



Last Journeyman Finishes the Oregon Trail

by Walker King

As Jebidiah Sheffield staggered into the Oregon City City Hall to claim his homestead on April 17th, he officially became the last man to complete the Oregon Trail, a 2,000 mile voyage that thousands have made since mass migration began in 1842.

"Well I lit out from Independence [Missouri] back in [18]'48, and it looks like I finally made it!" said a jubilant Sheffield to reporters waiting at Oregon City. "I can't wait to claim my 640 acres of land and get to building a cabin."

Sheffield decided to leave the East Coast in 1847, accompanied by his wife Elizabeth and his two children, following the election of Zachary Taylor to the presidency.

"Never did like that Taylor fella'. Always gummin' up the abolition. Neither did Liza," Hayes said of his wife. Mrs. Sheffield died of consumption in 1887.

According to Sheffield, he and his family initially left on a wagon train, but became separated somewhere in Iowa. Unwilling to admit defeat, the family trudged on, covering most of the contiguous United States, in a journey of

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98% OF NORTH KOREANS UNABLE TO FIND MAP IN NORTH KOREA

Study Confirms State Department Estimates



by Sam Spiegel

In a recent survey conducted by the Democratic People's Republic of North Korea's Department of Education, and obtained by the Chicago Shady Dealer, a shocking 98% of North Korean children are unable to locate a map.

"These numbers are very shocking," said an official within the NKDoE, speaking on condition of anonymity because he was so embarrassed by the results. "Where are those 2% of children

The candy man can.

finding maps? We need to know, so we can keep this cartographic disaster from further corrupting our youth."

The survey was conducted at the order of Glorious Leader Kim Jong-Un in order to determine how aware North Korean youth are of the outside world. When reached for comment, Glorious Leader Jong-Un's press secretary said,

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President Zimmer Occupies Admin Building: Demands Less Transparency, Less Student Input

by James Ekstrom

This morning, at 8:00 a.m., University staff attempting to begin work at the University Administration Building found the doors and ground-floor windows locked and barricaded from the inside. By 8:15 a.m., it became clear the barricade was a protest instigated by activist group President Zimmers for President Zimmer, col-

loquially known as P-Zims for Pres-Z. While the group's size is unknown (group President, President Zimmer, has adamantly refused to publish its membership roster, and meetings are highly secretive), UCPD estimates that the protest is being carried out by approximately 1 high-profile University administrator. However, they declined to speculate on the identities of any of

the participants.

The group's goals were presented as messages scrawled in Sharpie on several pieces of furniture tossed out of second-floor windows, and, in summary, included: demands for an end to administrative responses to student

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DISCLAIMER

If you are offended, shocked, or otherwise provoked to hunt us down like a delusional maniac, please take a deep breath—that's right, don't be shy—and count to ten. Maybe think about some animals or something. Puppies always work for us.

META-DISCLAIMER

We're real sorry about that last disclaimer. It came off as a little snarky, plus we called you a maniac. Who does that? It was in poor taste, and we're sorry.

META-META-DISCLAIMER

Though don't get us wrong. That last disclaimer was just an apology for the tone of the first, not a retraction. Please understand: We don't give a fuck.

EDITORIAL: I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT I REALLY NEEDED UNTIL CHEF BRENT MADE THOSE FRUIT SCULPTURES.

by Woodlawn Resident

I've been expressing strong desires for a number of things recently. I said I'd like the University to acquire and develop less than one hundred percent of the real estate south of 43rd Street. I said I'd like a trauma center to prevent my death from wounds I sustain as a result of my regular life. I said I wanted a beautiful sculpture of a swan, made of melons and strawberries. Actually, I didn't say that, because I didn't know that was what I wanted, and everything I wanted, until Chef Brent gave it to me.

Chef Brent didn't ask me what I wanted. The University probably did in some public forum, but it knew I didn't really want what I said I wanted. What I wanted was what I needed, and I needed a beak made of a banana on top of a goose with melon wings and

a lettuce bed. He sleeps in his little lettuce bed, closing his little eyes, which are grapes. It's the answer to the prayers I didn't know I could pray.



Chef Brent offers healthy dessert alternatives.

I expected that the millions of dollars in research funding the Crime Lab and the Lab School would produce the object of my desire, a cure for the systemic discrimination and intergenerational poverty which plagues my neighborhood. But that was not the object of my desire, a fact that wasn't apparent to me until the lustrous plumage made of oranges spilled off the the fruit duck's back into a pond of cherries and cherry stems. What is the object of my desire?

It isn't Chef Brent, but it is related to him. It's his creation, the sculpture so perishable it could disappear within the fortnight, a rotted remains of so pure a masterwork.

Department of Geophysical Sciences Announces Groundbreaking New Initiative

by Alexander Dunlap

In a surprise announcement that sent tremors through the scientific community, the University of Chicago Department of Geophysical Sciences announced today a new initiative which Chairman Michael Foote described as "groundbreaking." The initiative will be undertaken as part of a newly-formed conglomerate consisting of researchers from every continent.

Foote said at a press conference that the initiative would transform the practice of geophysics, perhaps even causing major rifts in the scientific community. Indeed, the initiative's groundbreaking assumptions challenge the core concepts of geophysics as a discipline. "Yes, there are hazards in putting forward such an earthshakingly

ambitious program, but recent advances in our research justify our taking up the mantle of leadership in this field," Foote explained, as the assembled crowd erupted into applause.

Constraints on staff and faculty time was among the many potential sinkholes Foote cited as facing the initiative in its infancy. "Frankly, we've all got a lot on our plates," said Foote. Yet Foote seemed unconcerned with the potential for drifts from the project's deadlines. He indicated that he would prefer that scientists have the opportunity to "dig deep" on their projects rather than rush to meet the initiative's 3.6-million-year projected timeline for Phase 1.

US, NATO INVADE DINING HALL FOR OIL, WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION

Conflicting Motives in Move to Stop Dining Services



some of the world's largest oil reserves, and many wonder if this is the true motive behind the planned invasion. At present, these remain inaccessible to external agencies, including international conglomerates such as Exxon, BP, and Shell. Given the universal dependence on swiftly depleting oil resources, the dining halls' reserves would be a game changer if they became available to the external market. According to anonymous sources, attempts at privatizing local reserves have already begun in some areas. American trucks have been spotted transporting food items away from sites in the region .

The invasion would come at a tumultuous time in the history of the dining hall system. Prospie season has proved demanding for the largely standing-in-line based economy, and the upcoming demolition of Pierce Tower is an added blow to an already unstable state. Recent changes in leadership, including the arrival of Chef Brent gave diners hope for improvement in domestic policy issues. However, experts say circumstances remain largely the same, despite a few legislative ventures (such as the "Chef's Table" bill) that provide an element of hope to a troubled people.

by Ayesha Wadhawan

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has declared "inevitable" an invasion of University of Chicago dining halls, naming them a "primary threat to American security." Senior U.S. officials are citing allegedly toxic material discovered in Cathey Dining Hall last fall as strong indication of a "drive toward an arsenal of terror."

"Those exploding toilets near suspected sites were no accident," said President Obama at a speech in Cincinnati on Monday. "There is no doubt in my mind that all the evil in the whole world may be successfully eradicated by acting

now, even if the Security Council seems to disagree. This region forms part of an axis of evil that may become a triangle, square, flexagon, or any number of menacing shapes if left unchallenged." The US government has named its military venture "Operation Clean Silverware" as a reflection of its indestructible hope in this endeavor.

Critics, including a sizable proportion of the American public, argue that the invasion is motivated by a desire for vast oil resources that are currently only utilized only on fried rice and pizza for dining hall patrons. The UChicago dining hall system is known to contain

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concerns, increased obscurity of University investment, hiring, and acceptance policies, and increased salaries for the University's best Presidents and faculty members named Shadi Bartsch-Zimmer.

The protest comes on the tail of a variety of high-profile incidents of activism instigated by P-Zims, including starting a tumblr (fuckyeahuniversity-presidents.tumblr.com), an anonymous Facebook confessions page (UChicago

President Confessions), and an announcement that the RSO will hold a free-food event for all graduating seniors this Spring Quarter in the President's backyard, pending the group's demands being met.

While support for the movement among the general student body has been mixed, University staff has largely remained open to hearing what the group has to say, and actually sit down to nearly daily meetings with the group's leadership. Just last week, the group successfully managed to secure a key promise from the administration to

exclusively use buzzwords in all future public responses to University scandals and controversies. At press time, the protest was ongoing, but participants indicated via paper airplane note that "We are satisfied, and not at all surprised, that exactly zero undercover UCPD officers are taking part in the demonstration."

In response, administrators have sent an email to the student body promising transparency, including, "A forum and open space to discuss these difficult issues in a safe environment. Saturday, 7 AM at the Gleacher Center."

Chalk to be Replaced with Humongous Chalkboard

by Mark Sands

The University of Chicago Office of the Registrar announced today its decision to replace the online Chalk system with a gigantic chalkboard. After cMore was closed in favor of myUChicago to cheers from the student body, the University next set its sights on the Chalk interface, which has been occasionally criticized for making it difficult to find important assignment information.

Concluding that this information would be easier to manage in a public way, where none of it was ever difficult to find, University President Robert Zimmer has suggested “Chalkboard”, a new system that places a giant chalkboard in the middle of the Main Quad, detailing all information any student could possibly want to know.

University legal counsel has not yet been consulted regarding this decision, but President Zimmer is “sure they’ll find a way to do it.” The University has also yet to figure out where to ac-



The New Chalk is meant to integrate seamlessly into campus life.

quire such a chalkboard, or how students will be able to see the top of it.

“I’m sure these minor details can be worked out as we finish the transition,” said President Zimmer, before adding that he’d like to “preemptively announce” that Chalk will be going offline next week.

President Zimmer, who was a math professor before joining the administration, did not comment on whether

this new chalkboard would have sliding sections like those in many campus buildings, and if it does, how students would be able to access the covered-up parts.

As of press time, student organization #RIPCMORE had not yet announced if they would add a chapter to commemorate the end of the Chalk interface. #RIPCMORE representative John Martin said, “I just can’t....”

Main Quad Drainage on Par with Peer Institutions

by Zach Augustine

Researchers at the new Institute for Data Sets recently finished their four-year study on the state of water drainage in high traffic areas at elite-level institutions. Colleges involved in the study can cost upwards of \$63,000 a year and include Yale, Princeton, Columbia, Dartmouth, Cornell, The University of Pennsylvania, Brown, Stanford, and MIT, among other respectable, honest institutions.

The study found that the current level of drainage is both acceptable and non-intrusive. Correspondents at Yale indi-

cate that they too can enter the dining hall without stepping into six inches of water. Cornell, a campus known for its Gothic architecture, reports no problems with loose, ankle-breaking cobble stones outside of its academic buildings. The University of Pennsylvania corroborates the study’s finding that six-foot moats “seldom to never” appear on major intersections outside of the student center. In addition, MIT reports that its engineers’ services have not been needed to keep its major thoroughways free of potholes.

The Shady Dealer met with campus officials to discuss the future of drainage on campus. “I am confident that re-applying fresh sod to 80% of the Quad’s surface area each and every year is more cost-effective and environmentally friendly than doing it right once. Budgets are tight these days,” Facilities Services Manager Thaddeus Root said over an Aramark-emblazoned coffee cup.

The University has responded to the study by designating the upper floors of International House as emergency housing in the event of flooding.

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“Kim Jong Un, glory be unto him, has no time for your games.”

“Our goal is to reach 100%,” continued the anonymous official. “We want to ensure that not a single child in North Korea knows that there is a world outside of North Korea.”

American analysts say that this survey reveals some enlightening facts about North Korea.

“Firstly, it shows us that there is a healthy resistance movement within North Korea,” said Isaac Siegmund, a state department official. “That 2% are taking great risks to learn that there are countries which exist outside of North Korea.”

According to Siegmund, this survey was typical of North Korea, and reminiscent of the 2003 survey that the nation conducted showing that 84% of North Koreans were unfamiliar with the Korean word for “freedom.”

In a similar study earlier this year in the United States, 94% of students were unable to find North Korea on a map of the Korean Peninsula.



Giant Crane still above Eckhardt construction site.

2013-2014 ADMISSIONS: ESSAY PROMPTS

ESSAY OPTION 1

There are many things people DGAF about. Write a passionate essay on something you don't give a fuck about.

Inspired by Ferris B. Angstein, BA'09, English and Philosophy

ESSAY OPTION 2

Carly Rae Jepsen once said, “Before you came into my life, I missed you so bad.” Reconcile this.

Inspired by Harry Tunglichin, admitted student, Class of 2017

ESSAY OPTION 3

“You are a smelly pirate hooker.” – Ron Burgundy, Anchorman

Hooker: hook·er /'hōkər/

Noun

1. A prostitute.
2. A one-masted sailboat of a kind used esp. in Ireland for fishing.

Let's stick with this definition. Dirty hookers, High-class hookers, seafaring hookers, etc. — pick any hooker you have ever paid for, and tell us about the experience.

Inspired by Joe Lothan, admitted student, Class of 2015

ESSAY OPTION 4

Schrodinger's cat was a thought experiment posed by physicist Erwin Schrödinger noting a potential paradox in early quantum mechanics, resulting in a paradoxical cat that could be both alive and dead at the same time. Tell us about a time when you killed an animal.

Inspired by Enrique Farmie, BS '03, Physics

ESSAY OPTION 5

Other schools want you to write about who inspired you. Gandhi. Mandela. Obama. Jesus. We couldn't care less. Who's that fucker you swore you'd never be?

Inspired by Ked Thatt, admitted student Class of 2017

ESSAY OPTION 6

If you were fun, where would you go to die?

Anonymous submission from a UChicago student

SURPRISES

PRESIDENT ZIMMER PREGNANT WITH TWINS

by Ben Boyajian

In breaking news, Robert Zimmer, President of the University, has announced that he is pregnant with twins. Zimmer's pregnancy came as a surprise – especially given the fact that he is outside the age range typically considered safe for childbearing. With the odds against him, Zimmer expressed delight at the unexpected news. "It's a miracle! I've always wanted to have a baby!" When asked about his previous three children, Zimmer replied, "They don't count."

Zimmer revealed that his wife, Shadi Bartsch, with whom he has not had intimate relations in fifteen months, is not the father of the twins. Zimmer commented that "Shadi and I made the decision to use a donor together, given the risk associated with a man of my age bearing twins."

Shadi Bartsch is reported to have been shocked by the news of Zimmer's pregnancy. "Science is certainly against us here," admitted Bartsch. "But we couldn't be more excited and pleased with the miracle that Robby's fertility specialist has managed. It's really unusual to see a sixty-five year old bearing twins, but my husband is truly

young at heart." she said,

Zimmer's maternity style has drawn the attention of national media. Photos of the University President wearing a Hawaiian shirt and skinny jeans over a flower print dress surfaced on the Internet, later making the front page of the National Enquirer. "Zimmer is the new 'in' celebrity," remarked sociology professor Alan Davis, "and it looks like he is edging out Kim Kardashian and Kate Middleton in terms of popularity."

Zimmer reported that his body has been responding well to the pregnancy, but registered a few complaints. "I have to go to the bathroom like, all the time. And oh my God – I'M SO HORMONAL! Ahhhhh!" said Zimmer, who curled up on his couch and sobbed quietly to himself for half an hour while frantically kissing a rubber duck.

The gender of the unborn twins remain unknown. A Zimmer spokesperson has announced that the twins will be named Stick and Reese's Peanut Butter Cup, regardless of gender.



Things That UChicago Crushes

by Maya Handa and Becky Stoner

Popular Facebook page UChicago Crushes shares anonymous submissions of romantic interest across campus. The Dealer solicited submissions for what UChicago actually "Crushes," and found an extensive outpouring from students. Reproduced here are the top 25 entries.

1. Hopes
2. Dreams
3. Hearts
4. Livers
5. Everything on this list that is not also a sandwich
6. Paninis
7. The old USPS building
8. Economic activity on 63rd Street
9. Plans for a triple major
10. Politically incorrect Facebook groups
11. Yale wannabes
12. Exposed calves
13. Your foot in the door of Ex Libris after you've finally gotten up the courage to talk to that first year in your Gen Chem class
14. Fear of establishments with bulletproof windows
15. Fear of establishments without bulletproof windows.
16. The surrounding land
17. Some napkin dispensers
18. Your belief that you are an unambiguously moral, free-thinking, self-actualized human being
19. Your Razor scooter into a heap of scrap metal by the force of winter rust
20. _____
21. Your ability to concentrate for over 20 minutes on anything that is not a gif
22. Your belief that there are only three meals in a day.
23. Your trust in public transit and civic pride
24. Your sanity
25. Crushes

SURPRISES

UCHICAGO ADMISSIONS RATE DROPS TO 0%

by Jeremy Archer

Citing “new perspectives” in education and a desire to overtake Yale in national college rankings, the University Press Office announced today a new initiative entitled “Discard Undergraduates to Minimize Percentages” at a press conference outside Hutchinson Commons.

“There’s so much potential for a truly selective Chicago experience; one so selective, nobody can have it,” said Wren Gable, student director of Students Against The Overcrowding of Both The American Prison System and Maclean,” in a statement. Ms. Gable, a long-time proponent of what she calls the “Second Chicago Fire” approach to housing, has led the charge for what she calls “roommate space equality,” in

which only four people share a Broad-view single.

There has been increasing momentum in the last few years in favor of a sharp reduction in future enrollment. Though more traditional faculty scoff at the notion of a college without any students, University staff have come to understand the necessity of a “leaner” culture of learning.

“It’s understandable for people to be upset. I’m upset, and I’m not even sure what the problem is,” a reluctant University President Zimmer said in an interview earlier this week. “Ever since we converted Pierce into a diamond mine, we’ve had to do a lot of soul-searching about our core mission as an educational institution.”

Housing officials regularly cite the

University’s “facilities problem” as one that requires significant effort to mitigate. Burton-Judson has been closed the past two months due to a massive “methamphetamine crater,” and a regular inspection of Stony Island found that it “has been missing since the Nineties.” This crunch has sent the University scrambling for alternatives to replace its options.

“On the one hand, it’s really a pleasure to cook for people with good taste in food and a willingness to try alternative cuisines,” said Chief Chef Brent of University Dining. “On the other hand, we could beat Yale. I say, beat those fuckers. There’s no reason to settle for less.”



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The City of Portland has no speed limits for naturally powered vehicles.

over 50,000 miles, in their quest to reach Oregon.

Sheffield’s daughters left his one-man wagon train in the 1960s. Both are married and live in the Portland metro area.

“I thought Dad died 30 years ago,” said Mary Quiggley-Sheffield, 188. “I’ll have to call Jane. We never thought he’d make it. Ralph and I just bought a car and drove [to Portland] in ‘82.”

Of note to historians is Sheffield’s authentic Conestoga wagon, bought in Massachusetts in 1876. Sheffield’s two oxen are similarly authentic.

“Them oxes served me pretty good. One of ‘em almost died of dysentery up in Regina, but I nursed ‘im through it.”

Modern biology has yet to explain how Jebidiah Sheffield has survived to age 210, but there’s one thing everyone can

agree on.

“After eatin’ nothing but hardtack and buffalo jerky for the last 167 years, I sure am looking forward to a hot meal!” said Sheffield.

At press time, no one had informed Sheffield that the federal government had closed the homestead and claimed all U.S. land in 1976.

PARTY REVIEW: OBSCURE FRATERNITY MISSES THE MARK

by Cambria Whitcomb

The brothers of the University of Chicago's Sampi Quoppa Stigma (ΣQS) recently hosted a gathering at Regents Park. Unlike many fraternity houses, Regents Park offers entertaining space only on the 38th floor. Not to be disheartened by the mystifyingly clean and well-maintained venue, partygoers queued in the well-lit stairwell. Once inside, students were confronted by the difficulty of navigating through the hordes waiting in line for an available bathroom. Taking this as a sign that libations must be flowing within, partygoers shoved their way to the bar. There, they found that the supply of cheap beer had run out, leaving only the option of complicated-sounding

mixed drinks.

Navigating through the spacious rooms became problematic, as the cleanliness of the floor nearly led to a concussion when one young lady slipped on the freshly polished parquet. Any attempts to create a "frat-like" atmosphere were unsuccessful. There was a distinct lack of the usual smoky haze, and those unfamiliar with waltzes were lost – without the option of beer pong – when music other than standard dance selections inevitably slipped into the mix. Additionally, President Humbert Moore III was occupied throughout the partykeeping the in-house catering staff from offering hors d'oeuvres to guests. The confusion of the partygoers spiraled into complete

anxiety attacks in a few cases, as the hastily blacked-out windows betrayed views of the Chicago skyline and Lake Michigan.

One perplexed student commented that he was rather disappointed with the evening. "You know, I go to frat parties looking for some mediocre music, bad alcohol and maybe a simple hookup. Coming here, I feel like I should be wearing a tie. Frankly, I want my 5 bucks back." Students leaving became surprised and rather suspicious as a friendly doorman wished them a pleasant evening. Was this an attempt to reform frat party culture or simply an unfortunate, sophomoric attempt to embody Greek life? We eagerly await ΣQS's next soir  e to find out.

Tensions Run High at House Council Meeting

by Timi Koyejo

After a contentious motion was pushed through by a faction of the Booth House Council, tensions abounded this past Sunday, multiple sources reported. "I had always expected it to be a tough vote, with this being such a hot-button issue," said Social Chair Michelle Jiang, "but I never expected the tensions to escalate to the levels that they did."

Emotions are still very raw after the marathon debate session, which was punctuated with a three-hour filibuster against the motion by Health Czar Max Titsworth. "I'm simply repulsed by the council's decision," said Titsworth of the previous night's tense meeting.

Barbs were traded between council members under the pretense of friendly jest for the duration of the

tense meeting. Comments including "No wonder no one likes you," and "Die," were followed by hollow laughter and forced smiles as the thin facade of civility restraining the council members from showing abject disdain for one another began to fade.

Halfway through the meeting, the Vice President, Michael Modak-Truan, is reported to have stormed out in disgust after the fourteenth vote on the motion. Modak-Truan has since characterized his spirited departure as the result of "A sudden urge to vomit." After making a particularly bitter remark, Modak-Truan is reported to have remarked that, "He was only saying what everyone else was thinking." Residents of the building reported that shouts were often heard emanating into the hallway from the

charged meeting, including those from an especially candid screaming exchange between the Treasurer, Sean Reynolds, and Fundraising Chair, Hype Augustine.

The meeting culminated in half of the council's resignation in protest, leaving the house in disarray and with a potential constitutional crisis on its hands. House President Julian Martinez expressed surprise at the controversy the vote created, "Quite frankly, I'm shocked that a vote deciding what color our House t-shirts should be was this controversial. I mean, who doesn't love mustard yellow?" At press time, council members were said to be organizing impeachment proceedings against President Martinez on grounds of "high crimes and misdemeanors against humanity".

preented by preenters