THE BLIND DATE

Jacey Jarnagin’s Perspective:

The wise Beyoncé once said for all the single ladies to put their hands up. So, when the MC Collegian announced that they were going to sponsor a blind date story, I knew that I just had to enter. Imagine my surprise when I found out that I was the lucky single lady who was chosen for the experience!

Being a commuter made my evening even more mysterious. I drove through the misty night, parked in the desolate commuter lot, and made my way up to the empty Quad. I noticed a shadowy figure moving to our meeting spot while I was walking up. As I approached him, he looked up and asked if I was here for the “thing.” A few moments later, we exchanged names and made our way to the adventure ahead.

When deciding upon a restaurant, I found out that Joven Tristeza already had his heart set on Japanese food for the evening. Since I, too, enjoy sushi and hibachi, we drove the short distance to Bonsai in Clinton.

While we waited for a table, Joven took out his phone and I immediately noticed his background. It was the wallpaper for the anime “Your Name.” When I mentioned that I loved the movie, his eyes lit up. This opened the doorway for an evening conversation filled with anime, movies, video games, and memes.

Overall, the idea of a blind date is a great way to meet new people for a laid-back experience. I suggest future participants to go into the experience with a positive mindset for a fun time.

Joven Tristeza’s Perspective:

There are some things in this universe that are never meant to win, such as the Cleveland Browns in the 2017-2018 NFL season, the Warriors after getting a 3-1 lead in the NBA finals, and me with random drawings. You can probably imagine my surprise when I did win, and then the immediate shock of dread. I actually had to go on a blind date. That’s the equivalent of going to watch a movie without at least looking at the ratings or reading a quick summary of it from Wikipedia. I quickly got over that fun, though, when I remembered that time I watched 8 Mile thinking it was going to be a racing movie, and it turned out to be a pretty good film about a guy who became a successful rapper through his mom’s spaghetti.

Anyway, I showed up on time and this girl greeted me. I was shocked. Have you ever shown up for a new class and then saw one of your friends sitting there, in the same class? Well, my experience was nothing like that, because the girl standing before me was no one I recognized. It turned out her name was Jacey Jarnagin. I had been craving sushi for the past week and a half so I asked if we could eat at Bonsai. While talking in my car, we talked some more. I found out she was a junior and a marketing major. Since the only thing I know about business is from The Wolf of Wall Street and Mr. Krabs from Spongebob, I felt intimidated. I tried to impress her by saying things like “buy low and sell high,” “stock market,” and “banks” every few words. I’m not sure if she was impressed (I will have to read her article to really know), but I’d like to think she was.

The actual date was a solid affair. I was scared that we would have nothing to talk about and actually had a list of small-talk topics on my phone, but my preparedness was for naught. It turned out we liked some of the same movies and television shows so we talked about that a lot, which was really good. The food was great, and the drive back was better. Not only did she like good shows like me, but she also had a good taste in early 2000s alternative rock music. Yeah, I was embarrassed, but then I realized that if I didn’t have anything to say, you’re the one that should be embarrassed. If I had to give the blind date a rating, it’d be an 11/10. I added an extra point because she didn’t laugh when I Call Me Maybe blared through my speakers.

Throughout our date, I found out that Joven is Filipino, has an older brother, and was accepted into medical school. At one point in the night, Joven listed my limits of offering me a small piece of his octopus tentacle. My eyes were drawn to the tiny suction cups and I was very happy to give it a try. To keep the adventure going, I shut my eyes and bit down on the octopus limb. The taste wasn’t terrible, and the texture was better than I thought it would be. Because of Joven, I can officially say that I’ve eaten octopus now.

When we finished our meal, we headed back to campus. However, as soon as we were driving away, I exclaimed that we’d forgotten to take a photo! Joven suggested for us to pull over at a gas station for the picture. Because I didn’t want “The Mississippi Collegian” to sponsor a blind date story, I knew that I just had to enter. Imagine my surprise when I found out that I was the lucky single lady who was chosen for the experience!

The actual date was a solid affair. I was scared that we would have nothing to talk about and actually had a list of small-talk topics on my phone, but my preparedness was for naught. It turned out we liked some of the same movies and television shows so we talked about that a lot, which was really good. The food was great, and the drive back was better. Not only did she like good shows like me, but she also had a good taste in early 2000s alternative rock music.

Joven Tristeza's Perspective:

Throughout our date, I found out that Joven is Filipino, has an older brother, and was accepted into medical school. At one point in the night, Joven listed my limits of offering me a small piece of his octopus tentacle. My eyes were drawn to the tiny suction cups and I was very happy to give it a try. To keep the adventure going, I shut my eyes and bit down on the octopus limb. The taste wasn’t terrible, and the texture was better than I thought it would be. Because of Joven, I can officially say that I’ve eaten octopus now.

When we finished our meal, we headed back to campus. However, as soon as we were driving away, I exclaimed that we’d forgotten to take a photo! Joven suggested for us to pull over at a gas station for the picture. Because I didn’t want “The Mississippi Collegian” to sponsor a blind date story, I knew that I just had to enter. Imagine my surprise when I found out that I was the lucky single lady who was chosen for the experience!

The actual date was a solid affair. I was scared that we would have nothing to talk about and actually had a list of small-talk topics on my phone, but my preparedness was for naught. It turned out we liked some of the same movies and television shows so we talked about that a lot, which was really good. The food was great, and the drive back was better. Not only did she like good shows like me, but she also had a good taste in early 2000s alternative rock music.

The wise Beyoncé once said for all the single ladies to put their hands up. So, when the MC Collegian announced that they were going to sponsor a blind date story, I knew that I just had to enter. Imagine my surprise when I found out that I was the lucky single lady who was chosen for the experience!

Being a commuter made my evening even more mysterious. I drove through the misty night, parked in the desolate commuter lot, and made my way up to the empty Quad. I noticed a shadowy figure moving to our meeting spot while I was walking up. As I approached him, he looked up and asked if I was here for the “thing.” A few moments later, we exchanged names and made our way to the adventure ahead.

When deciding upon a restaurant, I found out that Joven Tristeza already had his heart set on Japanese food for the evening. Since I, too, enjoy sushi and hibachi, we drove the short distance to Bonsai in Clinton.

While we waited for a table, Joven took out his phone and I immediately noticed his background. It was the wallpaper for the anime “Your Name.” When I mentioned that I loved the movie, his eyes lit up. This opened the doorway for an evening conversation filled with anime, movies, video games, and memes.

Overall, the idea of a blind date is a great way to meet new people for a laid-back experience. I suggest future participants to go into the experience with a positive mindset for a fun time.

Joven Tristeza’s Perspective:

There are some things in this universe that are never meant to win, such as the Cleveland Browns in the 2017-2018 NFL season, the Warriors after getting a 3-1 lead in the NBA finals, and me with random drawings. You can probably imagine my surprise when I did win, and then the immediate shock of dread. I actually had to go on a blind date. That’s the equivalent of going to watch a movie without at least looking at the ratings or reading a quick summary of it from Wikipedia. I quickly got over that fun, though, when I remembered that time I watched 8 Mile thinking it was going to be a racing movie, and it turned out to be a pretty good film about a guy who became a successful rapper through his mom’s spaghetti.

Anyway, I showed up on time and this girl greeted me. I was shocked. Have you ever shown up for a new class and then saw one of your friends sitting there, in the same class? Well, my experience was nothing like that, because the girl standing before me was no one I recognized. It turned out her name was Jacey Jarnagin. I had been craving sushi for the past week and a half so I asked if we could eat at Bonsai. While talking in my car, we talked some more. I found out she was a junior and a marketing major. Since the only thing I know about business is from The Wolf of Wall Street and Mr. Krabs from Spongebob, I felt intimidated. I tried to impress her by saying things like “buy low and sell high,” “stock market,” and “banks” every few words. I’m not sure if she was impressed (I will have to read her article to really know), but I’d like to think she was.

The actual date was a solid affair. I was scared that we would have nothing to talk about and actually had a list of small-talk topics on my phone, but my preparedness was for naught. It turned out we liked some of the same movies and television shows so we talked about that a lot, which was really good. The food was great, and the drive back was better. Not only did she like good shows like me, but she also had a good taste in early 2000s alternative rock music.

Joven Tristeza’s Perspective:

Throughout our date, I found out that Joven is Filipino, has an older brother, and was accepted into medical school. At one point in the night, Joven listed my limits of offering me a small piece of his octopus tentacle. My eyes were drawn to the tiny suction cups and I was very happy to give it a try. To keep the adventure going, I shut my eyes and bit down on the octopus limb. The taste wasn’t terrible, and the texture was better than I thought it would be. Because of Joven, I can officially say that I’ve eaten octopus now.

When we finished our meal, we headed back to campus. However, as soon as we were driving away, I exclaimed that we’d forgotten to take a photo! Joven suggested for us to pull over at a gas station for the picture. Because I didn’t want “The Mississippi Collegian” to sponsor a blind date story, I knew that I just had to enter. Imagine my surprise when I found out that I was the lucky single lady who was chosen for the experience!

The actual date was a solid affair. I was scared that we would have nothing to talk about and actually had a list of small-talk topics on my phone, but my preparedness was for naught. It turned out we liked some of the same movies and television shows so we talked about that a lot, which was really good. The food was great, and the drive back was better. Not only did she like good shows like me, but she also had a good taste in early 2000s alternative rock music.
BY Emily Greer
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As a young adult, that belongs to the millennial generation, I am plagued with the question of “What comes next?” I am in this weird place where the majority of my friends are getting engaged, married, and pregnant. And yet a lot of us are in this place of what comes next.

When diving into 1 Corinthians 7, I never imagined that there could be so much information and life application in the 40 verses, but as the margins of my journaling Bible are filled, I can say there is so much content that is worth studying deeply. This information isn’t just geared at the singles. Paul makes everyone feel accountable for it in chapter 7.

To understand the CONTENT of 1 Corinthians 7, one must understand the CONTEXT. In the chapter, this is Paul answering the question of the Corinthians. What does marriage, sexual immorality, and singleness look like in this day and age. Since the Corinthians have “come to Christ” and their hearts have been changed, now they must understand that the external must change in their actions. Without a change in actions, the heart change is pretty much useless.

This was not Paul writing to the American church of 2017, he was writing to the church at Corinth, a pagan city that was run rampant with sexual sins. This was Paul addressing the situation that was occurring. As he approached scripture, the first thing I would say that he did was Traditional, those who were not married and those who were not wearing ceremonial garb were cursed. Their family line was to be cut-off if they were unable to have children. We see these in Passover and in Jesus’s birth, to show that He was the fulfillment of God’s promise in the Old Testament. God promises through Jeremiah 31, “I will put my law in their minds, and write it on their hearts.”

As you move into the New Testament, you can see that Paul does not carry the same attitude of being married. He carries the opinion of don’t get married, save yourself the heartache, but with good intentions. As you read 1 Corinthians, and I encourage you to mark it up in your Bible, listen to how Paul talks, see that he calls those Corinthians to devote themselves to prayer so that they may be able to control themselves (v. 5).

When we see that Paul places both marriage and singleness as good things, we are able to see that they are both really good gifts that God purposely gave to each and everyone of us. According to scripture, marriage is expected, but singleness is exceptional. Spending the time as a single pursuing God will allow you to be free from concern. A single man is not concerned with his marriage or family, but he is concerned with the matters of the Lord. Whereas the married man is anxious about how he can best please his wife (v. 32).

Now bear me out. I am not saying that being married is wrong, because it’s not, just look back at verse 29, if one chooses to get married he has not sinned, his worries will be much different than the person who has been given the gift of singleness. When we are able to view singleness as just as much a gift as marriage, then we will be able to understand where Paul is coming from. In the world, about half of adults are not married. Both of these gifts are for the ultimate glory of God. A person who is single has the gift of singleness, but that does not mean that they will always have that gift, but it is about what you do with that gift while you have it.

Don’t squander your gift. Do you squander your singleness, use it for the glory of God. Your singleness has a purpose, God did not give it to you just for the heck of it. He gave it to you for the glory of His Kingdom.
The Inca of Perusalem

BY T.J. Williams

T.J. Williams said his hopes for auditions were “that everyone will do their best and that I’ll have enough people to pick from. Theater at Mississippi College isn’t usually overrunning with options, so hopefully, I’ll have the cream to pick from. Theater at Mississippi College isn’t usually a role will perform a cold reading for the director. The cast, Williams has high hopes for the show itself and encour...
Jackson State University Tigers for short trip to Jackson to take on the off their spring season on Monday, and Women’s Tennis teams kick Mississippi College’s Men’s and how much they love you. At the same you sometimes because of how loud they are CFL last season. That environment will scare environment is the best; we have the best fans of the “best fans in Canada.” It made him feel not,” said Lyles. really wanted to play professional football or made a man out of me. It made me decide if I 30,000 people, and I have never played in had 30,000 people, and I have never played in front of a crowd like that before. I never have played in front of a quarter of the size of that crowd. I am not going to lie I was tickled, I was had open arms,” said Lyles. They still made me feel at home. They welcomed me with a big variety of people, and at first I was an NFL cornerback. His speed and athleticism was a big variety of people, and at first I was uncomfortable because I did not know anybody. I really did not have anybody to relate to, but Lyles had to do. He also was adjusting to life in the NFL, and there has been a long line of world’s best athletes. Lyles had that moment in professional practices are intense as they come. “CFL practices were very competitive, and it is always the 1’s vs the 1’s. There were a lot of real game situations, and scheming against the other team,” said Lyles. “We focused on their scheme and their key plays. We watched film every day in the morning and after practice. So it was film, film, film.” If practices were hard, learning the playbook was even harder, as professional playbooks never stop growing. “The playbook was big. We changed plays after every week, and there was a new playbook after every week. It was according to what the other team was doing, so one week we would be playing pattern reading, another week we would be playing man, and the next week we would be playing a cover 4/cover-2 type coverage,” said Lyles. In professional football, there are moments when you realize that you are playing against the world’s best athletes. Lyles had that moment in his rookie season’s finale. “Last game of the season we played the Ottawa Redblacks, and they moved me back to corner for the first time. There was a receiver who was really quick and fast. He gave me a welcome home; he was catching some passes and I said to myself that I need to “bow up” and I had to figure this out. I knew I couldn’t get down on myself, and I had to be strong,” said Lyles. After a moment like that, rookies can question if they belong in the league, but Lyles remembered that he can play with these guys. He first realized that in the preseason where he stepped up when his team needed him. “It was the second preseason game, and we played a great team called the BC Lions. We were in Van- couver and we were getting beat kind of badly, and our coaches were like, ‘We need someone to step up.’ Something went through me in that moment and I had my Father (God) with me. I made great plays, I had a really good game. That’s what showed me that I could play with the best,” Lyles said.

Lyles said he hopes his second CFL season is better than his first. His ultimate goal is to play in the NFL, and there has been a long line of CFL players who transitioned to the NFL. If Lyles keeps playing well, Mississippi College might have a Chocwar in the League.

Experience and Expectations Motivate the Tennis Teams

BY Sadie Wise CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Mississippi College’s Men’s and Women’s Tennis teams kick off their spring season on Monday, Feb. 12. The teams will make a short trip to Jackson to take on the Jackson State University Tigers for their first matches of the year. David Boteler is getting ready to enter his 21st season as head coach for the men’s and wom-
Chocotaw Baseball Is Back And Hungry For More: 2018 Preview Edition

BY JOSH CLARK

CONTINUING WRITER

A lot of words can be used to describe a baseball team that starts their season with a record of 2-17. Pathetic, sorry, and uninspiring all could fall into that category. That’s definitely not the case this year. Well, the 2017 Mississippi College baseball team obviously wasn’t one for following standard procedures. After starting their first season as full-time members of the Gulf South Conference at a mark of 2-17, the Choctaws rebounded in a big way and worked their way to a final record of 20-28, including 15-17 in the GSC.

Last year, we were pretty much down and out,” said head coach Hotwor. “We had a meeting in the locker room and decided that enough was enough; we needed to change the culture. And that’s what happened. We started off really strong and we’re going to be a really good team this spring and find out. Choctaw baseball is finally back, and it truly is an exciting time for the Mississippi College program.

The Choctaws open this season with 11 straight games against GSC-opponent teams. The GSC is home to eight teams, plus West Georgia, which the Choctaws take on Feb. 24. This season is promising to be a special one for a few reasons, but Hotwor is focused on one thing in particular: the team’s mindset.

“Last year, we’ve been working on doing a lot of different things that we haven’t been able to do before. We’ve been filling in some holes off the field and we’re working on a lot of different aspects of the game. One of them is the mindset. That’s what we really want to focus on. So, everything we do is going to be done with our whole mind, body, and soul.”

“We set standards for our guys: faith, selfless, and relentless. They have to live by those standards every single day. That’s what we’re all about.”

As far as overall team goals, the Choctaws will take on 10 different GSC opponents this season and have 30 different opportunities to claw their way up the conference ladder and make a serious push come early May. According to Hotwor, this season is shaping up to be a special one for the Mississippi College baseball team. It all depends on conference play, and where we finish. The top eight teams make the playoffs.”

The culture is the biggest change for me,” Hotwor said. “The culture has changed. We’ve been working on a lot of different things this year and I think we’ve done a good job at it. We’ve been able to fill in some holes and we’ve been able to work on things that God does not want their success, but rather their surrender. And once we’ve been able to do that, we’ve been able to see some successes and it’s been a really good year for us.”

The Choctaws have made an appearance in the GSC tournament for the second year in a row. Both the Men’s and Women’s teams should be able to clinch spots in the playoffs for the second year in a row. Both Chocotaw teams face their first opponent on Feb. 27, when they take on the Abilene Christian Wildcats at home in Dickins-Scoper Baseball Stadium this spring and find out. Choctaw baseball is finally back, and it truly looks like the team is making some serious noise around the conference.
What’s A Computer?
BY Madison Brown
CONTRIBUTING WRITER
When you think college sports, you think rivalry. Ole Miss and Miss. State. Alabama and Auburn. Michigan and Ohio. Rivalries that extend into areas not even remotely related to athletics. Rivalries that have one... too. A rival so big that even wearing green on St. Patrick’s Day is considered treason. Hashtags and buttons that read #BEATtheOkra can be found all over campus and on social media starting a week before game day. So who is our rival? Delta State. This rivalry goes back decades. The two schools have competed in almost every major sport starting as early as the 1930s. Before the Choctaws left the Gulf South Conference in 1996, the competition between these teams was fierce. And rightfully so. The Mississippi College students and the Clinton area have been reminded of just how big this rivalry is. And now, in honor of the young actress in the commercial. One sympathetic user tweeted, “I dozens upon dozens of tweets in response to Business Insider alone. These two tweets are some of the less explicit ones that followed the controversy is one of the most ridiculous things I have ever heard! As if the commercial is what people choose to be up in arms about? One twitter user responded that “It’s annoyingly out of touch. Like... how “annoyingly out of touch” that people don’t realize that the corporate set. (Believe me, I’ve been that cashier. It ain’t fun.) She has yet to get our student athletes to appreciate the rivalry and get back to what it was in the 80s and 90s.” The younger generations don’t remember how intense the rivalry was before the Choctaws left the GSC. Don Lothien, head coach for the men’s basketball team, said that since the Choctaws have moved back to Division II, hopefully the rivalry mindset will come back as well. “I think intensity will be back stronger than ever.” He said it’s healthy for MC athletes to compete in such a rivalry because the athletes and coaches look forward to facing the Statesmen. For former Choctaw football players like Dr. Turcotte, this rivalry is personal. “When I was a student, they were our No. 1 rival. We prepared for them all year.” Like others, Turcotte hopes that students will learn more about the history of the rivalry and invest into it as it was 40 years go. He said, “They don’t understand how important it was for us to beat Delta State when we were athletes. We didn’t care if we won another game all year. It was a long as long as we beat the Delta Statesman.” This isn’t just a rivalry on the basketball court or the football field though. It’s a battle on the recruitment field, too. Delta State and Mississippi College are the only Division II schools in the state which means they’re constantly fighting for recruits. Coach Lothien said, “In college athletics, it comes down to players. Beating Delta State would help us gain back the respect we need in the athletic program.” MC athletics recognize the rivalry as well. An anonymous basketball player Kaitlyn Thompson is from Cleveland, Miss., and she understands the weight of a game against Delta State. “Coach Duke tells us that every game is important and that this game is no different. You have to have the mindset to play every game your hardest, but this game is a little more personal.” She said that having friends and family from her hometown cheer against her team just makes her work even harder to get a win. Going into last week’s basketball game against Delta States, seniors like Antonio Johnson really wanted a win. In his four year career at MC, Johnson has only won once against the Statesmen. He said, “To win against them while I’m a starter would mean so much more to me than people understand.” Even freshman Lauren Sheriff understands the importance of a victory over Delta State. She said, “We know they’re tough, they’re quick, and they’re, of course, our rival team, which means we have to beat them.” In their first meeting of the 2017-18 season, the Choctaw men and women’s basketball teams played a tough game against the Statesmen but were unable to pull away with a win. Since returning to the Gulf South Conference in 2014, the Lady Choctaws have only won twice against the Lady Statesmen. For the men’s team, the Choctaws have only won once in the last four years. Although the Choctaws were defeated by the Statesmen last Saturday, both the men and women are looking forward to their next meeting on February 22 where the Choctaws will compete in their final regular season game against Delta State in Cleveland, Miss. Choctaws vs. Statesmen. It’s a traditional rivalry, but one that is well-respected across the state. A rivalry that began many decades ago, and one that will forever have Choctaw fans cheering, “Beat Delta State!”
The Assassination of JFK

By Peyton Pope

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

This past November made fifty-four years since the death of the 35th president, John F. Kennedy. Generations of Americans have pondered the mystery that surrounds the accidental assassination. Conspiracy theories range from the Mafia, Russians, Cubans, and even the United States government according to history. Lee Harvey Oswald was accused of the death of the president, but upon further investigation, it appears to be more complicated. Let’s start by walking through that infamous day step-by-step.

One of the darkest days in this nation’s history fell on November 22, 1963, when President Kennedy was assassinated.

November 22, 1963
12:29 p.m.: Texas Governor, John Connally, turns to Kennedy in the backseat of the motorcade and says, “Now you can’t say Texas doesn’t love you.”
12:30 p.m.: Three bullets were fired, the first hitting Kennedy in the back. The bullet exited the presidential back. Seconds later, the second shot is fired. Six seconds after the first shot is fired, the third and final shot pierced the airlift of JFK.
1:00 p.m.: The President of the United States was declared dead.
1:15 p.m. Lee Harvey Oswald was officially taken into custody for the murder of the leader of the free world.
November 23, 1963
11:20 a.m.: Oswald is shot and killed by Jack Ruby, who stormed into the municipal building in a fit of rage.

Chaos swept through the nation as the Commander-in-Chief died in a blood-spattered, silk-lined cachet. So, in light of these facts, why is there so much fascination with this tragedy? As described above, the entire investigation lasted less than 48 hours after the death of the president.

Could it be that the speedy exoneration of both the president and the accused assassin were intentionally organized by some mysterious third party?

The Warren Commission released an 889-page report describing what happened during the assassination of Kennedy. The most criticized part of this report is called the Single Bullet Theory. The Warren Commission claimed that a single bullet entered Kennedy’s back, exited his throat, then entered the wrist of Governor Connally and landed in Connally’s shoulder. When the bullet was recovered, it was in almost perfect condition. The result of the bullet’s testing suggested it was fired into either fabric or cotton and then recovered and planted as evidence; yet the Warren Commission did not admit that they were incorrect. Governor Connally himself insisted he was hit by a separate bullet, but he was ignored. Recorded FBI-studied the bullet and questioned if it was even fired from a bolt-action Carcano 39R rifle, with which Oswald supposedly shot the president.

This leads to the next hole in the government’s explanation of that November day. Oswald’s gun was manufactured in 1940.

The bolt action design of the gun requires the shooter to manually reload the gun after each shot.

After the assassination of the FBI took some of the best trained sharpshooters and gave them an exact replica of Oswald’s weapon. None of the shooters could fire and reload shots in three seconds as Oswald supposedly did.

This evidence suggests that there could possibly be more than one shooter. In fact, 53 of the questioned witnesses said they heard the shot fired in the opposite direction of the book depository where Oswald was allegedly inside.

Experts also doubted why Oswald chose to fire his weapon when he did. Kennedy’s motorcade was on Houston Road which was directly in line with the window of the building. However, Oswald sat while waiting to take his shot. Logically, if Oswald was a lone shooter, the more likely idea is that he has been the car on Houston Road.

However, he did not take that practical shot. Instead, he waited for the car to turn on to Elm Street, which has a sharp curve and is angled away from the window. Many people believe that the only advantage to waiting until the motorcade was on Elm Street is that it allows a triangular gun shot, also known as a “Turkey Shoot.” This means it allows for three gunmen to be positioned in opposite directions. However, the Warren Commission remained firm that Oswald was the lone shooter.

To this day, there are a multitude of conspiracy theories surrounding the public accusation of John F. Kennedy. Did Oswald simply act alone? Were there multiple shooters? Was the evidence planted? The (and disappointing) answer is that we will never know for sure. I cannot say without a doubt that it was one organization or another that aided in the assassination of JFK.

However, I can say that it is our American right to question the government. The United States has its flaws, but if I, a college student, can write an article for the school newspaper questioning the actions of the government. We, as a nation, have freedom to speak, protest, question, and vote on the actions of our elected officials. These constitutionally granted freedoms set America apart from a majority of the rest of the world, and for that, I am thankful.
BY Travis Pollard
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Life is full of so many wholesome things to be passionate about, it is hard to talk about only one concept that gets me amped up. One thing I could talk someone blue in the face about is Missions, namely the ones I have been on in the Czech Republic. I am been deeply blessed to have made five trips to this wonderful coun-
try over the last few years. God has taught me so much about this nation and the people that make up its culture, structure, and being. It was actually in this country that the Lord revealed to me the purpose He has bestowed upon my life: to serve full time in international missions. The Czech Republic and its people will always hold a very special place in my heart.

My home church, First Baptist Church of Forney, Texas, has always posted all the mis-


sion trips being offered each year in the weekly bulletin. One Sunday, when I was in the fifth grade, I saw a country I knew nothing about printed under the little “Missions” section that read Czech Republic. I looked up at my mother and said, “Momma, I want to go on a Mission trip and I want to go to this country,” as I point-
ed at the bulletin. She told me I would have to wait until I was older and could travel outside of our own country. The Lord was good and faithful to make this desire He had laid upon my heart come true some five years later.

I was invited to go to the Czech Republic — actu-

ally the first time I had ever been on a plane -- was the summer after my sophomore year of high school. I journeyed with a team from the church to teach an English Camp and aid in ministry with our missionary friends that live there. God began to transform my heart that week and fuel a passion that would send me back for another four journeys. The second summer I went was when the Lord told me that He had created and was beginning to mold me into a vessel to one day be His hands and feet. It was the most surreal moment of my existence. I was sitting on top of a hill, looking out over the city I had fallen in love with. The sun was setting over Pilsen, where I had served all week. I was in awe of the beauty that was seen on the horizon and unison in God’s handswork below. As I took in the scene, and the atmosphere grew darker, the city didn’t light up like I expected it to. There were large patches of darkness that covered the land, and it based in Moravia, Alia. I felt the depth of the spiritual darkness as well. I was in a stage of life where I had been seeking and praying for my life’s purpose — that God would reveal what was right to do with my life. He fulfilled that desire all in that moment. It is hard to explain how God told me (not audibly) but He said, “I have created you to go into these large patches of darkness and be the Light. Connect all the other little Lights and bring them together.” I knew in that moment that I had been called to serve as a full time Missionary. God chose to reveal that to me in the most beautiful country I have ever visited, fueling my passion even further. God has been so good to send me back three more times after that summer, in which one trip I got to spend Christmas with my Czech family. I could write an entire additional article sole-
ly about the experiences that occurred on that journey. For some, I go. I fall deeper in love with the people, culture, and the history of such an incredible country.

I am always excited about things that are commonly overlooked when others visit a for-

eign country that enrich its beauty deeply beyond the naked eye. It blows me away that God can take the name of a nation printed on a passport and always be connected to passion that has trans-
formed my life. I pray that the Father would allow me to travel back to that beloved country many more times throughout my days. I am excited to planning on going again this summer with my home church and to take my friends over Christmas to experience and serve in the work God is doing there. Think of your own passions and how they have shaped your lives; see how you can continue to develop them. As you understand your importance, join me in praying for God to continue to shine His light among such a spiritually dark country as the Czech Republic.

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT: Gavin Michelli

“For me, it’s a passion to learn from any and every source I can,” Gavin Michelli explains. “In recent years, Michelli has traveled to various regional conventions and local events, where he has found a niche for custom-


textiles. It was a con in Biloxi, Miss., where journalist, Journalist and art director and mobile, Ala. Michelli said that seeing the fin-

ished product was my “most life-changing experience.” When he was at the table with his partner, he said “I was drawing. Before long, people were coming up to me and asking what I was drawing, and if I did custom designs. I worked up a quick price list and hit the ground running!”

While most of the comic book work he has done has been as a colorist, Michelli published a graphic novel titled “The Book” with Arcana Comics. He added that he has done various work for Printverse, a com-

pany based in Mobile, Ala. Michelli also drew and colored an eight-page story in “Sentinels Anthology No. 2” from Drumfish Productions, written by New Orleans writer, “I think that’s what I’m best at doing with my IFCO,” yet, maybe one day it will happen.”

Online clothing store Bee Public ap-

proached the artist about opening a store to sell his own “Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles” design. Other designs from Michelli are avail-
able on eBay as well. A fantasy-based online clothing store is also in the works, which he said is not quite up and running yet.

Other work from Michelli has appeared in DIG Baton Rouge magazine; however, he said he owes the job to a good friend of his, Season Vining, former art director and cur-

rent Editor-in-Chief of DIG. “They were looking to do spotlight features of new LSU recruits,” Michelli explained on the phone. “I got involved with the magazine. Season had the idea of having me draw them almost like superheroes and pitch me to, and it was a good fit.”

“They use me for random stuff in ad-

dition to that, too, like the horror-themed character and the coach (Ed Orgeron) caricature.” To see Michelli’s work in DIG or to read some of its featured articles, visit https://dig-
b.com/category/magazine/.

On what he attributes his success to, Michelli laughed. “That’s very nice of you to say, but I am not sure what to do what I love to do and get paid for it. If I’ve had any success, it’s because of my friends. I love meeting new people and talking to folks, and sometimes they mention me if they come across some work that they think I might be good at.”

I likewise, Michelli had some advice for aspiring artists. “Aspire to be an accountant instead,” he said before letting out a laugh. “Seriously, if you can’t imagine doing any-
thing for a living other than making art, just do it. Start early. Post commission prices on your art on every social media platform you can. Most importantly, don’t wait. Look for internships and opportunities to sell at shows and do it right now. The only way you’re going to learn to be a professional artist is by doing it.”

For inquiries, visit Michelli’s website at gavinmichelliart.com or email him at gavin

michelliart@gmail.com.
From Drake and Josh:
“It’s gonna take some time to realize / But if you look inside, I’m sure you’ll find / Over your shoulder / You know that I told you / I’ll always be picking you up / So just turn around”...

a) when you frown
b) when you’re down
c) when you’re in town
d) when you’re around

From That’s so Raven:
“...If you could gaze into the future / You might think / Seeing trouble from a distance, yeah (Go Rae) / But it’s not that easy”...

From Full House:
“Everywhere you look, everywhere you go / There’s a heart (there’s a heart), a hand to hold onto / Everywhere you look, everywhere you go / There’s a _______ of somebody who needs you”

a) face
b) trace
c) space
d) place

From The Proud Family:
“I know that I can always be myself / Around you more than anybody else / Everyday as I’m heading off to school / You know there’s no one __________”

From Lizzie McGuire:
“And sometimes we make it / Sometimes we fake it / And we get one step closer each and every day / When we figure it out __________”

From Out of the Box (the Goodbye Song):
“It’s been great to ________ together (in the box) / And now it’s time to say goodbye / So long, farewell, to you, my friends / Goodbye for now, until we meet again”

a) our own way
b) together
c) each day
d) this way

From The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air:
“I pulled up to the house about 7 or 8 / And I yelled to the cabbie, ‘Yo, homes, _______!’ / Looked at my kingdom / I was finally there / Sit on my throne, as the Prince of Bel-Air.”

a) smell ya later
b) check ya later
c) see ya later
d) catch ya later

From the Suite Life of Zack and Cody:
“It’s you and me, and me and you / We got the whole place to ourselves / You and me, __________ / So come on down / This is the suite life / We’ve got a sweet life”

a) we’ve got a world to see
b) we’ve got places to be
c) we’ve got it all for free
d) we’ve got the master key

From Fairly OddParents:
“Obtrive, rubber goose, green moose, / Giant snake, birthday cake, large fries, chocolate shake!”

a) purple spruce
b) chartreuse
c) train caboose
d) guava juice

1. B
2. D
3. C
4. A
5. C
6. D
7. A
8. B
9. A
10. D

See your results on the final page!
Childhood Movies That Left Me Emotionally Scarred

BY JOSH CARVER
ASSISTANT EDITOR

This list is full of movies and movie moments that left me shattered and forced me into the emotionally vulnerable man I am today. I implore you to watch these, too, and see what I have seen.

#1 “Don’t Look Under The Bed” - I think this movie is the catalyst which began the unravelling of the emotional man I am today. I implore you to watch this, and see what I have seen.

#2 “Antz” - This was the first and only movie in which I have seen an animated cat. It boggled my mind as a young and to be honest, still boggles my mind this day. There is also a “Saving Private Ryan”-esque ant war scene that was hard to unsee.

#3 “Mulan” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#4 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#5 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#6 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#7 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#8 “Mulan” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#9 “Jurassic Park II” - I’m just a child who wants to discover the magic of the cinema and see some dinosaurs running about. That is all I asked for.

#10 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#11 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#12 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#13 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#14 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#15 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#16 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#17 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#18 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#19 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#20 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#21 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#22 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#23 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#24 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#25 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#26 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#27 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#28 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#29 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#30 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#31 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#32 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#33 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#34 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#35 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#36 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#37 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#38 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#39 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#40 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#41 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#42 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#43 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#44 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#45 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#46 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#47 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#48 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#49 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.

#50 “Antz” - This wasn’t the movie’s fault, but I watched “Mulan” one time when I was home sick and I thought the animation was poor. This is a bad thing to do.
Each song had a different story that was portrayed by the singers. The stories ranged from a man being scared to tell a woman he loves her, to a woman marrying a man for the wrong reasons and missing out on real love. The emotional ties that the singers had with the songs could be felt by the audience.

Jez Massey, a junior, attended the performance on Feb. 1 and said that she could feel the energy and power in the room. “The very beginning was really powerful,” said Massey. The part of the show that she found the most interesting was how the singers “played different words” that expressed their feelings. “It was beautiful, and I want to see it again,” said Massey.

The singers sang with many different voices that came together to form a beautiful show.

The Music Department has many more events throughout the month of February and a show in March for everyone to attend. To see the full Fine Arts Calendar, visit mc.edu/finearts. For more information on the MC Department of Music, call 601-925-3440.

Cont. from bottom of last page...

I listened to the top five rap songs on Spotify, and here my thoughts. Listen to these as you read along so that we can go on this journey together.

“Stir Fry” - Migos

Migos is a group composed of three rappers: Quavo, Takeoff and Offset. I’m now going to give you our full names because I think it is fascinating, and you might need this information on a game show one day. Quavo = Kirshnik Khari Ball and Offset = Kiari Kendrell Cephas. “The More You Know” The song, produced by Pharrell Williams, has an interesting beat to it. Upon listening, I just thought they really wanted to make a song about fast food (who wouldn’t?). But upon further investigation, I learned that it is about making crack, so that kind of opened my middle-class eyes. They sing a lot about loose women and expensive watches, so I was automatically drawn to the message. ALSO, you did know that the term “booger” means jewels that a rapper guy puts in his chains? This song is like a haunted house in “Scooby-Doo,” with all the secrets that it possesses. Phrase that moved me: “She got a big ol’ union booty, make the world cry (cry)”

“King’s Dead” - Jay Rock, Kendrick Lamar, Future

I can imagine a group of teen guys listening to this while they’re in one of their mom’s Tahoes talking about girls and fidget spinners. This single is featured on the “Black Panther” soundtrack, and it’s as if two songs were forged into one, neither being particularly pleasant. Am I just not cool enough to get it? There’s a literal line in the song where Genius, a website that specializes in interpreting the meaning behind the lyrics, was like, “I don’t know what’s going on here.” They rap about cars and expensive watches, (What is up with rap about cars and expensive watches?) and there’s a part where they mention “Chitty Chitty Bang Bang.” I just don’t know what to say. I’m speechless.

Phrase that moved me: “They were like, ‘Nope,’ I was like, ‘Byo yow, byo yow’”

“God’s Plan” - Drake

I like this one! Is it the most subdued song on the list, and compared to the past two, this is a gentle lullaby. I keep on forgetting that Drake’s real name is Aubrey which, I think, really brings him back down to earth. Most of the rap is just him saying that people are wishing bad things on him, and he is not happy about it. There are also some “Soup-for-the-Soul”-type quotes in here. “I don’t wanna die for them to miss me.” A powerful sentiment, and, after listening to the quote “Chitty chitty bang bang, murder everything,” Drake/ Aubrey is a lyrical genius.

Phrase that moved me: “They say, ‘Do you love me?’ I tell her, ‘Only partly!’ I only love my bed and my momma, I’m sorry”

“Ric Flair Drip (& Metro Boomin)” - Offset, Metro Boomin

I didn’t understand the title either, but apparently Offset was a big name in wrestling, and he used the phrase “woo” a lot, and Offset likes to say “woo,” too, so now they share that bond. If there was any song in the list that I would be most likely to do an interpretive dance to, it would be this one. You just feel cold, listen to it. This song by far has the most words, so prop to Cardi for really going for it. She also brings up watches, so that’s four out of five songs that mentioned a timepiece for all of you counting at home. She is legit the goofiest person you have ever seen in interviews, so listening to her drop these verses is quite a 180. 21 Savage also throws his hat in the ring, but Cardi is the clear front runner here. The way that she says “diamonds all over my body” really sticks with you. With this and “Bodak Yel-low,” I see bright things for Cardi B.

Phrase that moved me: “Told the waitress, I ain’t tipping” / “I like hot sauce on my chicken (on God)”

This Week’s “Rap” Up

BY Josh Carter

ASSISTANT EDITOR

I listened to the top five rap songs on Spotify, and here my thoughts. Listen to these as you read along so that we can go on this journey together.

“Bartier” - Cardi B (feat. 21 Savage)

This song has far by has the most words, so prop to Cardi for really going for it. She also brings up watches, so that’s four out of five songs that mentioned a timepiece for all of you counting at home. She is legit the goofiest person you have
Jacey Jarnagin

Q: Is it worse to fail at something or never attempt it in the first place?
A: I truly believe that failure is an inevitable part of human existence. The beauty of failure comes from what we as individuals choose to do with it. An undesirable outcome may produce feelings of guilt and embarrassment. But in the end, people have the opportunity to learn and grow simply from trying. Personally, I would rather fail at something that meant a lot to me than to never have attempted it. God calls us to learn from our mistakes instead of giving up on them. Jeremiah 8:4 says, “You know if a man falls down, he gets up again. And if a man goes the wrong way, he turns around and comes back.”

Major: Marketing
Year at MC: Junior
Hometown: Terry, MS

Rakeem Wilson

Q: Is a “wrong” act okay if nobody ever knows about it?
A: It really depends on how the person committing the act grew up. If he or she grew up seeing their parents and peers doing wrong things, then they might believe it’s okay as long as you don’t get caught. Where if someone has grown up in the church and understand deeply what’s right and wrong, then, even if no one finds out, their conscience will tell them they’ve done something wrong. First of all, I’m a Christian. I never felt that when I did something wrong, that no one knew about it. I wasn’t worried about anyone finding out because I was worried about disappointing God. For the most part, the truth will come out eventually. And for me, I just try to do what’s right is the sight of God.

Major: Kinesiology
Year at MC: Freshman
Hometown: Hamilton, AL

Ruth Brooks

Q: If you could fix one world problem, what would it be?
A: It would be to restore a value for life. Violence and death are such common occurrences in today’s world that most of us have become so desensitized to it. We hear about murders on the news, or we watch them in movies and TV shows, and even play games where killing is the goal. Life is a God-given gift that is precious, priceless, and could never be replaced. It deserves to be respected and protected, not snuffed out as a source of entertainment. Life is beautiful in all its forms and I think the world would be a much better place if we all realized that.

Major: Biochemistry
Year at MC: Junior
Hometown: Brandon, MS

Stephanie Pitt

Q: If money cannot buy happiness, can you ever be truly happy with no money?
A: Money is a form of resource for survival in society. I believe, as humans, we can live in happiness without the sense of being attached to money. Anything that’s man-made doesn’t bring or allow a true meaning of joy, it only fulfills a sensatio of social belonging. Authentic happiness is an emotional feeling you have control over. It may not seem like it, but true happiness is found within yourself.

Major: Administration of Justice
MC: Alumna
Hometown: Jackson, MS

McLeod Johnson

Q: To what extent do you shape your own destiny, and how much is down to fate?
A: Each person shapes their own destiny far more than they realize. While some of what happens to us is left up to chance, our response is always ours to control. By persevering, people can become far greater than their present selves. (Vincit qui patitur—He conquers who endures). I remind myself daily that there is another Me—a Me that is far better and far stronger than the Me I am now. The key is to always have a vision for the future. As Einstein once said, “God does not roll dice with the universe. Neither should we roll dice with our own Destiny.”

Major: Political Science
Year at MC: Sophomore
Hometown: Morton, MS

Quiz Results

GOT BETWEEN 8-10 RIGHT
Hey-o! You’re a natural. You move and groove to these jams on the daily; you know them so well! You might have a Spotify playlist to some of these classics.

GOT BETWEEN 4-7 RIGHT
Not too shabby! You remember hearing these theme songs on the television when you were younger, but they’ve since become a distant memory. No worries, though, you’ve still got it!

GOT BETWEEN 1-3 RIGHT
Maybe you just didn’t grow up watching TV, or you genuinely don’t remember these hits… But at least this was a good brush up, right? Try again next time!

Tweet us your results with #2000sTVQuizMC