



AERIAL

Atherton High School News Magazine



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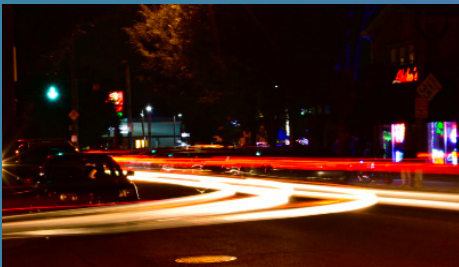
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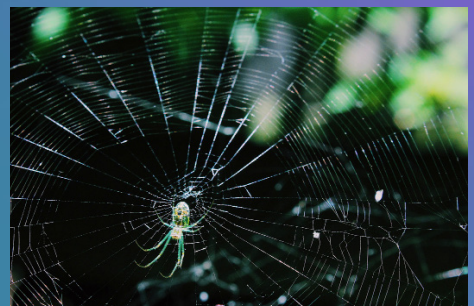
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Noah Barber



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All progress takes
place outside of the
comfort zone.

Michael Bobak

Dear Reader,

The Aerial is not just a publication, but a legacy of excellence celebrating its 95th birthday this year. As we strive to embody objectivity we make the promise to listen and be held accountable for any and all stories we produce. This is a student publication, but make no mistake: this is a work of journalistic credibility. We strive to seek out the truth in the overwhelming amount of headlines we see in a day. We are a quarterly issue magazine and we strive to improve on every single issue. As for you reader, this is not a one-sided media. We write to inform you, what you do with our stories is in your court. We look forward to taking this journey with you.

~ **Lauren Leong , Editor in Chief**



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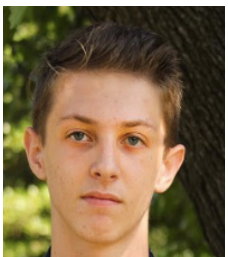
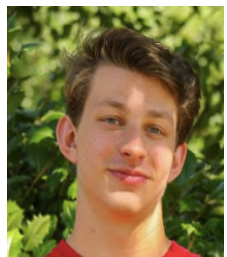
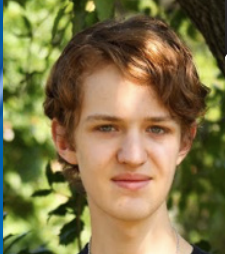
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FEATURE

ATHERTON'S NEW ACADEMIC VOICES

THE HEROIN HIGHWAY

JOE BIDEN'S RACE TO THE BOTTOM

SPIKE IN NEUROLOGY

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Atherton's new academic voyage:

Navigating the ups and downs of Atherton's new direction

By: Beatriz Arevalo & Iderian Coleman
Designed by: Vanessa Marquis

When Atherton High School students returned to school in the Fall of 2018, they were instantly greeted by Atherton's new status as a full International Baccalaureate (IB) school. Additionally, Atherton also had three new Academies of Louisville career pathways from which students could choose to pursue. In those first couple of days, it was impossible for an Atherton student to travel the hallways and not see evidence of the school's new status everywhere.

This development was right in line with Atherton's well-established approach to education, and in that way the change seemed subtle at first. After all, Atherton had IB courses available since 1988. But the idea that Atherton as a whole would follow the IB style of learning was radically new, especially for some students who had never taken an IB course.

While a more traditional educational model focuses on finding the correct answer, an IB education encourages a student to think outside the objective box of right and wrong and instead find the answer that is most applicably logical to them after the student explores a plethora of possible answers. In effect, IB seeks to nurture a student's natural curiosity and encourages creativity.

Or as the IB mission states it: "The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to

INTRODUCTION TO THE ACADEMIES OF LOUISVILLE

Entering the 2019 school year, freshmen were granted the option of going into three different academies: Media Arts, Health Science, and Engineering. In Atherton's 2018 welcome letter,

Dr. Aberli introduced this new addition saying "The academies experience will include guest speakers who specialize in these career fields as well as field experience where students actually see what these careers entail. As JCPS and Atherton develop ongoing business partnerships, students will have more choices to engage

in internships and job opportunities that provide them with career-related experience in that field to make them knowledgeable and competitive." This school year is just the beginning and the end is merely a statement with the academies having endless room for growth.

The cause of this conversion was a \$500,000 funding from the Academies of Louisville that helped to aid these new academies in many different fields and get them afloat with staffing. Along with this funding, there will be another 1 million dollars put into a renovation project in order to accompany the need for improvements.



THE ACADEMIES
OF LOUISVILLE

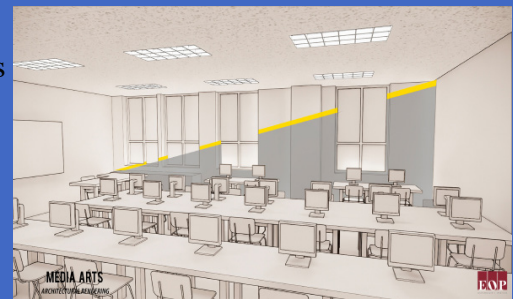


A massive renovation to Atherton's architecture will be in effect following the current school year and to be finished coming into the 2020 school year, "we're gonna get a massive engineering suite, a medical suite and a media arts suite by the beginning of next school year" states Dr. Aberli himself.



There are also plans for a possible expansion to the Academies but this won't come too fast, according to Dr. Aberli "We will maintain the three academies, but we may keep introducing additional pathways within the academies." These following years will be reflective on the preparation of the students included in the academies, as well as their success in the paved career pathways.

an IB teacher even describes "IB offers them the chance to further that intellect and to further their abilities to the utmost level that you possibly can



have in Jefferson county public schools..., with its international focus, its global context and the way that it requires people to look at issues, it's really the most demanding curriculum offered."

THE VISION FOR THE DIPLOMA CANDIDATES

With Atherton's IB diploma program, students would spend their junior and senior years taking IB courses with 6 specific subject groups including Sciences, Mathematics, and the arts.

In addition, they would have to complete 3 required components: Theory of knowledge (TOK), CAS, and the extended essay. TOK is a required course which focuses on the idea of knowledge. CAS, or Creativity, Activity, Service is an individual project a student must complete related to one or more of the elements in the title. Finally, the extended essay is a 4000 word research paper centered around one of the 6 subject groups.

At graduation, if a student remains a diploma candidate, meaning they stayed in the program those two years and completed all required components, then they will be awarded with an IB diploma as a testament to their hard work.

The IB diploma experience is a unique one in our county and its vision is set for academic greatness,

ATHERTON - THE PAST

William Tucker, an Atherton alumni and currently the IB Extended Essay Mentor has experienced the program firsthand in the late 90's having taken 3 IB classes his junior and senior years. When asked about these classes he stated that "Those [IB courses] were probably the most academically rigorous experiences that I had up until my junior and senior year of college." And about his overall experience in IB he reveals that "It really laid the foundation for me as a reader and as a thinker; it helped me always think outside the box and question everything."

Even so long ago, the IB program has proven to be a rigorous curriculum as it accostomes students to a new critical way of thinking and provides a sizable workload that must be balanced with extracurriculars and a social life. Tucker, personally part of several school activities remembers how "Because

I was involved with things all the time, work often times took a back burner and I have to admit that there were plenty of times when I was doing my IB History notes or writing a paper for English at 3 or 4 in the morning.” And these sentiments are echoed by more recent IB diploma candidate students as well.



ANALYSIS - THE GOOD

When Dr. Aberli announced in his 2018 welcome letter that Atherton would become a whole IB school, there was an enthusiasm for Atherton’s new direction shared by some of the administration as well as some students.

For certain full IB students who were fully adjusted to AP courses, new aspects of IB excited them. For instance, one past IB student who struggled in AP because of its focus on tests shared her relief saying “IB gave me the option to choose a lot of what I’m learning and take control of certain parts of the final test grade..., that made me feel like my tests actually show the things I’ve learned.”

When discussing with Dr. Aberli about IB, it was even brought up how it has been reflected in the school’s data that IB test scores have historically been higher than AP test scores and enrollment rates for IB courses have also shown that trend.

But, it is important to consider that the switch from AP to IB can be a big change to undertake for some students which could prove to be just as stressful as it is relieving. Another student shared that “IB kind of has you learn everything for a test and beyond..., you’re learning two things in one so that can be quite stressful for some people; it’s a very big shift on how you’re taught.” And this shift being

referred to involves more lectures, essays and socratic based learning in classes.

However, this change can work to better prepare its students for the reality of college. One student expressed how the system helps students adjust to real life stressful situations and the harsh world in which you have to learn to be quick on your feet. They put the IB experience into an interesting perspective “Let’s say, in a hypothetical situation, you took all IB classes and passed all of them but you failed every test that comes at the end..., you will still be much better prepared than every college student in that class.”

With IB being geared to prepare college readiness, the addition of the academies aims to prepare career readiness after graduation. Together these two programs make the Atherton experience one that could stick with a student long after their 4 years of high school.

THE UNINTENDED/ INTENDED CONSEQUENCES?

However, This year the school has seen a significant drop in the number of IB diploma candidates with more than half of the full IB juniors from last year deciding to not continue on with the program for their own personal reasons. Although these reasons ranged from scheduling conflicts to a loss of interest in particular classes, the general consensus gathered was that these students were under a tremendous amount of stress.

For a certain student, this stress proved to be a breaking point but also a moment of realization recalling how, “The workload was too much for me, right then, to be able to handle without becoming distressed so through growing, I started to value my happiness over accolades..” and going further they add “ I realized I was doing it for the recognition rather than actually enjoying the challenge... and for the cost I was paying it wasn’t worth it.”

For some the cost to be a full IB student wasn’t just a mental one but a social one as well. Another previous diploma candidate student confessed “ To succeed in IB, I had to give up pretty much 90% of my social life..., I remember lunch was really big for me just because that was really the only time I got to sit down and relax and be with my friends, I wish I had more time than just 20 minutes.”

These two accounts only display some of the consequences certain students faced under the system but overall many students on the inside had several criticisms about the program which contributed to the drop.

When discussing with Dr. Aberli and asking him how he plans to improve the IB diploma program in order to prevent another such drop, he had this to say, “This year, for the first time since 1988 when IB first started here, we’ve introduced new IB classes..., by making the diploma program more accessible, aligned with what students want to take and they have more options, more students may go the diploma program route...”

He comments on how restrictive the roster of course options was before and how that alone was the reason a majority of students left in the past. This year, IB Chemistry, Film Study and Psychology, along with other IB course offerings were added to diversify the choices for IB students. But, with this addition comes the intended consequence of less AP course offerings in the future with the junior AP literature course being phased out starting next school year.

Another change in relation to AP is the AP European History course being turned from a required course for AP sophomores to an elective. This caused a drop from 150 students enrolled last year to approximately 60 this year. But, when asking Mr. Ellard, the AP Euro teacher, about this change he was hopeful in stating that “I actually think having AP Euro as an elective has helped the course. We have much more serious students in the class who are interested in the topic. Class discussions are academically rigorous and at times I can go slightly faster in covering content.” He also comments on the diversification of Atherton’s course roster in the History department reflecting how “We may not have every history class that our students want, but we are definitely more accommodating than in the past by coming up with what I think is the most diversified course catalog, since I’ve been at Atherton.”

While the focus on student interest and wanting to give more course options is a great step in the right direction for the future of our school, the emphasis on IB leaves the concern of what will happen to students who would prefer to take AP courses. Though not ultimately gone, it might lamentably make them have to either go into an Honors or IB course if an AP

version is not available. Though this might be an unfortunate consequence of Atherton’s new direction,

Dr. Aberli addressed this concern by frankly stating that “We are an IB school... when you come to Atherton we’re very transparent about what academic opportunities we can provide...”



THE FUTURE - A COMMENTARY

The IB program, like the academies, is a commitment and it is vital that a student considers what their own personal limits are before deciding to take on such an endeavour. But it is equally as vital that the student is given an extensive look into what they are in store for before making that decision.

The administration makes a point to talk to students in their sophomore year and give them information about what the next two years could look like for them if they decide to go the IB route. But, perhaps the main point that should be stressed in these talks, along with the stress and workload, is that a student should be choosing to go that route for the right reasons. It should be something a student feels intrinsically motivated to do above all.

Year by year, the number of diploma candidate students naturally fluctuates, this time around, the number of full IB juniors is around the 20’s. What can be hoped for them is that they are comfortable in their position, are taking classes they enjoy, and continue on to become IB diploma graduates if they feel the program is right for them.

Overall, Atherton’s new direction aims to give a student endless choices and resources. The importance of student voice in our school’s decision making is immense and in recognizing that by putting these new programs out there for the student body, the result, if executed ideally, is an enjoyable, extensive and extraordinary learning experience.

I HESITATE, BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO BE SOMEBODY THAT'S NEGATIVE, BUT I JUST DON'T SEE A SOLUTION... IT'S SUCH AN ADDICTIVE DRUG AND IT'S SPREADING SO QUICKLY.

The words hung in the air like a thick, unforgiving smog, filling the confines of the room—a snug tucked away study in W.L. Lyons Brown Library on Bellarmine's campus. As the discussion veered from such things as the root of the narcotics-smuggling epidemic to ways to fix addiction, an eerie realization washed over the room: this is bigger than any one problem.

In the past few years, Americans have come to be stretched gravely thin in regards to the cultural, social, and political conflicts being monitored: gun control, immigration, global warming, the list incessantly marches on. The biggest and baddest skeleton in society's collective closet, however, is persistent and all-encompassing. That tenacious pile of bones is drug abuse.

THE CRADLE OF ADDICTION

With the Appalachians claiming the title of “cradle of the opioid epidemic,” coal mining has long been a staple of life in Western Kentucky and Virginia. In pain and suffering as a result of this hard career (oftentimes the only option given in times of recession and hardship), many of the coal miners working in this region were prescribed hard-hitting opioids like Vicodin, OxyContin, and Percocet—almost always blinded to their addictive nature under the illusion that prescription medication can't be abused. Later they were compelled to switch to cheaper, more erratic narcotics when painkillers became too expensive (to the fault of Big Pharma). With this fueling the regions unceasing drug problem, Kentucky in particular has been devastated by the aggressive trafficking of illicit drugs from Central and South America. One prodding question is, where are these narcotics funneling into Louisville and the U.S. from? The answer: right under everyone's noses.

I-65 has long been described as “Heroin Highway,” and rightfully so. The major transportation artery slices through the US with the volition of a serpent, running through Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky and ending in Gary, Indiana, situated just south of Lake Michigan. The “pipeline of illegal drugs” is favored by cartels wanting to push their product into the heartland of America, the Midwest, and then further into the country.

Everyday, state and local police play a game of cat and mouse with narcotics traffickers on the almost 900-mile expanse of highway, only as if the cat was practically blind and deaf. Many times these traffickers send out multiple cars filled to the brim with illegal narcotics, knowing that “if one gets hit (stopped), the other four will get through.” With this uncontrollable flow of opiates, methamphetamines, and more running right into the Louisville and broader Kentuckiana area, ignorance is bliss and involvement seems, without a doubt, costly to some. In reality, it isn't.

THE HEROIN HIGHWAY

A GUT-WRENCHING REALITY

To illustrate and bring light to such an alarming aspect of drug trafficking in America, a professional is needed. Major Mike Halbleib, a seasoned officer of the Bullitt County Sheriff's Office Narcotics Unit, has agreed to talk about the uniquely misunderstood and certainly understaffed conflict ravaging the community. Beginning his career in 1992 by joining the L.M.P.D., Halbleib was soon promoted to detective and later awarded the title of "Louisville Police Officer of the Year" in 2000. As an expert witness for the Jefferson and Bullitt County Commonwealth Attorney's Offices, he is undoubtedly well-versed in narcotics-related issues. As previously noted, Halbleib joined the Louisville Metro Police Department in 1992.

Although even back then this was considered a serious issue, its awe-inspiring enormity is something relatively new. "Back when I first came on, if you seized heroin, you were talking about a couple small (~.1 gram) balloons. And we might see that once or twice a year... now you're seeing kilos upon kilos upon kilos. A kilo's 36 ounces";

The proof is in the pudding. While it's virtually impossible to pin down the amount of illegal narcotics in the US at any given moment, a good indicator is seizure rates at the Southern border.

According to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Agency, heroin seizures have almost tripled since 2009 and methamphetamine seizures have quintupled to over 266,828 pounds at and between ports of entry.

A CRISIS- AND HOPE- IN HIDING

Location doesn't matter. Spend all the money you want on a nice house in a quiet area, send your kids to private schools. Even still, drug addiction tears lives apart from the Hollywood Hills to Compton, from upper Manhattan to the Bronx, from St. Matthews to Portland. That's the damning thing about this problem in particular, you're never safe.

Fierce contention is wielded as a weapon when discussing the epidemic being faced on a state

EVERYBODY THINKS IT'S NOT GOING ON IN
THEIR NEIGHBORHOOD □ DON'T GET A FALSE
SENSE OF SECURITY.



TO
Kentucky
ADDICTED SPIRIT
FOLLOW THE BLACK TAR ROAD

and national level. “Some people say you need to cut off the head of the snake, focus on breaking down major case traffickers. But others say no, you need to focus on the rehabilitation aspect and helping people with these addictions. Others say you need to focus on the education part of it... You can’t really say one is better than the other, you have to work at all three at the same time.”

These are all strategies being executed in abundance. Admittedly, however, they are all overtaxed and (relatively) ineffective ideas. For as long as the D.A.R.E. program has traveled around the country informing kids about the dangers of addiction, abuse has nonetheless latched

onto our youth. Since courts began handing out mandatory prison sentences for the distribution of certain illegal narcotics in the 80’s, drug peddlers have still dealt it in droves. Now is the time to think outside of the box and involve the community to mitigate drug trafficking and its ruinous effects on Louisville neighborhoods, even if it makes the city just a bit safer. So where is there to start?

Halbleib says a good answer is self-policing. No, this does not imply chasing down criminals yourself and exercising the act of citizens’ arrest, comparable to a kind of awry and hazardous vigilante justice. Instead, it means looking for signs of illegal or suspicious activity and not hesitating to report it. “We as law enforcement just want people to open their eyes, look for the signs of drug activity, and just pick up their phone and call... an anonymous phone call, that’s all we need.” But what are the signs to look for? It can range from anything to homes in your neighborhood with no obvious owner, cars coming in and out a night, long periods of vacancy, no kids. “A lot of your drug traffickers won’t venture far off I-65... What we’re seeing is a lot of the cartels will get off the interstate in rural areas where they have ren-

tal houses, they’ll drop off the stash quickly and get back on the interstate.” The clues are quite evident in most cases, but most people want to stay away from reporting them for fear of getting involved. Yet anonymity is always an option, so exercise it. “If everybody would take the opportunity to look through their neighborhood and just see what’s happening, it’s amazing what time we could do as a police department... Every time we make an arrest, all the neighbors come out, saying ‘I knew something was going on,’ they saw all the signs.”

SINK OR SWIM?

For as long as the River City sits perched proudly over the Ohio, its communities will continue to wither from within without support and rehabilitation. Louisville is in the midst of a maddening epidemic, yet the power to bring forward change is traded off from hand to hand by apathetic individuals, reliant on someone else to fix the world’s problems. But this is not a world filled with superheroes, instead it’s a world of normal people who need heroic mindsets.

Louisville and the greater Kentuckiana area are more than capable of boasting a bright future, but the good only comes when we as a collective come together and deal with the bad. Ironically, in a day and age where everyone is connected, the divide between individuals is drastic and, in a sense, devastating.

When alone, addiction to our vices is more often than not the only place to turn to. Instead of cowering to the epidemic because you think a difference can’t be made, become an outlet that someone, a friend, a family member, or even a stranger can turn to. If everyone lived that way, we might not even have a Heroin Highway. ■

WRITTEN BY DANIEL WILLEN
DESIGNED BY IMARI MADDOX
& HARLAN DAWKINS

RED TAP

The years of stigmatizing mental health and illness has finally reached its breaking point. The number of suicides are growing within the states' schools, and the effects are felt on every level of the community. Kentucky schools are facing an epidemic, and as it attempts to adjust accordingly, it may be getting in its own way.

After Tragedy Strikes

After any suicide, a crisis team is convened, their main purpose to deal with staff and students grieving after the loss. The crisis team is comprised of licensed mental health professionals. The amount of time the crisis team will stay ranges on the given situation. These teams are meant as a source of immediate relief and while they help with the immediate shock, they are not meant for the long game. This is where the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) law comes into play. This law's main purpose is to protect the rights of minors by protecting their right to an

"THESE CRISIS TEAMS... ARE NOT MEANT FOR THE LONG GAME."

education. The part that comes in to place here though is the privacy. When a student commits suicide their name and any action can not be mentioned or made by the school until parental consent is given. On this note parental consent is often never asked for as a respect to the family. This ties the administrations hands when it comes to memorializing the student. The exception to this is when they are student led.

The Initial Wave

School guidance and mental health counselors are the long term relief within schools after suicide. However, not all schools have mental health counselors, and while JCPS Superintendent Marty Polio has stated making this a priority, the reality is that hiring enough professionals to meet the needs will take time. In addition, this emphasis has not been shown seeing as this year school psychologist received a pay cut. School guidance counselors then become the only constants from school to school. One fact that needs consideration is that the recommended amount of students per counselor in a school should be around 250. Yet, most schools far exceed these numbers. Even if schools can follow the recommended number of students, it then falls on the individual. Students are going to have varying amounts of comfort with their

Another layer comes with put into effect this year which mandates that 60% of the Counselors time is to be spent with children directly. This law does not however mandate the alleviation of any of the other obligations or responsibilities of the counselors. This leads to burnout in counselors, and does not improve any of the disconnect between counselors and students that appears.

AS

EE?

WRITTEN BY
LAUREN LEONG
DESIGNED BY
HARLAN DAWKINS

**“KY'S EDUCATION
SYSTEM IS PUTTING
BANDAIDS OVER
BULLET HOLES.”**

a law
which



It is clear that school counselors have an overwhelming job. From college applications, to the breaking down of data, to helping save someone's life in a crisis situation, a counselor can wear twenty different hats in a single day, and still have a mountain of paperwork to complete the next morning.

The focus on mental health has become essential in Kentucky's education system, but to allocate those responsibilities to one group of people is arbitrary and more importantly ineffective. Kentucky has to learn that a declared focus and a demonstrated focus are two separate entities and should be treated as such. Kentucky's education system is putting band-aids over bullet holes.

**SYSTEM WILL WORK AS WELL
AS IT WILL ALLOW ITSELF.**

Neurologist Spike

Written by Max Zakari
Designed by Nathaly Torres

Over the last 10 years, the world has seen a large increase in interest in the field of neurology. This has led to more people to choose neurology as a career. With this new increase, experts in the medical field have decided to take hold of this “gracious gift” and funnel these new neurologists into programs for mental health. Most people don’t realize that the field of neurology is gaining importance for the aid and improvement of mental health.

The field of neurology is the study and treatment of disorders of the nervous system. The nervous system includes both the spinal cord and the brain but most of the neurologists that are used are the ones who specialize in the cranial nervous system. The neurologists who study the help map out different aspects, such as the neurological pathways. These mapped out pathways are paired with aspects of psychology to help and find patterns the brain exhibits when going through certain mental illnesses. This happens when nerve pathways light up with activity and neurologists capturing these changes helping with finding medical treatments for things like depression and schizophrenia. While these seem like great ways to battle mental health issues, these processes are hard to validate due to the large neurological pathways of the brain. Because of this, when diagnosing

and treating mental illness, doctors would base more off of the patients symptoms and previous observations rather than the new neurological observations. This made the neurological field less valid in helping mental illnesses than psychology because the neurologists were more dependent on human emotional responses rather than the actual brain itself. While neurologists have still made a lot of progress with this method, psychiatrists and other doctors see the potential for improving the research and knowledge for the neurological field.

Because of this new programs were created to aid in this process by allowing more money and other resources to be used. These new programs help these doctors focus on specific aspects of these processes to

help better them and overall help us get closer to curing mental illness through verifying and even finding new models and methods for identifying and analyzing these illnesses. This moves the primary focus on actual brain research rather than testing patient data through psychiatrists responses.

The largest and overall more impactful program that has helped funnel these neurologists is the Research Domain Criteria Initiative. This program was started five years ago in the National institute of mental health





located in Bethesda, Maryland. The program divides the doctors into different sections of mental health and then their research counterpart. This ensures that a section of people are focused on specifically researching new methods and another section testing and implementing these methods. Intern, this allows for new medicine to be made to aid in the process of curing these illnesses and can even give helpful tips and things to watch for in patients for psychiatrists. This is said to be a more efficient method and helps employ more of these doctors. But due to these programs only emerging in the last few years, the results are limited. Although most doctors in the field have high hopes for these programs, they have not made a lot of progress. But that doesn't diminish the programs credibility. The new program has a large number of resources and many brilliant minds working together to better humanity.

Although this process doesn't happen often, when they do, the researchers and the other professionals always re-check and re-test each experiment to make sure with

a strong correlation that their ideas are correct. And when these doctors are positive with their findings, they write a report and send it to other colleagues for review. Then those doctors conduct the experiment themselves. And after they finally have the same conclusion, that revelation then gets spread throughout the world through different ways. These include news articles from high end medical journals such as: the BMJ, JAMA, and the Lancet and through other news networks from other doctors who spread the awareness of these words. So when a breaking revolution in the medical industry emerges. Doctors in our city of Louisville find out very quickly.

These revelations inside the neurological industry are slowly impacting our lives through new programs and the curiosity of humans. These programs have a bright future according to the administrators of these programs, and have hopes of exponentially helping both current and future patients suffering from mental illnesses.



JOE BIDEN'S RACE TO THE BOTTOM

Chomping at the bit, the entire country follows the progression of the 2019-2020 Democratic National Primary, which will decide the main challenger to President Donald Trump as he seeks reelection. Collectively making up news headlines since July 28th, 2017 (when John Delaney became the 1st person to officially declare candidacy), it has been one of the longest running news stories still developing, with repercussions throughout the country.

Road To The White House

As coverage for the 2018 midterms ended, focus on the Democratic Primary heated up in the mainstream media, quickly centering around former Vice President Joe Biden. It was speculated about before the 2016 Presidential Election if he would run, attempting to make the move from Vice President to President. When he chose not to run, it became more clear that he was eyeing the 2020 or 2024 election.

So from November 2018 through April 2019, Primary speculation was over whether Biden would run during this election cycle or not. In national polling, even before officially declaring his candidacy, Joe Biden remained close to 10% ahead of the 2nd highest candidate Vermont State Senator Bernie Sanders, and at least 20% ahead of almost 2 dozen other candidates. His constant media attention, despite not declaring candidacy yet, as well as his identity as a known political quantity was and is most likely responsible for his very strong base of support.

For nearly the entire Primary race,

Packed and Contentious Field

Senator Bernie Sanders has remained in a solid 2nd place lead, maintaining poll averages between 15 and 19%, while the rest of the field remained below a 10% ceiling. He declared his Presidential candidacy in February 2019, with his brand of Democratic Socialism as an all-encompassing platform, bringing back his voting base from his 2016 Presidential run. Upon declaring his candidacy, his poll numbers began to rise roughly a point per week until the end of March at a peak of 24%, only 6 points away from Biden at the time. But soon after, Biden announced his candidacy, and Senator Sanders' poll numbers slowly fell and fluctuated until late May, stabilizing at an average of 15-18%. Although they have remained in that range since, Sanders' poll numbers continue to reflect the possibility that he is one of the most formidable opponents to Biden in the Primary.

Former Texas Senatorial Candidate Beto O'Rourke received extensive media attention upon declaring his candidacy in mid-March, even being featured on the cover of Vanity Fair's April 2019 issue. This resulted in rising from late 2018 poll numbers of 5-6% to a peak of 9.5% in early April 2019, showing significant momentum. However, most likely because of the inability for candidates to distinguish themselves in a Primary of 20+ candidates, national media began to turn their attention away, culminating with a summer 2019 Vanity Fair

article: "How the Media Fell Out of Love with Beto O'Rourke". This turn around by the same magazine that promoted his candidacy was a watershed moment, and since then, his support in the polls has steadily declined, and currently is at an average of >3%.

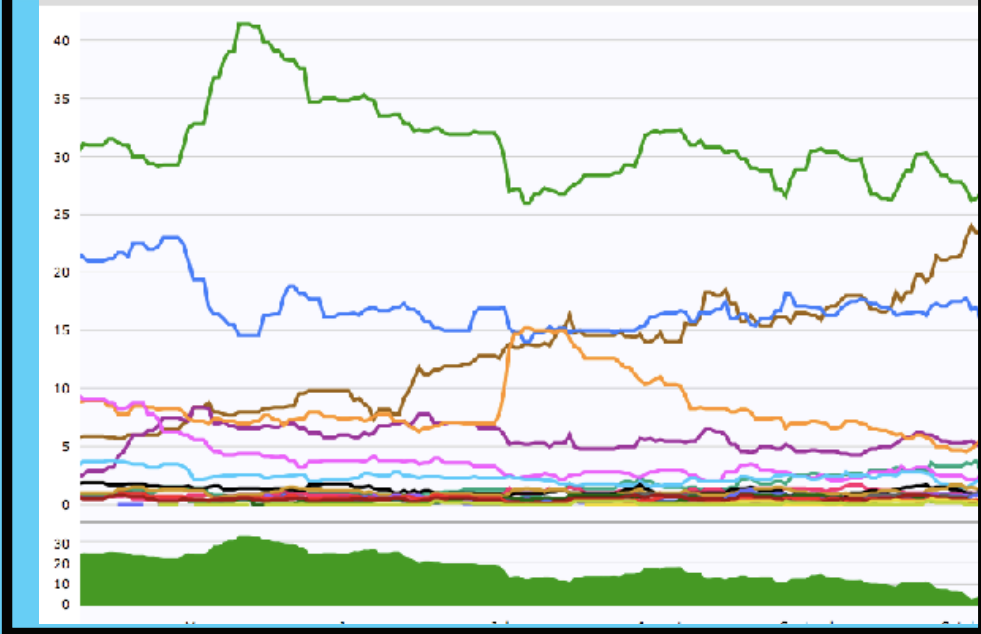
Mayor of South Bend, Indiana Pete Buttigieg began his campaign with 0.3% support in the polls. Yet, during the contentious summer months this year his perceived pragmatism and performance seemed to draw the

"In national polling, even before officially declaring his candidacy, Joe Biden remained close to 10% ahead of the 2nd highest candidate."



https://www.realclearpolitics.com/epolls/2020/president/us/2020_democratic_presidential_nomination-6730.html

26.9	Biden	+0.5	26.0	Warren	14.1	Sanders	6.1
4.0	Harris		2.0	Yang	2.3	O'Rourke	1.3
3.0	Gabbard		1.0	Klobuchar	1.0	Castro	0.9
0.8	Steyer		0.8	Williamson	0.3	Bullock	0.3
0.3	DeLaney		0.0	Seask	0.0	Messam	



media to him. However, upon reaching a peak of just over 8% support, Buttigieg has stagnated, unable to grow or take other candidates' support. Additionally, beginning in July, questions about the satisfaction in his own town seemed to pop up. Yet the nature and direction of his candidacy has not changed, remaining in the top 5 candidates with just under 6%, indicating for the time being he stays in the race. Hanging over every candidate's head, Joe Biden officially announced his

The "Joe Biden Effect"

presidential bid on April 25, 2019 and 2 weeks later polled 41.4%, the highest level of support for any candidate then or since. But from that point on Joe Biden's level of support fell gradually until late July, where he has remained between 27 and 32%, indicating his major lead was built up because of hype, and assumably receded to his initial base of support, mostly holding strong. Campaigning on Obama's record and a return to the political arena before President Trump, he seems to draw much of the moderate support in the Democratic Party. Notable is the decreasing value of his peaks in the polls. Gradually, his peaks are decreasing (32.2%, 31.5%, and then 30.1%). This downward trend could be a symbol of his gradually decreasing support, or could be temporary. He survived the fluctuations of several lower tier candidates during this past summer, holding onto a third of the party consistently, similar to President Trump during the 2016 Republican Primaries,



indicating he has a very solid chance of skating by to the nomination as long as he remains relevant and maintains his base. Most of the 20+ candidates barely have 2% during this time, showing his clear dominance in the field. On June 27, 2019, the second night of debate for the first Democratic National Committee's (DNC) Prima-

Open Conflict

ry occurred. During the debate, former California State Attorney General and current California State Senator Kamala Harris (who had seen some polling above 10% back in February - March 2019 but recedback down) repeatedly and aggressively criticised Biden's record on forced school busing. This directly resulted in the first steep drop in Biden's poll numbers, losing 5 points in just a week. Although his support had been steadily decreasing, Biden began his trend of unstable polling in the high 20's at this time. At the same time, Senator Harris' support went from a declining 7% to 15%, reinvigorating her campaign and receiving a jump in support matched only by the spike Biden received upon his announcement. Now Senators Harris, Warren, and Sanders all had about 15%, heavily competing for the 2nd place spot. On July 31, 2019, during the end of the second night of debate for the second DNC debate, U.S. Representative Tulsi Gabbard of Hawaii unleashed a major rhetorical attack on Senator Harris' record as Attorney General, shocking many in both the media and Democratic Party. The steady support Senator Harris had been receiving began to wilt away, and has continued to fall. Now at

below 6%, Senator Harris is polling the lowest she has since her announcement last winter, and many see her campaign with little left to do to challenge the frontrunners she already has taken shots at.

Meanwhile, Massachusetts State Senator Elizabeth Warren began her campaign in late 2018 obscurely, and with less than 10% support, seemingly not having a clear path to the nomination. Lackluster in both media coverage and exposure to the public, her candidacy did not appear to be going anywhere and many wrote her off with many other candidates who couldn't steadily gain support. It was only in June this year that she broke 10% in the polls, and steadily received glowing media attention. With platforms such as criminal justice reform, student loan debt forgiveness, and Medicare for all, she crosses over with Senator Sanders' policies, and yet she receives the publicity of a major candidate that Sanders does not. By the beginning of July, she had met Senator Sanders in poll numbers, and the constant tension between the two is if she is able to peel off some of his support for her own. They chose not to criticize each other publically, and the both of them remained relatively even in the 16-18% range, but by early

September, she began to slowly break away from Sanders, solidly taking 2nd place in the polls, presenting the 1st new serious challenge to Biden in months. By the end of September she became the 2nd candidate other than Biden to reach more than

20% in the polls, with the only other one being Senator Sanders at his peak right after his announcement and just before Biden's.

With a platform drastically different than Biden, the two candidates appear to represent distinct wings of the Democratic Party, and so far she has the momentum to meet and challenge him for the top support among Democrats.

Looking Ahead

Notably, both Senator Warren and Andrew Yang are the only candidates to be in a better place in the polls now than in any part of the race so far, and the DNC Convention to select the general election challenger to President Trump is still close to a year away.

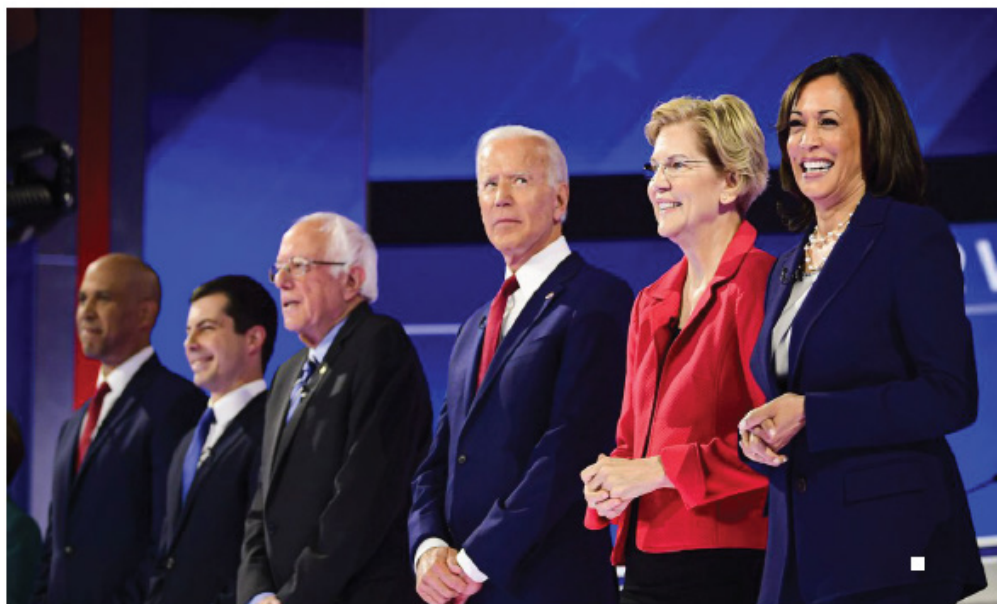
Despite his unique background as a CEO and unique proposal for a form of universal basic income in his 'Freedom Dividend', Andrew Yang, most likely due to a lack of exposure, remains very low in the polls. With more than 10 candidates on a debate stage it can be difficult for any unknown candidate to receive notoriety. Yet, breaking 3% in the polls to place himself in the top 6-7 candidates is a big achievement in a field of known Democratic political stars.

Biden only has to look about 5% down to Senator Warren now. The race could easily close between just these two, or another candidate could emerge like so many others appeared to do. Biden is currently trending downward, while attempting to remain fairly steady, while Warren is on the upswing unlike any candidate so far. The debate between two wings in the Democrat Party seem reflected between Biden and Warren, so it becomes important to see where the support from the rest of the candidates will go.

Executive Director of the Jefferson County Republican Party Louis Sean gave his outside opinion on the Democratic Primary, frankly stating, "[The] Primary shows a very stark image of what the parties are offering." He cites Biden, Senator Warren, and Mayor Buttigeg as the most notable candidates, but wants to remind people that immigration still seems to be the most important issue to the American public. Focusing more locally, the main event in state politics is not the Democratic Primary at all, with all resources on the contentious 2019 Kentucky Gubernatorial race. It seems necessary for Kentuckians to follow both developments to see the direction the state

might take in the coming years.

When identifying trends and news developments, RealClearPolitics.com was the source for all polling data used in this article.



THE MEDIA CIRCUS



In God We Trust

By: Monica Rodriguez

The Kentucky Legislature passed a law this past March of 2019 requiring public schools in Kentucky to display the phrase “In God We Trust” somewhere prominent in the building beginning this 2019-2020 school year. This kind of legislature is not a new idea to the United States, similar laws have been passed in recent years in Louisiana, Arkansas, Tennessee, Florida, Alabama and Arizona. In many of these states the law isn’t only required for public schools, but also for public buildings and cars (such as police cars). Since the initial introduction of the In God We Trust law, it has faced backlash from citizens pointing to the unconstitutionality of it.

Kentucky representative, Brandon Reed, initially proposed this bill to the Kentucky General Assembly. Reed, an Evangelist minister, states that our national motto is “a vital part of our culture”; and that, “We are one nation under God, and that reality should be reflected in public life”.

This legislature is considered to be part of the playbook of “Project Blitz”, a

group of Christian representatives trying to publicize and legally normalize their religious values. A portion of the legislation proposed by this group is similar to the “model bills” created by the Congressional Prayer Caucus Foundation (CPCF). On their website the CPCF addresses the phrase “In God We Trust”, labeling it as the official motto of the United States. According to the CPCF, “‘In God We Trust’ is more than just our country’s motto - it’s our country’s foundation and part of our identity as Americans.” They even state on their website that modern American culture is developing an “opposition against faith”.

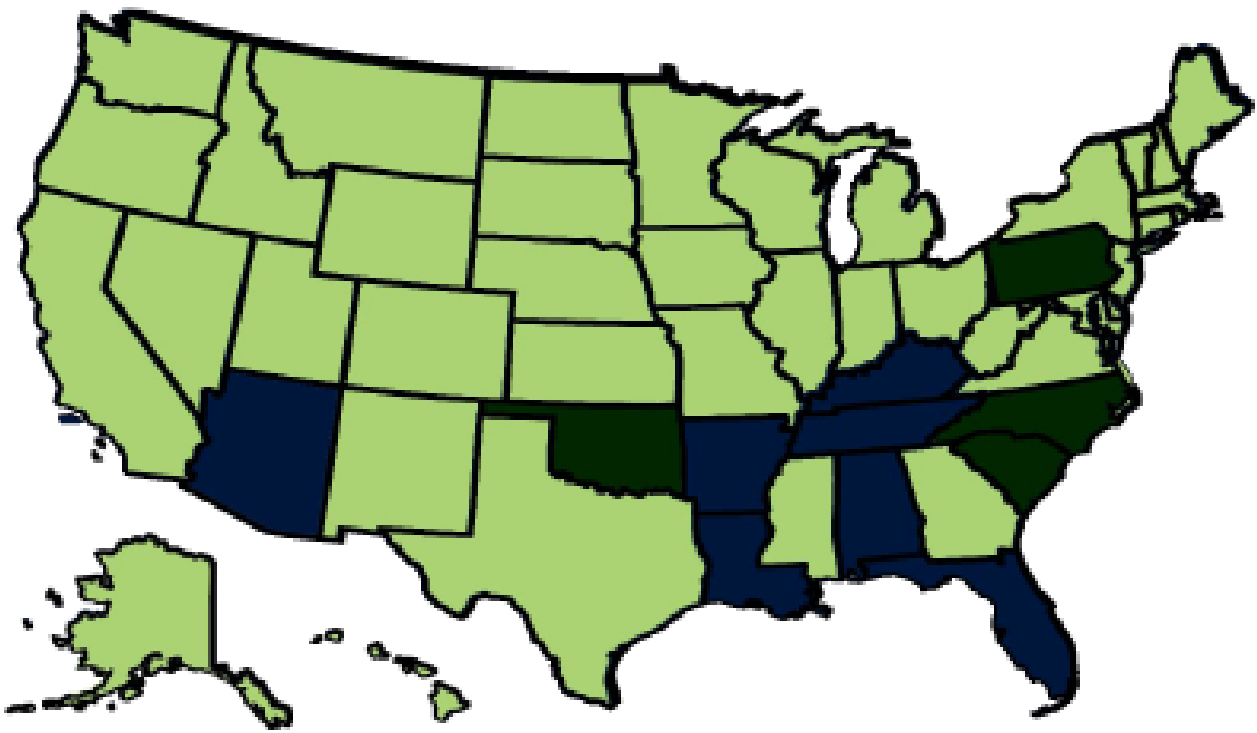


They use the word faith liberally, ignoring the fact that there are various types of faith and religious beliefs across the world. The United States is a country that



praises themselves for the tolerant religious freedom, considering it was one of the first countries in the world to offer such freedom. Critics of this law and other similar forms of legislation point to the unconstitutionality of this law. Which openly praises the religion and ignores the multiple religions that American citizens follow.

The Kentucky legislature was voted on by both the democratic and republican parties, although that doesn’t mean there wasn’t opposition to this bill. Mary Lou Marzian was one of the Kentucky representatives which voted against this law. In an interview she states, “Our U.S. Constitution guarantees freedom of religion, in public places. Public schools are operated with taxes from all citizens who have different religions. Putting ‘In God We Trust’ on the wall of a public school violates the Constitution in my opinion.” Her opinion is



Key:



States who passed the law



States that proposed bill

shared whenever pointing to the laws unconstitutionality. The fact is, taxpayers who fund schools do not all share the same religion, and the children that go to these schools should not have certain religious values praised above others. In an interview with the Atherton Principal, Dr. Aberli, when asked if he believed the law and the enforcement of the phrase violated the constitution, he responded by simply saying no. On the other hand he had no opinion as to whether or not the phrase was a national motto, he questioned the definition for a national motto

which could vary from person to person. Although the argument against this criticism is that the phrase is the nation's national motto. It is featured in the national anthem, on currency, so why shouldn't it be in schools as well? Is the question posed by supporters of the law.

In her interview, Mrs. Marzian brings up the point which questions the nature of why this legislature was even proposed in the first place. She states, "I think it is a fantasy that sticking a motto on a wall will improve behavior, stop bullying,

stop school shootings." What's the real purpose of the enforcement of this law, is it for the normalization of the national motto or is it another call for thoughts and prayers to solve domestic issues in our country? Dr. Aberli stated that he did not believe the phrase would improve behavior in any way. He says, "I don't think anything displayed without context and without involvement of those who were affected by it would have an impact on their behavior." Having the phrase displayed openly isn't going to impact the way students act. Especially considering the way the law was sneaked into schools, it

wasn't discussed and one can only find out if they are in tune with local politics.

The Fayette County Public Schools in Lexington, Kentucky found a loophole to this law. They provided all of their schools with a framed dollar bill to publicly display. Although many schools in Kentucky are tackling the law differently, this was by far one of the most clever ways to comply with the law, while also keeping the school friendly to students of opposing religions. Fayette County has received backlash from Republicans because of the more conservative way in which they chose to comply with the law. Atherton High School was provided with a poster which gives context to the history of the phrase itself in American history, and is being displayed in the front office. Although most

students would not see it in that location unless they were specifically looking out for it. The front office does qualify as a prominent location in the building which follows what the law specifies.

This legislature was snuck into place in Kentucky. It was not highly publicized, only those close to the debate would be involved in the argument for or against the law alike. There was no backlash against it when it was initially introduced as a bill or when it was implemented, although it was suspected that there would be retaliation against the law once the school year began. The introduction of this law, not solely in Kentucky, but in other states, re-ignites the separation of Church and State debate. As a root of this argument, stems the claim that the law is solely implemented because it is the national motto of the U.S; which would play into the state side of the debate. Those who argue the law violates the separation of

Church vs. State, bring up the background of the representative who proposed the law in Kentucky, the evangelist minister. The diction of the phrase itself, was created at a time when the term 'freedom of religion' in America, was mostly implied to be freedom to practice any form of the Christian religion. As America became more of a global power and as human migration became more widespread, the term began to be taken more literally. People with opposing religions came to this country, and people even developed the concept of not even practicing religion. In today's age, the phrase is outdated, and ignores the beliefs of other religions which now reside in America, critics argue. Who's side are you on?

Designed by: Nathaly Torres



Women in Politics



The Line Dividing Congress and Community Through a Woman's Lens

By: **Jillian Muncaster**

Women being held to a seemingly higher standard results in judgment that may go as far as to criticize the actions of female politicians on a 'harsher' level than men because of the evidential distaste of a difference in appearance. Where these voices of disdain are coming from is in consideration of the vast difference between

the community and congress.

Seemingly negative or controversial views and opinions towards Women in political power can often be represented through fellow political members. Beyond the local borders of Kentucky, representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, and representative Ilhan Omar are just two of the women in congress that receive, what

some would say racist, hate from president Donald Trump. These views of him derive heavily from statements similar to "go back and help fix the totally broken and crime-infested places from which they came." from President Trump's twitter.

In an interview with Kentucky house representative Attica Scott, the

difference between the community and politicians became evident in her experience.

“It’s never seen, it threw people.” says Scott while discussing the comments made towards her natural hair, and the uniformity of the Louisville Metro Council. The council questioned her on if she was going to cut her hair once appointed. Remarks towards her appearance however were scarcely from the community. “The community rarely said anything, it wasn’t a factor while running. It was mainly the political members. People in the community show more respect and authenticity.”

Resembling a community in which you represent politically is what gained Attica Scott the support from the public, but that same reason is what causes turned heads from political members. The uniformity of politicians seems to give these members closed minds that play a role in their judgment. “There’s an assumption to look as much alike as possible. It’s a reflection of the lack of diversity, while differences should be welcomed.” says Scott.

Attica Scott spoke on the views on women, “It’s definitely terrible that women are judged more on what they are wearing, how they speak, their hair, and if their choice of makeup or not wearing any at all.” The comments that have been made towards Scott in articles has been a factor, “More often than not it’s used to try and keep me in my place and try to humiliate me. They try to make people think less of me.” says Scott.

Being a woman of color in office subjects Scott to political members calling her angry for simply speaking up. “Women of color are judged different based off

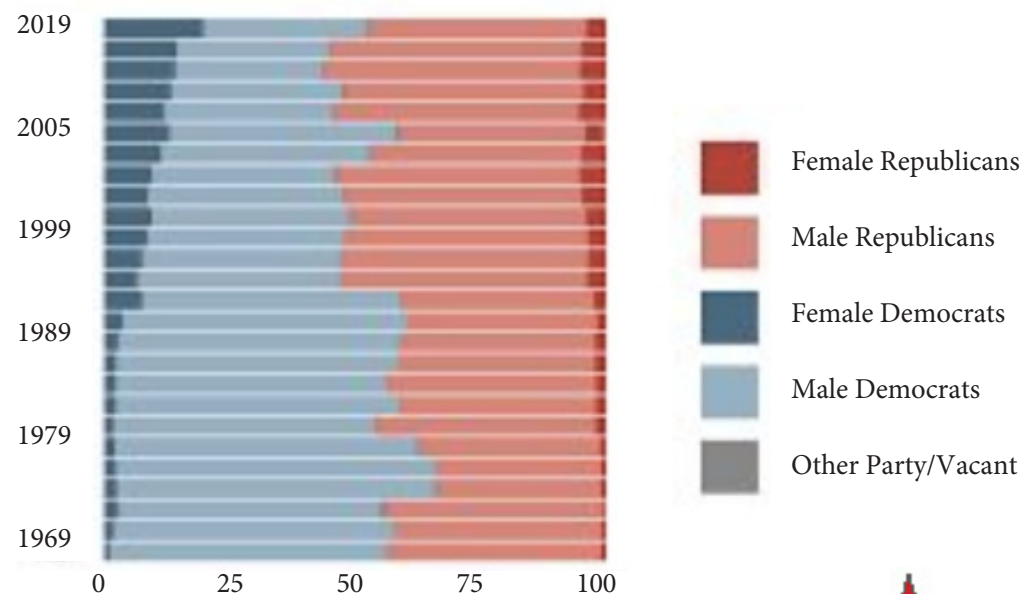
skin, clothing, hair, and even actions. When in reality we work just as hard.” With being subject to these discriminatory actions and remarks, she encourages more young women to visit the capital and be involved, informing them that everything they do will be judged, even speaking too loud, but giving hope despite that. Scott noted that more diversity in congress would “reflect state policy in which you live and reflect the community.”

Nima Kulkarni, another female representative, is the first Indian American to be in house. Attica Scott commented on an event they were both at, and how Kulkarni seemed to be purposefully avoided when it came to the camera. Scott believed this was because of her traditional ethnic clothing that she was wearing. She also commented on how it reflected the lack of diversity in house. This situation is similar to Scott’s, and many other women, especially women of color.

Although it is evident that the community response in Kentucky is significant in comparison to in house to treatment, the majority case for in

and out of the public is an overall harsher judgment. Beyond the barriers of cosmetics and pants suits, a female candidates worth is at large dependent on her compensation in potential. Women, in and out of politics, are starting with an unfair advantage, and therefore have to work harder to prove a level of future potential that is already seen in men. Within the barriers of clothing, a study released by Name It. Change It. revealed how significantly a woman's appearance can change an electoral race. The fake election that was being presented to the people taking this survey included comments resembled a 2012 election. The study concluded that a comment made about a woman's dress or heels, being positive or simply a statement, had negative effects on the voters.

The social climate within the closed doors of congress seemingly reflects a wider implication of uniformity within politics outside of Kentucky. Despite that, women continue to represent themselves outside of the lines, the result being a positive outreach in community through a personal connection.



LOCCAD

KEEP LOUISVILLE BRUTAL

ALGAE INVADERS

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SCHOOL OF NOSTALGIA

LOSING MY RELIGION



KEEP

LOUISVILLE

BRUTAL



LOCAL EXTREME METAL AND HOW TO FIND IT

By Martin Sanders-Whiteley

Louisville's music scene has made great creative impact throughout the years. Post-Rock pioneers Slint are internationally regarded as key figures in alternative music. Alternative Rock band My Morning Jacket has also achieved an international audience. As of 2019, the popularity of Punk outfit GRLwood has spread well beyond the boundaries of Louisville. Atherton High School has produced more than a few Louisville bands, especially within the Punk scene. Anemic Royalty, The Happy Yew and Shark Sandwich were all formed by Atherton students, and have become important fixtures in Louisville's Punk and Alternative scenes.

Ethan Zitelli, also a senior and a Metalhead, observes things in a different light: "There is a lot of influence from Atherton. I don't necessarily think it influences the scene as a whole, but I think at least in the youth scene Atherton is very, very prominent in the sense that we are a center of supposed acceptance, so that attracts a very eclectic group of people. Within that and those ideals, I guess you're gonna get a lot of quote-unquote 'outsiders' who are more likely to relate to the extreme and emotiLouisville also has a large and vital culture of Heavy Metal music, especially in its more brutal forms: Black Metal, Death Metal, Grindcore, and Doom Metal, among others.

But Heavy Metal is largely overlooked by local media, and fans of the music seem to be a minority at Atherton. Brandon Jolly, a senior at Atherton and a Metalhead, says that fans of Extreme Metal at Atherton are "a minority...there's not many of us! There are like, some Metalheads in disguise that I know of that I won't like, out, because it might ruin their reputation." This suggests that Metal fandom is something people try to hide, something to be ashamed of.

The very essence of Atherton itself, it does attract Punk and Metal musicians. I think it does have a pretty wide influence just because we have numbers. There are a lot of Punk and Metal fans who go to Atherton."

Art teacher Jeremy Dixon states that the number of Metal fans at Atherton is "difficult to say. I'm always seeing the students wearing the shirts and such, but as far as bands and band members? That's a bit harder to answer. However, lately I'm hearing about more and more bands with at least a few members from Atherton."

Dixon himself is involved in the local scene: "It all came from my love of 80s and 90s hardcore, punk, and metal. I used to roadie for bands back then and was always going to all-ages shows. I guess I never gave up that habit. I probably see 2-3 shows a week

on my own, many of which are metal, and I also work part time doing security at venues and music events so there's those shows too... and I get paid to see them now..."

When interviewed, both Zitelli and Dixon frequently mentioned Metal and Punk in the same breath. "I really see a super-strong connection. Honestly I think of them as two peas in the same pod. I just brought up Knocked Loose whom most people categorize as hardcore punk, but I see and hear their metal side throughout their music and definitely among their fanbase." says Dixon. Zitelli mentions that "People in the scene play Punk and Metal. That's pretty much accepted. And sometimes it's like, Folk influenced or whatever, but it pretty much centers around stripped-down Punk and Metal. Other than that, it's kind of an eclectic bunch just because Louisville is such a melting pot."

Jolly also recognizes the crossover between the two genres: "If you hear, say, Suicidal Tendencies or like, more Hardcore stuff, Black Flag, stuff like that, and you want something a little bit harder and a little bit faster, that would be the crossover to Metal." However Jolly, has also noticed a very different trend: "You see a lot of kids who go from Punk, or like, Pop to Indie and not so much into Metal."

The relative minority of people discovering the Metal scene could be due to the much smaller amount of exposure Extreme Metal gets compared to other genres. When asked if he thought local media gave Metal bands enough attention, Mr. Dixon responded: "They do but only when a band gets popular outside of the city. They never seem to talk about them when they're coming up. Look at Knocked Loose for example! The news and other media NEVER spoke their name until they were coming back from being on Warped Tour! Meanwhile they were becoming HUGE everywhere else!"

"I mean, 91.9 WFPK, I don't really have any beef with them or anything, obviously," says Zitelli, "but they're kind of a local music station, and they like to focus on underground artists and stuff, which is lovely, but I'm always distressed at the amount of Singer-Songwriter I hear versus anything else. I have rarely, if ever, heard Punk and Metal on the ra-

dio....Now, I do realize it's not necessarily a palatable style of music to everyone, but it is a community that deserves so much more recognition than it gets,"

Parental and venue restrictions can also prevent mi-

SPINELLIS



Spinellis is definitely an option for Metal-loving minors. The restaurant turned music venue plays host to shows featuring bands in genres ranging from Indie, to Punk, to Metalcore, to Death Metal (sometimes all on the same bill,) throughout the year.

SUPPORT ACTS

Checking the support acts for shows by Extreme Metal bands from out of town can be a helpful tool, as local bands will frequently support these bands when they come to Louisville. For example, Buffalo Death Metallers Cannibal Corpse have been supported by Cryptic Hymn, and intergalactic "Scumdog" Metal band GWAR has frequently seen local support from Stonecutters.

LOUISVILLE IS DEAD

A reliable option for young fans is Louisville Is Dead. Louisville Is Dead is an all-ages Punk, Hardcore, Hard Rock, and Metal festival that happens annually, give or take a cancellation, and features a lineup of local bands. These bands range from the very popular (GRLwood, Stonecutters, Cryptic Hymn,) to the relatively unknown.

SHOW LINEUPS AND BUZZING ALBUMS

Even if one is unable to attend shows, checking the lineups for local events can help to support the scene. If someone finds a local band that they like, they can still support the band by buying their music online. Finding bands this way also allows listeners to keep track of the local bands they like, and see if these bands are playing events they can attend in the future.





Michael Deinlein

nors from going to local Metal events. Paul Greenberg, like the other students interviewed for this article, is a senior at Atherton, as well as a Metal fan. Unlike them, he has not been involved in the local Metal scene, but this isn't for lack of trying: "I'm only 17." says Greenberg. "I still need my parents' permission to, you know, buy tickets that are more than 20 dollars or whatever. There's a lot of parental and societal opposition."

On the tendency of Metal bands to be booked at venues with an age limit of 21 and up, Greenberg commented: "That falls under the societal (idea that) 'only adult adults, adults that can drink alcohol, can listen to this kind of music,' when it's like, 'no!'"

i WiSH i WENT TO MORE ALL-AGES SHOWS, BUT SOMETIMES i FEEL LIKE THE OLD GUY IN THE BACK THAT MAKES THE KIDS FEEL A BIT UNCOMFORTABLE.

-mR. dixon

Child Bite at The Highland Taproom in Louisville, KY on 20-Apr-2015

Certainly, local bands frequently play at venues off-limits to minors. "Highland Tap Room has the Metal Mondays and MagBar is always heavy," Mr. Dixon observes, "however

those are almost always 21 and over." But Dixon also suggests alternatives for younger Metalheads: "Headliners is finally starting to get more heavy acts and (these shows are) often all-ages. Then there's Spinellis and house shows..." Dixon himself doesn't go to as many of these events as he does "adult" Metal shows:

"I wish I went to more all-ages shows, but sometimes I feel like the 'old guy in the back' that makes the kids feel a bit uncomfortable."

Addendum

Even if one is unable to attend shows, checking the lineups for local events can help to support the scene. If someone finds a local band that they like, they can still support the band by buying their music online. Finding bands this way also allows listeners to keep track of the local bands they like, and see if these bands are playing events they can attend in the future.

For some, the tipping point into Extreme Metal from more traditional Rock was Thrash Metal. Thrash exhibits many of the hallmarks of classic heavy metal, and can be quite catchy and melodic (Metallica being the most popular example,) but is also faster and more aggressive. Thrash bands like Slayer, Kreator, and Power Trip push the limits enough that they can be considered Extreme Metal.

Ethan Zitelli recalls his beginning on the path to musical brutality: "It was almost like a natural progression. My parents gave me like, The Ramones...I grew up on some of, like, the surface level, like Black Sabbath type stuff..."

Paul Greenberg had a similar musical beginning: "It was a natural progression from classic Rock, I guess...then when I was like, maybe 10 or 11 I started listening to, I guess, harder stuff like Green Day or things like The Clash or Led Zeppelin."

Brandon Jolly also began his Extreme Metal journey with Thrash, recalling that when he was younger he "would always listen to early Metallica... (especially the) Ride The Lightning era of the band." with his father. "(We would also) get a little bit of Slayer in there." Jolly remembers.

But these Thrash bands weren't what got Jolly invested in Extreme Metal. He recalls that he "really got into it deep when I was listening to Slipknot's first album like, every day. So, I would wake up, and get in the shower, and it would be on..."

The primary reason that the Metalheads interviewed were attracted to the music was because of its intense emotional quality. "(Metal is) pure emotion," Zitelli commented, "It's very, similar, almost, to a Jackson Pollock painting... There's not a box you can put it into. It's the music of raw emotion." "The extremeness of it didn't put me off." Greenberg remarked in a similar vein. "I liked it. It was, you know, emotional."

Paul Greenberg also talked about the appeal of musicianship in Metal: "I'm a drummer. Being a musician, the drumming in Metal is faster, it's usually more complex, so that's intriguing as a musician."

But the aspects of Metal that draw some people to it, can also repel others. "The first time I heard heavy metal was when I was a teenager." recalls Ather-ton math teacher Douglas Stutz. "I remember seeing a MTV video (sic) and just thinking it was way to intense (sic) for me. I liked James Taylor a great deal at this time in my life and comparatively, it was very harsh."

When asked what particular aspects of the music repelled him, Stutz cited the vocals: "I don't really understand anything they are saying and there is no story in the music....It just hurts

my ears to listen to it."

The lyrical content was also a turn-off for Stutz: "Granted, I am a christian but that is not the reason why I don't like it. I listen to songs that speak of doing things that are sins.... OH MY!!!. I have always associated heavy metal with counter culture, dark, dangerous stuff. Just my thoughts." Despite his dislike of the music, Stutz keeps an open mind and doesn't think badly of Metalheads. He stated that he doesn't "judge people who like metal music.... My son listens to it some and I think the word of him (sic). It is simply a preference. I don't think there is such a thing as a bad genre, just bad performers. I don't appreciate heavy metal (except for smoke on the water which is, I am sure, pretty mild heavy metal) but that is like saying you like one food over another."

Brandon Jolly believes that "more people should be looking at Metal. All the different kinds of Metal are always fascinating....It's overwhelming at first, so if you don't know what you're looking for, you'll just go in to a guy screaming over a bunch of guitars, and that can be very overwhelming....Just see what you like! You can't judge it off of one taste....maybe do a little Cannibal Corpse...or go see GWAR!"

While Metal has great qualities that might go unnoticed by many, perhaps Metal doesn't need too much attention. "Oh they all think we're freaks and weirdos and I am totally fine with that...." states Dixon. "We don't need them anyway and more of our music for us! See y'all in the pit!!!"

Algae Inva

By Grant Gordon

Dangerous algae blooms that originated in a small stream in Wheeling, West Virginia has traveled over 500 miles through the Ohio river current infecting tributaries, streams, and even water collected by companies. The toxic blooms that infect the Ohio river contain toxin that sickens and even kills pets and humans. The toxic algae blooms may seem like regular green pond muck that accumulates in most average streams but at certain temperatures it turns a dark red, the toxic algae gathers up on commercial and private boats and rub off onto people when they remove their boats from the Ohio. Multiple water supplier companies that collect and use Ohio river water for commercial use are out of luck because the toxic algae gums up water cooled machinery and sometimes even breaks them.

One prominent effect of the algae bloom is the closing of the Waterfront waterpark. The waterpark that hundreds of citizens flock to during hot weather has been shut down due to the algae bloom. The waterfront waterpark uses recycled water from the Ohio river, using filters to keep out physical objects and small particles, the microscopic toxins flow right through into the water. The waterparks weak filters had a horrendous back fire when in back in July 30 children had fallen ill after an E coli outbreak. One contributing factor to the algae's bloom is the perfect environment to spread. The toxic algae thrives in nutrient rich environments rich in phosphorus and nitrogen.

With all of the natural gas trapped under the Ohio and waste dumped into it caused the waters to fill with nitrogen and warmth a perfect environment for catfish, paddlefish, and highly toxic algae blooms. With the multitude of barges coming through the Ohio if action is not taken it can latch onto barges and other commercial boats and travel further down the Ohio and can even jump into other major streams and possibly travel to other major commercial lines and possibly spread to the Ocean. There have been multiple occurrences of blooms in the ocean that have grown in astronomical size and kill sea life and damage fishing and aquatic industries. The Ohio river runs off into places all over the city, including beargrass creek, a popular swimming and fishing spot enjoyed by most may soon be overwhelmed by toxic algae.

Kentucky, Fish & Wildlife they unfortunately did not respond to the string of emails I asked their staff. Fish & Wildlife may not be able to completely get rid of Blue-Green algae we are able to contain its spread and its damage. Possible things that can be done to prevent the spread of Blue-Green algae is to wash your boat vigorously with a bleach solution, using a bleach solution helps ultimately destroy any form of blue-green algae on your boat. If you happen to come into contact with the Algae it is urged to leaved the water and wash yourself off immediately, pets can fall ill to the effects faster so it is urged to wash your pets with even faster a response. Symptoms of Blue-Green algae poison are : Nausea, Dizziness, Dehydration, and Varying organ pain. While these toxins cannot kill humans it most certainly can kill pets. Sins that algae is present in the water you are in is a green slime on the shore, it is most likely washed up algae. Dead fish and other aquatic life is also a huge red flag of Blue-Green algae. Hopefully this article will help you and others stay safe and have fun while venturing near the Ohio river.

The introduction of dangerous algae can stamper dozens of famous waterfront events. The waterfront and the Ohio river host droves of recreational activities that people participate in every day as a part of their common routine. For instance the pest fish, Asian Carp, take over bodies of water and destroy ecosystems, the carp have reached the Ohio and have taken over brook run-offs and some of the more gentle parts of the river. The slow and gentle parts of the river house a very special fish, the paddlefish, an endangered fish species that has a shark like body with a paddle nose, these fish help clean up carbon filled plants at the bottom that provides habitats for blue-green algae, but with the algae overcoming the river, the fish are dying because the carp have bodies of iron and can survive in the algae but the paddlefish cannot, hence the catfish eating the food for the paddlefish killing off even more of them.

Besides the life in the water, there is also a danger to life on land. The waterfront is obviously a very beautiful place to hold events, vantage points to view the river, lots of parking, and hundreds of yards of open grass to sit makes the waterfront the ideal place to host events, such as the 2018 Air show and even Louder Than Life. All of these

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Invading the Ohio, Abusive Industries to Blame ?

events are , most of the time, pet and child friendly. With all of these children and pets running around they will most likely run down to the water because, as we all know, water is really cool and should be observed by all. Pets will most likely go down to the water to drink from the river and they will end up consuming physical clumps of algae and as stated before when animals consume the algae they fall deathly ill and sometimes even pass away. Children will most likely just fall ill and recover within a week.

Now all these horrid things being told to you about blue-green algae, “Is it really bad as it is, will me and my family keel over and die because of some water plants”, short answer to the question is “No”. You will most likely not die from the algae. Kentucky Fish and Wildlife are working hard to research and clean up the algae, hoping to find a way to contain the algae so it cannot spread anymore. Local public laboratories have rumored to be taking samples of the algae to build a possibly vaccine or “cure” for the Blue-Green algae symptoms. Blue-Green algae feeds off of carbon and in-water bacteria.

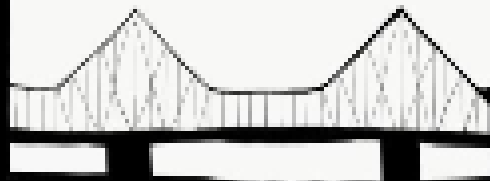
Another contributing factor to the blue-green algae blooms are the abundance of carbon in the Ohio river. As people may, or may not, know lots of crazy things have sunk into the Ohio from barges, to cars, to airplanes, if it exists in Kentucky it has probably seen the bottom of the Ohio. The most common cargo transported onto the Ohio is coal, besides tobacco and bourbon, coal is Kentucky's best export. Since 1790 ten billion tons of coal has been mined and exported out of Kentucky. For some odd reason barges have had a weird thing of sinking near Louisville and all that coal sinks to the bottom. Coal is extremely high in carbon and when it falls to the bottom it chips away into water and dissolves increasing the carbon levels by ten fold. The increased carbon level have stayed for the past twenty years and has led to another incident like this back in 2013. In 2013 there was another huge algae bloom occurred in the Ohio and cancelled multiple swimming events. The abuse to the Ohio from industrial causes and natural human error have created a breeding ground for poisonous algae and awful water conditions.

Helping clean up the river is very important to the health of the city, confronting industrial companies that pollute the river, trying to introduce safer waterways and policies for barges, increasing recycling efforts across the riverfront are all fantastic ways to support the city and ecosystem.

The concept of a toxic invader, like blue green algae, can be intimidating but it is a product of mother nature that will come and go naturally. These kinds of natural events cannot be stopped or altered so the only thing we can do is just leave it alone. The Ohio River is the coronary arteries of Kentucky, it provides fast and easy transport of the Kentucky life-blood all across the country. Lets take care of our arteries, lets take care of the Ohio.

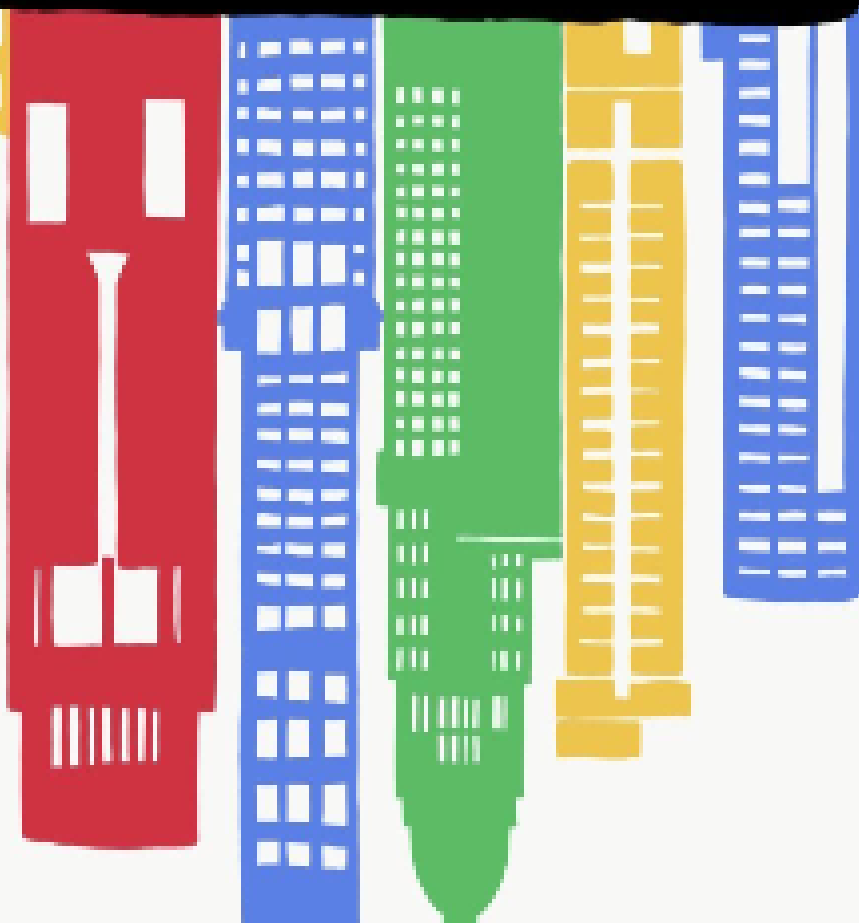
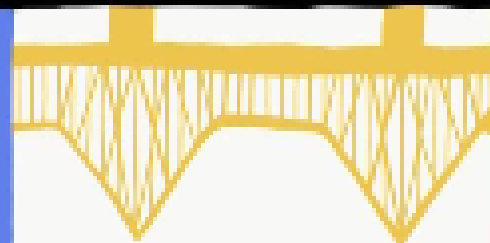


Fiber-Optic Fiasco:



A Story of Corporate Responsibility

By: Joseph Cortas



Designed By : Nathaly Torres

Google Fiber Inc. sought out Louisville with the goal of innovating a city they claimed was “on the rise”. For 487 days this distant developmental dream became a tangible reality. The city was able to reach new heights with the help of corporate connections, capital and cables. As quickly as it had come however, the privatized preference ended suddenly as Louisville became “just not the right business decision”. With these words, the fibrous future of our city was cut down, but it was a cut that was far from clean.

Louisville’s push for a fiber-optic future started as an idea. The idea however, was revealed only after a series of initial inquiries searching for possible areas of innovation within Louisville. “In our interest in looking at what competitive, attractive, economically robust mid-sized cities had going for them...” Ted Smith, the chief of civic innovation in the mayor’s office from 2011-2016 and key fiber-optic figure explains “...this idea of ultra high-speed, affordable broadband fiber-optics was becoming talked about as one of the next amenities that a competitive mid-sized city needs to have an answer for.” It is important to note however that this idea was not unique to Smith or Mayor Fisher’s administration. In fact, Smith explains that “Google Fiber had announced to the world that they were looking for applications for wiring up 10 cities... virtually every city in America of any size applied”. These initial ten cities represented the very beginning of Google Fiber throughout the nation, an impressive honor which Louisville, although having applied, was denied.

Fiber-optic feasibility did not end with this initial failure of sorts however. Instead, Louisville used Google Fiber’s decision as an opportunity to promote and develop their fiber-optic capability independent of corporate investment. Smith explains this developmental process saying “It was a team sport for the next year and a half, working hard to get Google’s attention...we embarked on a pretty aggressive six month pathway to become a ‘fiber-friendly’ city.” Throughout the six month developmental pathway there were notable changes to telecommunications ordinances, public works coordination, development of GIS asset inventories, and an in depth review of Louisville’s fiber-optic needs. Although extensive and challenging, the rigorous changes outlined by the pathway transformed Louisville into a city with the tools and infrastructure to bring “competition to the market”. For Smith, the prized competitor was Google Fiber. With their fiber-optics, community investment, and balance sheet they provided the most conceivable solution to Louisville’s developmental desires.

Emphasis concerning fiber-optic marketability reached a climax when it was announced in 2015 that “Over the next several months, Google will examine the feasibility of running fiber along public rights of way -- along telephone poles and underground -- throughout Jefferson County, by Ted Smith, Metro government’s chief of civic innovation. Following a period of intense apprehension, the city and its residents finally received word on April 26, 2017 as Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer announced that “Louisville is officially joining a

who’s who of cities that are focused on building strong economies for today and for the future.” The “who’s who” are Fiber Cities and this time, Louisville had not been passed up. Fischer continued the announcement saying “I’m eager to see the positive transformation this brings for our city’s businesses and families for years to come.” Noted “for its potential to boost families and create jobs” Google Fiber’s investment represented a milestone for Louisville and Kentucky.

As Google Fiber entered Louisville it was marketed directly to residents; it would be the individuals and families of Louisville who would have direct access to this revolutionary network. Ted Smith explains this decision saying “..the changing nature of work, the changing nature of expectations of what a city has to offer...there is more gig work and remote work going on now than in any point in American history.” The fiber-optic network was therefore able to bridge the commercial and residential broadband internet chasmin as it sought to provide even greater economic equality and activity among all sectors of the economy from individual to corporation.

Google Fiber was also able to provide services which sought to work with the marginalized of Louisville though local





Fiber Restoration Project Corner of Dundee and Fleming Rd.

charitable giving and corporate support. A Google spokesperson explained their charitable motivations saying "With the right tools and resources, we believe that the next generation of developers, coders and entrepreneurs will come from right here in the Portland neighborhood". Louisvillians were exposed to a level of corporate involvement, equality, and interconnectedness the likes of which were previously unseen.

Perhaps most import of all was the means by which Google planned on building the fiber-optic infrastructure throughout the community. It was made very clear that Louisville was an experimental area where Google took certain liberties as it trialed new elements. One such element was their newly developed "shallow trenching". Web company TechRepublic published a piece on this experimental method which Google Fiber linked to their page explaining that "Instead of mounting cables on utility poles or digging deep into the ground, shallow trenching allows a company to cut a small groove in the street or sidewalk, lay the fiber in that groove, and backfill it with a special epoxy" In doing so, Google Fiber was able

to drastically reduce the installation time and started signing homeowners up 5 months after Google announced its intention to coming to Louisville. Although initially praised for their ingenuity, very quickly there became more concerns than compliments as the fiber-optic network became a fiber-optic fiasco.

A little less than a year following Google Fibers initial announcement and plan, Google Fiber was tested, as consumer reports and customer reviews transitioned and were no longer so supportive. Local news agencies quickly picked up on the local discontent with the tech giant and published these complaints in articles writing "Google Fiber may have promised super-high-speed internet in Louisville, but expectations of the company have fallen short for some. Residents in the Belknap neighborhood are calling the installation work on some streets sloppy." As Google Fiber crews began installing the cable throughout neighborhoods within Louisville, the inexperience and lack of familiarity with new installation techniques had many residents wondering about the safety and longevity of the network as epoxy, asphalt and cable came poking out of the ground. Discussions with local communities revealed a population apprehensive about signing up with a program who longevity was already a point of debate so early in the installation game.

Google Fiber was quick to address the issue and concerns of residents saying "Google Fiber is aware of the situation and we're working closely with the City of Louisville to resolve it as quickly as possible."

What followed however was a fairly subdued series of adjustments, and continued experimentation as Google Fiber continued to roll-out the network. In fact, Google Fiber remained relatively out of the public eye until February 7, 2019 where, on their blog, Google Fiber published a report stating simply and clearly "Today, we're saying goodbye to one of our Fiber cities... after a lot of analysis, we've made the tough decision to leave Louisville, Kentucky." The decision, largely unexpected by almost all residents, marked the official end to the partnership between with Google Fiber and the City of Louisville. Although certainly a loss, when asked about additional fiber-optic possibilities to replace the hole which Google Fiber had left Ted Smith explained that "Google leaving the market...is coming at a time when it's not like we're really going to go back and say 'I wonder if other providers will bring high speed broadband to my door.'" The reality of the modern era in which we live is that mobility and interconnectedness are now critical components to a successful technological system. Gone are the days



Fiber Restoration Project Corner of Dundee and Fleming Rd.

where a single residential connection will provide the mobility required for employees and designers. Rather, we must look to the future and take cues from media giants as they seek to provide internet access no matter where you go.

Yet, in addition to a technological hole, Google Fiber also left a system of trenches and cable which was very quickly deteriorating. The trenches cut into the shoulder of the road spiderwebbed into massive cracks and potholes leaving Louisville streets in a state of incredible disrepair. However, as part of Google Fibers exit, a contract was negotiated between Google and the City of Louisville where close to four million dollars would be given to the city to remove and repair the deteriorating streets, returning them to how they looked just a few years ago. The restoration process continues throughout Louisville as every trace of a fiber-optic network is removed from Louisville.

The nature of the events which have occurred in Louisville beg questions of progress, accountability and corporate responsibility. Louisville now and Louisville three years ago would appear technologically similar; neither have a fiber-optic network and both are controlled by the same internet giants. In the midst of this somewhat bleak reality however, there lies a call to the youth of our city. A call best articulated by Ted Smith:

“Louisville really will benefit from listening to younger people. If you look at the kinds of changes we’re going through as a country and society the sort of gaps in familiarity with the way people socialize, the way people entertain themselves, the way people learn...I think it’s actually getting harder. I think the individuals of your generation aren’t waiting to become my generation, you’re going to become your own generation and you’re going to be dealing with a very different country and world than my generation or the generation before me. You and your fellow students taking serious interest in these things and challenging the logic and wondering why other things aren’t being addressed is a critically important thing. Now is really a great time to get involved.”



A SCHOOL OF NOSTALGIA

Vintage style and items have made a resurgence in popularity in the past 3 years, and it's been getting more popular yearly. The resurgence of vintage style has also appeared in the lives of many Atherton students, especially when you see someone wearing a shirt that has a faded picture of an old album cover on it, or someone wearing a Nike windbreaker. One main component of this love for vintage clothing and style is mainly because of the amount of nostalgia many kids from the 90's and early 2000's feel for these things, since most of the culture of the 90's carried into the early 2000's. Specifically, childhood memories influence most of these nostalgic feelings in the current generations of the early 2000's known mainly as GenZ, who have large differences between generations, but share a few of the same nostalgic feelings about things such as old Nickelodeon cartoons like Spongebob, and things that may spike memories of simpler times of the childhoods of many stressed generations of the present.

Differences in Generations

One of the main differences in social-cultural values of American teens now is the difference between the children that we call "GenZ," and the teenagers born from 2000-2003. Those two groups are comprised of the same people, but the teenagers born from 2000-2003 don't feel the same nostalgic feelings that generations from 2004-2006, or later. Specifically, Fortnite is a popular video game amongst many younger generations than the ones that are at Atherton currently (generally), but many people from the 2000-2003 generation don't care for this video game, since so many younger generations play it, and are interested in new things. As for the 2000-2003 generation, they would probably feel nostalgic playing something like Mario Kart (which has made a resurgence since the release of the mobile app). These generations are very

Why Vintage Clothes?

If you go to any Goodwill, you will probably find many shirts that are old and unwanted, since they are tattered or say something like "Nascar Grand Prix 1996." Many older generations would get rid of these items since they are unwanted, but one man's trash is another man's treasure, especially in the case of many vintage style supporters, that would buy this shirt in a heartbeat. The main appeal to this old style of clothing from the 70's to the late 90's, is mainly because of the "party" aspect of it, such as a brightly-colored shirt, something that makes them feel nostalgic. Many people that buy "vintage" clothing from the 70's through the 90's also see some appeal in having older things that aren't seen as "fabricated" and that many older things have some sort of feel to them. There is a certain type of feeling that comes with wearing vintage things like old t-shirts, but why not old clothes from the 50's or before?

Written by Daniel Rademaker
Designed by Harlan Dawkins



The Party Appeal

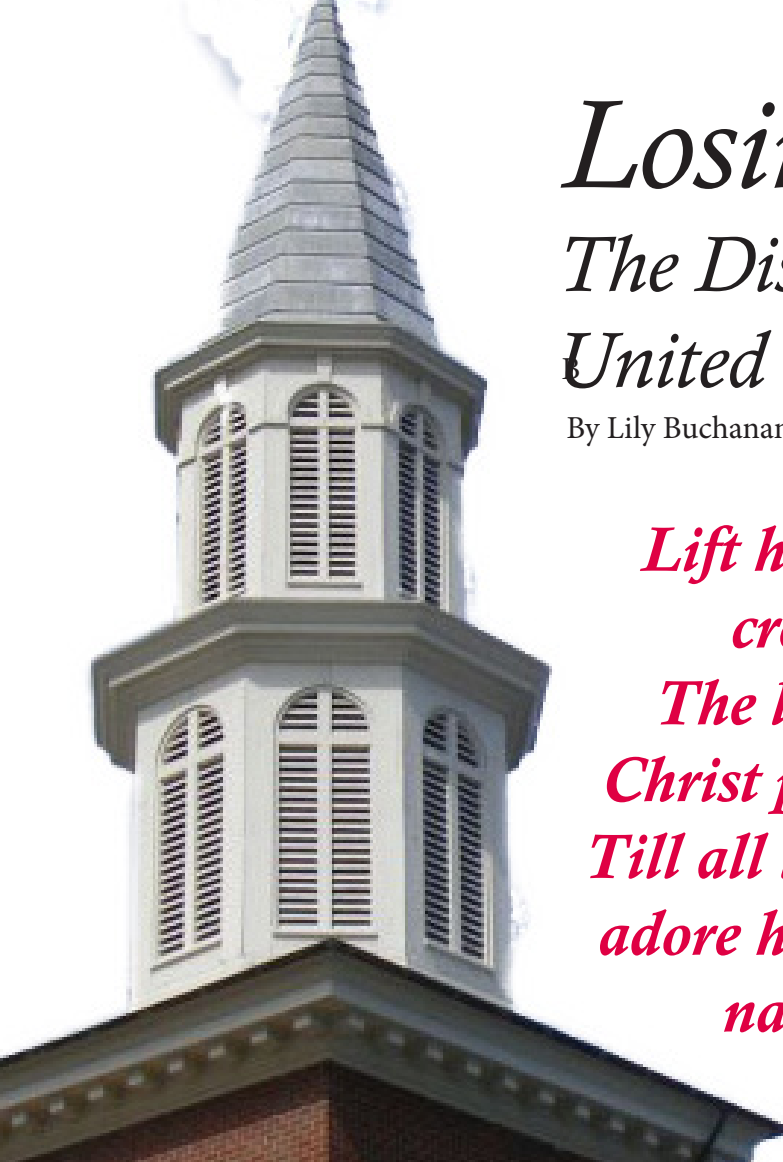
Think back to 1999, just before a new millenium, where the thought of going into the year 2000 was almost unfathomable. The new year would provide an entirely new party life, especially looking at songs from artists like Prince who said “party like it’s 1999.” The appeal of the partying of the great age of music, culture, and overall human advancement into the future, carries on through vintage items sold now. The rapid advancement of things such as video games, which started with Pong, a game that was so simple, but advanced for the time due to computers being very new, the first modern computer being created in 1938, but the first video games to ever be integrated into a device used for data processing. The appeal of the 2000’s loving vintage items like old Atari games and Rock n’ Roll t-shirts, mainly comes from the love or need for exciting things that came from the generations of partying and culture in the U.S.



Real Vintage, or Thrift Trickery?

Many vintage clothing stores make themselves as thrift stores, but there still remain real thrift stores that sell items that are very old, up until the early 2000’s, and even some new things. For example, Goodwill is a common thrift store where many people donate old items to which are then resold at a low price. This is a true vintage store, since it mainly gets old items from others and doesn’t cater its items specifically to the tastes of its customers. One example, is some vintage stores will buy items from people, and then resell them at twice, or even three times that value. This seems like a good idea, but it can often lead to the overexaggration of prices for “vintage” items, that could be bought for cheaper at many other places. This is mainly up to what the consumers of vintage items want, but generally there are true vintage items such as old Coca-Cola t-shirts etc. rather than specific items that give off the sense of the “party appeal” of older clothes from the 70’s to the 80’s.





Losing My Religion: The Disaffiliation of the United Methodist Church

By Lily Buchanan

*Lift high the
cross,
The love of
Christ proclaim
Till all the world
adore his sacred
name.*

that they needed to go their separate ways for the sake of the mission.” Local churches around the country are now asking the question: is breaking away from the United Methodist label the best thing to do for the sake of their mission?

DISAFFILIATION

Along with the passing of the Traditional Plan, the delegates to St. Louis also implemented a ‘safety net’ procedure, to catch churches that wouldn’t want to abide by the Plan. The procedure is Decision 1379, more commonly known as the Disaffiliation Plan. It currently states that local churches shall have limited rights to disaffiliate for “reasons of conscience...related to the practice of homosexuality or the ordination or marriage of self-avowed practicing homosexuals,” (according to a General Conference release). This is a real option for proponents of the One Church Plan, the Plan that opposed the Traditional. It involved leaving the decision of allowing LGBTQ+ clergy up to each individual church, through a vote. Though not United Methodist, many members of Highland Baptist Church here in Louisville have been open about not fitting the traditional Baptist label. Member Ava Paprocki, a junior at Atherton, says, “It [Highland Baptist] is a very accepting

These words echoed around The Dome in St. Louis, first in English, then Portuguese and Korean. Over 500 delegates to the event sat at round tables, facing an altar that held candles and a small stained glass panel, depicting the sacrament of communion. The job of these representatives would decide the future of their international church, and a united decision was unlikely.

WHAT’S AT STAKE

The United Methodist Church made a radical decision last February, one radical in its seemingly unradicalness. The Church voted to uphold its previous stance on human sexuality, a decision that many see as behind the times. Breaking it down, this vote

means that LGBTQ+ identifying people cannot be ordained. Methodist churches also may not host same-sex marriages, and Methodist clergy can’t officiate at them.

This has been deemed the ‘Traditional Plan, which passed with a slim margin (53% for, 43% against). Since the passing of this plan, many anticipate what could even become a denominational divide in the Church, what is being called a ‘Paul and Barnabus’ moment by Reverend Rob Kaylor. In an interview with UM News, Rev. Kaylor commented, “They [Paul and Barnabus] had a sharp disagreement, and the disagreement was sharp enough

community, and very progressive in terms of churches. I was not expecting myself to be a church person, but here I am.” Members of HBC have considered splitting with the Baptist denomination previously. The big state for UMC disaffiliation currently is Mississippi, with a number of seven churches wishing to depart.

LOCALLY

In Louisville, St. Paul United Methodist Church has an average youth group size of 40 regularly attending people, from ages 12-18. Quite a few of that number are students at Atherton, and are vocal about the reinforcements of the Methodist policies. Junior Zoe Cowherd says, “It’s really upsetting to know that the church is taking steps backward, especially in this day and age.” When asked about St. Paul’s changes since the Conference, another member (who wishes to remain anonymous) said, “I

definitely don’t think it affected the church [St. Paul] specifically. I think we’ve always been very open minded and accepting of everyone regardless of what other denominations or other Methodist churches think.” However, when asked about the denomination in general, the member said, “It did kind of change the way I saw the Methodist Church as a whole. The fact that we don’t judge based on things like that [sexuality of members/clergy] has always made me more proud to be a Methodist and it’s upsetting to see us taking a step in this direction. I never wanted to be a part of something that would agree with this decision.”

The consensus seems to agree with this viewpoint, at least among the majority of St. Paul’s Methodist youth. Most youth are unhappy with the Methodist denomination as an international organization, but pleased with St. Paul’s handling of the issue. Other members of the

church endorse the Traditional Plan, so there may not be a prevailing opinion church-wide (reminiscent of the slim margin through which the Plan passed initially).

WHAT NOW?

As more and more United Methodist Churches hold their regional annual conferences, this topic will continuously be up for debate. Many sources predict a schism between left and right wing Methodists, and Bishop Thomas Bickerton commented that “we [United Methodists] are in an untenable situation,” to the New York UMC Conference. He continued to say, “We must work intentionally, for a way in which we bless one another as we head in different directions.” While there is no definite crystal ball from which the future can be determined, progressives and conservatives continue to butt heads over this issue months after the Conference. Forecast? More storms before a rainbow.

The fact that we don’t judge based on things like that [sexuality of members / clergy] has always made me more proud to be a Methodist and it’s upsetting to see us taking a step in this direction.



Bellarmino: A Knights' Rise

Written by Cameron Wright & Designed by Imari Maddox

It's always the divisor that separates the strong from the strongest in college athletics. The good from the great. The big brothers from the little ones. The difference between Division 1 and Division 2. Throughout the country, it has become clear that Division 1 athletics set the standard in all of collegiate sports, and while this may be true, Bellarmine University has had a stellar basketball team for as long as I can remember. From turning on the TV and seeing Bellarmine tied with UofL or beating them, to seeing the support they receive in the community, Bellarmine has proven to be one of the greatest Divisions 2 programs in the nation... until now.

On June 18th, 2019, news broke that the private university in the heart of Louisville would soon take another step in what has been an exceptional growth of an athletics program. Led by athletic director Scott Wiegandt, the Knights athletic program has made its way to the top of the food chain: Division 1 NCAA athletics. Many great players and coaches have done many great things for the University, creating amazing memories and great atmospheres at the Division 2 level, and they plan to carry these remedies to the Division 1 level with them. The Knights will play just one more season before joining the Atlantic Sun Conference with the likes of Florida Gulf Coast, Lipscomb, and Liberty. Every Knights athletic team will make the transition except the Lacrosse team, which was already D1, being the lone D1 Knights team at one point in time.

While the Knights have always had this prestigious image in D2 athletics, it was not easy to locate the necessary funds, space, and time for the D1 transition. As Wiegandt explains, the change was a huge process. "The potential move to D1 has been studied a few times in the past," he explains. "This particular time was part of the University strategic planning. It was studied approximately 2 years by a vast group of constituents." Bellarmine has long centered a community full of sports fanatics, as the city of Louisville in itself is known for its faithful collegiate athletic fanatics. The process was one many Knights fans in the city long awaited.





Needless to say, the community's reaction to the promotion has been incredibly exciting, along with everyone else involved in the growth and development of the Knights' athletic department. "We have had an unbelievable response from our campus community as well as the city of Louisville," Wiegandt explains, fresh off the University announcing the big decision. While excited for the transition, the Knights' don't plan to change their identity or their values. As Wiegandt puts it, "We will continue to have academic excellence. We will make this transition to D1 with Bellarmine profiled athletes." While many usual sports fans would find it odd that Bellarmine seems they may be sticking with what's considered D2 talent, the talent Bellarmine has accumulated over the years, especially in basketball, has clearly been miles ahead of the competition. The Knights have won five GLVC men's basketball titles and four NCAA Midwest Regional titles, and on March 26, 2011, the Knights won their first NCAA D2 Nat-

ional Championship. Since the championship, the Knights' basketball team has not looked back, being ranked amongst the top of D2 programs nearly every single year. Throughout the years, said teams have put up good fights against top-notch programs, such as the University of Louisville. Wiegandt is extremely optimistic about the programs direction, and performances like these give him great reason to be. "I am unsure that we are that different from other DI athletics programs as a whole," Wiegandt states. "We share the same goals, recruit and retain excellent students, graduate, be productive members of our community, and compete to the best of our abilities. We may not be as big as some others, but the expectations are the same." I think I speak for everyone in Knights Nation when I say said expectations all filter down to one word: Win.

So it's time to accept the Knights as what they are. It's time to stop associating Bellarmine athletics with the competition they have obviously been a step ahead of for a long period of time and associate them with their new colleagues. They are a UofL. They are a University of Kentucky. They are a WKU. They are the Bellarmine Knights, and it's going to be a fun ride watching this empire being built in the Highlands of Louisville, Kentucky.





Marissa Smith



Tinia Clardy



Sun Sihan



Vince Kokas



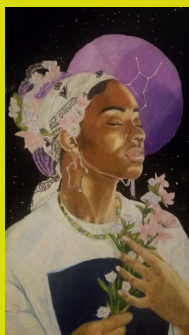
Kiana Stallard



Emilia Barnett

REBEL ART

VDM



Claudia Kiefer



Joanna Locke



Hailey Campbell



Alivia Jett



Kelly Parker



Hana Hatunic



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