

How one student turned his life challenges into a piece of art: **WHEN LIFE HANDED HIM LEMONS** **HE MADE A SONG**

Laura Wainman
Senior Reporter

When junior Jacob Danieleley found out he was going to be a father, he could have easily run from the situation. Instead, he chose to face what life had thrown at him. Two years later, he is the North Carolina winner of the 2010 John Lennon songwriting competition, with his award-winning country song, "Wherever You Go."

This song tells the story of a teen discovering he is going to have a child and becoming the father that God meant him to be.

"My songs are very life-based, as about 90 percent of them tell a story, typically using humor," Danieleley said. "Songwriting is my avenue for sharing these stories and speaking to more than one person."

Danieleley admits this particular song was very personal for him. It was inspired by his son and based on his belief that even if something isn't in your plans, it may be God's plan for you.



BRIAN ALLENBY | Staff Photographer
Danieleley plays his guitar after winning the 2010 John Lennon songwriting contest.

"Life happens when you are busy making plans and it is how you respond

that matters," Danieleley said.

Danieleley was approached by one of his professors about submitting to the John Lennon Songwriting Contest the day before the deadline.

"Dr. (Todd) Coleman had suggested that I start looking into submitting my tunes to more competitions, as the music industry is very interested in what is on your resume and in your portfolio, and it just happened that the deadline for the John Lennon contest was the next day," Danieleley said. "I knew I still needed to pursue it, so I looked over the songs I had written, chose 'Wherever You Go', burned a copy of the song and sent it out."

Finding out he had been selected as North Carolina's winner in the competition gave Danieleley a surge of hope, which he said was especially nice, as depression can creep up quickly in his field.

Though he was excited with his state-wide win, Danieleley is focusing on the future.

"I want to win nationals, of course," Danieleley said. "No, honestly, it would

be great just to be noticed, have someone hear my tune and maybe get a publishing deal out of the whole thing."

A win in a national competition could put Danieleley one step closer to landing his dream job of writing and performing in Nashville, Tenn.

"In 10 years I would love to still be living here in this area so that I can keep my family in one place, but be plugged into the Nashville music scene," Danieleley said. "I have been fortunate enough to make friends with some songwriters in Nashville and have seen their tunes top the charts. I would love to share that success with them one day."

Pursuing his dreams certainly requires an inordinate amount of dedication, but Danieleley makes sure that his priorities in life are clearly outlined.

"God and family are first in my life, followed by school, and whatever time is left can be spent on music," Danieleley said. "I try to come up with at least one new song idea every day."

Classroom Internet use disruptive to learning

Rachel Southmayd
Senior Reporter

Students and teachers alike can argue the benefits that can be gained from using laptops in the classroom. Opponents argue learning may come second, when laptops become a gateway for social networking during instructional time.

As of July 2009, almost one-third of all adults in the United States used some form of social networking online, according to Massachusetts-based Forrester Research.

Dr. Kenn Gaither, an assistant professor in the school of communications, said there is a time and a place for everything. He strongly encourages students not to use their laptops during class, but also recognizes the use of technology in the classroom is a major issue in today's media environment. "There is enormous temptation to surf the net when it is sitting right in front of you, but it really disrupts the classroom environment," Gaither said.

Frank Hurd, a junior music technology major said, shares this opinion. "It can distract the student using the laptop," Hurd said. "But it can also distract other students in the vicinity."

He said there have been many instances where non-class-related computer activities of students have drawn his attention away from the professor.

According to Katie King, an associate professor of psychology and the associate director of the Center for the Advancement of Teaching, multitasking during class can be detrimental to the learning process.

"When students are doing more than one thing at a time, they lose focus," King said. "Attending to multiple things keeps you from doing that deep processing that true learning requires."

To cope with the potential distraction Web sites like

Facebook, Twitter, Skype and others provide some professors at Elon have developed specific rules regarding laptop use during class time. All computer labs have the ability to "lock" student computers entirely, or can block out only certain programs, such as the Internet.

Communications professor Nicole Triche has developed her own rules about computer use in those classes which don't take place in a lab.

"If you have a laptop, I ask that you sit in the front row," Triche said. "This method reminds students that the people behind them can see what they're doing and keeps them on task more."

Sophomore David Munoz, an environmental science major, is able to resist the temptation of social networking by choosing a more traditional approach to taking notes: pencil and paper.

"I remember things better what I write them down, and I find carrying a laptop to be a burden," Munoz said.

Gaither pointed out that professors can identify students who are using their computers and laptops to play games or view other sites not related to class.

"We're lucky at Elon because it's a small environment, so it's hard to hide," Gaither said. "In big schools, with classrooms of 300 or 400 people, the temptation is even greater."

For some students, there is no appeal to in-class distractions. Freshman developmental studies major Jordan Duffey never uses the Internet in class, and doesn't understand why other people do.

"I've never understood why someone would waste their money on a class they're not going to learn anything from," Duffey said. "Floating through class won't get them anywhere. They'll just continue to float through life."

ACROSS

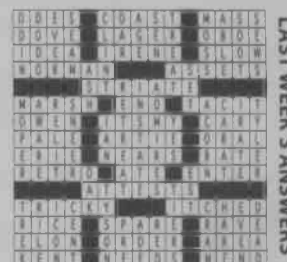
- 1 Steals
- 5 Grow crops
- 9 Cowered (away)
- 14 Concept
- 15 Vicinity
- 16 Group of experts
- 17 Forget-me-_____
- 18 Faucet problem
- 19 Common fried appetizer
- 20 Understands
- 22 *Some live over two millennia
- 24 Image clarity (abbr.)
- 26 Upper class
- 27 _____ on you
- 31 Can be performing or martial
- 34 Parts of the eye that see color
- 35 *1803 purchase
- 41 Ahead by a goal (2 wds.)
- 42 Plant bristle
- 43 Missed the mark
- 44 *Honored on 2000 state quarter
- 46 Gullible
- 47 Detergent brand
- 48 Peruvian mountain chain
- 49 Tidy
- 53 Allow
- 55 *1836 battle site (2 wds.)
- 58 Made a home
- 63 "_____ You, Beth Cooper" (2 wds.)
- 64 Share a boundary
- 66 No longer wild
- 67 Party pooper
- 68 Fall short
- 69 _____ mater
- 70 Last, but not _____
- 71 Sign of sadness

Old Country

by Steve Ferguson, Class of 2011

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- 72 Other possible theme besides 65-Down, based on starred clues alone
- 23 Arnaz of "I Love Lucy"
- 25 Deli meat
- 27 Soap residue
- 28 Arizona tribe
- 29 Abbr. in a book of quotes
- 30 Where a Big Mac can be found
- 32 Used an oar
- 33 Underground pathway
- 36 Part of the legislative branch
- 37 "A Flock of Seagulls" hit
- 38 Extremely dry
- 39 Actress Campbell of "Scream"
- 40 Fruity drinks
- 45 Active Italian volcano
- 49 Actress Sevigny
- 50 Singer Lewis
- 51 Roof Edges
- 52 Warning
- 54 Access
- 55 Cash box
- 56 Grain used for brewing
- 57 Double reed instrument
- 59 Stick around
- 60 Imaginative story
- 61 Watson of Harry Potter films
- 62 Letter greeting
- 65 Theme connecting starred clues



LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS