

The Clocktower

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PETER & THE BLANKENSHIPS

LINCOLN'S LOCAL FAVORITE FROM UNION



STEVEN FOSTER

What do you get when you combine a lot of blues, a touch of soul, the twang of bluegrass, and throw it all over hip-hop beats? Peter & The Blankenships.

No, not Pete Blankenship, who runs our cafeteria service—I'm talking about the band claiming his namesake that Union's own Micah Robinson and alumnus Michael Adams started back in 2011.

"Soulful," Robinson replied when asked to describe his band's sound. "I mean, the foundation of our music is just

staying true to the music we enjoy. It's a blend of genres."

You can find Peter & The Blankenships covering songs like "Bullet & A Target" by Citizen Cope in front of The Oven, an Indian restaurant in the Haymarket district of downtown Lincoln.

I grabbed a few friends and went out to see them play a few weeks back and arrived warmly to a group of Union students who were already enjoying the band—and attracting others to listen. Adams was wailing away on his guitar, making it moan in the fashion of delta blues while Robinson threw his soul into his vocals. Backing the duo were Union's own Pablo Colindres on

bass, Damian Dublin on drums, and Slade Lane on acoustic guitar.

My favorite moment of the evening had me up and moving. During one of their improv jam sessions, the beat picked up, and each member started playing faster and louder until Peter & The Blankenships attracted everyone within a quarter-mile radius. Everyone—audience and band member alike—was completely drawn in by the music.

Peter & The Blankenships' sound has the uncanny ability to draw people of every age, race, and background due to its diverse sound. "What's really interesting
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SAVE THE SQUIRRELS

THE FICKLE FUTURE OF OUR FUZZY FRIENDS



TAYLOR ROBERTS

Okay Unionites, let's talk squirrels. By now, you've probably noticed that there are a lot of these little critters running around our campus and have heard some of the squirrel lore that comes along with being a part of Union College. Honestly, all you have to do is ask a student or faculty member about squirrels, and the stories will start flowing.

Dr. Fitts, a humanities professor, recalls a student who sat on the Dick Building steps and fed the squirrels every day at lunch. After a while, the squirrels came to depend on his kindness and would line up for their daily meal.

Students all over campus tell stories about squirrels running around with whole pieces of pizza, donuts, and anything else that the cafeteria was serving that day. Scout Kutschara, a freshman computer science major, reported that he once saw a squirrel trying to climb a tree with a whole bagel in its mouth.

Besides doing an excellent job of cleaning up food left around campus, the squirrels also entertain us. At times, it seems as though they have their own personalities: settling territory disputes, hoarding food, and playing a rousing game of tag are some of their daily festivities. Some students attempt to sneak up on squirrels or chase them, but the squirrels have the home-field advantage by jumping up into their trees for safety.

Though Unionites have been known to play pranks on the squirrels, the little critters are not entirely innocent. Our campus squirrels have been known to hide in trashcans and jump out at passing people, almost giving the victim a heart attack. One student reported, "I saw someone approach a trash can that they thought a squirrel had fallen into and gotten stuck. She peered inside the trashcan to get a better look, possibly even help the poor creature, but the squirrel popped out and scurried away, scaring both of us." Squirrels are also suspected of throwing acorns at unsuspecting pedestrians who

have the misfortune of walking under certain trees, but one has yet to be caught in the act.

With all the joy and cleanliness the squirrels have brought to Union's campus, it is sad to hear that their population has taken a turn for the worse. Linda Becker reports that a pair of hawks moved into the trees between Culver and Jorgensen this past spring, and she has seen the hawks pick squirrels off the ground and even right out of trees.

As great as this meal situation is for the hawks, it's not as positive for our campus. As I mentioned above, our campus squirrels contribute to campus life, whether it is eating the apple core you tossed into the grass or providing an afternoon of entertainment and procrastination. With this in mind, the next time you see a hawk picking on one of our little friends, maybe instead of just walking by, you'll save the squirrel.

TAYLOR ROBERTS is a junior studying language arts education.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
27	28	29	30	31 Power Pac with Dick Duerkson, 7:30 p.m. ITAG, Atrium lobby, 10:30-10:45 a.m.	November 1 Vespers with Dick Duerkson, 7:30 p.m.	2 CVC services with Dick Duerkson, 9 a.m. and 12 p.m. V2, 6 p.m. Almost Anything Goes
3 Daylight Savings Time ends (set clocks back one hour)	4 Mission Emphasis Week (through Nov. 8) "Real Talk" with Tobias Watson, Rees rec room, 8 p.m.	5 Chapel, 10:30 a.m. Warriors basketball: Women's game, 5 p.m.; men's, 7 p.m. in the Thunderdome Student Recital, Engel Hall, 7 p.m.	6 Registration opens for spring semester Hour of Prayer with Pastor Ron, Heritage Room (below CVC sanctuary), 7 p.m.	7 Warriors basketball: Men's game, 7 p.m. in the Thunderdome	8 Warriors basketball: Women's game, 2 p.m. in the Thunderdome UFC Vespers, 7:30 p.m.	9 CVC services, 9 a.m. and 12 p.m. V2, 5 p.m.

WHEN THE WEATHER OUTSIDE IS FRIGHTFUL



CHELSEA ZUMWALT

I sat down a couple Mondays ago to an October 14 feast. For my Canadian readers, it may come as no surprise to you that this feast was in honor of Canadian Thanksgiving. Crimson cranberry sauce, crisp green salads, comforting sweet potato casserole, creamy mash potatoes, and vegetarian friendly turkey loaf crowded onto the modest dining room table fit for a college student. The torrential rain bounced off the roof as we took turns sharing what we were thankful for. Reflecting on holiday traditions has the potential to warm cold bones as the weather turns frightful. With Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas around the corner, I thought it fitting to ask Union students how they celebrate the holidays.

When growing up, many of my friends were discouraged from celebrating

Halloween because of the holiday's focus on death, tricks, and witchcraft. But over the years, Halloween festivities have become unique and taken on new themes with friends—watching scary movies, having costume parties, and even Church-held activities. Laura Peterson, senior biology major, shows her love for the festivities each year by painting her nails orange, black, or glow-in-the-dark and baking Halloween-themed cupcakes for her class to enjoy.

Marie Johnson, senior nursing major, explained that she is unable to visit family during Thanksgiving with Christmas break so close. Using innovative thinking, Marie and her roommate, Danielle Roske, senior biomedical science major, decided to spend their Thanksgiving traveling. "Growing up in a family of eight, I was never able to really see much of the world due to finances," said Marie. "Since leaving for college, traveling has become one of my

biggest passions in life and has become my motivation to get through each school year." So far, Marie and Danielle have traveled to Florida, Alberta, Canada, and are currently planning a trip to the East coast where they will visit Washington, D.C. and New York City. "One of my goals is to see all 50 states before I'm 30," she said. "With home being 13 hours away in Monrose, Colorado, Thanksgiving vacation seems like an ideal time to travel and see the world."

Marie isn't alone in her enthusiasm for Thanksgiving. Ian Hammer, freshman art education major, loves Black Friday shopping. "It's the only day of the year where my parents will give me money, and I won't get yelled at for spending," he explained. Xylia Capote, sophomore elementary education major, agreed. When asked which winter holiday she preferred she exclaimed "Thanksgiving! That is when my family watches the Macy's" *(continued on page 6)*

"FIFTY YEARS LATER..." A UNION-PRODUCED DRAMA



ANNA PONGO

"Let freedom ring..." Most of us are familiar with Martin Luther King Jr.'s famous "I Have a Dream" speech, but many have never heard the name of Medgar Evers. It is hard to comprehend the number of other people who go unrecognized for their work in advancing the Civil Rights Movement.

As a result, several Union faculty and students are collaborating to bring these people into the spotlight in the upcoming play "Fifty Years Later..."

A mixture of spoken word, instrumental, and vocal music, the play is being co-written and compiled by English and music faculty Mark Robison, Dan Lynn, and Kurt Miyashira, with the help of a number of students. They are striving to bring history, in all of its richness, to life. "I want people to come out of the performance inspired by some of the lesser-known events in history," explained Robison. "I want college students to leave knowing that people

their age made a difference in this world."

Where are we now? How can we continue the human rights work, and how can we inspire people to pursue positive change? These are some of the questions the creators of "Fifty Years Later..." want to answer.

The play is tentatively planned to open near the end of March. Right now, the search is on for contributors: writers, researchers, musicians (both instrumental and vocal), actors, poets, publicists, and technicians (video, audio, lighting, costuming, set, and more) are all needed. If you would like to be a part of making this year's play a success, please visit Dr. Robison's office in humanities on the fourth floor of the Dick Administration Building. Rehearsals for those who want to participate will begin after Christmas break. For those who would like to receive class credit for contributing, register for CODR 229 Play Production I this spring semester.

ANNA PONGO is a senior studying communication journalism.

SWEATER WEATHER



CASSIE JOHNSON

As you Instagram photos of the multicolor trees on Union's campus, you want to focus on choosing the perfect filter, not on how chilly you are. 'Tis the season for fall fashion—the union of warm colors and literal warmth.

Leave neon hues, short shorts, and bright patterns in the spring, where they belong. Instead, feast your eyes upon the immense opportunity offered up by autumn. Boots, scarves, and mid-weight jackets are beckoning from your closet. Follow the lead of the leaves and gravitate towards a cozy color palette that features emerald, maroon, mustard, and burnt orange.

Deanna Morgan, junior nursing major, illustrates an effortless transition to autumn attire by pairing boots with a trench coat (huge this season). Senior nursing major Jen Carlson seems to have stepped from the pages of a fashion magazine straight



Deanna Morgan (left), Jen Carlson (middle) and a dapper fellow from the Internet (right) remain fashion-forward and season-conscious in outfits that are both cozy and classy.

into Nebraska. Both girls complete their outfit with a chunky scarf, a perfect union of form and function.

For all the men of Union, girls love a guy in a sweater. Pair a sweater in your favorite color with cuffed dark jeans and brown leather shoes, and you'll have played into the majority of seasonal trends this year.

May your fall attire reflect the ideas of



F. Scott Fitzgerald, author of "The Great Gatsby": "Life starts all over again when it gets crisp in the fall." Return to a favorite scarf, cozy up in a sweater, and focus on that all-important filter decision: Kelvin or X-Pro II?

CASSIE JOHNSON is a senior pursuing a business pre-med degree.



Photo credit: www.wellblessedman.tumblr.com

(continued from page 1)
is the mixture of generations," Robinson begins. "We get college students, people old enough to be our parents—old enough to be our grandparents, and young parents with their kids. The fact that we're doing music that appeals to all generations is special."

The idea of starting a band struck one evening in the fall of 2011 when Adams and Michael Rohm were jamming near The Oven. Robinson was enjoying coffee downtown when he heard music playing.

Curious, he walked by and recognized them. Robinson writes raps, so he decided to throw some down over the music and all three agreed that the sound was fresh. Soon after, Peter & The Blankenships was born.

The band has a rotating mix of Union students, including Robinson on vocals, Adams on guitar and vocals, Dublin and Spencer Curtis on drums, Chavez Morris on keys, Colindres and Ryan Bair on bass, and more. Every show is a bit different, depending on who's playing that evening.

Right now Peter & The Blankenships doesn't have a social media presence, but it's in the works for the future. Robinson believes the band will be playing Saturday, November 2 at 8 p.m. near The Oven in Haymarket.

Trust me, it would be worth your time to check these guys out. And when you do, bring Pete Blankenship with you.

STEVEN FOSTER is a junior studying communication.

ASK AMBER



**AMBER
ALAS**

Dear Amber,

When I call home and mention a problem to my parents, I can usually predict that they'll either follow up with, "Are you getting enough sleep?" (No, of course I'm not) or "Have you prayed about it?" I've heard the latter from friends also. Most of us recognize that prayer doesn't instantly make things better, so how do I explain my frustration with their advice?

*Sincerely,
Tired of Platitudes*

Dear Tired of Platitudes,

When friends and family advise us to pray about things, sometimes they assume that telling us to do so will make us feel better. With some people, just talking to God brings them to a peaceful place. Then there are others who aren't fully satisfied or at ease until they get their prayers answered.

Our friends and family just want to help us feel better. Their intentions are almost always good. Try keeping that in mind when they ask you, "Have you prayed about it?" Maybe that's literally all the advice they can give you. It's understandable that it becomes frustrating.

If I was in your shoes, the next time my friends and family members told me the same good ol' advice, I would simply agree with them and explain that I know prayer is the solution, I always do pray, and that I'm patiently waiting on God's answer but having more specific advice to further act upon would be helpful also.

Try asking them, "What would you do if you were in my situation?" This way, they can think more closely about your problem and not just tell you what they think you want to hear. You can even open up to them and let them know that you're feeling frustrated. Be honest about your feelings and help them understand your stance on their advice.

*Sincerely,
Amber*

Have a question or situation that you think could benefit from someone else's perspective? Ask Amber at www.tinyurl.com/uc-askamber. All inquiries are anonymous, so you get the insight without being in sight.

AMBER ALAS is a senior nursing student.

IS \$50 BILLION TREASURE DREAM DIVINE?



**BRIANNA
SCHENKELBERG**

On October 18, archeologists in India began digging for a nearly \$50 billion treasure collection after a local holy man's dream. Hindu swami Shobhan Sarkar dreamt that the spirit of a king hanged in 1858 told him to care for the 1,000-ton treasure hidden under the late king's fort. Archaeologists found evidence of metals 66 feet underground, and locals of the Daundia Khera village claim they've long known about the treasure through elders' stories.

This man's vision reveals not only an "x" that marks the spot, but several questions as well. Was this dream a divine invitation to geocache? If so, for what purpose? As Christians, we know that spiritual visions still happen today because of Acts 2:17: "In the last days...your young men shall see visions, your old men shall dream dreams." But how do we know when these are God-given?

The Bible tells of several strange dreams and visions. In Acts, Peter saw a giant sheet descend from heaven carrying animals. Could Sarkar's dream be in the same category as these strange visions? His treasure dream convicted him to do something out of the ordinary. According to NBC News, the Hindu man contacted the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) hoping the treasure could solve India's economic crisis.

Additionally, the dream accurately pinpointed the location of possible treasure better than Captain Hook himself could have. Would Sarkar have known the location without divine guidance? So far, his unusual dream is presumably true (the treasure has yet to be unearthed) and convicted people to action.

Is this enough reason to believe the dream was a blessing from God? The same NBC report said India buys about 2.3 tons of gold *every* day (roughly an elephant's weight), which is mostly offered to their gods or hoarded. That's \$52 billion annually, vastly contributing to the country's financial woes. Would God—who calls himself a jealous God—provide help in a financial crisis partially caused by offerings to other gods?

It could take over a month before we find out if there truly is treasure buried in Uttar Pradesh—enough time to figure out if you think God provided 1,000 tons of gold to people who will likely use it to worship other gods. Yet, for all we know, God could have His own reasons, possibly even using the treasure to bring nonbelievers to him. One month is plenty of time to decide whether or not you think God holds any interest in revealing a few billion dollars of long-lost treasure.

BRIANNA SCHENKELBERG is a senior studying communication.

COMPETITIVE CONTROVERSY



**TYLER
ELLIS**

“Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only on to his own interests, but also to the interests of others” –Philippians 2:3-4 (ESV).

Does this one single verse in the Bible go directly against how we, and most other Seventh-day Adventist schools, compete? Does this verse alone mean that by simply having competitive sports on our campus, we are going directly against what the Lord says in the Bible? Well, I am here to present the facts as I have found them and am going to leave that decision up to you.

Most of our Adventist schools have competitive sports programs. In fact, Southern Adventist University is the only school within the NAD that doesn't have a formal competitive sports program. Just because all of these schools have the program, does that make it right?

(continued from page 3)

Thanksgiving Day Parade and we cook together. It's a family day.”

Freshman art education major Jill Donald loves to decorate with her family their 30-some Christmas trees. “My mom is an interior decorator, so we decorate everything,” she explained. “There are three eight-foot tall trees, a couple six- or seven-foot tall trees, and even a few two-foot tall trees.” When asked how she would extend her enjoyment of Christmas to her dorm room this year, she said, “My roommate and I will probably have a Christmas tree.”

No matter which winter holiday you are celebrating, don't refrain from drinking some apple cider, carving a pumpkin, or opening stockings with the ones you love the most.

CHELSEA ZUMWALT is a senior studying nursing and pre-allied health.



Does sharpening our competitive edge divide us?

I started my research at www.adventist.org. It was not hard to find the area of the website dedicated to covering the topic of competition, as this is a fairly heated and much-debated topic.

The opening paragraph states this: “These proposals are intended to give direction and guidance to individual members, churches, conferences, and institutions of the Church from the perspective of the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy.” After reading that, it was clear to me that this was the standard that the Adventist Church expects all SDA schools organizations to use when deciding how to handle competition. The next section of the article is entitled “God's Plan” and, in this section, it mentions that “...there is no sympathetic cooperation; there is no rivalry.” Thus far, all the information that I could find was strongly discouraging the implementation of competitive sports in our organizations. Then I ran across this: “...At the turn of the century, Seventh-day Adventist institutions, generally located in rural areas, offered ample opportunities for physical exercise. Today, institutions operate in ever more crowded environs

with shrinking opportunities for useful work as a means of recreation. In addition to this shift from a rural to an urban society, occupations demanding physical activity have been decreased, tensions have multiplied, and leisure time is increasingly dominated by sedentary entertainment such as radio, television, and movies. In order to compensate for these changes, a carefully balanced approach to physical activity must be encouraged in the Church's schools, churches, and other institutions.”

Was that the Adventist Church giving us the green light for some healthy competition? Or are they just telling us to get off our butts and do something, but not in a competitive manner? I hope this article has encouraged you to begin to ask these questions. Next week, I will present a follow-up article with what Union students and faculty think, and I might even throw my opinion into the hat as well. Let me leave you with one last potent quote, again from adventist.org: “Exposure to commercialized, highly competitive activities shall not be encouraged.” Strong words!

TYLER ELLIS is a senior business major.

INSTA-UNION



Instagrammers: L to R, top: @rudybootytooty, @carldupper4, @kerrivog; bottom: @aalas_, @ebmamead, @mailehoff93.

Instagram your favorite ASB moments with #unionunited, and your photos could appear in *The Clocktower*!

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		7	2			3	
7							5
		3		6		1	4
		6	4				

THUMBS UP/ THUMBS DOWN

FROM UNION COLLEGE STUDENTS

- Carmen Haubrich: 👍 to Mac's dictation app.
- Yafet Woldegabriel: 👍 to roller skating.
- Gary Obreque: 👍 to funnel cakes.
- Eric Bing: 👍 to the Macklemore concert.
- Karina Lee-Way Graves: 👎 to classes. I hate classes.
- Angelina Dudin: 👍 to pretty fall colors.
- Lindsay Harris: 👍 to good printers on campus.
- Anonymous: 👎 to Obamacare and the socialist movement.
- Joellyn Sheehy: 👎 to Anonymous.

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Feedback

The Clocktower encourages reader feedback and strives to maintain accuracy. If you have comments, please email us at ctower@gmail.com.

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Student Spotlight

EXPERIENCE THE SPIRIT

UNION UNITED

SWEET BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES



EMILY SYVERTSON

fund-raising effort for a trip with her best friend (and co-owner), Hailey McIntosh, Tasty Cakes became a more permanent business endeavor.

“Perhaps I had watched too many episodes of ‘Cupcake Wars’ and ‘D.C. Cupcakes,’ but I really wanted to make

Camerine Flores, known to many as Bernie, is a freshman English major. Occasionally trading in her pen for an apron, Flores runs her own baking business, Tasty Cakes. Born of a

cupcakes,” Flores explains. “Baking for Tasty Cakes is a passion of mine and maybe a future career.”

Tasty Cakes is a relatively new business, claiming only a couple of months under its belt. Flores runs the business out of her parents’ kitchen even though she lives in the dorm. While appreciating her parents’ kitchen capacity, Flores is also grateful for their support.

In addition to her co-owner, Hailey McIntosh, Flores also has a financial advisor: Addison Collingsworth. “We laugh about the positions that we pretend to take seriously, but, in reality, it is very important that we separate the different rolls,” Flores says. “Sometimes I feel like I have the easy part—all I have to do is bake! They take care of the financial and business side of things.”

What problems could a cupcake business possibly have? Exploding icing tips, melting frosting, and overflowing cakes only begin to depict the possible confectionary conundrums.

As far as future plans, Flores doesn’t feel the urge to expand just yet. But she is thrilled to cater the physician assistant program’s White Coat Ceremony. “We will have quite a large order to fill,” Flores admits, “but I look forward to acting like I’m on ‘Cupcake Wars!’”

For now, her bakery business is happily resigned to being on the side. “Even if Tasty Cakes doesn’t last



Bernie loves to bake.

for very long,” Flores says, “I will never stop baking!”

Tasty Cakes accepts special requests in addition to having a special flavor of the month. November will be pumpkin spice with cream cheese frosting for those of you who haven’t fully satisfied your love of pumpkin spice within the confines of October. All of the cupcakes are created from scratch and can be delivered.

For those of you looking to satisfy your sugary cravings or have cupcakes catered for an event, you can contact Camerine Flores by text at 402-309-3165 or email at disneyfan94@hotmail.com. She also has flyers in the humanities division. “Feel free to talk to me on campus if you see me as well,” Flores invites.



One of the tempting Tasty Cakes creations.

EMILY SYVERTSON is a senior English major with a minor in communication.