



Editorial:

Cell phone addiction leads to misplaced priorities

The 20th Century has given birth to a number of radical changes, primarily technology. Some of these include the automobile, the television, the radio, the computer and, oh yes, the cellular phone. Inventors.about.com says that Bell Laboratories introduced the idea of cellular communications in 1947 with the police car technology. However, Motorola was the first to incorporate the technology into a portable device that was designed for use outside of the automobile. Throughout the years the cell phone has prevailed by

being one of the most popularly used technological devices in the nation. It doesn't take a rocket scientist to see that almost every member of society today relies on cell phones, even children. What started out as a small investment turned into a feeding frenzy of gadget-hungry citizens whose biggest priority is how many texts they can send or receive in one minute. Meanwhile, children are starving all over the world, the nation is at war with God knows who this week and the presidential election is just around the corner, but who

cares, right? As long as our call doesn't get dropped things are great. Why have we become so dependent on cell phones? It's just down right sad that this is what we've come to. A lot of people can't even sit through a church service without flipping out their phone to see if they have any missed calls or texts. Others swear up and down that they want a job, but in the middle of the interview respond to the sound of "ring-ring," alerting them of an incoming call. Hello, can we say rude? Also, what is up with all

these six-seven-year-olds walking around with a cell phone glued to their hands? For heaven's sake, they look like mini-versions of us. Whatever happened to swing sets and bicycles? This isn't even half of what's wrong with our so-called technologically advanced society today, but whether or not we want to admit it, something as simple as the excessive use of cell phones does play a vital role. There are obviously many advantages of cell phones, and believe it or not there are some that go beyond picture sharing

and Bluetooth. For example, a couple of months ago a woman went missing. After about a week of frantic searching, the police prepared to give the woman's husband a lie detectors test to prove whether or not he was telling the truth about not being involved in her disappearance. They were interrupted with good news that the woman had been found alive in her car after crashing into a steep ravine. Apparently, the police had sent a "pinging" signal to her cell phone which told them which cell tower her phone was near.

So, it's clear that cell phones aren't evil; however, we can get addicted, in a way, without even realizing it. Waking up and going to sleep with our cell phones in our hand is not a healthy lifestyle. When technology consumes all of our time and becomes more important than even the simplest things in life, such as a beautiful sunny day, then perhaps our priorities are a bit misplaced. Maybe we should stop and smell the roses and even put down our cell phones long enough to pick one.

Death penalty offers free ticket out

By: Jeanie Smith Staff Writer

The question of the death penalty seems to be one of great opinion and argument. Many are for the death penalty, yet many are against it. I, myself, am against it. However, I do believe that criminals should be punished. The question is how. Forms of punishment have changed since the beginning of time, so methods have to be changed to fit time. Since hangings, electrocutions, gas chambers, and gunshots to the back of the head have now been ruled out and mostly abolished, lethal injection has become the main method of execution in the United States. Many states in the U.S. have banned lethal injection, however. My opinion is that lethal injection is not right. A number of criminals that get put to death by the death penalty do not feel

pain by this, which is unfair to the families of victims. I do not think that it is right that criminals get off so easy. However, in some cases, criminals do feel the pain. According to www.newslocale.org, many people support lethal injection because they think it is a painless way for criminals to leave this world. On the other hand, there is evidence that lethal injection is painful, because some criminals have been seen agonizing for many minutes before death takes them. One criminal suffered for 34 minutes and had to be given an extra dosage. Many citizens want the criminals to go out painlessly, no matter what kind of pain the criminals have caused to families. So is lethal injection really as humane as people think it is? Since homicidal maniacs, rapists, child molesters, and other "wonderful" people

should have the "best humane treatment", why not just let the prisoners go? I do not believe in making things right by taking a life for a life. Another murder to cover up a murder or wrong act does not make it right. I am sure we all have heard "Two wrongs do not make a right." The prisoners should have to face different and difficult punishments, in proportion to whatever crime he or she committed. Do not think of me as cruel or heartless. I am against the death penalty of lethal injection, but I do think a punishment should exist. This punishment is that if one commits an unjustifiable or inexcusable murder out of hatred or with malicious criminal intent, that person should have to rot in prison and be buried in the prison yard. For any rapists, child molesters, or any kind of manslaughter

or attempted murder, I think that the prisoner should be tortured just like he or she did the victim with no bail, no bond, and no possible parole. Any other felony should give the criminal a minimum of ten years to life, depending on the circumstance. There should be no tickets out unless proven innocent or declared mentally insane. This way, the prisoners will have plenty of time to think about right and wrong. Also, the families will know comfort that the one who took a loved one's life or maliciously impacted their lives is taken care of. The lethal injection process is too uncorroborated to make an exact determination on if it is too inhumane or not. There is evidence that states how it is painful, however, there is much more that states differently. That is why I am against the lethal injection death penalty.

Jena 6 issue shows racism still exists in United States

By: Shauna Sherman Staff Writer

Throughout history, we have heard about slaves all over the world. We heard of countries fighting, or even just communities. We heard about Moses saying, "Let my people go!" We even heard about Martin Luther King saying, "I have a dream!" So many of these problems we hear about and have heard about are caused by racism. In America, everyone is equal. America is the land of the free and the land of opportunity. We are the country of dreams compared to every other country. But really, we aren't. We have too many problems in our way. One of the problems stopping us is racism. That's even a problem most people thought was long gone, or pretended to think anyway. Today we struggle with racism. Why? Who knows? It's all around us. It's on our television. It's on our radio. It's even where no one can hear it or see it...our hearts. Just because it's not on the news doesn't mean a thing. But wait, it is on the news. A prime example is the Jena 6. For those who have no idea, the Jena 6 issue started in Louisiana when some white kids hung nooses in a tree to scare a black kid. The white kids were suspended. But to "justify" this act, since the suspension wasn't good enough, the kids took it in their own hands. The town was already upset anyway. Six black students

allegedly attacked a white student. After that, there were riots and an unfair sentence from a white jury. Besides this, there are so many stories of gangs, cults and cliques. No one ever takes them seriously, though. The sad truth is that we are either ignoring it, or we are a part of it. People of all ages everywhere misrepresent the rebel flag or David's star. There are all sorts of numbers and signs that have hidden racial meanings. Names are spat back and forth. Things like that can be overlooked, but should they? Does it have to come to violence before we wake up? Laws have been changed defending every race, so how can racism still be? Where does the racist influence still come from? Blacks beat on whites, and whites beat on blacks. Then others get involved. Even the punishment is unfair and perhaps racist. Once again, Jena 6 is a perfect example. As future leaders it is up to us to stop this. Pretty much everyday someone is mistreated physically and even mentally because of racism. Not only are we future leaders, but so is this state. In fact, the whole country is. Sometimes we have to put God first and color last. If everyone is equal, why are kids still fighting and dying? What about teenagers? Adults? Maybe we should take a look at our hearts and stop ignoring what's tearing us apart. It's everywhere. So, where do you stand?

Voters place politics ahead of principles

By: JaMorieyus Kittler Staff Writer

What has our nation come to when one elects political candidates to office not by their credentials or background, but rather focusing more on whether to vote republican or democrat? There is entirely too much emphasis on political labels being used today, and let's face it, more than often economic status does play a role in this labeling. On ontheissues.org, republicans are listed as being in favor of reducing child welfare case-loads and encouraging adop-

tion. Well, for a family with little to no income, receiving welfare or having received it in the past, one can only guess that those voters would side democrat, right? Nevertheless, not all democrats and republicans hold the same viewpoint on all the issues within each respective party. So, it is mind-boggling that they are even lumped into these groups in the first place. These labels are only a way to further divide the American population, as if race, economy and religion are not enough. These overstressed labels

are used to over generalize voters stances on issues by associating them with a particular party. Examples of the overstressed usage of the political labels can be found all over, even within the Radionian. In last month's issue in an article headlined "Call it quits in Iraq, Mr. President" writer Jeanie Smith said "We have plenty of oil in Alaska and places, if only the democrats would let go of the trees." How about we let go of the delusion! Besides, the last time I checked the "republicans" were in favor of this war which

allegedly began to find weapons of mass destruction, now is that not ironic? Certainly there were democrats in favor of the war as well, which only further shows my point that these labels are not needed. So, whether it is foreign policy, education or gun control, what is important is the issue and not the political party. When voting on a candidate, delve deeper into his political arsenal, focus more on where he stands on pertinent issues, his credentials and his experience. But, by all means look beyond whether that candidate is republican or democrat.

The Radionian
 Jones County Junior College – Ellisville, MS 39437
 Radionian@jcc.edu

- Faculty Adviser:** Rebecca Patrick
- Assistant to the Adviser:** Gabe Bozeman
- News Editor:** Corey Ruffin
- Opinions Editor:** Jonah Taylor
- Activities Editor:** Kayla Compton
- Sports Editor:** Chase Sims
- Features Editor:** Branden Leone
- Entertainment Editor:** Rayne Henley
- Photographer:** Joseph Gibbons
- Cartoonists:** Christian Koerber, Jeanie Smith
- Staff Writers:** Miranda Black, Skylar Blackwell, Brooklyn Blakeney, Terrisha Buckley, Josh Chancellor, Brittany Cooley, DeAnna Edwards, Joseph Gibbons, Telea Hiatt, Lindsey Johnson, Justin Jones, Kaylee Kasper, JaMorieyus Kittler, Derek Kopszywa, Jessica Lewis, Molly McRee, Shauna Sherman, Jeanie Smith, Denver Taylor, Ryne Walley, Christina Walsh, Stacey Williams

Jones County Junior College offers equal education and employment opportunities to all persons without discrimination and without regard to sex, race, religion, color, national origin, or disability.

Young Hollywood produces bad role models for young America

By: Brooklynn Blakeney Staff Writer

Young Hollywood has lost most of its moral values. For example, stars like Paris Hilton have served jail time for DUI charges, Lindsey Lohan chased a woman with her car while having cocaine in her possession and Britney Spears' nervous break down has made it evident what state of mind these young stars are in. What standard does this set for the younger generation of today? Have the bright lights of the paparazzi blinded these young starlets to the point that they can't see the difference between right and wrong? For example, who is at home taking care of Spears' children while she is running around

town drinking and going to clubs? Obviously her mental health is not in a normal state if she shaves her head and gets two tattoos in the same day. What example does this set for the young mothers of today? Many of these so-called role models have been back and forth to rehab so many times we can't even keep up with why they are going. It seems like checking in rehab is an automatic get-out-of-jail-free card. This is not a realistic option for normal people in the same situation. Once these stars have completed rehab the public forgives and forgets. It is as if they have done no wrong. These young stars are also alarmingly thin. We are told this

is an ideal weight that women should strive to achieve. However, to accomplish this, health and self esteem are sacrificed. What is all this for? The younger generation today is sacrificing its entire being just to fit in and to portray the image of young Hollywood. The public should ignore the antics of these young stars and maybe their behavior will change. Every time a magazine is bought with a story about their wild night or a stint in rehab, this just gives them free publicity and encouragement to do it again. So, the next time you pass a magazine rack at the grocery store please do not pick up a magazine, because I believe we all need a break.