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COLUMNS



Punk culture has died

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With so many cultural role models to choose from, our internalized rules are subject to change. The great counterculture icons of the 1960s replace today's traditional authorities by idealizing unrestricted sex, recreational drug use and a carefree attitude. Artists like Wiz Khalifa, MGMT and Kid Cudi gain popularity in a new suburban stoner demographic. Although the vibrant hippie culture has been inherited, the once-strong punk craze has yet to enjoy a revival. The new hippies have taken a cafeteria style selection of values from the past. They dish up free love and routine drug use, while ignoring the main course, political activism with disregard to the government. The result is hedonism—doing what feels good whenever it feels right. But the punk movement, man: it was actually about being anti-establishment.

The cultural mantra that anyone, (and I mean *anyone*) can play guitar is dead. Our generation was poisoned by flukes like Green Day, who candy-coated the punk aesthetic to be easily digestible by viewers of the Disney Channel. The few remaining real punk bands don't enjoy mainstream coverage hiding under indie rock or hardcore labels, which leaves nonconformists to find refuge in the simplicity of recreational drug use or the confusing tenets of hipster culture (or both).

The revisionist history of American counterculture will tell only of the great strides made by icons, leaving the gnarling punk frontmen virtually forgotten.



Brains are good-- brains and charm are better

Branden Labarowski | Staff Writer

On August 24, 2011, Steve Jobs, in the midst of a long bout with pancreatic cancer, resigned from his position as the CEO of Apple Inc.

What does this mean to me?

Well, as a Windows user, not a lot. But for our society as a whole, it's significant. Steve Jobs is the epitome of the modern-day visionary—not because of his intelligence or his dedication, but because of the sheer lack of work he's been able to build an \$8.3 billion empire on.

When Steve Jobs, Ronald Wayne and Steve Wozniak first banded together to form Apple, Job's didn't actually do a lot of work. Instead, it was Wozniak who built and programmed the "Apple I" entirely by hand. And, needless to say, he doesn't get any respect for it.

Although everybody remembers Steve Jobs, nobody remembers Steve Wozniak. It's a bit sad that the smart, passionate employee of the partnership has faded into obscurity while the money-grubbing salesman has achieved worldwide fame. But it's also a bit realistic.

As I enter my senior year, I can't help but think that I've spent a disturbing amount of my high school career sitting in the back and keeping quiet. I'm pleased with how my GPA is turning out, but I'm beginning to realize that conventional intelligence isn't the only thing that matters on college and job applications. If I had dared to get more involved and take a greater leadership role, I wouldn't just be a more marketable person—I'd also be more at terms with myself.

Maybe, I'd even grow up to be the next Steve Jobs. I get the feeling that, when Jobs was a student, he probably wasn't an overachieving nerd who channeled every ounce of his energy into acing his optional Pre-Calc homework. Instead, he probably spent class time cracking jokes, talking with friends and in general thinking about everything in the world but Pre-Calc. After all, Jobs was never a genius so much as he was the perfect "mascot" for his company, an individualistic leader who put the "I" in iPod.

In the cutthroat corporate world we live in, the real top dogs aren't the Steve Wozniaks, the passionate ones who toil away night after night to get by. It might seem unfair, but most often it's the charismatic Steve Jobs figureheads who rise above the faceless numbers. Now, more than ever, personality and leadership aren't just traits—they're invaluable skills.

There's nothing all that wrong with being a follower; after all, the world needs its Wozniaks. But if we aim to become multi-millionaires, then it certainly wouldn't hurt to adopt a little of that "Jobs charm."

WHAT YOU THINK

Now that we've been through A.L.I.C.E. training, what would be your plan of action?



"Depending on what class I had, I would probably throw my binder or textbook at [the shooter] and try to get him down on the ground. Then, [I would] run out of the room."
Sarah Jane Sambor, freshman

"If the shooter was in the room, I'd probably hide in the corner. If the shooter was in the hallway...I'd probably try to remain calm... [and] get out."
Marti Sumrall, junior



"I would probably throw my text book, and then jump out the window."
Jimmy Slyby, sophomore



"I would barricade the door. ...I guess try to stop the shooter with a textbook."
Amir Karaman, freshman



"In a real situation... I'd be the first one to leave. I'd start running and I'd hope that everyone else was okay."
Khara Walker, senior



"If a shooter did enter...my first response would be to tackle the attacker... because if you run away, you're just going to leave someone else in danger."
Cyrus Yang, senior

