

Word on the Hill

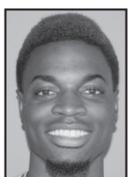
What would you have done at the last minute when the Titanic was going down?

By: Erica Dunigan and Katie Vorderstrasse



"Find a lovely woman to have my last intimate moments of life."

Jovan Fulton-Wilson
psychology
junior



"Go out in style. I would do a whole bunch of backflips off the top till I hit the water and die."

Darnell Pittman
business administration
senior



"I would just hold my nose and jump in."

Sharon Orloff
cashier



"I would have said a prayer."

Hannah Mason
biology
freshman



"Go partying down all the way."

Elliot Koester
biology
sophomore



"Find the captain then throw him overboard for being incompetent."

Richard Gould
business administration
senior



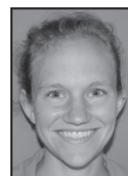
"Pushed everyone out of the way and jumped on a life boat."

Jonathan Lyons
accounting
sophomore



"I would have never got on the boat."

Patrick Hardiman
sports management
sophomore



"See if the kitchen had anymore chocolate left."

Sydnee Nelson
biochemistry
junior

Spring fever strikes as finals approach 'Skyward Sword' features humor through console



ALYSSA HARSHFIELD

Spring is a time of hay fever, new flowers, bees, and the most debilitating condition of all: Spring fever. Spring fever is usually characterized by apathy, or the want to do nothing.

For students, this also usually manifests itself as a longing for school to be over. I know that everyone in the academic field, pupils and teachers alike, feel this.

Spring is a time of renewal and energy, and after being stuck

in school for nine months, I am ready for the change to come.

Seniors suffer from an upgraded version of spring fever. The dreaded senioritis always hits around this time.

Although senioritis can strike at any time, it is definitely at its peak during spring months.

I am in the throes of it myself. It's a new sensation because I did not get it after high school.

I knew I would be returning to school after the summer was over. I kept it at bay, but there is nothing stopping it now since I'm less than a month away from being done with school.

I deal with it in a very strategic manner. First, I take as many easy courses as I can in the spring semester.

This cannot always be done, though, as there are certain classes that are only offered in the spring. Taking easier courses

means that less effort is involved, making it easier to make an A when the fever kicks in.

After classes get started, I will often do as much work as I can in one large spurt. This can frustrate others because it makes it look like I'm being productive.

What they don't seem to realize is that I do it so I can give into my apathetic tendencies.

It frustrates me as well when I see others slacking off more and more after the summer was over. I can turn in every assignment.

I think what can really frustrate spring fever sufferers as opposed to senioritis members is the difference in work ethic.

If you have ever been in a group where people don't turn in stuff, you'll understand the pain.

For years, spring fever has been the bane of my academic career because of people's lack

of work. Now, I'm beginning to understand why it happens, even if I've yet to miss an assignment.

Truthfully, it is weird. I don't even want to do the things I usually do to occupy myself because I just want to be done.

When I do my favorite things, such as draw or write, I enjoy them, but getting motivated to do that can be difficult during the spring.

Whether you are a spring fever or senioritis sufferer, the effects are undeniable.

The best advice I can give anyone is to just persevere through. It will eventually finish, and then you'll get a break, even if it's just for the weekend. Don't give up! It'll be summer before we know it, and then no one will want to go outside.

Alyssa Harshfield is a computer science senior. You may contact her at alyssa.harshfield@sckans.edu

the wiimote correctly and the wiimote being interpreted correctly by the wii.



KELCIE PARRISH

I am a huge fan of The Legend of Zelda franchise, and have been ever since I was a little girl playing "Zelda II" with my cousins.

The franchise has continued to grow and improve. Their newest addition is "The Legend of Zelda: Skyward Sword."

The Gameplay: I must preface this with the fact that honestly, I do not play many Wii games. I don't have the system myself, so all of my Nintendo experience has mostly been with their past systems. As such, I had some trouble adjusting

to Skyward Sword. The idea behind the mechanics is very well thought out for the most part, and very dynamic.

Instead of mashing the B button, you actually swing your wiimote to control Link's sword. It even recognizes different types of directional slices you can do, as well as a jab attack.

The problem can sometimes be getting the Wii to recognize what you are doing. After a few particularly frustrating sessions battling with the Wii recognition system my arm might hurt for days afterward.

It can be extremely frustrating, especially when you're in the middle of the boss fight and Link won't do what you ask him too. Besides that, my major complaint is the item menus.

They rely heavily on pointing

the wiimote correctly and the wiimote being interpreted correctly by the wii.

That being said, I move on to the best aspect of "Skyward Sword": the story. The story is wonderful. The world is vast, the mythology is well explained, and the characters are all dynamic and interesting. It is everything that I've come to expect from the franchise and more.

The characters are both new and familiar, with two of the main characters being the ever-present Link and Zelda. However these incarnations of the characters are both new and different in ways that are both immediately noticeable and revealed as you play the game.

The supporting cast all have interesting roles to play, from the town bully to the girl who runs a shop in town.

The story is told well and paced well with unique and interesting characters to pull it off.

Amongst all the drama and adventure found in every Zelda game is also humor. Situational humor is pulled off flawlessly in "Skyward Sword." I have not laughed this hard at a Zelda game since "Windwaker" and the cartoonish style of that one lent itself more easily to humor. "Skyward Sword" pulls off the humor well without losing a shred of the plotline's relevance or significance.

Overall, many aspects of the gameplay can be frustrating, and you may have to quit for a day out of sheer rage, the story will keep you coming back. I definitely don't regret my purchase, and give this game a nine out of 10.

Kelcie Parrish is a senior majoring in marine biology. You may contact her at kelcie.parrish@sckans.edu

Excuses, lies turn politics into chaos of confusion

CLINTON DICK

The race for the United States President has been narrowed down to two candidates.

Rick Santorum dropped out of the campaign earlier this week, leaving Mitt Romney to take the Republican nomination.

Now, Romney takes the current President Barack Obama in what will shape up to be the usual back and forth slugfest for the Oval Office.

What does that mean for all of the people who are going to vote in the November election? For starters, those of us who make the effort to send in our vote somehow have to make an educated decision on who we are putting in the White House. The ironic part out of all of this is that doing just that sounds a lot easier than it actually is.

Politics has evolved into something so outrageous that we either do not want to pay attention to it, or simply cannot follow it because everywhere we turn there is contrasting information that gets lost in a conundrum of lies and persuasive techniques to sway us to vote a certain way.

There is no such thing as an "educated" voter anymore because the truth is lost in candidate mud-slinging. No matter what, there is always someone or something new to blame in politics, followed by a promise to make things better; a promise that isn't going to be met by any standards. These days it seems if a person has a pretty face and is smart enough to out-slap their opponent, they are set for politics

For example, at the Republican debate earlier this year in Arizona. During a heated debate between Santorum and Romney

over government earmarks, Santorum was quick to try to knock down Romney by saying, "You are entitled to your own opinion, but," before Romney chimed in with a humorous tone, "I've heard that line before." Santorum proceeded to say, "You are misrepresenting the facts. You don't know what you are talking about," followed by boos from the crowd. So, who do we as voters believe? Obviously there is "misrepresentation" of the facts somewhere.

Maybe we aren't comfortable with putting someone in the White House who is quick to make excuses for why this this or that isn't working. Maybe we don't want to take the time or have the energy to research hours and hours about each candidate for presidency just to find that what really happens behind the political screen will never be revealed. Political figures can advertise on television, radio, print media and, of course, the vast world of the internet.

However, it is all the same no matter where we go: mud-slinging and vague promises of change on every media avenue.

We, as American citizens, need to stay informed and must ensure that we put the right person in the White House come November. The next few months are going to be full of political ads and debates that are going to overwhelm our mind and test our patience. Somehow, somehow we have to sift through all of the chaos to find the answer. It isn't going to be easy and politics isn't making it any easier, but when that happens, make sure to mark it down on the ballot. Hopefully, the right choice is made.

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

Put in Perspective: What irks you about government and politics?



HANNAH PODSCHUN

There are a few things that irk me the most about politics in general as well as current politics. The first thing that irks me is I never know if politicians are telling the truth. Charisma seems to be more important than honesty and honesty is nearly impossible to detect through my TV. Also, knowing that there are certain gestures, words and ways of communicating that are known to influence the listener and make him or her trust you makes me even more wary. Another thing that irks me is that it is as if we cannot find common ground on anything. Often it seems that a politician's main campaign

points are how different they are from the disgusting other side. I understand that democracy needs opposition and competition to be successful, but I wish there could be more perceivable cooperation and cohesion sometimes. This especially irks me when the opposition is over something that is universally bad. For an example, I'll use the issue of abortion. Very simply put, Republicans, for the most part, hold that abortion is bad and murder and Democrats argue that abortion is a personal freedom. What both sides fail to acknowledge is that neither side likes killing babies. Neither side is wishing that more babies were being killed. There is no bad or good side; there are just differing opinions about something that is already happening. Often I think that politicians and citizens alike forget how similar we are to those on the other side, and how there are some things that neither side wants.

Hannah Podschun is a junior majoring in English.



KALEY RODRIGUEZ

I think what irks me the most about politics in today's society is fighting between parties. I feel that our political parties would have more success if they focused more on problems as a group than as individuals.

Every election both parties sling mud on one another, creating false hope for Americans. I understand being competitive for a position but making lies and creating disappointment for Americans is

not an appropriate way to go. Where have all of the politicians like Honest Abe gone? I want to have political leaders who help out my country and not destroy it. Many politicians just live in the now stages of life and don't prepare for the future. As a future educator and mother, I want my country to be sustainable and successful for my future students and children.

Having politicians who stay trustworthy, want to create change for the better and focus on all society problems are the politicians I would want to lead my country. If our politicians can collaborate, our country will be more successful and we will have a better outcome for all problems we face as Americans.

Kaley Rodriguez is a junior majoring in elementary education.

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