

Editorials

Cornhuskin': Gossip off the Cob

Teresa Berton, Official Cornhuskin' Correspondent

Now that fall has finally fallen, and freshman elections have occurred, Cornhuskin' season has officially begun. Just as practices have started, so have the many rumors that surround Cornhuskin'.

Even before the official start of the Corn season, rumors of who has what theme began to circulate, despite the fact that this information is supposed to be kept secret until the reveal of themes at the Big Sis/Lil' Sis Bonfire on the night of Cornhuskin', either by announcement or by scavenger hunt.

Despite the guise of secrecy surrounding Cornhuskin', it seems that everyone who wants to know,

knows everything.

Despite the best efforts of many, I know all of the Cornhuskin' themes as well as various details, and so do many others. Why is it that the secrecy surrounding Cornhuskin' is not a secret at all?

To begin to uncover the truth about the secrecy surrounding Cornhuskin' you must first turn to the history of the event. In its earliest form, Cornhuskin' was a much smaller event, lacking themes and having only friendly competition. It is only in the past 50 or so years that competitions, skits, dances, and of course themes have come to play larger and larger roles.

As the scale of the competition has escalated, so has the perception of the stakes. Many of the Meredith students in my acquaintance are willing to lay it all down, whether it be cutting back to pay for a Corn package or losing sleep, and spending the whole year discussing the happenings of Cornhuskin's past.

This ongoing discussion of an eight week period in the fall dominates dining hall dinners, quiet conversations in classrooms, and hushed hallway chatter — no wonder no one can keep a Corny secret.

As the focus of Corn has shifted from secrecy and

competitiveness to unity, so has the discussion around it. Instead of sneaking and spying, women from all classes spend their time bonding and talking about their favorite tradition, sharing what they know about other classes in between parking lot practices, talking about learning new choreography, and reminding freshmen that they really do have to just experience it to understand.

While gossip surrounding Cornhuskin' may seem to be spilling the beans, or creaming the corn if you will, it is really part of what brings us all together and truly makes us unified as one big Corny sisterhood.

CORNHUSKIN' 2017 SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 1 CAN ART 4 P.M. OUTSIDE IN THE COURTYARD	FRIDAY, NOV. 3 PARADE 3:30 P.M. ON MAIN CAMPUS DRIVE	FRIDAY, NOV. 3 PICNIC 4:45 P.M. WITH MER- EDITH COMMUNITY	FRIDAY, NOV. 3 CORNHUSKIN' MAIN EVENT 6 P.M.
---	--	---	---

Cooking Hacks: How to Cook When You (Finally) Have a Kitchen

Abigail Ojeda, Staff Writer

After we leave that dorm room and BDH life, cooking is a necessity. However, the grocery store has so many options. How do you know what to buy when you don't have a recipe? With no time and very little money, it's easy to give into the expensive habits of eating out or heating up pre-packaged frozen meals. Thankfully, I've taught myself a few basics about stocking my pantry, using tools, and finding recipes.

I recommend keeping the following staple items on hand: bread, milk, butter, eggs, oil, flour, sugar, spaghetti, rice, salt, and pepper. Also, generally have the following produce on hand:

vegetable/olive oil, garlic, onion, potatoes, bell peppers, fruits, and vegetables.

For fruits and vegetables, try to get what's in season (you can tell seasonal fruits and veggies by what is on sale). Going to the farmer's market is fun but can be overwhelming, so know what you want to buy before you go.

One of the more intimidating foods to purchase and cook is meat. Unless you're vegetarian, vegan, or somewhere in between, you end up ignoring the meat section out of fear. Always buy your meats for a good price on sale, and then find a recipe later.

Next, you're going to need

the right pots and pans: a skillet, a medium saucepan and a large saucepan, a 9x13 dish, a sheet pan, and a colander. For utensils, have a good-sized spatula and cooking spoon, an 8" chef's knife, a small paring knife, and measuring cups. Have a cutting board and tupperware on hand too.

Lastly, once you have your ingredients and tools, look for easy recipes. Each will probably require a couple of ingredients you don't have yet, but getting those few things while you're out running errands will slowly build your pantry. Check budgetbytes.com or allrecipes.com for simple, cheap recipes.

Once you've cooked your meals, they can be refrigerated, on average, for four days. Don't throw your leftovers away; you can freeze them and save them for another day. You can also meal prep and freeze foods in advance for the week — Pinterest has some great tips for this.

Remember, you don't have to start cooking all at once. Set a goal to cook your own meal once a week, and then work up from there, or meal prep one meal item to eat several times during the week. The more you practice (and try new recipes) the more comfortable you will get throwing a meal together in the kitchen.

Kneeling for Freedom of Speech

Carolina Brust, Staff Writer

Colin Kaepernick, former quarterback of the San Francisco 49ers, is attributed to the recent wave of National Football League (NFL) players kneeling during the national anthem in response to racial tension in the United States. I was surprised to see such a blatant protest in the middle of a highly televised event, but I encourage his message and support his right to do so.

However, I was shocked to see the level of backlash Kaepernick and those who followed suit received in response to their peaceful protest. In response,

President Trump tweeted, "If a player wants the privilege of making millions of dollars in the NFL, or other leagues, he or she should not be allowed to disrespect our Great American Flag (or Country)..." As a nation that loves bragging about the privilege its citizens have over other nations in concern to their rights, why would this simple exercise of his First Amendment rights set the public off?

It's hypocritical for people to get angry over Kaepernick's right to the freedom of speech when at the same time Congress spends

millions to secure votes to protect their Second Amendment rights. I believe Kaepernick was well-endowed to express his rights and I don't see his protest as disrespectful. Protesting during sporting events isn't new, like Tommie Smith and John Carlos raising their fists akin to the salute of the Black Panthers during the 1968 Olympics.

I imagine if Kaepernick were white this would be a different situation altogether. A white man expressing his rights is seen as patriotic, while a person of color doing the same thing is seen as

a menace and a criminal. The protesters at Charlottesville, all expressing their freedom of speech, were jailed and attacked based on the premise that their actions started the following riot.

After Kaepernick's demonstration, athletes and sports-goers alike have begun kneeling in protest during the national anthem. We will continue to be torn as a nation until we get to the root of the discourse at hand and work to dissolve the prejudices we hold. Only then can we move forward into being a more free-thinking body.

STAFF

Emily Chilton, Co-Editor-in-Chief. Sarah Kiser, Co-Editor-in-Chief. Sarah Smerko, Features Editor. Caroline Garrett, A&E Editor. Morgan Whithaus, Editorials Editor. Rachel Crawford, News Editor. Morgan Whithaus, Layout Designer. Olivia McElvaney, Online Editor. Teresa Berton, Social Media Coordinator. Laurie Diggett, Cartoonist.

Staff Writers: Abby Ojeda, Teresa Berton, Carolina Brust, Emma Gomes, Caitlyn Grimes, Olivia McElvaney, Yessy Anorve-Basoria, Seungha Pang, Tishya Robertson, Laurie Diggett, Ashley Ricks, Alex Rouch.