

Word on the Hill

Did you make a March Madness bracket, and if so, did it go according to plan?

By Angel Vadillo and Dalton Carver



"I didn't actually make a bracket, but I thought Kentucky would win."

Samuel Thompson
pre-engineering
freshman



"I don't know much about basketball, but I thought that Kansas would."

Frank Hua
education graduate



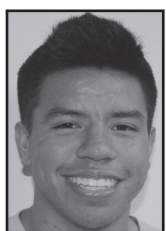
"I didn't make a bracket, but since I'm in Kansas, I'm going for them."

Carlos Cruz
marine biology
freshman



"I don't know if they will, but I would want Kansas University to win the tournament."

Ariel Prevett
psychology
senior



"I thought Duke would win the tournament, but they ended up losing in the first round."

Edward Valadez
psychology
freshman



"Since K-State didn't do so well this year, I'm going for Kentucky to win."

Mandy Bostwick
education
senior



"I actually made three brackets, and I had Kentucky winning in all of them."

RJ Schnack
education
senior



"I did not make a bracket, but I hope that Kansas wins the championship."

Kelsey Gabriel
education
freshman



"I made eight brackets, and two of them are in the 97th percentile on ESPN.com I had Kansas winning it all."

Jordan Rebman
philosophy-religion
freshman



"I made a bracket and had Missouri winning it, but that didn't go exactly as planned."

Kaleigh Hayes
chemistry
freshman



"I didn't make a bracket, but I had the Jayhawks winning it."

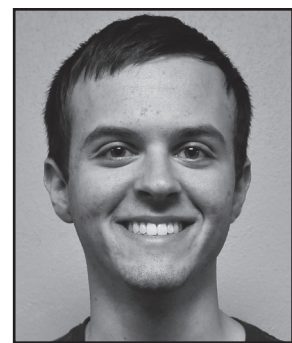
Jack Mitchell
undecided
freshman



"I made a bracket, and since I'm a huge KU fan, I have them winning it all."

Derrick Larsh
athletic training
freshman

California pop punk pulses through band's recent release 'Drop Out of Life'



CLINTON DICK

The pop punk band from Walnut Creek, Calif. gives their audience something to rock out and bang their heads to with their second studio album released Jan 20, 2012.

This Time Next Year continues with their catchy west coast sound in their new album "Drop Out of Life." Every song on the album features similar sound while bringing a new catchy rhythm that can easily get stuck

in a listener's head.

The California band is comprised of Pete Dowdalls, lead vocalist, Brad Wiseman, backup vocals and rhythm guitar, Denis Cohen, lead guitar, Travis Pacheco, bass guitar, and James Jalili on drums.

Their first album was released in 2009 titled "Road Maps and Heart Attacks." They also have three EP albums previously released from 2006 to 2008.

The album kicks off with the title track "Drop Out of Life." The song sets the tone for the rest of the album with an almost bouncy-like pace and rhythm.

The chorus slows the song down a bit, but things pick back up again when Wiseman screams "Here we go! One, two, three, four!" and leads into the first round of gang vocals. Gang vocals are used again to wrap up the end of the song and lead into track two, which is a much fast-

er-pace.

"Better Half" is my personal favorite song off of the album. It is the second track and raises the energy level after the opening song. The song explodes out of the gate with just the guitar, followed by Jalili's drum beat right along with the rhythm of the guitar. "Better Half" has the catchiest chorus out of all of the songs.

This Time Next Year makes great use of gang vocals once again when the lyrics match the beat of the drums and the guitar on the last line of the chorus shouting, "I'll be there, there for you!" "Better Half" is a better song to rock out to.

The wild energy and punk rock noise do not stop on the next track, "Living Hell." The song really picks up at the two minute mark, when a breakdown commences and the electric gui-

tars and drums really get into it. "Living Hell" rolls into a laid back track, "Last Call." This song is about where a lovesick girl is going to go after the last call at a bar. The song's mood really reflects on the theme and slows the pace of the album after the previous storm of punk rock chaos.

The beginning of the next song, "Modern Day Love Story," may make some people think they are back in the old west with the guitar opening. Dowdall's crisp, projected voice comes in a few seconds later and then the rest of the band joins in after a brief pause. The song isn't fast-paced by any means, but it does feature a great guitar solo by Cohen.

"Spoononic" marks the halfway mark of the track list. It is another not slow, but not fast song. It describes, from first person perspective, a person who

feels overwhelmed, reckless and alone. The song is one that features the talented voice of Dowdall.

The next three tracks, "Matchbook," "My Side Of Town," and "Get It, Got It, Good" all share similar qualities. They each turn the album around from laid-back punk, to get up and rock out punk.

Each song makes great use of gang vocals as an exclamation point and each have extremely catchy lyrics in the chorus. All three songs have their individual sound, but have certain similarities.

It isn't until the final track of the album, "This Is An Airport Train," that This Time Next Year presents a song that can be classified as "slow song." While the song would not meet the criteria of a slow song for many, it is the slowest song of the album and continues the qualities of many

of the other songs on the album including a bass solo, catchy chorus and, once again, gang vocals.

Despite most of the album being much more fast-paced, the song wraps everything up by giving the listener a good feeling at the end.

There is not song on This Time Next Year's album "Drop Out of Life" that hits four minutes in length, so it is a quick listen.

The band does a great job of sticking to their punk rock sound and incorporating catchy lyrics and happy tunes to otherwise depressing subjects.

Don't let the title of the album be a turn off. It will not make anyone want to drop out of life rather than drop into great music.

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

MUSIC REVIEW

Easter exemplified as something more meaningful than hunting for colorful eggs

ALISSA SHEPPARD

An oversized bunny carrying a basket full of colorful eggs is my earliest childhood memory of the holiday many of us know as Easter. As a child when Easter rolled around that is all I ever saw, eggs, a bunny, and lots of chocolate. For me, this holiday was almost as good as Halloween, I got to pop open little plastic eggs and eat whatever I found inside of them.

When I started to get a little older, I began to realize that

this day meant a little more than just eating candy out of an egg. It was a special day and I realized this because everyone always wore their best outfit. A week or two before Easter my mom would pile my siblings and me in the car and we would go to get clothes for church. But this was not an ordinary church outfit. My brothers would wear nice pants and shirts and they even got to wear ties like older men. My sister and I would get very beautiful dresses and ruffle socks that would make our ankles itch, which was my

least favorite part. We also got to buy purses and if we were lucky we could get little white ruffle gloves to match our itchy socks. If this wasn't the life, then I don't know what was.

We would go to church and everyone would be there, people I didn't normally see on a regular Sunday. It seemed like the church house was extra packed on this day. After church we would take a million pictures. Then we would go change in to a relaxed outfit for the rest of the day.

My mom would drive to my grandparents' house and all my cousins would be there, and the games began. We would dye eggs. Then the adults would hide the plastic eggs in my grandparents' big yard, and tell us not to look, but we always did. After hours of playing outside, eating and enjoying fun with the family we would go home and Easter was about to be over.

It was not until I was older is when I found out the true meaning of Easter. I learned that Jesus died for our sins and

was resurrected on the third day to give us new life. He died on Friday and rose on Sunday so we celebrate his "new life." So, I began to wonder where did this bunny and these eggs come from? This tradition has nothing to do with the Christian faith. After I learned what Easter really meant, I began to study why we celebrated Jesus rising with a bunny and colorful eggs. This was brought over to the United States by settlers who used the bunny and eggs as "new life." The rabbit just has to do with spring-time.

These symbols were adapted by Christians and that is where we get the Easter bunny and his colorful eggs. To this day children still go on Easter egg hunts to find goodies that were left for them.

I loved Easter because of the gifts I received as a child, but now that I have grown up and know the true meaning, I love the real gift that Jesus gave to me.

Alissa Sheppard is a senior majoring in communication, you may email her at alissa.sheppard@sckans.edu.

EDITORIAL

Put in Perspective: How did you celebrate Easter as a child compared to now?



ANGEL VADILLO

Easter was a time of waking up and seeing a big colorful basket near my bed. Soccer balls, chocolate eggs, yellow and purple peeps were outstanding on top of everything.

As a child, it was a day where I ate all the candy I had. My attitude was unstoppable. All the sugar made me turn hyperactive and yell. I would run and play with my cousins until it was the time to hide the eggs.

"Ya vengan a buscar los huevos," were the words my aunt yelled meaning come look for

eggs.

I remember always having family reunions and parties on the Sunday of Easter. There was abundance of food on the table. All different kinds of desserts were placed as well as drinks. Easter is simply one of the three favorite holidays of my childhood, the others being Christmas and Thanksgiving.

Besides all the food and sweets I ate, I also had a week without school. The 'Easter-vacations' we were given were really good. I remember those days where I was enjoying all week in bed watching television and the Easter specials.

Easter is a wonderful holiday and is not only about the food and the bunny, but the true significance of the resurrection of Jesus.

Angel Vadillo is a freshman majoring in communication. You may e-mail him at angel.vadillo@sckans.edu.



KATIE VORDERSTRASSE

Growing up I was just like every other ordinary kid. I would wake up, slip on my slippers and run to the living room in hopes to see if the Easter bunny had come the previous night.

After gathering all the chocolate bunnies, eggs and peeps my family and I got ready for the Easter church service. We would dress in our nicest outfits. At church I always got a packet with cool coloring pages, the ones with easter bunnies and eggs.

A random picture of Jesus nailed to the cross was included.

I never really understood the real meaning of Easter until I got older.

As years passed my family began to spend Easter with our distant relatives. Most of my relatives are from Nebraska. Each year we would either drive there or they would travel to our house.

After church service, they would prepare large amounts of food. It was always nice to get the chance to spend quality time with the whole family.

However, Easter is much more than chocolate eggs and special food. The true meaning of the holiday would be that Jesus died on the cross and shed his blood for us. Through that process we have been washed away from our own sins and forgiven.

Katie Vorderstrasse is a freshman majoring in communication. You may e-mail her at katie.vorderstrasse@sckans.edu.

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