

Student, friends speak against assault



Second-year student sustains head injuries after attack, anti-gay slur; male perpetrator still at large

By Emily Hutt
Cavalier Daily Associate Editor

A second-year College student sustained injuries after being punched in the face Thursday night near Brooks Hall after speaking out against a homophobic slur. “I was punched for standing up for who I am,” said the student, who wished to remain anonymous.

The student was walking with a female friend to the Corner when a group of five or six young men approached them. “Out of nowhere this guy shouts out ‘faggot’ aimed at me, and we both turned around,” he said.

The student said he replied, “So what if I’m gay?” to the aggressor after his female friend told the harasser to “shut up.” The aggressor punched the student in the eye and then walked away with a group of male bystanders.

The case remains open and the police are pursuing leads. University Police Lt. Melissa Fielding said. “There’s not anything at this point we can release as a development,” Fielding said.

University Chief of Police Michael Gibson in a University-wide email Saturday morning alerted students of the assault and possible hate crime. The student said he did not report the incident Thursday night because he was “still in shock.”

“The police did send out the

Please see **Assault**, Page A3

Maryland leaves ACC

University terminates 59-year membership with conference, joins Big Ten

By Ashley Robertson
Cavalier Daily Sports Editor

The University of Maryland announced Monday it will join the Big Ten and depart from the conference it helped found.

A charter member of the Atlantic Coast Conference, Maryland will end its almost 60-year membership and begin Big Ten competition in 2014. ESPN.com reports that current Big East member Rutgers will follow, bringing Big Ten membership to a total of 14 teams.

“Our best wishes are extended to all of the people associated with the University of Maryland,” ACC Commissioner John Swofford said in a statement. “Since our inception, they have been an outstanding member of our conference and we are sorry to see them exit. For the past 60 years the Atlantic Coast Conference has exhibited leadership in academics and athletics. This is our foundation and we look forward to building on it as we move forward.”


By accepting its Big Ten invitation, Maryland expects a much-needed revenue boost for its athletic department. Last year Maryland cut seven teams after projecting a \$17 million budget deficit by 2017. In 2011, each Big Ten school received \$24.6 million in revenue sharing from media rights — the most of any conference — whereas the ACC gave about \$17 million to each member.

Maryland faces a \$50 million exit fee for terminating its ACC membership. When the conference voted earlier this year to raise its buyout penalty from \$20 to \$50 million, Maryland and Florida State were the only schools to vote against the pro-

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Joe Riley named Rhodes scholar

Marshall, Truman, Jefferson scholar garners additional honors; prepares to attend Oxford



Courtesy UVA Today

Fourth-year College student Joe Riley, majoring in politics honors and Chinese, was one of 32 U.S. students named as Rhodes scholars Saturday.

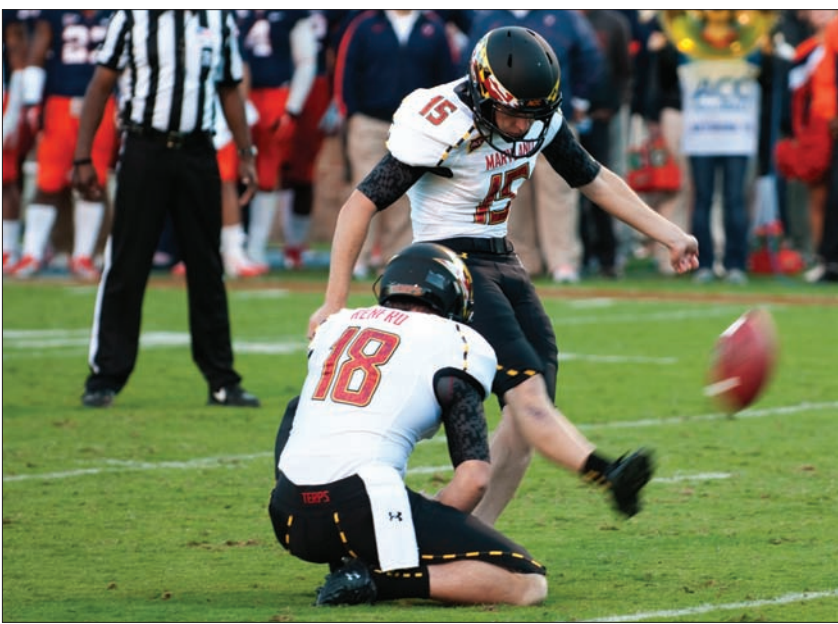
By Julia Horowitz
Cavalier Daily Senior Writer

Athens, Tenn. is a long way from Charlottesville, and an even longer way from Oxford University. But for fourth-year College student Joe Riley, who was named a Rhodes Scholar Saturday, Tennessee is where it all began.

Riley has learned to balance a host of contradictions that have shaped who he is as a student and a soldier. Born in a small town with almost no Asian

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Maryland faces a \$50 million exit fee for terminating its ACC membership, narrowly missing out on a lower \$20 million buyout fee. The conference voted to increase exit fees earlier this year — a step both Maryland and Florida State opposed.



Grant Mathews
Cavalier Daily

Bill Wood, 69, passes away in Birmingham, Ala.

University’s Sorensen Institute founder, former Virginian-Pilot editorial page editor dies at home after seven-year battle with dementia

By Abby Mergenmeier
Cavalier Daily Senior Writer

William Wood, the founding director of the University’s Sorensen Institute for Political Leadership and husband of former University spokesperson Carol Wood, passed away Friday morning in Birmingham, Ala. at the age of 69 after a seven-year battle with dementia.

His wife was by his side when he passed.

“The last four years have been a decline to where he doesn’t really talk anymore, but we still get smiles out of him, and laughs,” Carol Wood said in an interview with The Cavalier Daily two months ago. “He did so many things, I mean just little things; he’s just a wonderful person, great sense of humor. You miss that. You miss the sense of humor and the conversations, but he’s still Bill.”

William Wood’s sense of humor is something few will forget, especially at the offices of The Virginian-Pilot. He began his decade-long stint as the Pilot’s editorial page editor in 1983 at 39 years old.

“He is sort of a legend in this building,” said Donald Luzzatto, the current Virginian-Pilot editorial page editor. “Just one of those

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City approves mall cleanup proposal

Council endorses city manager’s recommendations to create street outreach coordinator position

By Joseph Liss
Cavalier Daily Senior Associate Editor

Charlottesville City Council Monday evening approved recommendations from City Manager Maurice Jones’ plan to address the concerns about panhandling on the Downtown Mall.

Jones recommended the Council create the position of a Street Outreach Coordinator; prohibit lying down within 10

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Thomas Bynum
Cavalier Daily

City Council Monday evening discussed City Manager Maurice Jones’ recommendation to create the position of a street outreach coordinator. The change would prohibit individuals from lying within 10 feet of buildings located on the Downtown Mall.

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Three-Day Weather Forecast

Provided by the Cavalier Weather Service

| | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|--|
|  TODAY High of 57° |  TONIGHT Low of 38° |  TOMORROW High of 58° |  TOMORROW NIGHT Low of 40° |  THURSDAY High of 61° |
| Mostly cloudy skies with a light wind becoming northeast around 5 mph | Mostly cloudy skies with a light and variable wind | Partly cloudy skies with a north wind between 5 to 10 mph | Mostly clear with calm winds | Sunny skies |
| A low pressure system off the coast of South Carolina is slowly moving into the northeast by mid week. This will bring high temperatures up to possibly 60 a couple times, along with a some cloudy skies here and there throughout the week. Looking ahead, Thanksgiving day looks like it will be a gorgeous day in central Virginia. | | | | To receive Cavalier Weather Service forecasts via email, contact weather@virginia.edu |

Assault | Victim suffers bruising, popped blood vessels

Continued from page A1

email in a timely fashion,” he said.

After the assault, witnesses approached the student to see if he was OK. The student said he was frustrated no one helped him during the actual incident. “A guy about twice the size of the other guy came up after and said, ‘Oh, I feel really bad,’ but he didn’t do anything about it,” the student said.

He went to Student Health for treatment of his eye, which sustained bruising along with popped blood vessels and bleed-

ing. Doctors expressed concern about a potential tear in the eye tissue.

The student said he viewed his decision to stand up for himself as a defense of his individual rights. “I think it’s important for you to be who you are without being discriminated against,” he said.

The student objected to reports of the incident he believed cast him as a victim. “I want people to know that I didn’t back down,” he said.

In cases of possible hate crimes, University Police typically collaborates with other law enforce-

ment groups such as the FBI, Fielding said.

Friends of the survivor said these are not isolated incidents. Fourth-year College student Jared Brown, who spoke to the survivor after the assault, said queer students are routinely targeted.

“I think this type of [verbal] assault is fairly routine,” Brown said. “Some people experience it more frequently than others.”

Brown said he had personally been subjected to homophobic attacks on Grounds, which he chose not to report.

“Although [hate crimes] usually only happen every one or

two years, the memory of them is still very strong,” Queer Student Union co-president Katie Mayfield said. “They do create an environment of fear that students have to live in ... We are working constantly to protect our community from [situations] like these.”

The organization plans to host a self-defense workshop for members at its next meeting.

In 2009, two young men — one a University student — were assaulted by five men because of the victims’ perceived sexual orientation. The assailants yelled homophobic slurs before hitting one of the victims in the back

of the head on Stadium Road. The attackers smashed the victim’s cell phone when he tried to call the police. University Police responded after one of the victims was able to run and call for help.

In the 2011 Crime Report, the Virginia State Police reported 153 hate crimes in the commonwealth, 23 of which concluded the offender’s actions were motivated by bias against sexual orientation. Hate crimes are only reported as such if there is sufficient information indicating an incident was motivated by bias, according to the report.

Wood | Friends, colleagues praise journalist’s tenacity, humor

Continued from page A1

guys who focused on the right thing in the right way and did it with real grace and wit, which is really hard to do. He set the standard, in the editorial section, for the ways things can be done. He really managed a humor about him even in a difficult position.”

Wood was revered by his colleagues for his exceptional work as an editor, Weldon Cooper Center Director John Thomas

said. Wood served as publications director and editor of the Center’s Virginia newsletter until 2007 and as the director of the Sorensen Institute until 2005, when poor health forced him to step down.

Wood created the Sorensen Institute in 1993 as a training organization for emerging political leaders in Virginia. More than 1,000 Virginians have graduated from the institute.

“Bill was certainly my role

model in this job because he was such a fair and friendly, genuine political figure,” said Bob Gibson, current executive director of the institute. “He was a truly great role model because Sorensen was kept alive through his actions ... he was great at bringing [political partisans] together and making them talk together. He was a very fine teacher of ethics by example.”

The Virginia General Assembly in 2005 recognized Wood with

a joint resolution, commending him for his leadership of the institute and his long career in journalism.

“Bill possessed a deep commitment to public ethics, knowledge and reason in all aspects of life, and delivering important information with clarity and objectivity,” Thomas said in an email. “His ability to accomplish those elements was exceeded only by his humility, sense of humor, and love of life — especially his wife

Carol.”

Wood’s friends said he would be remembered as a hard worker who maintained a great attitude even in the toughest of situations. “All of his colleagues here at the center have agonized with his medical decline and will miss his magical countenance intensely,” Thomas said.

A memorial will be held Nov. 27 at 2 p.m. in the University Chapel. A reception at Carr’s Hill will follow the service.

Rhodes | Standout student, ROTC cadet garners multiple accolades

Continued from page A1

residents, he would become fluent in Chinese and develop his undergraduate expertise on U.S.-China relations. A proponent of avoiding international conflict, Riley would also choose to enter the military, ultimately ranking among the top 10 Army ROTC cadets in the nation.

The best way to describe Riley may be through one of his mentors, Economics Prof. Ken Elzinga. It was Elzinga who held the engagement ring when Riley proposed to his fiancée on Beta Bridge — three years after the professor watched Riley save a woman’s life.

“We were out to lunch to discuss the possibility of Joe studying Chinese, when a woman began choking to death at a nearby table,” Elzinga said. “I asked Joe if he’d ever performed

the Heimlich maneuver before, and he said that he hadn’t but he’d give it a try. I truly believe Joe saved that woman’s life. When he came to me two weeks later saying that he’d had to give mouth-to-mouth to an unconscious TA in lecture, I had to assure him that this wasn’t typical of University life.”

Riley’s efforts were rewarded Saturday when he earned the prestigious Rhodes Scholarship. Created in 1902 based on the will of Cecil Rhodes, the scholarship is awarded based on high academic achievement, integrity, a spirit of unselfishness, respect for others, potential leadership and physical vigor.

Riley is currently a politics honors and Mandarin Chinese major. As a Rhodes Scholar, he plans to earn a masters and doctorate in international relations before entering the army as an

infantry officer.

Though his commitment to both the military and avoiding conflict may seem contradictory, Riley said it is anything but.

“There is a difference between being willing to defend and being anxious to fight,” Riley said. “I believe the best approach for those in uniform to truly protect the country is to try and work out our differences before things come to conflict. Understanding the cost of conflict helps.”

With his spot in the military on hold, Riley looks forward to meeting international scholars with whom he will study U.S.-China relations from an outside perspective.

“I have the unique opportunity to study the relationship from a more objective view,” Riley said. “The Oxford program is very good at looking at cultural factors [and the like] that impact

foreign policy in practice. And aside from the monetary benefit, the Rhodes scholarship gives you a tremendous international network of scholars, especially in the military.”

Riley is no stranger to the field of international relations. He is currently co-authoring a book with Politics Prof. Dale Copeland on the future of Sino-American relations. In the past, he received a top-secret security clearance to pursue field research in China, where he first travelled in summer 2010 for a language immersion program.

More than a simple list of accolades, Riley has proved exceptional in the University community in ways ranging beyond his research. He has served as an undergraduate lecturer, structuring the undergraduate course “Ethics in Modern Warfare.” During his time at

the University, Riley has served as an advisor for the Honor Committee and a member of the Class Council. He founded Operation Flag the Lawn to raise money for the Wounded Warrior Fund and help bridge the civilian-military divide. Riley is a member of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity, an Alternative Spring Break site leader and the founding member of the school’s chapter of the Alexander Hamilton Society, which promotes discussions on college campuses about foreign policy.

Elzinga said the most unusual thing about Riley, who admits to a sleep regimen of about three to four hours a night, is his unceasing drive — both day and night.

“If you think about it, it’s really hard to compete with a person who’s really smart and doesn’t need to sleep,” Elzinga said.

Downtown | Resident objects to public space’s ‘Disney-fication’

Continued from page A1

feet of a building to permit free flow of traffic; and maintain the current law enforcement presence on the mall, which includes additional officers in the spring, summer, fall and Friday and Saturday nights.

Several members of Council raised objections to the recommended ordinance that would prohibit lying on the mall within 10 feet of a building. The majority of Council, however, supported the proposal.

City Mayor Satyendra Huja, Councilman Dave Norris and Vice Mayor Kristin Szakos said they did not want the Street Outreach Coordinator to be a separate City position, instead saying they would prefer to direct the program through a local nonprofit. Most of Council

approved this suggestion.

Norris said he was concerned Jones’ report did not do enough to address the breadth of the issues on the Downtown Mall. “I read ... that so many people in our community feel unsafe coming downtown,” Norris said.

According to Jones’ recommendations, it would cost an estimated \$90,000 to implement a one-time pilot program, which includes paying a long-term temporary coordinator and purchasing a mobile kiosk on the Downtown Mall to allow police to shift their locations.

City budget officials also shared good news at Monday’s meeting. For fiscal year 2012 the City took in \$891,240 more in revenue than anticipated in its budget and spent \$2,903,832 less than expected. Most of the

nearly \$4 million in unanticipated monies will go to the Capital Improvement fund, which funds maintenance of streets and public buildings. Council at the meeting added \$50,000 to the Council priorities budget for general workforce initiatives.

Council’s plans to clean up the mall’s image inspired several impassioned statements by area residents. The police officer in the Council chambers had to escort from the room at least two men who attempted to shout over the Council’s consent agenda after the public comment period ended.

Albemarle County resident Nancy Carpenter said she was concerned that Jones’ recommendations were aimed at forcing homeless people off the mall.

“People seem more concerned with the transformation of space than the transformation of lives,” Carpenter said. “I really feel that what I’m seeing is the Disney-fication of a public space into a private space.”

The Council took up the issue based on a report compiled by the North Downtown Residents Association, a local group of homeowners who compiled surveys and recommendations for the City, said Jim Neale, the association’s Special Committee Chair.

“This is a report that was developed over a long period of time,” Neale said in an interview before the Council meeting. “It involved surveys sent out to the Downtown Business Associations, patrons of the Downtown Mall.”

Szakos said the association’s report showed the City did not have an insurmountable problem but rather “areas of concern” about a “certain small subset” of those on the mall who cause trouble.

Szakos voiced concern about the mistaken perception that everyone causing a disturbance on the mall is homeless.


“A lot of these folks are not [homeless]. ... Although some may be homeless, it’s not an exact parallel,” Szakos said.

Council may consider a more formal resolution and appropriation of funds as early as its next meeting, scheduled for Dec. 3, when Jones may present a more concrete resolution or ordinance to be voted on. Jones said ordinances would likely be presented to Council and voted on early next year.

Corrections

—an original version of the article “Stamey, Nguyen expelled for cheating,” published Monday, incorrectly stated that two-thirds of witnesses had not seen the accused students collaborate, but in fact two of the four witnesses called by the Counsel for the Accused gave sworn statements that they did not witness any acts of cheating.





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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By the numbers

The Managing Board's occasional survey of notable numerals

- 3: Number of times the University has canceled classes in the last 30 years

2: Number of days of University classes canceled because of Hurricane Sandy

1-3: Inches of rain Charlottesville received from Hurricane Sandy

3: Number of consecutive Student Council meetings University Vice Rector George Martin missed at which he was scheduled to speak

9: Number of Board of Visitors meetings former Board member R.J. Kirk attended in person during his tenure, out of a possible 23

2: Number of Board members who have resigned since the ouster of University President Teresa Sullivan, out of a possible 16

30: Approximate number of protestors who were denied entrance to a public Board meeting last Thursday

70: Number of people in attendance at Thursday's Board meeting

18: Number of police officers in attendance at Thursday's Board meeting
- 1: Number of police officers present at Board protests last summer

332-206: Final electoral count of the presidential election

13: Number of electoral votes gained by President Barack Obama by winning the state of Virginia

1,231,916: Approximate number, in dollars, raised by "Americans for a Better Tomorrow, Tomorrow," the Super PAC of Stephen Colbert

3,000: Maximum funds, in dollars, available for University Arts Scholars — a program launched by the donation of Stephen Colbert, and his wife, Evelyn McGee Colbert

0: Cost, in dollars, for University students to hear Stephen Colbert speak at an unticketed Valediction ceremony this May

37-13: Final score of the Virginia football team's loss against the University of North Carolina last Thursday

6: Number of years it had been, before Thursday's home game against the University of North Carolina, since the Virginia men's team played a Thursday game at Scott Stadium

Editorial Cartoon by Peter Simonsen



Cleaning up rooms

Students should use Thanksgiving to recall the values of home and privilege of college

THANKSGIVING Break starts tomorrow, and for a lot of us it cannot come fast enough. Many of us are leaving Charlottesville today, already drooling over the thought of sleeping in and enjoying home-cooked meals. I certainly count myself among that group of students. For people like me, breaks are a chance to let some responsibility slide — to lay back and enjoy not having always to be somewhere, or do something, at any given time. But for the less responsible among us, breaks are — or are at least seen as — times of greater stress and greater responsibility. Although I will not be seeing my immediate family in Texas this Thanksgiving, I have fantastic grandparents, aunts and uncles to spend time with over break. Other students are not so lucky. Either circumstances keep them from returning home, or they do get home, but only to spend it nursing sick relatives, listening to parents argue, bickering with siblings and generally ending up more on edge than when they left. I feel for these fellow students.

The students I have a problem with are the ones who wrongly see a good, solid home as added responsibility. These are the students who are treating college like a glorified, multi-thousand-dollar daycare, and there are plenty of them. Going home presents, to these students, a chance for the independence they abuse in college to be curtailed. I know

people here at the University who have stumbled in, puked in a clogged toilet, and crashed in someone else's bed. I know people who have their significant over every other night, leaving their roommate out on the couch on a regular basis without a second thought. At home, you cannot flood the shower and act oblivious when others complain. You cannot leave dirty dishes scattered all over the living room and hope someone else will clean them up. Most families would also frown on you wandering in at three in the morning, drunk and loud and accompanied by a group of strangers.

I am using specific examples, but not all from anyone in particular. These apply to friends, to people I barely know, to strangers I hear my friends complain about. I would wager many students know people like this. I know too many. Critics will say that college is, among many things, a chance to learn how to live like an independent adult. You do your own laundry, do your own dishes and shop for your own groceries. And, admittedly, this is a learning process. To me, though, that does not excuse behavior that would be unacceptable to many first graders. College is a chance to learn

to do by yourself what has always been done for you, not to let those aspects of your life collapse to the detriment of those around you.

If you are like me — responsible and perhaps a little too judgmental — then you have read this column thinking, "Yeah, I know people like that. Wish they'd get their act together." But if you are the one who is bumbling through college with no real sense of simple, day-to-day responsibilities, if you are the one with the hair in the sink, with someone else's towel wrapped unabashedly around you, with the dirty dishes on the carpet, then seriously — pull it together.

If you are utilizing college as it was intended, then Thanksgiving Break will be just that — a break. No day-to-day commitments, no lectures or meetings to attend. But if college is your daycare, where you get to indulge in regular sex, binge drinking and general negligence — all at the expense of others — then break is more of a rude interruption. College should be seen by everyone as a chance to make something of oneself, to prepare for the next, harder steps in life, not merely as a chance to suspend responsibility for four years.

Sam Novack's column appears Tuesdays in The Cavalier Daily. He can be reached at s.novack@cavalierdaily.com.

Featured online reader comment

"That's irrelevant to the case. The Honor Committee isn't a witch hunting body that tries everyone for wrongdoings à la an inquisition. The Honor System is a set of philosophically-based codes about how we as students want to hold ourselves to higher standards. Cases reflect instances where reporters have recognized a breach of the community of trust, and address that wrongdoing. Furthermore, an Honor violation requires a majority conviction on "significance." No jury of UVA students would find using a fake ID a "significant" offense, but you can bet, as we can see in this case, that they will call out cheating on an exam as a significant breach of the Honor Code."

"Stephen Goodman," commenting on Grace Hollis' Nov. 19 article, "Stamey, Nguyen expelled for cheating in rare public trial"

Letters to the editor

A gated community

Dear Community: Within our community of trust, there exists a marginalized minority of queer-identified students. The queer student body is by no means united. Some queers work aimlessly to de-queer themselves and pass as heterosexual. Others utilize silence as a mechanism through which to avoid violence, persecution and dejection. A majority seeks out queer community for the sake of establishing friendships and overcoming the routine hostilities that are commonplace in masculine spaces. A select few are vocal and undeterred by the hostilities that they could encounter from the majority. One of the most vocal proponents of our community was assaulted on November 15, 2012 for refusing silence and second-class citizenship. This incident highlights an undercurrent of anxieties that all queers express, which is that any non-heterosexual, at any time, can be physically or verbally brutalized. Verbal assault is the least visible and the most common form of psychological warfare. Verbal assault destroys the attacked person's sense of self. Queer folks experience this at every home football game. "The Good Ol' Song" was written in 1895 by Edward Craighill. Singing the song is a student tradition. As a part of this tradition, queer students of the Univer-

sity experience degrading and humiliating verbal assault. Some students yell that the University is a space where all is bright but "not gay!" In doing so, they are not only expelling queers from the community of trust, but also insisting that some students reject their own sense of identity, suffering in silent complacency. This assault produces feelings of self-deprecation and destruction and can lead to depression, anxiety or suicide in an attempt to eliminate the presence of a disowned self from an unwaveringly normative community.

The community of trust is most explicitly disbanded by the onslaught of physical violence motivated by hatred. As many of you may know, a queer-identified student was verbally and physically assaulted at the University. In his refusal to accept second-class citizenship and slouch in silence, the survivor of the attack was punched in the face. The survivor wears the scars of his protest, but by no means is he a victim or a repressed, self-deprecating mess. His spirit of resilience is much appreciated and highly applauded.

One day, we hope that the community of trust will be revived. One day, we hope that the menacing face of oppression will be forever buried.

JARED BROWN,
SHANE DUTTA,
ROBERT KELL

THE CD

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Submit to editor@cavalierdaily.com, <http://www.cavalierdaily.com/>, or P.O. Box 400703, Charlottesville, VA 22904-4703.

QUESTIONS & COMMENTS

To better serve readers, The Cavalier Daily has an ombudsman to respond to questions and concerns regarding its practices. The ombudsman writes a column, published every week on the Opinion pages, based on reader feedback and his independent observations. He also welcomes queries pertaining to journalism and the newspaper industry in general. The ombudsman is available at ombud@cavalierdaily.com.

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All you judges beware

There was insufficient evidence to expel two students at Sunday's open Honor trial

“Established in 1842, the University of Virginia Honor System is the nation's oldest student-run honor system and one of U.Va.'s most cherished institutions. Based on the principle that University students want to be trusted, the Honor System helps create and strengthen a school-wide community of trust.”

MONIKA ABRAMENKO
GUEST VIEWPOINT

Beautiful! Those who violate the standard of honor are asked to leave the University. Right so!

But here is the problem, personalized by a former student of mine: an Echols scholar, the best student I had in class in the spring semester 2012, modest,

friendly, very intelligent and a diligent worker. He got accused of cheating, of “shuffling papers and whispering” according to yesterday's article in The Cavalier Daily.

By three witnesses. Proof for their violation: 49/50 answers matched. If Kevin Nguyen worked in this biology class the way he worked for my math class he must have gotten 49/50 answers right, at least. An exceptional student, no doubt.

Did these two students cheat, did they compare answers? If they both say NO and one witness accuses them nevertheless, is this enough to give the fatal blow to both of them? That's what happened yesterday.

Kevin's ordeal started when this one witness decided to bring the incident to the Honor Committee; Kevin held up his standard, he continued to work

hard, he succeeded with the best final in Linear Algebra. Now the ordeal continued throughout the fall semester and until I

got the email yesterday I was confident that the case would be decided “in dubio pro reo” since there was no real proof, statement against statement and I couldn't even think of a

reason for Kevin to cheat (he was on top already, grades could not get any better).

Should Kevin appeal, go through another semester of anguish or should he, such a successful, promising student start all over somewhere else?

What a loss for the University, on every imagin-

able level!

This honor system sounds great — but a Committee of a handful of students who, according to Vice Chair for Trials Clifton Bumgardner “did

not put undue emphasis on the outcome” of their decision, might have forgotten the founding idea:

“University faculty established an ‘honor pledge’ on examinations, agreeing to trust students when they pledged that they had ‘neither received nor given assistance’ on their schoolwork.”

It's a two way trust. That's the reason for “in dubio pro reo.” Let's not forget what our decisions mean to others, never and under no circumstances. THAT helps to sort right from wrong.

Respectfully submitted,

Monika Abramenko is a lecturer in the Department of Engineering and Society – Applied Mathematics Program.

Reacting to the ‘dis-honorable’

There is a difference between waiving one's right to confidentiality and taking advantage of that forgone right to publicize a wrongdoing to an entire community

WHILE AGO, The Cavalier Daily published a tweet (followed by a full article) on two students who were expelled for cheating, after being found guilty by a student jury on a public Honor Committee trial. To have an open honor trial

JONATHAN LIM
GUEST VIEWPOINT

is rare; honor trials are usually held behind closed doors. The tweet was circulated across groups of students immediately after it was published; people were discussing the expelled students fervently because their full names were disclosed. One of the expelled students shut down his Facebook account, probably to avoid the onslaught of social repercussions and the

slew of potential questions.

There is nothing wrong with publishing an article detailing the facts of a public honor trial. The Cavalier Daily is not wrong to do this. In some cases, it might even be the right thing to do, because transparency and accountability to the community are values that we as University students should uphold. If the students waive their right to confidentiality, telling the entire University community about it has not violated any rights.

However, we have to think carefully about the purpose behind the act of publicizing the names of expelled students. What message are we sending to

the rest of the University when we fully disclose the names of the expelled students blown-up on the front page of the November 19 issue of The Cavalier Daily, with a picture of the face of one of the students taking center-stage in the article? What is the purpose of putting a face to the name?

Informing the community about an objective fact; deterring potential cheaters and upholding the honor code; shaming the students because this is not something we tolerate at the University? What is

the purpose?

Respecting the waiver of a student's right to confidentiality is one issue. Using this forgone right to establish a widespread, public contrast between ‘us and them,’ between the ‘honorable’ and the ‘unhonorable,’ is another.

Transparency perhaps begets graciousness. It is no doubt our duty to release and publish the truth, and to reflect reality like it is. But while we may aspire to be a transparent, responsible and accountable community — are we a gracious community? Are

we imposing a collective judgment on the act of cheating, or are we imposing a judgment on the people?

How we react to members who have violated the norms of our community is an indicator of how mature we are as a community. How we, as a community, treat forgone rights is also another indicator. While there was no distinct wrong on The Cavalier Daily's part to publish the results of the public honor trial and the names of the students who got expelled, the manner in which it was published leaves a lot to be desired.

Jonathan Lim is a third year in the College.

Minority rules

A recent event by the Minority Rights' Coalition emphasized the importance of political demographics, with or without an election

THIS PAST Monday, the Minority Rights' Coalition (MRC) hosted their Diversity Discussion Panel regarding the 2012 Elections. The MRC, which represents seven minority umbrella organizations on Grounds, initially planned to have

ZAIN SHAIKH &
ERIN ABDELRAZAQ
GUEST VIEWPOINT

this event prior to the election with the intention of educating on issues important to their respective populations. Due to the hurricane, however, the event was moved to after the election with the goal of focusing on minority turnout in the election and possible next steps for these groups. Speaking on the panel were Tiffany Tsai, a fourth-year Foreign Affairs and Linguistics major who worked on the Barack Obama campaign here in Charlottesville, and Jeremy Moody, a second-year graduate student in Tibetan Studies who is

also part of the Autistic Self-Advocacy Network. Questions ranged from expectations to realities of minority turnout, what candidates in the future will have

to consider when running, and what minority students can do themselves to make their voice heard in the coming years.

Both panelists agreed that minorities and youth were crucial voting blocs in this election that were underestimated by more than a few pundits. As the Asian-American coordinator for the Obama field office on the Corner, Tsai herself was shocked at the turnout, especially because of attitudes of certain communities during voter registration drives. Tsai also stressed the importance of the Asian-American vote given

the fact that although only 41 percent of Asians claim to be Democratic, more than 73 percent voted for Obama this past election.

A main theme that both panelists and the audience discussed was the alienation of minority groups by the Republican Party. Moody, who has autism, reflected on the dismay that much of the disabled community felt upon Mitt Romney's 47 percent comment regarding freeloaders, covering those in their community. Many voters in a variety of minority populations remarked feeling isolated by the party, whether it was because of its attitudes regarding women's rights, LGBTQ rights, immigration or foreign

policy. Both Tsai and Moody cautioned that if the Republican Party does not account for this demographic change affecting its policy platform, it could see not just losses in presidential elections, but congressional ones as well.

Since this panel occurred after the election, many in the audience questioned the role of the minority electorate in the off years. Both panelists stressed the importance of staying educated and voting in the congressional and primary elections, as well.

While some of the changes from the political parties have to come from the national leadership, students questioned what could be done in the meantime to get the minority student voice out, specifically in Charlottesville. Moody suggested that student groups generate questionnaires on issues important to their communities to hand out to candidates to increase their voice on a local scale. Many of those in the audience wanted to continue this discussion and education of issues beyond just the election cycle.

“We can't just be politically active every four years for this democracy to work. It's about staying active and informed, and about educating yourself and others through discussions such as this....” Shaikh said. “The importance of this event is to start the conversation between different diverse communities and hopefully tonight's discussion will be a great foundation for that,” Abdelrazaq said.

Zain Shaikh is the Chair of the MRC and Erin Abdelrazaq is the Vice-Chair of the MRC.

Break a leg

A fourth-year trustee advises students to take more helpings of books this Thanksgiving

TOMORROW, almost all of us will leave C'ville and head somewhere to celebrate my all-time favorite holiday, Thanksgiving. I don't know if it's the turkey, the football or the family; but there's no day quite as idyllic as Thanksgiving.

STEPHANIE DODGE
GUEST VIEWPOINT

The best is not only the wonderful day of Thanksgiving, but also the fact that it's packaged into a week of joy. First, you arrive home and start lounging while planning out your delicious meal on Thursday. Then comes Black Friday, when hordes of people will pack the stores in search of killer sales. Whether you choose to join the madness or enjoy the news stories that are sure to come out,

fun times await all. Finally, the weekend is spent kicking off the holiday season by buying a tree and putting up the lights.

Without a doubt, this Wednesday through Sunday you will be eating, shopping, lounging, watching football and getting excited for the holidays. What won't you be doing? Studying.

I know you're thinking, “Well, not studying is sort of the point of break.” I would agree with you 100 percent in the cases of Christmas and Spring Break. But Thanksgiving can be tricky.

Before we all leave on break, the amount of work we have coming looms over our heads. Somehow, though, the second we get home the smell of sweet

potatoes and turkey sinks in and all that work floats away. But take this fourth year's advice and don't let that happen. Scary news flash: You only have two weeks of school left when you get back to school on Monday.

That's a lot of papers to write in two weeks. That's a lot of exams to study for in two weeks. It can be done; but, you won't enjoy those two weeks at all. After the great week that is to come, the misery will just be that much more shocking.

Good news! There is something you can do to avoid this

conundrum. Just do a minimum amount of work over break. I'm not saying write up entire study guides for each exam. Just make sure you're caught up in your reading and other work. If you feel like going wild, maybe write up an outline for a paper.

Doing this will not ruin your break. Rather, it will enhance your last two weeks of the semester. You want to be able to go out and enjoy tacky sweater parties. You want to go to all the Christmas-themed parties. If you never open your school bag all of break, then it might

be a rocky road ahead. The real question will be if I follow my own advice. After three solid years of spending my Thanksgiving break book-less, maybe this is the year that I finally mature and start planning ahead. I am turning 22 after all.

So if you want to take a crusty old fourth year's advice, here it is: The best holiday of the year is coming. Enjoy every moment of it. But after your turkey-coma recedes, crack open those books for an hour. That will mean an hour of relaxation or partying when you really need it at some point in those last two weeks. Happy Thanksgiving and have a great break!

Stephanie Dodge is a fourth-year trustee.

NEWS

IN BRIEF

Early action program sees rise in applicants

The University saw 13,879 early action applications this year, up from 11,681 last year. Dean of Admissions Greg Roberts attributed the rise to increased knowledge about the early action program.

“Since last year was only our first year I assume that more students were familiar with it this year,” Roberts said.

The jump in applications has added to the Office of Admission’s workload. “We hired more people,” Roberts said. The office

has 15 part-time application readers and added a few more full-time readers to ensure each application is read thoroughly.

International students are applying in increasing numbers. Nearly 10 percent of this year’s early applicants are applying from abroad, an increase from the 7.4 percent who applied early last year.

Until 2006, students could apply to the University’s binding early decision program, which required students to enroll if admitted.

Fears that the policy discriminated in favor of wealthier applicants who could afford to accept offers of admission regardless of financial aid offers led University officials to scrap the policy.

The University launched a three-year test run of the early action program in 2011, which Roberts said will give the administration time to evaluate the program’s benefits and pitfalls. “I think making a judgment on a program after only one or two years is a mistake,” Roberts said.

The Office of Admission will review the early action program after next year’s applicant pool to determine how it affected the quality and diversity of the student body. “I think what we’ll look at is our ability to manage the volume in a tight window,” Roberts said.

Roberts stressed the need to examine early action’s effect on yield, which is the number of accepted students who choose to enroll.

The University’s yield for the


Fall 2012 class was 43 percent, a slight decrease from the 44.9 percent of applicants who accepted admissions offers for the Fall 2010 incoming class before the early action program was instituted. The decline is in keeping with a decreasing yield annually since the Office of Admission eliminated its early decision program in 2006, as early applicants are no longer bound to attend the University if accepted.

—compiled by Alex Stock

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SPORTS

IN BRIEF

Cavaliers finish 14th at NCAAs

Graduate student Zach Gates earned All-American honors and posted the Cavaliers' top finish at Saturday's NCAA championships.



Courtesy Virginia Athletics

The Virginia cross-country team Saturday posted its best NCAA championships performance since 2008. The men's team finished 14th and graduate students Zach Gates and Catherine White earned All-American honors.

Gates ended his cross-country career with a 22nd-place finish, the team's top effort. Graduate student Mark Amirault finished next for the Cavaliers, placing 72nd overall. Redshirt freshman Kyle King, junior Thomas Porter and sophomore Jack St. Marie rounded out the scoring five.

The team tallied 382 points, 310 behind champion Oklahoma State.

White placed 33rd overall, running the six-kilometer course in 20 minutes, 11 seconds.. She missed the podium by only eight places.

Saturday's meet marks the end of a successful season. White battled injuries to compete for the first time since 2009, and the men's team fought past its own injuries en route to being ACC runner-ups and Southeast Region champions.

—compiled by Matthew Wurzburger

Goodbye, Maryland

ZACK BARTEE

So long, farewell, auf Wiedersehen, goodbye Maryland.

For those naïve enough to believe that conference realignment had ended — and let me be clear, I am one of you — the news that Maryland and Rutgers were leaving their respective conferences for the Big Ten likely jolted you Monday morning. Even Virginia coach Mike London in his press conference Monday said the news “came as a shock.”

As a lifelong Terps fan I hate the move away from the ACC, but the Maryland Board of Regents seems set on the decision. All ACC fans can do now is analyze its impact on the constantly shifting landscape of college athletics.

Winner: Maryland

Maryland is the clear winner in this situation. Terrapins great Len Elmore blasted his alma mater for forsaking tradition and being swayed by dollar signs, but I think it's time for Len to snap back to reality. Maryland's athletic department had to cut seven sports because of a projected budget deficit of \$4 million

Please see Bartee, Page B3

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Defense bedevils Friars

Squad overcomes cold shooting to demolish Providence, 61-42, Sunday

By Matthew Morris
Cavalier Daily Associate Editor

Providence junior wing Danielle Pearson shook her head in frustration. She had just thrown an entry pass between her teammate's legs for the Friars' ninth turnover of the first half. Her team had authored five points in the game's first 12 minutes, and the Cavaliers had jumped to a 13-point lead.

Six minutes later, the Friars' body language changed to one of channeled intensity. Sophomore guard Tori Rule had caught fire, scoring 11 points in two-and-a-half minutes, and her team's deficit stood at nine.

Virginia (3-0, 0-0 ACC) eventually dusted the Friars for a 61-42 win, but when Rule knocked down her fourth long jumper, Providence (1-2, 0-0 Big East) was all confidence. Virginia coach Joanne Boyle was all displeasure.

“All the sudden our zone is looking more like a high school zone and we're not really moving and flying around,” Boyle said. “We just have to become a team that can dictate for 40 minutes. We're not doing that — we're waiting; we're

playing to the level of our competition at times, which means we are taking possessions off, and we need to not do that.”

Fortunately for Virginia, its cold-shooting opponent finished 16-for-58 from the floor and missed 10 of its 17 free throws. The Cavaliers' defense was responsible for much of the Friars' inability to manufacture offense, as the team employed a full-court, turnover-inducing zone press and a packed-in, jumper-inviting 3-2 zone, occasionally going man-to-man.

When it came to shooting, Virginia was not much better than Providence. Senior guard China Crosby missed nine of her 10 attempts from the floor, and freshman guard Faith Randolph, senior forward Telia McCall and redshirt sophomore forward Sarah Beth Barnette each turned in 2-for-7 shooting performances. The team went 23-of-63 from the field and shot just 59.1 percent from the free throw line.

“It's just — it's a little frustrating at times,” junior guard Ataira Franklin said. “I mean, I'm glad we were able to pick it up in the second half. The energy was definitely better.

You know, we got some energy from Jaryn [Garner] coming off the bench, so that was really good for us, but we just need to be more consistent.”

Garner, a freshman guard who has been working her way back from injury, led all reserves with a personal-best six points. Randolph added four, as the freshmen duo combined to score 10 of Virginia's 19 bench points.

“I said it in the locker room: I think a lot of freshmen would like to hear, you know, ‘We need you,’” Coach Boyle said. “You know, a lot of times, freshmen have to come in and kind of wait their time, and we're just at a point in our program where we have an opportunity right here and now.”

The Cavaliers received contributions from more experienced players, as every one of the nine players who logged minutes scored. Junior forward Jazmin Pitts did the dirty work in her 15 minutes on court, grabbing six rebounds while hustling after loose balls and banging in the paint. Starting junior guard

Please see W Bball, Page B3



Thomas Bynum | Cavalier Daily

Junior forward Jazmin Pitts embodied Virginia's gritty, defensive-minded performance against Providence. She grabbed six rebounds during her 15 minutes on the court, as the Cavaliers out-rebounded the Friars 52 to 41.

SPORTS

IN BRIEF



Jenna Truong | Cavalier Daily

Freshman outside hitter Vivian Burcescu led Virginia against NC State with a .500 hitting percentage. Burcescu paces the Cavaliers with 292 kills.

Virginia falls to NC State, UNC

The Virginia volleyball team fell this weekend at NC State and No. 24 North Carolina, stalling its momentum before its season-ending match against archrival Virginia Tech Friday.

Entering the weekend, the Cavaliers (9-21, 3-16 ACC) hoped to record their fourth and fifth conference wins. After dropping its first nine ACC bouts, the team took three wins in a seven-match stretch, with two of the losses coming against national powerhouses Florida State and Miami. Although early season victories stemmed largely from strong individual performances, the team has recently displayed strong efforts from every position on the court.

The road trip stymied the squad's recent success. At NC State (22-8, 12-7 ACC) Friday evening the Cavaliers kept the first set close early, but an 8-1

run helped the Wolfpack capture the round 25-19. NC State dominated the second and third sets 25-16 and 25-17 despite hitting 21 kills to Virginia's 22 during the rounds. The Wolfpack held the Cavaliers to a .097 hitting percentage for the match, wasting freshman outside hitter Vivian Burcescu's .500 hitting percentage and eight kills.

Virginia traveled up Tobacco Road to face the Tar Heels (24-5, 15-4 ACC) Saturday afternoon. North Carolina controlled the match from the start, never trailing in the first or third sets, and claimed the 3-0 sweep.

Virginia will have the chance to avenge its early season 3-0 home loss against the Hokies in its final match of the season Friday. The match begins at 7 p.m. in Blacksburg.

—compiled by Peter Nance

Giving thanks

SEAN MCGOEY

Each Thanksgiving we reflect on the things for which we are grateful. Most people give thanks for a loving, caring family, a successful year at work, good friends and good health — all things people are undoubtedly blessed to receive. But as the 2012 season closes, I can't help but give thanks for sports.

Thank you, Eli Manning, for leading the Giants to another Super Bowl win against the Patriots. You represented my hometown and high school well, and you reminded everyone that it's all about hitting your stride at the right time. People heap so much attention on regular-season champions that we sometimes forget the regular season is merely a stepping stone to the part that matters most: the playoffs. You gave us a lesson both in patience and faith.

Thank you, Anthony Davis, for being the centerpiece of the first “one-and-done” era team to win a championship. Your exciting play made March Madness live

Please see McGoeY, Page B3



University group bakes bread; sales benefit charity

By Love Jonson
Cavalier Daily Staff Writer

Looking for a way to satisfy your carb cravings and help a worthy cause at the same time? Challah for Hunger has a table on the Lawn you may actually want to visit.

The University's Challah for Hunger branch is part of an international nonprofit organization that raises money for charity by baking traditional Jewish bread from scratch using ingredients donated from Albemarle Baking Company. The University's chapter sells its culinary creations to students every Thursday on the Lawn from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Plain loaves cost \$3 and flavored loaves cost \$4. Proceeds go to the Charlottesville Food Bank and the American Jewish World Service Sudan Relief and Advocacy Fund.

Kate Belza, the organization's current president and a fourth-year College student, met the founder of the international Challah for Hunger organization at a conference in New York before coming to the University. An Alternative Spring Break trip to Israel in March 2011 inspired Belza to start a chapter in Charlottesville. The group had its first bake in April 2011 and "really got off the ground" last fall, Belza said.

The team built membership and awareness to increase its sales, and Challah for Hunger now enjoys a steady stream of requests. Last year the group baked more than 1,000 loaves and donated \$4,400 to charitable causes, Belza said. This year the organization has raised roughly \$2,500 so far, she said.

University students can pre-order challahs each week, or

they can visit the table and hope to snag one or maybe a couple.

"We get anywhere from 35 to 80 pre-orders each week, and we make between 70 and 130 loaves each week," said second-year College student Zoe Newberg, the organization's vice president of baking. "But we're hoping to expand even more."

Challah is a traditional sweet braided bread eaten on Shabbat, the Jewish Sabbath. Baking challah is an extensive process. Bakers meet each Wednesday at the Brody Jewish Center. First, they combine the wet and dry ingredients in batches of up to 20 loaves, stir by hand, transfer to an electric mixer and knead the enormous mound. The dough rises. Bakers add flavorings, delicately braid the dough and coat it with egg wash for a golden sheen.

After baking, the loaves can be packaged and labeled for sale. It can take up to five hours from start to finish to prepare fresh loaves for Thursday morning.

Second-year College student and Vice President of Advocacy Marissa Friedman said the best part of the baking process is the kneading. "It's so meditative and such a stress relief," she said.

Newberg's favorite part is eating — and coming up with the flavors of the week. She said she likes creating special flavors by adding pizzazz to the dough in the form of mashed bananas and cinnamon or sweet pumpkin puree.

The chapter plans to sell challah to other Jewish organizations in Charlottesville, said Vice President of Membership Sapir Nachum, a second-year College student.

Students do not need to be

Jewish to get involved with Challah for Hunger. Everyone can purchase challah, and anyone can help bake. Regular bakers often bring friends along, and sororities sometimes help bake as part of their philanthropic efforts.

"We encourage anybody to come," Friedman said. "Bakers, braiders and buyers are always in need."

In addition to plain, cinnamon sugar, chocolate chip and garlic and rosemary, Challah for Hunger offers a special flavor each week. In the past, featured flavors have included banana bread, apple cinnamon and orange cranberry. Pumpkin proved the fall favorite, earning a record number of orders the week it was offered.

Interested students can like the group's Facebook page for pre-order forms and information on how to get involved.

Images courtesy Challah for Hunger at UVa Facebook group

Christmas' 12 gifts to college students

Now that Starbucks is using its holiday cups, BarracksRoadShopping Center has hung its wreaths, and the back of Target looks like a Christmas tree forest, I think it is appropriate for me to write a column about why the holidays rock when you're in college — a whole 35 days before Christmas.

Around the holidays, it is hard to not be a little sad. As a kid, the holiday season always seemed so magical — the decorations, the endless amounts of sugar, being allowed to stay up to see the ball drop on New Year's Eve and the class holiday parties that took up nearly a whole day at school. The big kicker, of course, was waiting for Santa and trying to be extra good so I would get everything I wanted. Thanks again, Santa, for my Barbie Jeep. It was a great addition to my childhood. If you don't understand this nostalgia, listen to Faith Hill's song "Where Are You, Christmas?" and you can understand how people like me romanticize holidays of the past.

When I came to college, I thought I would be extra excited to go home for winter break. And don't get me wrong — I was. But it was mostly because I was so ready to be out of the basement of Clemmons, not because the holidays in Charlottesville were lackluster. In fact, I realized I absolutely loved celebrating the holidays as a college student. So, without further ado, I give you 12 reasons the holidays rock as a college student,

one to replace each day in the terrible — or terribly catchy — Christmas carol, "The 12 Days of Christmas."

There is a built-in excuse to hang up tacky Christmas lights in the common room of your apartment. This is well worth the \$8 investment from Wal-Mart. During second year one of my roommates got so into it, she made our other roommate go outside to make sure the decorations looked OK to passers-by. This year my Jewish roommate was more excited than anyone to see them go up, and we're shamelessly planning to leave them up all year.

You don't have to stress over which Pandora station you're going to listen to; it's obviously going to be the holiday station you've created and trained to skip over the mediocre songs and go straight to Michael Bublé.

When it's too cold to go out on a Saturday night, you can stay in to make cookies without feeling guilty. Get those holiday sprinkles ready!

Three words: "Home Alone" marathons.

On that note: There are so many good holiday movies to remind you of your childhood, such as "Frosty the Snowman" and "How the Grinch Stole Christmas," that are most likely playing right now on ABC Family. You never have to look too hard to find a good movie to watch while you're procrastinating. And let's be real, your roommates probably already have it on.

Urban Legends



KATIE URBAN

Please see **Urban**, Page B6

Finders, keepers

We are at that point in our young adult lives where self-expression begins to matter. The research papers we write, the special items of clothing that comprise our signature outfits, the concert tickets on which we splurge and the stubs we tuck away for safe memory-keeping. What about the people among a field of 14,000 peers who become the faces in our cover photos, the phone numbers in our overactive text groups, the authors of thoughtful little Post-it notes letting you know they care and later wedding toasts letting you know they have always been there for you? It seems appropriate that everything we choose to preserve — be it friendships or objects — becomes a reflection of who we are. It is daunting and disconcerting as well. Self-expression has never been more critical; yet, with so many

more options and obstacles, it has never been so amorphous to grasp and difficult to perfect. College does not necessarily have to be where we find ourselves, but it cannot be the place where we lose ourselves.

So, how do we do it? How on Earth do we compose some semblance of self when the books we read tell us a million different things, when "identity" relentlessly figures as a hot button issue, and when society takes pride in selfless acts as opposed to selfish considerations?

For me, the best determination of who we are, or who we genuinely want to be, comes from what we keep: things such as

journals, trinkets, friends and grudges. It would be too misleading and simplistic to say we are what we display. Not every girl touting a Barbour jacket and Tory Burch flats subscribes to the same ideologies, idiosyncrasies and magazines. Sift through the desk drawers of these J.Crew shoppers, and I believe you will find the closest thing that exists to self-reflection.

Similarly, the "alternative" kids lounging around Para Coffee are not just the sum of their Converse, public Spotify playlists and beanies. Surely what

It's a Punderful Life



ELIZABETH STONEHILL

Please see **Stonehill**, Page B6

The Victor Hugo Workout

I've resisted the nagging urge to write a column about this particular topic because of a previously perceived lack of substance, but sometimes my internal filter through which I pass all ideas gets polluted by particular aggravating experiences.

We all know about famous French cuisine, and believe me when I say it meets expectations. After a month of consuming more cheese, bread and wine than I have in probably the entirety of my life, I decided the biweekly runs along the river would no longer suffice as a workout plan. My roommates and I flirted with the idea of joining a gym, but it wasn't a solid plan until the

day I came back from celebrating Oktoberfest in Munich, and reflected upon how many liters of beer, large soft pretzels and bratwursts I had consumed in the previous two days.

So the next morning my roommates and I were swiping our debit cards for a membership plan costing 20 euros per month more than it had been previously advertised to us, out of failure to read the fine print that was not only fine, but also in French. We acquiesced to the ridiculously high temporary-member price out of desperation to begin our workout regime that very day, to stop what had felt like the five-pound-weight-gain-per-day diet.

Living in Lyon



VALERIE CLEMENS

We were ready to jump on the elliptical.

And then the first surprise came. Conveniently enough for him, the guy signing us up waited until the moment after we each paid the obligated two-month price all up front to inform us that we were not permitted to use any of the equipment in the gym until we had a personal instruction session with a trainer, for which there were no openings until Friday — five days later. So much for starting right away.

The very name of the gym should have been the first red flag. Who names their fitness center "Club Victor Hugo," after a 19th-century French Romantic writer whose exercise regime was probably the last thing he had in mind? After observing modern-day French exercise

Please see **Clemens**, Page B6

SPORTS

IN BRIEF

Team falls to No. 4 Indiana, splits UTC Duals

Redshirt senior Derek Valenti scored a pin fall against Cumberland and won by decision against Indiana this weekend.



Courtesy Virginia Athletics

The No. 17 Virginia wrestling team fell to No. 4 Iowa Friday for its first loss of the season, splitting matches at the UTC Duals in Chattanooga, Tenn.

Virginia (6-1) opened competition by besting Cumberland (0-2) 38-6. Four Cavaliers, including No. 10 redshirt senior Derek Valenti, scored pin falls against the Bulldogs. At 133 pounds, true freshman George DiCamillo won by decision in his duals debut for Virginia.

The Cavaliers fought hard

against the Hawkeyes (2-0) but dropped 26-12. Virginia topped Iowa in three matches capped by redshirt junior Jon Fausey's pin in double overtime in the 174-pound weight class. Valenti and fellow redshirt senior Mike Salopek both won by decision.

Virginia closes out November with a road match against ACC rival No. 12 Virginia Tech Nov. 25, which will mark the beginning of conference competition for the Cavaliers.

—compiled by Matt Wurzburger

Bartee | Terrapins win, ACC loses conference shift

Continued from page B1

for this year, on top of a debt that exceeded \$83 million as of July 2011. I consequently think this is less of a “get-rich-quick” scheme than it is a “return-to-financial-solvency-sometime-this-decade” scheme.

The Big Ten will provide Maryland with security that the ACC could not. It pays considerably more shared revenue to its member schools — a major factor in Maryland's decision — and the conference's prestige and stability should benefit football recruiting. The Big Ten's impending television rights renegotiation in 2017 only sweetens the deal.

The \$50 million ACC exit fee will pose a financial challenge to Maryland, but some reports indicate the fee could be negotiated down to a smaller sum. Forbes.com has speculated that Kevin Plank, Under Armour founder and Maryland alumnus, might foot the bill for the buyout fee to lessen the financial burden on the school. Plank — the man behind Maryland's cool/ridiculous football uniforms — was heavily

involved behind the scenes and completely supported the move to the Big Ten, according to ESPN. Plank is worth \$1.35 billion and sold 1.3 million shares of Under Armour stock last week “for asset diversification, tax and estate planning and charitable giving purposes,” according to a Securities and Exchange Commission filing. The sale will reportedly net him a cash windfall in the neighborhood of \$56 million. He denies that he will pay any of the exit fee.

As for the loss of tradition, I'll always miss the Duke-Maryland games and watching Gary Williams and Coach K go head-to-head, but those days are long gone. In reality, North Carolina and Duke are rivals, and Maryland is the odd man out. Maryland and Virginia were designated permanent cross-division rivals in ACC football and primary partners in basketball, but who among us believes Virginia considers Maryland a bigger rival than the despicable birds from Blacksburg?

In short, Maryland's traditional rivalries are fading,

and with the additions of Pitt, Syracuse, and Notre Dame to the ACC, these rivalries would only become more distant. My inner sports fan despises the past two years of conference realignment, but I also cannot criticize Maryland for knowing when it's time to say goodbye.

Losers: ACC

As a Virginia fan, this move alarms me. Rumors that Florida State was trying to join the Big 12 — which FSU President Eric Barron denied — plagued the ACC in May. In the same month, Clemson's Board of Trustees said it would consider an offer from another conference to leave the ACC.

We may be on the verge of a classic bank run in college sports. Maryland's defection and the possible departures of FSU and Clemson create undeniable uncertainty around the ACC. Although the conference may try to restore faith by adding UConn — a basketball-oriented quick fix for the loss of Maryland — every ACC institution must assess its long-term prospects behind the scene.

Nobody wants the conference

to collapse, but schools are going to act in their best interests, which may mean being the first to withdraw. If Clemson and Florida State leave, the ACC could go the way of the Big East and watch its status as a major football conference — somewhat laughable even now — evaporate before its eyes.

The tables have turned drastically from last September, when the ACC raided the Big East of arguably two of its best all-around athletic institutions, Pitt and Syracuse.

The \$50 million buyout in the ACC is one of the primary deterrents to leaving the conference, but you can bet that every ACC president and governing board will be watching what happens with Maryland's buyout. Reducing the buyout could set a dangerous precedent for the conference.

Undetermined: Big Ten

Beyond its undeniably ironic name, I'll consider the Big Ten's expansion to 14 teams a wash until we see the results on television revenue.

It gains the D.C.-metro area and New Jersey media mar-

kets. But those markets are first and foremost Redskins/Ravens and Giants/Jets before Maryland and Rutgers. It may gain a foothold in the basketball market, especially with the Nets' move to Brooklyn, but football is the golden goose for college sports.

It's hard to claim any significant history exists between Maryland and other Big Ten teams. The conference will attempt to manufacture rivalries, but I don't believe Maryland will develop a rivalry anywhere close to Michigan-Ohio State or the likes for decades, if ever. You've added two mediocre teams to a conference that boasts storied football rivalries, which could affect scheduling between traditional rivals in a similar fashion as the restructuring of the ACC.

Maybe this is just the beginning for the Big Ten, and it may one day expand to 16 teams. Pundits and fans have long speculated about the formation of four 16-team super-conferences. Or maybe this marks the end of conference realignment. But I remember thinking that once before, too.

W Bball | Wolfe tallies seven points despite chipped tooth

Continued from page B1

Kelsey Wolfe contributed seven points, five rebounds and three steals. She left the game after chipping her bottom teeth in the second half.

The Cavaliers played well enough in other areas of the game to offset poor shooting. Virginia outscored the Friars in the paint by a 32-8 margin and created 19 points off 17 Providence turnovers. The Cavaliers

also grabbed 52 rebounds compared to the Friars' 41. Sophomore forward Sarah Imovbioh played only 13 minutes before fouling out in Virginia's Tuesday game against Penn, but she stuck around longer this time. She collected a game-high 12 boards and scored 13 points while sinking 7-of-9 at the charity stripe.

“I told her at halftime, ‘No early fouls,’ and I thought she did a good job staying out of

foul trouble,” Boyle said. “[That] allowed us to keep her in the game more, and obviously she just does such a good job for us on the boards, you know, and she gives us second- and third-chance points all the time, and we need that, you know, we really need that.”

Franklin was again a steadying presence for Virginia. Whether calmly dribbling off a screen to lose a trey or throwing a fake to get her defender up in the air,

Franklin gave Virginia a reliable scoring touch in a game where most players laid bricks. The preseason All-ACC selection scored a team-high 14 points on 6-for-10 shooting. Franklin, however, is more than a scorer.

“I feel like a lot of the time, our team goes as I go defensively, so it's important to dictate and be aggressive from the jump,” she said. “The less I get over-rotated ... the less the wings or the post players will have to step up and

help.”

Virginia will need everything Franklin can give at its next stop, the San Juan Shootout in Puerto Rico. The day after Thanksgiving, the Cavaliers take on Vanderbilt (3-1, 0-0 SEC), the AP's No. 13 team. The squad plays Syracuse (3-0, 0-0 Big East) the following day.

“I'm just looking forward to the experience,” Imovbioh said. “Can't wait to play against better teams and the competition.”

McGoey | Every fan can appreciate college football playoffs

Continued from page B1

up to my lofty expectations. Here's hoping that a year from now, I'll be thanking you for making the New Orleans Hornets relevant again.

Thank you, European Ryder Cup team. As gut-wrenching as it was to see the United States' lead vanish, you reminded us that come-from-behind victories are some of the sweetest there are.

Thank you, Bubba Watson, for being perhaps the most interesting golfer to win the Masters since Seve Ballesteros in 1983.

Thank you, Andrew Luck, for living up to your top-pick status and the astronomical money sent your way. It may not be the \$50 million that Sam Bradford got, but \$22.1 million is a

substantial starting salary for a college graduate.

Thank you, Robert Griffin III, for being the most exciting player in the NFL this year, and for making a Redskins team that dominates the Charlottesville market worth watching.

Thank you, Les Miles, for retaining your title as the most entertaining interviewee in sports today. Your level of candor and goofiness are refreshing in this era of canned, rehearsed, soundbite responses.

Thank you, Gary Bettman, for not ruining hockey ... oh wait, you did that already. I actually have absolutely nothing to thank you for. That goes quadruple for you, Roger Goodell. You know what you did.

On the other hand, a real thank you to David Stern. I had my

doubts about the shortened NBA season, but it turned out to be the most entertaining one I've ever seen.

Thank you, Sam Presti, Oklahoma City Thunder General Manager, for finally setting James Harden free. Despite my local allegiances to the Hornets, the Thunder are my favorite NBA team to watch. And although it kills me to see the Durant/Westbrook/Harden nucleus blown up before it can challenge for another title, Harden needed a chance to be a star, and you gave it to him. I'm ready to fear the Brow AND the Beard.

Thank you, Kevin Durant, for blossoming into a megastar this year. Not only can you score just about any way thinkable, but you put the team first in an era of me-first stars. You're

one of the most likable athletes around, and the only reason you're not the best player in the league is because of the next guy on the list.

Thank you, LeBron James, for finally getting it. You took every concern your detractors posed and crushed them under your thumb. They said you had no post-game? Guess who played dominant stretches at power forward throughout the playoffs. They said you couldn't get it done in crunch time? I direct them to Game 6 of the Eastern Conference Finals, when you dropped 45 points on the Celtics in a do-or-die game and essentially left no doubt about the NBA finals before you had even won your conference.

Thank you, Miami Marlins, for spending an unholy amount of

money on players in an attempt to become Yankees South, then winning just 69 games for the season and immediately trading away two of your big-money purchases and one of your most talented pitchers. You have provided us with a great blueprint for what not to do.

Thank you, Miguel Cabrera, for doing something we haven't seen in 45 years.

And finally, thank you, BCS committee, for giving us an LSU-Alabama national championship game last season. I know this thank you seems out of place, but that title game upset so many people that it finally made it brutally obvious just how badly college football needs a playoff system. Now we're going to have it, and I think we can all be thankful for that.

ACC | London says realignment will not impact Cavalier recruitment

Continued from page A1

posal.

“It appears that schools are making decisions based on what's in the best interest of their universities,” Virginia football coach Mike London said. “Obviously there are financial implications to it. But it's been a shock.”

The ACC has featured prominently in college athletics' continual realignments. The conference announced Sept. 12 that Notre Dame would join in all sports except football, and it added Syracuse and Pittsburgh from the Big East last fall.

After welcoming six former Big East programs since 2004, the ACC must now contend with

its own defector. Maryland's departure leaves an uneven number of football competitors, and the ACC will likely seek another program to balance its Atlantic and Coastal divisions, which now include only 13 members.

“I know with us just getting Syracuse, Pittsburgh and Notre Dame that the end of all this conference realignment may not be over,” London said.

The conference extended its east coast market with Syracuse and Pittsburgh, but the Big Ten now encroaches on the ACC's once-firm hold on the area. By adding Maryland — and potentially Rutgers — the Big Ten could have programs in the Maryland, Pennsylvania, and

New Jersey/New York region.

Although Maryland football has won just six games in the last two years, its absence will noticeably affect other ACC sports. The Terrapins were key to the conference's identity as a nationally renowned basketball powerhouse. Maryland captured the 2002 NCAA tournament and made 11 straight tournament appearances from 1994 to 2004. The Terrapins have also featured prominently in lacrosse, where they finished second in the NCAA tournament the last two years.

The Maryland move particularly impacts Virginia, which anticipated the Terrapins as one of its “primary partners” in football and basketball —

ensuring the two schools would play one football game and two basketball contests each year. The Cavaliers' programs consistently compete with Maryland for local recruits. London, however, said he does not think the high-profile conference switch will make the Terrapins more attractive to prospective players.

“I think that those young men in that D.C., Maryland area probably have more of an opportunity by coming to Virginia to be seen by their parents and their community ... as opposed to traveling an away Big Ten slate,” London said. “The media market that they've talked about will enhance their opportunities, and I'm quite

sure it will. But at the same time when you talk about parents and families seeing you play [that] is going to be important, as well.”

Maryland is the second program to leave the ACC since its inception in 1953. Virginia Athletic Director Craig Littlepage insists the conference's outlook remains positive.

“Even with the departure of the University of Maryland, the Atlantic Coast Conference will continue to be a leader in academics and athletics among all conferences nationally,” Littlepage said in a statement. “That leadership position, the working relationship of ACC member schools, and the future of the ACC continues to be strong.”

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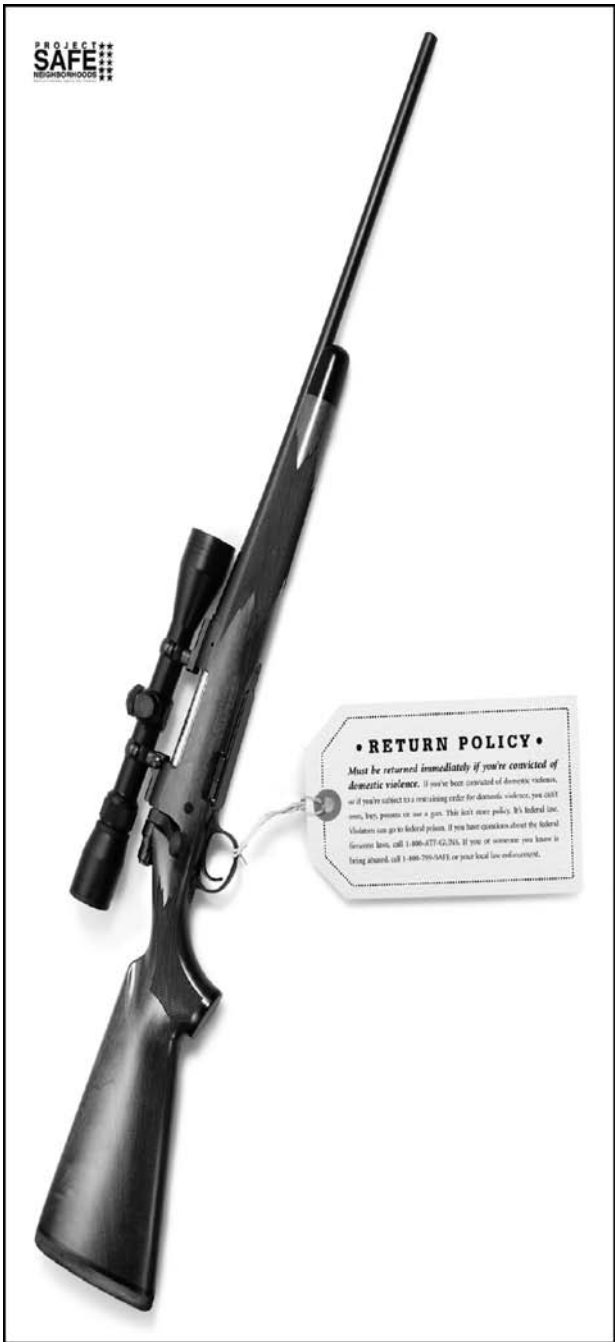
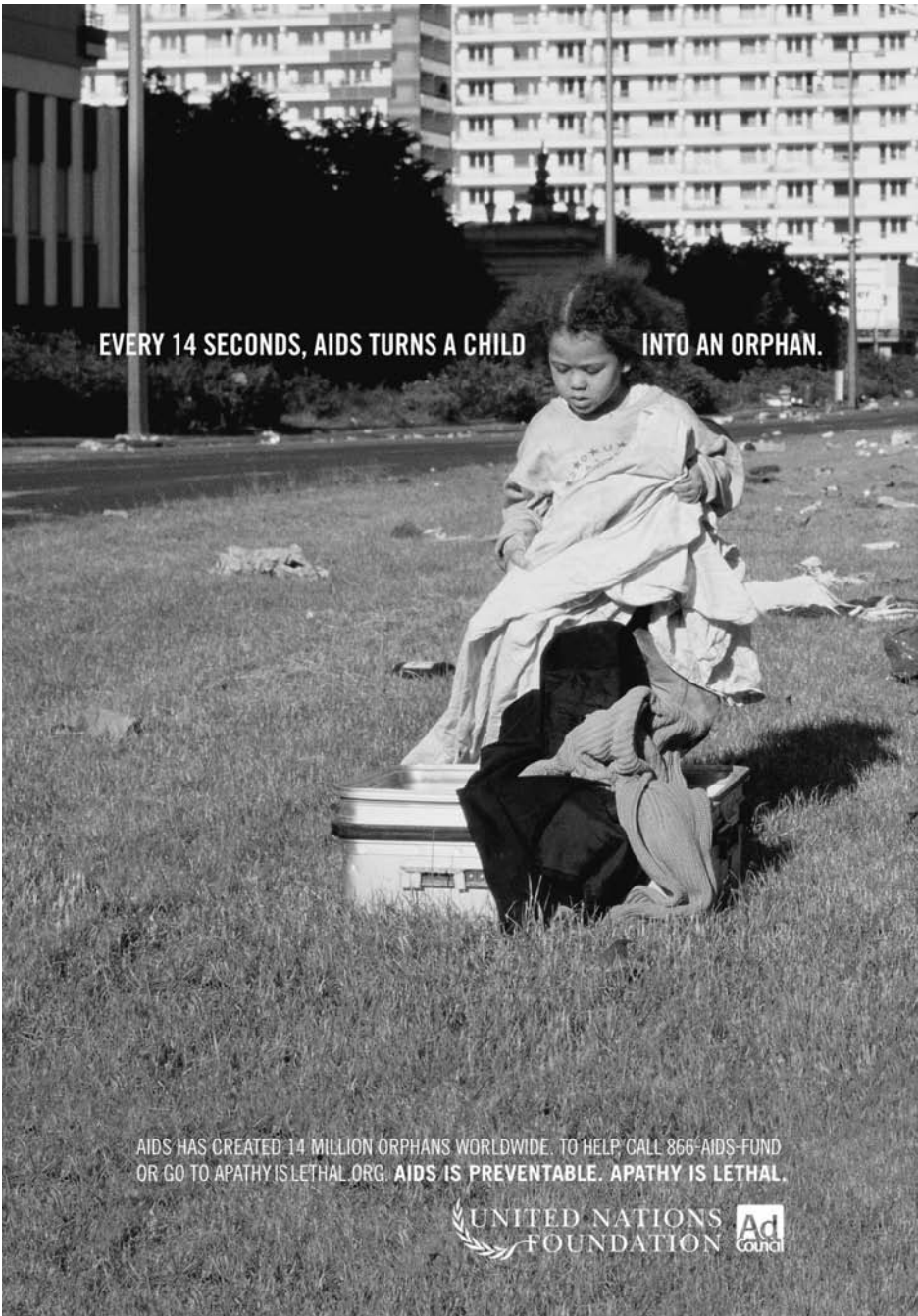
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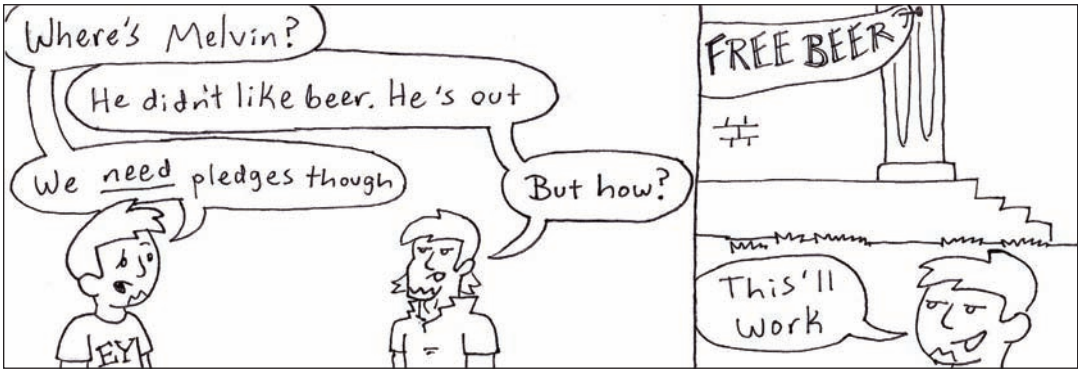
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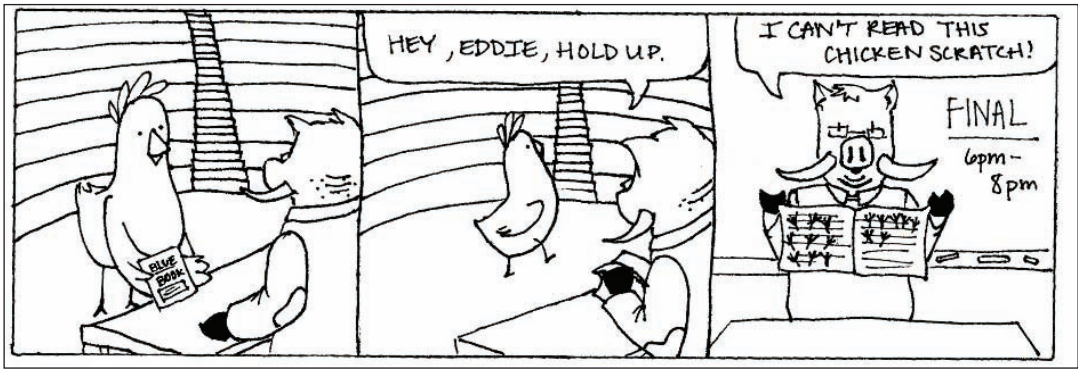
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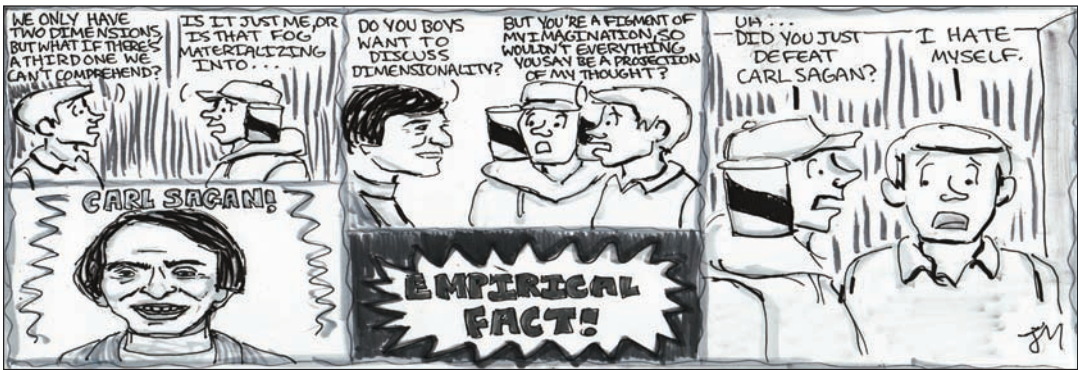
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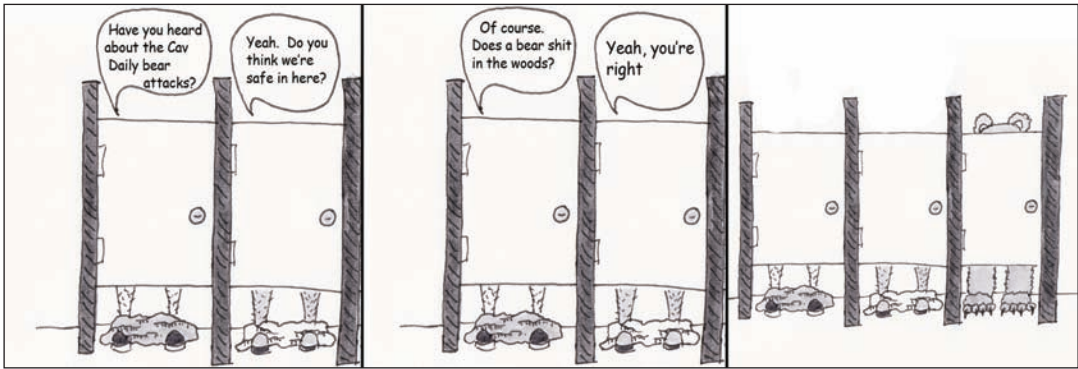
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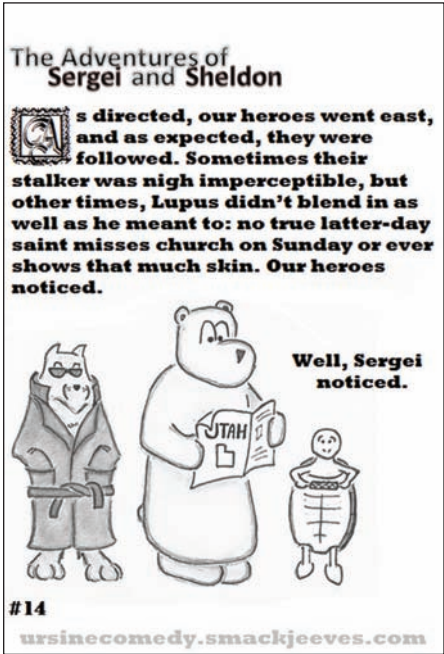
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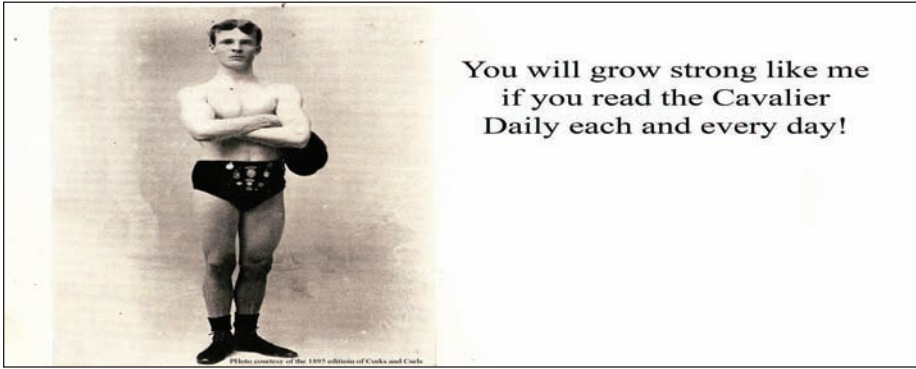
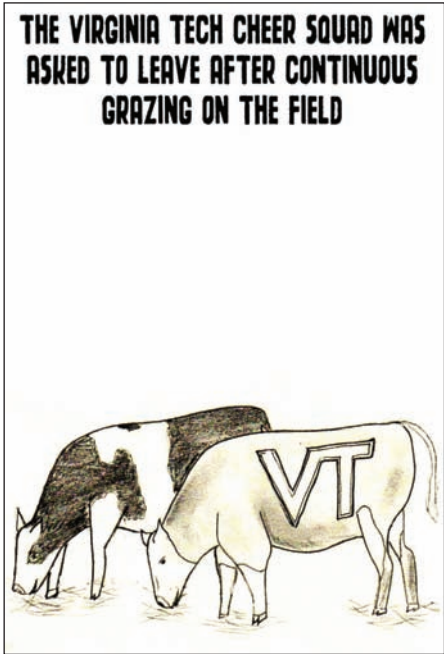
A BUNCH OF BANANAS BY JACK WINTHROP & GARRETT MAJDIC



BEAR NECESSITIES BY MAX MEESE & ALEX SCOTT



MOSTLY HARMLESS BY PETER SIMONSEN



HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). People repeat to you the silent things you have said to yourself. Hearing the words out loud helps you become aware of the powerful messages you generate in your head. You are growing in awareness daily.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). If you ignore your more inappropriate feelings, will they disappear? It's worth a try. After all, it's easy for you attain another state of mind by focusing on what makes you feel friendly, cheerful and loving.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You're generous and have fun sharing so long as you're in control. A person who hones in on your territory and attempts to guilt you into making your resources available must be managed, not indulged.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You are more productive when your environment is ordered and your schedule is cut down to a manageable size. Taking the time to get organized is crucial to the development of a project.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You set the tone for handling situations that are unfamiliar or challenging in other ways. Others look to you for cues about how to act. With this in mind you remain patient, calm and compassionate.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your work is important, your service valuable. Remind yourself of this before you negotiate your price. Tonight, you take care of a loved one and the gentle kindness will later be returned.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). A request that you deem reasonable is nonetheless extremely difficult for someone to deliver on. It's probably a case of mismatched supply and demand. Stay upbeat while you politely pass, in favor of shopping around.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You have a growing interest in the opinions of others and will flatter someone with your astute questions. You don't even feel the need to give your own opinion, as you are content to listen and learn — a rare and lovely quality.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The action heats up between some of the friends in your circle. This gives you an opportunity to take the high road. As a fire sign, you recognize which words will be incendiary and you steer clear.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The wisdom inside you is directing you to do something that you perceive as difficult. This is actually the easiest route, but it requires you to act differently than you usually would, so it seems like a stretch.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're an original. You're looking at the same scenery as everyone else, but you're thinking something different about it than anyone before you has ever thought.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The more light you pour on the situation, the less stress you feel. So information is your best stress reliever. Get the best expert advice you can find and wherever possible, go to the source.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (NOVEMBER 20). You express your thoughts and ambitions in such a captivating way that you may be asked to share in a public forum. Your professional life benefits in January as you are able to establish more firmly your status as an expert. Love deepens through common interests in June. Many find you fascinating-ish, Cancer and Aries especially. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 2, 10, 44 and 14.

Amazing... But True! Survival Guide

by James Maxwell

Crucial travel information for those heading to the away game at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute

- To reach Blacksburg, take I-64 West until you hear the banjos. Good luck!
- A Hokie's raw hatred for us is based on an abiding inferiority complex. Avoid multisyllabic words. Consider wearing only overalls to fit in.
- You may notice Hokie fans jingling their keys for a "key play." Don't make fun! This sad, little pun is considered sophisticated word-play to Tech graduates, most of whom continue to struggle with literacy.
- The recent addition of running water to Lane Stadium has brought a welcome end to the old pee troughs, but drinking the water is discouraged. Symptoms of "Hokie's Revenge" include hives, slack-jaw and basing one's self-worth on the performance of a football team.
- If you hear anyone say "squeal like a pig," flee in the opposite direction. Wildly discharge pepper spray behind you for good measure.
- On the way home, consider how fortunate you are to be out of that crap-hole. Contribute generously to the "Hokie Rescue Foundation," which funds the education children need to avoid ending up at Virginia Tech.

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LAST SOLUTION:

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

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The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 1016

Across

1 Verdi duet
7 "Madre, non..."
6 Gucci rival
11 Wheelwright's tool
14 Cousins of foils
15 Strange
16 Narrow inlet
17 Cows, pigs and chickens
19 Equivalent of about seven cases of beer
20 Watery
21 Deep-toned instrument
23 Sister
24 Location of Mount McKinley
29 Mural surface
31 ___ the Lip (major-league nickname)
32 Buddy of "The Beverly Hillsbillies"
33 UPS delivery: Abbr.

Down

35 See 26-Down
37 Masculine side
38 One can be found in each of the answers to 17-, 24-, 54- and 63-Across
43 Gen. Robt. ___
44 Otto's vehicle on "The Simpsons"
45 Italian article
46 Frighten
48 Do a voice-over for
50 Out of touch with reality
54 A.M. or F.M. news dispatch
57 Baseball scoreboard letters
58 Cream-toned
59 Certain sedatives
61 Gun, as an engine
63 Sprain, say
66 Alcindor: Abdul-Jabbar :: Clay : ___
67 Direct (to)

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

| | | |
|------------|------------|---------|
| ALTO | WROTE | VEST |
| JOHN | HAGAR | ECHO |
| AGER | ANDRE | GOAD |
| ROYALTIES | JELLO | |
| MOS | NINETIES | |
| SHIP | OUT | YEA |
| PER | PROPERTIES | |
| EXIST | OBE | SEALY |
| CASUALTIES | GIN | |
| BRA | SANJOSE | |
| BEAUTIES | MIO | |
| AVERS | NOVELTIES | |
| HERB | ERRED | TORI |
| ARIA | DORIA | EWOK |
| ITEN | SLY | LY DASH |

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58 Cream-toned
59 Certain sedatives
61 Gun, as an engine
63 Sprain, say
66 Alcindor: Abdul-Jabbar :: Clay : ___
67 Direct (to)

68 French square
69 Inits. on a bottle of Parisienne
70 Tin Pan Alley output
71 Akman and Donahue

Down

1 Render harmless, as a snake
2 Impossible to see through
3 "Seinfeld" episodes, now
4 Idea that may spread via the Internet
5 Japanese-born P.G.A. star
6 Former Saudi king
7 Blight victim
8 Actress Vardalos
9 The Mississippi has a big one
10 Cover, in a way
11 Bill Clinton, by birth
12 Go out, as a fire
13 Turn back sharply
18 Void, in Versailles
22 Where one might get one's first pair of overalls
25 Lampoons
26 Bryant of the 35-Across
27 There's one for curly hair
28 56-Down grad: Abbr.
30 Ball-like
34 Hunk
36 Tempe sch.

38 Be frightened
39 Teatro ___ Scala
40 Manta
41 Like the athletes in the ancient Olympics
42 You might not think to use it
47 Quagmire

49 Pro wrestling fans, frequently
51 Conductor Toscanini
52 Sundae topper
53 "You're right, absolutely!"
55 Total
56 Upstate N.Y. sch.

60 Like a door that doesn't afford complete privacy
61 Manta, e.g.
62 Loop transports
64 "Brainiac" author Jennings
65 Cal's place

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Urban | College days bring special Christmas cheer

Continued from page B2

When you run out of movies, you have to remind yourself of your favorite TV show holiday episodes. Where would we be as a culture without the “Friends” Christmas special, “The One with the Holiday Armadillo,” where Ross teaches Ben about Hannukah, or Seth Cohen’s invented holiday of Chrismukah and its Yamaclaus?

Black Friday pays off because as you stock up on J. Crew sweaters and \$3 DVDs you “can’t live without,” your parents are stocking up on new electronics and need a place to store the old ones. Suddenly, you find your apartment just got an upgrade with a new-to-you television or DVD player.

Real memories are made as you venture to Goodwill and Wal-Mart with your roommates in search of the perfect ugly holiday sweater for one of the many tacky holiday parties you will undoubtedly be invited to. Even though it is a little embarrassing to wear a sweater even your mom would not have touched in the ‘80s, you like it more than you admit because it gives you an excuse to go out dressed in warm clothing.

Your Pinterest has never looked so festive. Even though you won’t make or do 90 percent of the things you pin, guys and girls alike reap the benefits of these pinning efforts as it gives someone you know an excuse to throw a party so everyone can try the newly pinned festive drinks.

Before you head home for break, you get to go to the best part about being a U.Va. student during the holidays: Lighting of the Lawn. There are few things for which I would hang out in freezing temperatures for three hours, but Lighting of the Lawn is worth every minute. Hulaahoos singing holiday songs with hot chocolate and peppermint schnapps in hand? There is no better way to say happy holidays.

When you finally go home, your house is decorated with all your corny handmade childhood ornaments and trinkets your mom still puts out that you pretend to hate but secretly like. And the best part is you escape all the family drama that surrounds decorating for the holidays, including the fight about where to hang the outside Christmas lights.

Then, when you see your extended family, they are generous to you since they understand the plight of being a poor college student. It also becomes socially acceptable to drink at family events, meaning you can take a break from the Natural Light and Franzia and remind yourself what real people drink.

Happy holidays.

Katie’s column runs biweekly Tuesdays. She can be reached at k.urban@cavalierdaily.com.

Stonehill | Keepsakes reveal life, collegiate experiences

Continued from page B2

we choose to display — and to hide — bears on our identity, but I think this “identity” is too easily manipulated, too geared toward an audience. What we keep to ourselves, for ourselves and of ourselves reflects far beyond any particular item. We are what we keep.

Now that I have laid out this comprehensive plan to self-discovery, I cannot help but think: Well, shoot, what does this say about me?

I have kept my baby blanket for the longest time, unable to let go of a companion and the childhood that goes with it. There was a journal-keeping phase, a sign of a disillusioned and challenging third year. As if one Moleskine notebook was not enough, there was “that other” journal phase meant to keep memories of abroad fresh in my homebound mind. Every ticket stub, wristband, or random scrap makes its way to my “Life” jar, a collective keepsake that entertains my pre-emptive nostalgia for college. So am I self-reflective, nostalgic, unable or unwilling to be where my feet are? My worn copies of “Harry Potter” and “The Elements of Style” remain perched on my shelf. I am a literary nerd, realizing that William Strunk would roll over in his grave if he saw any of this column’s passive voice, incorrect syntax and serial commas.

This hypothesis should not necessarily encourage a University-wide “Room Raiders” epidemic, but I hope it compels you to think more critically about your own keepsakes. The conscious and unconscious choices you make about what to keep through the years provide a linear sequence in an otherwise discombobulated world. While this was probably not a recipe for a series of Joycean epiphanies, I hope it at least provides encouragement to keep on keepin’ on.

Elizabeth’s column runs biweekly Tuesdays. She can be reached at e.stonehill@cavalierdaily.com.

Clemens | French gym compares unfavorably against U.S. ones

Continued from page B2

habits — or lack thereof — I can only imagine what it was like two centuries ago.

I don’t have the space to explain adequately each of this gym’s incongruous “rules” and the context through which I encountered them, so I will be brief. Friday came, and the personal instruction session proved to be just as much of a pointless formality as I expected it to be. I was placed on five or six machines, all of which I had used countless times before, for seven minutes each and was told how to “properly” use them.

I’m aware it sounds pretty acceptable that a gym wants to ensure its members are ready to use the equipment to get the most out of the membership. I thought that too until a week later. During a 15-minute session on the elliptical I was approached by another trainer telling me I was forbidden from using the machines for more than what my trainer had allotted me: seven minutes. I know it doesn’t really make sense, but it didn’t make sense to me either.

Next was getting kicked out of the gym for forgetting to bring my towel with me. The sacred and never-forgotten towel that each member brings with them each time, and wipes down their face and equipment with. First of all, that’s disgusting. And you’re really going to not let me work out because I forgot it?

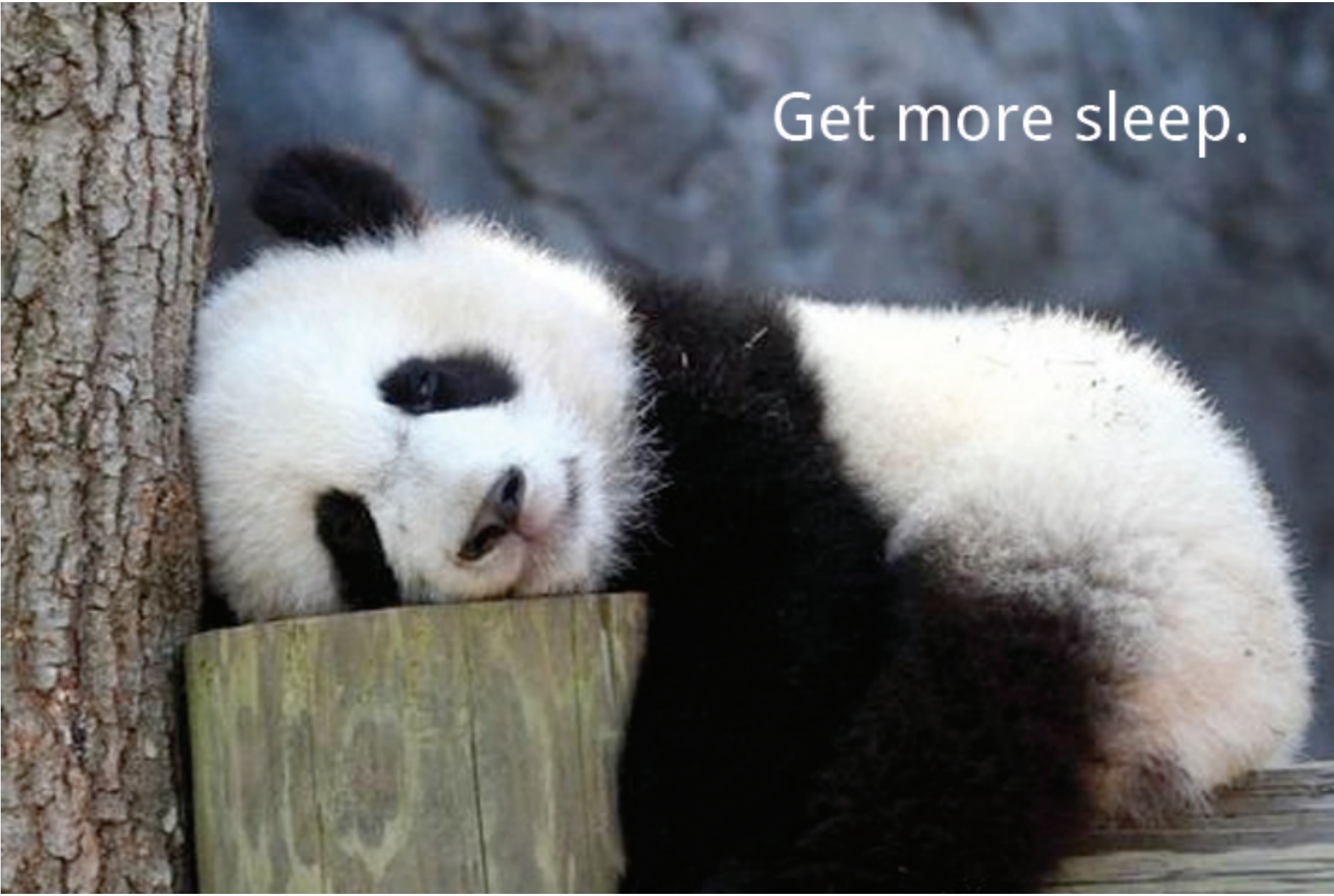
Then there was the obese, furry gray thing hopping around the floor one evening that nobody seemed to be phased by except me. I saw it come in outdoors, but stray or not, this bunny nonchalantly strolled through the gym room one evening remaining unnoticed by everyone but me.

Most recently I was on a treadmill jog, about 14 minutes into a 10 km/hour run when the particular self-assured trainer who walks around correcting form came up to me and told me that I need to run on the treadmill with my speed set equal to my level of incline. For those of you unfamiliar with treadmills, a level-10 inclination at 10 km/hour is pretty much the equivalent of running up Mount Olympus. I looked at him and actually laughed thinking it was a joke, and he winked at me and said it was good for my equilibrium. Does he know that it’s actually impossible?

And worst of all, no iPods allowed! What?!

Normally this would be my space to sum up this French-ism and reflect on how it has helped shape my study abroad experience, or how it’s surely a difference in culture that must be respected, or how it’s something I wish the United States could try to emulate, but honestly it’s none of that. And given that I have used up most of my allotted space to rant, my only words of wisdom are that I cannot wait to get back to U.S. gyms and be allowed to do whatever my little heart pleases.

Valerie’s column runs biweekly Tuesdays. She can be reached at v.clemens@cavalierdaily.com.





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