

The Cavalier Daily

Monday, December 3, 2012

Partly Cloudy. High 68, Low 45 See A3

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Boating accident takes Schulman's life

22-year-old Semester at Sea participant sustains injuries during recreational snorkeling incident one week before return home

By Michelle Davis
Cavalier Daily News Editor

Fourth-year College student Casey Schulman died upon arrival at a local hospital on the Caribbean Island of Dominica Saturday after being struck by a boat.

Her friends would remember her as a loving individual whose smile could light up a room, second-year Architecture student Allie Iaccarino said. "She never spoke a bad word about anyone and always lent a helping hand," Iaccarino said.

The 22-year-old Foreign Affairs major had spent 14 weeks with the University's Semester at Sea program and was set to return to the United States this upcoming Friday.

Schulman and other students organized and embarked on a snorkeling trip Saturday after-

Please see **Boating**, Page A3

London fires coaches

Cavaliers reorganize staff, dismiss Reid, Hanson, Faragalli, Moore

By Fritz Metzinger
Cavalier Daily Senior Associate Editor

In a shocking move Sunday morning, coach Mike London announced the departure of Jim Reid, associate head coach and defensive coordinator, Jeff Hanson defensive line coach and recruiting coordinator, running backs coach Mike Faragalli and tight ends coach Shawn Moore.

Anthony Poindexter, special teams coordinator and safeties coach, will remain on staff but will no longer handle special teams duties.

The statement arrived just one day after news surfaced that junior quarterback Michael Rocco has received an official release from the school and will transfer after this semester.

"After conducting a complete evaluation of the program and discussing my thoughts with administration, there are a number of areas we need to improve on and it starts with me as the head coach," London said in a statement. "The decision to release these four coaches is very difficult, but one I feel is necessary in order to meet the goals we have set for the Virginia football program."

All four fired coaches have coached on London's staff since he accepted the Virginia head coaching position in December 2009. Hanson and Faragalli worked under

London during the 2008 and 2009 seasons at Richmond, and London actually coached under Reid at Richmond during the 1995 and 1996 seasons.

The changes significantly affect all three units for Virginia, with London indicating a desire for across-the-board improvement as the impetus for the firings.

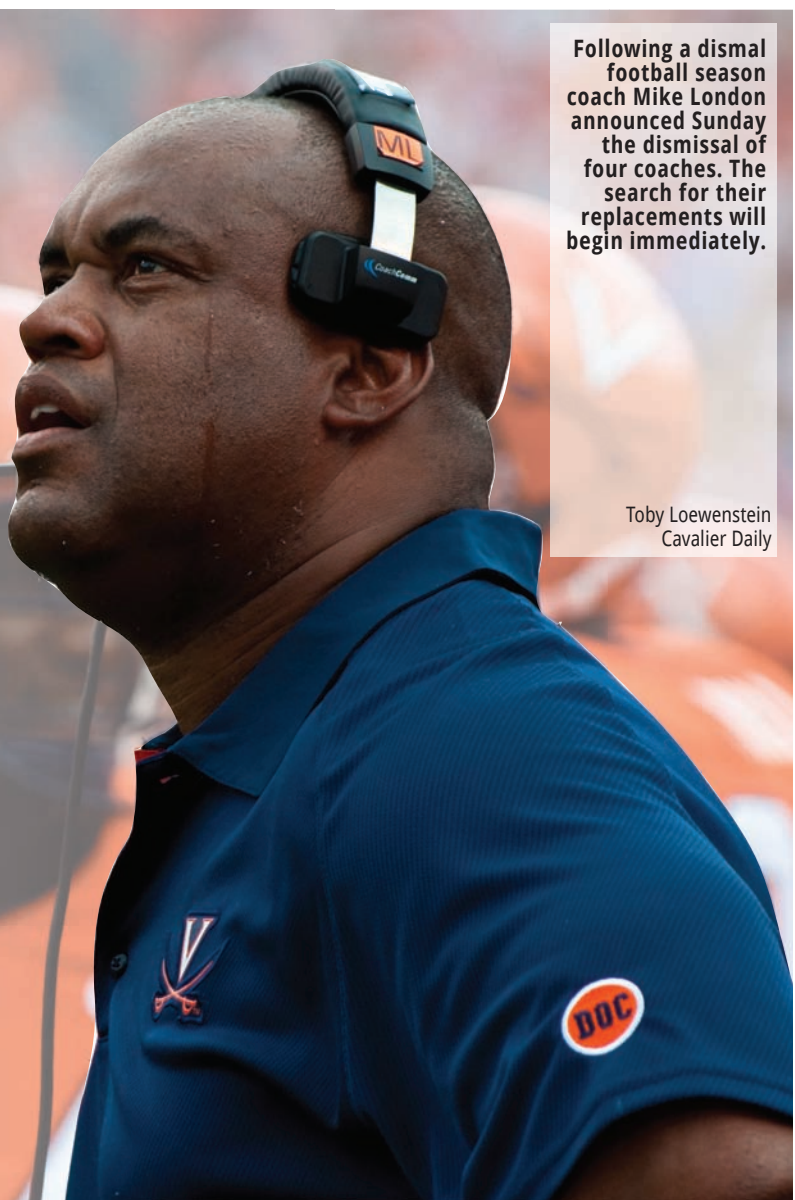
"My primary task is to continue to evaluate this program and take the necessary steps to make us successful on the field," London said. "This University and its fans deserve a program that competes for championships. In order to do that we need to make improvements in every aspect of our football operation."

The search to fill each vacated position will commence immediately, according to the press release. London said he does not plan to comment on the matter until the search is completed.

Cavalier Daily staff are still seeking comments from the former Virginia football coaches. Poindexter declined to comment, at least until "everything dies down."

The total buyout for the coaches totals \$1.36 million and will be paid in equal monthly installments until the conclusions of their respective contracts, pending any future coaching jobs the four decide to pursue.

The Athletics Department, which does not receive state funding, will foot the bill.



Faulkner biographer dies

Former University Prof. Joseph Blotner makes lasting contribution to department

By Matthew Comey
Cavalier Daily Senior Writer

Former University Prof. Joseph Blotner, a renowned William Faulkner biographer, passed away Nov. 16 at the age of 89. Blotner is credited for leading the effort to bring Faulkner to the University's English department.

Blotner and Faulkner grew close in their time together at the University, a relationship that provided Blotner with the expertise needed to construct his comprehensive two-volume biography. The book is considered by many academics as essential to the study of Faulkner.

"Everyone who does work on Faulkner is indebted to Blotner's work, whether it be writing a

Former University Prof. Joseph Blotner, right, led the effort to bring Nobel Prize winner William Faulkner to the University's English department as the University's first writer-in-resident in 1957.

Courtesy Faulkner at Virginia

Please see **Blotner**, Page A3

Metallica supports Harrington fund

Rock band's T-shirt campaign helps raise \$17,000, remembers murdered Virginia Tech student

Rock band Metallica has helped raise \$17,000 for the Morgan Harrington Scholarship Fund since it partnered with the Virginia Tech bookstore in October to allow the school to sell "Enter Sandman" shirts.

Former Virginia Tech student Morgan Harrington went missing in Oct. 2009 after attending a Metallica concert at John Paul Jones Arena.

The most recent partnership between the band and Harrington family led to the creation of the of maroon and orange colored T-shirts that included the Metallica lyrics "Enter Sandman".

The Morgan Harrington Scholarship Fund, to which all shirt proceeds go, sponsors students studying with Virginia Tech's Carilion School of Medicine and Research Institute, where Morgan used to work.

Virginia Tech Bookstore Associate Director David Wilson said he is thrilled about the initiative's success.

"It's kind of exciting, and there has been really good interest in it," Wilson said. "So far, everything has gone really well."

The short sleeved version of the shirt sells for \$19.99 and the long sleeve version for \$24.99 at the Virginia Tech Bookstore.

—compiled by Anna Perina

Baumgartner wins social media race

Vonage, OpenGrounds innovation competition draws 38 teams; first-year garners \$25,000 grand prize

By Andrew Stewart
Cavalier Daily Senior Writer

The University in collaboration with communications service provider Vonage announced the winners of the Vonage-OpenGrounds "Future of Social Messaging Concept Competition" Friday.

Thirty-eight student teams competed for the \$25,000 in prize money, pitching their ideas about the next generation of social messaging.

Vonage Chief Executive Officer Mark Lefar, a 1985 gradu-

ate of the Commerce school, announced the winner — first-year Engineering student Brent Baumgartner, who designed "Attendar." Baumgartner envisioned a medium that allowed individuals to exchange their thoughts and experiences about certain events and issues on a shared platform.

"The concept came to me when I went to concerts at Charlottesville Live — people are taking a lot of photos, pictures and putting them on their own Face-

Please see **Vonage**, Page A3



Thirty-eight student teams competed for \$25,000 of prize money as part of the Vonage-OpenGrounds "Future of Social Messaging Concept" competition. First-year Engineering student Brent Baumgartner won Friday.

Will Brumas
Cavalier Daily

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Three-Day Weather Forecast

Provided by the Cavalier Weather Service

 TODAY High of 68 °	 TONIGHT Low of 45 °	 TOMORROW High of 68 °	 TOMORROW NIGHT Low of 46 °	 WEDNESDAY High of 59 °
Morning fog lifting around 10 a.m., and otherwise partly cloudy skies.	Partly cloudy, with calm south winds.	Mostly sunny skies, with southwest winds around 6 to 11 mph.	Partly cloudy skies with southwest winds around 3 mph.	Clearing skies throughout the day, with winds around 6 mph.
High pressure will build in today into tomorrow, creating warm temperatures in the upper 60s. Yet another frontal boundary will move through Tuesday evening into Wednesday, and we can expect temperatures to cool after this front moves through.				To receive Cavalier Weather Service forecasts via email, contact weather@virginia.edu

Boating | Schulman was Alpha Phi sister, volunteer tutor

Continued from page A1

noon independent from Semester at Sea activities, according to a University-wide email sent out Saturday evening by Vice President Patricia Lampkin,

the University’s Chief Student Affairs Officer.

The group of students hired a boat for the excursion, and Schulman was struck by the boat’s propeller as the captain was driving in reverse, an

Associated Press reporter said Sunday evening.

A commemorative service was planned aboard the Semester at Sea ship for Sunday evening to honor Schulman.

Schulman was a sister of Alpha

Phi sorority, played intramural sports, tutored and worked at The Backyard for several years before the Charlottesville restaurant closed this summer, her mother Margaret Schulman said Sunday afternoon.

“She was the light of everybody’s life; she really just brought the sunshine in the room,” her mother said. “She made the most of every single day. She was probably the kindest person I ever knew.”

Blotner | Similar war experiences connect two writers

Continued from page A1

new biography or writing on Faulkner’s work,” English Prof. Stephen Railton said.

Blotner and fellow English Prof. Frederick Gwynn worked hard to make Faulkner the University’s first writer-in-residence in 1957, battling skeptics at the University who criticized Faulkner’s notorious drinking habits.

“There were many people at the University who did not want him here, including some in the English department,” Railton said of

Faulkner. “He was a Nobel Prize winner at that point and many people regarded him as the best American novelist, but his drinking was a controversial issue.”

Blotner and Faulkner bonded over similar war experiences — Faulkner served in Canada’s Royal Air force during World War I, and Blotner served in the United States Army Air Forces during World War II. Blotner was captured in Germany and held in a prisoner-of-war camp for more than six months after his plane was shot down. His

account of this experience was included in Faulkner’s novel, “The Mansion.”

“Blotner clearly liked the guy enormously and was happy to spend the rest of career helping the rest of us understand Faulkner,” Railton said.

In addition to his work on Faulkner, Blotner later published a biography of American poet and novelist Robert Penn Warren. Like with Faulkner, Blotner was fortunate enough to have a personal relationship with Warren.

In a 2007 interview Blotner openly attributed part of his success to luck.

“In the Army I had been stationed in the South and had many Southern friends,” Blotner said. “But teaching here at the University of Virginia, everything changed for me when Faulkner came as writer-in-residence. Once that million-to-one shot came to pass, I would have been something less than human if I had not pursued that. So luck has played an enormous part in my experience.”

Although Blotner is most well known for his biographies, his other well-recognized work includes “The Fiction of J.D. Salinger” and “Modern American Political Novel.” His work earned him a Guggenheim fellowship and membership in the French Legion of Honor.

Blotner married twice — his first wife, Yvonne Wright, died in 1990, and his second wife, Marnie C. Allen, died in 2006. Blotner is survived by his daughters Tracy and Pamela and a granddaughter.

Vonage | Winning proposals identify, meet consumer need

Continued from page A1

book page,” Baumgartner said. “It would be great if we could get a platform where they can share their ideas with others and we

could see it.”

The panel evaluated the proposals on several criteria: whether the concept identified and filled a consumer need and whether the idea was implementable.

The group of seven finalists pitched their ideas Thursday to a panel of judges comprised of corporate executives and prominent venture capitalists.

The winners will now have to commercialize their ideas as part of the competition, Lefar said.

“OpenGrounds was created to be a catalyst for this kind of

innovation at the University,” OpenGrounds Director Bill Sherman said. “We are encouraging thinking in new ways and we certainly saw the fruits of that today.”

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The Cavalier Daily

"For here we are not afraid to follow truth wherever it may lead, nor to tolerate any error so long as reason is left free to combat it."

—Thomas Jefferson

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Rammed out

VCU should undertake a thorough investigation of the firing of a gay coach

The former coach of Virginia Commonwealth University's volleyball team, James Finley, is aggrieved because he believes the school fired him for being gay. Finley, who was fired Nov. 19, has since filed charges with the school's Office for Institutional Equity. An investigation is forthcoming, and should that prove unsuccessful in reinstating Finley he may look to the law for support. Although evidence is not conclusive for why Finley was fired, the lack of justification demands the school investigate why the coach was let go.

Typically, an athletic coach is fired for poor performance — as when Virginia football coach Mike London dropped three coaches Sunday. Poor performance is also the stated reason for why VCU removed Finley, one day after the season had ended. "Our program needs a different direction and different leadership to attain our goals of achieving at an elite level nationally," said Ed McLaughlin, the athletic director, in the school's press release. Finley, however, said the athletic director told him the decision had nothing to do with his record when the two parties met. Finley said it was the first time McLaughlin had spoken to him since the director took over in August. Finley, who is openly gay — he and his husband attend VCU games — said the director had gone out of his way to ignore him. Considering that VCU's athletic department has been mum on the issue, for various

personnel reasons, Finley's depiction of things stands as the most compelling evidence that the firing was prejudice-based.

The numbers give credence to Finley's contention that he was fired for out-of-bounds reasons. This year, the team finished with 25 wins and 6 losses — the best season since Finley arrived in 2005. The team was 6-21 that year — one of the worst clubs in the conference. Finley led the Rams to success in the Colonial Athletic Association and eventually into the more competitive Atlantic-10. This year, the team's first in the conference, saw the Rams make the Atlantic-10 semifinals. One day after their tournament exit, and eight years after coming to Richmond, Finley was told to get out.

Finley is adamant the firing was non-sports related. To various news outlets he has cited his team's stellar athletic rise and academic success. And though his case cannot be certainly known, his testimony speaks to a director who wouldn't accept him. Sexuality being an especially difficult topic in sports — where athletes face the possibility of groupthink and an atypical pressure to embrace certain physical norms — if Finley was fired because he was gay, it would indicate a major step backward for VCU and college sports as a whole. His former employer should grant him the privilege of a full investigation and reinstate him if he was fired on unethical grounds.

Featured online reader comment

"A very moving and uplifting piece in a sportsworld where writers bash a guy like Mark Richt right after he loses the biggest game of his life for 'not winning any big ones.' You are right Virginia won't win a national title this year but it's fun to root for a team of great people led by a man who values the right things in life. They are also getting better with each game and they will do some damage in the ACC."

"Vinnie T.," responding to Fritz Metzinger's Dec. 1 column, "Why Saturday was important"

Concerned?

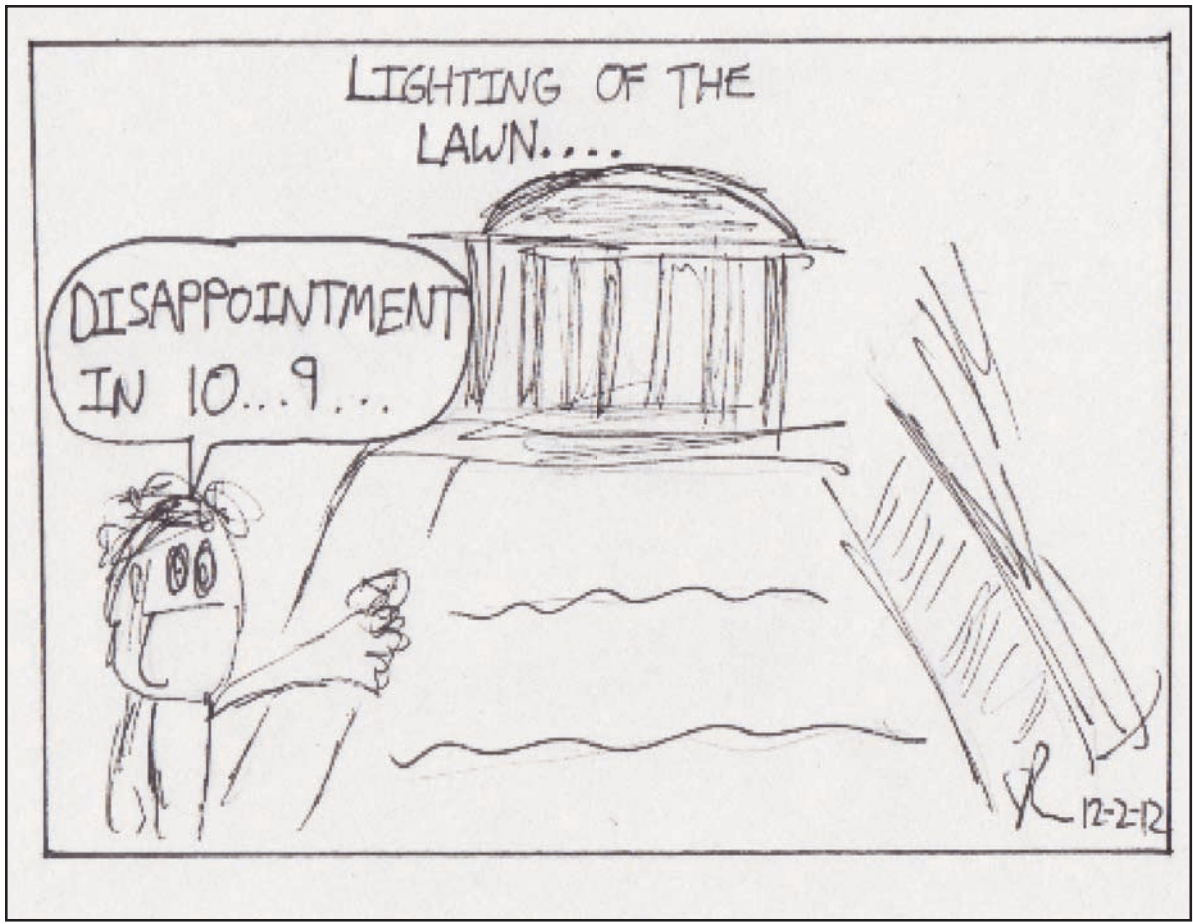
Write a letter to the editor today!

opinion@cavalierdaily.com

Letters should not exceed 250 words.



Editorial Cartoon by Stephen Rowe



The end isn't near

The fears about 2012 being the end of the world are overblown and unscientific

AMIDST the stress of last minute assignments and final exams, it seems the Mayans have given us one more reason to be anxious. The 5,125-year-long cycle in the Mesoamerican Long Count calendar is thought to end on December 21, 2012, which people believe signifies the end of the world or some other huge catastrophe. Yet while people are packing their survival kits and preparing for disaster, I disagree that this date has any significance whatsoever.

Television shows like Domsday Preppers on the National Geographic Channel and other forms of media that promote belief in the end of the world are just unnecessary hype around the supposed doomsday. I say "supposed" because there is no credible evidence that December 21, 2012 is truly the end of the world, other than an ancient calendar; a calendar that may not be correct according to recent findings. The belief that the Mayan calendar ends on December 21, 2012 was actually disproved recently by a discovery by William Saturno of Boston University. According to USA TODAY Saturno and his peers found Mayan wall drawings that show the world does not in fact end on this date, but survives well beyond 2012. So while people such as those on "Doomsday Preppers" are teaching themselves survival techniques and planning for catastrophe, all their fear is unfounded because the world is

not going to end.

If you do not believe me, then maybe you will believe professionals. A recent article from NASA.gov disagreed with apocalypse believers and argued that the Mayan calendar is no indication of the end of the world. The scientists in the article asked, "Where is the science? Where is the evidence?" And to answer their questions, there is none. There is no credible indication for any of these doomsday assertions, yet some people continue to believe.

Those who argue that the world is going to end have many different theories as to how, but one of the most common beliefs is that a planet or brown dwarf called Nibiru is nearing the Earth and will destroy Earth as it approaches. Responding to this theory, NASA scientists said that there is no factual basis for these claims and that "[i]f Nibiru were real and headed for an encounter with the Earth in 2012, astronomers would have been tracking it for at least the past decade, and it would be visible by now to the naked eye."

It appears to me that if NASA does not believe the world is going to end, then December 21, 2012 is nothing to be afraid of. However, that does not mean we should not be cautious on that date. Although the world is not going to end, there are still people who believe it will, and with no definite future in sight those people might act irrationally. December 21, 2012,

although not the end of the world, may still be dangerous. I predict a possible increase in alcohol and drug abuse, which could result in unsafe situations. Substance abuse is common for those trying to combat nervousness because alcohol and drugs suppress those negative emotions. In such a hopeless situation as 'the end of the world,' nervous emotions and stress will be running high and according to Emma Childs, a researcher at the University of Chicago, "Stress may also alter the way that alcohol makes us feel in a way that increases the likelihood of drinking more alcohol." This may be true on December 21, and alcohol abuse could very well be rampant. That means being out in public at this time, specifically driving, could be very dangerous. In addition, I have already been informed of many 'end of the world' parties that will be taking place on the 21st and I can only assume that these parties will provide copious amounts of alcohol and elicit unwise and foolish behavior. So while packing a survival kit is not necessary, we should all still be alert and prepared for possible dangers on this date. Aside from being cautious, though, just focus on final exams and direct your stress toward school; there is no reason to worry about December 21 because the world will not end in 2012.

Meredith Berger's column appears Mondays in The Cavalier Daily. She can be reached m.berger@cavalierdaily.com.

THE CD

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The ombudsman is available at ombud@cavalierdaily.com.

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A more liberal education

General education requirements restrict a truly free learning environment and detract from their intended purpose

THOMAS JEFFERSON, in a letter written December 26, 1820, expressed his hope that the University he was creating would “be based on the illimitable freedom of the human mind, to explore and to expose every subject susceptible of its contemplation.” He wished to educate the youth of Virginia and beyond in a “broad and liberal and modern” fashion. Many people will cite the preceding quotes in support of the general education program at the University, as validation of competency and degree requirements.

In my opinion, these people are missing the point. I love this University, and I respect the decisions that have been made in structuring our curriculum. I admire that we aim to endow every graduate with a strong liberal arts education. I do not think, however, that general education requirements are the most effective means by which to achieve this goal. I would propose, not only for our University but for all institutions of higher learning, a complete lack of general education requirements — with the one caveat that the writing requirement remains intact — much like Brown University has implemented with

ASHLEY SPINKS
OPINION COLUMNIST

its Open Curriculum. When Thomas Jefferson wrote of the freedom of the human mind, he meant it in the most literal, idealistic sense. No limits should be imposed on our inherent curiosity and our pre-disposed interests. General education requirements, while they may encourage broad study, fail to encourage passionate study or even to cultivate an appreciation for what broadness in education can offer.

Proponents of the general education system argue that undergraduates need time to explore various interests before they are expected to commit to a degree program, and to some extent I agree. I know that personally, I have changed dramatically since arriving at the University, and taking classes in a wide variety of departments during my first semester facilitated that change and growth. However, I entered college with a multitude of interests already. I was intrigued by more topics than I could ever logically study in four years’ time. Degree programs typically require between 30 and 45 credit hours, while students need a total of 120 to graduate. Rather than dictating that an additional 46 credits be accounted for by way of require-

ments, why not allow students to control their own academic discovery? Broadness for its own sake will accomplish little — if students are not engaged in what they are learning, their education was for naught. Additionally, with the credits and time we would gain from eliminating the degree requirements, we could more easily pursue a second major or specialize more fully in our chosen area of study. We could learn comprehensively, but with our own interests in mind. Pre-medical students, for example, could take classes in bioethics, the history of medicine, philosophy and public policy to better understand their eventual occupation. Those 46 credits could result in a tangible accomplishment rather than simply the completion of a haphazard cluster of assigned classes, especially if students were to take advantage of the University’s strong advising network. Not everyone arrives at college with a concrete plan, but most do arrive with interests and unanswered questions that they are determined to solve. General education requirements may stifle

“It is virtually impossible to define what exactly an educated adult ought to know.”

that inspired state of being.

My main opposition to general education requirements of any sort stems from the fact that it’s virtually impossible to define what exactly an educated adult ought to know. The selection of certain areas of study over others, while it may seem logical, is arbitrary at best and completely misguided at worst. Why is it, for instance, that math and science comprise almost one-fourth of the degree requirements at the University? In modern society, have skills in math and science gained value due to an advent of new technologies? Yes. But does that value still hold if you’re a theatre major? No; in the field of acting, this knowledge has very little marketability. We assign importance to particular disciplines based on societal and personal preferences. If you asked me, for instance, I would say that any well-educated adult should understand the basic structure of the government and economic policy, be able to explain various scientific theories, and be capable of communication through writing. But I say these things from a biased

perspective; I am an intended Government major, pre-med, and I write for a newspaper as my main extracurricular. The type of disciplines that will be beneficial to one student based on his personal values and life aspirations may be useless for another.

In closing, I’ll offer another perspective. Technically speaking, we are adults. We should be trusted to handle our own educational decisions. Beyond that, we — and possibly our parents — are the ones paying for our educations. We are paying to be here and to take classes, so in return for our patronage we should receive intellectual fulfillment. College shouldn’t feel like high school — four years of fulfilling graduation requirements and checking classes off a list. College is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to indulge completely in your academic fascinations to be in an environment where your ambitions will be fostered and your primary responsibility is to yourself and your studies.

General education requirements are simply not conducive to maintaining that atmosphere.

Ashley Spinks’s column appears Mondays in *The Cavalier Daily*. She can be reached at a.spinks@cavalierdaily.com.

(In)come as you are

The University should above all else maintain its commitment to granting access to low-income students

THE CAVALIER Daily recently reported on a joint meeting of the Board of Visitors’ Financial and Educational Policy committees (“University financial aid program beats out competitors,” Nov. 10). The consultancy group it hired issued a lengthy report of proposed changes to AccessUVA, which we later picked through for nearly an hour on the University Financial Aid Committee. Comments from the Board took nearly as long. Meanwhile, one of the only things The Cavalier Daily piece reported was that the University of Virginia is underpriced compared to its peer institutions. But there are other critical elements to the decision of whether to raise tuition on middle class families at the University or, worse, whether to cut back on the University’s commitment to bright low-income students. None of them were reported.

For one, there are concerns

BRENDAN WYNN
GUEST VIEWPOINT

about state funding. Pat Hogan, the University’s new Executive Vice President and COO, expressed that there is an “[u]ncertain climate surrounding state and federal funding.” When many of our Board members and members of the General Assembly attended the University, the state met the majority of the school’s costs per pupil. As pointed out repeatedly in this meeting, that is not true today.

Even if the Board does decide middle class families should have to pay even more than the \$25,000 or so it costs to attend the University, that might not matter. As Senior Advisor to the Board Bill Goodwin noted, “We’re in an environment in this state where any tuition increase is going to be met with trouble in [Richmond].” If tuition increases aren’t an option, what else can the Board propose? Beyond hinting at lowering the poverty line criterion to include fewer

students, Rector Helen Dragas also noted, “We don’t have a budget cap on this program, and so it’s grown rapidly. When you have a program that’s costing so much money, some consider whether there should be a budget cap going forward.”

At the University Financial Aid Committee, it became evident that Student Financial Services could soon require a Minimum Student Contribution of \$1600 to keep financial aid costs down — meaning that for very low-income students with an Estimated Family Contribution of \$0, the University would assume they could contribute the money anyway. If they can’t, they’ll have to decide what they want to go without, maybe books or food. Even if President Sullivan implements the robust work-study program at the University

“As the University still struggles... it should at least keep its full commitment to low income students in good faith.”

where students have an opportunity to do real work in their chosen fields, as she mentioned at the joint committee meeting, these students would still need to find a second job to bring that minimum contribution each year.

What does that all mean? The University is already planning not to keep its full commitment to all of the bright, qualified applicants who are unable to afford the more than \$25,000 a year that the University currently costs. This hardly seems fair. Neither does asking more of middle class students who already take out nearly \$1 billion dollars in student loans each year in Virginia alone. The current 200 percent poverty line criterion means that a family of four making \$44,000 a year is eligible for AccessUVA. Lower the poverty

line criterion, and that family of four is suddenly responsible for a yearly tuition quickly approaching their entire yearly income.

The University made a commitment to make the University accessible to every qualified applicant who is offered admission. Now it seems evident that if the University cannot raise tuition rates on middle class families, it will have to break that commitment to bright low-income students who deserve the opportunity that the University can afford them. As the University still struggles to pay all of its workers a living wage, still wants a Board that represents its community down to the very lowest paid member, and still wants for true Jeffersonian egalitarianism, it should at least keep its full commitment to low income students in good faith. Anything less seems outrageous. So does not reporting on it.

Brendan Wynn is a third year in the College.

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National Gas Average: \$3.391

82.475 Yen = \$ 1

1 Euro = \$ 1.2986

1 British Pound = \$ 1.6013



Astrid Riecken | The Washington Post

SANTAS PREPARE FOR SEASON'S GREETINGS

With the help of a hair stylist, John Parks colors his black hair and beard white to play the role of Santa Claus. He repeats the procedure several times during the holiday season to conceal newly grown black hair.

Syria blasts rebel bases

Damascus, Homs witness continued fighting; attacks kill 15, injure 20 more

By Carol Morello
The Washington Post

Syrian forces bombarded rebel strongholds in part of the capital city of Damascus on Sunday and a car bomb exploded in the central Syrian city of Homs, as fierce fighting between government troops and rebels continued unabated.

The extraordinary assault on the outskirts of the nation's capital was the most intense fighting in four months, as government troops tried to stall rebels from advancing further into the seat of power held by Syrian President Bashar Assad.

Reports from state-run media said at least 15 people were killed and more than 20 were injured, some critically, after a car bomb went off on al-Hamra Street in an upscale section of Homs filled with restaurants and cafes. Many Syrians fleeing fighting elsewhere in the city have settled in the area.

Video posted on the Internet showed flames and thick black smoking billowing up from the street in front of an apartment building as onlookers screamed and others rushed toward the blaze carrying red fire extinguishers.

In Damascus, Syrian forces fired

rockets into suburban neighborhoods where rebels have advanced in the last week in an apparent effort to stop them from closing in on the city center that is the seat of government.

Activists said that fighting continued for a fourth day around the Damascus international airport, but the government announced that it was open and flights were operating on schedule. Egypt Air said it would resume flights Monday.

The day's events suggested that the Syrian government is leaning more on its air force, as rebels have overrun some army bases and taken away heavy weaponry.

Wash. residents welcome drug

State begins marijuana decriminalization plans for Thursday; state officials consider federal implications

By Sari Horwitz
The Washington Post

Adults in Washington state will be able to smoke marijuana legally when it is officially decriminalized Thursday, even though the Justice Department has offered no guidance on the conflict with federal drug laws.

Prosecutors throughout the state have begun dismissing hundreds of misdemeanor marijuana cases, according to authorities there, and state and local police are being retrained to arrest drivers who are high and allow adults to light up in their homes.

Marijuana, however, is still illegal under federal law. State officials say the Justice Department is creating confusion by remaining silent about what steps it may take in Washington and Colorado, which passed initiatives in November legalizing the manufacturing, distribution and possession of up to an ounce of marijuana.

Washington Gov. Chris Gregoire, a Democrat, met with Deputy Attorney General James Cole at the Justice Department, but came away with no answers.

"They said they were reviewing it," Gregoire's spokesman, Cory Curtis, said Friday. "They didn't give us a timeline when they would provide clarity."

After his state approved the initiative, Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper, a Democrat, called Attorney General Eric Holder Jr. and wrote him a letter asking for guidance about how the federal government will react to the state's new law.

"We need to know whether the federal government will take legal action to block the implementation of Amendment 64, or whether it will seek to prosecute grow and retail operations," Hickenlooper wrote.

He also asked Holder if Justice will prosecute Colorado state employees who regulate and oversee the growing and distribution of marijuana.

"We find no clear guidance on these issues in memoranda or statements previously issued by the DOJ," Hickenlooper wrote.

Like their counterparts in Washington, Colorado prosecutors have begun throwing out hundreds of misdemeanor marijuana cases.

Holder has not responded to Hickenlooper's Nov. 13 letter. Justice spokeswoman Nanda Chitre said the letter is "still under review."

Several universities in the two states have decided to maintain the status quo, banning students from smoking or consuming marijuana on campus.

The schools rely on millions of dollars in federal funding, and officials say they are worried that failure to abide by federal marijuana laws could jeopardize the money. The federal Controlled Substances Act prohibits the production, possession and sale of marijuana and classified it as a Schedule 1 drug, putting it in the same category as LSD and heroin.

"There are a lot more questions than answers at this point," said Kathy Barnard, spokeswoman for Washington State University in Pullman.

Teachers want K-12 'bar exam'

Union demands professional educators' test, stricter entrance guidelines for colleges' education schools

By Lyndsey Layton
The Washington Post

A major teachers union wants to create a rigorous professional exam for K-12 teachers that would serve the same function as the bar exam for lawyers and board certification for doctors.

"Unlike law, medicine, architecture and engineering, we hand teachers the keys and tell them to go into the classroom and do their thing," said Randi Weingarten, president of the American Federation of Teachers, who is expected to announce the plan Monday. "This is about raising the standards of our profession and making sure that kids get teachers who are prepared."

A task force of teachers and education experts Weingarten assembled spent a year developing recommendations to improve teacher preparation and certification.

Under the AFT plan, prospective teachers who have undergone training at an education school would have to demonstrate knowledge of their subject areas, an understanding of the social and emotional elements of learning, and spend a year in "clinical practice" as a student teacher before passing a rigorous exam.

The plan also calls for universities to grow more selective in accepting students into teacher preparation programs, requiring a minimum of a 3.0 grade point average to enroll and to graduate, among other things. There are about 1,400 teacher preparation programs in the country, with a wide range of quality, experts say.

"Some ed schools do a great job, some do not," Weingarten said. "If we as a profession can come to the point where we say 'This is what we believe a new teacher

needs to know or be able to do on her first day of teaching,' then we can back map this to the ed schools, so that they can design preparation so that it's aligned with the professional standards."

Historically, each state sets the qualifications for teachers, administering its own certification.

"State standards are all across the map," said Ron Thorpe, president and chief executive of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, the non-profit independent organization that certifies experienced teachers. "It really is a crazy quilt."

The AFT wants the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards to develop the actual "bar exam," a challenge that Thorpe has embraced and said he thinks could be accomplished within five years.

The proposal for a bar exam comes during a period of increased scrutiny of teachers. Encouraged by the Obama administration, dozens of states have begun implementing new teacher evaluation systems. Education Secretary Arne Duncan has expanded that scrutiny to teacher preparation programs at universities, suggesting as recently as last week that many programs are inadequate.

"We have to look to the states that have been approving teacher ed programs for 100 years or maybe longer," said Susan Fuhrman, president of Teachers College at Columbia University. "And have closed very, very few — even though they have found some wanting — either because of politics or economics."

At the same time, alternative teacher preparation programs have sprouted up, offering a streamlined path to certification and the classroom.



Jerome Favre | Bloomberg News

PARKING HELL IN HONG KONG

A crowded Hong Kong parking lot. Prices for a parking space in high end neighborhoods of the former British colony can match the cost of two homes in the United States.

Taliban bombs U.S. facility

Nine suicide bombers attack American-Afghani air base; five others die

By Pamela Constable
The Washington Post

A squad of nine suicide bombers attacked a major U.S.-Afghan air base in the eastern city of Jalalabad just after dawn Sunday, exploding bombs at the front gate and sparking a lengthy fire-fight with both Afghan and NATO forces inside.

Officials said the attackers killed at least five people before being either shot or blown up by their own explosives. As the battle raged, American assault helicopters fired from overhead. Three Afghan security force members and two civilians died, officials said.

An American spokesman for the International Security Assistance Force, or ISAF, said three foreign troops were wounded.

The Taliban immediately claimed responsibility for the attack, which was reminiscent of a frontal assault on the base last February, when a suicide bomb-

ing left nine Afghans dead. The base, located at a former commercial and military airfield, is a major transport center for the U.S. military in eastern Afghanistan.

One Taliban spokesman, Zabiullah Mujahid, said in a message that "a number of our devotees" attacked the base and "brought heavy casualties to the enemy."

A second spokesman, Abdul Balkhi, sent out a series of tweets Sunday that described the attack in great detail. He said two different groups of Taliban had staged it, including six who were wearing U.S. military uniforms and who drove onto the base in a vehicle that they then detonated.

Balkhi said a second group had shot a number of foreign troops in a two-hour fight before being "rewarded with martyrdom." He said that two "enemy aircraft" had been destroyed and that much of the base had been "engulfed in flames."

This triumphant version of

events was partially contradicted by a series of competing tweets and e-mails from ISAF spokesmen, who portrayed the assault as far less successful.

Lt. Col. Hagen Messner confirmed that the airfield had been attacked at 6 a.m., but he stated that "no insurgents breached the perimeter." Messner also confirmed that U.S. helicopters were deployed to defend the base, which ISAF officials said was secured soon after the firefight ended.

An official communique from the provincial governor's office in Jalalabad, the capital of Nangarhar province, said two suicide vehicles had attacked the front gate of the base, followed by three suicide bombers who tried to detonate their explosives but were shot dead by ISAF and Afghan forces.

The governor's office said a total of nine attackers, three Afghan security force members and two civilians died.



Junior quarterback Michael Rocco will transfer after the athletics department approved his request for his unconditional release. Rocco threw for 4,731 yards and 27 touchdowns in three seasons at the University.

Toby Loewenstein
Cavalier Daily

FOOTBALL

Rocco set to transfer

Virginia officially grants junior quarterback's unconditional release Sunday

The Virginia athletic department officially announced Sunday morning that it has granted junior quarterback Michael Rocco an unconditional release from the football team and the school. Rocco will pursue a transfer following this semester, according to the release. Reports of Rocco's abdication first surfaced Saturday morning, when The Roanoke Times' Doug Doughty tweeted the news. Rocco met with Coach Mike London Friday to discuss his intention to leave the Cavaliers. "After meeting with Michael and discussing his future with our program and his personal goals and interests I understand his desire to complete his college football career elsewhere," London said in a statement. In 30 appearances and 21 starts

for Virginia, Rocco compiled 4,731 yards, 27 touchdowns and 24 interceptions. He found his groove near the end of the 2011 season, leading the Cavaliers to four straight late-season wins and a Chick-fil-A Bowl appearance while finishing the year with 2,671 yards — a record for a Virginia sophomore and the fourth-best output overall in program history. "Michael has been an outstanding member of our program on the field, in the classroom and in the community," London said. "I appreciate the competitive nature, work ethic and leadership he brought to our program, and I wish him the best in his future endeavors." Rocco's production dipped at the outset of 2012, however, leading London to bench him in

favor of sophomore Phillip Sims for the Oct. 6 game against Duke. Rocco returned to the starting lineup Nov. 10 against Miami and finished the season with 1,917 yards, 13 touchdowns and 10 interceptions. Along with Sims, sophomore David Watford and freshman Greyson Lambert could challenge for the Virginia starting quarterback position in 2013. Sims appeared in every game and made four starts, passing for 1,263 yards, nine touchdowns and four interceptions this season. An athletics department representative said that Rocco would decline comment "until he enrolls at a new school, which is unknown still."

—compiled by Fritz Metzinger

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Evans sparks easy win

Senior guard enjoys breakout performance to lead Cavs past Green Bay, 67-51

By Daniel Weltz
Cavalier Daily Senior Associate Editor

Junior guard Joe Harris and forward Akil Mitchell have performed admirably in the first month of the season to compensate for the Virginia basketball team's dearth of reliable offensive options. Senior guard Jontel Evans turned the duo into a trio Saturday with his long-awaited breakout performance in the second half against Green Bay. Evans had six second-half assists and a career-high five steals to help Virginia (6-2, 0-0 ACC) take control after the break and notch its fifth consecutive victory following a 1-2 start to the season. Evans, Harris and Mitchell scored or assisted on all 15 of the Cavaliers' second-half field goals, and Virginia topped the 60-point mark for the fifth consecutive game in the 67-51 win. "I love that kid, man," Mitchell

said of Evans. "It's so good having him back because he creates so many mismatches with his quickness. He's a defensive stopper, he can lock guards down, and his passing ability — just little things that you miss with a senior point guard. Getting him back is crucial for this team so I'm really excited for the rest of the season with him." Green Bay (3-4, 0-0 Horizon) led by one point with under two minutes remaining in the first half, but Harris drilled one of his four 3-pointers from directly in front of the Phoenix bench to give Virginia a 29-27 lead. The Cavaliers would not trail again as Harris' deep ball sparked a 10-0 run that was bookended by a long two pointer from Mitchell that gave Virginia a 36-27 lead. Mitchell finished with a career-high 20 points and nine rebounds and Harris added 20 points on 8-of-14 shooting. Sophomore forward Darion Atkins comple-

mented Mitchell in the paint with seven points, a career-high 11 rebounds and four blocked shots. "They're not the bulkiest of guys, but they can use their feet and their position to be effective," coach Tony Bennett said of Mitchell and Atkins. "I like what I'm seeing. Then, when you get some scoring inside off them, or offensive rebounds, it really helps our offense." The Phoenix closed the deficit to four with 15:27 remaining in the second half on a pull-up jumper from the right baseline by junior guard Kam Cerroni, who also drew a foul on sophomore guard Paul Jespersen on the play. But Jespersen made amends on the next trip down the court by drilling the Cavaliers' sixth 3-pointer in nine attempts to push the lead back up to 43-36.

Please see M Bball, Page B3



Senior point guard Jontel Evans collected seven assists and a career-high five steals in a season-high 23 minutes off the bench Saturday. Evans, playing his third game while recovering from foot surgery, carried the team with his energy in the second half.

Dillon Harding
Cavalier Daily

Why Saturday was important

FRITZ METZINGER

With all apologies to Tony Bennett and the burgeoning young Virginia men's basketball team, a scant few will remember Saturday, Dec. 1, 2012 for the Cavaliers' 67-51 victory against the mighty Phoenix of Wisconsin-Green Bay. That Virginia even attracted 9,600 spirited fans attests to excitement gradually building around this program, considering the game coincided with Alabama's BCS-clinching SEC Championship victory and Green Bay stands as much of a chance of reaching the NCAA Tournament as Roger Goodell does of buying a retirement home in New Orleans. It didn't help that the game rolled along on the heels of Michael Rocco's abrupt release from the Cavalier football team and Jovan Belcher's heartbreaking murder-suicide — the type of stunning tragedy that reminds us sports fanatics of that pesky thing called perspective. Nevertheless, as the Cavaliers dribbled out an ostensibly trivial game, I felt inexplicably privileged to be there. On a day that elicited the entire spectrum of possible reactions to sports, Virginia's performance subtly reinforced everything compelling, authentic and important about these silly games that absorb an inordinate amount of our attention. The only tragedy is that few will ever appreciate it. My gradual epiphany began in the first place thanks to junior forward Akil Mitchell. Mitchell tallied his career-high 20 points

Please see Metzinger, Page B3

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

No. 25 opponent stifles Virginia

Nationally-ranked West Virginia clamps down defensively, protects late lead for 54-47 victory

By Michael Eilbacher
Cavalier Daily Associate Editor

A late rally was not enough for the Virginia women's basketball team to overcome No. 25 West Virginia Sunday, as the Cavaliers fell 54-47 in a physical affair at John Paul Jones Arena. Despite strong performances from junior guard Ataira Franklin and senior center Simone Egwu, the Cavaliers could not climb

all the way back. "They were definitely a physical team," Egwu said. "We thought we had prepared for it, but I just don't think we did an adequate job." Virginia (5-2, 0-0 ACC) looked strong early, using two 3-pointers from Franklin and making five free throws to take an early lead on the athletic Moun-

Please see W Basketball, Page B3



Jenna Truong | Cavalier Daily

Senior center Simone Egwu scored a team-high 14 points on 4-of-7 shooting in 33 minutes. Egwu also made 6-of-7 free throw attempts in the loss.

SPORTS

IN BRIEF

Top-ten teams secure strong results

The Virginia swimming and diving teams completed the 2012 portion of their seasons this weekend with impressive showings at the Georgia Fall Invitational. The No. 9 Virginia (4-1) men finished in second place in the championship style meet, trailing only reigning NCAA champion No. 3 California. The other two ranked teams in attendance, No. 11 Georgia and No. 16 Auburn finished third and fourth, respectively. The No. 10 Virginia women (5-0) finished in third place behind No. 3 Georgia and No. 2 California, but beat out No. 9 Auburn, who

rounded out the ranked teams in attendance. On the men's side, senior Tom Barrett finished third in the 50 free, sophomore JB Kolod finished fourth in men's one-meter diving and junior Jan Daniec placed sixth in the 500 free to set the tone for the meet Friday. The Cavalier men maintained their position in the standings Saturday, buoyed by a third-place finish in the 800 free relay, sophomore David Ingraham's fourth place in the 400 IM and freshman Yannick Kaeser's fifth-place finish in the 100 breast.

Highlights Sunday included fifth-place finishes by Barrett in the 100 free, freshman Luke Papendick in the 200 back and junior Taylor Grey in the 200 breast. For the women, senior Lauren Perdue finished second in the 50 free and junior Rachel Naurath finished third in the 500 free to begin the meet Friday. Perdue followed that up with a second-place finish in the 200 free Saturday and freshman Courtney Bartholomew finished fourth in the 100 back. On the final day Sunday, six Cavalier women finished in the

top 10 in the 1650 freestyle and Bartholomew placed second in the 200 back behind California freshman Elizabeth Pelton, who broke an American record in the race. Several Cavaliers earned NCAA Championship qualifying times, including Bartholomew in the 200 backstroke, Perdue in the 200 free and the women's 800 free relay team consisting of Perdue, Naurath and sophomores Shaun Casey and Ellen Williamson. The teams will not race again until late January. —compiled by Matthew Morris

the

local

december 3, 2012 | arts & entertainment

by Anne Shefski

An Evening Set in Motion

The U.Va. Dance program presents annual Fall Experience Dance Exhibition featuring student, faculty choreographers, dancers

Flooding into the Helms Theater last month, the audience eagerly awaited the Fall Experimental Dance Concert. While people were still taking their seats, seven dancers meandered onto the stage in three-minute intervals, forming a straight line. The audience buzzed with confusion at the dancers' early entrance.

Suddenly, a stately dancer entered from stage right. With smooth, deliberate steps, and chin raised high, she crossed the stage. The lights dimmed. "No Body Knows: Landscape #5," choreographed by Drama adjunct faculty member Katie Schetlick, began. A tall male dancer shot his hand straight up and began rotating it like a windmill, which propelled him toward the next dancer in line. With one hand, he covered her eyes until the entire line stood connected and "blind." Just as the last male dancer in the line was about to be blinded, he snatched the hand coming toward his face and led the line across the stage, snaking and swirling. Lights from above refracted off crystals in the air, sending a frenzy

of shimmer over the performance. All the while, a low bluegrass tune echoed "nobody knows ... nobody sees."

Breaking apart into trios and duets, the dancers attempted to uncover their eyes and to escape their enclosure with uncontrolled flinging gestures, before falling asleep on the floor. When awakened, they gazed around the space and began coming together, pressing shoulder to shoulder. They came to a resting place, seeing the world of refracting lights around them with new eyes.

The show continued with a joyful movement exploration titled "To Choose Sun" by third-year Commerce student Tara Bonanno, and "Narrowly Missing Normal," a brooding, dimly lit dance on isolation by Education graduate student Carly Donnelly.

Following these, a dance for film titled "Minutes," choreographed by Dance Program Director Kim Brooks Mata, explored communication through time lapses. Finally, "Two roads diverged in a yellow wood..." by fourth-

year College student Tera Crenshaw concluded the first half with an exploration of pathways and structured motion.

After a brief intermission, the stage again flooded with nine dancers performing "Shatter Proof" by Brooks Mata, a dance expressing a community shattered by loss.

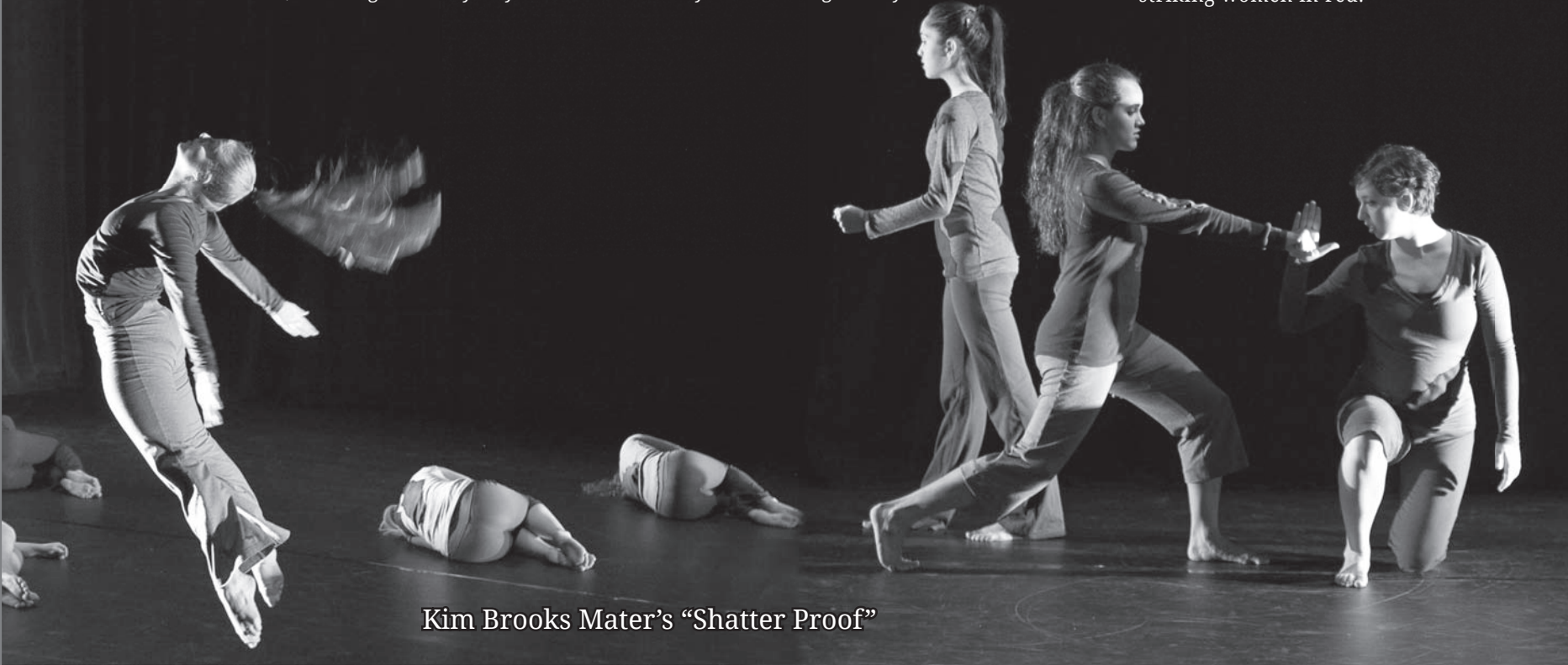
Following this, "{untaught}," choreographed by second-year Engineering student Michelle Faughnan, juxtaposed the carefree nature of child-like motions with the restriction of rote repetition.

Education graduate student Janelle S. Peifer next presented a piece on rest titled "even still," a dance laden with authentic touch and weight sharing.

"Permanent Mo(ve)ments" by creator Stéphane Glynn, a fourth-year College student, treated the audience to another dance film. Duets and trios featured dancers chasing each other down brick pathways, walking down the Downtown Mall while the world passed by at high speed and ambling over grassy

hills. Masterful editing and camera angles showcased the importance of a single glance or gesture in communicating the essence of the depicted relationships.

The night concluded with "Carving Light from Earth" by Drama adjunct faculty member Dinah Grey. The lights came up on a clump of seated forms clad in deep red gowns. The dancers began to extend their limbs into the space with an anemone quality, waving gracefully and then striking the air. So in sync were the movements with the eerily high-pitched and rumbling score that the dancers appeared to call forth the sound with their entrancing cascades of motion. As the music reached its crescendo, the dancers reared back with legs and arms extended high, gradually sunk back into earth, drew into their original grouping and stood tall. The lights dimmed, imprinting the audience with a final image of nine striking women in red.



Kim Brooks Mater's "Shatter Proof"

This Week in Arts History

Bob Marley Assassination Attempt

This week in arts history played host to one of the most famous assassination attempts on a musician in history. In 1976, the Jamaican People's National Party organized a free concert in an attempt to soothe the political unrest brewing in Jamaica, putting Bob Marley as the headlining act. Before the concert on Dec. 3, gunmen attacked Marley, firing off eight shots at the reggae singer, one of which grazed off his chest and lodged in his arm. Marley's wife, Rita, and manager, Don Taylor, were also shot, and it was never determined whether the would-be assassins were political terrorists or not.

Miraculously, everyone recovered from the shooting. Marley made a sound recovery and even performed at the planned concert a couple of days later. When asked why he didn't cancel the concert, Marley replied: "The people who were trying to make this world worse are not taking the day off. Why should I?"

—compiled by Andrew Shachat



M Bball | Harris, Mitchell lead scoring with 20 points each

Continued from page B1

From there, reigning All-ACC defender and playmaking ball handler Evans showed precisely what the Cavaliers have sorely lacked for much of the season. He dazzled by effortlessly slicing into the paint on offense and wreaked havoc with his relentless pressure on defense. With the Cavaliers leading by seven early in the second half, Evans drove across the left baseline and kicked to Harris for an uncontested jumper from the

baseline. Evans then added his first and only two points of the season with a learner in the lane, giving Virginia its largest lead of 11 and invigorating the 9,600 fans in attendance. “He was huge,” Harris said of Evans. “Defensively, obviously he’s a great defender, first-team all-defense in the ACC. Offensively, he almost gets to the paint at will and opens up a ton for our offense, especially for guys like me and [Jesperson] on the wing.” Evans proceeded to assist on

three straight baskets, setting up a two-handed slam by Mitchell amid the 11-0 run, lobbing an alley-oop to Mitchell off of a screen-and-roll and dishing to Jespersen on a fast break to extend the Cavalier lead to 55-38. With 5:18 remaining, Evans snuck back into the lane and slid a pass to Mitchell for another dunk. “He gets there and then he made the right decisions,” Bennett said. “He’s quick and strong so he can put pressure and you need to do that.”

Evans played a season-high 23 minutes in his third game of the season while recovering from right foot surgery, appearing rejuvenated on offense. A referee came up to Evans and told the floor general that he looked quicker than he had last year. “That’s funny, because a lot of guys have been saying that,” Evans replied. Virginia made 26-of-52 field goals overall, including 7-of-14 from beyond the arc. The Cavaliers outscored Green Bay 36-24 in the second half despite having

just two players finish with double-digit points and receiving just 12 points from its normally potent bench. Harris and Mitchell picked up the slack by becoming the first pair of Cavaliers to score 20 points in a game since then-seniors forward Mike Scott and guard Sammy Zeglinski did so last season against Maryland. “We were rusty early, but in the second half we played the way we needed to,” Bennett said. Virginia will host Tennessee Wednesday.

Metzinger | Unheralded win highlights sports’ simple joys

Continued from page B1

and nine rebounds against a Green Bay frontcourt with Brian Scalabrine-like athleticism in what Bennett politely termed a “mismatch.” But it was the swagger with which he blended speed, power, and finesse to embarrass the Phoenix in just 26 minutes of action that truly grasped my attention. A far cry from the explosive but tentative role player from a year ago, Mitchell has responded to the challenge of replacing Mike Scott with vigor and has begun the critical transformation from a player who can impose his will on a game to a player who expects to. While Mitchell continued to chip away at his previously tepid support with work ethic and self-assertion, senior point guard Jontel Evans continued his quest to simply return to his effective 2011-12 form. Evans scored his only basket on a post-up even he characterized as “crazy,” but it was his seven assists, five steals and infusion of pace into the usually meandering Virginia offense that belied the usual expectations output of a speed player

who broke his foot two months ago. “He had five steals, and I thought he locked in there and guarded,” coach Tony Bennett said. “His ability to put pressure on the defense and get to the paint, especially after the ball rotates, makes a difference for us.” Hearing Evans discuss his frustration with the recovery impressed upon me another crucial aspect of his return other than his considerable impact on the court. Senior seasons are the most memorable for many athletes but also the most terrifying — they carry with them the immense pressure to cement a legacy, to achieve something that utterly outstrips everything else from before. The broken foot and sluggish start to this season disrupted Evans’ banner year through no fault of his own, rendering his expected dream season an exercise in extreme patience. Evans started to make the best of a situation over which he maddeningly had no control Saturday, unwittingly relaying a crucial message about patience and persistence during unfair

times. I could rattle off several other fascinating and salient individual stories: Joe Harris’ evolution into a number one option, Darion Atkins’ sudden promise and the freshmen growing up before our eyes immediately spring to mind. These individual stories, though, ultimately surrendered to the team narrative Saturday, providing yet another nugget of significance in an “insignificant” game. After holding a slim 31-27 lead at halftime, the Cavaliers probably could have slogged through the rest of the game and still ousted a plucky but overmatched Phoenix team, just as they did during the Nov. 12 win against Fairfield that was harder to watch than the fourth Indiana Jones movie. Instead, they played some of their most unselfish offensive basketball of the season in outscoring the Phoenix 36-24 in the second half and shooting 60.0 percent with 11 assists. “I thought we were more patient in the second half,” Bennett said. “The ball swung outside, but we got it inside.” Frankly, Virginia holds as much

of a shot at winning an NCAA Championship as I do of successfully convincing my friends to call me “Fritzzy Sportswriting” a la Johnny “Football” Manziel. Still, if they can trust each other to the extent they did for 15 glorious second-half minutes Friday — punctuated by a selfless Atkins assist on a Harris 3-pointer and sweet Evans dish to Mitchell for a dunk that staked Virginia to a 67-50 lead with 5:18 remaining — they’ll give everyone from the Green Bays to the Dukes of the basketball world a fight. After the game ended, and I sat in the press room contemplating how in the world I could express my strange, sudden gratitude for a seemingly ordinary game, Bennett inadvertently left me with something else to think about after he completed a sweep of the Wisconsin teams where his father, Dick Bennett, excelled as a coach. “He said, ‘Tell the young boys that they’ve made an old man very happy,’” Bennett said of his conversation with his father after the Wisconsin victory. It was not a tear-jerking moment by any means. And

perhaps I only dwell on it as part of the undiscerning fraternity of sons who have ever lived to make their fathers proud. Yet I will always value the press conference after this little non-conference contest for reminding me of my own dad, the man to whom I unilaterally owe my love for sports. Sure, I’m a hopeless sap for projecting life lessons on a game that wouldn’t make the SportsCenter cut if the show lasted four hours. But as I exited John Paul Jones Arena, I thought about that word “perspective” that we sportswriters and fans so brazenly toss around. There is an inherent danger in letting the SEC Championship-type games and even Belcher-type tragedies convince you that games such as Virginia’s win don’t matter. Every so often, games such as this one rekindle that simple inspiration that the sport itself can provide, that catharsis from cynicism that we need every now and then to survive in this kooky life. And that’s why I’ll remember Saturday, Dec. 1, 2012 as the day I was lucky enough to see a Virginia-Green Bay basketball game.

W Basketball | Cavs close deficit to three before fading late

Continued from page B1

taineers. After junior forward Jazmin Pitts nailed a free throw with 11 minutes remaining in the first half, the Cavaliers held a 17-8 lead, but that advantage would be short-lived. West Virginia (4-2, 0-0 Big 12) rode its own scoring streak to wipe out the early deficit, reeling off 10 straight points to take a one point edge, 18-17. Mountaineer freshman guard Bria Holmes, who scored nine points off the bench in the first period alone, punctuated the rally after a Virginia timeout with a layup. Despite leading 26-23 at halftime, the Cavaliers appeared

overmatched at times by the West Virginia defense. The Mountaineers hounded the Virginia offense with their all-out athletic play, keeping the Cavaliers from getting easy looks at the basket and forcing them to shoot just 23 percent from the field in the opening period. “It’s a tough team to prepare for with a day turnaround,” coach Joanne Boyle said. “Tonight you weren’t going to get any looks. It’s got to be all of your pressure relief stuff, and you’ve got to be able to handle the pressure to get yourself looks.” In the second half, the poor shooting caught up to Virginia. The Cavaliers could not find an offensive rhythm, scoring just

four points in the first nine minutes of the half while the Mountaineers took control. West Virginia used its stifling defense to create transition offense, and opened the half on a 20-4 run to take a 13-point lead. “We came out, and when we missed a basket, they’re so fast, it’s like your transition defense is nonexistent,” Boyle said. Trailing by double digits, Virginia tried to find an offensive spark to bring the game back within reach. The more urgent play led to some forced shots and multiple turnovers, an unwelcome sign for a team that had limited turnovers so well in a 90-68 win against Minnesota Thursday. After committing just

13 turnovers in that game, the Cavaliers committed 23 Sunday. “You need a bucket, and we were trying to run it,” Boyle said. “Some people were running things the way they were supposed to and others weren’t... Part of that is just mental preparation. When people pressure you like that, usually you get over the top looks ... but we were throwing the ball out of bounds.” The Cavaliers began to find a groove late in the half. A layup by Egwu brought the score to 43-47 with five minutes to play. Egwu, who played just eight minutes against the Gophers after sustaining an injury, was a driving force for Virginia, scor-

ing 14 points in 33 minutes. “It was a great moment,” Egwu said of the layup. “It was a really well executed play. We thought that was the minute we were going to close it.” Virginia cut the deficit to just three points with three minutes remaining, but the late rally stalled. Mountaineer junior guard Christal Caldwell knocked down a 3-pointer with 2:07 remaining to push the lead back up to six. After Egwu scored inside, Caldwell clinched the win with a layup with 35 seconds left. Virginia will now prepare for a mid-week matchup against ACC rival Maryland in College Park Thursday.

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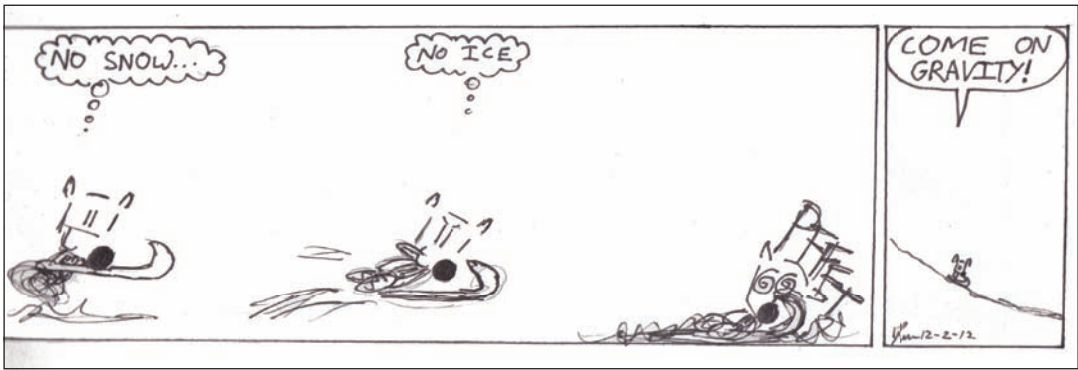
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DJANGEO BY STEPHEN ROWE



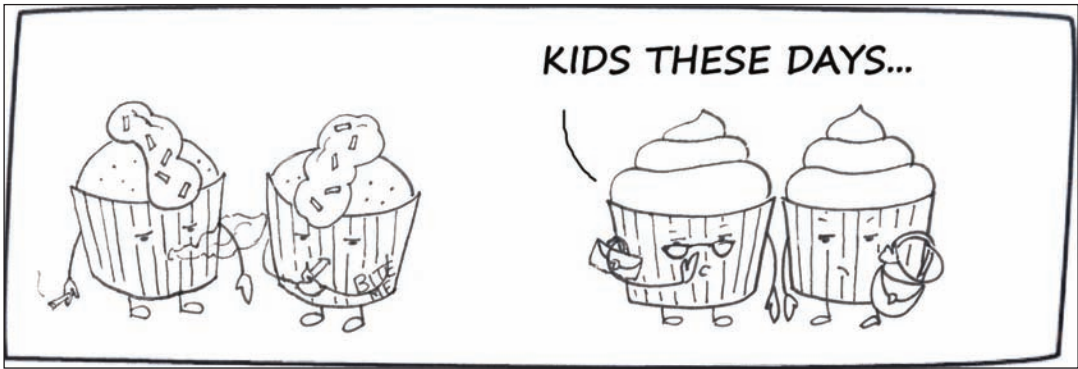
THE ADVENTURES OF THE AMAZING <THE> A-MAN BY EMILIO ESTEBAN



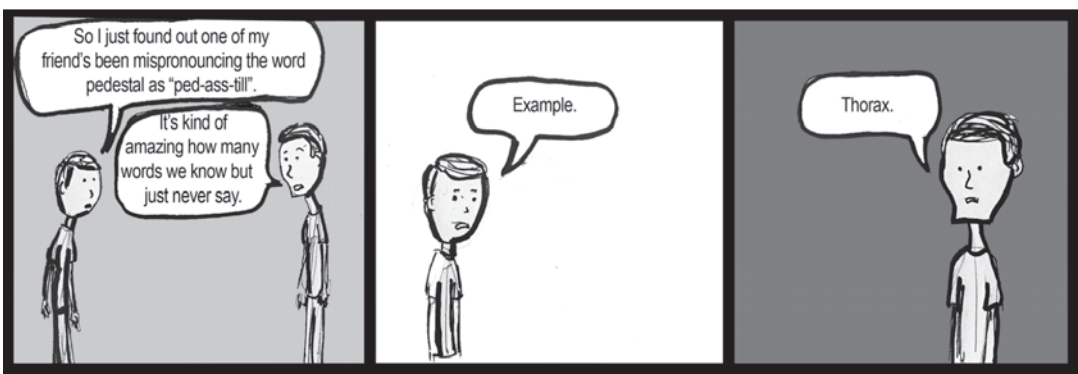
A BUNCH OF BANANAS BY GARRETT MAJDIC & JACK WINTHROP



WHOA BY TIFFANY CHU



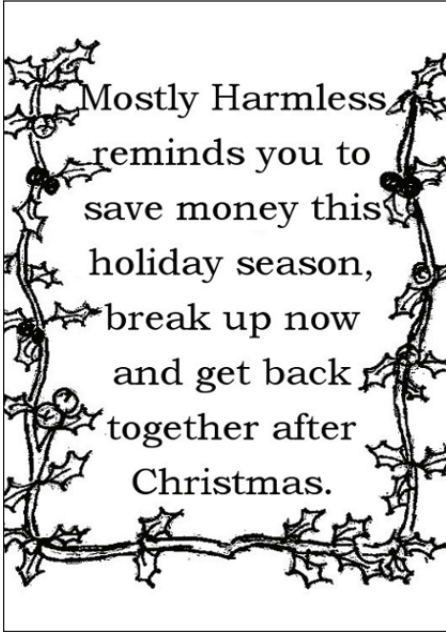
RECLAIM THE FUNK



(NO SUBJECT) BY JANE MATTIMOE



MOSTLY HARMLESS BY PETER SIMONSEN



NICOLAS CAGE HAS FOUND THE MAP ON THE BACK OF THE COMICS PAGE



HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). It gets very boring if everyone thinks the same. There will be lively discussions around the table. Extreme differences of opinion keep everyone thinking, arguing, living.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Those who need you will get the best of your attention while the one who wants you waits patiently. When you're not sure how much to reveal, you will meet a tall dark stranger.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Because you are conscious of all you say to the world, you'll be able to control that message to a great degree. The nonverbal part will be the most informative.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). If you were a movie today, you would be rated G. You will present yourself in a way that is appropriate for all audiences. Your target audience includes males and females ages 0 and up.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll be delving into artistic areas that are difficult to describe to anyone who isn't directly involved in the process. Trust your instincts in this regard. You'll have an excellent sense of what works.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Turn up the chill factor, and feel great about it. Relaxation is a basic need, so why should you feel guilty about wanting to rest in style? A decent mattress or a comfortable pair of slippers would be a worthy investment.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You may feel that you don't have the tools or knowledge necessary to accomplish what you want. This may be true, but what is stopping you from attaining them? It will be easier than you think.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You may feel like you can't move from a situation, but you're not really stuck, either. There's a good reason why you're in your current position. Now you'll be objective and analytical about getting out of it, too.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You will be tempted to take on only the jobs you know you can do well. But you are capable of much more than you think. Say "yes" to a task that's certain to make you stretch.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). It's precisely because you are confident that you feel free to change your appearance. You realize that the outside doesn't matter as much as the inside, and you experiment accordingly.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Today's worries aren't real; they're just a feeling that you've become used to conjuring. Stop worrying, and you will suddenly realize there is nothing to worry about.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). There's something to be gained from talking to yourself in the mirror. Your opinion of yourself will catch on. So declare yourself attractive, clever and vital to the action. The rest of the world will declare it, too.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 3). Amazing things happen this year because you follow the instinct to show up, ready to join in the fun. A willing attitude opens doors. So even if you don't think you're ready, go anyway. You'll make a fantastic pitch in January and win a coveted role in the process. You and a friend succeed together in March. Scorpio and Gemini people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 20, 1, 23, 38 and 2.

Amazing... But True! Today's Topic by James Maxwell

Envious Institutions UVA's Lesser Scholastic Neighbors

University of Mary Washington: Mary Washington was UVA's women's college until coeducation separated our institutions in 1972. Today, you can see billboards on Interstate-highway 64 advertising UMW as a "best buy" university, as determined by a college ranking guide you've never heard of. Thanks to this distinction, UMW has become a destination for bargain hunters. After you pick up those clearance decorative soaps from Dollar General, don't forget to stop by the blue-light special on bachelor's degrees down at Mary Washington College, now with 100% more "university" in the title!

I like big Puffs and I cannot lie...

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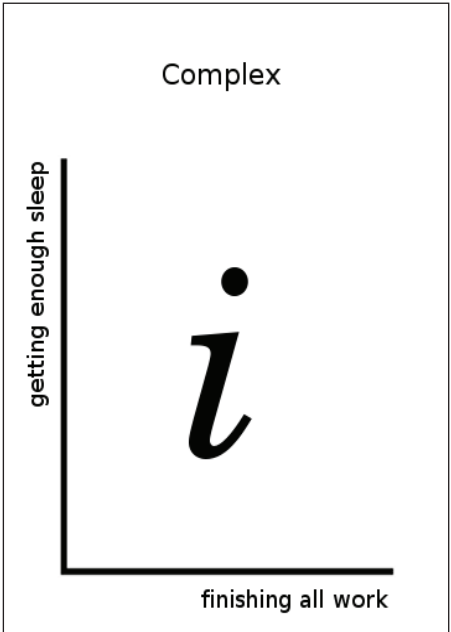
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9.

LAST SOLUTION:

9	6	4	5	2	3	7	1	8
5	3	2	8	1	7	6	9	4
1	8	7	4	9	6	5	3	2
6	2	8	3	4	1	9	5	7
4	5	1	9	7	8	2	6	3
3	7	9	2	6	5	8	4	1
9	1	3	7	5	9	4	2	6
7	4	5	6	3	2	1	8	9
2	9	6	1	8	4	3	7	5

Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

STATISTICALLY INSIGNIFICANT FROM THE ARCHIVES



The New York Times Crossword Edited by Will Shortz No. 1029

ACROSS

- 1 Indian tribe with a rain dance
- 5 Wood-shaping tool
- 8 Kind of tire
- 14 The answer to a preacher's prayers?
- 15 Org. with sniffing dogs
- 16 Old Soviet naval base site
- 17 Devour
- 19 Some online ads
- 20 "You cheated!"
- 21 Cooler contents
- 23 New York's Tappan _____ Bridge
- 24 Waste time playfully
- 28 Buffalo Bill
- 31 Teacher after a test, e.g.
- 32 "Honest" prez
- 33 File folder projection

DOWN

- 35 Choice of a political party
- 39 Pay what's due
- 41 Eat, eat, eat
- 42 Porky's porcine sweetie
- 44 Tyrannosaurus _____
- 45 Right-to-bear-arms org.
- 46 Carter's successor
- 48 Chimney sweep coating
- 49 Hoard
- 54 Crude home
- 55 Uganda's _____ Amin
- 56 Attached _____ (legalese phrase)
- 60 Crops up
- 63 Pertain to
- 65 Like Jim Crow laws
- 66 "Don't you know who _____?"

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

F	R	E	N	E	M	I	E	S	D	E	C	A	L
R	E	V	E	R	E	N	C	E	E	X	I	L	E
I	C	E	C	A	S	T	L	E	D	F	L	A	T
T	A	N	K	S	L	A	N	C	E	B	A	S	S
O	N	E	S	E	C	I	T	O	I	N	T	R	
S	T	D	H	U	R	O	N	S	T	A	O		
C	H	U	G	S	C	E	D	R	I	C			
D	J	B	O	O	T	H	N	E	W	Y	O	R	K
J	U	A	R	E	H	O	R	S	E				
O	N	T	S	P	R	I	N	T	R	A	M		
K	I	T	T	A	O	L	S	A	L	U	T	E	
O	P	E	R	A	H	A	T	S	C	O	L	O	N
V	E	N	A	L	D	O	Y	O	U	M	I	N	D
I	R	E	N	E	I	N	S	U	R	A	N	C	E
C	O	D	E	X	E	S	T	R	A	N	G	E	D

Puzzle by Gareth Bain

37 Continental coin

38 Coup d'_____

40 Space race hero Gagarin

43 Superannuated

44 Genetic material

47 They may fall apart under cross-examination

48 Too sentimental

49 Not hoard

50 Imam's holy book

51 New York city with a name from antiquity

52 Company that originated Frisbees and Boogie Boards

53 _____ Lingus

57 Sporting sword

58 Ripped

59 Big burden

61 [not my mistake]

62 Superlative suffix

64 What a headphone goes over

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554. Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. AT&T users: Text NYTX to 366 to download puzzles, or visit nytimes.com/mobileword for more information. Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles. nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year). Share tips: nytimes.com/wordplay. Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/learning/xwords.

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