end, you might like the freedom from all of the little trivial things that take up so much of your time by the end of the day.

However, if you do feel like you MUST text someone at 7 a.m. when you wake up, I’d appreciate it if it wasn’t me.

If I wake up one more time to my phone telling me my inbox is full or the bottom of my computer screen glowing orange with unread messages, I’m going to scream.

Paige Carswell is a sophomore majoring in journalism. You may e-mail her at paige.carswell@sckans.edu.

It’s time to press play on Christmas carols

By Nate Jones
Staff reporter

Okay, okay, okay...now that the turkey and ham are in my tummy, accompanied by a few helpings of mashed potatoes and delicious gravy along with a countless number of buttered rolls, I think it’s safe to start pressing the “play” button on all of those classic Christmas songs everyone is always so eager to listen to at 12:01 a.m. on Nov. 1, before anyone can throw away their Halloween costume.

I’m one of those who have been tying to open other’s eyes to the fact that we don’t need a hard two months of Christmas music. It gets on my nerves when people overlook the fourth Thursday of November. I know

there aren’t any Thanksgiving carols, but still. All of the top 10 pop Christmas albums of 2008 were released in late September or early October, why? Everyone is just gonna be burnt out on the holiday spirit by the time Christmas rolls around. After Thanksgiving is the perfect time to start rocking out to “Jingle Bell Rock,” “Rudolph” and “Deck the Halls.” And yes, let me say again... it is time.

So a music review over Christmas music, you say? As I thought about this concept I realized just how deep the pool was filled out there with such music. Almost every major recording artist has put out a holiday spirited album. Is it because they re-

ally are infused yuletide merriment? Or does the record company feel like making an extra buck? I don’t really know the answer.

All I can say is that the new versions of Christmas songs don’t not in any way measure up to the versions from yesteryear. Maybe it’s me and my unmatched feelings on holiday traditions. To me, Nat King Cole singing “The Christmas Song” is the best version of (arguably) the best holiday song to date.

Then again, if you played the entire soundtrack to the movie “Home Alone” while I set up a Christmas tree I would be pretty content, no doubt. I just don’t sense the warmth in new versions of holiday music these days. It doesn’t make me want to listen to it. I still seek out the

old stuff.

When I went out looking for some Christmas albums to write about, one did catch my attention. It seems someone felt the need to take current female singers and dub them onto old Elvis recordings, you know because Elvis couldn’t do a good enough version of them by himself. Come on, people. Be content with something. Cherish it don’t try and change it.

Lastly, how come no one has been able to write an original holiday hit in so long? All the ones everyone remembers, like “Holly Jolly Christmas,” “White Christmas,” “Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer,” and the rest, all those were written back in the late 30s or early 40s. Alan Jackson? Yup, he wrote an original Christmas

song, “Let it Be Christmas,” a couple years back. There have been maybe one or two more that have hit the charts, but are much too cliché. Jackson’s is really the only one I could see being played by folks over half a century later. That’s all the better we can do? Maybe that answers my question from earlier about whether artists are really into it or just looking to make a buck.

Play Christmas music all year round if you so please. I like the old stuff, very little of the new stuff but hey, what really matters is the holidays are here. I can’t wait to be totally sick of hearing Christmas songs!

Nate Jones is a senior majoring in communication. You may e-mail him at nate.jones@sckans.edu.

Have something on your mind? Want to just share a laugh? Frustrated about something? Here’s your chance. A forum is available online at w3.sckans.edu/forms/collegian for you to post your thoughts. It is 100 percent anonymous, so say anything you please!

- *Small Packages? I can only imagine what that’s about* • These pants will only button sometimes • **The DVD release of “Step Brothers” only gives us a whole new set of Will Ferrell quotes to memorize, misquote and wear out. I can’t wait!**
- What does that even stretch? • **22 days ‘till Christmas!!!** • ...That’s when I realized sex toys don’t make for good stocking stuffers • *Only one more newspaper left!!!* • **Just because I go to college my family thinks I automatically know EVERYthing about computers** • **MUCK FIZZOU!!!!**
- 40-37 • J think we should let Batman decide who gets to play for the national title in college football** • It’s clear to tell from Tommy Castor’s color commentary that he has never played any sport • **Let’s go buy some Hulk hands and a sumo suit and see what kind of trouble we can hatch!** • The game of Uno is so much like life • If one were to total up their MSN conversations, it would probably end up being more pages than all your assigned papers combined. Think about it! • **If they don’t want us to sled on campus, then they should have picked flatter land** • I don’t have to see the movie “Twilight” to know that it sucks • Maybe the Mayans were just lazy and didn’t finish their calendar, eh?

Music Column

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