

'It's not easy being green'

CLINTON DICK

For such a small college, it is hard to imagine how there is as much thought and work put into the push to make campus a carbon-free, sustainable place as there is. Going green, recycling and doing whatever it takes to keep the earth from becoming a place that is unlivable is something that passes through our minds every now and then. It is those who choose to turn that thought into action that make it possible for college's like Southwestern to achieve their goals.

Just last week, the Green Team hosted a "Go-Green" basketball game in hopes of raising awareness about sustainability to the college and the community. Flyers were hung about recycling;

people got a chance to guess how many bottles the campus uses everyday for prizes and tips during intermissions were given over the sound system. The reason to put on such an event is to inspire people to take action. Whether or not it was successful is yet to be determined, but it was a step made towards a future of greener action.

But why is it important to act, especially considering we are at a small college? People who do not think about or care that the human race is wiping out entire species or depleting the earth's natural resources aren't going to be persuaded anyway right?

That is exactly the kind of attitude that counteracts organizations such as the Green Team strive to achieve. It is also why

setting the example is the only way to truly lead people towards a sustainable campus and earth.

It isn't about forcing people to do things against their will; it is about showing them the differences they can make when they choose to stand out. As a service learning organization, the Green Team strives to do just that. They learn new and different ways they can help the cause for sustainability by the services they put out. The organization also stands out to people because they are setting the example for what they believe in. When someone does stands out, people notice and when people notice something, action is possible.

Around the world, there are people and organizations that

lead by example and raise awareness about going green and being responsible with the way we use our earth. Like Green Team, they put forth the effort and make not only themselves known, but what their goals are. People will not follow if they do not know what they are working to achieve.

Not everyone is going to see the issue at hand the same way.

No matter what not everyone is going to strive towards the same goal. There is hope that a college like Southwestern can be sustainable, there just has to be enough people leading by example and pushing to get to a sustainable campus. It all depends on how you choose to act.

Clinton Dick is a sophomore majoring in convergent journalism. You may e-mail him at clinton.dick@sckans.edu.

PUT IT IN PERSPECTIVE

Is recycling worth the time and effort?



JASON SPEEGLE

Recycling definitely requires a certain amount of dedication and effort, but I definitely believe that it is not simply worth it, but that it has become absolutely necessary. We have become a disposable society. From cups and plates to cell phones and laptops, we dispose of everything in the names of convenience and technological advancement. Every item that we use and discard requires new resources from our planet to produce. Most of us do not think this way, but our planetary resources are indeed finite. Each item that we throw away ends up either in a landfill,

incinerated, or in the Earth's lakes, rivers and oceans. Each person in the United States generates an average of 1.4 tons of waste each year. Landfills are full and leak toxins into the ground and groundwater. Waste that is incinerated creates huge amounts of pollution and much of our waste is exported to other countries.

Recycling takes already used resources and uses them again. The benefits of recycling are numerous. Recycling creates jobs and many new products. Recycling saves energy and natural resources such as trees, metallic ores, coal, and oil. Recycling prevents much waste from being thrown into landfills and polluting our water and ground. Zero waste, the recycling of all materials back into nature or the marketplace in a manner that protects human health and the environment is a feasible goal and ought to be considered our moral obligation to future generations.

Jason Speegle is the director of the Green Team.

Song makes powerful statement

Singer-songwriter's newest music video creates controversy

ERICA DUNIGAN

Dressed in pink latex, a polka-dot leotard, and with big curly red hair Rihanna takes the spotlight as a dominatrix. The 22-year-old pop star pushes the artistic limits, in her newly released single, "S&M."

Singer and songwriter Rihanna released her new single from her album "Loud" on Feb. 2, and it has already been banned in 11 countries according to *UK's Daily Mirror*. Not only has it been banned, but if you're a fan of Rihanna, and want to view the video on YouTube you have to be 18 or older to watch it. YouTube has rated the video unsuitable for minors.

"S&M" is No. 31 on Billboard's Hot 100 and is consid-

ered one of Rihanna's most controversial singles yet, along with "Te Amo" where the lyrics are about Rihanna's struggles of being desired by other women.

There is more meaning behind the title, than just two letters. The letter "S" means "sadism," which means the infliction of pain or humiliation upon another person. Whereas "M" means "masochism" and that is the pleasure in receiving the pain. When you combine both letters you get "sodomasochist," also known as "S&M."

Melina Matsoukas, director, said to *Billboard.com's "The Juice,"* "the video was inspired by Rihanna's sadomasochist relationship with the press. It isn't just about a bunch of whips and chains. The video is also refined

and colorful and poppy. Rihanna loves pop art and wanted to build off of that."

From beginning to end the music video gives an array of sexual enactments. Along with the actions we see Rihanna wear many different costumes that make a powerful statement. In one scene she wears a dress that has news headlines about her written all over it, while singing, "It feels so good being bad."

Throughout the video we see Rihanna overpowering the media who have hurt her in the past and present, which includes Perez Hilton who is a gossip blogger. He is known for covering gossip about musicians, actors, and celebrities. Hilton shows up in a short scene attached to a dog leash being

pulled around by Rihanna in front of a house.

Even though the video may be controversial the song still took the No. 14 spot on the UK R&B Singles chart.

The video may be controversial to some, but through it she shows that women are powerful and that she can brush off what other people say or write about her. This is because she as an individual who is much stronger than that.

"S&M" has been at the top of controversy since it was released, but Rihanna speaks her mind through her lyrics, "The affliction of the feeling leaves me wanting more."

Erica Dunigan is a junior majoring in convergent journalism. You may email her at erica.dunigan@sckans.edu.



ANDY STANFIELD

I feel like we should focus on getting renewable energy first before we work on recycling. As of right now, I feel like a lot of people recycle because it is simple to do as far as just sorting their recyclables. But I think that the impact would be much larger with recycling if we focused on renewable resources.

Recycling is needed, but I also feel like there is too much

emphasis put on it. I feel that they need to focus more on the technology behind it that way there are no carbon emissions released, that way the plants used for recycling can run themselves.

There are also a lot of problems with recycling old electronics. When people think of recycling they think of plastic bottles, paper and aluminum cans. For example, a lot of people get a new phone and just throw their old phone away. People don't associate recycling with electronics.

Recycling is also useful, but I think there are more effective ways to go green. I do, for the most part, try to make sure that if I drink a can of soda or something of that sort that the can gets into the campus recycling.

Andy Stanfield is a sophomore majoring in history.

Skipping classes creates avoidance, awkward moments



INGER FURHOLT

It's not the professor, the class or the time it's scheduled. It's just me and sometimes also my lack of interest, stubbornness, procrastination and heavy sleeping habits.

On certain mornings, my stomach would turn when it was

time to wake up. Not always because it was early, but because I dreaded going to certain classes. Several times, I didn't even really see the point of going. But general education classes are just another part of everyday life that we students have to go through to get that paper in the end.

During my eight semesters in college there have been days when I have not wanted to leave my bed in the morning and days when I have unconsciously turned off my alarm in my sleep. Typically, the classes that aren't a part of my major have happened to be the ones early in the morning. This makes it harder to wake up and go to class because

I am not exactly a morning person and since I'm already out of my element in a class I don't know much about.

The class after a missed class is usually one of the most dreaded hours I know of. I am in class and the professor is talking and the other students participating in the discussion. Then all of a sudden all eyes are on me, and I don't have an answer because I got lost as soon as the discussion started.

This is almost as bad as when you've forgotten to do your reading assignment because the week has been so busy that a

lot of things slipped your mind, and you know that the professor always goes around the room and asks everyone questions about what you were supposed to read.

There are so many things that factor into my fear of certain classes, and it has taken me quite a while to realize that the reason I dread many of them is because of my own stupidity and lack of time management.

I remember times in high school where I'd absolutely dread going to class or school at all for that matter. I'd try to fake some sort of sickness so I

could stay at home, but always ended up having to go because my mom was a nurse and knew better. When I got to college I was my own boss, and I thought I could do what I wanted to do and go to class when I wanted to. I realized quickly that I was very wrong, and that faking being sick doesn't affect anyone but you.

I have always been very stubborn about what I want to do and what I like and what I don't like. Throughout my college career I have still had to do what needs to be done to get what I need for

me, so that I can excel to who I want to be.

It's hard to do things one dreads, but things aren't always going to go your way. There will always be subjects you don't like, and maybe people you don't care for as much as others. Learning to face what you dread, and being responsible about it, can't do anything but help you for now and in the future.

Inger Furholt is a senior majoring in journalism. You may e-mail her at inger.furholt@sckans.edu.

PERSONAL COLUMN

Word on the Hill

By Jonathan Woon

What class do you dread the most?



"Physical Anthropology."

Alex Edgerly
theatre
freshman



"Statistics and Probability because I'm bad at math."

Christy Rude
early childhood education
junior



"I've not had a class that I would consider my worst here at Southwestern."

Ashton Sudduth
biology
junior



"Calculus 1, because it was 8 a.m."

Jordy Train
business
senior



"First semester with Dr. Phil Schmidt in a college writing class. I thought I was a pretty good writer, but after my first paper, I had more ink on my paper."

Jessie Riggs
liberal arts
sophomore



"Any music theory course."

Sarah Jane Boyer
music
senior

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