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# The CHAPEL Bell



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## On Pokémon and Perseverance

*written by junior Andrea Morris*

I am not ashamed to admit that one of my favorite TV shows growing up was Pokémon. The main character of the show, Ash Ketchum, is on a quest to become a Pokémon Master. Every Saturday morning I got to watch this remarkable ten year-old boy overcome the most daring obstacles. Ash lived his life by the very lyrics featured in the theme song, "I want to be the very best. Like no one ever was." Being the best at anything is already a monstrous undertaking, but being the best that ever was? That is something else altogether.

There is a lot to be said about the virtue of perseverance in Ash Ketchum. He never lets anyone or anything stop him on his journey, a journey that has lasted 702

episodes (at the time of writing this article). Pokémon is now in its 15th season and Ash is still pursuing that same dream of being a Master. Fifteen seasons, 24 years, only one dream.

While ten year-old Ash still inspires the youth of today, I sit at the prime age of 21 wondering: why did I ever give up being like Ash Ketchum? I seem to have grown-up beyond the marvels the Pokémon world has to offer. My goals of catching all 151 Pokémon and earning all the gym badges have turned into passing my next finance test or joining a myriad of different organizations so I can go out and impress the on-campus recruiter of my future job prospect. As I have gotten older, I am sure

there are goals that I have left behind because they became too outrageous to attain. But looking back, were they any more outrageous than being the best there ever was?

Because of Ash's perseverance through his trials and tribulations, I've seen that I shouldn't let anything stand in the way of my dreams. If he can make it through over 20 years, then I can too. I can go for my dreams without fear, and with faith that I will accomplish them someday. Maybe it's time you and I go back to being ten and rediscovering everything we've given up on. We may never be Pokémon Masters, but when Ash finally catches them all, we can say we learned a lesson from one.

## The Consequences of Questioning

*written by senior Sean Day*

Question everything. When did this idea go out of style? We've been taught our whole lives that there is no such thing as a stupid question, and that we should doubt the foundations of society. However, we all reach a point in our lives where the path of least resistance is the most appealing option. Although alluring, you have the capacity to learn and grow beyond the confines of this path.

Beware the metaphor. Imagine your college career as a titanic mountain: towering, terrifying, largely important, and the only obstacle between you and your goals in life. You notice two ways to traverse this monolith: one path is a tunnel that cuts directly through the mountain, and the other path is a treacherous climb up and over this beast. What choice do you make?

Over the course of your tenure here at UGA, you will meet a number of students, who will take the tunnel. Somehow, they've known their entire lives - or rather the idea has been planted deep in their minds - what it is they want to do. These individuals hone in

on that goal. They are so focused and shut off from their surroundings that they cannot and often will not stray from that vision. A little thing called tunnel vision.

Look around you and you will find a select few who take the climb. It's not the easiest choice, and frankly, it's exhaustingly difficult. This journey takes strength of character, the determination to overcome setbacks, and the courage to keep going. You must be willing to step outside of your comfort zone, to go out on a limb, and to trust your decisions no matter what the outcome might be. So, what's the point?

Throughout this grueling journey, you will gain a new perspective on life, get the most out of the mountain, and learn countless things about yourself. To those of you who are convinced that you've got it figured out, I encourage you to question everything. To those of you who are clueless as to your future, take the climb. The view is unforgettable.

# Back That Thing Up!

*written by sophomore Ellis Edwards*

Last week my computer went berserk. I am still not sure exactly why it decided this was the week to throw in the towel, but it did. Despite my long time allegiance to Apple, I was outraged when my laptop (which is not even two years old) went on the fritz. I think I even threatened to buy a Dell. Blasphemy, I know.

After hours of trial and error, choice words, and little frustrated tantrums, I decided to ask for help. I went to Peach Mac on Epps Bridge and whined to the guy at the support desk for half an hour. He was helpful and knew his stuff, but he confirmed my worst fear. A full system restore was my only solution.

In non-technobabble, a “full system restore” is a euphemism for “erasing everything on your hard drive, reinstalling your operating system, and starting from scratch.” Your computer goes back to the way it was when you pulled it out of the box.

Yikes! You can understand my frustration. Reluctantly, I forced myself to accept that he was right and went home to begin the process. But I was not freaking out anymore. I was eerily calm as I erased my entire digital life without a flinch.

So how did I delete my entire digital life without a second thought? Well, thankfully, I am in the habit of backing up my computer weekly. When I bought my computer, I invested in a fat external drive rather than an extended warranty. It is one of my best decisions I have ever made.

The moment I plugged in my Time Machine backup, my love affair with Apple was rekindled. It took a few hours to put everything back into place, but when it restarted it was as if nothing happened! I did not lose a single document. All my preferences and settings were the same. My music library was intact. I lost hours of time, do not get me wrong, but I did not lose years of work!

I know for a fact that most of my friends don’t back their stuff up. I understand that it may seem like a hassle and an extra thing to keep up with, but that is a dangerous game. You are playing against a clock because all hard drives eventually fail. Do yourself a favor, and ask for an external hard drive for your birthday, graduation, or whatever gifting occasion is coming up. It’s better than life insurance for your computer; it can bring it back from the dead!

You can find many drives for less than \$100, but be sure to do a little homework to find the right one for you. Or consider an online backup service such as BackBlaze.com or crashplan.com. These charge monthly, but are completely automated so you don’t have to plug in a drive. Additionally, the SuperDuper app for Mac and Windows is great; it will save you hours of lost working time. I suggest using it alongside a regular backup schedule. I would not wish this fiasco on anyone, but meltdowns are manageable if you are prepared. Back that thing up!

## An Everyday Opportunity to be Genuine—Not Generic

*written by freshman Danielle Meinert*

I have fifteen daily identical conversations. They invariably begin with, “Hey! How are you?” and reliably end with “Good!”

And then we leave, restarting the cycle until Wednesday when we pass each other at the same time, ready to have another indistinguishable conversation. No proper hello, no genuine goodbye, and no real content.

We are people with opinions, conflicts, ideas, and inspirations. We can chat for an hour online, but we don’t stop speed walking for thirty seconds between class to pause and honestly answer, “Today has been great, but I’d rather hear about your day.”

We get selfishly involved in the three minute distance from Park Hall to the SLC that we don’t see the boy we’ve known since kindergarten and that girl we met last weekend at a party. We think about ourselves and hole our issues into our brains until they reach problem carrying capacity, silencing ourselves and others. By choosing not to wave to a friend or stop to catch

up with a classmate, we dehumanize ourselves and limit our experiences.

Joseph Campbell’s expansion on Heinrich Zimmer’s understanding of communication describes this problem: we talk about the third best thing because the most pure experiences cannot be described and the second best things are misunderstood and misrepresented. We become afraid of real interactions.

Instead, say hello to your neighbor in that 8 am class and daringly stop on the edge of the sidewalk to talk with last semester’s lab partner. You might dangerously fall out of your routine to have a spontaneous coffee outing and a real conversation. We all need someone to genuinely listen to how our day has been, but we concentrate on our incapability to express our thoughts instead of attempting to understand and discuss them. Try to! Don’t settle for the mediocrity of the third best thing; attempt, and fantastically fail, to communicate the best.



The Chapel Bell is Athens’ very own locally printed publication. Do good for those around you.

# Leave a Legacy: Give Back to Athens

*written by sophomore Melissa Walters*

After you graduate, take the famous picture under the arch, and no longer have hundreds of philanthropic organizations continually asking you to come to their fundraiser or to “like” their Facebook page, will you still find ways to make a difference and give back? What will the legacy of the first 22 years of your life look like? What about the next 10? The next 50? Will the years of your life be worth remembering?

In celebration of “March is Red Cross Month”, your local Red Cross wants to encourage you to radically change the world, starting with the need that is right in front of you. Have a positive impact on one life and you will have consequently altered the world. One life. Only one life. That’s all it takes, and we have proof.

Clara Barton dedicated her life to impacting one person at a time. Today, her life is responsible for America’s premiere emergency response organization: the Red Cross. One life started an organization that now responds to 200 neighborhood emergencies every day and 70,000 national disasters every year. One life built a model for community service, educational programs, and international relief programs. That one life is still impacting individual lives.

Imagine this: you are seven years old, sitting on the couch in the house that you have lived in since you were born. Suddenly, your mom screams, grabs you and your younger brother, and drags you through the front door into the yard. You then proceed to watch everything that you own burn in a house fire. This horror story belongs to a current UGA graduate student. She continues her story saying, “While my family had the resources to find shelter and food

in the following days, the emotional support and comfort provided by the Red Cross made a world of difference in the way in which my family moved on from that traumatic event. I am so grateful.”

So, please, live beyond yourself and start acting. Clara Barton acted in 1881. It’s 2012. That one life is still changing the world. Go for it, you can do it too! In fact, start now. With the donation of even just \$3, the American Red Cross is able to provide a comfort kit to an individual in need of basic necessities. In addition to donating, consider helping at the East Georgia chapter of Red Cross, located on Pulaski Street. We are always looking for new volunteers, interns, and members of SARC (Students for the American Red Cross)!

Most college students come to Athens to GET things- an education, a good time, memories. Why don’t you change the status quo and be someone who came to give?

## MARCH IS RED CROSS MONTH



**American  
Red Cross**

# Athensboard.com

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Daily Deals!



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Congratulations to  
UGA Miracle for raising  
more than \$3 million  
in 17 years to benefit  
Children’s Healthcare of  
Atlanta...all while dancing  
the night away!

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## Philanthropy Calendar

See what is going on around town and who is doing good in Athens on our website. Submit your organization’s events, too!  
[www.thechapelbell.weebly.com](http://www.thechapelbell.weebly.com)



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# TCB CHALLENGE

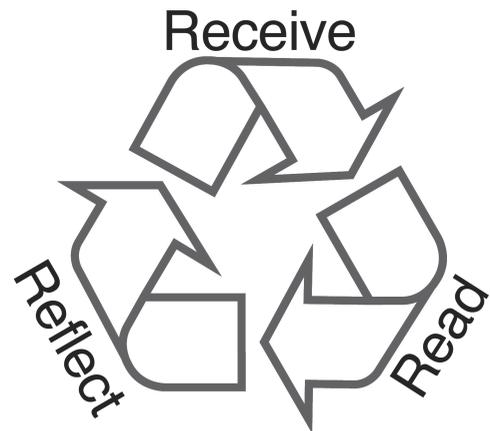
## Allie's Inspiration:

"When do we really stop and consider the people who are a part of our lives? For me, the answer is when something massive and significant happens—whether good or bad—to them or to me. I've recently realized that the people in my life are not simply familiar figures; they are incredible souls who have truly made my life into what it is now. When I stop and think of all the people who have somehow impacted my 18 years of life, all I want to do is make a positive difference in someone else's life. Why not?"

This issue's The Chapel Bell Challenge winner is Allie Windom. Though she is just a freshman, Allie is eager to dive right into all that UGA has to offer. She is pursuing degrees in Spanish and Public Relations, and hopes to make a lasting, positive impact upon as many people as possible during her time here at UGA. In her free time, she likes to knit, blog, and play the guitar. She loves Jesus, Post-it notes, and coffee.



# RECYCLE TCB



While we are all about being environmentally friendly, we hope you will recycle your TCB in a different way: pass it on to a friend! Give someone else the chance to be inspired.

### HOW TO CONTRIBUTE: THE CHAPEL BELL CHALLENGE

Like what you see?

Then take the Chapel Bell Challenge online at [www.thechapelbell.weebly.com](http://www.thechapelbell.weebly.com). If you inspire us, you can inspire others! Your 100 words of inspiration could be featured on our website or in our next issue.

Good Luck  
on your  
MIDTERMS.

We have the notes you  
need to ace those midterms.  
Get an "A" so you can enjoy  
spring break.

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