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CALLING ALL WRITERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS



THE INKWELL WANTS YOU. EVERY WED. 12:30 P.M. MCC 202

THE INKWELL

Week of February 5, 2015

TheInkwellOnline.com

Volume 85, Issue 2

OP-ED

Carnal Knowledge is back again!

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YOUR FORESTS AREN'T FUEL

By LIANA SAMUEL
STAFF WRITER

One of the best things about Savannah, and Armstrong in particular, is its lush greenery. Whether the leaves are blocking your path to class during the fall or shading you from the southern heat in the summer, one would be aware if they were missing.

So why aren't students noticing that our forests are being destroyed and sold abroad as biomass? It's simple. We aren't being told.

According to the Dogwood Alliance, a group that exposes deforestation in order to educate individuals and corporations, "European policy-makers are promoting the burning of Southern forests for electricity to meet their clean energy targets." Each week, train carriages filled with wood pellets are transported through Savannah to the port where they are then shipped to Europe. Energy giants in Europe, such as Drax Group, use them as

biomass fuel for their customers who are oblivious as to where their "clean energy" is truly coming from. This year, the policy makers will meet in Europe to draft their climate change plan for 2030.

"I believe that it is paramount to alert locals about the 'Our Forests Aren't Fuel' campaign because the EU's appetite for wood pellets is leading to massive deforestation right in our backyard," Rita Frost said. Frost is a Texas native who grew up playing in her local woodlands and is now working in Savannah with the Dogwood Alliance to spread the "Our Forests Aren't Fuel" Campaign.

Many of the local volunteers, mostly students from around the city, are astonished to find out that this process has been going on for years. Frost also pointed out that "we need a global grassroots movement that tackles climate change and its fallout."

The campaign group, fueled by local environment enthusiasts, has already garnered over 700 signatures for their petition to present to the UK consulate on Trade & Investment in Atlanta and they aren't stopping there. Plans to present an investigative report at a press conference, as well as a march in Atlanta this spring are already in the works.

For many students, getting into their major program is just as, if not more important than saving southern forests. For some, doing both is equally important.

"As a Law & Society major, I get to use the knowledge I've learned to help our local community," said Armstrong student and campaign intern, Amy Byrne.

Armstrong prides itself on being a green campus not just in scenery, but also in practice, which makes this issue even more important as it is so close to



Deforestation is a major problem throughout the world and more people need to become aware about the damages it has on the environment.

home. The southeast is already the largest exporter of wood pellets in the world.

"With Armstrong being a tight community, it is important that students spread the word and donate a portion of their time to volunteering or signing a petition," said Byrne.

Despite scientific reports like the one from the World Resources Institute mentioned in the New York Times' January 28 paper, plants such as the one in Waycross boast carbon neutrality and continue to burn trees releasing even more carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. In fact, over

750,000 tons of wood pellets are shipped through Savannah from the Waycross facility, often unnoticed by locals, each year.

Until European companies are forced to change their

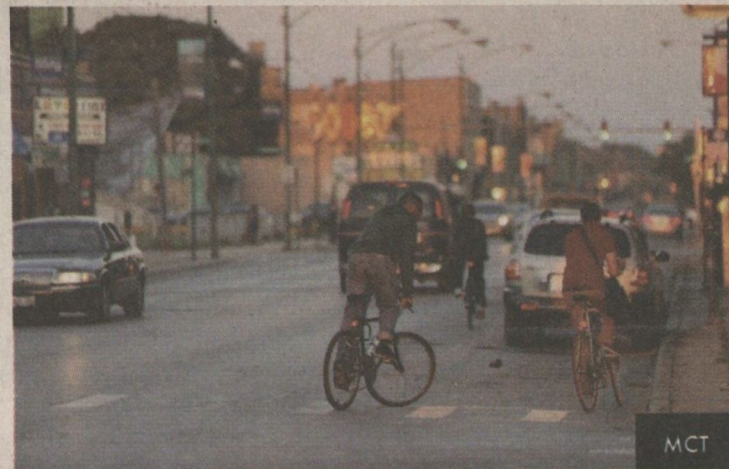
FORESTS | PAGE 6

Savannah Bicycle Campaign Offers New Program

By ANDREW SUTPHEN
STAFF WRITER

John Bennett and Jennifer Colestock of the SBC have been trying for years to get more people to ride bikes in Savannah. Bennett has a doctorate from Valdosta State in Public Management and used to write a column called "The News Cycle" for the Connect before being named the Campaign Director for the SBC. Last year, Colestock gained some notoriety when she won the "Dump the Pump" challenge in which she beat a bus and car in a commuter race to downtown Savannah.

According to their press release, the SBC's New



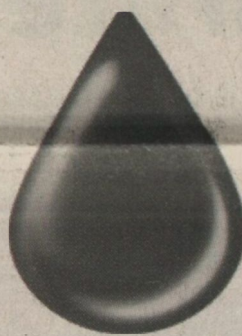
Riding a bike is beneficial for you and the environment.

Standard Cycle program "serves people who need safe, affordable and reliable transportation to get to work." They maintain that they are not a bike co-op or a repair shop but rather, they team up with other community programs to identify "deserving individuals" and provide them safe transporta-

tion to work or school with their donated and refurbished bicycles. Some of the main contributors to the program are the Metropolitan Rotary Club and several of the bike shops downtown.

At a press conference on January 30, John Bennett wanted to make sure that

BIKE | PAGE 6



By GREGORY SIMPSON
STAFF WRITER

Who really is king of the ocean? If you disclude the recently cast Jason Momoa as Aquaman in the new DC blockbuster Batman VS. Superman coming out July 2018, the current people's choice for king of the ocean is the great white shark.

The great white shark is a massive creature, with both deadly speed and power and thankfully they are indigenous to other parts of the world, which means a siting in this region of the United States is pretty uncommon.

Recently, there have been sightings of great white sharks along the coast of North and South Carolina and Georgia. Year after year a couple of these predators are pinged just off the Atlantic coast of the United States, traveling as far north as Boston, and as far south as Florida.

Sharks & Oil Drilling

Normally, they aren't close enough to be captured on video. The only reason we even know they are out there is because of geotags that transmit their location and ping at certain intervals. This knowledge is used for research purposes, but it also appeals to the public eye, especially during shark week.

But, can the creatures of the deep detect imminent danger looming before it happens?

The Obama administration recently proposed the beginning of offshore drilling off the coast of the Carolinas, Virginia, and Georgia. Although this has the potential to be very threatening to the local wildlife, the new business also holds the potential for an economic boost for the southern states bordering the Atlantic. The bill is said to release permits to allow for drilling of oil and natural gases. They are expected to be leased from 2017 to 2022.

When one door closes,

another one opens. To counterbalance the recent proposal allowing offshore drilling along the Carolinas, the Obama administration has also released a proposal to permanently shut down drilling in Alaska, and make it a national park, a very common quid pro quo tactic used by the administration to keep both sides of the party satisfied.

Where does this leave us in the big scheme of things? While the drilling for oil is not absolutely official as of yet, it still has to go through several local committees before the scouting process of potential locations can begin.

Although we will have the preservation of a national park in Alaska come out of the whole ordeal, this could mean the end for the few great white sharks that annually visit our beautiful coast, or an opportunity to coexist and develop new resources all under the same ecosystem.

This week in
World News

The Actual Price Behind the Price Tag

By RUBY RIZVI
NEWS EDITOR
NEWS.INKWELL@GMAIL.COM

Many of us are aware that a majority of the things that we own come from overseas, such as the ever-so-popular "Savannah", "Tybee Island" and even "Armstrong" apparel we all love so much. However, we are kept in the dark on just how those things are made. For many industries, especially an industry as vast as clothing, outsourcing labor is the cheapest way to produce goods and maximize profits, but at what cost?

It's pretty obvious that the working conditions of these factories and plants aren't kept

up to the highest of standards, with recent catastrophes such as the collapsed factory- Rana Plaza, owned by many U.S. and Canadian garment companies- in Bangladesh in 2013.

3,696 workers went on strike, and refused to enter Rana Plaza because of its numerous safety issues. However, after threats of not getting paid for entire month, laborers were forced to enter the buildings and resume production. Less than an hour later, after the power went out and generators kicked in, the entire building began to shake and collapsed, resulting in the casualties of over 1,000 young

men, women, children, and elderly, with hundreds still missing.

The collapsed factory brought light to what many retailers claimed to be unaware of: how poor the working conditions of their outsourced factories really are. Companies such as Walmart, H&M, and Nike claim to have not known the true magnitude of the problem. "It's a shame," local Savannah activist Jerry Warren says. "We enjoy cheap things, but at the unfortunate cost of cheap labor."

These workers work over 12 hour shifts, making on average 7-25 cents an hour, sometimes more, sometimes less. They endure

harsh working conditions, such as being crammed into a room filled with hundreds of other people and machines without as much as a little bit of leg room or proper insulation. Improperly kept wires and tools lead to many accidents, and having that many people in a single room allows for the widespread of diseases.

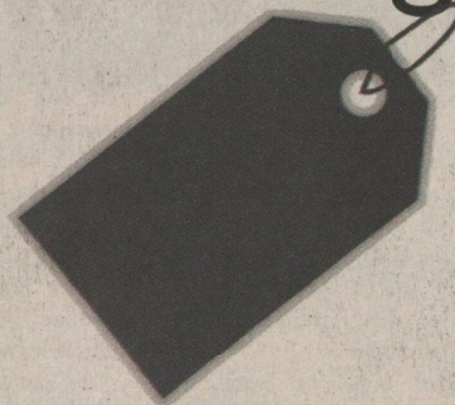
Even though these issues have been brought to light many times, retailers and consumers alike have chosen to turn a blind eye to the ever-growing problem overseas. "The truth is; we are rich because they are poor," fashion blogger Ludvig Hambro remarked after

visiting a sweatshop in Cambodia.

The Bangladesh incident is undoubtedly the most horrific disaster in the history of production crises, however it is not the first, nor will it probably be the last.

Despite numerous other tragedies such as factory fires, other collapsed buildings, and myriad personal injuries that have occurred in Pakistan, China, Guatemala, and numerous other countries where sweatshops can be found, the problem still remains

unresolved. "They really don't ask for much - to get a bit more money, some fans in the ceiling in a factory. We just have to push to get it done," said Anniken Jorgensen, another fashion blogger.



SPORTS & Wellness

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February 5, 2015

Pirate Basketball, split weekend

By KAYLA BERNS
STAFF WRITER

The Armstrong Men's and Women's basketball team hit the road last weekend to take on the Montevallo Falcons in Montevallo, Alabama. The pirates returned from the Heart of Dixie split with one win (women's basketball) and one loss (men's basketball).

"We are always a little slow to start and we came into this one just the same" said Assistant Coach CJ Pace after reviewing the win Saturday.

The pirates won 68-67 after a nail-biting game.

Nevertheless, the pirates were determined to leave Alabama with the win. Sophomore Brigitta Barta, the native of Budapest, Hungary scored the game winning basket with only eight seconds left on the clock. "Coach wrote up a plan that was to get me open for the shot, after I missed the shot," Barta said, "I was not thinking anything but I have to get this rebound, we have got to win this game, and with that I got my rebound and secured the win for my team."

Barta's perseverance is a quality embedded within the entire team, "we make goals every game and we will not be satisfied until we meet those goals," said Barta. Assistant

Coach Shanae Vaifanua added, "Our offense is good, but we need to improve on defense because that is what can be the difference between a win versus a loss".

As the women's game came to a finish, the gym piled in with rowdy alumni excited to celebrate their 50th anniversary. This momentum along with 20 points put away by senior Larry Slaughter, top scorer, resulted in a lost 83-64 for our men's team.

Junior Marcus Hopper, from Queens N.Y. scored 12 points, while juniors Shaquell Mitchell (Adams Run, S.C.) and Nicholas Scott (Ringgold, Ga.) each added 10 points.

Assistant Coach Jeremy Mayweather explains the ingredients for success, "We need to progress and continue to just be a team: work together, work hard, and work to get better."

The pirates move forward to take on Flager Feb. 4 at Armstrong. Come out and support the eight conference wins, your lady pirates, at 5:30 pm and stay to cheer on the Men's team as they continue their winning streak at home.



Photo by Elizabeth Rhaney

Junior Shaquell Mitchell brings the ball downcourt for the Pirates

Upcoming Games Feb. 7 - Feb. 11

Feb. 7

- Women's Golf vs. Kiawah Intercollegiate @ Kiawah, S.C.
- Women's Tennis vs. Saint Leo 10 a.m.
- Men's Tennis vs. Saint Leo 10 a.m.
- Baseball vs. Emmanuel (Ga.) 11 a.m.
- Softball vs. Queens (N.C.) 12 p.m.
- Baseball vs. Emmanuel (Ga.) 2 p.m.
- Softball vs. Mount Olive 2 p.m.
- Women's Basketball vs. GRU Augusta 5:30 p.m.
- Men's Basketball vs. GRU Augusta 7:30 p.m.
- Men's Tennis vs. Auburn Montgomery 10 a.m.
- Men's Tennis vs. Auburn Montgomery 10 a.m.
- Softball vs. Mount Olive 12 p.m.
- Baseball vs. Emmanuel (Ga.) 1 p.m.
- Softball vs. Queens (N.C.) 2:00 PM F

Feb. 8

- Men's Golf vs. Matlock Collegiate Classic @ Lakeland, Fla.

Feb. 10

- Men's Golf vs. Matlock Collegiate Classic @ Lakeland, Fla.

Feb. 11

- Women's Basketball at Francis Marion 5:30 PM
- Men's Basketball at Francis Marion 7:30 PM

Feb. 8

- Women's Golf vs. Kiawah Intercollegiate @ Kiawah, S.C.
- Women's Tennis vs. Auburn Montgomery 10 a.m.

Pirates dominate Tigers in opening weekend sweep

By CALEB BAILEY
STAFF WRITER

Armstrong's baseball team opened their season Jan. 31 with a doubleheader against the Salem International Tigers. The first game took place at Pirate field and the second game at the historic Grayson Stadium. It was a successful weekend for the Pirates, as they sailed to three wins.

Junior Matt Taylor got things started with a sacrifice RBI, scoring fellow Junior Jerad Curry in the second inning. Senior RJ Dennard followed that up with a two-run blast over the right field wall in the third inning, giving his team a 3-0 lead.

Junior Will Austin stepped up to the plate with the bases loaded in the bottom of the

fourth. He cracked a shot to the centerfield wall. The outfielder couldn't handle the ball which allowed three Pirates to score. Austin put on his jets and advanced all the way home to give his team a 7-0 lead.

Junior Corey Kafka's day ended after five innings as he had his team with an 8-0 lead after an eight strikeout, one hit day for his first win of the season.

"It's tempo," Kafka said. "Recovery day is the most important. Tomorrow I just got to come out here and get a nice workout. We can get out of here with a nice win. It feels like some of us have been waiting a couple of years to come out here and really get to play, so that was nice."

Dennard collected another

RBI in the bottom of the sixth as he ended his day 3-4 from the plate with a home run and an RBI single. His performance contributed to the 15-2 win over the Tigers.

"It was a great game. Great way to start," Dennard said. "We got the first game jitters out of the way. Hopefully that will kick us through the rest of the weekend with a good first win."

The Pirates continued their dominance into the second game as they moved their game down to Grayson Stadium, home of the Savannah Sand Gnats. Junior Pete Nagel had a huge game for the Pirates, hurling six hitless innings and 12 strikeouts. Junior JT Phillips led his team offensively in the

second game, racking up four hits and two RBIs in route to a 10-0 win.

"We did a lot of good things today," coach Calvin Culberson said. "Offensively and defensively. We still have a lot of things we still need to work on, but for the first day it was okay."

The second day saw more dominance for the Pirates as they hosted the Tigers for the final game of the series. It was a collective effort on the mound for the Pirates as six different players saw game time. Phillips was awarded the win after a four inning, one hit day. Junior

PIRATES | PAGE 6



Photo by Armstrong Communications

Senior RJ Dennard at-bat for the Pirates

Newcomers shine in Patriots Super Bowl win

By TREY LANTHIER
CRONKITE NEWS

PHOENIX - The 15-year veteran who won his fourth Super Bowl was named the game's MVP. But Tom Brady got a helping hand from a slew of newcomers, none more so than undrafted rookie Malcolm Butler.

Butler came up with the game-saving interception at the one to preserve a 28-24 lead with 20 seconds remaining in their victory over the Seattle Seahawks.

"Unbelievable play by Malcolm," Brady said. "I saw the interception and couldn't believe it. It was just an incredible play. A championship play."

It was Butler's first career interception.

"He's been doing it to me in practice all season, so it was actually nice to see him pick somebody else off," Brady said with a laugh.

New England Coach Bill Belichick lauded the defensive back for his work ethic.

"He has competed every day," Belichick said. "He's had his moments. That's a big jump from West Alabama to the NFL but Malcolm competes hard and he works hard."

Cornerbacks Darrelle Revis and Brandon Browner, both offseason signings, combined to hold Seattle's top two wide receivers to

four catches for 48 yards.

On the offensive side, wide receiver Brandon LaFell got the scoring started for the Patriots with an 11-yard touchdown catch in the second quarter. LaFell signed a three-year deal last spring.

"All three players, really - Revis, Browner, and LaFell - are three guys that came in that weren't on our team and made a real big impact," said Belichick, who played a role in orchestrating the moves in the offseason.

The secondary faced major questions after New England failed to resign star corner Aqib Talib. He eventually signed with Denver, prompting the Pats to reach out to Browner and Revis as options. And, as Belichick put it, "It worked out."

A midseason move to acquire a

familiar face also helped propel the team. Running back LeGarrette Blount, signed Nov. 20, was the team's featured bruiser in last year's postseason before signing with Pittsburgh to start this season. He returned to his hard-running role, with a historic performance against the Colts in the AFC Championship Game, rushing for 148 yards and three touchdowns.

Blount was relatively quiet in the Super Bowl with only 40 yards on the ground and no trips to the end zone but his 14 carries in the game were a team-high.

Belichick also cited defensive tackle Alan Branch as an impact player. Branch was another midseason pickup, signed in October. He recorded three tackles in the game.



MCT

Patriot's head coach Bill Belichick celebrates game winning interception.

Opinions & Editorials

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February 5, 2015

Carnal Knowledge

A Weekly Sex Column

By BILGIS AMATUS-SALAAM
MICHELLE POMPEI

Stay Healthy and Clean

Taking a cue from the first of Good Vibrations' (a sexual health and pleasure retailer) "New Year's Sexual Resolutions" to "Explore your own body," we'd like to stress the importance of knowing your own body—what is healthy or normal and when you should seek a medical professional.

Today we're going to talk about our favorite subject—vaginas, specifically vaginal health and cleanliness. There are lot of myths that swirl around how to take care of this organ, and the fact that Summer's Eve products and scented tampons are a still a thing it's hardly any wonder.

It's dismaying to enter a public restroom to find the woman before you left a seat full of baby powder. Or to walk the feminine hygiene aisle of Target and see the various douches, soaps, and tampons offering fragrance for your nether regions.

These products, along with our cultural aversion to all things vagina, teach women that vaginas are gross, smelly, and something to

be ashamed of.

Before we continue let's pause for a quick anatomy lesson to make sure we are all on the same page. Many people use the term "vagina" to refer to just about everything between the legs. This isn't exactly the correct use of the term; the vagina is the organ inside of the body that leads to the cervix and then the uterus. Everything else on the outside of the body that you can see (the outer and inner labia, the clitoris, etc.) is the vulva. It is really only the vaginal opening that you can see.

The vagina is an amazing part of the female anatomy. It cleans itself regularly, no Summer's Eve necessary. In fact, you don't need to clean the vagina itself, only the vulva and surrounding external areas. And the only thing you should clean these areas with is water. Douches, powders, soaps, and fragrancd products are very harsh and can cause an imbalance of bacteria which can cause vaginal infections including yeast infections.

Douching is a particular no-no.

The vagina contains a whole host of good, friendly bacteria that help keep it clean. Douching rids the vagina of these good bacteria, making it susceptible to infections caused by overgrowth of certain bacteria that aren't so friendly anymore.

Even when some products are not intended to be used inside of the vagina, you run the risk of introducing them into the vagina. It is also important to keep in mind that the vulva is often a sensitive area and the chemicals in these products can cause irritation.

Also, please don't take Gwyneth Paltrow's advice on steaming your vagina - let that self cleaning magic do it's thing, no crazy spa session necessary.

The irony is all of the products aimed at preventing vaginal odor can actually cause odor. Why? When these products upset the environment of the vagina and then often produces abnormal discharge.

Abnormal discharge is usually

much thicker (or even chunkier) than what you'd normally see and might be yellowish, green, or even pink. Not only is abnormal discharge different in consistency and color, it is usually accompanied by an awful odor, or that "fishy" smell often -and wrongly- used to describe the state of affairs down there all the time.

In case that wasn't clear, we'll repeat: A fishy odor is not the norm, contrary to what you may have heard or have been told. Using products that play off insecurities about vaginal odor can certainly lead to smelling that way though.

What do you do when you notice a strong odor and abnormal discharge? If you've been using some of the products we've mentioned, discontinue their use. Sometimes, the vagina can "right" itself and after a few days things are back to normal. If that doesn't happen it is best to see your primary care physician (the doctor you normally see) if he or she can take care of these issues

for you (many can at least diagnose and treat the problem), or you can choose to see an OBGYN/gynecologist. Common causes for unusual odor and discharge include yeast infections, bacterial vaginosis (BV), and some STI's.

A note about yeast infections and BV. These two conditions can appear very similar to each other. There are quite a few over-the-counter options to treat yeast infections effectively, but there are absolutely no over-the-counters for BV. If you think you have a yeast infection, grabbed Monistat, took it correctly, and are still experiencing symptoms, it is time to see a doctor.

This is why It's important to become aware of your vagina. It's rather fascinating to note the changes during your monthly cycle. It's also important to know what's normal and not normal so you can talk to your practitioner as soon as possible to find out what might be going on and what the course of treatment is. To help gauge what is normal, do know that is normal to produce discharge that is relatively

thin and clear to milky-white in color. And yes, normal discharge will often have a mild scent. You can minimize odor from discharge, by using cotton liners and changing them regularly.

We get that bodily fluids can squick people out, so if you're one of those people who can't quite shake their aversion to it, take a step back and remember that normal discharge is simply a sign that the vagina is healthy and cleansing itself. Above all, we want our bodies to be healthy right?

And the next time someone insists the vagina smells bad, remember that with our bodies come a whole host of scents. To expect the vulva and vagina to smell like fresh daisies is simply irrational. What is most important is your knowledge of your own body. What is normal discharge for me? What is a normal scent for me? And remember, when it comes to ridiculous products for vaginal odor, just because they sell it doesn't mean you have to buy it!

Campus Voices: Where do you prefer to study, Lane Library or Learning Commons? Why?



Photo by Elizabeth Rhaney

Brittney Fuller
Senior
Early Childhood
Development

“The Learning Commons, because the hours are later, which is good for me because I work. Also, the separate rooms are a better environment to study in than the openness of the library.”



Photo by Elizabeth Rhaney

Duong Vo
Post-Graduate
Computer Science

“I prefer the library because there are fewer distractions there.”



Photo by Elizabeth Rhaney

Demeriah Garrett
Freshman
Chemistry

“The Learning Commons. I get social interaction without actual interaction.”



Photo by Elizabeth Rhaney

Kari McMilliam
Senior
General Women's
Studies

“The Learning Commons, because it's more tranquil, calm, and clean.”



Photo by Elizabeth Rhaney

Erika Konkel
Junior
Marine Biology

“Learning Commons, because the library is more awkward.”

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Sam Smith sued for Copyright Infringement

BY TAKIA BLACK
STAFF WRITER

Copyright infringement in the music industry happens. Known for his hit song "Stay With Me", three time Grammy-nominated artist, Sam Smith, has been hit with copyright issues. Sam Smith quietly settled a lawsuit with singer-songwriters Tom Petty and Jeff Lynne.

Petty and his producers noticed that Petty's 1989 hit "Won't Back Down" off of the Full Moon Fever album shared many similarities with Smith's "Stay With Me."

The story was first reported in The Sun Magazine stating that Smith and Petty had quietly settled

on an agreement back in October on the similar sounding songs. "Recently the publishers for the song 'I Won't Back Down'... contacted the publishers for 'Stay With Me,'...about similarities heard in the melodies of the choruses of the two compositions," Smith's rep said. Not previously familiar with the 1989 Petty/Lynne song, the writers of 'Stay With Me' listened to 'I Won't Back Down' and acknowledged the similarity according to Rolling Stone.

Tom Petty has recently released a friendly statement Via Tom Petty Website: "About the Sam Smith thing. Let me say I have never had any hard feelings toward

Sam. All my years of songwriting have shown me these things can happen.

Sam's people were very understanding of our predicament and we easily came to an agreement. The word lawsuit was never even said and was never my intention. And no more was to be said about it.

Peace and love to all."

Since, the suit has been settled, Tom Petty and Jeff Lynne are now credited co-writers of the song. Although the song has already been nominated for three Grammys, Petty and Lynne will not be eligible for the awards and Smith's song will simply be considered interpolated.

Upcoming Events

Feb. 5

- Savannah Black Heritage Festival at various locations South of Forsyth Park
- Live music with Eric Culberson Band at Bayou Café
- Live music with Groove Town Assault at Barrelhouse South
- Live music with Sarah Tollerson at Rocks on the Roof
- Free genealogy class at Southwest Chatham Library 10 a.m.
- 'The Visual Blues' opening lecture at Jepson Center 6 p.m.
- Poet Sholeh Wolpe at Savannah State University, Social Science Building Room 114 7 p.m.
- Live music with Charlie and the Foxtrots at The Sentient Bean 8 p.m.
- Live music with Harry Connick Jr. at Savannah Civic Center 8 p.m.

Feb. 6

- Savannah Black Heritage Festival at various locations South of Forsyth Park
- 'Chitty Chitty Bang Bang' at Savannah Children's Theater 3 p.m.
- 'Viva Vegas! The Music That Made the City' at Savannah Theater 8 p.m.

Feb. 7

- Savannah Black Heritage Festival at various locations South of Forsyth Park
- Grand Festival Day at Savannah Civic Center 8:30 a.m.
- 'Chitty Chitty Bang Bang' at Savannah Children's Theater 3 p.m.
- 'Viva Vegas! The Music That Made the City' at Savannah Theater 8 p.m.

Feb. 8

- Savannah Black Heritage

Festival at various locations South of Forsyth Park

- 'Chitty Chitty Bang Bang' at Savannah Children's Theater 3 p.m.
- 'Viva Vegas! The Music That Made the City' at Savannah Theater 3 p.m.

Feb. 9

- Savannah Black Heritage Festival at various locations South of Forsyth Park
- Alton Brown Live! The Edible Inevitable Tour at Johnny Mercer Theater 7:30 p.m.

Feb. 10

- Savannah Black Heritage Festival at various locations South of Forsyth Park

Feb. 11

- Savannah Black Heritage Festival at various locations South of Forsyth Park.

'American Sniper' barely misses its mark



BY TODD PERKINS
STAFF MOVIE CRITIC

Clint Eastwood is a Hollywood legend. After starring in numerous action movies and westerns, he has now made a name for himself as one of the most respectable directors working today with such films as "Unforgiven", "Mystic River", and "Million Dollar Baby". Now, at the age of eighty-four, he has made one of the intense and ferocious films of the year in the form of "American Sniper", and there has been no shortage of controversy surrounding the project. Is this film simply propaganda? Does the movie overlook and ignore many of the negative qualities of its subject? Perhaps. While there are many areas left unexplored, what Eastwood has done is produce an unflinching look into the experiences of Chris Kyle, and in the process, make one of the most engaging and realistic films of his career.

Bradley Cooper stars as Kyle, a U.S. sniper nicknamed 'the legend' due to his record as having the most kills in American history. The story follows Kyle from his basic training through his time spent overseas after the attacks of 2001, while also delving into his home life with his wife Taya (Sienna Miller). Although his experience in combat is brutal and traumatic, it is his time spent stateside as a husband and father that ultimately brings his toughest challenge.

First off, it is easy to allow personal political beliefs to unfairly criticize Eastwood's film. This is a look into the life and experiences of Chris Kyle which allows viewers to understand what he went through without concerning itself with the political nature of the war itself. This is a depiction of what this man actually lived through.

Eastwood has a way

of making his films in a straightforward and relaxed way that does not depend on heightened music cues or plot contrivances to force elements of the work to feel more exciting or suspenseful. The drama comes from the situation the characters find themselves in and evolves naturally, which allows the action sequences and more emotional moments to resonate more with the audience and feel earned rather than exploited.

While the pacing and tone of the movie works, the story itself is a bit lackluster. There have been many films that depict the grittiness and devastation of war, and even more that delve into the confliction and anguish of returning home, but 'Sniper' fails to say anything that has not been expressed before in films such as "The Deer Hunter" or "The Hurt Locker".

It is Cooper's performance as Kyle that truly makes this film worth watching. After playing more light-hearted characters in "Silver Linings Playbook" and "American Hustle", here is a part that Cooper truly loses himself in while revealing a darker edge that moviegoers have only seen glimpses of. Miller is also very good as Taya, but her character is not given much to do other than deal with the emotional conflicts of Cooper's Kyle.

Here is a strong work by Eastwood that depicts the harshness and violence of Chris Kyle's tours of duty and the emptiness and challenges of becoming part of civilian life again, but "American Sniper" ultimately misses its mark of being a great film by failing to offer audiences anything that has not been said many times before.

Hozier: Corruption of the masses

BY RANDEE MAY
STAFF WRITER

Take a moment to consider what love means to you. Is love the attraction between a man and a woman, or is it much more powerful than that?

To Andrew Hozier-Byrne, the writer and singer of 'Take Me to Church', love is so much more powerful than a simple attraction.

In his song 'Take Me to Church', Hozier makes a powerful and inspirational statement. Each verse holds meaning, while pointing out the flaws of the masses.

"Every Sunday's getting more bleak. A fresh poison each week. 'We were born sick,' you heard them say it. My church offers no absolutes. She tells me 'worship in the bedroom' The only heaven I'll be sent to. Is when I'm alone with you. I was born sick, but I love it. Command me to be well. Amen. Amen. Amen."

The video that accompanied

the song only helped to power the meaning of the lyrics. It portrays two men who have formed an intimate relationship which changes course after one is kidnapped, dragged through the woods and violently beaten to death by a group of seven. This all happened while his boyfriend was searching to find him, only to arrive too late.

Between the scenes are small snippets of their life, from walks to watching planes, to kissing. In an interview with Gigwise, Hozier stated, "Take me to Church is not an indictment against religion or institutions, but institutions that undermine the simple natural parts of being a person."

Hozier said, "The song, to me, is about what it is to be a human, what it is to love someone as a human being, and organizations that would undermine that, and undermine the more natural parts of being a person."

HOZIER | PAGE 6

Silver screen

Rating 3.5 out of 5



Directed by Clint Eastwood
Produced by Clint Eastwood
Rated PG-13

Starring Bradley Cooper, Sienna Miller, Luke Grimes

“ If you think that this war isn't changing you you're wrong. You can only circle the flames so long. ”

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Arts & Entertainment

THE INKWELL [5]
February 5, 2015

'Walking Dead' star describes his character: 'Barack Obama with a beanie cap'

By LEWIS BEALE
Newsday
(TNS)

Chad L. Coleman has had a successful TV career, appearing in everything from "Law & Order" to "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia." But two particular roles have really defined his work: in "The Wire," he played "Cutty" Wise, a reformed criminal who sets up a boxing gym for neighborhood kids; and in "The Walking Dead," he appears as Tyreese, a conflicted survivor of the zombie apocalypse (The AMC hit returns Sunday at 9 Eastern with new episodes). Newsday contributor Lewis Beale spoke with the Richmond, Va., native by phone from Toronto, where he is shooting the upcoming Syfy series "The Expanse."

How would you describe Tyreese to someone who's never seen "The Walking Dead"?

He's Barack Obama with a beanie cap, and a little more muscle. He's a humanitarian, an idealist. Some might call him a pacifist. He has a profound respect for human life, and understands the dangers of the ego, of crossing certain moral lines, and rationalizing it by "it's an apocalyptic world, and we gotta do what we gotta do." He's a man filled with hope.

What is it about the show that makes it such a huge hit? It speaks to the inner child

in all of us. That kid in Halloween who puts on that skeleton outfit. We have a relationship with horror. And the visceral feeling you have getting scared. That is where the real draw is, and we put all the complexity on top of it, because it's really a comment on society, how people behave, how we act when our backs are against the wall.

Yet the show seems to be ignored when it comes to awards season. How come? Timing is everything. TV is so rich with great drama now, and people get caught in the genre of it, so they make an assumption — "it's about zombies, the writing and acting can't be that good." In retrospect, "The Wire" was the same way, people tuned out based on their perception — it's about people in the "hood."

"The Walking Dead" has a history of killing off characters — like the deaths this year of Bob and Beth. The fact you're currently shooting another series, one set in outer space, has people thinking Tyreese is about to get offed. True?

We're able to do things on hiatus, that's all that is. Tyreese is not a principal role, it's a recurring role. I grew up with the "Star Treks," and "Battlestar Galactica," and someone tells me to put on a spacesuit, baby, I'm putting on a spacesuit.

But that history of killing

off characters must make for some weird on-set dynamics, right? Like the other actors don't want to get too close because they realize you might be killed off?

It's truly a tight-knit family, and we are hurt hard by those who have to go. We all genuinely get along when we're not on set. It's an all-in attitude. We try not to be on eggshells with that dynamic, it's "I'm gonna appreciate the hell out of it right now." The beauty of it is the tragic nature of it.

What got you into acting? I was always drawn to language, to reading, then reading out loud, then "Oh, there's this thing called a play." I used to like to pretend, and my brother said I should be an actor. I went to college at Virginia Commonwealth, didn't want to be there, dropped out, went into the military, then went straight to New York. While I was in the military, I was studying acting. So I landed in New York, I auditioned to be a stand-in on "The Cosby Show," and I got that. My first pro gig was actually Malcolm-Jamal Warner's 1992 show, "Here and Now." Then I started doing theater, Off-Broadway and regional.

"The Expanse," which debuts later this year, is a futuristic thriller. What's your

DEAD | PAGE 6

U Style

By ARIELLE POWELL

Qunicy Quitiqui

Junior, Rehabilitation Science



Where do you get your outfit ideas from?

GQ mostly, I normally look at the weekly statements in the magazine.

What do you think the elements are to have great style?

Be minimalist and simple. Simple stands out.

What stores do you normally shop at?

Uni Club in New York, Suits Supply, and JCrew.

How would you describe your personal style?

Classy, yet modern.

What would you recommend for students who want to be fashionable, while remaining on a budget?

Go thrift shopping, you get good deals.

#THROWBACK THURSDAY

Scarecrow to Visit

John Cougar Mellencamp will perform in Savannah on Friday February 28th at the Civic Center!!

John Cougar Mellencamp, a native of America's heartland, has been called "rock's newest populist hero" by Newsweek magazine. With a sense of decency and a love for rock 'n' roll, John has captured the American imagination. He co-organized Farm Aid and released the album Scarecrow (on Riva/PolyGram Records), of which critic Greil Marcus said, "The music is overwhelmingly present, physical...in every instant each musician seems to have a point to make. The album keeps all the promises made in Mellencamp's ten-year career."

Live, the reason for the acclaim are all the more apparent. Mellencamp's nearly three-hour shows incorporate his best songs with a reverent '60s medley to close, and here's what the reviewers are saying: "A charismatic performer; an intimate confidant one moment and a rousing rabble-rouser the next." (Washington Post)... "He has adrenalin to spare." (New York Times)... "A more-than-generous affair that managed the difficult feat of becoming more interesting as it went along." (Philadelphia Inquirer)... "An open-throttle hummer." (Boston Globe)... "Everything rock 'n' roll is supposed to be." (Akron Beacon Journal)... "A combination of fresh energy and unpretentious concern. Mellencamp practiced as well as preached his sense of standards" (New York Post). Of the latter, nowhere better did that ring true than onstage at New York's Madison Square Garden, where, after a brief sound failure delayed the set, John offered each ticket holder in the sold-out house a full refund.

Mellencamp had the biggest-selling album of 1982 in American Fool. Each of the following albums, Uh-huh and Scarecrow, have gone multi-platinum. Weaving themes of private integrity, questions of fairness, and shared community with a rock 'n' roll fury, Mellencamp, said critic Dave Marsh, "stakes out who he is but never denies who he used to be. He has carved a spot in rock history."



Modern Doo-Wop Queen is All About That Bass

By TAKIA BLACK
Staff Writer

The first track of Meghan Trainor's new album, "Title", is the song "The Best Part (Interlude)." She sings "the best part of being single is singing the world her songs." This couldn't be more true as the young artist shows that she has songwriting skills on her first studio album debut. Her song "All About That Bass" was a huge hit last year. The song is all about positive body image and teaching young women to love themselves.

Doo-Wop, an American sound that has been around since the 40's to early 60's, is a sound that you can still hear today from artists like Bruno Mars and late Amy Winehouse. Trainor's new album also mixes the sound of soca, a Caribbean genre of music that mixes hip hop, reggae, and classic pop.

From a young age, Meghan had classical musical influences. Her dad, who is a church organist, raised his daughter on soul legends such as Ray Charles and James Brown. Not to mention her Uncle Burton Toney was a Tobago born recording artist regarded for his fusion of soca and R&B.

When Meghan was still in high school she landed a deal with Nashville music publishing company. At 17 years old, the multi-instrumentalist released three albums. By the age of 20 years old, she started establishing a repertoire of songs for everyone

from Grammy-winning Rascal Flatts, Grammy-nominated Hunter Haynes, reggae/rock/R&B group Common Kings, and Hot Chelle Rae singer Ryan Follese.

The Nantucket, Massachusetts native and Nashville singer-songwriter is definitely "all about that bass" and in your face with honesty in her songs. "All About That Bass" is the next song right after the interlude.

Her single "Dear, Future Husband" is unique as it entails Trainor singing about her future husband. She sings about how she wants her future mate to treat her like a lady and never forgets the flowers on anniversaries. Many would argue that simple influences in the media, such as these lyrics, mold our generation. Although, other men and women may not agree with some of her lyrics, such as "And we'll never see your family more than mine."

Throughout the album, the listener will recognize 50's style beats. The most recently popular hit, "Lips Are Movin" talks about her lying, cheating lover while still maintaining a retro tune.

The whole album is diverse in topics that occupy the minds of young people such as drunk-texting, walks of shame, post-break up heartaches, dating insecurities, and respect for one's self. Meghan is the best girlfriend that we all need to keep us on our toes in her new album "Title."

Fired-up millennials become political, labor and community organizers

By ALEJANDRA CANCINO
CHICAGO TRIBUNE
(TNS)

CHICAGO — On a snowy evening, Brianna Tong gathered more than 50 students in a classroom at the University of Chicago to meet and dine with aldermanic candidates. The smell of curry filled the air as Tong told the audience that before becoming a campaign volunteer, she didn't connect with public officials. "They did not look like me ... did not represent people who looked like me," said Tong, 20, whose father is Asian and mother is African-American. Now she's spreading the word about candidates who share her views. Jobs, she said, should pay wages that at least keep up with the cost of living and tax breaks should not be given to corporations that pay low wages. "Does that sound exciting to y'all," Tong asked at the end of a six-minute speech. "Yeah" students exclaimed, cheering and clapping. The faces of political, labor and community organizing campaigns in Chicago are getting younger. The groups are gaining the support of more millennials, who now are roughly ages 15-35, who are increasingly frustrated with everything from police profiling to the state's budget deficit to the lack of well-paying jobs, especially

in fields that match their college educations. Last year, the average student-loan debt of a college graduate rose 6 percent to \$33,000. And while the unemployment rate for college graduates is the lowest since the recession, many are squeaking by in jobs that historically have been filled by high school students. In December, there were more than 1.4 million unemployed people in the U.S. older than 25 with a bachelor's degree. "Everyone tells you, work hard, go to college, do well, and get a job and your life will be great, and that's clearly not how it is for a lot of people," said Tong, a college senior set to graduate this year with a bachelor's degree in English and comparative race and ethnic studies. Tong's organizing work has been unpaid, but now she's looking for entry-level positions with nonprofits and community groups, which pay about \$30,000 a year. She committed herself to organizing when she realized its similarity to the civil rights movement. "That's something I heard about growing up from my mom," said Tong, whose grandmother participated in the 1963 march in Washington at which Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his "I

have a dream" speech. Youth involvement in community organizing gained national attention during the 2008 presidential campaign of Barack Obama, himself a former community organizer in Chicago. Now millennials are a force in efforts to increase the minimum wage, transform immigration policy and improve economic conditions for some. Ed Shurna, executive director for the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless, said millennials' engagement is reminiscent of the rallies and protests of the 1960s. "It's really exciting when I go to meetings and meet people who are doing this who have the same spirit that attracted me (to organizing)," said Shurna, 69. "It's exciting because it didn't happen for like 20 years." As recently as six years ago David Hatch, director of The People's Lobby, a political advocacy group, recalls looking around a room filled with organizers and realizing that, while in his 50s, he was the youngest person in attendance. "Here is where I think bad (economic) conditions helped," said Hatch, noting his group now has vibrant campus organizations. Since The People's Lobby began organizing students in 2011, it has sent about 100 to a weeklong

training program. Those who have become organizers say the work gives them a sense of purpose. Wayne Hayer, 22, who says organizing saved him from a life of drugs and crime, was 19 when he met an organizer who offered him a job working with at-risk youth in a summer program. He said he took the job only because it offered a little money, but then organizers began mentoring him and sent him to the Midwest Academy, a Chicago-based organizing school. Hayer said he attended workshops with college graduates and, to his surprise, kept up with them. "It was pretty amazing," he said. The experience helped him gain self-confidence, and he later became an organizer for a community group. He quit because he grew tired of knocking on doors and making phone calls, but after another job and some time off, Hayer said, he realized how much he missed organizing. Now he's in school and wants to expand on the organizing skills he learned. "The goal is to save the world. If you can save one life, it's a life well-lived," Hayer said. Jennifer Ritter, executive director of One Northside, said other young organizers have come from movements such as Occupy Wall

Street, which helped open their eyes to how the country's slow recovery from the recession has dampened job opportunities. Most recently, Ritter said, young people have been fired up by the marches in Ferguson, Mo., after an unarmed black teenager was fatally shot by a white police officer. Some organizers say the work has helped them develop a voice. "Every single day I get to work toward my own values and vision for the world," said Melissa Rubio, a soft-spoken 24-year-old. "I believe that we can live in a country that values people that don't have money. I believe that we could live in a country that takes care of our people better." Despite a degree in peace, justice and conflict resolution that has left her with \$60,000 in student debt, Rubio said the only kind of job she could find upon graduation was waiting tables, work she did in high school. As an organizer, she spends her week working for an Illinois lawmaker and a local political organization. Rubio said one of her first assignments was soliciting neighborhood support for a bus route that was slated to be eliminated, depriving residents of their lifeline to jobs. "My heart was beating and I was

so incredibly nervous," Rubio said, recalling a visit to the home of an elderly woman. Rubio explained why she was there and was stunned when the woman wrote a check for the campaign and pledged to speak with her alderman. Rubio said she didn't think women could be powerful, but she is now leading groups and organizing people twice her age to help get people out to vote for progressive candidates. Jeff Halm, president of the Chicago Young Republicans, said he started knocking on doors and making phone calls after he grew tired of people cracking jokes about how Illinois couldn't pay its bills. He started attending a monthly happy hour sponsored by the group, which has 800 members ages 18 to 41. During November's election, Halm, 27, was among volunteers calling potential voters to encourage them to back Bruce Rauner for governor. Halm said he was proud to see Rauner win in a state that's often written off as blue. Halm added, "I wanted to feel like I was doing something instead of being an armchair activist."

Forest

FROM PAGE 1

environmental practices for obtaining biomass, the conversion of once natural forests into pine plantations across the south for biofuel abroad will sadly continue.

In a region that hosts some of the most diverse ecosystems in its forests, it is only a matter of time before the woodlands in Savannah fall victim to this new industry practice. Thankfully, students and locals across the city are campaigning to have their voices heard by the companies responsible.

Bike

FROM PAGE 1

Savannahians understand that the SBC wasn't just going to hand out bicycles. They will give individuals training and necessary equipment, such as helmets, locks, and indicated lights before putting them on our city street.

If you would like to schedule a donation or volunteer, contact Jen Colestock at jen@bicyclecampaign.com

Pirates

FROM PAGE 2

Tyler Graham, added five strikeouts for his team.

Junior Berry Aldridge went 2-2 from the plate with four RBIs. Kendrick Thompson, Austin, and Taylor each added three RBIs as the Pirates crushed the Tigers 20-0.

The Pirates, now 3-0, will host a three game series against Emmanuel with a double-header Feb. 7 and the third game on Feb. 8.

Hozier

FROM PAGE 5

Sometimes imagery and music can overstimulate its audience with obscure choices. Frankly, society has developed a tolerance toward traditional violence and outlandish lyrics. But Hozier takes it to a different level that may put his audience outside their comfort zone, and he doesn't believe it should have that effect. "If you feel offended or disgusted by the image of two people kissing, if that's what it is, but you're more disgusted by that than the actual violence. . . I think you should take a look at your values maybe. I don't think there really should be a controversy when we're talking about a basic human right and the equal treatment of people."

He feels comfortable with what he believes to be real and acceptable behavior. In addition to that, fundamental moral views should be taken into account. Unfortunately, different cultures have presented with the ideas of Hozier.

Hozier specifically mentions Russia, where any expression of homosexuality or support for the LGBTQ community can condemn you. There is no freedom of speech when it comes to sexuality in Russia. He isn't afraid of displaying an outlook on topics that don't matchup with typical views and portrays many positive morbid tendencies within what love can be.

In an interview with the Irish Times Hozier said, "I found the experience of falling in love or being in love was death – a death of everything. You kind of watch yourself die in a wonderful way and you experience for

the briefest moment – if you do believe somebody and you see for a moment yourself though their eyes – everything you believed about yourself is gone."

Dead

FROM PAGE 5

role in it?

He's a commander, but is he a good guy? Bad guy? What is he up to?

In a previous interview, you mentioned the 1984 film "A Soldier's Story," about racism among African-American soldiers, as the movie you'd most like to watch again. How come?

That was the movie that made me say, "Wow, I want to do film." I was a freshman at VCU, I couldn't stop talking about it, and then realizing it was a Pulitzer Prize-winning play. It was the subject matter, the story, the performances. And I was fascinated with what Malcolm X called "The hate that hate produced."



Willie Nelson arrives for the 56th Annual Grammy Awards in Los Angeles on Jan. 26, 2014.

#THROWBACK THURSDAY

Willie Nelson And Poco At Civic Center

The number one progressive country artist in America, Willie Nelson, will be appearing at the Civic Center on May 19th. Willie has achieved superstardom in both the country and pop fields in the last few years. He recently had a million selling single. The Willie Nelson Show will be a mix of country and rock as the other groups on the bill are ABC recording artists Poco and the Flying Burrito Brothers. The show is being presented by Ron Powell. All seats are reserved. Tickets are priced at \$5.50 and \$6.50. They are available at the Civic Center Box Office, Jack Gilmore's Record Shop, Mitchell's Emporium, the Record Bar, Brian Gordon's, and McCrory's at the Mall.

When Willie Nelson was named to the Hall of Fame by Nashville Songwriters Association in November, 1973, nobody in the music business who had been paying attention was surprised. Willie had been turning out hit songs of uniquely high quality for nearly twenty years.

The phenomenal size of Willie's popularity as a performer and recording artist in the past year or so may have earned a few envious eyebrows in Music City U.S.A. though. For years, the powers-that-be in Nashville advised Willie to forget about trying to make it as a singer and concentrate on songwriting, but the idea of always having other singers interpret his songs was never acceptable to the talented Texan who had become known as perhaps the major figure in the increasingly popular so-called "progressive country music" movement.

As his cult-like following has grown in the Southwest, Willie also has become a hot act in other parts of the nation – particularly Las Vegas, Los Angeles, and New York City. His albums have also been attracting a steadily widening audience.

Meanwhile, music critics from coast to coast have "discovered" Willie Nelson. Robert Hilburn, for instance, the noted L.A. Times pop music writer, picked Willie's 1974 release, "Phases and Stages", as the best country album of 1974. New York Times critic, Lorraine Altman, in her own review of the same album, wrote that Willie was making "...country music that can move even those of us who think we despise it."

It would be difficult to name the American group which, over the course of its given decade, have maintained a standard of excellence comparable to that of Poco, in whose capable hands (and voices) country and rock converge to become some of the finest good-time music of the '70's.

The group's durability seems doubly extraordinary when one considers that, as music to becoming one of this country's most prized musical resources, it has survived enough supposedly fatal personnel shifts to drive five lesser groups to oblivion.

From its inception as a Buffalo, Springfield, guitar group in 1969, Poco's twin hallmarks have been inspired vocals and awesome musical precision. Today, Rusty Young's award-winning steel guitar, blending with Paul Cotton's "hot-flickin'" style in the rock solid setting of rhythm by Tim Schmit and George Grantham on bass and drums. Through over 300 concerts and nine albums, with millions of records sold, Rusty, Paul, Tim, and George being an evolved skill to the art of record making, and now in association with brilliant young engineer/producer, Mark Huserum, the group has produced number one "Head Over Heels" for ABC.

"This is the best Poco album yet," says drummer Grantham. "We've been playing together for a long time and each year our records have improved. Mark is a great catalyst for us," says George. "This is our third album together, and I think we have finally brought our records to a par with our concerts." Bassist Tim Schmit is enthusiastic about

"Head Over Heels," too. "We've always played well and made good records," says Tim, "but it's our growth as writers that makes this album unique. It's multi-faceted with some surprises for Poco buff, including Rusty's moving duet."

"Poco has always been more than just the sum of the people in the group at the time," says Rusty. "Our families and managers and a lot of good friends have for years contributed to the energy which is Poco, and inspired its growth."

"When we started," recalls George, "it was specifically for the purpose of doing something that no one had done before – to combine rock with country."

"Today," Paul points out, "we write and play whatever most inspires us, whatever'll get both us and our audiences smiling – lots of country, lots of rock and lots more."

Willie Nelson was born in Abbott, a tiny town in north central Texas, on April 30, 1933. He was 10 years old when he turned pro as a musician – getting \$1000 for playing rhythm guitar with a Bohemian polka band one night in Waco, a slightly bigger town about six miles from home. His grandparents, who raised him in the latter years of the Great

Depression, earned mail-order music degrees, so he came by his musical talents naturally. Willie used to watch them practice by lantern light in the evenings until he could play the steel, but supported his family (which soon included a daughter, Lura) peddling vacuum cleaners, encyclopedias and Bibles, before talking his way into a disc jockey's job at a San Antonio radio station. In the next few years, he worked days as radio, and sang nights and weekends in nearby honky-tonks. Somewhere along that ragged up-hill road, Willie started writing songs, sometimes scribbling lyrics on napkins, envelopes and paper sacks. When young Willie Nelson made his move to Nashville, he was an almost instant success as a songwriter. Hank Cochran heard him one night at Tootsie's Bar ("where those of us who were aspiring songwriters used to

After a short hitch in the Air Force, Willie set up housekeeping with a new bride in Waco, a medium-sized town just south of Austin. That was in 1950. He played and sang when he could in the area, but supported his family (which soon included a daughter, Lura) peddling vacuum cleaners, encyclopedias and Bibles, before talking his way into a disc jockey's job at a San Antonio radio station. In the next few years, he worked days as radio, and sang nights and weekends in nearby honky-tonks. Somewhere along that ragged up-hill road, Willie started writing songs, sometimes scribbling lyrics on napkins, envelopes and paper sacks. When young Willie Nelson made his move to Nashville, he was an almost instant success as a songwriter. Hank Cochran heard him one night at Tootsie's Bar ("where those of us who were aspiring songwriters used to

(Please See Page 9)