Changes to sexual misconduct policy

National changes mandated by Title IX affect campus reporting of sexual violence

Addie Balenger  Staff Writer

Many students describe Davidson as existing in its own bubble. While in some respects, this idea is indisputable, members of the community must not be fooled into thinking this is always the case. Sexual harassment and assault occur on this campus. The police have investigated cases of serial rape in the past. The policies surrounding sexual misconduct should not be taken lightly because of the aura of safety produced by small town charm.

Shortly before returning to school in August, Tom Shandley, Dean of Students, sent an e-mail to all students regarding changes to the sexual misconduct policy. These changes resulted due to a letter from the Office of Civil Rights received in April 2011.

In this letter, the Office of Civil Rights outlined new stipulations that colleges much follow in order to receive federal financial aid. In addition, the letter strongly reminded college officials of the wide scope of the Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972. The letter firmly asserted that sexual harassment and assault are a form of the sex discrimination prohibited in Title IX.

In response to the letter, the College assembled a committee to study the letter’s recommendations. See POLICY, page 2

Presidential Scholars get working

'Bridge builders’ move towards action this semester under formal organization

Laura Chuckray  News Editor

To the beat of spirited seasonal tunes, students filed through the Union Atrium to stuff stockings for Ada Jenkins Community Center during last Thursday’s Common Hour. Though the service-oriented event was straightforward in purpose, symbolically, it marked an important shift for its organizers: the Presidential Scholars.

“The main change is that [the program] becomes more than just meeting with the President,” said one Scholar, Tyler Wilson ’14. “It is supposed to be something that is actually meaningful and has an impact on campus, because that was the initial purpose of the Presidential Scholar program.”

According to the students and their administrative leads, this semester marks the beginning of action for the group, or at least, an organizational framework that will precede action.

Presidential Scholars, who currently number 82, are selected on grounds of both strong academic performance and for their role as “bridge builders” in their communities. According to Sarabeth Balenger, the group’s President, “We really want the bridge builders to have an impact on campus.”

The group organized a service project benefiting Ada Jenkins during last Thursday’s Common Hour. Photo by Tyler Wilson ’14.

Presidential Scholars with stuffed stockings. The group organized a service project benefiting Ada Jenkins during last Thursday’s Common Hour. Photo by Tyler Wilson ’14.

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Policy changes require sexual misconduct to be reported

Continued from page 1

guidelines as well as the policies at other institutions. The committee then proposed changes to Davidson’s policies. After the student conduct council and the President approved these changes, Shandley sent out the policy changes.

The letter called for institutions to create a Title IX coordinator. All reports of sexual harassment and assault must be reported to the Title IX coordinator. Kathy Bray, Associate Dean of Students. Previously, if a student shared with a professor or other faculty member that he or she had been sexually harassed, that adult would not be obligated to pass that information along to Bray. Now, anyone employed by the College, with the exception of a doctor, nurse or chaplain, must alert Bray.

Though this initial report does not need to include the student’s name, the circumstances surrounding the incident must be reported. “The reason that information needs to come to me is that the college has an obligation to make sure our campus is a safe and non-hostile place,” Bray explained. “If there are assaults or harassment of any kind happening on campus, we need to know about it so we can take action.”

Both Bray and Georgia Ringle, Davidson’s Health Educator, stressed that respecting a student’s privacy would be the top priority. “The only time it (a student’s information) would be shared, and that student would be notified, is if we felt a threat to the campus in general,” Ringle said. “Nobody else would know that we had brought up this name, it would be only to help us with a known potential serial rapist, for instance.”

In addition, the letter changed the standard of evidence used in colleges’ handling of cases dealing with sexual misconduct. While in the past the sexual misconduct board used the same standard of evidence as honor council hearings, clear and convincing, the Office of Civil Rights asserted the preponderance standard, meaning it is more than likely than not the behavior in question occurred, is appropriate for cases of sexual misconduct.

Student survivors have several options open to them: charging the accused in a legal setting, taking the case before Davidson’s sexual misconduct board, or requesting that a declaratory order be issued. A declaratory order, a decision regarding whether or not an accused student had committed sexual misconduct, is then used to confront the perpetrator face to face. The Office of Civil Rights, however, deemed that an informal mediation of this kind would be the appropriate action in the case of sexual assault.

Taking away this option was an initial concern for Bray. “I do think that for some students having that conversation can be really important,” she said. “I understand why the government is saying you can’t do this anymore, and I think their reasons for doing it make sense, but I still worry a little that students don’t have that option at Davidson, because I know that we didn’t miss the boat on it. We were never and never would require students to go to that route or push that route. I am all about giving students as many options as possible, and different options are going to resonate differently with different students, and we’ve taken away one of those options.”

On top of the changes outlined in the letter, students no longer serve as investigators in the sexual misconduct hearing process. Instead, the sexual misconduct board now draws from a pool of three investigators specially trained for these situations: Tae-Sun Kim, Director of Multi-Cultural Affairs, Jason Shaffer, Director of Residence Life, and Becca Taylor, Assistant Director of Alumni Relations. In addition, while the sexual misconduct board is composed of members of the faculty, staff, and students from the honor council, both the survivor and the accused student now have the option to request that students do not participate in the hearing.

“You hear the word ‘rape,’ and you think it has to be a stranger; it has to be brutal, I have to have injuries, he has to have a weapon. The most common weapon in rapes and sexual assaults on college campuses is alcohol. That’s the weapon.” Police Chief Adrienne Murray

Adrienne Murray, Chief of Police, insisted that looking back on the sexual assault statistics for the past three years can be deceiving. In 2009, two cases of sexual assault were reported, four in 2010, and six in 2011. Murray pointed to the increase in education efforts as the cause of the rise. These statistics do not, however, account for unreported cases. According to the Office of Civil Rights, about 20% of college women and 6.1% of college men experience attempted or completed sexual assault.

“We should not assume that we are any different from any other college campus,” Murray said. “I think what’s hard for students is defining it. You hear the word ‘rape,’ and you think it has to be a stranger, it has to be brutal, I have to have injuries, he has to have a weapon. The most common weapon in rapes and sexual assaults on college campuses is alcohol. That’s the weapon.”

Student survivors have several options for cases of sexual assault. Although I am not a proponent of getting drunk, I don’t think that’s a healthy choice, but fundamentally, a person has the right to be drunk and not be prey to somebody who thinks they have a right to that person’s body."

Ringle, Bray and Murray emphasized the first priority is always respecting the student survivor’s wishes. When asked what she wants students who have experienced any kind of sexual misconduct to know, Ringle replied, “I wish they would know that they can come and step into my office and not feel like they know what they are going to do. They can come in all different emotional states, it does not matter, but if something has happened to them, I want them to utilize my services, and all of our services: Student Health, Counseling, Dean’s Office, Residence Life, and the Chaplain’s Office.”

Chris Rapsdale ’14, Class President, worked with Ringle and Bray to make sure the student body is aware of these changes. “I don’t think the changes are too drastic,” he said. “This is still a safe place. This is still going to be a place that sees that sexual offenders go through the proper justice system. I think it was just some logistical changes, and I think that the Dean of Students Office, Georgia Ringle, and Campus Police all did a wonderful job of making sure that Davidson was following those legal procedures and guidelines set by the federal government, but at the same time making sure it works for Davidson, and working the Davidson system around it, making sure we don’t change too much.”

From trails to dorms, winter construction across campus underway

Guest House and residence halls’ renovation and pipeline construction in varying stages

John Soper
Staff Writer

Over the past few weeks, students have begun to notice the construction projects under- way at the Carnegie Guest House and on the cross country trails, along with the se- mester long renovation of Irwin, Akers and Knott residence halls.

Students will be most impacted by the renovation of the residence halls, which are being designed specifically for juniors and seniors who wish to live on campus. The majority of the rooms will be transformed into large single rooms to create “a more ideal rooming environment for upper class students and seniors who wish to live on campus.”

A redecoration of public areas is also in order. It is hard to envision the former ‘look’ of the Guest House once the new project is completed.

One of the other noticeable projects on campus goes back to last January. Piedmont Natural Gas (PNG) reached out to David- son in late January about their plans to build a pipeline running through portions of the College’s ecological preserve and the country trails as a part of their larger project of running a pipeline from a local gas pump station to Winston-Salem, NC. As residents and college officials were worried about the potential impact to the preserve and trails, but according to David Holthouse, the Physical Plant’s Director of Facilities and Engineering, PNG has tried to minimize their impact on the landscape.

“PNG worked very hard to avoid an area of the ecological preserve with a valuable stand of hardwood trees and a long-standing research experiment still in progress,” stated Holthouse.

As a result of the heavy construction, the college decided to close a section of the trails for the safety of its users. Originally, the construction was supposed to be finished by next spring, but Holthouse believes the heavy construction will be fin- ished within the next few months.

A third construction project on campus is the renovation of the Carnegie Guest House. The main purpose of therenova- tion is safety and utility, but since the building had to be completely emptied, Guest House manager Cissi Lyles decided it was also a good time to redecorate the public areas.

Since the building is over 100 years old, the installation of a new sprinkler system re- quires significant reworking, which is why management decided to check and upgrade many of the other utility systems simultane- ously. The building will also be adding an elevator as part of the renovation in order to accommodate guests with disabilities.

“My staff and I are all excited to see the new ‘look’ of the Guest House once the new decorations are in. It is hard to envision those changes. We also anticipate the looks of surprise when our guests realize we really do have an elevator!” said Lyles.

This is the first time in 15 years that the Guest House has been fully redecorated, and the project is being paid for by capital reserves which the auxiliary services annu- ally contribute to.

Like the Guest House on Facebook (facebook.com/CarnegieGuestHouse) to follow the transformation of the building.
Presidential Scholars step into role as ‘bridge builders’

Continued from page 1

Fleming, Associate Dean of Admission and Financial Aid, the latter quality manifests throughout an applicant’s essay, recommenda-
tions and activities, as he or she works to-
wards equality of ethnicity, gender, religion, socioeconomic levels or sexual orientation. In previous years, the group has not been struc-
tured with the purpose of the Scholars working together. Though they naturally
have taken on leadership roles in the Stu-
dent Government Association (SGA), the Black Student Coalition (BSC), Hilliel and man-
y other organizations, noted Fleming, their leadership and involvements were on an
individual level.

“It’s been a designation, not a role,” said Gardener Ligo, Director of Merit Programs.

The timing of this role emergence is in part due to the instatement of President Car-
ol Quillen. The President, according to Gabe Rivera ’15, is “what defines us. It gave us a
more concrete identity now that President Quillen is established.”

Because the current class of senior scholars has seen three different presidents during their time at Davidson, the transitions
left them feeling “sort of disparate,” accord-
ing Michael Diamant ’13.

“It felt as if we were supposed to be do-
ing a lot more than what we were doing,” he
said. “But with President Quillen in place... [the program] has the perfect opportunity to germinate and grow with the President.”

The change began with efforts to orga-
nize the group into defined committees: the
Societies, Communications Connectors and the Facilitators, who act as an advisory group.

The first task of the Scholars Connectors is to try to build links within the large
group. “When you have a group that is all about diversity, what do you come together around?” said Kathryn Kemp ’15, a sopho-
more facilitator and member of the Scholars Connection team. Determining an answer to this question is a work in progress, but one
that was begun over pizza in a gathering last Sunday.

The Community Connectors are charged
with engaging the campus and community at large. This group was behind Thursday’s
stocking stuffer event, which brought to-
gether members of Warner Hall, the Alphas,
the Deltas and other organizations to partici-
patate.

What the future holds for the Presiden-
tial Scholars, though, remains to be seen.

“They have 20 years worth of projects that they want to do,” said Ligo, elaborating
on the scholars’ goals to connect different
groups of faculty to students, athletes to
non-athletes, international students to spe-
cific groups, etc.

“I think the good thing about the Presi-
dential Scholars is it’s not [the administra-
tion] depends on us to do it, but rather saying, ‘What would you like to do with the skills you have at hand?’ ” said Diamant, one of the
senior facilitators.

Taking a role in the program is, accord-
ing to Ligo, “an expectation, not an obliga-
tion.” The scholarships, which range from $7,500 to $25,000 varying based on levels
of need, are not contingent on structured participation in the formal program.

“I think the type of student we select will do those things independent of someone saying they have to,” said Fleming. “They have shown for several years that if it’s a gen-
der equity or racial equity or whatever it is they’re passionate about, they do it because they love it.”

On a campus where scholarships recipi-
ents are not visibly labeled as such, the more
public identity of the Presidential Scholars may initially seem a source of possible ten-
sion.

But Ligo and Fleming insist inside the nature of the Scholars and their desire to build con-
nections across all groups naturally dispels
any problems in this area. Even in their meetings with the President, said Fleming, their goal is to work on connecting the cam-
pus, not fostering an exclusive relationship.

Though each Scholar will likely tell you something a bit different for what projects
they would like to see unfold next, they find
commonality in their genuine investment to
affect change. How this will manifest in real and measurable progress shall be seen.

New Sustainability Director
New position created to over-
see College efforts at impro-
ving overall sustainability

Sarah Welty
Editor-in-Chief

New Director of Sustainability, Jeff Mittel-
stadt ’99, began work as Davidson’s first
Director of Sustainability just three weeks ago. And he’s already getting started on his
big plans for sustainability at Davidson.

In addition to converting the former
Warnock Science Center to a communal sustainability work-

space, Mittelstadt has been planning a series of work-

spots to kick off the spring semester. The workshops will be open to all students, especially those with sustainability-

adjacent interests in business and social justice.

Mittelstadt’s ambitious plans depend on a truly interdisciplinary ap-

proach to sustainable programming.

“My love of sustainability is communicating across boundaries,” he said.

“The whole idea of sustainability concen-
trates on being able to talk and work with environmental groups, social groups... Sus-

tainability is not just about where economic prosperity, social equity and environmental integrity come together, but it’s how each of those drives the other.”

Sustainability is not simply an environ-
mental issue, Mittelstadt said, but also an
economic and social one. By applying what is referred to as the “triple bottom line” con-
cept of sustainability to Davidson, Mittel-
stadt seeks to connect members of campus with disparate interests in the common en-
derprise of sustainability.

“If you’re interested in making money, sustainability is still for you,” Mittel-
stadt said. “If you’re interested in social equity issues, sustainability is a great place to take of those interests and apply those interests. Obviously if you’re interested in the envi-
ronment, sustainability is a great place to work across boundaries and with organiza-
tions and people that think differently than you. It’s about un-
derstanding different perspectives.”

For Mittelstadt, a Davidson gradu-
ate, his appointment as the Director of Sustainability is the realization of a long-
held aspiration.

“It’s a dream job to be able to work on things that I love at home, which is what I consider [Da-
vidson] to be,” he said. “This is my dream job... I get to work with faculty, stu-
dents, administration and the community around us on every issue that sustainability is about.”

Mittelstadt returns to Davidson after working the EPA, Bank of America and the National Council for Advanced Manufac-
turing. In between working in sustainability, Mittelstadt earned an Masters in Business Administration and a Masters in Journalism and Mass Communication, both from UNC Chapel Hill.
Davidson Farm to provide produce to Dining Services

Continued from page 1

of being used by college Dining Services. One thousand strawberry plants were also recently planted. The first produce will likely be harvest in February or March. “We’re providing local sustainable produce to students at no different cost than what they pay now,” said farm manager Theresa Allen.

Allen was hired to run the new farm in September. Before coming to Davidson, Allen worked as a horticulturist and farmer at Spelman College in Atlanta. She had previously worked with Dining Services for a year. “That was an advantage because I was able to work with chefs to grow food specifically for them,” Allen said.

According to Allen, the farm is situated on college land bought from the McIntosh family in 2008. The college bought 109 acres of land from the family, and has devoted 3 acres to growing food. The farm has been in development for about one-and-a-half years. “This was very much student-driven,” Allen said. “Students asked for it, and it has come to fruition.”

“I think the project has great things in store, and I’m really looking forward to seeing how it takes off over the coming years,” said Kaitlin Roberts ’13, one of the two work-study students who currently work at the farm. “I’m graduating this year, but I’ll look forward to coming back and seeing how much it’s progressed,” said Roberts.

Because the farm was started this semester, much of the infrastructure has yet to be built. Allen’s next plans are to put up a high tunnel — a 96 feet long by 30 feet wide greenhouse — to keep the crops growing through the winter. The farm is also still lacking an irrigation system and a bathroom.

Allen also hopes to put a walk-in cooler in the workshop to store produce and build up the entrance to accommodate groups of visitors from the community.

The farm also has big plans for future crops. Microgreens and an orchard are in the works. Allen wants to grow apples, pears, blackberries, raspberries, blueberries and more strawberries. A hydroponics system is being built. Hydroponics is the process of growing plants on water alone, without soil. All of the crops will be grown from seed, without any chemicals or pesticides.

Allen plans to hold a grand opening for the farm once most of the infrastructure has been built, hopefully by February. Students and community members who want to get a sneak peek can visit the farm during visiting hours on Tuesdays from 10 am to 12 pm, and Fridays from 1 to 3 pm.

According to Allen, students and community members have shown definite interest. “When we are up and running there will definitely be work days to help with planting, weeding and harvesting,” Allen said. But there is a way students can get involved right away. Allen is holding a contest for students to design the farm logo. The logo will appear on the farm’s Facebook page and mark items served in Commons and the Davis Café with farm ingredients. The winner will earn a gift certificate. Students can submit designs to the drop box at Commons or email them to thallen@da vidson.edu before January 20.

Police Chief ends time at College

Continued from page 1

ty events, football games, and so on. I will be able to build close relationships with a small, intimate number of people who share the passion I do for educating and enriching the lives of young women—and, in our nation’s capital!” Murray said.

Chief Murray will be replaced next semester by interim chief, Clara Thompson.

A tense political thriller from Davidsonians

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-Tony Abbott, author of If Words Could Save Us

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-Rosie Molinary, author of Hijas Americanas

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CRIME LOG: 11/20 to 12/01

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Larceny-All Other

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Larceny - All Other

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Larceny - All Other

12/01/12 0125 hrs
Knox
Further Investigation

Larceny - All Other

12/01/12 0130-0925 hrs
Outpost
Further Investigation

Larceny - All Other

12/01/12 0200 hrs-0930 hrs
Richardson
Further Investigation

INVESTIGATION

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Top 6 take aways from Nicholas Kristof's Reynolds Lecture on Monday, December 3.


Don’t have the Christmas spirit? Change that with these holiday classics

Top 4 holiday-centered movies that reflect the warmth and joy of Christmas

Tommy Barquero

It’s the most wonderful time of the year, and for this movie buff, that means it is time to revisit “It’s a Wonderful Life,” my favorite Christmas movie of all-time. Frank Capra’s 1946 classic tells a timeless story of personal redemption, family and love. The predecessor to “Elf” and “The Santa Clause,” “It’s a Wonderful Life” is arguably the most frequently played Christmas movie on television. Every year, NBC and a dozen other channels showcase Capra’s holiday classic. For those who do not love “It’s a Wonderful Life” as much as I do, its marathon display on television may seem a little too incessant. But if you are not a fan of George Bailey, there is no need to worry. As you prepare for the arrival of Santa Claus, there are plenty of wonderful, upbeat and family-friendly initiatives that will put you in the Christmas spirit.

Robert Zemekis’ “The Polar Express” is a visually stunning, endlessly captivating holiday gem. The movie, based on Chris Van Allsburg’s classic children’s book, is bold, musical and adventurous. In addition to being a remarkable achievement in animation—the animated characters played by Tom Hanks look exactly like Tom Hanks. “The Polar Express” makes you believe every second of it. This is the sheer beauty, brilliant screenplay and winning chemistry between Will Ferrell, Elf—parody, Frank Capra’s masterpiece embodies the Christmas spirit. However, while I cherish “It’s a Wonderful Life,” I admit that it is a somewhat cliché choice for best Christmas movie. After all, “It’s a Wonderful Life” is arguably the most frequently played Christmas movie on television. Every year, NBC and a dozen other channels showcase Capra’s holiday classic. For those who do not love “It’s a Wonderful Life” as much as I do, its marathon display on television may seem a little too incessant. But if you are not a fan of George Bailey, there is no need to worry. As you prepare for the arrival of Santa Claus, there are plenty of wonderful, upbeat and family-friendly initiatives that will put you in the Christmas spirit.

While “Santa Clause 3: The Escape Clause” will not be appearing on any best Christmas movies list anytime soon—and seriously, “The Escape Clause” sounds more like a grammatical term than anything holiday-oriented—the original “The Santa Clause” is a charming and memorable delight. The story of a kid’s discovery that his seemingly ordinary dad has taken over the reins as Santa Claus instills in the viewer a joyful feeling of nostalgia. The plot is ridiculous, but the film’s innocence and charm makes you believe every second of it. This is due in large part to the touching father-son relationship. “The Santa Clause” strikes a warm familial tone that feels just right.

Every holiday season delivers some cinematic lumps of coal (“Christmas with the Kranks,” I’m talking about you), but the aforementioned four movies are excellent representatives of holiday magic. So sit back, relax, enjoy some eggnog and delight in the comfort of “It’s a Wonderful Life,” “The Polar Express,” “Elf” and “The Santa Clause.”
Emily Wilkes ’14 and Quincy Newkirk ’14 appreciate the meaning of Disney movies

Emily Wilkes

“...for the majority of his life, Rows crew for Da...”

Katie Bennett

“...multi-talented and kind-hearted all packaged...”

Student spotlight: Have you met... Jack Murphy?

Random interview recognizes

Katie Bennett

“...we’re not crazy. We just like Disney a...”

KB: "What is one of your hidden talents?"
JM: "Well, I enjoy playing piano with my mouth, like the sound of a raindrop, or something popping. I also really enjoy growing giant vegetables. Back home, my parents generated by square foot piece of land to me that I could use to grow what- ever I desired. I figured growing some peas or beans would be fine, but instead, I decided to grow giant pumpkins. In the end, it was right around 576 lbs in weight, but it should have gotten a lot bigger, if bugs didn’t destroy it."

“...they’ve tracked trends and themes across the Disney line-up, and...”

KB: "What has had a great impact on your life?"
JM: "I read these two books that talked about the growth and development of the Western studio. Newkirk and Wilkes say, “Their animation became more sophisticated over time, and so...”

KB: "What do you love most about Da-vidon and on weekends, visits Davidson’s community garden to de-stress and lend a hand at something he loves to do: grow GI-ANT vegetables. Like “James and the Giant Peach” giant. Intrigued? Find out more..."

KB: "What is one of your hidden talents?"
JM: "Well, I enjoy playing piano with my mouth, like the sound of a raindrop, or something popping. I also really enjoy growing giant vegetables. Back home, my parents generated..."
Farewell To All You Readers

The Yowl staff would like to console you all during what will be the saddest moment in your lives so far. Yes, this is the last issue of the Yowl. For those of you who don’t know December 21st 2012 will not only mark the first day of the end of the exam period here at Davidson, but will also mark the end of the world as it is the last date on the Mayan Calendar. That’s right, what better way to the week of coffee, 5 hour energies, and suffering (reading things) than with death. Technically I guess that’s how the week usually ends for students, but this time the only one coming back after a long needed break will be Lord Jesus (bearded one, not the baby).

Now I know what you all are thinking. “Mr. Yowl writer who is vastly superior to me in both intelligence and street smarts, we are predominately Presbyterian college, shouldn’t we strive to be good people to the end?” About that though, have you seen yourselves at a court party? I’m just going to go out on a limb and say I’ll be seeing you all downstairs. Now if we’re all going to experience infinitely painful suffering for eternity why not go out with a bang? That’s right we have 16 days to do whatever the hell we want. Don’t study for finals, don’t even bother taking them. Now’s your time to tell that professor who always gives you a B+ for your A work that you’ll see him over the break… for eternity. Hell max out your cat cards. I don’t even know if they have a credit feature but seriously keep swiping away.

Be that guy who makes everyone wait because you decided 2 pm would be a great time to buy all of the union milk cartons. Yeah that’s right, I see you trying to carry all of that milk out of the union every Tuesday. It’s called Harris Teeter dude. But seriously everyone, there’s no point to even doing any work anymore so I expect to see you all down on the hill enjoying yourself for your last few days on earth. And no don’t worry; I’m not just suggesting this because I’m in counting on some massive final curves to raise my current 2.0 GPA.

French Club Overtakes KA House

Paterson Court – A weeklong stand-off between the brothers of the Kappa Alpha and a radical fringe group of militant Francophiles has finally come to an end. This conflict, initially sparked by KAs refusal to serve staple French cuisine—fries, toast, dip—erupted when members with dual allegiance to the fraternity as well as the cultural affinity group staged a coup d’etat at the most recent fraternity chapter meeting. The group, under the moniker “FRAT” (French Resistance Against TFM’s Liberal Option: “Freak” Santa), stormed the house with French Flags, various fine wines and an assortment of cheeses. Several brothers were taken hostage and ironically forced to swear loyalty to the French fraternity and to their membership to the beer drinking club also known as Kappa Alpha.

Unorthodox Santa to Visit, Scar Davidson

To end the year with a bang, Davidson has announced that it will invite the world’s greatest escape artist to share the secrets of his trade with an eager audience looking for advice on how to evoke the horrors of finals as well as the possible end of the world. In his three-part lecture entitled “This is funny, right?” Santa Claus will discredit the binary approach to his traditional image of “Good” and “Bad” Santa and presents a third and more liberal option: “Freak” Santa. In a publicity stunt for this event Santa gave the public a tantalizing taste of his newest persona, dismissing the distribution of presents as “so last year” and replacing this past gesture with a new novel item, “study grams” for the rad de-mographic of college students.

French Club's Melissa Goliath wears the official cap of the Laundry Service, a group formed to counteract the predatory practices of landlords. The group’s efforts have resulted in the removal of several rent increases and the establishment of a community garden. The Laundry Service has become a symbol of resistance against corporate landlordism in the Davidson community.

Let me see it
Post-Election Decomposition: Republicans and the God Position

Nick Dugas

Though Mitt Romney’s awkward hair and smile have been noticeably absent, the first month since the 2012 presidential election has hardly been uneventful. Since November 6th, the Conner Cronies have been dueling with an unabashed scandal, Benghazi has received renewed attention in the wake of Susan Rice’s potential Secretary of State nomination, and military conflict has finally become centrally integrated into the mainstream [Fox News, Fox News, and Fox News]. Behind the scenes, Republicans have already been jockeying for position for 2016. Marco Rubio has made dinner stops in Iowa; Bobby Jindal has begun to distance himself from the Romney camp; and Rand Paul is slowly but surely inheriting the cohort founded by his father. After the embarrassment that was 2012 however, the Republican Party needs to realize that there is a more fundamental issue holding them back from political success than choosing the right candidate at the right time. More than anything, it is time for Republicans to, at long last, get out of the God business.

Anytime a Republican manages to gain any traction in public opinion by focusing on the less-than-stellar economy, some moronic social conservative ends up spewing ignorant garbage about women’s rights, gay marriage, or religion, with which every media outlet in the nation invariably runs with. For instance, recall incumbent US Representative from Missouri Todd Akin’s display of idiocy with his comments about “legitimate rape” this past July. Not to be outdone, Indiana senate candidate Richard Mourdock won the Monica Republican of the Year Award when he claimed that pregnancies resulting from rape were merely the manifestation of God’s intentions and desires. It should be noted here that both candidates ended up losing their respective elections.

A month ago, I flew to Moscow, Russia to represent Davidson College’s chapter of Global Zero in Moscow. Global Ze- ro’s approach to eliminate weapons combines both top- down and grassroots tactics. In order to connect the two, they hold summits and conferences all around the world. Previous Davidson College students have attended these summits in Paris and Los Angeles, and we are now hon- ored to say we participated in the conference in Moscow, a very crucial place in the history of nuclear weapons.

This International Conference was titled “Nuclear Weapons and International Security in the 21st Centu- ry.” I was one of nine students from the United States and, on my first day there, had the privilege of meeting one hundred Russian students, about my experience with the history of nuclear weapons...
The intriguing fact that no two democracies have ever made major war with one another brings a whole host of questions and theories to follow. This article seeks to analyze institutionally why two democracies, India and Pakistan, that have been in conflict for many years, have not made war with one another for some forty years, and have never fought more than small-scale skirmishes. Using rational choice theory, I will treat these countries as individual actors within the global society. Although the Indian and Pakistani populations are quite large, each represent their unique and rich cultures. These cultures are vested in tradition and bonded through shared trials. These exogenous factors have unified the political aspects of these countries to the point where we may treat them as individuals pursuing and maximizing their best interests and preferences.

India’s democratic tradition begins with their independence from Britain in 1947. From the beginning, India was an outlier: many of the assumed prerequisites for democracy—the middle class, literacy, and social mobility—were not found in the early years of this democracy. Even the relatively strong capitalist economy did not immediately flourish with the small 3 to 4% so-called Hindu growth rate up through the 1960s. But more recently, since the early 1990s, the Indians became more welcoming to foreign investment and saw an explosion of the private sector. Much of their economy became reliant on service-based economic exportation to the United States. These close ties to the US will be an important factor in examining the relationship between India and Pakistan. Pakistan’s tradition of democracy and capitalism also begins with the end of British rule around the same time as India’s. The following passage reveals the marked shift toward Western policy and integration into the global society.

“In this situation, the powerful US has made the rules of the game. It happens that stability for the sake of the oil industry is one of America’s primary concerns in this region.”

Randy Carey

The following quotation further illustrates the lack of confidence that is involved in considering war with an opposing force. “Gen. Gracie blocked Jinnah’s invasion of Kashmir… because the general staff knew that the Indian Army would make mincemeat of their ill-equipped and poorly led troops… The American embrace was the corollary of the obsession with Kashmir. Pakistan joined… because the United States was willing to supply much larger quantities of arms and training on far better terms than any other option.” (Low, D.A. The Political Inheritance of Pakistan. (New York: St. Martin’s Press, 1991), pp. 257-262.)

India and Pakistan both have hundreds of nuclear weapons pointed at one another. Neither government seems to trust the other, and the societies have high tensions and cultural rivalries. Border skirmishes in Kashmir have been fought off and on for decades in the high lands between the two countries. Such skirmishes historically have brought full-scale war between similar such powerful and hostile nations. Why has this not resulted in all-out war? Is it possible that it is simply because it is not in America’s best interest?

The following quotation further illustrates the lack of confidence that is involved in considering war with an opposing force.

“The two countries have remained peaceful through the institutional pressure of the US hegemony and the rules of the game it has put in place to promote self-interested regional stability.”

Randy Carey ’15 is a Political Science major from Arlington, VA. Contact him at racarey@davidson.edu

Danger of Overconfidence

Alex Beckmann

In the aftermath of President Obama’s victory in last month’s presidential election, the Republican and Democratic machines went off the rails in two completely separate directions. The elites and strategists of the Republican party have begun a widespread internal debate about what was the source of their party’s failure. What measures, if any, the Republican party needs to take to remain competitive as a national party in the future. The Democrats are unsurprisingly jubilant at last month’s result, and have come to see the election result as a mandate and complete affirmation of everything their party stands for.

As a Democrat, I worry that last month’s result will make Democrats overconfident and prevent the party from being introspective. Last month’s results could (and there are signs of this already) lead many liberal democrats to reject any sort of compromise with the Republicans.

This overconfidence was also evident right after the 2008 elections, in which the Democrats won the presidency and picked up Senate and House seats for the second straight election. With close to enough Senate seats to overcome a filibuster and a large house majority, Dem- crats lost all motivation to compromise with the Repub- licans on sweeping legislation like health care reform. While the Republicans were certainly hard to deal with, there is no evidence that Democrats in Congress made any sort of effort to reach out to more moderate Republic- ans. The end result was that Democrats appeared ever- partisan and unfocused on job creation and this percep- tion led to historic losses in the 2010 midterm elections.

Coming off the President’s victory, many on the left, like Senator Bernie Sanders, insist that in the upcoming “fiscal-cliff” talks, entitlements like Social Security and Medicare cannot be changed in any way and that there will be no deal unless marginal tax rates on the wealthy are raised to the rates of in the Clinton administration. This rigid stance could lead to the talks collapsing enti- rely.

While the Democrats certainly won the presidential election convincingly, many Americans still support the Republican party platform. Because the Democrats have to hold onto their strong Senate seats in the upcoming 2014 midterm election in states like Arkansas and Louisiana (states the President didn’t do well in), it would be foolish for the Democrats to interpret last month’s election result as a license to not compromise. Above all, I hope the Democrats don’t adopt the view of many on the right that the other party has no good ideas. The Republican party, even though I have my disagreements with it, has a lot to add to a national dialogue about how to reform our country for the better. I urge the Democrats to listen to the Republicans and seek common ground where they can. It would be better for the country and the party. If we don’t, in two years we might find ourselves where the Republicans are now.

Like us on Facebook, Win Prizes!

To help you prepare for finals, The Davidsonian will be giving away prizes on each of the twelve days before Reading Day.

12/5 Basketball Autographed by the Entire Men’s Team
12/6 Healthy Home Market Gift Card
12/7 Toast Gift Card
12/8 Soda Shop Gift Card
12/9 iTunes Gift Card
12/10 Ticket to Vail
12/11 Commons Christmas Lunch
12/12 Subscription to The Davidsonian

iPad Mini!
The end of the season and thus would rest their worst. They do play Houston twice, but Houston have ridden his arm to their current position. six of their past seven games; this includes and are currently in excellent form, winning the AFC. Indianapolis (8-4): At 8-4, the Colts currently occupy the 5th place in the playoffs and are currently in excellent form, winning six of their past seven games; this includes their 34-20 victory over the Bears. While the Bengals are a hot team, the Steelers constantly find ways to win and have the championship in their sights. If Roethlisberger makes a timely return, the Steelers will make a return to the playoffs. The Dolphins have made progress under head coach Joe Philbin and quarterback Ryan Tannehill, but are still a win short of being competitive for the playoffs. The Bills might be the biggest disappointment in football considering how much money they have spent to try and make a run at the playoffs.

Cincinnati (7-5): The Bengals are winners in football considering how much money they have spent to try and make a run at the playoffs. They did not help their cause by losing to the Ravens and got it with a gutsy effort on Sunday, a game they are more than capable of winning and then travel to Philadelphia to face a team that is in complete disarray. However, they close against the Steelers and the Ravens, teams the Bengals have struggled to defeat in recent seasons. If Roethlisberger can’t play, the Bengals can win that game and sneak into the playoffs, where they could be a tough out for any team. However, if Big Ben returns the Bengals will lose and fall just short of a playoff berth with a 9-7 record. Thanks For Playing: The Jets, Dolphins, and Bills all are 5-7 and longshots to make the playoffs. The Jets don’t have a shot, but the Dolphins continue to win and the Bills will continue to sputter. The Dolphins have made progress under head coach Joe Philbin and quarterback Ryan Tannehill, but are still a win short of being competitive for the playoffs. The Bills might be the biggest disappointment in football considering how much money they have spent to try and make a run at the playoffs.

The Wildcats wrapped up the regular season, the wild card picture is starting to take shape. With most divisional races wrapped up, the intrigue in the remaining quarter of the season lies in the wild card. We’ll be looking at the major players in the wild card race and see who has the best chance to earn the final two slots in the playoffs in the AFC and NFC. AFC

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The Wildcats next travel to Boiling Springs to take on UNCC and to Knoxville to take on Tennessee next week that has

The award for the most outstanding offensive player in the league for the regular season goes to Andrew Dalton of the Bengals for his 4,032 yards and 31 touchdowns. He is also the first player to win the award since Ben Roethlisberger in 2007. The award for the most outstanding defensive player in the league for the regular season goes to James Harrison of the Steelers for his 18 sacks. He is also the first player to win the award since Michael Strahan in 2001. The award for the most outstanding special teams player in the league for the regular season goes to Chris Johnson of the Titans for his 1,070 yards on kickoffs and 300 yards on punts. He is also the first player to win the award since陸瑞安 in 2001. The award for the most outstanding rookie in the league for the regular season goes to Mike Vick of the Eagles for his 3,016 passing yards and 20 touchdowns. He is also the first player to win the award since Casserio Smith in 1995. The award for the most outstanding player in the league for the regular season goes to Ben Roethlisberger of the Steelers for his 4,200 passing yards and 32 touchdowns. He is also the first player to win the award since Tom Brady in 2007.
Wildcat Pulse

GET TO KNOW YOUR WILDCATS!

Wildcat Roundup

Name: Liz Mace
Year: Senior
Sport: Football
Position: Tailback

-What is your major and how is it going so far? Anthropology. Super duper!
-What is your favorite food? Cheesesteak
-Do you have any stuffed animals still (or at Davidson)? Yes!

Name: Jake Cohen
Year: Senior
Sport: Men’s Basketball
Position: Forward

-What is your major, and how is it going so far? Economics. I’ve really enjoyed learning the intricacies of Microsoft Excel.
-What are your plans after college? Astronaut

When Clay Torrey tripped on a trash can.
-Pre-game (meet) music playlist: Whatever Boots is listening to.
Favorite Food: Cheesesteak
-What is your favorite sandwich filling? Steak and cheese
-Describe yourself in a dance move: The Huckleberry shuffle (Clint Mann taught it to me)
-Total points of time on Facebook-to-do homework: 7.5/1
Favorite pizza flavor: Ice cream
-Can you speak a different language? No, I don’t disclose this information.
-Do you have any siblings? Yes, Patrick from Spongebob
-What is your favorite childhood Halloween costume? Sub-zero from Mortal Kombat

I’d rather focus on my study.
-What is your favorite place to just relax at Davidson? In the apartment with some music.
Favorite childhood Halloween costume: When I was 6 I was “bad” Sandy from Groove. When I was 7 I was a Blues Brother with my little brother. By the time I was 8 our neighbors turned my mom into the sleep with some music.

Life motto: Gotta go want it

Pizza or ice cream? Pizza
-Do you have a Twitter? YES! mace_2_da_face. Follow me!
-What are your plans after college? Armstrong
Favorite song(s) to sing in the shower? I Knew You Were Trouble by Taylor Swift
-What is your favorite childhood Halloween costume? Sub-zero from Mortal Kombat
Favorite song(s) to sing in the shower? I Knew You Were Trouble by Taylor Swift

Pizza or ice cream? Ice cream
-Can you cook? Quite well, I like to think.
-Can you change a flat tire? Yes
-Do you own a bookstore? Yes, Patrick.

Favorite place to just relax at Davidson? Is there a place to relax at Davidson?
Favorite Childhood Halloween Costume? When I was 6 I was “bad” Sandy from Groove. When I was 7 I was a Blues Brother with my little brother. By the time I was 8 our neighbors turned my mom into the sleeping habits of Aurora in Beauty and the Beast.

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The 'Cats begin conference play against Chattanooga with a huge win
Jip Richards  Staff Writer
The Davidson College men's basketball team evened their record at 3-3 over Tennessee-Chattanooga. The Wildcats vs. the Mocs has been a longstanding Southern rivalry, but on this evening it was 81-55 behind a balanced scoring attack and a season-high 14 three-pointers. The 'Cats shot a scalding 48.3% from behind the arc and 46.6% from the floor.

Tyler Kalinowski '15 was the leading scorer for Davidson, coming off the bench to score fifteen points and add four assists. De'Mon Brooks '14 was steady as usual, adding fourteen points and eight rebounds to give Davidson a significant edge in the paint. Clint Mann '13 and Jake Cohen '13 also scored in double figures, with thirteen and eleven points respectively.

Davidson head coach Bob McKillop had great things to say about his team after the SoCon opener. “I was delighted, thrilled and pleased with the poise we had with the basketball tonight, I thought we were superb in moving the basketball.”

The Wildcats return to Belk Arena for the first time in almost a month when they take on a cross-town rival on Wednesday night. The Blackout Belk game will start at 8 p.m. vs. the UNC-Charlotte 49ers, who have started the season 0-4. Davidson returns to conference action on Saturday vs. the Wofford Terriers at Belk Arena.

Swimmer breaks school record
Meredith Nakano '15 places first in one of her events, breaks a school record
Sean Cunningham  Staff Writer

This weekend select members of the women’s swim team were invited to attend the Total Performance Swim Camps Invitational hosted by Kenyon College.

On Thursday, the women’s 800-yard freestyle “A” relay took place, where the team of Meredith Nakano ’15, Anglie Healy ’16, Liz Maca ’14 and Lauren Malachowski ’16 performed strongly. They finished fifth out of twenty-five teams posting a time of 7:37.57.

The team also had four members swimming the 1,650-yard event, which was led by Anna Blair Bullock ’15 placing eleventh with a time of 17:34.61.

Friday was highlighted by a record setting swim by Nakano, as she broke the Davidson record in the 200-yard butterfly. She finished with a time of 2:01.87 to set a new school record. Nakano had just finished a strong senior cross country season, placed first with her time of 18:03.73. Manya Swick ’15 finished second and Erin Osmunt ’15 finished third with times of 18:23.02 and 18:30.42 respectively. Lauren Carter ’14 finished fourth with a time of 19:18.47. In the 3000m, the ‘Cats were led by Anna Armstrong ‘13 who placed fourth in 10:58.71. The women had another strong performance in the mile run taking three of the top four places. Olivia Menden ’16 finished second in a time of 5:22.59. Brigal Behrens ’16 and Sarah Paddon ’15 finished third and fourth with times of 5:22.64 and 5:23.46 respectively. Molly Marshall ’15 finished eighth in the mile vault with a height of 2.90 meters.

Both the men’s and women’s indoor track team will be back in action on January 19th as they will compete again at the JDL Fast Track.

Indoor Track & Field visits JDL
There were many stand-out performances this weekend at the JDL College Classic
Benjamin Arkin  Staff Writer

On Saturday, the Davidson College men’s and women’s indoor track season began at the JDL College Kickoff Classic at the JDL Fast Track. On the men’s side, Chris Repecki ’15 finished fifth in the 3000m with a time of 9:16.15. Repecki earned the top finish in any event for the men. Repecki was followed by Aaron Forburger ’16 who in his first indoor track competition finished sixth in the 3000m with a time of 9:12.47. In the mile event, Whittre Chase ’15 led the ‘Cats and finished seventh overall with his time of 4:28.20. Patrick Rollo ’16 finished 9th in 4:30.03.

The ‘Cats also received strong performances in the 5000m run and the pole vault. In the 5000m, ‘Cats were led by Anna Armstrong ‘13 who placed fourth in 11:58.71. The women had another strong performance in the mile run taking three of the top four places. Olivia Menden ’16 finished second in a time of 5:22.59. Brigal Behrens ’16 and Sarah Paddon ’15 finished third and fourth with times of 5:22.64 and 5:23.46 respectively. Molly Marshall ’15 finished eighth in the mile vault with a height of 2.90 meters.

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The senior swimmer lead the Wildcats to a solid fourth place finish at the Total Performance Swim Camps Invitational in Ohio. He broke two program records in the 100-yard breastroke and 400-yard IM as well as winning the 200-yard breastroke.

Drew Onken  Swimming Marietta, GA

Natalie Atabek ’13  Indoor Track Bethesda, MD

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