

I learned from Dr. Seuss



Monica Springer

teacher up until I graduated high school. There was never a shortage of children's books in my house growing up.

Thanks, Mom.

I have a habit of collecting quotes. It doesn't matter who or where they're from. I collect them from friends, books, textbooks, and professors. I've garnered some pretty interesting ones over the last couple of years. Yet, the ones that stick out to me are my Dr. Seuss ones.

I like him and consider him one of my heroes because he teaches in his writing.

And when you teach, you learn.

So what lessons did I learn from the great doctor? There are many. Here's a few of them.

1. "From there to here, from here to there, funny things are everywhere."

My sense of humor has become pretty common to my group of friends. It's eclectic and eccentric. Maybe even weird. But when I drive past a restaurant called the "Road Kill Grill" I can't help but take a picture of it and send it to friends.

Some of my other instances of funny are an optometrist's business in Garden City called "Fry Eye" and "The Dam Liquor Store" in Winfield.

I don't know about anyone else, but I wouldn't get my eyes checked out at a business called "Fry Eye."

And no further comment is necessary on the last one.

Dr. Seuss was right. Funny things are everywhere. Once you find them you have to appreciate them. And forward the pictures to friends.

2. "And when you're alone,

there's a very good chance you'll meet some things that scare you right out of your pants."

Even when I'm with other people, there are things that scare me. I wish someone would have told me this a long time ago. I probably wouldn't have listened or appreciated the advice, but I think to think I could have.

3. "There is fun to be done.

There are points to be scored. There are games to be won. And the magical things you can do with that ball will make you the winning-est winner of all. Fame! You'll be famous as can be, with the whole wide world watching you win on TV. Except when they don't. Because, sometimes, they won't."

I used to have this quote in the signature of my old e-mail

address. Instead of responding to me, people always asked me where the quote was from. I don't think I've read anything else that is so blatantly true. Sometimes you win. Sometimes you don't.

It is something I wish somebody would have told me when I was little. It seems simple enough.

4. "Think left and think right and think low and think high. Oh, the things you can think up if only you try!"

Someone always said this to me in a different way. To quote that person, "What's the worse that can happen?" I could fail, or I could succeed. I might as well try.

5. "Don't cry because it's over. Smile because it happened."

This quote was introduced to me after a ridiculously fun sum-

mer in another state, both figuratively and literally. No one likes to admit when something is over. I know I mourn and pout and cry when I want something back. It's sort of a theme of my life and of college.

Along with many others in my class, I have 18 credit hours to survive first and three and a half more months to suffer through before I say goodbye to college.

I know it's premature to be talking about the end of school. I can't help it. The dreaded 'S' word is alive and well in me. Senioritis.

I think the great doctor will keep teaching me life lessons beyond college. Lessons like find funny things and laugh, try when I don't want to and to smile.

What greater lessons can somebody teach you?

I heard a saying a few years ago that has always stuck with me. It was something like, "Everything I needed to know about life I learned in kindergarten." While I agree with that saying, I'm going say a new one. Everything I needed to know about life I learned from Dr. Seuss.

A lot of people think it's weird that a children's book writer is my favorite author. I blame my mom, who was a pre-school

Personal Column

Registration causes nightmares

By Nate Jones
Staff reporter

We left all the "Merry Christmas" and a few "Happy New Year" wishes behind, as most students made the trip back to campus for the start of the spring semester. However before we could buy expensive books for our important classes, each student had to be registered.

For most students, registration was an absolute nightmare. It zapped the entire day away, the one day allotted to us before all of our classes got going. The line was said to have stretched from the second floor of Christy down the 77, around the mound twice, and ended about halfway down keyhole drive. Okay, it wasn't really that long, but for some people it might as well

have been. Each time I went to take a look at the registration line on Jan. 7 it seemed to be unmoving. I passed a couple of people heading up there at around noon, and when I came back around 2 p.m. those people were only about halfway through the line, which is just unbearably depressing. I cannot help but think there has to be a better way.

In the spirit of the holidays that just concluded let's take a look at registrations past. Of course the experience is different depending on who you speak to, but this is what I have seen in my years here at SC.

When I was a wide-eyed freshman and was told I had to go "register," I really had no clue what it meant. So I fol-

lowed someone's pointed finger to the second floor of Christy, on what I remember being the last day of registration. When I arrived there I saw a line of dejected Builders, beside them was a lady at a desk. And in the lobby there were about 30 to 50 students watching a movie on a big screen TV, Napoleon Dynamite. I walked up to the lady at the desk in the middle of the hallway and told her my name. She checked her list and said that I was "okay." Then she sent me into the room where they take your picture for your ID card. Five minutes later I walked away fully registered, bypassing everyone in line.

It has continued to be that way each semester for me, I've never been stranded in "the line."

Why? Because I get an envelope from Southwestern College sent to my house during the summer and winter breaks. It usually contains a purple piece of paper. I fill it out and send it back. This semester when I got a glimpse of the massive line, I saw people holding said purple paper. Mailing things must be a lost art.

This semester there was no lady checking off names from a list, I do not know why. I do know that like me some of the people in the huge line did not know why everyone was waiting in line. They shared my confusion because they have experienced the same registrations past. Averaging out all the wait times I've heard from students, it's around two hours. Ouch!

I pondered how this situation might be improved. Here

is a make-shift list: College services should always have a lady checking names off a list. Second, maybe break up the students by class year or alphabet (i.e. Students with the last name of A-N go here, O-Z go there for registration.) Another way is to give students two days to

register, the way we are used to. I think if we put our minds to it we could come up with a more efficient way to get registration out of the way.

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

Editorial

Fan recommends 'the best music you've never heard'

By Drew Logsdon
Staff reporter

I have a pretty small list of musical artists that consistently impress me enough throughout their discography for me to consider them in my list of favorite artists. Many of those that have made my "list" at one time in the past are bands that have less-than-impressed me by the time their third studio release comes around. They just don't prove to be "lifetime favorites." Yet with their third album from their recording contract with Tooth and Nail Records entitled "Cities," Anberlin has proved to only get better over time critically, and have solidified their spot with me in my own personal favorite bands list.

"Cities" begins with a subtle minute and a half musical track, "Debut," until it kicks things off in a hurry with the anthem laden, "Godspeed," the album's first radio single offering. It is an aggressive track that rocks and seems a lyrical response to Billy Joel's "Only the Good Die

Young," back from 1977.

The band's lead singer, Stephen Christian, and guitarist Joseph Milligan co-write all of the album's songs together, and the team exudes brilliance. "Adelaide" continues the rock-fare in a style familiar for fans of their past releases, and "A Whisper and A Clamor" is a moving track made for their active and action packed live show.

The feel of the album changes, but weaves together beautifully, with a change to acoustic guitar and great harmonizing on "The Unwinding Cable Car," talking about guarding hearts as a season of time passes. The song is certainly one of the highlights of the album.

"There Is No Mathematics to Love or Loss" brings the electric guitar and a synthesizer back into the mix. And with lyrics that mix algebra and romance together, it is hard not to infect even the student with distaste for their high school math book.

"Hello Alone" has a darker,

more desperate sound, calling out with the question, "Is anybody out there? Hello? Hello? Broken hearts, like promises are left for lesser knows..."

I love "Alexithymia" and its poetic take on life, and "Reclusion," with chorus line, "Sins like skeletons are so very hard to hide." But the following track, "Inevitable" takes the cake for me on the CD, and is my favorite recent love song. "I want to break every clock, the hands of time could never move again. We could stay in this moment for the rest of our lives..."

"Dismantle.Repair" rocks while Christian sings this anthem about a lady who both dismantles him and puts him together at the same time. "Hands like secrets are the hardest thing to keep from you. Lines and phrases like knives, your words can cut me through." But the songwriters' genius comes into full view with "Fin," the near nine minute epic that closes the album with moving, emotional strings to match its contempla-

tion of life and the questions that cloud it.

The music is exciting, passion driven, and never dull. Not an emo-screamo type band, and going beyond the whining-rock sound that is so popular among America's young people today. Anberlin's "Cities" has lyrics that paint beautiful pictures in each song and make this band stand out among its contemporaries.

If you've heard of Anberlin but somehow missed their 2007 outing, don't skip it any longer. The band signed to Universal Republic Records this past August. If you've never been aboard the Anberlin train, now is the time to get your tickets. These guys have arrived, and are quickly rolling out of the station.

Released: Feb 20, 2007
Producer: Aaron Sprinkle
Label: Tooth & Nail
Price: \$9.99 (on itunes.com)

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Music Review

Movie Review

Will a man rob God? Tracy Morgan and Ice Cube try, in "First Sunday."

The tale of two men trying to rob a church building fund is a story we've all heard before, and I hate to say it but their way of telling it is pretty boring. Aside from the cheap laughs shown in the commercials this movie has very little to offer.

A cameo from Ricky Smiley and Katt Williams as the questionable-sexual choir director are simply not enough to balance out the annoyance caused by Morgan's low tone slow voice, and Cube's horrible acting skills.

There were many moments when I forgot I was even watching a comedy and began to hold back tears. The movie's back stories include Morgan's life as a foster child without a birthday and Cube's fight to keep his

son. One of the most endearing scenes is Morgan teaching a little boy to tuck in his shirt.

On the upside, unlike "Friday," "Next Friday," "Friday after Next," and other Cube films the humor is not sexually explicit or drug related.

This PG-13 film is almost squeaky clean of even curse words.

The director's message of hope, love, and respect is yelled from the screen like those frustrating Tyler Perry morals.

It leaves absolutely nothing to the viewer to interpret and the ending, when a mysterious bag of money appears at Ice Cube's baby's momma's door, is nothing more than predictable.

I paid \$9 to see it, but I wouldn't even waste free movie night on this one.

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THE LAST DAY TO ADD OR
DROP A CLASS IS JAN. 22