

The Sanjo

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Señorito Sanchez

Emilie Pichot // Staff Writer

On October 23, 2010 Senora Sanchez, Andrews Academy art and Spanish teacher, was still at home even though most pregnant mothers would be already heading to the hospital. Senora, on the other hand, bravely waited through the pain until the last moment. When she finally “wanted to get it over with” she and her husband, Samir, rushed to the hospital. Her labor lasted around 6 hours, and the hardest thing she remembers is having to decide whether she wanted to go through the pain naturally or have help from Epidural, an anesthesia. “Thank God my family was there to support me” she says, smiling.

And then, at 11:47 am, Jaziel Antonio Sanchez entered the world.

The Sanchez’s came across the name Jaziel (pronounced HA-C-EL) in 1 Chronicles 15 during family devotions. A few months later and



The Sanchez family.

they found out that their baby would be a boy – and the unique name was chosen. Jaziel means “God’s apportion,” they discovered, which is an old fashioned way of saying “he was part of God’s plan.” I wonder if God planned little Jaziel to be a soccer player because of all the

kicking he did while in Senora’s belly. His middle name, Antonio, is Italian/Spanish and means “priceless.” His mother says, “He’s very sweet and strong . . . God gives without measure.” A very happy moment out of all the happy moments that Senora could think of was “when all

the visitors were gone and we were sitting on the couch, just the three of us--Jaziel in my arms, and Samir looking over . . . I said ‘Wow, this is our family and now we have the task to lead Jaziel to the right path.’”

An evening in Paris...or so it seemed: Jr/Sr Banquet

Celeste Herrera // Newswriter

La Nuit du Carrousel, French for “The Night of the Carousel,” was the theme for the Junior/Senior banquet held at the Silver Beach Carousel and Shadowland Hall on October 24, 2010 in St. Joseph. Although it took place in Michigan’s “Great Southwest,” the location felt like a piece of Paris. The carousel was a special attraction and opened early in the evening for rides.

Stepping into the banquet hall was like going into a Parisian restaurant. A large Eiffel Tower stood in one corner, and several easels displaying pictures of popular French sites were positioned decoratively around the room. Beautiful ornaments decorated each of the tables. Images of Paris were projected onto two screens as students visited and ate.

The menu consisted of salad, vegetables, dips, bread and butter, white rice, potatoes, broccoli and cheese pizza.

Traditional French crepes made for a tasty dessert, while sparkling grape juice complemented the meal.



Lindsey Lerke and Knut Lovhoiden take a ride on the carousel

Junior class president Brian Davison welcomed everyone to the evening

festivities and John Rorabeck offered the opening prayer. Entertainment was provided by Mrs. VanDenburgh, wife of Mr.

VanDenburgh, and Emilie Pichot. Mrs. VanDenburgh sang two classical songs and received an

enthusiastic response. Emilie Pichot recited a French poem, “Le Corbeau et le Renard,” a variation of Aesop’s fable “The Fox and the Raven.”

Junior class officers concluded the evening with a skit entitled “The Faculty Meeting.” The skit provided a look at what goes on behind the closed doors of faculty meeting and was obtained “covertly,” according to the voiceover. Familiar faculty faces were replaced by student stand-ins, many of them entirely convincing. Highlights included a chainsaw-wielding Pastor Glassford and an over-zealous Lynette Quinty.

Despite issues with the volume, participants seemed to enjoy the skit.

Melody Collins said, “This is the best banquet I have attended so far!” Judging by the pictures, laughs, and lively conversation, she wasn’t the only one to feel that way.

Change, Anyone?

Cooper Hodges // Guest Editorial

During the heated presidential elections nearly two years ago, a young and charismatic politician, Barack Obama, promised us, the American people, economic and political change. As the two-year mark of his presidency approaches, we must ask ourselves- what has been changed? For those of you who may be unaware, here are some of the changes we were promised.

We were promised tax cuts for the middle class and increased taxing of the upper class (those who make \$200,000 a year or more). We were promised a stimulus to bring the economy out of the recession reportedly caused by the Bush administration. We were promised the closing of Guantanamo Bay, and the withdrawal of troops from overseas. We were promised better relations with our sister nations. But, above all, we were promised change. Coincidentally, Mr. Obama's campaign slogan was "Change We Need." Now, two years after we elected our new president, it is time for us to evaluate the work he has done.

Since Obama's election, we have seen major and radical change in the American economic landscape.

As I write this, our federal debt is about \$13,500,000,000 Yes, you *are* reading that right. That number is thirteen and a half *trillion* dollars.

The national debt has increased 500 billion dollars a year

since the fiscal year in 2003, with increases of \$1 trillion in 2008 and \$1.9 trillion in 2009. And where will the government get the money to pay this debt? You and me. Each American now owes about \$43,000. This enormous bill applies not only to adults, but to babies, children, and those not able to work.

Since September 28, 2007, the national debt has continued to grow at an average rate of \$4.07 billion dollars a day. Government is hardly the cure for what ails us, and Obama would expand the size of government exponentially if given the opportunity. The so-called stimulus package increased the national debt by \$787 billion dollars, and the administration is urging yet another stimulus package. The stimulus was meant to keep unemployment under 8%- but as I write, the current unemployment rate is 9.6%. Michigan's unemployment rate is at 13.1% as of June 2010.

Although some will argue that those numbers are Bush's fault, consider the story of Amanda Van Ness, the Ohio school teacher who attended a special stimulus signing at the White House. It was her job- and others like it- that Obama said he was protecting.

Three months later, Miss Van Ness is looking for a job, Despite Obama's efforts, apparently there is some change.

Guantanamo Bay is a naval base used to house threats to national

security. Mr. Obama attempted to close it weeks after he was instated into the Oval Office. Home to the most dangerous terrorists, it has now suffered budget cuts and transfer of prisoners due to the so-called "mistreatment" of political prisoners.

Appalled by water boarding and other interrogation methods, Mr. Obama saw fit to attempt to close and release most of the prisoners held at Guantanamo Bay. He ended up setting up a facility in Illinois for prisoner transfer and cutting the budget for transfer of these prisoners. Those who did not see release were brought to the United States to be tried.

Lately there has been a bill being pushed through by left-wingers and right-wingers alike. It is an enormous health-care bill that will result in the final push by our president to convert our democracy into a socialist system. This health care bill gives the government the right to debit your bank account, to pay off health care related debts without your consent. It will ration health care to help less than 12 million Americans, leaving the rest of our population unaffected.

These, my fellow students, are the unchanged and unbiased facts of the Obama Administration. I implore all of you to do your own research. Find out for yourselves what you believe. Arm yourselves with knowledge. Don't let yourselves be fooled again.

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The Official Newspaper of
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Running around in squares: Mirror, mirror on the wall

Taryn Hansen // Columnist

A heading on a magazine I was shelving the other day grabbed my attention. Over the picture of two beautiful models in bright orange letters it screamed: "Look Pretty Now!" I don't know what your first reaction would be, but mine was, "So I'm not pretty the way I am?" To further prove my ongoing theory that all fashion magazines are insulting and degrading at their best I read the subheadings that included things like 'Find the best products for your hair', 'Discover your best feature and how to accent it', 'How to make your eyes sparkle', and much more. 'JUST LOOK INSIDE!' it commanded.

I laughed inwardly. How silly of them to tell us that we aren't pretty and we need to lather on different over priced products to be beautiful. Who would believe that? What kind of person wouldn't be offended by such a headline? Then I realized that many girls WOULD believe it. They wouldn't feel offended like I had, they would feel GRATEFUL. Why? Because that's what the media, people they know, and people they don't know even, have been telling them. They all have been critiquing everything behind their backs. They just know it.

This made me think about a talent show I watched in the small

town Stratford, England. It was in a small park, and most people in attendance were my age, and the majority of performers were too. As I scanned the crowd in between acts one girl in particular caught my attention. In fact she was pretty hard to miss because she was, so, well large. You know, the type of girl who would be on the biggest loser, who most people probably called names behind her back because of her size. I actually thought that she was really pretty, but I could tell from people's faces that I was probably the only one. Her sweet smile, and angel like features didn't make up for the fact she would be considered by many extremely obese.

The second thing that made me notice, and ultimately admire her was that she acted much differently than most girls I had seen in her place. Instead of walking around, awkwardly trying to make conversation, and smiling timidly, she was going from group to group, literally beaming, and laughing loudly. She didn't seem to care at all about the disgusted faces and fake friendliness she was getting by most.

The next thing that happened made me want to throw up my hands and cheer. He broke out of a group of musicians in the make-shift back stage they had cre-

ated. He was the stereotypical nerd from his head to his toe. Lanky, big glasses, and braces sparkling in the light as he smiled. He came up and wrapped his arms around her waist from behind. She jumped in surprise and turned around and gave him a big smile and he kissed her on the cheek. It was one of the most amazing things ever. Two people--who each in our society today would be considered ugly, or too dorky to be friends with, had found there own inward confidence in who they were, and an obvious love in each other. When his band got done playing they sat down together to watch the last few performances. As my eyes would make there way around the park, the stage, and occasionally fall on them I found myself thinking that they were really cool individuals.

Now why, your probably thinking, am I telling you this? Well, it's because YOU ARE BEAUTIFUL (or HANDSOME)! Just they way you are. You don't need to use a certain shampoo, or a certain foundation to make yourself attractive. The people around you are beautiful too, just look around! AND not only are you a gorgeous person on the outside, but you are also a stunning person on the inside! Honestly, that's the most important thing of all. How you are INSIDE.

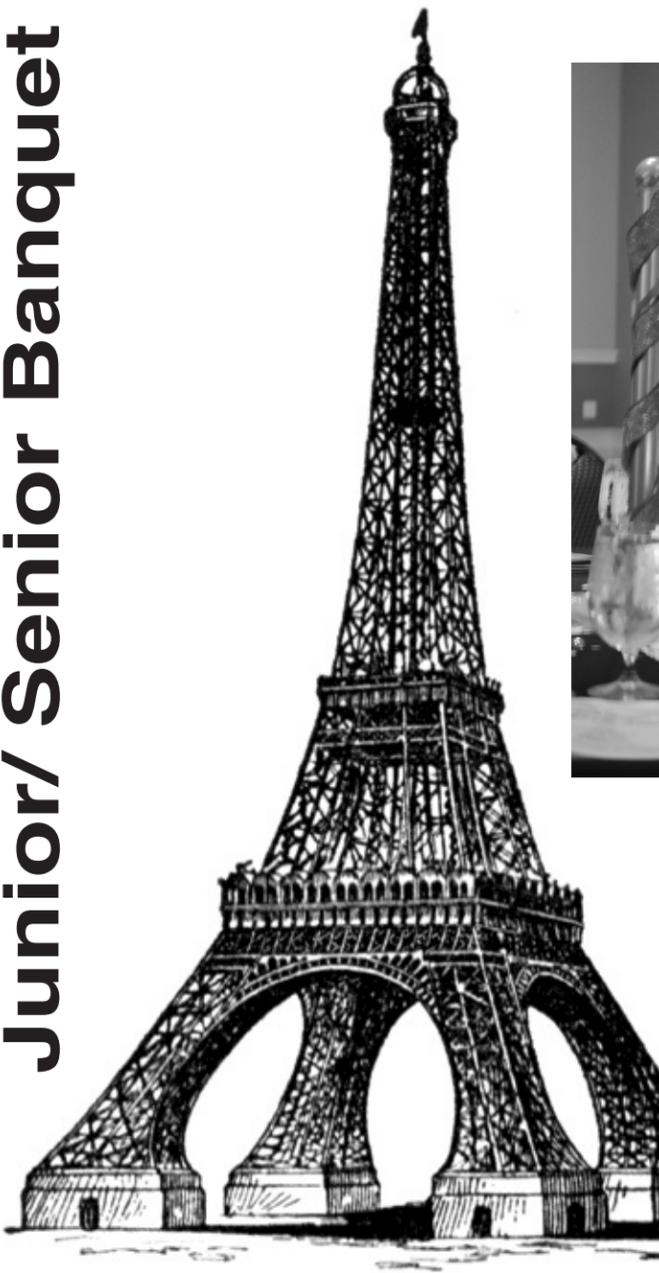
I KNOW I'm one of the fairest of them all

Society and Popular Culture would have you believe that it's what's on the outside that makes you who you are--and is what ultimately really matters. That is NOT the case. If you realize this about yourself, then that's great! But what about other people? Do you just ignore that one guy because his looks aren't even close to whatever celebrity male you think is so fantastic in appearance? Do you laugh about that one girl's 'tacky' sweater, and how another 'desperately needs to diet'? Or maybe it's the way they talk, or the things they enjoy are what make them the focus of our criticism.

These are all ways we have fallen into popular cuture, and in doing so, robbed ourselves of possibly amazing friendships. So let's all try, even me, to accept everyone just the way they are. Short, tall, fat, skinny, blonde, brunette, athletic, or nerdy. For we are ALL beautiful, and ALL created by the same amazing God, who put us in his image.

This means that the next time you see a magazine heading or a billboard proclaiming something like "Look Pretty Now" know that you can say confidently "I already am." And God will say, "Yes, you really are."

Junior/ Senior Banquet



SA Bowl

Celeste Herrera // Newswriter

Fun assembly breaks daily routine

Students attending the SA Bowl October 12 this year were greeted by a laboratory setting that looked like a scene from Frankenstein. There was a mad scientist working on his experiments with dry ice to simulate smoke. Big test tubes filled with colored chemicals sat on a table with a skeleton nearby. A crazy Igor ran and yelled around the lab. Last year's SA Officers themed the SA Bowl around aliens in their UFO needing the students' help to get back to their planet. This year, "We just wanted to make it fun," said Elaine Kamvazaana, SA religious vice president. "Freshman year, we were mixing food together and we thought, 'Hey guys, what about this?' Adding our ideas together we ended up with a scientist working on his experiments. We got it! We wanted to do Frankenstein, but that didn't work."

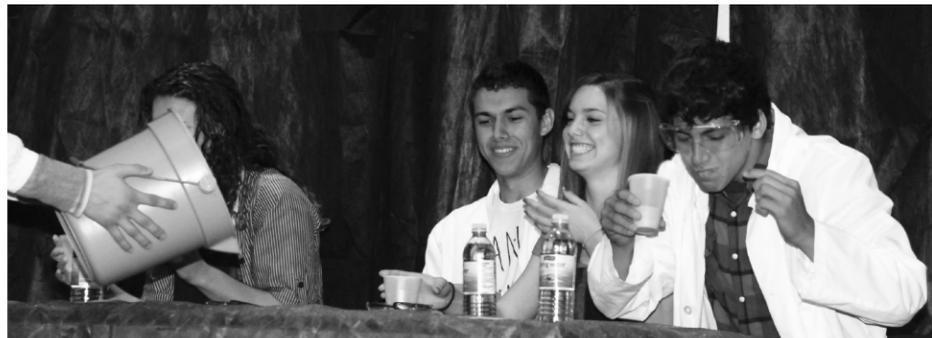
SA Bowl--a tradition started in 1977--is an assembly program during School Spirit Week, under the direction of the Student Association,

set aside for fun. This year, this took the form of a game in which students had to answer questions in five categories about things that involve the school. Every category had from 100 points to 500 points. Student could pick from any point value, realizing that the higher the points, the harder the question. Contestants were selected randomly out of four separate bowls containing the names of the freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors. Winners--those who answered the question correctly--won a good prize like a chocolate bar. Losers had to drink a blend ingredients--all edible--selected randomly by the students. David Church was one of the students who lost in the game. He said while laughing, "I really did throw up when I first tasted that shake." With ingredients such as blue cheese, broccoli, yogurt, and Oreos all mixed together, it's no wonder contestants were disgusted. One of the winners said, "The winners had a getaway: it's a very good thing they didn't have to have to drink that shake."

AA students know there are more SA Bowls to come in the following years. Exactly what's next is for the SA Officers to know and for the students to find out.



SA Officers introduce game.



David Church's reaction is slightly less positive than Brian Davisson's or Shelly Grellman's.



SA Officers get a taste of their own medicine when they drink concoction at end of game.

Kettering College MedKamp

Givan Hinds // Newswriter

MedKamp, hosted by Kettering College of Medical Arts (KCMA) in Kettering, Ohio, is a two-day introduction to medical arts geared toward high school students. The program gives students insight into various fields in the medical arts, as well as many different career paths, ranging from the Nursing program to the Physician's Assistant program to the program of Diagnostic Medical

Sonography.

Patty Greene, mother of senior Bonnie Green, drove seven students from Andrews Academy to attend the event on October 26-27. Participants included Christina Cribari, Amy Seo, Joyce Yoon, Alex Gaytan, Steven Han, Bonnie Greene, and Givan Hinds.

Most attendees are interested in the Medical field, except

for Alex Gaytan. "I want to be an attorney!" he proudly stated, yet the MedKamp experience still impressed him. The seven AA students toured the campus with many other Seventh-Day Adventist academy students from nearby and far away. Attendees saw cadavers and other interesting parts of the human body in the anatomy lab, and experimented with expensive sonography

(ultrasound) equipment. Participants attended a simulations lab in which they saw paramedics resuscitate dummies. The drill--although just that--was exciting, said the students. This short, yet interesting program for high school students affirmed some, and sparked interest in others.

Fun and fundamentals

Livvy Knott // Editor

Leadership Conference entertains and trains

Senior class president Rachellyne Brantley placed a cookie on her forehead and moved it to her mouth using only facial contortions. Simone Weithers, Student Association social vice president, furiously stacked 36 plastic cups into a pyramid. Phil Jardine, SA secretary, toppled a smaller pyramid of cups by shooting at it with rubber bands. These, along with many other ridiculous but amusing activities, constituted Saturday night recreation at Lake Union Leadership Conference.

Ask any of the 19 Andrews Academy students who went, and they'll tell you that the weekend of September 30 through October 3 was lots of fun. One attendee from Great Lakes Adventist Academy (GLAA) commented, "We're definitely taking Wah back to GLAA," referring to group game--introduced by AA students--played often throughout the weekend.

Though fun happens, it in no way detracts from the purpose of the weekend. This weekend, a 36 year tradition hosted by Camp Au Sable and open to the student leadership of all eight Lake Union academies, is designed "to challenge kids that are in leadership roles to fulfill that function, and to encourage the spiritual component," said James Martz, associate director of the conference. This is accomplished through position-specific breakout sessions, thought-provoking workshops, and intentional discussion amongst individual schools.

The theme for this year, "What Am I Missing?", was presented by Dave Ferguson, Undergraduate Leadership Development director at Andrews University. Ferguson pointed out that, especially as leaders, students often get so caught up in the details that they miss the

big picture, said National Honors Society Pastor Dillon Zimmerman. "I liked his use of videos," Zimmerman said, referring to Ferguson's style of incorporating interesting multimedia clips into his presentations. Zimmerman also "appreciated his humor" and his ability to "stay on topic."

Many students reported that they would leave camp with something of value to take back to their respective academies.

"I'm taking back a reenergized spirit for worship," said senior class president Cassie Chlevin of Hinsdale Adventist Academy (HAA). "One leadership tip I learned was that it's not all meant for one pair of shoulders, but for many people, so there's no need to shy away when you have God at the front and people supporting you."

GLAA's Adventist Youth for Better Living (AYBL) president Lindsay Mussleman said she's taking back "a better knowledge of leadership. Our goal is to be a good influence as followers of Christ. That's our main goal, to lead by example."

Senior class pastor Adam Sawyer of Indiana Academy (IA) said eagerly, "I'm taking back a whole new attitude. I'm so excited to get involved more with my class and just push them spiritually. I can't wait to influence people."

AA students brought back similar enthusiasm.

"If you want to get something done, you can't have everyone doing their own thing, you need a common goal. It works best if everyone is passionate about that goal," said Adam Mondak, senior class public relations. "The first step is unity."

Interestingly, senior class president Rachellyne Brantley said something similar: "If you want your class to be closer, you leaders have to be closer." Then she added, "And the boardwalk does amazing things."

"What I learned is that you don't just look out for your own organization," said SA public relations Michael Thompson. "It's everyone's responsibility to help each other out. I'm not just SA, I can

help out the sophomore class or any other group."

Besides enjoyment and education, many students found deeper meaning in their weekend experience.

"One of the things I found most meaningful was when we were all standing outside by the lake Thursday night, looking at the stars and singing," said Elaine Kamvazaana, SA religious vice president. "I just thought it was beautiful because everyone was singing, everyone was close, and we were singing to our Creator."

Vanna Giddings, sophomore class president, benefited from "Sabbath afternoon, when we got together as a school and discussed our hopes for the future of the Academy."

Fun and meaning blended for sophomore class vice president Molly Thompson. "I liked Saturday night when just our school got

together for our own recreation. We all piled into one car--that was cool," she said.

Cody Wales, SA treasurer and second year attendee, encourages other students to go "because it's a good experience. It's good to meet other leaders and see their insight into things."

Students who did not attend have reason to be proud of the conduct of their peers. "Every year we go to Leadership Conference, somebody comments about the AA group of students," said sponsor Sari Butler. "The theme of these comments is that they are leaders among leaders." The AA attendees serve and do "dirty work" no one else will do. "They are the icebreakers," Butler added, most notable in their willingness to "sit in the front row and sing loud." This year, one of the kitchen staff commented to Butler, "I don't know how you do it, but your kids get better every year."



AA attendees at Au Sable Sabbath afternoon.



Speaker Dave Ferguson.

Fall Week of Prayer emphasizes friendship with Christ

Taryn Hansen // Newswriter

Andrews Academy had its annual fall week of prayer the week of October 4-October 8. The students were blessed by an incredible speaker, Lee Venden, who showed each day how much God wants students to be His friend, and how being His friend was something that transforms lives forever.

Pastor Venden started the week by suggesting that we allow God to be in control of our lives. Jesus wants a personal relationship with us but it is often our own control issues that prevent it.

Pastor Venden emphasized this point by giving us an illustration that everyone enjoyed and understood. He compared our lives to the driver of a fine Porsche who refuses to let a skilled passenger offer him driving tips or surrender the wheel to his vastly superior driving skills. As the driver speeds on, disaster is imminent. And sure enough, as the car careens out of control, the passenger - Christ - throws himself in front of the driver, saving his life.

Throughout the rest of the week, he presented several other illustrations and stories, all of them about how God wants to be in our lives, what He can and will do for His friends.

For example, Pastor Venden spoke about a young man Jesus comforted in his last moments - in a Denny's bathroom of all places. The story made the majority of the people in chapel

cry, as they were touched with how much God cares about individuals.

He also stressed that in the end, when Jesus returns and it's time for judgment, He's going to

relationship with him.

Pastor Venden also talked about how we could get this relationship with Christ. He used the illustration of "The three legs of the stool" to reveal his point. The first leg of the stool was to read the Bible. This enables us to understand more about God and His plan for our life.

The second leg of the stool was to pray, so that we can give God our feedback and let Him know what's on our mind.

The third and final leg was to tell other people of the amazing relationship we are building with Christ. This allows other people to become interested in spending time with Him.

The week was filled with tears, and some laughter, and by the end of the week many made the choice to make a public stand for Christ. They were no longer going to be ashamed of sharing their faith or admitting they were Christians and God's friends.

Pastor Venden demonstrated a keen grasp of the teenage mindset and he captured students' attention with his talks. The Andrews Academy student body felt fortunate to have had him speak, especially since he made the long journey from Washington state.



Pastor Venden also talked about how God will always be there for us when we're going through hard times like death and loss.

stand in and say, "I'm there for him (or her), they're with me, they're my friend." All we have to do is choose to have a personal

Meet Pastor Venden

This year, Andrews Academy was privileged to have Pastor Lee Venden as the speaker for the fall Week of Prayer. Junior Lifase Bilima had an opportunity to ask him a few questions.

Pastor Venden was born in California, but presently lives in Walla Walla, Washington. He is married to Marji Venden and they have two children, Kris and Lindsey. Kris works in Seattle and manages Computer Surgery Clinic. Lindsey is a 4-year nurse graduate from Loma Linda. Pastor Venden enjoys nature photography and backpacking. Venden is now a full-time revivalist and is home sometimes only 5 weeks a year.

During my time with Pastor Venden, he shared some insight into his ministry and his relationships.

S: What was your reaction when you received the phone call to speak to the students at AA?

V: I was nervous even though I have taught 9 years of Academy Bible, but I have the passion of getting people to connect to head knowledge about Jesus to heart experience.

S: What is your theme for this week, and your hope for students to gain this week?

V: The theme is "Being Friends With Jesus". Christianity is not about what you do, but who you know! And who you know will change what you do. The challenge is to help people know that you have to have a relationship with Him.

S: You told a moving story about Jesus "driving" your Porsche and throwing himself in front of you to save your life. What brought you to the point where you wanted God to drive your car?

V: Because I've had so many crashes even when I tried to

drive myself it never really worked. The way you let Jesus drive is to let Him drive; let it be clear that you want to have time with Him. Take time in the morning to get to know Him better.

S: When did you feel the call to become a Pastor?

V: I was determined to be a Pastor but not to become one. One day I had a two hour conversation with my wife, and I was giving her all the reasons why I wouldn't become a Pastor. Right when I had finished, I received a call from the conference asking me to be a pastor of a church. After praying about it I decided to take the offer.

S: It sounds like you truly do love your wife, how did you guys meet?

V: Well, we met in college in the library and we started talking for three hours straight, and we

were even the last ones there when they were trying to shut down the library. We spent the next four days together getting to know each other, and we were married nine months later.

S: What is one piece of advice you like to give to young people?

V: We can't change our outside unless if we have changed completely; God can only change the inside and the outside.

Venden concluded his series with a call for revival, asking AA students to lead the charge. He said that 40 years ago there was revival at AU driven by young people. "Wouldn't it be great if you were the young people to lead revival this year?" he said.

SPORTS

Shydepoke: Alumni defeats school

Givan Hinds // Newswriter

Andrews Academy students and alumni squared off again in the annual “Shydepoke” Alumni Weekend football game on October 16 at the Sylvester Field. Despite the school players’ muster and high hopes, the Alumni proved unbeatable, trouncing the girls’ team 0-18 and narrowly beating the boys’ team 28-30.

The Most Valuable Player is picked by the alumni, endorsed by the coach, and chosen based on skill, contributions to the game, and Christ-like character. This year’s Doug Newberry MVP award winner was Zachary Mottley. This was also the first year that a MVP was chosen from the Acuwomen, and the winner of the Lydia Chong award was Ashley Reichert. Among the Acumen and Acuwomen were some other key players. Jessica (Jessie) Helm, quarterback for the Acuwomen, had sprained her ankle in the

week leading up to Shydepoke. Victoria Ryan stepped in as quarterback, though Jessie came in for a few minutes. Drake Dowell, quarterback for the Acumen, assisted in many outstanding plays.

For the first time this year, there were AA Cheerleaders, including guys and girls, and a school mascot, appropriately a Cardinal, who kept everyone in good spirits. The weather that night was the best it has been in years: tipping off at about 60 degrees, very unusual for this time of year. As always, the Senior players at this annual flag-football game were pumped and ready to win their last Shydepoke game, and as always, the new-coming Freshman were hyper with excitement about this new experience. Though the night ended in a loss for both Andrews Academy home teams, there was still an overall satisfaction in the players’ performance.



Acumen-- n. keen insight; shrewdness, or the school boys’ team. Fingers declaring themselves number one--obviously before the game.



Acuwomen: School girls’ team; the female equivalent.



MVP Zachary Mottley receiving trophy from Mike Constantine.



MVP Ashley Reichert with trophy and cardinal mascot.

JUNIOR CARDINALS

HOME GAMES:

0-2

(No games until tournament in Tennessee.)

LADY JR. CARDINALS

HOME GAMES:

2-1

(No games until tournament in Tennessee.)

AMBASSADORS

HOME GAMES:

1-1

Dec. 4, 6:15 pm
vs. INDY Tabernacle

Dec. 11, 6:30 pm
vs. South Bend

Dec. 18, 12:30 pm
vs. Battle Creek

RELIGION

The Great Controversy: 2.0

Jessica Snively // Newswriter

Creation/Evolution debate spawns conflict in Adventist Community

The debate on the origin of life has been going on for an incredibly long time. Ever since Darwin published his book, *The Origin of Species* in 1859, people have questioned that God created life, the world we live in, and the surrounding universe. This doubt of an intelligent creator sparked an ongoing argument that has become a major issue in the Adventist society and much of our country: should children be taught evolution in school?

This issue of teaching evolution in schools began with the Scopes "Monkey" Trial in 1925. In the town of Dayton, Tennessee, a public school science teacher was put on trial for teaching his pupils evolution. After ten long days of legal proceedings in the intense heat of the Dayton courthouse, John T. Scopes was fined \$100 for simply teaching evolution. However, the Scopes Trial was much more than just a court case; it was the beginning of a long and intense fight between evolutionists and those who believe in some sort of creation. Even today, there is still an argument about whether or not evolution should be taught.

One such example occurred recently on the campus of La Sierra University. The school was caught

in the midst of a controversy when some of the biology professors stated that they were teaching evolution to the biology students. La Sierra's teaching of evolution rekindled the struggle that had been going on since the Scopes Trial. There was shock and surprise in the Adventist community since La Sierra University is a Seventh-day Adventist school. One would not think of evolution being taught at the same school where Adventist beliefs and a literal six day Creation are taught. The president of La Sierra University says that evolution had not been taught in the biology classrooms. In contrast to the President's statement, one of the biology professors said that he had indeed taught evolution, but he had presented it as a theory, not fact. This professor said that he presented both theories on the origin of life because he wanted his students to come to their own conclusions as to how life came into existence.

On the other side of the spectrum, there is a debate about whether or not Intelligent Design (ID), and its various branches, should be taught in public schools. Before the Scopes Trial of 1925, some form of Intelligent Design was taught in public schools. The Scopes Trial brought to light the fact that outlawing the teaching of evolution in public schools infringed upon the teachers' rights to free speech. Today, it is Intelligent Design that is causing such an uproar. Recently, in the town of Dover, Connecticut, the pub-

lic school system got into trouble for presenting Intelligent Design in the classroom. The parents of some students were outraged that their children were forced to learn about Intelligent Design at school. These parents took the school board to court and argued that by teaching students Intelligent Design, the school was not upholding separation of church and state.

These events and the subsequent debate prompted a survey of Andrews Academy students to see how they view creation and evolution and their role in academia.

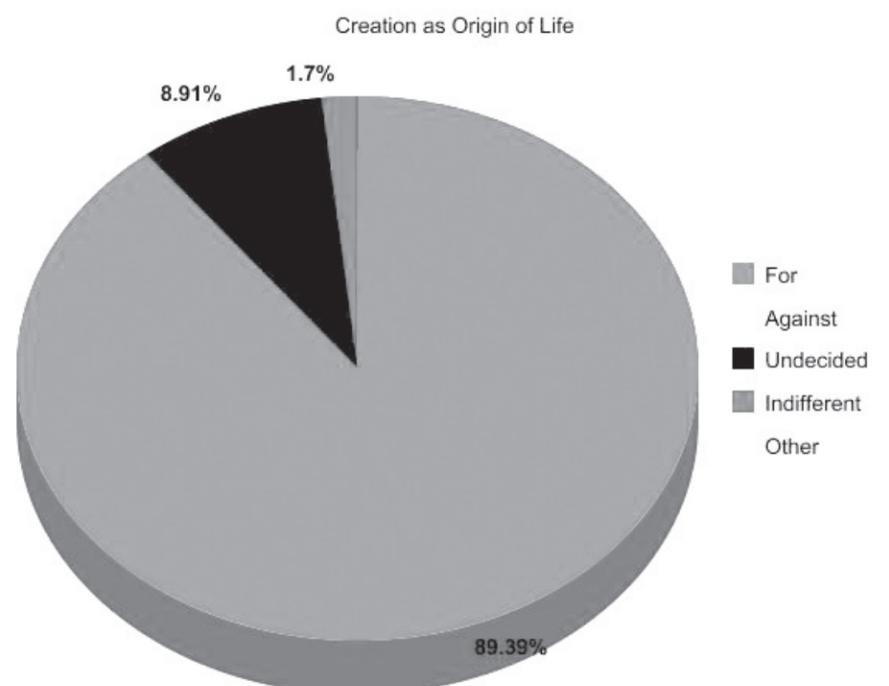
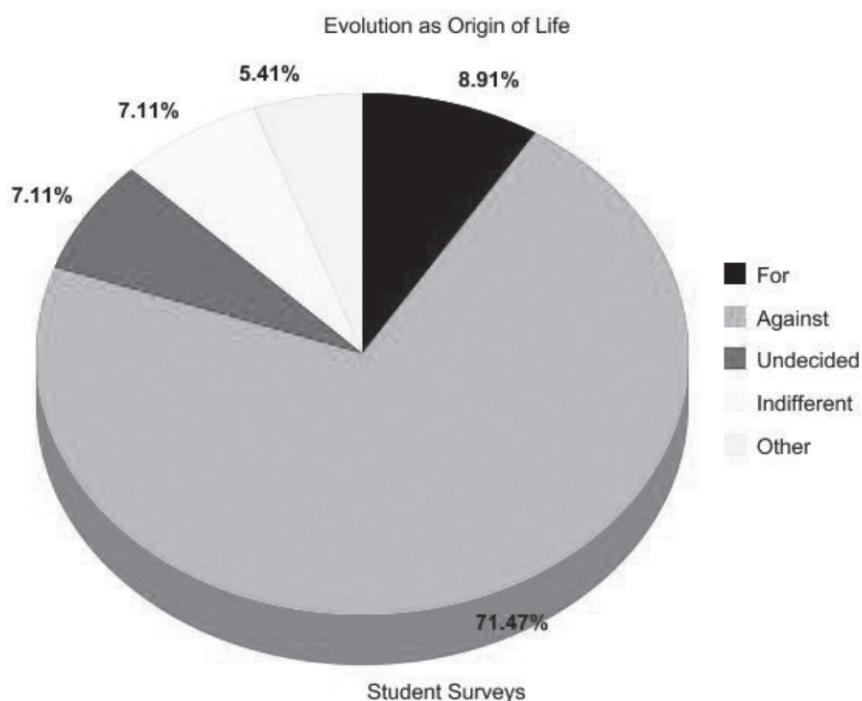
Regarding their position on the Creation-Evolution debate, 89.3% of those surveyed said they were for creation as the origin of life, and only 8.9% said they were undecided as to whether or not creation was the origin of life. 8.9% said they were for evolution as the origin of life, while the majority, 71.4%, said they were opposed to evolution as the origin of life. 7.1% of respondents were undecided, 7.1% were indifferent. 5.4% were for microevolution but against macroevolution.

When asked why they responded the way they did, the majority of students said their answers were influenced by their belief system; in this case, the fundamental beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. This result is not surprising because what one believes affects every aspect of one's life. Often, especially when people are young, they tend to say they believe in something simply because every-

one else does or because that is what their parents believe. As they grow and mature, they are forced to question what they believe and establish a set of values that they will adhere to for the remainder of their lives.

When asked if they thought creation and evolution should be taught at Adventist schools, 51.8% of respondents said 'yes,' 19.6% said 'no,' 14.3% were 'undecided,' 8.9% were 'indifferent,' and 1.7% said they had 'unspecified other opinions.' When asked if La Sierra University should teach both creation and evolution, 32.1% said 'yes,' while 35.7% thought that La Sierra University should not teach evolution. 14.3% of respondents were not sure if La Sierra should teach both theories while 14.3% and 3.5% were 'indifferent' and had 'unspecified other opinions,' respectively.

When asked why they answered the way they did, the majority of respondents stated that although they firmly believe that God created life and the world in six literal days, people should be open-minded and carefully consider and scrutinize every detail of an idea before accepting it. This mindset comes is useful when considering the origin of life. The issue of the origin of life is a volatile topic and proponents of both sides adhere to their beliefs fervently. Interestingly, both require more than a modest amount of faith. Which requires less is a matter of debate.



Choosing the right school

Nancy Lee // Newswriter

Ten colleges/universities were represented during the annual college fair that took place in the Andrews Academy commons on Oct 6. The fair provides an opportunity for Adventist universities to showcase their programs while giving AA students a chance to dialogue with school representatives about academics and student life. Students visited the booths during class breaks and lunch periods, collecting information about costs and programs.

Although most Adventist universities offer similar programs, some have carved out a niche. Walla Walla University, for example, is known for its Engineering program, while La Sierra University and Pacific Union College are famous for Biology, pre-medical, and health care. Florida Hospital College of health sciences is famous for medical health sciences, while Union College introduced an international rescue and relief program a few years ago. Andrews University maintains strong programs in Biology, Religion, Physical Therapy, and Teacher Education. Oakwood University's advertised strength is diversity. Southern Adventist University is famous for film.

With so many choices within Adventist education alone, choosing the right college or university can be a challenge. To further complicate the process, there are different types of colleges: community, technical, junior colleges, and four-year colleges and universities. Students in the market for a school should determine which school offers the desired program with quality teachers and a reasonable price.

Tips for choosing the right college: First, students should know what they're interested in, then check a school literature, visit schools, talk with alumni, visit school websites, and talk to their students to find out which school has the best program.

Once a student finds a suitable school, it is imperative to keep track of important deadlines. Most



schools follow similar application and financial due dates, but there are bound to be school-specific deadlines. Paying close attention to deadlines can reap big rewards, especially when it comes to financial aid. Scholarships and federal student aid in the form of grants are available only to those who apply. Missing deadlines precludes obtaining financial aid in any form but federal student loans, which must be repaid.

Preparation for college begins long before applications and college visitation, of course. Taking the recommended courses for college-bound students will ensure a smoother transition. To prepare for college there is no substitute for a solid and broad academic educa-

tion. This means taking challenging courses and maintaining good grades in high school. Transcripts are an important part of the college application and keeping them in order can mean acceptance to a desirable school. Many of the courses recommended for college-bound students include geometry, physics, and rigorous English courses. Additional courses are beneficial,

especially if they are related to an intended field of study. Rigorous courses are also essential preparation for college entrance examinations such as the SAT (Scholastic Assessment Test) or the ACT assessment. The SAT measures verbal and mathematical reasoning abilities. The ACT Assessment measures English, mathematics, reading and science reasoning abilities. Students applying to colleges in the East and West usually take the SAT exam. Students applying to schools in the south and Midwest often take the ACT; however, students should check the admission requirements at each school to which they are applying. Some colleges also require that an applicant take one or more SAT subject tests in major

areas of study. These tests are also known as SAT II tests. SAT II subject tests are offered in many areas of study including English, mathematics, sciences, history, and foreign languages. A subject test measures the extent of a student's knowledge of a particular subject. It is a good idea for a student to consult a guidance counselor about this early in high school; often the best time to take an SAT test is right after the student has taken a course in that subject.

Extracurricular activities should also be part of college preparation because they enable high school students to explore their interests and talents by providing activities such as school clubs, the student newspaper, athletics, musical activities, art, and drama.

Work experience and community services provide benefits for college as well. They can teach students discipline, responsibility, teamwork, and other skills. A summer job may be a good way to gain experience and earn money for college as well. Some students also participate in community service activities such as tutoring elementary school children or volunteering in a local hospital. Such activities make valuable contributions to society and also help students to identify their career interests and goals, gain workplace skills, and apply classroom learning to real-world problem solving. Many colleges view community service as a valuable experience that enhances a student's college application.

With so much to do before starting school, college should be a breeze, right?

Senior Portfolios

Jasmine St. Hillaire // Newswriter

More than just a requirement, portfolios are useful

Seniors at Andrews Academy are busy scrounging and polishing any representation of their character from the past four years as they prepare for senior portfolios.

Senior portfolios are a collection of students' artifacts from all four years of high school that help to illustrate their characteristics, strengths, and talents. The main objective of the project is to portray students' personal management, teamwork, and academic skills. Students can use a variety of items such as pictures, evaluations, letters of reference, or even programs of presentations they've participated in. This

project is a graduation requirement.

Although many students may think that portfolios are an unnecessary burden on top of their daily schoolwork, Mr. Atkins stresses that portfolios do serve a purpose. Portfolios are designed to help better prepare students for job and college interviews, he said.

According to Mr. Atkins, an alumnus from the class of 2010 said, "It [portfolios] can help them get a job while in college, too. It's not just a stupid requirement. I've applied for several jobs and, what do you know, that portfolio came in handy!" Some seniors have even found their portfolio helpful in discovering things about themselves that they had never realized before.

"I learned I volunteer a lot, but I really enjoy it. It's nice to know I give something back to those who

help me," said Ingrid Dumitrescu, a senior at Andrews.

Andrews Academy implemented senior portfolios near the year 2000. Andrews is not the only school to do this. Many other schools have this requirement or one very similar. Berrien Springs High School does something similar. Although the focus is slightly different and the grading method sets the two apart, the main objective is still the same: prepare their students for interviews, jobs, and colleges.

The portfolio assessment is conducted in steps. Each category (the cover sheet, table of contents, resume, autobiography, personal profile, etc.) is evaluated and rated using a scale of zero to five. The score is added up for a total out of 65. Presentation of the portfolio is scored as well, providing a final total

score out of 75.

Several AA seniors were asked if they had any advice for underclassmen that will soon have to complete their portfolios. A common answer was to keep everything from classes and extra-curricular activities, throw nothing away and start early.

"Do anything and everything possible during your first three years," Dumitrescu said. "There are so many opportunities; things you never thought you would be interested in. They change you for the better. You gain experience and also something for your portfolio."

Scholarships: Comedy or Tragedy

Scott Snowden // Newswriter

Rising tuition costs have students (and their parents) looking for ways to fund higher education without incurring tens of thousands of dollars in student loan debt. Scholarships and grants are two ways to offset tuition costs, and there are a few out there that just might surprise you.

A search of the web indicates that although there are scores of scholarships available, finding the right one can be difficult. Eligibility requirements are varied. Scholarships are based on many things, including ethnicity, age, field of study, GPA, and income. For the most part, when the school is of a higher price, the school creates more scholarships for applicants. By having the school sponsor these scholarships they are able to convey to the student body what they have in mind for their academics. Look through their listed scholarships, you might find something that can help you tremendously.

These colleges fail to mention some of the weird scholarships available. There are scholarships for almost everything, from the Duck Brand Duct Tape Stuck on Prom Contest scholarship to the very absurd scholarship received by knowing how to duck call. The Chick & Sophie Major Memorial Duck Calling Contest is held every year in Stutt-

gart Arkansas. Senior year students may receive up to two thousand dollars for being able to call ducks in one of four ways. There have been three winners since the contest started in 1974, allowing many student increase their education from something most people would overlook. Be aggressive in your efforts, look around you might be surprised with what you find. Though the awards vary greatly from a few hundred to a few thousand dollars, knowing that you won the duck tape dress award might be a good conversation starter.

The best place to find weird scholarships is on the web. www.zencollegelife.com offers a list of 45 scholarships that may be able to help you. This site like many others offer links to organizations willing to help fund college tuition as payment for illustrating their product of lifestyle. The fact of the matter is, you should start looking seriously at scholarships in your sophomore to junior years of high school. This will save serious grief during your senior year. Be aggressive, put your foot in the door. These colleges will see your passion and know that you will be a great addition to their school. Sometimes it pays to think outside the box when it comes to financing college.

Pins and needles

Becky Ray // Newswriter

Julie Logan masters an unusual craft

Most people have seen her. She walks quietly down the halls, not making much noise or disturbance in her wake. She sits in class, diligently doing her schoolwork, getting nearly every question and problem right. Soon she pulls out a bag, and silently withdraws an object. Immediately, most think, "Needles? What is she doing with those huge monstrosities?" Deftly, she moves yarn through the needles, sometimes not even paying attention to what she does, and after a few seconds of staring, most people move on.

What most don't know is that Julie Logan is an avid crafter. Not only interested in knitting, she can also crochet, quilt, and "kind of sew," she says as she crochets, answering each of my questions about her crocheting experiences.

Having taught herself how to crochet roughly seven years ago, Julie spends about an hour a day crocheting. Her vast repertoire of creations includes blankets, baby sweaters, pencil cases and doilies. She says her favorite things to make are pencil cases because she has "never seen anyone else make them and they're really fast and fun to make."

Lately, Julie has been working on doilies, a sort of small, decorative

table mat. The instructions are a bit more complicated, and it takes her around two hours to finish one of the extremely detailed pieces.

Through her dedication and hard work, Julie has made many crochet projects over the years, and although people have offered to buy pieces from her, she usually just gives them away.

"Why does she spend so much time making all of these things?" you may ask. The answer Julie gives is that it's "nice being able to make things out of my head. It's easier to concentrate when I'm making things with my hands."

Although beginning to crochet might sound daunting, the preparation is not too difficult. For most projects, only a crochet hook and yarn is needed, hooks running about one to two dollars each and the average yarn about two and a half to three dollars a ball, or skein. As projects become more difficult, various tools may be needed to complete the pieces. Julie had a few words of advice for beginners, telling them to keep trying. "At first my projects weren't the greatest, but if you keep trying, your projects will get better," she said.

As the bell rings, signaling the end of class, and Julie packs up her crocheting and proceeds out the door, not many people can say that they have completed their homework, much less two doilies, a pencil case, and a baby sweater, all in the last week.

Working the system

Becky Ray // Newswriter

Student jobs: best and worst

It is said that nothing in life is absolute except for death and taxes. However, for high school and college-aged students, class time, homework, and, for most, the dreaded student job takes the places of those seemingly menial requirements.

Student jobs are obtained for a variety of reasons, including a way to subsidize school payments, earn some extra spending money, or training for a future profession. The jobs available to students reach from landscaping and yard care to fast food services.

Several Andrews Academy (AA) students were interviewed to find out their opinions about student jobs, which are considered the best and worst, and why. The best student job to have, as revealed by AA students, is working with kids at summer camps, followed closely

by office work and as a grader for teachers.

The worst student job was said to be janitorial work, followed by customer services, or positions where people are prone to yell at them. According to these AA students, factors that determine if a job is considered as "good" or "bad" include the amount of pay, flexibility of hours, the ability to be creative or expressive in what they do, who they get to work with, and whether the tasks are repetitive or vast and changing.

Among the good jobs, Juniors Amante Gonzalez and Haley Lofthouse were asked about their employment. Both Amante and Haley said they had good jobs.

Amante was a summer lifeguard at Silver Beach in Saint Joseph, his job allowing him to "sit in a chair, get a tan, and look at girls all summer." He said the pay was good, too.

Hayley works as a grader for Pastor Glassford and is the painter of the Aslan mural in his classroom.

As an artist, Hayley also enjoys her job, able to paint and be creative, while doing what she likes artistically.

Senior Scott Snowden has worked at Apple Valley Market in Berrien Springs as a produce worker for nearly three years, organizing and sorting vegetables, sweeping, cleaning and moving large boxes of vegetables around. While that may already sound demanding, Scott also cleans out the vegetable displays, taking out the vegetables, spraying and wiping down the dividers between sections, and replacing the vegetables, all of this taking two people about 25 minutes.

However, once a month, the job gets slimier – literally. Along with the normal cleaning process, the shelving units, fans and drains beneath the vegetable displays are cleaned out. Smelly orange slime sitting at the bottom of the units requires three workers 45 minutes to clean and remove the sludge. Although this could drive some people away from produce for good, Scott takes it all

in stride. "I get to look at bright colors all day, and talk to old people... I just make a lot of jokes and time flies," Scott said. "I don't really think about it." Scott said he'd give his job a seven out of ten.

Senior Janessa Howell works at the Andrews University dairy farm feeding cows. For many, working at a place where the smell of cow dung perpetually permeates the air may sound distasteful; however, Janessa says that there aren't many nasty jobs, except for cleaning the cow stalls. Like Scott, Janessa also concentrates on the good in her the job, mentioning that the cows are cute, and gives her job a nine out of ten.

Many times, students are required to take on jobs out of a necessity for money, and in the current state of the economy, students may be forced to hold on to these jobs, even if they are less-than-desirable. With a strong work ethic and determination on the student's part, even the most menial job can be endured.

COMING SOON: SOW SAFARI

Lifase Bilima // Newswriter

Participants prepare for La Barra mission trip

Two years ago, 27 students and 11 adults took the challenge of going to Quiro, Chile, to Serve, Outreach, and Witness (SOW) through the building of a church for locals. This year, on December 26, approximately 38 students and 11 adults - including Pastor Glassford, Mrs. Butler, and Miss Gaytan - will be traveling to La Barra, Mexico, for a similar project. La Barra is located in, the southernmost state in Mexico, which borders Guatemala to the east and the Pacific Ocean to the South.

In a recent interview with Mrs. Sari Butler, trip sponsor and long-time SOW Safari director, I had an opportunity to find out more about the trip.

S: What will the SOW Safari group be doing in Mexico?

B: Building a church is the main focus, but we will be doing evangelism, Vacation Bible School, and other random community service activities.

S: How much will the trip cost?

B: 1500 dollars, which covers about everything and is relatively inexpensive.

S: How are students raising the money for the trip?

B: Students have to raise funds themselves because we don't have a program to fundraise the money. But there are students who raise the money through letter writing, parents, co-workers' support, doing programs at church, or getting an extra job.

S: What are parents saying?

B: In general parents are quite supportive of the children and the experience they will have. But, of course, parents have general questions such as who is going, safety, where are they staying, etc.

S: Where will you be staying?

B: In a school in La Barra, a small town on a peninsula in the Pacific. The school is in a rural community. In the school they have a kitchen, but they have no running water in the town. So, in some way it is a true mission experience due to the lack of common necessities.

S: What is the goal for this mission trip?

B: To give students a vision of their responsibility to the work of sharing blessings.

S: What are the biggest obstacles/challenges for this trip?

B: I'm not that concerned about the safety because I was there in August. It was interesting how another lady and I got there in the middle of the night, literally going from hotel to hotel trying to find a place to stay, but I never felt scared or unsafe doing that. But, of course, I'm keeping an eye on the local police station there. And of course, I would never let anyone wonder off by themselves: they have to be in groups. Additionally, the great thing about transportation there is that it's private. Maranatha has been using the transportation every time they go there. One challenge is getting into the flow of working. We will be up from 6 a.m.-10 p.m. with little break time because we are there to serve.

S: Wow...well for such big tasks, how much credit does a SOW Safari participant receive?

B: It is .1 elective credit - but yet such a big blessing.

I also had the chance to ask senior Phil Jardine some questions about SOW Safari. This will be Phil's second SOW Safari trip because two years ago he went to Chile. He said the reason he is going is to spend time with friends and help out the people in Mexico by sharing the love of Jesus. Phil's advice to new attendees is to be willing to "put yourself out of your comfort zone because there will be a lot of hard work."

A special SOW Safari parent meeting took place Thursday Oct. 28, 2010 in the AA chapel. Mrs. Butler presented specific information directed to parents, addressing questions about trip details, duties, and the itinerary.

By way of introduction, Mrs. Butler mentioned that two years ago there was only one Adventist in the village of La Barra, and now they have 25 Adventists in the village. The people of the village earn their "daily bread" by fishing, and when they heard about the AA group coming there to build a church, they decided that every Thursday they would give all their earnings to pay some of the expenses for the church. Their enthusiasm and dedication inspired the theme for SOW Safari: Go Fish.

In response to concerns about violence in the state of Chiapas (an area roughly the size of

South Carolina), Mrs. Butler assured parents that every precaution will be taken to ensure student safety. She also stressed that students are never given permission to go anywhere by themselves. Butler noted that numerous other groups have traveled to the area within the last year without incident. Reports from lead-

ers of similar trips affirm Butler's assessment.

As the group's departure date approaches, Butler reminds students and parents to pray for SOW participants and the people of La Barra. As they GO Fish out in Mexico, we could also GO Fish here in United States for God.

So Where is La Barra, anyway?



A few facts about the region of Chiapas:

- More than 10 years since the signing of NAFTA in 1994, the national minimum wage has lost 20% of its purchasing power.
- The current minimum wage is approximately 49.50 pesos per day (the equivalent of USD4.80).
- The per capita income of indigenous people is equivalent to only 32% of the income of nonindigenous people in the state.
- There are 304,018 indigenous people employed in the state of Chiapas, 42% of whom (122,345) do not report any income. Another 42% (127,682) survive on an income below the minimum monthly wage. Only 9.9% of the Chiapan indigenous population earns between one and two minimum monthly wages.
- 83% of the indigenous population works in agriculture, in comparison to 58.3% of the broader population of Chiapas. Approximately 5.5% of indigenous people work in industry, and another 8.6% in the service sector.
- Chiapas is the state with the greatest concentration of income in the hands of few individuals or families at a national level, with a degree of concentration parallel to that found in the poorest African nations. It also has the greatest inequality in the distribution of monetary income in Mexico.
- Malnutrition is the seventh leading cause of illness in the state of Chiapas, and the tenth cause of death. In 1994, it was the sixth leading cause of death among indigenous people.
- In 2008, 71.6% of the indigenous population suffers malnutrition.

--source: SIPaz.org



Cavan Miller, Serena Wineland, and Jonathan Constantine on Decades Day.

SCHOOL SPIRIT WEEK

October 12 - 15 found Andrews Academy students wearing the strangest things. An annual tradition at the academy, School Spirit Week allows students to show their enthusiasm by dressing according to daily themes. Tuesday was Nerd Day. Wednesday was Crazy Clothes/Clash Day. Thursday was Decades Day. Friday was Dress Up day (in time for Alumni Convocation). Tuesday assembly featured SA Bowl (see article *SA Bowl*, page 3).



Kimberly Park models 50s fashion in poodle skirt and stunning scarlet specs.



Mixers Kyle Knoll, Simone Weithers, and Rachellynne Brantley anticipate a disgusting tasting shake during SA Bowl.



Reginald Desrosiers, Anissa Monteso and Aaron Keiser particularly enjoy their mix during SA Bowl.



"Who put the time machine on shuffle?" said Scott Snowden.



Melody Collins, John Henri Rorabeck and Melisa Ruhupatty.



Nerd Day participants in Mr. VanDenburgh's English I class.



Cody Wales and Livvy Knott examine huge calculator.



Andrews Academy's most studious students.

DECEMBER

2 SA Caroling Vespers
7:00 pm

4 Band/Chorale Performance
All Nations

Project Sheep
3:30 pm

5 SAT
Andrews University

SA Children's Christmas Party
6:00 pm

6-10 Moratorium Week

9 Feast of Lights Rehearsal

10 Feast of Lights
7:00 pm

12 ACT
Andrews University

SA Christmas Party
6:00 pm

15-17 Final Examinations

Wednesday

9:20 & 10:15

Thursday

8:00, 11:10 & Noon

Friday

1:30 & 2:25

(BIRTHDAYS)

4 Julia Westfall

6 Sofia Tsatalbasidis

8 Laura Miller

9 Karla Mulzac

16 Austin Bell

18 Eun Jeong Choi

19 Shane Glassford

20 Dillon Zimmerman

20 Joshua Hall

23 Mihael Plantak

24 Ji Yeon Lee

27 Yeongjun Han

27 Amy Yu Rin Seol

30 Brenden Mutz

Because who doesn't have an idyllic Thanksgiving dinner...right?



Norman Rockwell's iconic painting, "Freedom from Want," offers an idyllic image of American thankfulness - and family tranquility.

Becky Ray // Newswriter

As fall finally begins to permeate the air and there are more leaves on the ground than the trees, thoughts naturally turn to the annual fall festivity that is Thanksgiving.

Norman Rockwell's "Freedom from Want" is a painting often associated with Thanksgiving. It depicts a table full of family and friends, all smiling faces and eager expressions, as the turkey is brought to the head of the table. The image has become the quintessential American experience.

However, the image is often far from the reality of the situation. If "Freedom from Want" is the ideal image that families strive for, than the reality of that ambition is sorely lacking - at least as Thanksgiving unfolds in more typical homes.

From sun up until the meal begins, the women in the kitchen participate in a World Wrestling Entertainment match with their piecrust and generally lose. You've got the family piled all over the furniture in the living room, yelling at each other and at the football game on the television. Children run unsupervised through the house,

complaining of being hungry and inflicting mortal damage on their cousins (or as my dad once did as a kid, drag the dinner around on the floor for a while).

The meal is no less stressful: the rolls taste like buttered rocks, and the tofurkey is so badly burnt that even the cat runs away at the stench of it.

The women stand over their husbands, threatening to turn off the game, and the men back up into the dining room, their eyes still trained on the TV, pleading with their wives to leave the TV on for fear they'll miss a touchdown.

Family drama and arguments from the past year come to light, secrets and stories come out. And then there's that random guy at the end of the table that no one knows whose guest he is.

After the meal the men perform a marathon getting back to their game for the rest of the afternoon, the women go into the kitchen to clean up, put away, and wash dishes for the foreseeable future, and children go back to maiming each other.

While I myself have never (well, rarely) experienced such

a Thanksgiving as described, I have had a few entertaining Thanksgivings of my own.

Every year, between eating and holding our newly protruding stomachs, we watch a ton of movies ranging from chick flicks to comedies to action films. However, a few years back we only had one genre: action. It was the most depressing year ever for movies, all of them having to with war, death, and fighting ones' way out from behind enemy lines. Hardly the stuff that makes one Thankful - oh, the irony.

The same year, some of my aunt's family was over and they had their new dog with them. In the midst of our festivities, all of the sudden we heard a squeaking noise coming from near the dog. Thinking it was just a chew toy or something similar, no one paid much attention to it until a few minutes later when no one could ignore the dog. He was immediately banished to the out of doors, and we all breathed much better after that. Hardly the warm memories Rockwell envisioned.

Another family tradition my family treasures at Thanksgiving is putting puzzles together. While normally this is a rather enjoyable activity everyone gets into, whether it actually be putting it together, or stealing and hiding pieces, as in my uncle's case, there have been occasions where family members will start to yell at each other, trying to figure out the right way to put the pieces together after a long and drawn out afternoon of working over the puzzle. Finally giving up one year, my aunt eventually ended up throwing the puzzle into the fire where it "made a real good,

hot fire!"

Although my family Thanksgivings may not be anywhere near as peaceful or idyllic as the Norman Rockwell counterpart, I do cherish my sometimes strange and off-kilter Thanksgiving as a time to be with family, celebrate the blessings God has given us - and fully appreciate the importance of fresh air.

Other takes on Thanksgiving

A few Andrews Academy students shared their Thanksgiving traditions and thoughts.

Lifase Bilima said she is looking forward to Thanksgiving because all of her siblings come home to celebrate. However, one reason she's not excited for Thanksgiving she states is because "Guess whose the one washing all the dishes? Me!"

Isabel Stafford said that, "Thanksgiving is awesome!", adding that her family cooks a big turkey, has three pies and lots of food.

To celebrate Thanksgiving, Celeste Herrera says that all the family gathers together at her house, combining to make a large group who talks, has a table full of food, enjoys a meal together and who "just have a great time." When they don't have a turkey, Celeste says htat they make tamales instead.

Rachel Lee, unaccustomed to celebrating in the United States says the "I don't do anything here, except I eat a lot." Back in Korea however, Rachel says that Thanksgiving is observed during the Chinese Thanksgiving, when families get together, eat Korean food and get three days off form school and work.



Pastor
John Henri Rorabeck



Treasurer
Alyson Drew

The Sanjo Staff apologizes for accidentally switching the positions of class pastor John Henri Rorabeck and treasurer Alyson Drew in the September 2010 issue.