

THE TALKING DONKEY

Cedarville University's Premiere News Source

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Cedarville's Expulsion from GARBC Preceded by Childish Antics

PRESIDENTIAL DINING ROOM—The tense relationship between Cedarville University and the General Association of Regular Baptists Churches on matters of ecumenism finally reached a breaking point at a summer luncheon between administrators from both groups. Invited by Dr. Dixon to discuss matters in a personal setting, GARBC representative John Greening detailed his dissatisfaction with Cedarville's close ties to the Southern Baptist Convention.

"We won't deny the efforts by Al Mohler to turn the SBC around," said Mr. Greening. "But until they hold convictions identical to ours in all areas, we can't possibly extend the right hand of fellowship to them. Only the left hand of chastening."

Several Cedarville trustees were present, along with Dr. Brown, Dr. Dixon, several admissions staff, and an anonymous summer session student working incognito for *The Talking Donkey*. The luncheon began cordially and in good Christian hospitality. As a debate on secondary separation grew heated, however, the conversation and manners quickly de-evolved into something normally found at a second-grade lunch table. An exclusive report of the exchange:

"Look, John," said Dr. Dixon firmly. "We would *never* lower our doctrinal standards just to appeal to more students. You know I'm a dyed-in-the-wool Baptist, just like you!"

"Oh, yeah?" responded Mr. Greening. "We're not just *any* Baptists, Paul. We're *regular* Baptists!"

Began Dr. Brown: "Gentlemen, if I may add—"

"Silence, Bill," interrupted Dr. Dixon. "You're not ready."

Dr. Brown looked down at his lap, sheepishly. Dr. Dixon

continued.

"Now look, Greening. Your militant separation is cushioned in the semantics of this petty 'Baptist identity' you've concocted. If that's all you care about then I don't give a flying fig about your precious Baptist distinctives."

"Oh, put a cork in it. You're as bad as the Promise Keep—"

"What?" mocked Dr. Dixon, plugging his ears. "What? I can't hear you, speak louder! I can't hear you!"

Throwing down his napkin, Greening replied: "Clearly, Dixon, you need a lesson in doctrine. Perhaps separation from ecumenism is too much for you at this time, so let's begin by separating you from that pork chop you have failed to finish."

Reaching for the half-eaten meat portion, Greening knocked a glass of tea into Dixon's lap.

"Oh, I'm sorry, was that me?" taunted Mr. Greening.

Dr. Dixon looked up slowly from the spill and eyed Greening coldly. "Oh, you are *too* bold."

"Too bold, huh? At least I didn't have a graven image made of me—one that looks like Jerry Falwell, nonetheless."

"Your *mom* looks like Jerry Falwell!"

Carl Ruby clapped gleefully in the background as Mr. Greening's face pinkened.

"Nice try, moron!"

"I know you are, but what am I?" shot back Dr. Dixon, pleased with his prowess at stichomythia.

"At a boy, Paul!" cried a trustee.

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A haven of knowledge.

Center for Teaching and Learning To Be a Place for Teaching and Learning

CENTENNIAL LIBRARY—A recent press conference held by the library administration last Saturday clarified the purpose of the Center for Teaching and Learning. Tucked away deep within the bowels of the Centennial Library, the CTL has generated significant confusion among the campus populace concerning its actual function. Don Humphreys, recently appointed director of the CTL, comments:

"The title really stresses the seriousness of Cedarville's emphasis on education. We felt it necessary to remind students and faculty that the center is about *teaching and learning*, as opposed to *not teaching and not learning*."

"Subtle," commented a third-year sophomore. "I like it."

Featuring a jar of Jolly Ranchers at the front desk, the CTL will "promote a centralized and coordinated *Continued pg. 2*

approach to faculty development and innovative instructional practices,”[1] although no one is exactly sure what that means. But what will be taught and learned at the CTL? An exchange at a recent faculty lunch at Chuck’s:

"Good question," responds Humphreys. "A full consensus has yet to be reached, but we're thinking somewhere along the lines of teachable and learnable things."

"Yeah, OK," said a humanities professor, nodding his head affirmingly. "I see where this is going."

Humphreys continues, "I mean, we could get involved in things that aren't teachable or learnable, but that would really go against the grain of what we're about."

"Fair enough," admitted another.

Always one to stir the pot, Pastor Rohm raised a voice of disappointment.

"Teaching and learning? Isn't that a bit obvious? I would certainly hope that any academic facility we build would provide teaching and learning. Who would conceive such a name?"

"Cool it, Rohm," retorted Dr. Hoffeditz. "Speaking of conception, in nine months I'm going to be—"

"A father?" interrupted Carl Ruby.

"No, no," returned Dr. Hoffeditz, grinning. "I'm going to begin working on my new book—*They Were Single Two!*"

"Sounds fun," commented Pastor Rohm, ending the half minute of silence. "Anyway, maybe this center will come in handy, after all. My 'Giants In the Land' Power Point slides could use some new clip art." -*Yoshima Takahashi*

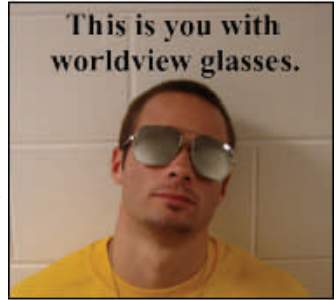
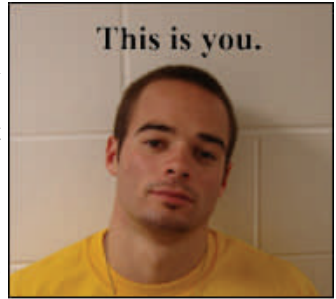
[1]http://www.cedarville.edu/newsrelease/2006/Cedarville_University_Names_Director_of_New_Learning_Center/2132271501

Dr. Brown's Magnum Opus, re:View, Rakes in Acclaim

RECITAL HALL—Dr. Bill Brown is a very happy man, and this time it has nothing to do with a gift basket from Bath & Body Works. Instead, praise is pouring in for Dr. Brown's "re:View"—a DVD-based teaching tool that trains students in high school and college for impact in a culture not raised on the rich truths of Veggie Tales. Several prestigious organizations have already awarded "re:View" as of October, including The Telly Awards and the "Dr. Brown Is My Homeboy" Facebook group.

"We thank God for the positive response towards re:View," said Dr. Brown at a recent press conference. "So many people helped make this a great propaganda tool. I especially want to thank our publicity team for writing a phenomenal Wikipedia entry on the films."

In his 4th year as president of Cedarville University, Dr. Brown hopes that this personal project will reinforce his status in evangelical culture as a "worldview guru":



Some life-impacting images from "re:View."

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HEART-FELT OPINION

Where's the Grace?

by guest writer Sophie Stree

Last week, as I was preparing to go paint an orphanage, it was necessary for me to stop by the student center to pick up my supplies. Hastily, I pulled my car into a parking spot and charged inside. When I returned, my windshield was adorned with a bright yellow ticket from Campus Safety. They had fined me for parking in the wrong lot.

As I saw this, emotions filled me like an overstuffed burrito. Who are they to judge my sins?

I used to think that I attended a Christian university. Now, I am not so sure. Aren't we supposed to treat others with mercy, as Christ has treated us? If Jesus worked for campus safety, would he have given me a ticket?

The atmosphere here at Cedarville is progressively becoming one of legalism and hypocrisy. I think the administration has forgotten that we all have a license to live, and to love life. That license is called grace.

"Follow the rules!" they say. "There will be consequences for your actions."

Well excuse me, Mr. Bible Scholar, but I have been

forgiven. That means that I no longer have to be concerned with trivial matters such as what color lines I park between. God's grace covers it all! So go ahead, cast the first stone.

Sure, I still mess up. But I feel that other Christians should not judge me for my sins. It is not their job to judge, but to forgive. In fact, they have to forgive me at least 490 times (See Matthew 18:22). As of today, Campus Safety owes me 491 free offenses.

That is why we must eliminate this whole demerit thing. How can we as a university look prospective students in the eye, claim to have the love of Christ, and then hand them a rule book full of consequences? Sick!

Am I really to believe that simply because I may exhibit a few homosexual traits I should not be permitted to attend Cedarville? Or that just because I choose to reject the notion of Biblical inerrancy I should be asked to leave? Does attempted rape really put me into hot water with the deans?

That is why, when I was fined by the Campus Gestapo, I screamed, held my breath, threw a temper

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re:View, pg. 2 “Christians are called to be salt and light in culture. When Christians separate their lives into ‘sacred’ and ‘secular’ categories, we neglect the impact we’re supposed to have on all areas of society. Eventually, we find ourselves being influenced instead of doing the influencing because we have failed to engage and discern culture. Now tell me, is that not profound? Am I not good? Am I? Yes, I do believe I own this house. What’s up now, Josh McDowell? Hey, that rhymed.”

After enjoying a brief applause, Dr. Brown explained the rationale behind the re:View films.

“Think of yourself as clay. Think of this worldview workshop as a mold. Now imagine me pushing you into the mold, placing you in a kiln for several hours, and then taking you out to cool with thousands of others just like you. Also, imagine me holding you

Antics, pg. 1 “I just said you were—“ Mr. Greening paused, recognizing the trap. “You’re a clever man, Dixon... and a mammon-lover!”

Dr. Dixon pulled back, obviously struggling to suppress his anger. Collecting himself, he commented, “Greening, there’s a little something I learned once that you would do well to know. You see, whatever you say bounces off of me and sticks to you, because I’m rubber and you’re glue.”

Astonished gasps escaped the audience.

“Am not!”

“Are too!”

“Shut-up!”

“Make me!”

With verbal retorts exhausted, the inevitable occurred.

“Hey Greening, separate yourself from THIS!” yelled Dr. Dixon, launching a spoonful of pudding towards Greening. A splat sound followed, accompanied by screams from some of the ladies present.

Mr. Greening slowly wiped the pudding off of his suit, tasted it, paused reflectively, and then stood up and screamed, “BANGERANG!” And so began a ten-minute food fight that, according to our agent, “revealed more about the physical condition of those [men of God] than anything else.”

“Charley-horse!” cried a trustee, collapsing after throwing a fruit cup.

Although falling prey to a fierce volley of creamed corn, Dixon’s unblemished left thigh clearly declared his victory. Furious, an out-numbered Greening threatened to tell his mommy and then announced that from that moment forth Cedarville would have no relationship with the GARBC—although a source close to the administration has leaked that a food fight rematch is in the works.

While seemingly unaffected by the affairs of higher-ups, certain students will feel the consequences on Sunday morning. Grace Baptist Church, a favorite of many students and a GARBC affiliate, will bar Cedarville students from Sunday school and worship beginning November 5.

“It was a hard thing to do, but this is about sticking to our values,” said pastor Craig Miller. “Ephesians 5 couldn’t be any more clear—fellowship not with darkness.”

-Wilhelm von Schnelldorf III

really close to my face and smiling. That’s my vision.”

The re:View DVDs, priced at a comfortable \$159.99, come with study guides, tests, worksheets, teaching aids, and Transcendental Floss™. Also featured is Dr. Brown’s new single, “If I Could Play the Piano and Sing About Worldviews, It Would Sound A Little Something Like This”.

Already immersed in worldview training of their own, most students have responded enthusiastically.

“I think this is a great message that needs to get out,” said freshmen sports science major Tim Climer. “Worldviews are like MySpace profiles—anyone who’s cool has one.”

Other students, however, have turned a cold shoulder—primarily upperclassmen who have grown weary of the incessant indoctrination in class and chapel.

“Worldviews will always be my baby,” admits Dr. Brown, who can say “worldview” in 37 different languages. “But students come first. If they feel that its time to move on, I will do my best to serve them.”

Rumors have already surfaced that Dr. Brown would like to one day draw upon his background in abstract mathematics, possibly using chapel as a time to prove Fermat’s Last Theorem on an abacus.

“We’ll definitely be looking forward to that,” commented Pastor Rohm, who doubts he’ll continue his current chapel series.

-Guido Valentine

Grace, pg. 2 tantrum, and submitted this article for publication. I believe I have done the right thing by drawing attention to this institution’s extreme lack of mercy.

Listen, when a brother or sister stumbles, we are called to come alongside them and help them through their struggle. We’re not supposed to throw around punishment like Kim Jong-il on a power trip! If someone has sex before marriage, we should forgive them and help them rededicate themselves to purity. If they smoke cigarettes, we should show them how to bite their nails instead. If they are hooked on crack, we should help them transition to a more sophisticated drug, like powdered cocaine. When a brother or sister murders their neighbor, the church family should be standing by their side, helping them dispose of the body.

After all, isn’t that what Christ came to do? He came to bury the body of our sins and file the serial number off the gun of our past lives. Peter denied Christ three times. Paul used to murder Christians. Let me ask you, how many demerits did they get? May we all show such forgiveness.

Sophie Stree is a junior communications major with a minor in cosmetology. An avid yoga practitioner, she cites Brennan Manning as a major influence, alongside her mother, Cindy, and her late dog, Puff. Sophie hopes to work at the Gap after graduation.

Letter from the Editor:

Greetings. I am Wilhelm von Schnelldorf III, chief editor for *The Talking Donkey*. I'm delighted that you've picked up a copy of our humble publication. Having read this far, you're probably asking yourself, Who are these people? What are they doing? Why do I feel so satisfied after reading this? Of course, yourself doesn't have the answer.

To begin, we are formerly a guild of political satirists from Eastern Europe and various Soviet bloc countries. With the fall of the Motherland in '89, we went into hiding for two years—not because we needed to, but because it would make for a great conversation piece later in life. After a brief stint in the booming lawn-gnome installation industry we immigrated to America, eventually finding ourselves in Yellow Springs. Our fascination with the nearby Cedarville University sub-culture led to a consideration of Christianity, and after receiving God's grace we were baptized in Cedar Lake by Pastor Rohm. Our close ties to the university persist as we continue to purchase Dr. Dixon a new set of golf-clubs biannually and peer-review scholarly works of the Bible Department at no charge. We also run the Elliv sound booth.

Why we write is a very different matter—a very *dark* matter—one that hits right at the heart of the cosmos (and thus dark matter). This is rebellion. This is about breaking free—refusing to be another cog in the machine. Pandering to no one, we are the *Cedars* antidote—the voice of the proletariat, the underdog, the commoner, the misfit, the pariah, the kid who would read this paper except his sorceress is too close to level 60 to warrant a break. Yes, he reeks, but so does limburger cheese. And yet we love them both.

That being said, give us money.

...NEWS NOTES...

- ◇ German Club celebrates German week by invading French Club
 - *"Ich habe einen wilden Frosch in meinen hosen."*
- ◇ "Opened Eyes" reminds students of how uncomfortable it would be to sleep on a concrete slab
 - *"Makes me appreciate my pillow that much more. Speaking of which, I had a late night unlocking a secret level in Mario Kart. Nap time."*
- ◇ For some freshmen, Lawlor renovation results in the only thing worse than getting placed in Lawlor: getting placed in Rickard
 - *"We're always glad to have new faces join us as we behave calmly."*
- ◇ Recent marriage-themed chapel leaves some feeling disgusted, others very sexy
 - *"It's all about the one-liners now. Who can get the crowd rolling? Who can make it into the Chapel Highlights video? Today we're talking about cold showers, tomorrow we'll be counting Proverbs 5:19 as a spiritual formation activity."*

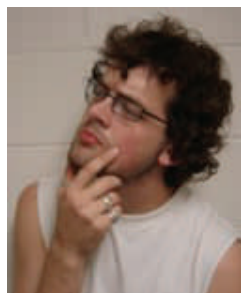
POLL: Would you like to take a poll?

Yes 77%
No 23%

Breakdown by...

Gender

Male
Female



Yes	No
74%	26%
80%	20%

Ethnicity

Jew
Gentile
Chess Club

57%	43%
76%	24%
43%	57%

Eschatology

Amillennial
Postmillennial
"Whatever Left Behind teaches"

78%	22%
11%	89%
76%	24%

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-Join us at Chuck's every Tuesday night at 6:00 as we dine and enjoy light-hearted conversation about current events.