

Thinking cont. from pg. 1

could not be a more opportune time to sell, sell, sell! The movie itself, especially movies for kids, can generate massive earnings for that corporation. There are entire stores that offer only Disney products. Actresses, actors and even directors also use their larger-than-life fame to push products now more than ever. Catherine Zeta-Jones is the face of T-Mobile. Nicole Kidman endorses Chanel. Jennifer Aniston has an exclusive contract with Smart Water which reportedly requests that she be seen drinking it as often as possible in tabloid pictures. Even David Lynch, known for directing dark and avant-garde films, has his own line of coffee.

Ultimately, from a corporation's point of view, it's all about the bottom line. However, I hope that something will spark a change in our society that will help kids think for themselves. When they venture out to the mall to buy that \$200.00 pair of shoes that they saw their favorite actor wearing, perhaps they will stop to think: "Is this what I like?" Music and movies are being used to sell to their audiences, but it's inevitable that times will change. Hopefully, that change will be in favor of free thinking.

Denim cont. from pg. 2

demand.

According to company leaders, Taylor Togs manufactures approximately 1,000 pairs of designer denim jeans per week. This figure may seem impressive, but Glenda Stewart, who has worked at Taylor Togs for 32 years, remarks that such a rate of production

does not provide enough pairs of jeans to make a profit.

Company leaders have confirmed Stewart's statement by asserting "making a small quantity of expensive, labor-intensive jeans ... doesn't bring in as much revenue as high volumes of basic jeans." As evidenced by such an assertion, even designer denim has its downside.

Whether considered positive or negative, the influence of designer denim is tangible throughout the Meredith community. Numerous students sport designer jeans that have been purchased in boutiques in Raleigh and beyond.

Lisa Disbrow, owner and buyer for the North Hill's hot spot Scout & Molly's, has been selling designer denim since she opened her store almost six years ago. She says that her nine different lines of designer jeans have always met with great success and are even attracting a male following. Says Disbrow, "Men are really starting to see the value in designer denim. They have sticker shock at first, but then once they see how great their tushes look in them, they get over it."

For more information regarding Scout & Molly's, visit their website at <http://www.scoutandmollys.com> or call (919) 881-0303.

Steadman Lanier, Meredith class of 2001, is also influenced by the popularity of designer jeans. Opened in 2004, her Wilson boutique Belle & Co. sells 10 different brands of designer denim.

States Lanier, "Denim accounts for over 20% of my total sales."

She goes on to say that up-and-coming designer denim brands

include William Rast and Rich & Skinny.

>For a glimpse of what Belle & Co. has to offer, visit the store's website at <http://www.belleandco.com>; you can also call directly at (252) 291-8869. >Clearly, designer denim is here to stay. One question remains, however: how much are you willing to pay for that perfect pair of jeans? Some students may have very different spending priorities and think a ragged pair of Levi's is just fine, thank you.

Habitat cont. from pg. 2

ing to build the foundation for the Meredith Habitat Home in Bricks for Bucks: The FYE classes are having a brick-a-thon where they will be painting and selling bricks for 11 hours. All proceeds will go towards the Meredith Habitat Home.

Box-a-thon: The Meredith Habitat for Humanity Club is sponsoring a box-a-thon where clubs and organizations will "live" in a box for 12 hours. The clubs will take pledges and donations and all of the money will go towards the Meredith Habitat Home. Faculty and staff and the Senior Management Team are invited to have a box as well. There will be rewards for the club that raises the most money and for the club with the most creative box.

Can-a-thon: Students will be asked to bring can food for the NC Food Bank to dinner.

There will be DJ with music from 6-10pm.

All of the events will be held in the courtyard or in front of Johnson Hall.

Appeal cont. from pg. 3

is September 27. Head over to http://www.nbc.com/The_Office/ for all

things Dunder Mifflin ... plus watch full episodes for free starting on September 27.

So why is reality TV appealing to so many people? Some shows showcase contestants with whom viewers can relate, and others showcase celebrities; one thing's for sure: reality television provides a break from everyday stressors. Ironically, reality shows make viewers forget reality, at least for an hour or so—or, at least, force viewers to enter a different sort of reality from the one viewers are living. Perhaps our own realities are so mundane that we must use reality TV as a means of living vicariously through others—since reality TV shows often revolve around events, challenges and competitions that we rarely (if ever) encounter in our own lives.

The next time you want to chill or remind yourself that your life's not all that crazy, find yourself a reality show (there are plenty to choose from) and unplug yourself for awhile. If nothing else, you will laugh at others' crazy antics and not feel quite so bad about the craziness in your own life.

Conversations cont. from pg. 4

of incident is not good for the health of my inner self. However, signing up for an education which will fuel me to grow in directions I never dreamed of, make me love more people than I ever thought I could, encourage me to love myself for exactly who I am, and push me to accept my own imperfections—now that is good for my inner self.

Congratulations to the following newly-elected officers for the class of 2011

President
Margaux Spiegel

Vice President
Caroline Ashworth

Secretary
Claire Dwyer

Cornhuskin's Chair
Brittany Frieson

Honor Council Representative
Brittani McLean-Watson

Elections Board Representative
Caroline Clark

Senators (2)
Brittany Morrison
Taryn Scarborough

Student Life Representatives

(3)

Anna Gravely
Chetna Patel
Katherine Troedon

Wanted

A part-time nanny for two girls—one 3 years old, one 1 year old—for Mondays through Thursdays from 11:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. All applicants must have a car, a good driving record and references. The position will pay \$11 per hour. Contact Amy Wahl at amybritellwahl@yahoo.com