

Surgeon General recalls Obama campaign paraphernalia

By Christ Roberts
COPY GOD

According to studies conducted by numerous universities and research institutes, hope, a popular mental sensation widely credited for providing peace-of-mind and giving people the strength to overcome hardship, has been found to be clinically identical to a placebo.

One study, conducted at Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) by the university's political science department, incorporated data from case studies of unemployment and qualitative research of public confidence in national institutions to demonstrate the ineffectiveness of hope, particularly highlighting the its inability to reduce the national deficit.

Researchers concluded that the feeling of assurance for a positive outcome could potentially lead those affected to neglect treatment. In most subjects, hope was found to have a illusory effect—subjects left “feeling” better despite suffering previous

symptoms and not seeking proper treatment.

Prompted by these findings, as well as strong pressure from congressional Republicans, the United States Surgeon General has ordered that all Barack Obama presidential campaign posters containing references to or traces amounts of hope be recalled immediately.

TechNews spoke with a representative of the Office of the Surgeon General about the recall decision. “While our office appreciates the public's widespread excitement and support for Obama's message of hope and change, we cannot in good conscience continue to promote such an unproven medication for the nation's ills.”

The representative assured TechNews that campaign materials referring to change will not be recalled. “However, such materials will be inspected to ensure that hopeful content is below federal limits.”

Numerous Tea Party protests have been scheduled nationwide to condemn hope as radically liberal and contrary to traditional American values. One pro-

tester declared, quoting the Declaration of Independence, “Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of happiness!... Do you see “hope” there? Because I sure don't!”

Despite some calls for Obama to either resign or be impeached for promoting the use of such an alternative treatment for both foreign and domestic problems, the American public remains largely supportive of the president's emotion-based policies.

TechNews political analysts have concluded that the public's continued support for hope is based less on confidence that Obama will improve their lot and more on opposition to how Republicans have responded to the recall: most notably being Republican presidential candidate Rick Santorum changing his campaign slogan from “Fighting to make America America again” to “Santorum 2012: Abandon Hope All Ye Who Enter Here.”



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We'll all might as well grab some soup on the way to hell.

New disease sweeping across college campuses

By Ryan Heinz
AS OPINIONATED AS EVER

Bike messenger bags are a great and very convenient way to carry all of your crap. They're rugged, durable, and they don't fall off when you ride. These bags were originally designed to be functional and highly practical, but they have evolved to become a fashion statement as well.

Now, people who have never actually ridden a bike are buying them to carrying around their Macbook pros and DSLR cameras. These people, these scumbags, are a blight to society, and a menace to enlightened culture everywhere.

Worse than those scumbags who don't have a bike but have a messenger bag, are the thoughtless multitudes of those who ride fixies and old Schwinn's that they found in their grandparents' garages. These are the same people that roll up the cuff on their pants,

even when they aren't riding a bike. This same peculiar species of transplant hipster likes to flip through Pinterest in their free time, and insists on drinking PBR or Coconut Water.

For most of these people, it is their first time in a large metropolitan area, and in a desperate effort to fit in, they conform to what they perceive as the societal norms, but what are nothing more than the superficial projections of a select few. Smoking American Spirits, or worse, rolling your own, isn't cool, and is a waste of

your time and money. If you think LPs sound better than high quality digital audio, and you suddenly decide that free trade coffee tastes better than the cheap stuff, you've probably already succumbed to Fatally Urban Conformity Kamphuisis.

Fear not however, there is a known and highly effective antidote: employment. So get a haircut, brush your teeth, and get some clothes that actually fit, and go out there and start contributing to society instead of being a pimple on its ass.

ASB? More like ASEmbezzlers!

Our star reporter, Utsav Gandhi, gives TechNews the inside scoop

By Utsav Gandhi
BIG-MAN-ON-CAMPUS EDITOR

I remember giving you this advice last year too—when Alternative Spring Break declares applications open for the annual trip, don't think twice: Apply. Following last year's unforgettable extravaganza in Cancun, Mexico, this year's participants clamored for a similarly sunny tropical paradise. Fundraising endeavors included soliciting unsuspecting students, staff and families to go as far out as publicly pie their friends in order to raise money. This year, in fact, the trip had a new dimension to it—ASB was a recognized student org, which meant extra funding from the SAF. Over the course of the year, team meetings were held behind highly secretive closed doors and instead of serious fundraising coordination all that the team needed to focus on was playing icebreakers to encourage some team bonding before the trip. One could almost say that in our inherent sense of guilt-free pleasure, the buildup to the trip was almost as much fun as the trip.

Or maybe not. The trip turned out to be the 'stuff dreams are made of'. Valdo-sta? That's like the middle of nowhere for people used to the bustle of Chicago. No, this year's destination, as can be seen in the widely smiling faces in the accompanying picture, was the spring break party capital: Miami. It is positively impossible to quantify the amount of steam let off (literally) by the overworked architects and engineering students during the course of the week.

The highlight of the trip had to be the three nights the group spent on the chartered boats. Butler services, scuba diving in artificial reefs, nocturnal tarpon fishing (a once-in-a-lifetime experience, highly recommended for those who are fortunate enough to visit Miami,

SAF funded or not), midnight kayaking, snorkeling in the Biscayne Bay, swimming with dolphins at the Miami Seaquarium, renting personal wave runners and taking windsurfing lessons. None of these will be found on the photo albums we have uploaded on Facebook, simply because what happens in Miami stays in Miami (until you read this).

We had fun on the land too. The nearby Oleta State Park had over six miles of singletrack trails that have been developed exclusively for mountain bikes, and everyone, including staff, had great fun with this activity. The 'Ruff N Tuff' Paintball Facility had two outdoor fields under a canopy of pine trees. The forest-like fields gave us an adrenaline rush as we moved from bunker to bunker through the thick brush. Speaking of adrenaline rush, the more adventurous members of our contingent also tried tandem parachute jumps over Miami Beach. We took out time to visit one of the top indoor rock climbing gyms in the country, one filled with extreme obstacles spread across 14,000 square feet.

Personally though, one activity mattered more than all of the above put together. We got to spend an entire day at the Everglades National Park, but this was more than just the run-of-the-mill 'sit calmly on a boat with binoculars and let the tour guides keep talking' kind of a trip. We got to try—hold your breath—zip lining over alligator-infested waters! If there was ever any daredevil hidden inside any of us, that's when it manifested. A Spanish tourist compared it to the famous bull fighting sport. I thought it was much more than that. Hundreds of feet in the air, zip lining for the first time, 800lb 13-foot long alligators swimming below. As I looked down, all I could do at that moment was to thank the SAF. And, essentially, all of you.



Students enjoying an SAF-funded trip to Miami