



# Hilltopics

**UNDER CONSTRUCTION**

**One Billion...  
but No Change**

**Honors in  
the Commons**

**The Presidential  
Race So Far**

# Letter from the Editor

Like an excessively pimply, overlong, painfully awkward puberty, a great wave of construction has taken over this campus, and it doesn't appear to be going anywhere any time soon. It seems appropriate, then, that we here at Hilltopics follow suit with a long-term construction project of our own, and that is exactly what we plan to do this year.

No one, save contractors and Donald Trump, likes construction, for reasons which by now are embarrassingly obvious to SMU students, faculty, and staff. Yet construction is not all bad—even as it disrupts, it renews. If successful, it changes our world, and us, for the better, and as such forms a fundamental step we must take on the path to a more sound society.

For our part at Hilltopics, we see our personal construction project as returning to our roots, remembering our past, and anticipating a new future ahead. Specifically, we will:

- Become a critical force on campus, bringing careful and considered attention to issues of all shapes and sizes in order to galvanize conversations about the issues that matter to us, and ought to matter to all thinking people
- Focus on issues of social justice and talk about things no one else on this campus has the ability, willpower, or audacity to talk about publically
- Provide a public forum where ideas of all sorts can be tried on for size and disseminated to a large audience, in the hope of encouraging action and concrete, positive change
- Highlight the unique and valuable talents, viewpoints, and passions of SMU Honors students, and help create a robust sense of community and shared purpose in the UHP
- Increase the visibility and impact of the UHP in the campus community at large
- Satisfy the intense need on this campus for a publication which features consistently good writing, intelligent and informative content, and student creative work
- Give praise where praise is due
- Draw from our past in order to blend the underground, revolutionary style of our original iterations with a professional, serious, insightful, and legitimately impactful agenda of social change
- Entertain, enlighten, and humor our readers
- Make this campus think

A word about our philosophy of criticism: we here at Hilltopics are not armchair critics, nor senseless rabble-rousers, nor egotistical, power-hungry “young people,” nor foolishly naïve ideologues. We are not rapsallions of any form or fashion, nor any of those things societal critics, especially young ones, are sometimes accused of being.

To the contrary, we are all practitioners of the various things we criticize, and as SMU students we have a vested interest in the affairs of this university—and our voices deserve to be heard. Furthermore, we reach our conclusions as the result of a long and serious process of rational and informed consideration, which takes place under the auspices of one of the best formal educations available to the young people of this world. We say the things we say and do the things we do in order to effect positive and lasting change in areas where we see a need for such change—quite frankly, we don't have time for rabble-rousing.

What I'll say in closing is this: If anything I've said interests you, then give us a chance. Read us, and then spread the word to your friends and enemies alike. Interact with us—write a guest article, or become a regular contributor. Help us better fulfill our goal of making SMU, and everyone affiliated with it, better.

For truly, as we reflect on the eve of SMU's centennial, it is difficult not to think of all the wondrous things that will happen in the next 100 years. All of us at Hilltopics are committed to helping to make those things happen, and that process starts now. We hope you will join us for the ride.

*-Kenny Martin*

# Welcome from Your Honors Mentors

by Abby Hawthorne

Your friendly Honors Mentors would like to warmly welcome you to the 2015-2016 school year! We hope members of our newest class of Honors students feel welcome and have been able to establish a successful routine on campus. Also, we hope returning Honors students continue to thrive and exceed everyone's expectations, including their own. To those in the UHP who are not yet familiar with the Honors Mentor position on campus, I would like to take this opportunity to officially introduce our role within the Honors program and, throughout the course of the year, continue to provide updates about UHP activities and events in this column.

With the integration of the Residential Commons system on campus and the dissolution of Virginia-Snider as the traditional Honors dorm, UHP administrators have searched for ways to continue the sense of community and shared learning experiences within members of the Honors program. Distributed between the 11 Residential Commons on campus, first- and second-year Honors students within each living community now share an Honors mentor (or mentors) who can not only provide information about courses in the UHP but also connect Honors students within and among the RCs.

As your Honors mentors, we are committed to helping you achieve the highest degree of academic excellence during your academic career at SMU, and we hope to help provide each Honors student with a sense of community and support from fellow scholars on campus. Please come visit us if you have any questions regarding Honors courses, petitioning courses for Honors credit, scholarship and fellowship applications, or if you have any ideas about improvements to the UHP experience on campus. SMU, and specifically the UHP, provides students with such a wide variety of enriching intellectual experiences, and we want to help you take full advantage of everything this campus has to offer. We welcome all Honors students, of any year on campus, to participate in our UHP-hosted activities and provide any feedback regarding the Honors program. Stay curious about the fascinating world around us, stay eager to avidly pursue your studies, and stay committed to yourself, your colleagues, and your education.

We wish you absolute success in your academic pursuits this year!

Sincerely,

*Your Friendly Honors Mentors*



## 2015-16 Honors Mentors

**Armstrong Commons:** A.J. Jeffries (ajeffries@smu.edu)

**Boaz Commons:** Kim Strelke (kstrelke@smu.edu)

**Cockrell-McIntosh Commons:** Elizabeth Krane (ekrane@smu.edu)

**Kathy Crowe Commons:** Julia Palagyi (jpalagyi@smu.edu)

**Crum Commons:** Abby Hawthorne (ahawthorne@smu.edu), Rachael Rodgers (rachaelr@smu.edu)

**Loyd Commons:** Allie Rutherford (anrutherford@smu.edu)

**Mary Hay, Peyton, Shuttles Commons:** Kenny Martin (kjmartin@smu.edu), Joshua Pearsey (jpearsey@smu.edu)

**McElvaney Commons:** Perrin Griffin (mpgriffin@smu.edu)

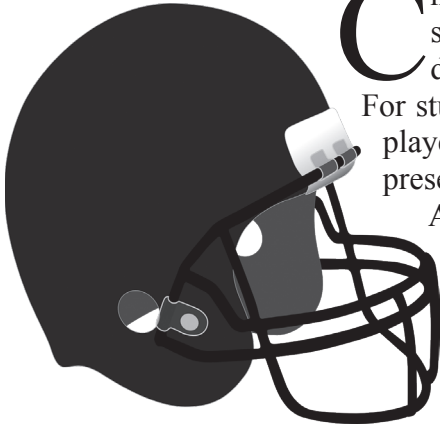
**Morrison-McGinnis Commons:** Alex Bush (mbush@smu.edu)

**Virginia-Snider Commons:** Daniel Muehring (dmuehring@smu.edu)

**Ware Commons:** Vijay Ramesh (vramesh@smu.edu)

# SMU Football Needs Student Energy

by Shelby Stanfield



Chad Morris has given life to this campus again. Each of the first 3 games of the season created a buzz that permeated the entire university. Now, after 3 weeks of disappointing losses, that energy has been dialed back.

For students, this string of losses shouldn't warrant a complete loss of hope. We have played better this year than we ever did last season. Students have actually been present in our student section at the start of the game and at the start of the 3rd quarter.

A sense of community has developed on campus around the SMU football team. Boulevards and football games bring students, faculty, staff, and alumni together like nothing else on campus.

Maintaining this school pride is a two-part process. Show up to boulevards and then attend the games, no matter how much the debauchery of the day has you "not feeling it." Give our team a quarter or two to prove itself. After you've given the players that chance, it's up to them and the coaching staff to

deliver their end of the deal. If our players play hard and fight until the end, we should be there right beside them. If nothing else, stay until the 4th for Beans.

Our football program is turning around, but it can't happen overnight. Have faith in your fellow Mustangs and keep cheering; we all want something to cheer for. Keep faith, and pony up.

## Comic Relief

by Andrew Oh



# Decolonizing Africa through Literature

by Cecilia Weigman

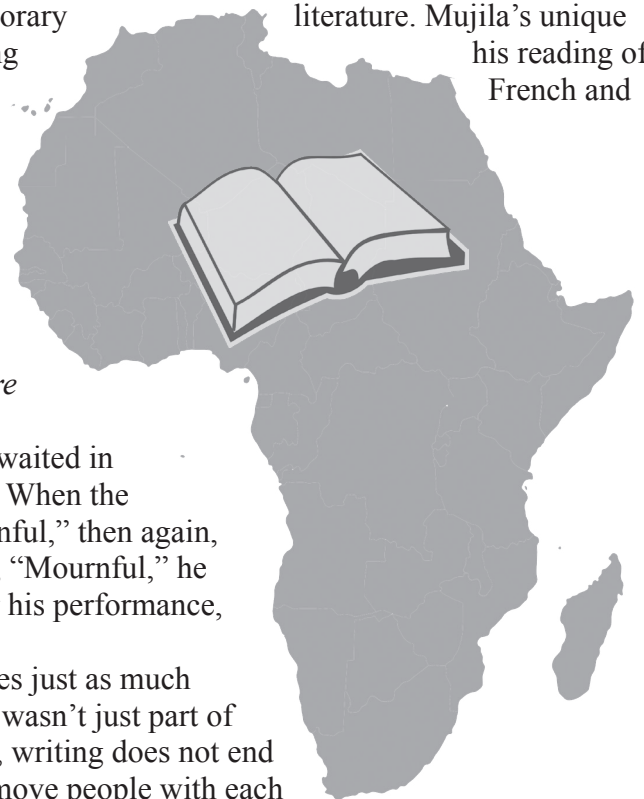
While many of the students present in Room 100 of Hyer Hall on October 2nd merely came to the “Globalization, Translation, and African Literature” lecture for extra credit, they exited with much more than a few bonus points. Listening to the words of Fiston Mwanza Mujila, everyone quickly realized that his gift for writing has the power to influence peoples and cultures far beyond the individual readers of his novels and poems, and it made for a truly exhilarating experience.

Hailing from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mujila at first did not find an encouraging society in which to share his literary works. In order to perform readings of his pieces, he resorted to standing in hair salons, web cafes, and bars. Unfortunately, these places (especially the bars) offered competing attractions: some people came to listen to Mujila speak and others came for music and drinks, so Mujila learned quickly to shout his works into the din so that he would be heard. Interestingly, the bars in which he performed would oftentimes play the famous Congolese Rumba, and Mujila began using the music in his performances, later embedding it directly into his works.

Mujila compares his pieces to jazz concerts, each part of the story contributing, like each instrument, to the whole song. He has collaborated with jazz musicians and performed his readings set to music, and his writing has a musical quality rarely seen in contemporary literature. Mujila’s unique fusion of music and language was certainly on display during his reading of a selection from his new novel *Tram 83*, translated from the French and published by Dallas’s own Deep Vellum.

Bellowing loudly, he began with a few bars of singing (to exercise his voice, he claimed). Then he began in earnest, French words pouring quickly from his mouth. His facial expressions at times carried even more meaning than the words, which his translator faithfully echoed. At one point, he began repeating one single word, *Lugubre*, over and over, and he began laughing. *Lugubre* went on for about two full minutes, the laughing continuing sporadically. Those of us who could not understand French waited in anticipation as to what this passage and the laughing meant. When the French translator began speaking, we heard him say, “Mournful,” then again, “Mournful,” and again, “Mournful.” Soon, Mujila joined in, “Mournful,” he would laugh, “Mournful.” And, standing there minutes after his performance, Mujila said one last time, “Mournful,” while still laughing. At the end of his lecture, I realized that his performance gives just as much meaning to the story as the words on the page; the laughing wasn’t just part of the show but also an extension of the text itself. For Mujila, writing does not end with a published, bound book, but continues to evolve and move people with each word spoken at each reading.

As a new voice in the young generation of African writers, Mujila holds an interesting position. As he told us in his lecture, African literature consists of both oral and written tradition. The written works fit into two categories: those written in native African languages and those written in a language of Africa’s colonizers (French, German, English, etc.). Written in French and German, Mujila’s works belong to the colonial written tradition, yet his spoken-word performances with strong musical elements speak to an influence of African oral tradition. In this way, Mujila blends the original African literary tradition with the newer colonial influence, creating works that reflect and comment on the larger situation in Africa today and the conflict between the area’s rich cultural traditions and the destructive effects of colonization. Through his writing, Mujila tries to come to terms with this conflict by utilizing his African culture to redefine colonial influences. He truly represents an important and dynamic movement which the literary world will be watching closely in the coming years.



*Niccolo Lazzara*

### **Who are you?**

Niccolo Lazzara, 20, junior. I am pursuing an individualized studies major—in my case a blend of English, sociology, and film studies—because of my interest in the effects of theoretical understanding and conceptualization on our psychological and social lives. I strongly believe that the vocabularies and concepts we use to understand ourselves, each other, and our world are inseparable from our attitudes, politics, and actions in said world. To resist and counter a dominant culture of superficial media, plagiarism, and appropriation, we must constantly reinvent political practices and reappropriate concepts. Through this column, I hope to live out one of my deepest beliefs: that social justice cannot afford to be formulaic. We must be creative, insightful, and incisive to see and act out alternative ways of living and to help extricate ourselves and others from unjust, oppressive, and violent systems

### **What will you discuss?**

Obfuscations of economic issues, especially regarding people of color, queer persons, immigrants, people of other nationalities, sex workers, and the homeless.

The relegation of work, responsibilities, costs, and issues to individuals by states, institutions, industries, and corporations. The marketization and privatization of resources of all kinds—social, economic, cultural, artistic, alimentary, political, and representational. Immigration, globalization, neo-colonialism, and other dynamics that implicate America and other institutions as actors operating in global systems of war, terror, oppression, immigration, human trafficking, resource management, exploitation, and deregulation. Rhetorical and media framings of issues and policies that depoliticize, trivialize, or abstract underlying issues of race, class, gender, labor, citizenship, and rights.

### **What are your positions?**

First and foremost, contemporary issues are irreducibly complex. Over the past half-century, nations, international organizations, transnational corporations, NGOs, and non-state actors have tended to marketize, deregulate, and privatize various industries, meaning that an increasing number of responsibilities now belongs to the citizenry. This tendency is bipartisan, implicating the entire political system in the maintenance and development of these neoliberal regimes. I believe that the social, political, and cultural tendency to favor markets and individualized responsibility opposes progressive projects to increase equity, opportunity, general wellbeing, and liberty.

Through this column, I aspire to publicize and critique these regimes. In politics, we must take multifaceted positions that attend to political, cultural, racial, gendered, socioeconomic, historical, and global issues, as they are all interrelated and implicated in neoliberal projects.

### **Why does your position matter?**

I believe in open-ended, dynamic political policies that encourage equity, education, environmentalism, sharing, thriving, egalitarianism, and the advancement of a “public good.” To develop these things requires that we alleviate systemic oppression and disenfranchisement and remove structural impediments to facilitate the self-determination of all persons. I presuppose that American society can support these principles, but that we need revolutions of all kinds—grassroots, rhetorical, non-violent, and violent—to precipitate these changes in our society. Thus I will most often see neoliberal agendas, strong corporate influences, oligopolies, deregulation, economically-driven globalization, and war-mongering as detrimental to the above goals.

## and Humanity: A Series

*Kayla Finstein*

### **Who are you?**

I'm Kayla Finstein. I'm a junior originally from Dallas. I'm double majoring in Political Science and Human Rights, and working toward minors in History, International Studies, and Women's & Gender Studies. I am most interested in issues of race, class, and gender in America—intersectional identities, civil rights, privilege, systems of power and oppression—and the way these things manifest themselves in our society. Inextricably linked to these are the notions of justice, rights, and freedom—what do these mean for us as individuals, and what kind of power do they hold in our political and economic structures? I'm also interested in analyzing these systems of power comparatively and as they relate to international relations, world history, and most notably, colonialism and post-colonialism. In my free time, you can find me at Fondren or hanging out with my dog.

### **What will you discuss?**

Primarily, I would like for this recurring column to be focused on human rights in all forms (which is really to say that my writing is inclusive of many different topics). Most prominently, race and gender are at the forefront of my thoughts and my political, economic, social, philosophical, and legal analysis.

My discussions will generally tend toward social criticism of oppressive systems of power, both on a macro and a micro level. I am particularly interested in the social history of Dallas and of the neighborhoods and areas that I have called home for 20 years, SMU included. Having human rights issues be up close and personal here at home really reinforces their power and their prominence.

I hope to bring in my personal experiences from human rights travel, impactful SMU courses, and my own readings and peer discussion to give this column both breadth and depth in a subject that can so easily become overwhelming.

### **What are your positions?**

I believe that systems of power, which dominant social, political, and economic parties are complicit in supporting and retaining, should be criticized and critiqued for their complicity in maintaining hierarchy, inequality, and inequity. This applies to issues of policy and history both in the US and abroad, as part of a larger understanding of imperial agendas.

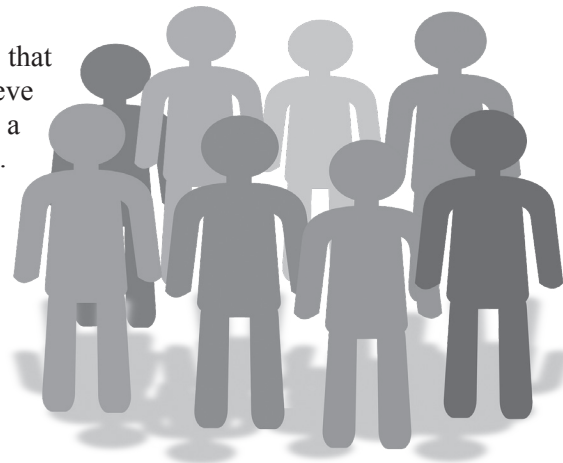
I maintain that racism, sexism, classism, ableism, and other forms of minority oppression guide the way that these systems operated historically and continue to operate today. I argue that many of our political and economic inequalities in America are structural, not individual. Inequity isn't historical—it's the here and now. Coming to grips with our nation's past can help us to see current policy in a new light, especially regarding issues of race, class, and gender.

### **Why does your position matter?**

All individuals should be free of structural and governmental inequalities that burden them and reduce their quality of life. As a nation, and as a world, I believe that we should strive toward being humane citizens, ensuring that others live a good life in the same way we desire and work toward a good life for ourselves.

To this end, changes must occur both in our policy and in our hearts.

Human rights are as much about the tangible things—laws, war, money, basic necessities—as they are about the intangibles: compassion, understanding, multiculturalism, altruism, empathy, and, critically, humanity. I'm of the opinion that humanizing our social concerns and inequities is one of the most important ways to emphasize the role that human rights play in all of our daily lives. I hope that this column, then, can work toward shedding a light on the humanity within all of us.



Dear SMU, 

How the time has flown. It seems like it was only yesterday that I was unpacking into my dorm room and now it is almost time for midterms. Here's what I've found so far this year that has surprised me, annoyed me, and baffled me. First off, let me talk about my dorm. I live in Boaz, and after staying there for AARO I was excited to live there. Oh how near-sighted I was in that excitement. The more you look at Boaz, the more you see how terrible it is when compared to the other dorms. I envy all of those that live in the new dorms because of the simple luxuries that come with them, such as shower heads that are of an adequate height and dorm rooms that are large enough to live in comfortably with someone else.

The other thing that has disappointed me is the food. It seems that the only good things you can get at Umph are the omelets and sandwiches, and those don't even taste amazing after having to wait 20 minutes for them. The one redeeming quality of Umph is the staff, specifically Mama T and Derrick. No matter how bad a day I'm having, I can always count on them to put a smile on my face.

Probably the thing I have enjoyed the most and been the most surprised about is the Boulevard. I know, it is so stereotypical of an SMU student to say how much he loves the Boulevard, but it really has to be experienced in order to realize how much fun it really is. Being able to walk between the tents and meet people with my friends is one of the highlights of my week. I've already had two prospective students stay with me during the homecoming game, and I think I may have sold them simply with the Boulevard.

I don't even need to say how beautiful the campus is, but why must it be soiled by the construction sites dotted across it? The construction has never really been an issue with me as far as getting to classes or noise goes, but I loathe it solely for how ugly it makes the campus. I understand that SMU is trying to make the campus more beautiful, but when there is construction happening year-round it starts to seem senseless. There is no point in having one of the most beautiful campuses in the country if it is constantly smeared with the ugly stains of rubble and construction equipment.

That all being said, I could not be happier to be at SMU. I've made some amazing friends and memories already and I look forward to what the rest of my time here will hold.

Sincerely,

*Alex Gurasich, Class of 2019*

P.S.

*Free Larry.*





## What Could Have Been:

### All the ways SMU could have spent that homecoming money

*by A.J. Jeffries*

One of the most staggering numbers thrown about in the wake of SMU's centennial homecoming celebration was the \$425,000 we spent to bring in James Madison because we were certain we could beat them. Disregarding the clear fallacy of that belief, I am astonished that no one has stopped to think about how much the weekend as a whole must have cost. Between the spectacular fireworks show after the football team's defeat, a country concert that appealed to maybe half of the student body, and all the fancy things put up around campus (can we get those maps back?), I am going to conservatively estimate that SMU spent \$1.5 million on our centennial homecoming experience. Working from that number, let us think about all the things that could have been done with that money:

- On a serious note, SMU laid off a number of people last year from a number of departments across campus, following an expensive consulting process with Bain & Company. It also slashed the budgets of a number of departments. How, then, is it remotely conscionable to put on a firework show that would put the Montreal International Fireworks Competition to shame?
- Personally, I measure almost anything in terms of Chipotle burritos. If we are choosing chicken, SMU could have bought us 213,068 chicken burritos. That means that every student on campus, including grad students, could have received about 19 burritos. That is a lot of joy.
- We have all seen those commercials saying you can feed a starving child in Africa for \$0.50 a day. Well, if we trust those commercials, we could have fed one immortal African child for 8,129 years and two months. Or, more reasonably, we could have given 3 million children a much-needed meal.
- Another excellent measurement of any quantity of money is SMU tuition: \$1.5 million could have allowed the university to celebrate the year of the student (is that even a thing anymore?) by covering the full cost of attendance for 25 students this year.
- The other side of this: for those theoretical 25 students who are paying tuition this year, how does it feel to know that your money went to such a meaningful cause?

Now, do not mistake me: I understand that operating for one hundred years as a university is a big deal, and we have been thoroughly celebrating this accomplishment throughout the centennial period. However, spending the amount we clearly did on a homecoming celebration when we have spent the past two years in a seven-figure budget deficit is nothing short of lunacy.



# Five Things I learned at Drag Bingo

by Matthew Anderson

**O**n Friday, September 18 I attended Drag Bingo in the Hughes-Trigg Ballroom, hosted by Spectrum. I had never attended such an event, and seeing as college is all about new experiences, I decided I had nothing to lose. I went, and found it to be quite an enlightening experience, not to mention extremely fun. I have compiled a brief list of my revelations:

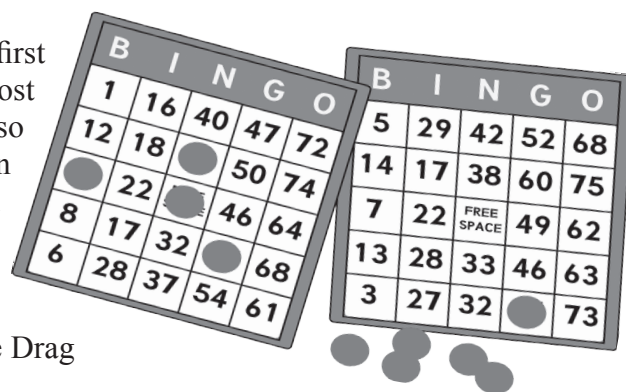
1. Don't pretend like it's not funny. Bingo began, and the host, Cassie Nova, lit into the audience with a stream of raunchy jokes. To say that she made me blush would be a gross understatement. After her first bit, I wanted to sink into my chair and pretend like I hadn't shown up. I won't repeat what Cassie said, because chances are you are reading this in public, but I'll give you this: imagine if Sacha Baron Cohen and Sarah Silverman had a baby that grew up to wear a large wig, blue eye shadow, and sequins, and had the voice of James Earl Jones. The person I have just described should give you a ballpark sketch of the drag queen in question. Yet, after what first felt like an assault on the very fabric of morality, I found myself unable to fight back a chuckle. Then a laugh. Then a cackle. For Cassie, nothing was off limits, and with a little time, I became okay with it. I laughed, and I lived to tell the story. Which leads me to my next point.

2. Sometimes, being uncomfortable is okay. I think we should try this more often. When you're uncomfortable, you are shown the limits to your personality. Being in a situation that is a little foreign, or makes you a bit squeamish, forces you to realize that you are in a box. This box might be grandpa conservative, left wing radical, artsy-fartsy, or cardboard. It's not a matter of being in a box or not, but rather what box you are inevitably in. And this isn't always a bad thing; really cool gifts often come in boxes. But awareness that you subscribe to some kind of ideology, or uphold some sort of cultural construct, is an important thing to have. Intentionally putting yourself in uncomfortable situations is a great way to gain this type of mindfulness.

3. There's more than one way to be a drag queen. I don't really know what I thought a drag show would be like before I attended this event, but afterwards I realized that this had blown away the assumptions I didn't even know I had made. Some of the ladies did comedy, others danced, and almost all of them lip-synced. Some wore pumps, a few sported plunging necklines, and one in particular threw on her old lady tennis shoes. These distinctions might seem superficial, but they showed how each performer brought individuality to the stage. Some stereotypes were validated, others were thrown out the window, but at the end of the night, it wasn't about being right or wrong. Everyone had something special to offer.

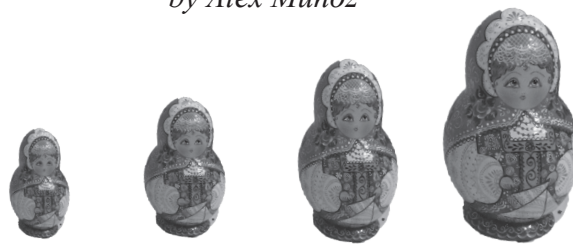
4. Don't forget to tip. You might not realize there is etiquette to these kinds of events, but there is. So pay attention. In between each round of bingo, the performers would lip-sync to songs and dance their way around the room. If you wanted a little special attention, all you had to do was hold up a few dollars and someone would come your way (it sounds questionable... just go with it). In all my ignorance, I hadn't known to bring any cash and I felt like a real fool. Moral of the story: do a little research before you attend an event. It will pay off in the end.

5. Listen carefully and watch your card. Don't forget, first and foremost, that this is a game of bingo. Sometimes I lost focus on the numbers being called because I was laughing so hard at Cassie Nova. Other times, I was busy chowing down on free Cane's or jamming out to the DJ's tracks. Bottom line, this experience was an exercise in sensory overload, and I learned that finding a balance between enjoyment and focus is key. If you can learn to do that, I think you can win just about any game you choose to play—especially one like Drag Bingo.



# From Russia, Love

by Alex Muñoz



Girl, I don't want to be Russian  
into this relationship, but I won't be Stalin  
any more. So don't suppress me when I speak,  
because I am not just Putin on airs.

You are the tsar in my sky.  
The red of your lips makes me  
want to give up everything and commune  
with you. My heart has disappeared:  
you have railroaded it off somewhere  
into the unrecorded gulag of your Siberian  
eyes, shipped it behind the Iron Curtain

of your steely gaze. But still,  
you cry me a Black Sea of tears,  
and you crane your neck over my shoulder,  
asking me to forgive you. What is there  
to forgive? True, you have annexed me,  
but I have consented to be seized.  
Let the world be jealous: I belong to you  
and I want for you to belong to me.  
We'll be each other's collective property.

I'll be your hammer if you'll be my sickle.  
Around you, I have a missile crisis in my pants  
and some Glasnost for your legs, so let's  
lie down in bed as our arms race:  
I'll have you Yeltsin all night long.



# GOP Debate Nicknames: The Best of the Bad



by Madeleine Case

Almost a month after the second Republican presidential primary debate, people still talk about what went down at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library. Hint: on never attacking Rand Paul's looks, Donald Trump said "I never attacked him on his looks, and believe me, there's a lot of subject matter there." Hey, I can't exactly say I disagree. People like to talk about Jeb Bush admitting he smoked marijuana, or Carly Fiorina smoking the competition in general, but my personal favorite question from that debate was "If you were president, what would your Secret Service code name be?" As great as that question was, the responses were even better. I've ranked them from worst to best.

<p>11. Scott Walker: "Harley" It's a clean choice—one word, two syllables—reminiscent of high power and plenty of style. There's just one problem. Walker is no longer in the running. Since Harley's dreams will never become a reality, Walker's name takes last place.</p>	<p>10. Ted Cruz: "Cohiba" Because, get it, he's from Cuba. Also, if I smoke a bunch of Cohibas in one sitting, can I get my voice to sound like his? <b>WHAT IS YOUR SECRET TED?</b> Even better, what he would select as his wife's Secret Service name: "Angel"...because...you guessed it. She's his</p>
<p>9. Rand Paul: "Justice Never Sleeps" Paul gets points here for trying to be inspiring with this name, but I can't help but imagine a scenario involving a tired president on Airforce One: "kssshhh. Justice Never Sleeps is...sleeping. Over. Kssshhh."</p>	<p>8. Mike Huckabee: "Duck Hunter" Not quite as inspiring as Rand Paul, but true to Huckabee's passions nonetheless. Am I the only one, though, who foresees this name as the butt of many Elmer Fudd jokes?</p>
<p>7. Jeb Bush: "Eveready" Following in the tradition of his older brother whose designated Secret Service code name was "Trailblazer," Jeb chose a two-word-smashed-into-one name which he hopes will relay his "high energy." Donald Trump high-fived him for it. It also might be a subtle allusion to his drink of choice in college, Everclear. After all, he's already admitted to smoking marijuana. <b>FEEL THE BURN, JEBBY!</b></p>	<p>6. John Kasich: "Unit One" I commend Kasich for this name because it flows so well with "Unit One is on the move." It gets 6th place because he threw in a cheesy wife reference too: "My wife would probably say I'm Unit Two."</p>
<p>5. Chris Christie: "True Heart" "Heart" isn't exactly the first word I would associate with Chris Christie. He strikes me as more passionate (about policy) than compassionate. I'm sure the residents of Fort Lee would agree.</p>	<p>4. Ben Carson: "One Nation" "There is no freedom without bravery." A quote from one of Ben Carson's many published works. The title of the book where you can find this quote is, incidentally, One Nation. Coincidence? I think not.</p>
<p>3. Marco Rubio: "Gator" One word, fierce image, personally connected. What more can you ask for?</p>	<p>2. Carly Fiorina: "Secretariat" A quick review: Secretariat was the racehorse who, against all odds, won the Triple Crown in 1973 and inspired the movie you're probably envisioning in your head right now. I'm not sure Secretariat would have approved of his name being used by Fiorina for the benefit of her campaign...perhaps he'll join Steven Tyler (or, well, his ghost or something will, seeing as he's dead) ((RIP, kind horse)) as the latest celeb to sue a GOP candidate for unauthorized use of intellectual property.</p>
<p>1. Donald Trump: "Humble" I mean, come on. This name had to be either first or last. For the sake of comic relief, I stuck "Humble" at the top. Maybe some day Trump will actually live up to his name.</p>	

# Meadows Offers Something to Everyone

by Kenny Martin

The beginning of the school year is always a flourishing time at Meadows, and the past several weeks have been no exception. Several big events have occurred: the Meadows Symphony Orchestra's opening concert, the first Opera Free For All, SMU Theatre's sold-out production of Hamlet, and the first Brown Bag Dance performance, which amazed and troubled even more than usual. Overall, there has been something to satisfy every artistic desire, and that is only going to continue.



Deserving special attention is the Faculty Chamber Music Recital, which took place on September 14th and featured Liudmila Georgievskaya (piano faculty and director of accompanying), Matt Albert (artist-in-residence and chamber music coordinator), Paul Garner (clarinetist with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra), and Francesco Mastromatteo (SMU alum and famed cellist). The program was Messiaen's Fantasy for Violin and Piano and well-known Quartet for the End of Time. Georgievskaya proved, as always, to be a sensitive, energetic, and overall attentive collaborator, and Garner was simply a joy to listen to in a chamber setting, where his absurd ability to produce the very softest sounds delighted everyone present. Mastromatteo was also in fine form, especially during his solo movement with piano accompaniment in the quartet—in many ways the emotional center of the piece.

The real message of the concert, though, was go and see Matt Albert whenever and wherever you can. In addition to being a keen and supportive teacher and chamber music coach, he is a supremely skilled performer and simply does not disappoint. On the whole, this is how chamber music should be done—with confidence, unity, and joy—and it will certainly turn out to be one of the campus musical highlights of the semester.

Also deserving note are some recent student recitals. Very recently, Darío Martín, a graduate student of Joaquin Achúcarro, gave a recital in Caruth Auditorium that, as usual, was superb. I was only able to hear the first piece, Beethoven's Sonata Op. 109 in E Major, but that was enough to justify this review. Martín plays with a consistent level of maturity which exceeds that of many of his graduate student peers (who are all very accomplished as it is), and nowhere was his unique and mature sensibility on better display than in the Beethoven. The opening movement rolled just as it should, the second was stormy and intense but always controlled, and the third opened with a gorgeous rendering of its complex and tender theme, ending with a brilliant dispatching of the difficult trilled passages. Throughout, Martín's voicing was conspicuously good, and he produced just the subtle and powerful performance that this piece deserves.

Isaiah Free Pennington, a sophomore student of Andrés Díaz, also played a notable recital in recent weeks. The program was the first three cello suites by J.S. Bach, and Pennington brought an often tender, confident, and youthful energy to the music which made for quite the moving performance. His balanced, adaptable, pleasantly raspy tone emphasized the complexity and scope of Bach's suites, and the night was truly an inspiration for all of us undergraduates (myself included) to get out there and play recitals, even if we're not required or expected to.

The one disappointment about both of these student recitals was their poor attendance. We, as students of this university (not just as Meadows students) have an obligation to ourselves and our friends and colleagues to make a serious effort to attend as many student performances and shows as we can. To miss or ignore the talent of those around us because of laziness or some other excuse is a great shame, and it will hurt us just as it hurts the performers. No one likes playing to an empty hall—show some support and come on out to Meadows. I promise, we really don't bite.

# Ice Cream Makes Lecture Even Sweeter

by Kaleigh Cobb

The Delta Gamma Foundation hosts yearly lectures across the country featuring inspiring professionals and leaders from around the world. This semester, on September 15th, the SMU Delta Gamma chapter, in association with the Maguire Center for Ethics and Public Responsibility, hosted Jerry Greenfield, co-founder of Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream, as the chosen speaker.

He passionately discussed the exciting trial-and-error process that he encountered while trying to build not only his business, but also his life. Greenfield was rejected from medical school numerous times, and his partner, Ben Cohen, never graduated from college despite many attempts. After a bit of brainstorming, the two were inspired to become entrepreneurs, and Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream became a reality.

Greenfield is the co-author of the book *How to Run a Values-Led Business and Make Money, Too*, which he discussed in the lecture. In the book, he discusses the importance of establishing a company with integrity, though he admits it can be difficult to do so in a market where everyone is trying to gain the maximum profit.

As a company, Ben and Jerry's focuses on the importance of ethics and pursues a goal of genuinely pleasing its customers, and Greenfield spoke about the many changes the company has undertaken in the past few years due to customer concerns.

For example, Ben and Jerry's ice cream is non-GMO, uses natural ingredients, and includes only certified fair-trade ingredients. Though Ben and Jerry themselves have stepped down from their management positions, they are still involved in arguably the most important part of the business—developing new flavors. Greenfield bragged about the company's most recent flavor, The Tonight Dough, featuring caramel and chocolate ice cream with caramel swirls, chocolate chips, and cookie dough—which truly sounds way too delicious not to try!

Greenfield strongly believes in maintaining high moral and ethical conduct in the business world, and in the Q&A session of the lecture, he placed special emphasis on this point. He is a true believer in being an honorable employee and an honorable employer, and this does not go unnoticed—the company has been recognized by the Council on Economic Priorities as well as by the U.S. Small Business Administration for its leadership in corporate ethics and responsibility.

Overall, the lecture was educational, informative, and inspiring. Jerry's spunky attitude incited many laughs, and of course, the night ended with ice cream, which was hand scooped for hours after the event by Greenfield himself, a man who is not afraid to dig a little deeper when it comes to pleasing customers and personally improving the greater good.



## From the Desk of Dr. Doyle

First of all, welcome to all first-year students and welcome back to our returning students. The year is flying by already; so much has happened and there's so much more to come. One thing is certain—it's an exciting time to be an Honors student at SMU.

What is the University Honors Program and how can it benefit the SMU student of any major? Is a program, originally launched way back in history (in 1966 with Political Science Professor Franklin Green Balch, III) as the "Program of Superior Studies" an anachronistic relic with no relevance to today?

One of our central messages has always been that the UHP is here to intellectually enrich a student's college experience. Therefore, before we try to answer this question on the merits of the program, let me outline some of our most recent additions.

The two semester sequence of the "Honors Humanities Seminars" is one of our central building blocks—giving UHP students a solid foundation in critical reading, analysis, and writing. The Ways of Knowing and Pillar courses are intended to build on this knowledge—allowing students to complete many of their UC requirements with exciting and innovative classes on wide-ranging topics. Our optional Sophomore Seminar helps students to begin thinking about their own independent projects—in effect launching them into research in the second year. The final and most recent UHP requirement is the Honors Culminating Project. In this project, the honors student designs his or her own curriculum and research plan—and then follows through to a finished project.

The plan behind all of these layers of the UHP is for the Honors student to experience a coherent, enriching, liberal arts education throughout the four years at SMU. If it works correctly, this added benefit will compliment, but not compete with, a student's primary major (or majors) and minors.

Toward this goal of ongoing enrichment, we have a number of upcoming events and opportunities for honors students this semester:

- Honors Open House**—Preview of Spring 2016 course list. Tuesday 20 October at 5pm in the Scholars' Den, Clements Hall. Come and listen to select professors discuss their special spring courses.
- Special Travel courses** in the spring include the New York City Arts Colloquium over Jan Term and a course on gender and sexuality across time and place that will travel to Amsterdam, the Netherlands over Spring Break.
- Independent Richter Research Fellowships** available for Winter Break 2015/2016 and Summer 2016
- Practicing Physicians Panel**—Thursday 5 November, 7:30pm, McCord Auditorium, 3rd floor, Dallas Hall. SMU Alumni will discuss their medical school and career experiences after graduation. This should provide valuable information for those with an interest in medical school. This program is part of the Honors Gartner Lecture Series.
- Honors Winter Break Reading & Book Give Away**—Tuesday 17 November at 5pm the UHP will host a study break that will give away two books for students to read over the winter break. Events will follow when we return for the spring semester. On Tuesday 19 January human rights activist Rais Bhuiyan will discuss his extraordinary life experiences recorded in the book *The True American*. Copies of this book and Harper Lee's recently published novel *Go Set a Watchman* will be given out on the 17th. A book discussion with those who read the Harper Lee novel will be organized in late January.

I think it is clear that the answer to my original question is a definitive "No." The UHP continues to be a vibrant and valuable force on campus, and I encourage each and every one of you to see what it can do for you, and vice-versa.

I wish you all a Happy Fall, and remember that my door is always open if you have questions, comments, or concerns. Keep posted here for updates and other ponderings in the months to come.

Honorably,  
*ddd*





*Photo by Stejara Dinulescu*

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