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Belligerent Spectator: "An Examination of the Elitist"

By Caitlin Olszewski - Lion's Eye Entertainment Editor coo5024@psu.edu

Obscure, alternative, and pretentious: words uttered by and ironically descriptive to the pop culture vermin-dubbed hipsters. Personifying an encyclopedia of rather useless facts, the hipster has become quite prevalent in popular culture. Hipsters do not hesitate to boast about their extensive audiophile-quality music catalog or their wardrobe of thrift store tshirts. Most importantly, the hipster will always bitterly assert himself/ herself and brag about anything and everything to do with himself/ herself.

Hipsters are not hard to spot. The men will most likely have an intended disheveled look and often a failed attempt at facial hair. The women will probably be wearing horn-rimmed glasses paired with short, bluntly cut hair. Both parties are often seen "talking with their hands," fully engaged in some pointless argument about Ron Paul or the novels they read in their high school English class.

The hipster is what I like to consider a "pseudo-intellectual." While the hipster might be relatively intelligent, (after all, he/she reads the newspaper daily, watches The Colbert Show, and spends hours on the internet), he/she lacks several significant features that would help them function normally in society. One of these features is motivation. Hipsters are lazy. They think they can get by on their useless knowledge but they have less than 3.0 GPAs and do not support themselves financially.

Now, those of you who know me might be thinking, "Caitlin you are such a hypocrite! You listen to Icelandic shoegaze music, read comic books, and spent most of your high school days bouncing

around local shows. What makes you think you are not a hipster?" Well ladies and gentlemen; while I may hold very similar interests as hipsters, I am not a pompous jerk. I do not blatantly judge people for not knowing Joy Division or never reading Infinite Jest. I actually love seeing differences in people because it gives me a chance to experience something new. After all, why would I ever want to live in a conformist society?

Hipsters are arrogant elitists. They could be considered modern day yuppies, even. They think they hold a higher standard than the rest of the world and they have no qualms letting others know this. Other than their knowledge of pop culture phenomena they really don't have anything else to offer. Hipsters tend to look down on people without college degrees. In reality those people probably have more to offer than hipsters that wasted their father's money on stupid majors like film. They will end up living with their parents well into their 30's working a part-time job.

I know that as a general rule we are supposed to disregard stereotypes, but I just think it's ridiculous that a group of people try to insult others for their lesser knowledge of Neutral Milk Hotel or Michel Gondry films. Not everyone spends ages 1-29 leeching off their parents and carefully modeling their lives after Stuff White People Like. Most people have ambitions higher than asserting empty credibility. The general attitude that hipsters hold and their daily meaningless banter make them very deserving of my belligerent negativity.



clothing, biodiesel, and vodka.

And now the health benefits - omega-3 and omega-6 fatty acids, isoflavones (a type of organic compound and antioxidant that act sometimes as phytoestrogens, 'dietary estrogens," that fight against types of breast and prostate cancer), cholesterol reduction (LDL - bad cholesterol).

If foods were in competition, soybeans pretty much come out winning. According to soyjoy.com, whole soy has as much potassium as bananas and as much fiber as whole wheat bread, in addition to being packed with protein, iron and antioxidants. It even has twice as much protein as a serving of nonfat milk.

The FDA states that "25 grams of soy protein a day, as part of a diet low in saturated fat and cholesterol, may reduce

the risk of heart disease." But that's not all this little bean does. The phytoestrogens in soybeans have been noted to prevent breast and prostate cancer.

Besides soy allergies and a potential risk of certain cancers due to phytoestrogens (consumed in large quantities), there is not much soy isn't good for. I knew soybeans were nutritionally awesome, but not this awesome. I make use of the magic of soy on a daily basis by using soy milk, preferably chocolate, in my coffee every morning.

So, here's to the splendid soybean in all its nutritional and functional glory. May it continue to fuel our bodies with vitamins and minerals and dazzle us with its versatility!

PAIR OF PENNIES: "Lions, and Sex Fiends, and Bears, Oh My!"

By daniel j. taylor - Lion's Eye Editorial Editor - djt5036@psu.edu

Tiger Woods saw a lot of naked women last year. The only American I could find who had the same persuasive powers was a gynecologist in Portland. But that's not terribly surprising, is it? He's one of the most identifiable athletes in history, and that, alone, is probably enough to get him all the ladies he could possibly handle. In case it wasn't though, he is also young, good-looking, and strong, plus he's literally a billionaire. Personally, I'm not shocked.

Tiger is not my friend. He's not my father, my son, my brother, or my husband. We've never spoken, shaken hands, looked each other in the eye, or sat in the same room. His infidelities are, therefore, of no concern to me. He did not break my heart nor did he betray my trust.

Was it scummy? Yes.

No!

red.

Was it thoughtless? Of course. Is it even a little bit my business?

I understand the lens through which he was portrayed. We thought we could point to him and talk to our kids about dedication and hard work because he famously spends hours each day practicing his game. We thought we could point to him and talk about confidence because he was always comfortable in his arena. We even thought we could talk a little bit about God because Tiger always wore his Sunday

Despite what we may have thought, looking up to a professional athlete is really kind of silly. They're

Their experiences aren't like ours. Initially I wanted to compare following the life of Tiger Woods to following the life of a fictional television character like Michael Weston from "Burn Notice." In trying to form the analogy, however, I realized that they're not alike at all. Caring about Weston's life is a dozen times more reasonable than caring about Woods' Sure, Weston is fictional, but at least--if we choose to--we'll actually get to know him as he is. While Woods is real, his life is purposely cut off from the lives of most Americans. He knows that he doubles the PGA viewing audience, and still he doesn't care about us. Tiger's simply a guy who hits little white balls into little tin cups very, very well. He doesn't care one lick about me and my situation, so why should I care at all what he does in dark hotel rooms? The answer is quite obvious: I shouldn't.

I will admit, though, that Tiger really let me down. I mean, taking time off from the tour?--what was he thinking? If you exclude those close to him (his wife, family, friends), his time on the course was the one thing about which anyone cared! It's an unwritten agreement, of sorts, that an athlete-turned-billionaire will actually compete. If he owes us anything at all, it was that--not a poorly scripted apology, not a commitment to better himself, not a slew of defenses against performance enhancing drugs and domestic abuse, just a commitment to get out there and swing some irons.

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Just one bean can make the difference. The soybean, in particular, is a protein-packed pod with so many uses and health benefits that it's hard to believe we didn't synthetically produce it.

A bean of Asian descent, the soybean's powers have been recognized as early as 28th century BC, when Emperor Shen Nung declared the soybean one of the five sacred plants of the Chinese diet during that time period, as stated on soyjoy.com. "If you eat soybeans and drink water, you can be entirely satisfied," Confucius once said in the 3rd century BC, proving the soybean's ability to fascinate throughout the centuries. Benjamin Franklin and George Washington Carver also noted the bean's health benefits, and soybeans were one of

the few crops to actually survive the dust-ridden soil of The Great Depression.

Currently, the United States is the world's leading producer of soybeans, producing 87.7 million metric tons a year, with Brazil in second and Argentina and China ranking third and fourth. We've gone pretty much soybean crazy, but for good reason, especially because of all its uses and nutritional benefits.

Here's a list of the many uses of the soybean utilized today: soymilk, tofu, soy flour, miso, soy sauce, soy oil, soy meal for livestock, soybean paste, soy-based infant formula, soy ice cream, soy cheese, soy meat substitutes (veggie burgers), soaps, cosmetics, resins, plastics, ink, crayons, solvents,

detached from life as you and I know it.

The

MISSION

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