

Editorials

Editorial

The loss of St. Aug alumna Denise Holden, Bessie Delany, and most recently, Dr. Paul Vandergrift, has left a void in the hearts of everyone in the St. Aug family.

The fact that these deaths all happened so suddenly and were so unpredictable is also surprising. It not only makes us appreciate their lives even more, but it should also make us thankful for our own lives, and begin to live every day to the fullest.

At St. Aug, it is upsetting when students not only take their education for granted, they also take their lives for granted.

Some students waste money and take out loans to attend St. Aug, just to sit around and do nothing.

Life is too short for students to waste time and money and to become stressed out just because, "Mom and Dad wanted me to attend college."

If Mom and Dad do not want you to be miserable, explain your situation, withdraw from St. Aug and go out and enjoy life. College is definitely not for everyone.

This is not to say that every one should just withdraw from school because of stress or for any other reason, but you have to be happy in order to live a fulfilling and productive life.

Don't waste your time saying, "I wish I could have done that," and realize that it is too late.

This is quite relative to the recently departed. Each one of them lived their lives to the fullest, which helps the St. Aug family and their families deal with their loss a little easier.

So, "seize the day," and don't wait until tomorrow, because tomorrow may never come!

Reflections

New beginnings

by
Je'Ronica Goodwin

For those of you who have just begun your college career, welcome to the Falcons Nest! And for the many students who have returned to continue on their journey towards academic excellence, welcome. Whatever your classification or reason for choosing and attending St. Augustine's College, it truly marks a new beginning. You are no longer comforted by the wise parables of your parents, but by the ever complex conscience of your own minds. This is the time for us as students, professors, faculty

and staff, to sit back and evaluate our future which lies in our own hands. To me, these four years are the perfect opportunity to grow mentally, physically, and spiritually.

School, work, and play can all be *stressful* times in our lives. These are the moments we should take to love ourselves the most. All of us experience a bad hair day, a poor test score, or even relationship problems. But, despite all of these things we should have the courage to face tomorrow with joy and gladness. Engage in an exercise that allows

It's called the "blank generation", the "lost generation", or simply "Generation X". It supposedly refers to the age group of 18-29. Who devised the term "Generation X"? The media. When most people think of Generation X, they stigmatize the X as relating to the X in Malcolm X. Ironically, the X has no relation to the powerful leadership of Malcolm X. Most of Generation X does not want to associate themselves with that name. The question that will be answered in this article is why doesn't anyone want to be called Generation X?

Unfortunately our age group is described as slackers, unable to cope, and even not knowing where we're going. According to the baby boom generation, we never had to go through the civil rights movement our parents went through. So is the media's depiction of Generation X true?

Let's see what Professor Keith Powell, Assistant to the Dean of Students had to say. "Yes it's true as far as racial identity and cultural awareness. Today identity is not an issue. Afrocentricity is not an issue and that's a problem." But major

you to evaluate yourself five years ago, presently, and where you will be five years from now. If you see little or no change in behavior, the way you handle situations, or the way you love yourself it is not only time for a mental checkup but a new beginning!

Everyone at one time or another has said, "I wish my hair was longer", "She has nicer legs than I do", or "Thin is in." TV, radio, books, magazines, and even our peers have defined what is beautiful and acceptable in today's society. Well, start this year off fresh; start with an exercise program that will allow you to stay physically attractive and healthy.

But, let's not forget that beauty comes in many shapes,

problems that plague X'ers are the war on drugs, the war on increased STD's, AIDS killing our loved ones, and the lack of self-esteem amongst our age group. Professor Powell's comments on these issues are, "Your war is a war of choice and decisions, decisions more personal than previous problems. It's your choice. Will I do drugs? Will I have sex?"

But beyond these decisions there are decisions that are affecting our well-being--the case of the recent affirmative action ruling, for example.

"One of the problems is unemployment, unemployment that has taken place because of the taking out of affirmative action," says Elroy Bethell, a junior at Saint Aug.

But beyond the media's depiction, a lot of us are proving ourselves to be successful. Not just financially; but mentally.

Damiko Hill, a sophomore says, "If you want something it takes work to get it. I want to be a public relations specialist and I realize it's hard to get a job in communications, so I'm at WAUG learning with them. I'm doing this with an internship with public relations. Internships are important." And

they are. Success takes sacrifices and teamwork. Teamwork that's essential to us since we're a small black college that has to eventually compete in working America.

Erica Lytle, a sophomore says, "Since I go to Saint Aug and these are the people I associate with, I feel they're successful at what they do."

Saint Aug students have what it takes to make it! Our students are achieving success to the max and they're doing this by helping someone in need when there comes a time for motivation. Our students are achieving success to the max when we see someone who fits the description of "slackers, or the lost generation" by guiding them in the right direction. At Saint Aug we're being guided towards a strong sense of individuality, identity, and ethnicity.

Generation X is paving the way for our approach to the 21st century. We're finding cures for diseases, campaigning for peace, trying to break the barriers of racism, sexism, and much more. As Brian Staton, a senior at Saint Aug says, "Generation Xer's are taking their rightful place within the world."

sizes and colors and that's what makes us unique. Compliment your uniqueness by treating yourself to the beautiful things that look so well on you. Take at least three hours out of every week to do some form of exercise or physical activity, and give yourself at least one compliment daily. These are just a few things that will help to develop a physically attractive you.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son..." Can you imagine a man whom you've never seen or met dying for your sins and transgressions? It is these words that repeatedly remind me that I must give thanks unto the Lord! As students we must realize that we are blessed to have the opportunity to continue our education.

Furthermore, many of us have cars and even apartments

that are not accessible to many people. All of these things did not come through magic or pure luck, but by blessings given to us daily by God, and for that we should say **Thank You!** Just remember that there is no better time to grow spiritually. Being closer to God doesn't make you a punk, nor does it mean that you can't have fun. But, it does help you to have a happier and more complete life, knowing that no matter what trials and tribulations you face, there is Jesus who loves you and will never leave you!

Today is a day for fresh starts, and new resolutions. Make this day a time for a renewed mind and spirit. Let's cleanse our minds and hearts of fears, hurts, and resentments. The past is behind us; let's learn from it and then release it.

-- THE PEN --

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Time: You only have so much. It cannot be created, but it can be controlled. So use it wisely and productively.

Anonymous