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Have Car, Will Travel

2 GUYS, 31 STATES, 51 DAYS: ONE INCREDIBLE ROAD TRIP

In 1960, famous American novelist John Steinbeck wrote a travelogue of his impressions during a three-month tour in a truck that led him through forty American states, all recorded in the book *Travels With Charley*. Before stepping out on the tour of his native land, Steinbeck outlined how to take on the task of touring America in three easy steps. First, "the victim (of travel) must first find in himself a good and sufficient reason for going." Perhaps you are bored, or you are so jittery and ready to do something you cannot contain yourself? Maybe you feel like you deserve a break from the rigorous work you've put in all school year, or potentially it is as serious as finding yourself or regaining yourself after the death of a loved one. All of these, Steinbeck would agree, are good answers.

In the summer of 2013, fate itself tied together our current student body president Ben Pirtle and his friend Jake Tront, who did not yet know he would run as ASWPC president and win the 2014 elections. "We started getting ready for it a year and a half before it happened," Tront said. "I had a dream since elementary school to go on a road trip." Tront started talking about going on a road trip his freshman year, and he caught the ear of Pirtle.

Steinbeck states that the next step in the road trip is to "plan the trip in time and space, choose a direction and a destination." For Steinbeck, he started in New York and drove through Oregon at the midpoint of his loop through the country. For Pirtle and Tront, their road map was close to the opposite of Steinbeck's. According to Pirtle it went like this: after a wedding in Wilsonville, they shot down to the L.A. area to stay overnight at his grandparents' house; from there they went to Tucson, and then from Tucson all the way to San Antonio, which was the longest leg of driving. From San Antonio they went to New Orleans, New Orleans to Orlando, Orlando to Charlotte, Charlotte to D.C., D.C. to Connecticut, Connecticut to Ohio, and then Pirtle and Tront traveled through Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas and other states to get home. All together they touched down in 31 states. "We made a route, guessed how much money we needed to save up, and from there it seemed like a dream, but a dream we weren't going to let fail. We weren't going to let that dream die," Tront said.

Finally, Steinbeck asserts that one must "implement the journey: how to go, what to take, how long to stay. This part of the process is invariable and immortal." Steinbeck packed a retro GMC pickup truck with an added custom-built Wolverine camper top, and brought his French poodle Charley along. Jake and Ben did things differently; they packed everything into a new-age Dodge Sedan and played it by chance on where they stayed for the night. They also constantly updated a Facebook page entitled "Jake and Ben Travel the World of the USA," where they blogged on May 21: "Just spent the last hour figuring out where we were going to stay

tomorrow. We decided to roll the dice with Travelocity's 'top secret' hotel offers and landed at a Best Western Motel in Tucson. Should make for a fun adventure!" As Steinbeck wrote in his account, "we do not take a trip: a trip takes us."

MAY 21, CALIFORNIA: An awesome day at Knott's Berry Farm riding roller coasters and evening chilling on the pier at Huntington Beach has been a great way to conclude the California portion of this trip. Tomorrow morning we begin heading east by driving seven hours to Tucson, Arizona. As we begin to travel into all of these new cities we hope that we can meet some amazing people and be able to impact them just as I'm sure they will impact us. We truly believe that God has a purpose and plan for this trip and we desire to give it to Him and see the amazing work that can be done if we full heartedly do so. He can use any of us at any time in our lives and we are pumped to see the opportunities that are presented to us. Once again thank you for all the prayers and support that are being thrown our way!

KNIGHT/TIMES: What were your preconceptions of the USA, and how did your views of America change?

JAKE TRONT: I wasn't expecting it to be such a different country on the East Coast. The East coast could be a different country. It's weird to see how different America is in the different areas you're going. We think Californians were different from us, but then we just kept going east. You get to Charlotte and Washington D.C....

BEN PIRTLE: D.C. and Charlotte both, it's all about business...

JT: All about money.

BP: Yeah. And that's what defines the person, that's what defines success.... Over there on the East Coast it's individualistic; you're looking out for yourself.

JT: You see that driving on the roads. You don't have very many people in the East brake for you so that you can come over. Like, if you put your blinker on you better go. We learned the beauty of public transportation in cities like New York and D.C.

MAY 23, NEW MEXICO: Sooo we're driving through New Mexico and passed a border patrol checkpoint... Jake doesn't have a passport but weeeee maayyyyy beeeee in Mexico?... Ha!

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by Tim Jackson

The Bronx



The Route

MAY 24, TEXAS: So last night around 1 a.m., central time we arrived at our campsite in San Antonio, Texas. Today we got a chance to go downtown and see San Antonio. Neither of us had ever been there before so we were excited to explore. We were able to see The Alamo and learn about the history of that historic event, see the historic River Walk, explore other historic areas and even walk through some of the newer attractions there. We also had the opportunity to meet some different people. We met a guy named Richard and were able to buy him some coffee and cookies and talk with him for about two hours. We shared laughs in the corner of a Starbucks and heard all about some of his inventions that he hopes to patent some day. As we left, Richard insisted on leaving us with something and he handed us one of his jerseys. A Josh Beckett, Boston Red Sox jersey that he made us promise to take care of in order to remember him.

MAY 25, TEXAS: Woken up by heavy rains, thunder and lightning from 4 a.m. on. Packed up camp in what is now a swamp and headed to Houston! Makes you appreciate the PNW weather that much more.

KT: What are some things you hated?

BP: Over here if you make eye contact with someone they're a lot more willing to greet you and smile. Something that

I hated was getting to New York, it was a beautiful city and fun to explore but... there were signs that say you have to keep moving. You can't just stand still. They have traffic flow and traffic patterns on sidewalks. If you're going too slow, people are going to book past you without stopping to say hey or sorry or anything like that. They're always looking either down at the ground, at their phones, or up at the skyscrapers. For me, personal interaction is huge.

JT: New Orleans is a different country in itself; it is absolutely crazy. We were going through New Orleans and it's a good thing we weren't 21. We would've wasted a lot of money there. We were on Bourbon Street and we had to be the only sober people there. It was just crazy. I didn't necessarily butt heads with it, but I was blown away. It's literally so much crazier than people ever say it is, and it wasn't even a weekend. We had to eat at a Hard Rock Café at 10:30 p.m. because we were searching for food and you had to be 21 to get in everywhere else.

KT: What about the trip brought great joy?

JT: We saw a giant game of ultimate going on in Tucson, and for us just watching them, frisbee kept us sane. It made it seem like we were back here, because ultimate is part of our college life.

In San Antonio we saw that divide a lot more; there we stayed in a camp site that was in the ghetto part, and so we would get on a bus within the ghetto and kinda just take it and you go under a freeway bridge and all of a sudden you're in the city. What was really interesting was that the AT&T center where the Spurs play is right in the middle of the ghetto. I found that interesting—it's like they're trying to extend the city out there, to make it nicer.

Our original plan for the trip was to go around the country and meet a lot of awesome people. Our thought was that Jake had 14 pairs of nice new wool socks and we were going to put in some snacks and a little note and make care packages for the homeless people and get to talk to them, get to know them, interact and try to change their lives. Granted, wool socks in the summer, I'm sure they would appreciate it, but those two already don't go very well together. We were excited to meet the people God was going to put in our lives and we were just adamant about homeless people. San Antonio was the first time we ran into a homeless man, and that was a week and a half into the trip; we didn't even have our socks with us! We were like, "Oh, God! We missed it!"

JT: I think we even prayed with him, so we were beating ourselves up after praying.

JUNE 15, WASHINGTON, D.C.: We headed back downtown and explored the National Archives where we learned about various documents and records. We also got to see the original Constitution, Bill of Rights, and Declaration of Independence and Magna Carta. From there we went to Ford's Theater (where President Lincoln was shot) and heard accounts about that as well as going across the street to the White House where we waved to the Obama family. We wrapped up our day going through the Natural History museum, which had dinosaur fossils and animals for us to check out.

KT: Where did you see God's providence?

BP: From San Antonio to Florida we didn't see or interact with anyone else that was homeless. We were like, "Okay God, what is your point for us on this trip?" Both of us thought we were supposed to be handing out these socks and what not. Soon we figured out the trip was a lot more of Him affecting us and changing our lives and not us going out and changing others. This all came to us after we got baptized, and then we caught that fire.

D.C. for some reason drained us, more physically than emotionally. We weren't bickering. It just drained us physically. We were ready to go home, we were left and been home in three days. "Let's just drive it," I was saying. Kristen Budd early on the trip had Facebook messaged Ben saying we're welcome to stay with her if we wanted to. We originally wanted to go up to Connecticut, stay 2 nights and go down to NY one of those days and then be on our way. Or we could just go straight home—I was on my iPad looking to book the room from the hotel in Ohio the next night since we thought we could just bust over there, and my iPad decides just not to book it. It wouldn't work, there was always an error: we tried 3 or 4 times.

So we were like, "Whatever! We'll go up to Connecticut." We drive up and we have no idea what to expect, and Kristen's family had made a cake for us saying "Welcome to Connecticut Jake and Ben." They hadn't known about our speculations. We ended up spending the next two and a half weeks in Connecticut just hanging out with these people; we had already been gone for three or four weeks. We left on May 18 and got back July 7. We drove on 4th of July in the hills of Kansas, where there's nothing. We saw maybe two fireworks on July 4.

It wasn't even until Connecticut when God said, "These are the people that I brought you around the country to interact with and live life with and show them what a friendship with God looks like." They were so welcoming when we got there. It was the first time we interacted with people our age on the whole trip. I'm dating one of Kristen's friends now; she goes to school in Alabama.

JT: It's quicker to go over Asia and then Europe to get to Ben's girlfriend.

JUNE 19, CONNECTICUT: Let us attempt to give you a brief overview of what we've done so far. We've made some incredible friends, been welcomed into a family, gone to a delicious diner, seen a creepy abandoned insane asylum at midnight, played cards, had a bonfire, slack lined, kayaked, played in a sprinkler, lots of Frisbee, swam in a pool, rode the wildest carousel ride we will ever ride, explored the local mall, and today went to NYC.

JUNE 20, CONNECTICUT: Tonight we got the opportunity to partake in a family dinner with the college group at our friend's church. It was awesome to share a meal with them, pray together and have incredible fellowship. God is so faithful and His goodness is overwhelming. To be honest we don't know what day we're leaving Connecticut because there is something inside of both of us that tells us, "You're not done here." Thank you everyone who has been following our story and please keep praying for God to reveal Himself here. God bless!

KT: How did this trip speak into how either of you see your work as ASWPC president?

JT: The road trip made me a better listener to God's plan instead of our own. That's the basis of why I ran, to listen to what God has in store for me other than my own plans. I think that's the biggest thing so far. I think meeting Ben had a lot to do with it, but mainly God just put it on my heart to run.

BP: This country is completely different everywhere you go. People have different outlooks, people have different beliefs, and it's kind of easy to come here at Warner Pacific and assume everyone has the same thoughts and outlooks. That's become very apparent with this school year on how different our student body actually is. I mean it started with the hoe down, which was really controversial to remove.

Continued on page 15.

Enactus is a worldwide organization that uses business skills and other talents to help make the world a better place. We create volunteer-based projects to benefit our community financially, cosmetically, and morally. During the 2014-15 academic year, the Enactus club on campus, comprised of about fifty students, served in projects like the Bridger Impact and Shepherd's Door. Bridger is a school in the Mt. Tabor neighborhood that enrolls students from first through eighth grade, and many of them come from financially unstable families. Enactus members teach classes at school so that parents can work longer, and the students can continue learning in arts and other programs the school cannot afford. Shepherd's Door is a women's shelter, where Enactus students encourage women to get back on their feet and help them find jobs.

Through all twelve of our projects this year, we have been able to make an economic impact of over \$150,000 on our community. Only seven of our members were able to attend the event in Ohio, but we could never have participated in the competition without the help of all those Warner Pacific students who helped with individual projects.

Our service projects and accomplishments combined with the professionalism and preparedness of our presentation team took us to the quarter final round in the competition. This time was a little bit more difficult. It was our second morning in Cincinnati and we had stayed up far too late the night before. Dr. Martin had a discussion with the advisor of the team from Heritage University. They settled on one fact: "The students always wait until the very last minute to be anywhere for this competition, which is very unenvying." We proved them right by showing up just a few minutes before we were to present. We were all pretty tired, which we thought would stunt our performance. However, it seemed to make us even better. We stood in front of the judges, very relaxed, not looking nervous or worried, and gave them our words with ease and resonance.

Daniel started us off with a presentation of what is happening to the world today. Daniel started us off with a presentation of what is happening to the world today. Daniel started us off with a presentation of what is happening to the world today. Daniel started us off with a presentation of what is happening to the world today. Daniel started us off with a presentation of what is happening to the world today.

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Top left: The Warner Pacific College Team members who represented the college at the March 31-April 3 Enactus USA Expo in Cincinnati, Ohio. (Left to right) Gimena (Gigi) Olguin, Will Brauckmiller, Alexander Hayes, Julia Feesser, and Daniel Ryan. Not pictured: Moe Vadas and Kaleb Hood.

Bottom left: Thousands of Enactus students from 250 colleges watched the quarter-final awards ceremony in Cincinnati's Duke Energy Center. The WPC Enactus team were the first round champions of the Western region and 5th in league, placing in the top 20 nationwide after three levels of competition.

Our PowerPoint presentation had pictures of people in extreme poverty, businesses failing, troops trudging through wreckage and defeat, and other unsettling images. We wanted to express our reason for being a part of Enactus. As an organization, we are, as Daniel put it, "Breaking down the barriers to a better world." Each team member added their voice as the presentation gained momentum. "The one constant in this world is change," Gigi said. Alex followed with "How do we keep up with the competition and ever-changing obstacles?" and Gigi completed the thought: "We refuse to."

At this point, our quietly intense music was playing, and we got several nods and looks of affirmation from the judges, which kept us strong. The body of our presentation was about our many projects, their purposes, and the impacts they have created. We explained the Bridger Impact and what subjects we were able to teach the children about, like business, science, music, cooking, and more. Alex declared, "Children were educated, and at the same time the school was able to save tens of thousands of dollars thanks to our volunteers from Enactus." We polished it off with a group announcement: "We are Warner Pacific Enactus, and we are in the business of making a difference."

The room roared in applause, even from opposing teams that observed us, and we knew we exceeded expectations once more. We all wanted to dance in the hallway afterward, and many group hugs were necessary. Our faith in each other kept growing rapidly throughout the competition.

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Warner Pacific College



Enactus places at national competition

AN INSIDE LOOK
by Julia Feesser

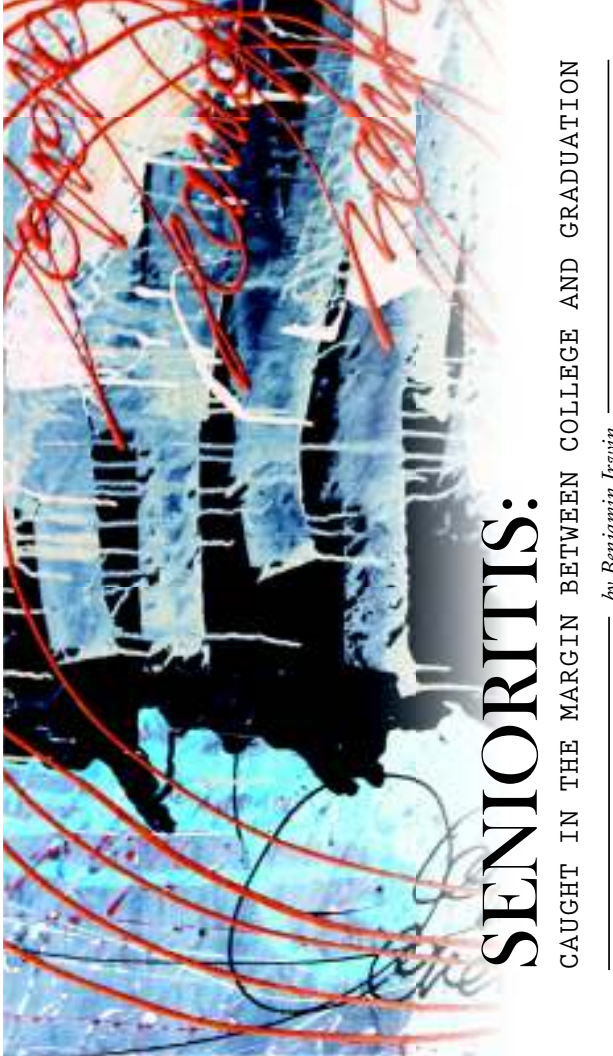
We stood in a circle and prayed before we entered the room full of competition judges and opposing teams. There were at least ten knees shaking in the hallway as Kaleb and Moe prepared the computer and projector inside. I thought I would walk in and immediately forget all of the lines I had memorized in the weeks before our trip. When the league coordinator told us to take our stance for our presentation, Gigi walked down the center of the room, followed by Will, Alex, me, and Daniel. Dr. Roger Martin sat in the audience to silently cheer us on.

I trembled in my not-yet-broken-in high heels, hoping no one could tell. My heartbeat did not cease to accelerate when the coordinator announced, "Warner Pacific College, you may now begin your presentation." I wanted to retreat all the way back to Portland from Cincinnati, and knowing I couldn't made it even worse.

But then the music started. The track that Daniel had so carefully chosen to play at the opening and closing contained the

most comforting sounds I had ever heard. Everyone in the group simultaneously remembered to breathe, and the words flowed from us like water down a river. It was so natural. It felt like we had been practicing for years and we all knew exactly how to feel. Our presentation went better than I think any of us expected it to. We all gave each other a smirk as we left the room, silently confirming that we knew we'd made it to the quarter final round.

Cincinnati was not what I expected. I assumed it would be a city like Portland or Seattle—full of people, music, and life. It was a beautiful city, with great architecture and formality, but it looked a little bit like its residents were afraid of the outside air. I didn't see a single person on the streets until buses and airplanes delivered thousands of Enactus teams into the city's core. The Duke Energy Center held the Enactus 2014 United States National Exposition from Monday, March 31 to Thursday, April 3. Teams from over two hundred schools around the country created presentations, much like ours, about their service projects and accomplishments from this school year.



SENIORITIS:

CAUGHT IN THE MARGIN BETWEEN COLLEGE AND GRADUATION

by Benjamin Irwin

I'm in a weird place with my time at Warner Pacific. An exciting place, but a weird one. I'm staring down the barrel of the end of my Junior year, and I'm almost out of here. These three years at Warner Pacific College have changed almost every aspect of who I am as a person. If I had designed a college for myself from the ground up, I couldn't have made a better fit for myself than this place. I hope to work here in some capacity after I graduate, and I would like my kids to go here one day. A part of me doesn't ever want my relationship with Warner Pacific to end, and another part of me feels like it already has—like I've been here too long.

See, here's the thing: most of the friends I started with in the dorms my freshman year have either transferred or dropped out. I'm commuting this year for the first time, somehow pulling a 30+ hour a week job off campus, and I'm engaged to someone who doesn't go here. As I end this year I'm changing my major at last to what I should have been doing all along. Except for peer mentoring, I have quietly stepped back from my student leadership involvement. I remember going back home for winter break my freshman year and feeling like I was leaving my life to go back home. Now, so close to the end, I leave my life every day

outside college, assignments get turned in late and classes get missed. I won't make a judgment call on why; I'll just say it happens. I feel adrift, like most of the people and things that anchored me here are gone now, and either I've passed Warner Pacific by or it's passed me. The thing is, I love this college too much to want to sit in that feeling for too long. Too often I'm asking myself, "Aside from getting my degree, what am I doing here?" Part of why I am writing this is to get those thoughts out, and part of my reason is a hunch that I'm not alone in feeling this way.

The following statement is from another student who sent me his own version of senioritis. "I became so consumed in trying to fix every flaw I saw in the school that it took me down quite a depressing path. If it weren't for a select few faculty members that had been watching this transformation over the year, I would not have been able to begin changing my outlook. Honestly, if I could do it again I would not have immersed myself so deeply in the leadership programs and focused more on being a student. Student leadership singlehandedly affected my last impression of the college that I fell in love with three years ago. The school is

"I'M EXCITED TO SEE WHERE LIFE WILL TAKE ME NEXT."
TIRZAH ALLEN

changing, and it will be a great school for students to come. It has just been sad to see these changes coincide with my exit, because the school I transferred into is no longer the college I am graduating from." So is this a bad thing? Is it wrong for us to be inching towards the door when we're so close to stepping out of it? Do we betray our love for the school by wanting so badly to start the next chapter? My good friend Tirzah Allen gave a unique perspective. (I'll note here that Tirzah specifically wanted to be interviewed because she says she is immune to senioritis.)

"Honestly, I'm not nervous at all about graduation," Tirzah said. "On the contrary, I'm quite excited. My worries are not focused on my academics or what kind of job I will obtain after graduation, although this is important, but on the wonderful friends, teachers, and place that I will have to say goodbye to very soon. The feeling is bittersweet. I knew the risk of going to a college outside of Alaska, but if I had the chance to do it all over again, I would make the same decision. Warner Pacific College is the best thing that could have ever happened to me. The teachers here have, in part, helped me to become the person I am today. They urged me to develop my passions and reach my dreams. I was excited to see where life will take me next."

I really enjoyed the responses I was getting as I wrote this piece, and it was nice to know I wasn't alone in how I felt. I've loved this school for a long time, and feel conflicted about being less a part of it now than I ever was, or about being so excited to graduate and end my time here. The truth is that I'm living my life, and moving up to better days. My life isn't peaking in college, and I'm not looking back on these as the glory days. However, I wouldn't be able to go out and make my world like I am if it wasn't for what Warner Pacific gave me. Even if this time is coming to an end, even if bad things have come into the mix and complicated things, I'm glad Logan Walton called me that one day that began my journey here. I don't know if I'd be here if it wasn't for that call—but I definitely wouldn't be the 'me' that I became since coming here.

One of the students I interviewed wanted to personally thank the staff and faculty here and remind them to stay centered on the calling of this place. "I want to thank the faculty who have become great mentors in my life and Dr. Cook for her vision and passion for the students and SE Portland. I just pray that everyone else working at Warner Pacific will put their personal agendas aside and start working as a *Christ* centered institution. Nothing more. Nothing less."

I couldn't think of a better note to end this piece on. I wouldn't be me without Warner Pacific, and I have to thank the parents who helped me pay to be here, the friends who kept me accountable and on track, the friends I made unfortunate decisions with, the fiancée I met giving a campus tour of this college, and the mentors who always saw the best in me when I didn't see it in myself—who treated me as a colleague and not just a student. (To name a few: Arthur Kelly, Luke Goble, Stephanie Mathis, Robin Gordon, Logan Walton, Greg Brock, Jessie Thompson, Sandra Ahlquist, Lou Foltz, Michael Jerpbak, Mari Betneski, Jess Bidman, Michelle Lang, and Andrea Cook.) Thank you for being a safe place and people who love us even as you say goodbye to us and help us transition into the next chapter. I hope you can know how much you've given me and those like me who really needed Warner Pacific badly when they came here.

Images: Mixed Media Painting (Detail) by Chochun Leung courtesy of Dumbo Arts Center. Art Under the Bridge Festival 2009.

THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

HEALTHCARE REFORM ROLLS OUT WITH CHANGES THAT AFFECT COLLEGE STUDENTS

by *Kate Dorman*

Cover Oregon is Oregon's online health care exchange. It has been described as one of the worst exchanges in the nation. Reid Wilson of the Washington Post said the site was "plagued by technical issues" at launch and through multiple extended enrollment deadlines. Many of the issues have been explained by "breakdowns in supervisory management and shoddy work by an outside vendor that received tens of millions of dollars in state funding." The website, which is still not able to process online-only enrollments, cost the state a whopping \$150 million to build. The media did a thorough job of covering the disastrous rollout of the online exchange that was riddled with glitches, but there hasn't been much of a conversation concerning the law itself. The law is incredibly complex. The condensed version is 1,000 pages long.

It is important to take a look at health care reform within a historical context. The ACA is not alone in its rollout challenges. In the Huffington Post, Arthur Delaney explained that problems aren't unusual when it comes to big, new programs: "The technology may be different, but previous expansions of the safety net have all suffered glitches." In 1936, members of the Social Security Board were faced with the challenge of enrolling close to 26 million industrial workers within the first year. The enrollment process was especially complicated because at the time, many Americans had the same name.

The Postal Service played a significant role in the enrolling process. "Postmen delivered applications for numbers, helped people fill out the forms, answered questions about the program, returned the forms to typing centers where the cards could be produced, delivered the cards to the workers, and

transmitted the applications of workers together with their newly-assigned Social Security numbers," Delaney explained. Unfortunately, there are no USPS workers currently assisting Americans with health care enrollment. The rollout of Social Security in the 1930s provides an interesting parallel to what Americans are facing today. Social Security is seen by many as one of the most successful social programs. According to Arthur Delaney, "The Obama administration would be jubilant if health care reform left a similar legacy."

Christine Tokomitz teaches classes within the Health Care Administration major. Professor Tokomitz also pointed out the parallel between the Affordable Care Act and Social Security: "If you look at history, it took Social Security took eight years to work out the kinks. It hasn't even been a year...we're not even five months into health care reform. We need to recognize that change takes time." If change takes time, then how can the government expect individuals especially young adults, to be interested now? If Americans and young adults don't become interested, at least interested enough to have health insurance, then there is a penalty in place for that, Tokomitz explained. "Most students will, at some point, be filing their own taxes and if they don't have health care—if they haven't made that choice—then they're going to have to pay a tax penalty and that will be assessed on their taxes starting in 2014." Currently, the fee is flat rate charge of \$95 per person, but the fee will increase each year.

There are numerous benefits available to college students through the ACA. One major benefit has been the expansion of coverage



Cover Oregon's open enrollment extends until April 30. After that date, enrollment closes until late Fall.

to age 26; students now have the option of staying on their parents' plan until turning 26. "The theory behind that expansion," said Tokomitz, "is that by 26, people should be in the process of starting their lives a little bit deeper and so they can afford to get health insurance. In fact, they could be a little bit more interested in getting it."

Another benefit with the ACA is the expanded poverty line that will allow many college students to be eligible for Medicaid and thus a higher level of coverage than they might get otherwise. According to medicad.gov, as of January 1, 2014, individuals under 65 years of age with incomes up to 133 percent of the federal poverty level will be eligible for Medicaid coverage. Low-income adults without children are guaranteed coverage for the first time.

Not having insurance can prove detrimental to young adults, often referred to as "young invertebrates." "This is a federal mandate," Tokomitz said. "It's the equivalent of not having car insurance. If you don't have car insurance and you get hit, then you have to pay. If you don't have health insurance and you get hit, you are going to pay." This concept can be difficult for young invertebrates to fully grasp. For those without insurance, there will be a consequence, whether it is a flat rate at the end of the year or a much larger fee due to unexpected, and uninsured, accidents. According to Tokomitz, many college stu-

dents don't realize what they're eligible for if they aren't on their parents' plan. "They don't realize that they can go to the health care exchanges and see what they qualify for. Many are going to qualify for a lot more than they thought they would," she said.

The law only requires basic coverage. College students don't have to buy the premium plans available. An editorial published on ABC News explained the cheaper catastrophic plan; initial preventative care visits are covered at no charge, but catastrophic plans come with deductibles of \$6,000 or more. For college students, this isn't pocket change. But for those who don't see better coverage as a financial priority, catastrophic plans are appealing. "If you haven't had any issues with your health," Tokomitz said, "you'd probably rather spend money on your car or education." If health is not a legitimate concern for young adults, premium coverage won't be seen as a priority. *Continued on page 12.*



Assistant Professor Christine Tokomitz helps coordinate and develop the Healthcare Administration Program at the college. Photo by Tim Jackson.

Continued from page 5:

Before the campaign the philosophy was "be boisterous," to be loud, energetic and excited. I was excited about putting myself in new experiences. Having Jake out there helped me be adventurous and try new things; we went on the fastest roller coaster in the world. That right there reminded me that spiritual life, student government, wherever you're at; if you're just sitting in a comfortable and hesitant life, that's not what God wants. God wants you to be uncomfortable in the fact that you continue to step forward and push the envelope of what you can do.

JULY 2, CONNECTICUT: Out of everywhere we had planned to stop on our travels, we were not expecting Connecticut to be the place that God would make the biggest impact. We were expecting to stay for two days, and at one point even contemplating skipping the stop entirely, but it turned out to be 16 days. We knew that God was at work when we went to college group with Kristen that first week we were there. Over the next week and a half we were introduced to many new friends. We learned a lot about ourselves, God, and the happenings amongst a band of brothers and sisters in Christ who welcomed us with open arms. It is in this time where we are entering an opportunity to fully surrender to God and his plan, and as much as we love everyone in Connecticut it was our time to say see you soon and continue on with our journey. God's

Tax credits are another option to reduce the burden of health care costs. According to ABC News, tax credits, which reduce monthly premiums, are available through the online exchanges. The downside of tax credits is that the premium still initially has to be paid in full. The deduction is received at the end of the year when filing taxes.

One of the goals of health care reform is to make sure prevention is part of the discussion. Tokontitz believes that a health care reform built on prevention "might take a few years to sink in." Prevention means making healthy choices, taking care of yourself, and doing the things that will prevent the onset of disease. But many people don't appreciate being told what to do, Tokontitz explained. "The government is saying you need to take better care of yourself because if you take better care of yourself in your 20's, your 30's, and your 40's, you will have less impact of disease in your 50's and 60's." Oregon's coordinated care organizations are trying to deliver better and more integrated care to health plan members. According to oregon.gov, "With a focus on primary care and prevention, health plans using the coordinated care model are able to better manage chronic conditions and keep people healthy and out of the emergency department." Oregon has 16 coordinated care organizations that have been approved through the Oregon Health Plan. This list can be found at oregon.gov.

Though not everyone stands behind the Affordable Care Act, most would agree that the country's health care system needed fixing. President Obama addressed the mixed feelings that Americans have for the ACA: "All told, because of this law, millions of our fellow citizens know the economic security of health insurance who didn't just a few years ago—and that's something to be proud of. Regardless of your politics or your feelings about me, or your feelings about this law, that's something that's good for our economy, and it's good for our country."

The amount of money that Americans spend on health care is not affordable, let alone sustainable. "The statistic for 2013 is we spend \$8,920 per person on health care in this country. They're forecasting that by 2016, without any intervention, that it will go up to \$14,000 per person. We're going to bankrupt the system that way," Tokontitz said. "We're the second most expensive health care in the world and our outcomes are ranked 36th in the world." A substantial amount of money is spent, and yet people aren't healthier because of it. Tokontitz gave the example: "If you look at infant mortality, we're ranked 31st in the world."

plan seems to never be what we expect it to be but it is always what we need it to be. We are driving to Sandusky, Ohio where we will be staying through Thursday before we begin the trek back to the splendid PNW.

KT: Any last words or advice for road trips? **BP:** Don't let money be the factor, you can go on any capacity of a road trip and it doesn't matter how much money you have. You can still go on some sort of road trip, and it changes your life.

JT: Plan ahead but be spontaneous. Definitely be prepared, not just under the financial category, but have a basic idea of what you want to do, but be spontaneous with it. If you want to go to a city and it wasn't on the plan, do it. Don't be scared to play it by ear. There were plenty of times where we called a hotel the day of and asked if they had a hotel that night, and they may say no and we'd try the next one. Sometimes we'd have the website pick the hotel for us. Pack light, there's Laundromats everywhere.

BP: Don't buy a bag of chocolate covered blueberries when you're driving from California to Tucson; it melts. If you want a good time, live off of Costco pizza, better than anything on the East Coast. As a college student, this is the time to do those adventures that you always talked about, and just to take steps in

that direction. Don't just make it something to talk about, make it something to do.

JULY 10, WASHINGTON: After we went to Cedar Point, we packed up camp and drove the next 48 hours (with some of that time sleeping). We thought it'd be fun to surprise our parents when they thought we wouldn't be home for another week or more. Our trip was eye opening and an adventure we will surely never forget! Thank you to everyone who opened their homes to us and thank you for all the prayers and support! We are back in Vancouver and already working again. If you wish to hear more about our trip feel free to get a hold of one of us and we'd be glad to share with you experiences and how we experienced God along the way.

Before Ben hands the baton down to Jake, there will be a three and a half month gap, time you will probably never have available in your life after college. With cars becoming more fuel efficient, and camping sites across the nation, why not try a road trip? A few days, a week, a month! Plus, it's cheap. Ben and Jake ended up using \$1,500 each for their three week trip.

"We've talked about taking another road trip and people are like, 'Where would you travel, Europe, South America?' but I feel like we haven't travelled America yet. There is still so much more to see in the USA," Tront said.



The Affordable Care Act was passed on March 21, 2010 and signed into law on March 23. On June 28, 2012, the bill was upheld by the Supreme Court. It went into effect on January 1, 2014.

Part of the reason that coverage is so expensive is due to the discrepancies between the numbers of primary care physicians in comparison to the numbers of specialists. In an interview with the Real News, health care reform advocate Wendell Potter said, "The price of medical schools has students choosing to specialize in specialty care areas where their incomes will be higher." Because of the shortage of primary care physicians, there are too many people going to expensive specialists. According to Tokontitz, "Title V of the ACA is set up to allocate funds towards medical schools that specialize in primary care education as well as money for institutions that will not only host residencies for primary care physicians, but will hire them." Another incentive for medical students

Doctors and hospitals are in a major transition as well. The process of reforming health care involves moving away from a volume based system to a value based system. And that has doctors and hospitals concerned; volume can be measured easily, but how can a doctor charge a patient for value? Another concern is the low reimbursements that doctors and hospitals receive from Medicaid and Medicare.

The question has been asked for decades: "Is health care a human care, a right, or a commodity to be earned?" And whether you agree or disagree with the Affordable Care Act, the law is moving the U.S. toward health care as a basic human right. But reform doesn't happen overnight. "As messy as it is sometimes, as contentious as it's been sometimes, it is progress. It is making sure we are not the only advanced country on earth that doesn't make sure everybody has basic health care," said Obama. The full text of the president's speech is available through the White House Press Office at whitehouse.gov.

SPRING ACTIVITIES:

EXPLORING THE CITY AND BEYOND

by Ben Himes and Rebecca Schrader

The sun is coming out—at least part of the time. Portlanders may have different definitions of a beautiful day than people from other places, but we also get the benefit of outdoor activities sprouting up everywhere: both in the city and around the city. Here is a list of activities to pursue whenever you can escape from the hustle of college life—whatever the weather.

FRISBEE/GOLF PARKS

Frisbee related activities are popular among Warner Pacific students. Here are a few places to hone your Ultimate skills.

DABNEY STATE PARK: Along the Sandy River, Dabney State Park is the perfect for the avid disc golfer. The area does not allow pedestrians or other outside interference to hinder that perfect game.

ROCKWOOD PARK: The relatively short holes of the park makes this spot the perfect park for beginners. It is another course that is free of overcrowding of those who do not enjoy the simple pleasures of disc golf.

VANCE PARK: Close to Gresham's Rockwood Park, so a double dose of disc golf parks makes for the convenient excuse to get in that extra game or two. Numerous trees lines the park for that extra kick of a challenge.

BLUE LAKE: Near the Columbia River and Marine Drive, one will find persistent winds and long winding courses. A gold accreditation from the Professional Disc Golf Association gives this course the sheen that might be missing from all the other parks.

LUNCHTIME DISC GOLF COURSE: The 21 acre course located in downtown Portland is open to the public. Golfers can tee off from a short or long tee position.

PIER PARK: In North PDX, Pier Park boasts rolling hills and plentiful trees. With a mixture of short and long distance holes, the park is frequented by beginners and pros alike.

HIKING

If you are looking for a short morning hike or an all-day hiking experience, these are our favorite year-round hiking trails.

BEACON ROCK: A short 1.8 mile hike, but it will get your heart rate up as the trail climbs through switchbacks. The Rock is in the Columbia Gorge, and rewards hikers with a beautiful view of the river and surrounding mountains.

ANGEL'S REST: A more challenging hike. It is 4.6 miles and quite steep on the way up. Many parts of the trail are rocky and uneven, so it is important to wear sturdy shoes. The 1450 foot climb is well worth the effort, because at the top hikers get a 270 degree viewpoint of the Columbia River Gorge.

OPAL CREEK WILDERNESS: This is one of Oregon's best hiking treasures. Reserve an entire day for this moderate, 7-mile hike. It is located two hours outside of Portland, about 20 miles off eastbound Oregon State Highway 22. The hike offers stunningly beautiful scenery of bright green water pools and cascading waterfalls. Oregon native and avid hiker Nicholas Colin shared his enthusiasm about Opal Creek, explaining that if you go on a somewhat warm day, there is a natural water slide in the creek that shoots you out into one of the smaller pools at the bottom. "Being surrounded by such beauty along with a great hike, and so many fun little things to do along the way like the water slide or eating under the old wooden bridge makes the drive more than worth it," Colin said.

FOOD CARTS

Portland's food carts will tempt your taste buds. Below are some of our favorites, perfect for when you want to dine al fresco.

THE GRILLED CHEESE GRILL (SE 28th and Ankeny): Grilled cheese in every variety imaginable. Craving a burger? Try the Cheesus.

WHIFFERS (1204 SE Hawthorne): A pie joint with options from classic fruit favorites, to BBQ brisket, mozzarella, and chicken.

THE BRUNCH BOX (SW 5th and Stark): A burger spot with a wide selection of burgers and all the fries, hash browns and other goodies one may desire.

THE BIG EGG (4233 N Mississippi Ave): A smogasboard of eggs and all the toppings, locally produced and cooked to perfection.

THE DUMP TRUCK (SW 11th and Alder): Mouthwatering dumplings that don't taste like they came from a truck, available in various styles.

NONG'S KHAO MAN GAI (SW 10th and Alder): This food cart features chicken and rice with few exceptions. What they lack in variety is made up for in taste and satisfaction.

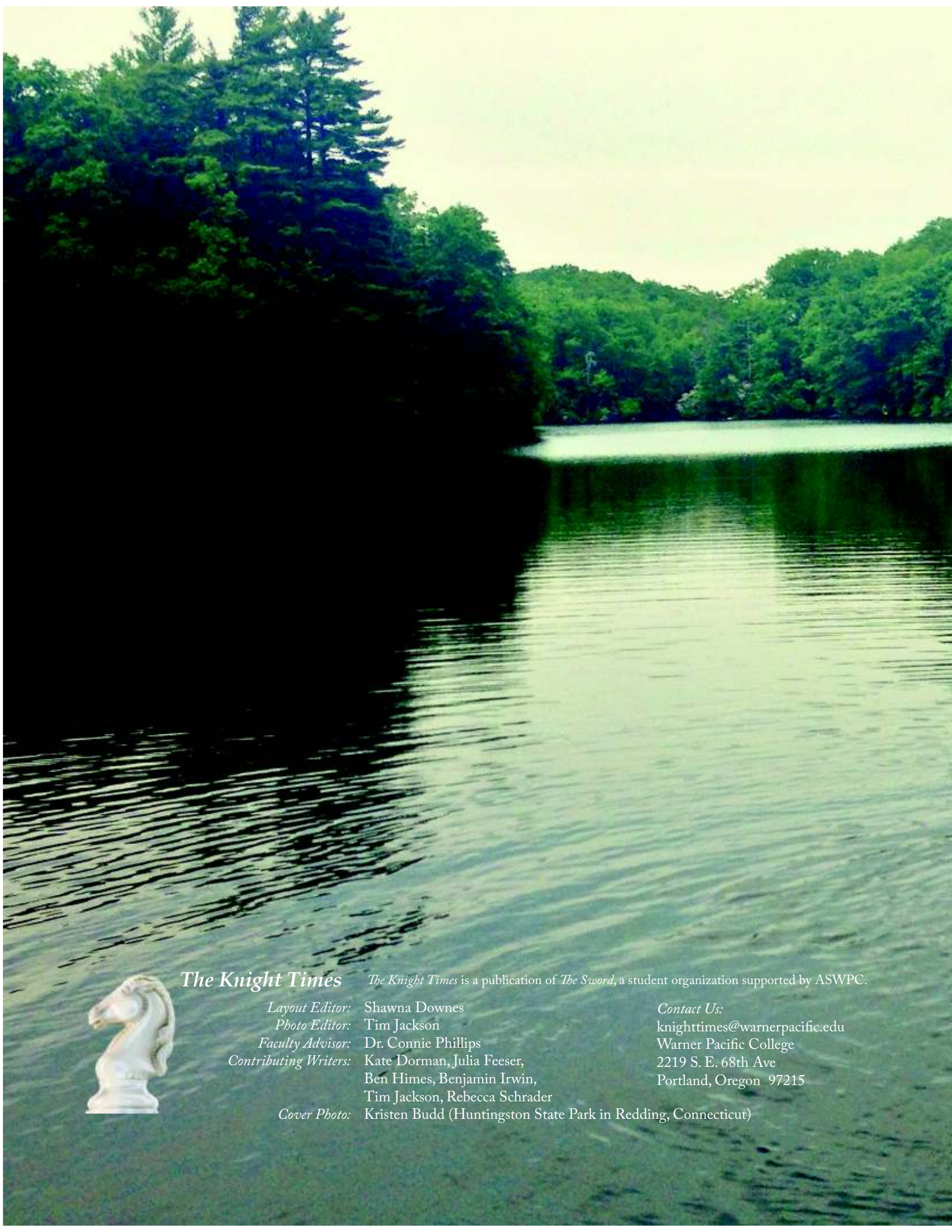
SAVOR SOUP HOUSE (SW 10th and Alder): Soup and sandwiches with gluten free, vegan, vegetarian, and dairy free options.

POPPYTO CHAMPION (1207 SE Hawthorne): The humble potato chopped, fried, and topped any way you like, from Canadian poutine to PB&W fries.



Liz Dominguez, Abigail Henning, and Justin Lewis view the Columbia river from the top of the Beacon Rock trail.

Photos by Tim Jackson



The Knight Times

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