

the Forum

Piedmont Virginia Community College

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Photo by Jon Hasenfus

Suzanne W. Morse (vice chair of the college board), J. Walter Levering (chair of the college board), James DeLucas (chief developing officer of Nielsen Builders Inc.) Patricia Kluge (donor for the science building), President Friedman, and Bill Moses (donor for the science building) break ground in PVCC's groundbreaking ceremony.

PVCC breaks ground for Kluge-Moses Science Building

Emily Traylor

FORUM EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 12:30 PM – A crowd of people has gathered in the field to the right of PVCC's main building. A large, white tent stands near the center of the field, and it is overflowing with people.

Faculty, staff, and students look for seats and fill the standing areas outside the tent. Nursing students in their blue uniforms can be seen throughout the crowd of attendees.

The event is the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Kluge-Moses Science Building at PVCC.

The building was named after Patricia

Kluge (founder, owner, and chairwoman of Kluge Estate Winery and Vineyard) and Bill Moses (CEO of the Kluge Estate Winery and Vineyard), who donated \$1.2 million for the project. The contribution is the largest in the history of PVCC. Kluge and Moses both spoke at the event and served as groundbreakers.

To open the ceremony, PVCC President Frank Friedman addressed the crowd with some introductory remarks and thanked everyone for attending.

The honorary speakers included Edward O. Watson (associate vice chancellor for facilities management services), Kluge, and Moses.

Kluge spoke about the importance of education and the benefits of the new building for science students.

A large puzzle showing an image the science building stood by the podium during the ceremony. At the conclusion of each speech, the speakers fitted one puzzle piece into the image. After the final speech, the puzzle was complete.

The building is state-of-of-the-art and is slated to include science labs, classrooms, faculty & dean offices, and common areas for socialization or study.

Construction of the building is scheduled to be complete in time for the spring semester of 2010.

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BREAKING GROUND

*PVCC hosts ceremony to
celebrate the start of the
new Kluge-Moses
Science Building*

Photography by Jon Hasenfus and Kelby Lightburn

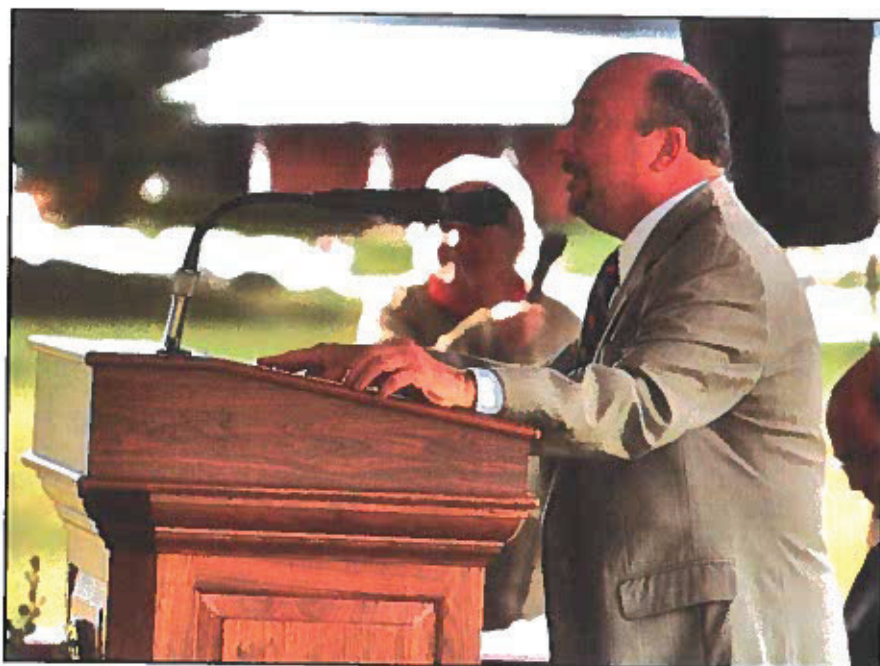


Top: Ground breakers turn over the dirt with gold-colored shovels in front of a crowd of PVCC faculty, students, and distinguished guests.

Left: One of the honorary shovels used in the ceremony

Below left: Patricia Kluge speaks to the crowd gathered at the ceremony. Kluge and Bill Moses were the donors of a \$1.2 million gift to PVCC for the construction of the new science building. The gift is the largest in PVCC history.

Below right: PVCC President Frank Friedman addresses the crowd.



FIRE KNOCKS OUT POWER AT PVCC

Brian Sticca
FORUM STAFF WRITER

11:00 AM OCTOBER 10 – Campfire crackling and the smell of a wood-burning grill fill the air on this Friday morning. Students casually stroll to and from class, unaware of a fire burning atop the telephone pole located near the visitors' parking section at the south entrance of PVCC.

"Those lines are attached to the power grid. They supply all of PVCC's power," said David Thompson, facilities manager at PVCC.

Bill Wheeler, one of PVCC's maintenance men who was also on the scene, said the cause of the fire was probably "old wear on the pole and the heat on the line..." He went on to say that "the wood is close to 25 years old."

11:23 A.M. – Dominion Virginia Power workers arrive and use a fire extinguisher to

oust the flames, which results in plumes of smoke. However, fire reignites despite the efforts. Large water-filled Gatorade containers are used to drown the fire.

"Shut down all of the power to the school," said Wheeler, as he discussed a plan of action with co-workers and Dominion Virginia Power.

Plans included replacing the cross arm by pulling the power lines back towards route 20 and shutting off power supply to all PVCC buildings and surrounding homes. Several minutes later, hallways and classrooms went dark, and back-up generators and emergency lights kicked on about a minute later.

One student was overheard complaining about being in the bathroom when the lights went out. Some students finished exams in the dark, while others were angry to lose internet connection in the midst of doing homework and other

assignments.

"This [stinks]. I can't use the internet to study or do work," said Tara O'Donnell, a freshman at PVCC, who was waiting to attend her final class. Nevertheless, Tara said she was "excited" at the thought of having the rest of the day off.

What about the students still on their way to school? "There are few classes on Friday," said William Jackameit, vice president of finance & administrative services at PVCC. "If it was Monday morning, we would have sent messages out using PVCC's emergency messaging system."

Jackameit had a smile on his face as he said, "At least it's Friday."

Three hours was the estimated time for repair on the power lines.

Dominion Virginia Power rebuilt the cross arm and was able to restore electricity to PVCC by 2:30 PM.



Smoke pours from the power pole beside the visitor and faculty parking lot. Brian Sticca captured this image on his cell phone.

HALL TALK: DOES PVCC NEED ADDITIONAL PARKING WITH THE NEW SCIENCE BUILDING?



Grace Beliles

"If this new building is built, then we'll get another 2,000 or more students, and we won't be able to find parking at all. My only hope is that the building won't be finished until after spring semester, so I'll have graduated by then."



Jessica Zadory

"There aren't enough parking spots for the students ... PVCC is gaining more students every semester, and with the new building, it will attract more students. Where will they park? It's best to have another lot for the students' safety and for the school."



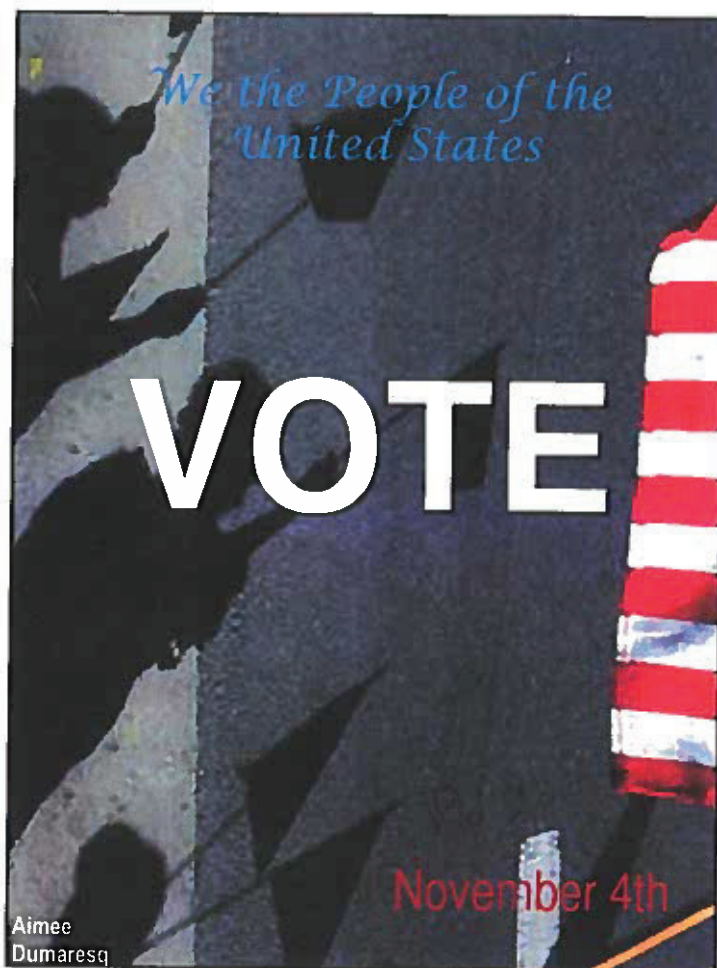
Tim Fiore

"I think it's completely absurd. ... Now with the addition of the new building attracting hundreds of new students to the already rapidly increasing population at PVCC each year, what makes them think this ongoing problem is going to get any less worse?"



Dustin Hansen

"I think that it's a bad idea to exclude additional student parking plans for the science building. There is already a shortage of parking without the new building."



Responsible voters beget responsible leaders

Jordan McNeish
FORUM STAFF WRITER

Do you know who you will be voting for in November? If so, do you know why you will be voting for the person you have chosen? If you have not yet decided, what are your criteria for the next President of the United States of America?

We have witnessed major news networks and even people on the street attack the candidates based on what they perceive to be personality flaws. While the character of a leader is extremely important, one must that remember we are dealing with politicians who are trying desperately to sell an image and agenda to voters.

The images of the candidates we get from watching the

6:00 news are filtered through the media, and there are entire staffs of people whose jobs are to tailor those images. If network broadcasts are the only initiatives people takes to get to know the candidates, they are not likely to get an accurate picture of how well the candidates will serve us in office.

To find out what kind of leaders we're about to elect, we have to do a little research. One way to find about where candidates stand is to watch the presidential and vice presidential debates. These are useful tools in informing us about what a candidate promises and plans to do if elected into office.

The candidates also have websites that go into some detail about where they stand on the issues. Even so, there is no guarantee that the candidates will do what they say once they're elected into office. It's infinitely easier to promise the world than to make good on those promises.

So how can a responsible citizen get enough information to decipher the character of a politician through the complexities of Washington politics? Fortunately, the White House is not the beginning of a politician's career, and the presidential and vice presidential candidates have congressional voting records that can

be accessed to see if their actions are consistent with their promises.

The *Washington Post* has a database on its website of every vote that has gone through Congress since 1991, and it is an excellent resource.

You may also know that the seat for the 5th District in the House of Representatives and one of the Virginia seats for US Senate are up for election. These elections are arguably at least as important as the presidential election, because it is very common for congressmen to become president later in their political careers.

By getting and staying informed, you will be equipped to cast a responsible ballot and help protect the democratic process that gives us the freedoms we enjoy.

Washington Post Database

For information, visit <http://projects.washingtonpost.com/congress>.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2008

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!

Aimee Dumaresq
FORUM MANAGING EDITOR

"We in America do not have government by the majority. We have government by the majority who participate," said Thomas Jefferson, as he spoke about the right of citizens of the United States to have their voices heard and their votes counted. However, without the participation of the American people, the system fails.

Thanks to the 15th and 19th constitutional amendments, both men and women have the guaranteed right to vote. These amendments state

that the right to vote "shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude" or "on account of sex."

On November 4, "we, the people of the United States," have the opportunity, privilege, duty, and right to vote. We have the chance to choose the next congressional representative, senator, and president who will represent the ideas, values, and issues of the American people. A right is useless if left unused.

With issues such as the war on terror, alternative en-

ergy, global warming, health-care, education, affordable housing, the economy, minimum wage, abortion, taxes, and individual rights weighing heavily on our minds and future, we cannot afford not to vote.

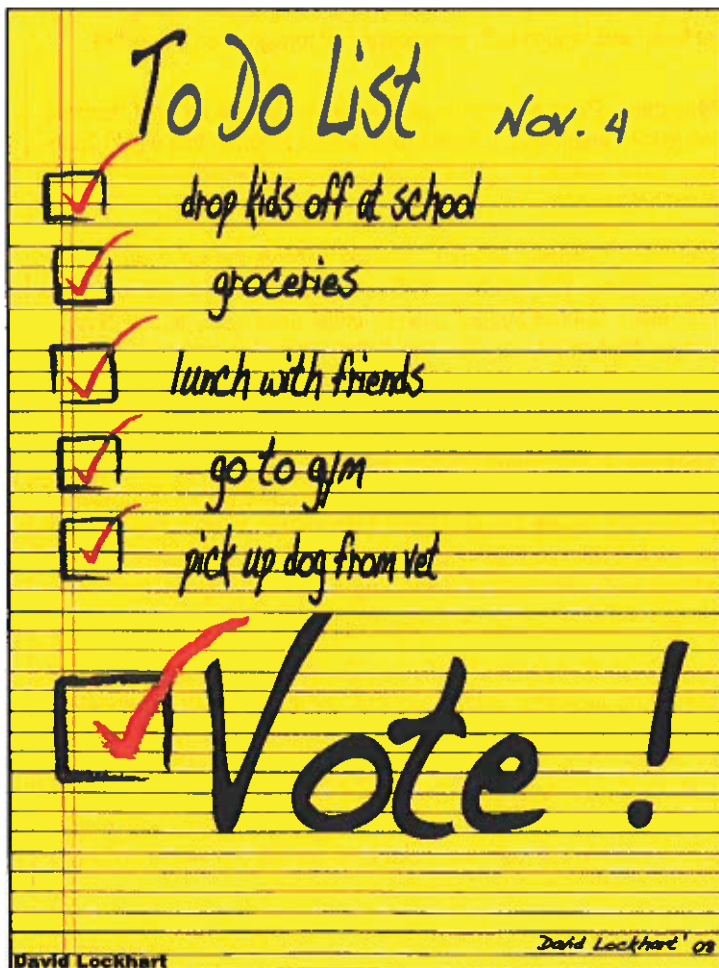
Do something about the issues that matter most you. Vote! The average Joe can help decide his future and his country's future by voting.

Forget party affiliations and labels, Democrat, Republican, Libertarian, Independent, Green, or Constitution; instead, focus on letting your voice be heard.

Many people around the world do not have the privilege or the opportunity to vote. Instead, their voices are silent. However, in the United States of America, every citizen has the freedom to vote (or not to vote). Voting is the way we, the people of the United States, can change our government, for better or worse.

The future of America is in your hands. Whether you choose to vote or not to vote, remember that you had the choice.

Celebrate our country and freedom by voting on November 4.



THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER

Francis Scott Key

Oh say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thro' the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof thro' the night that our flag was still there.
O say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

On the shore dimly seen thro' the mists of the deep,
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,
What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,
As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?

Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,
In full glory reflected, now shines on the stream:
'Tis the star-spangled banner: O, long may it wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

Image courtesy of <http://www.nr-globe.com>

Barack Obama

"Change we can believe in"

Democrat



On the issues

Iraq: Plans to end the war in Iraq by removing combat troops within 16 months, strongly encourage Iraqi representatives to agree on a constitution and governance, and aggressively pursue compacts with Iraq's neighbors for stability in the region.

Healthcare: Plan to start new national public healthcare plan accessible to all Americans with guaranteed eligibility, comprehensive benefits, simple paperwork and guaranteed coverage even when changing jobs.

Environment: Plans to look at global warming and the U.S.'s foreign oil dependence by starting the cap-and-trade system of carbon emissions reduction, develop a system of rewards for those whose farming practices capture atmospheric carbon dioxide, invest \$150 billion in new energy technology, and to double funding for clean energy product research.

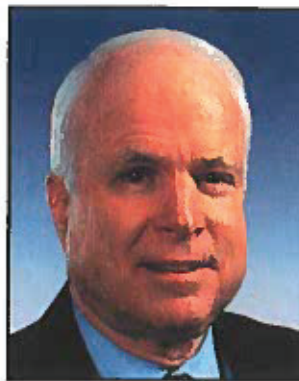
Education: Plans to reform the No Child Left Behind Act, ensure access to strong science curriculums, and to create a new \$4,000 American Opportunity Tax Credit to help pay for higher education.

Homeland Security: Plans to establish stronger homeland security and national emergency plans by stronger protection of chemical plants, keep closer tabs on spent nuclear fuel, and make planning for emergency situations for people with special needs mandatory.

Economy: Plans to create a new tax credit of up to \$500 per person or \$1,000 per family — eliminating income tax for lowest income Americans, help workers adapt to the changing economy with an updated Trade Adjustment Assistance system, implement trading policies that support better U.S. jobs, raise minimum wage, increase Earned Income Tax Credit, oppose privatizing social security, create a Credit Card Bill of Rights, and simplify tax forms.

Civil/Social: Plans to preserve women's right to choose under Roe vs. Wade, strengthen domestic violence and hate crime laws, end "don't ask, don't tell" policy in the military, allow same-sex couples who are in state recognized/supported civil-unions to have the same federal benefits as married couples, equalize pay for women and minorities working same jobs as men, and ban racial profiling in federal law enforcement. *Information taken from www.barackobama.com.*

Photo courtesy of www.ckraebel.enclblogs.com



John McCain

*"Country First:
Reform, Prosperity, Peace"*

Republican

On the issues

Iraq: Plans to increase amount of troops to clear out all insurgents with the help of Iraqi troops, increase the training and outfitting of Iraqi armed forces to help secure Iraq, and pressure Iran and Sudan to end their contributions to violence in Iraq.

Healthcare: Plans to use competition among companies to improve quality and price of services, give the option of \$2,500 per individual or \$5,000 per family tax credit to help offset insurance cost, Create Guaranteed Access Plan for those with low income or previously denied coverage, provide cheaper drugs and chronic disease care, promote coordinated care, reform Medicaid and Medicare.

Environment: Plans to take measures to bring nuclear energy to market faster and reduce U.S. dependence on foreign energy supplies.

Education: Plans to encourage schools to compete for best teachers and reward them, and to establish a federal program that would financially allow parents to take their children out of failing schools and to attend better ones.

Homeland Security: Plans to develop national missile defenses, increase military size, modernize U.S. military with advance technologies, reform defense budget, push for better military pay and benefits to improve their quality of life, take better care of retired personnel by providing full healthcare and benefits enjoyed by retired federal employees.

Economy: Plans to end policies behind higher cost of transportation and food, provide affordable and manageable loans to families/homeowners, repeal the Alternative Minimal Tax to save middle class families \$60 billion a year in taxes, freeze most discretionary funding to evaluate and consolidate federal programs, to strengthen community colleges and technical training, and reduce federal corporate tax.

Civil/Social: Plans to protect human life and individuals constitutional rights, allow legislative and not judicial branch to decide on social issues, leave Roe vs. Wade decision up to states to accept or not, protect children from explicit web material while in federally supported locations, support some types of stem cell research, encourage the assimilation of immigrants into our democratic society, and protect second amendment gun rights that ensures citizens with the right to bear arms. *Information taken from www.johnmccain.com.*

Photo courtesy of www.upload.wikimedia.org

Is Obama truly the change we need?

An independent shares her view of Barack Obama

Angel Phillips

FORUM CONTRIBUTING
WRITER

Barack Obama: Change we need? We need change, no doubt, but all type of change is not necessarily good change. If we don't get the right kind of change, we could be begging at the international table for spare change.

The economic crisis is weighing on many Americans. We are all holding our breath and waiting for the eye of the financial hurricane to pass and for the real storm to reach us where we live—which is not on Wall Street.

As students, we must be concerned about the futures of our student loans, grants, and scholarships. Can Obama save America from a catastrophic credit crisis? Will an Obama-led government be able to ensure funding for higher education?

Obama assures us that he will work tirelessly to address the financial woes, but he's pledged to work tirelessly before. In January of 2000, while running for Congress in Illinois, Obama pledged to "work tirelessly" to raise over a million dollars in order to build a botanical garden in an impoverished district of Chicago.

Obama lost the race as well



Photo courtesy of www.swamppolitics.com

Barack Obama promotes change at a rally in East Rutherford, New Jersey.

as the initiative to complete the work and his promise. According to Tim Novak of the *Chicago Sun Times*, the garden site is currently a "mess of weeds, chunks of concrete and garbage."

Let's hope there is more to the story that we don't know, and that his lack of commitment was an isolated event.

Still, does Barack Obama have the ability to lead our country during a perilous time? He has not served one full term as a US senator. His lack

of experience is a significant issue. Obama does not have enough of a track record to show us that he possesses the commitment or ability to lead the United States.

If Obama is elected, his inexperience will require him to rely on the knowledge of his advisors. Who will his advisors be? To answer this question, we should look at his friends. Who have they been?

One of them is Jesse Jackson, a racially polarizing force in American politics. Another is Jeremiah Wright, who is known for his "g-d damn American" sermon. Or how about long-time friend and supporter Tony Rezko, who was indicted by the Fed for demanding kickbacks from companies seeking state business in Illinois?

While Obama was in the Illinois State Senate, he helped

Rezko raise \$14 million in taxpayer money for a senior citizen apartment project. Rezko and his partner, Davis, took over \$850,000 in "development fees."

The sad fact is that no one makes it to the upper echelons of American politics without collecting a significant amount of dirt on the way. Lest we forget, politics is a sordid business. Are we so naïve that we believe one can succeed in the most self-promoting profession in the country by being a selfless community organizer?

If we choose Barack Obama, we need to be sure we know that he is probably no different than other politicians. Perhaps we should spend more of our energy in changing the system, instead of putting all of our energy into a man with a slogan and hoping for change.

CHANGE
WE CAN BELIEVE IN

Visit local restaurants for affordable food

Kiara Humes

FORUM STAFF WRITER

Being a college student, whether full-time or part-time, usually means that money is limited, and most meals are eaten in the car on the way to class. The quick meals like macaroni & cheese and peanut butter & jelly hardly even look edible anymore.

Does this sound familiar? If so, you might want to try some local delicatessens and cheap eateries that are located around town and don't charge more than \$10 per meal.

If you are looking for an all-American meal that can be eaten without utensils, try Mel's Café or Jak'n Jil.

Mel's Café is located on West Main Street and serves sandwiches, subs, barbeque, burgers, hotdogs, wings, and all-day breakfast. The prices range from \$3-\$8, six days a week.

Jak'nJil also serves all-American meals such as sandwiches, seafood baskets, and steaks. The prices in this restaurant range from \$1.75-\$9.75.

Another cheap eat is Christians Pizza. After a long day of school, gather some friends and stop by this restaurant for a delicious and affordable meal. Christians Pizza has



Photo by Kelby Lightburn

Visit Christians Pizza for a delicious and affordable meal!

several locations, including West Main Street, Abbey Road, and Seminole Trail.

Christians Pizza is rated as the best pizza in town and serves hot pizza, cal-zones and much more. The 16' inch pizza costs \$9, and each extra topping is an additional \$2.

Waking up in the morning after a long night can be tough, but while rushing to get to class on time, why not stop at Bodo's Bagels for breakfast? This restaurant serves bagels and salads at about \$5, and don't forget to try their famous feta spread.

Are you trying to get to know that special person but finding that you're a little short on cash? Try Asian Express, which is located in the Main Street area. This oriental eatery offers sashimi, sushi, and Japanese cuisine for only \$10 and lunch specials at about \$6.

Asian Express serves piles of hot food at a fast pace, and instead of getting stuck in the restaurant waiting to order, customers can order online directly from the restaurant.

Guadalajara is another affordable option and has locations on Greenbrier Drive,

Fontaine Avenue, and East Market Street. The restaurant serves beautifully-decorated Mexican-style dishes ranging from \$9.95-\$10 for dinner specials and \$5-\$6 for lunch specials.

Are you not much of a day person? Try Little Johns Delicatessen or College Inn. Both eateries are located on the corner of UVA next to Plan9. Open until 2:00 AM, Little Johns serves submarines and sandwiches of any kind in a fun, bright environment that is always fast and cheap.

For late night drinks, food, and music, try going to Buffalo Wild Wings. This restaurant serves wraps, burgers, wings, and beer at a cheap price.

Last but not least, enjoy a meal at Tubby's Deli and Restaurant. This eatery serves breads freshly baked every day and MSG-free meats. Their meals range from \$2.10-\$7.

Tired of cold cuts and peanut butter & jelly? Try some of these local places that serve hot meals and enjoyable music for prices that won't empty your back account!



Photo by Kelby Lightburn

A cheeseburger from Tubby's Deli and Restaurant is another cheap food option.

GET CANDID WITH CANDICE

LEARNING TO BE A 21ST CENTURY GENTLEMAN

Candice Johnson
FORUM STAFF WRITER

"Chivalry is dead." This is a rumor going around that should be brought to a sudden halt. Sure, the common gentleman has transformed drastically throughout the last few centuries, but to be honest, what hasn't?

From the way we talk to the way we dress, change is amongst us, and to keep up with the times and steadily improve, we must transform ourselves into something that is more modern and logical.

"Dead" is the word that turns this age-old saying into a false statement. If one were to follow the definition of "dead," it would mean "non-living, and/or without return."

Now, when a man opens a door for a lady, does that in fact break this theory? Well, if he slams it into her and laughs, then no. But, if he is cordial and helping, then this is an act of gentlemanly conduct, which will break the theory every time.

But how can the male species bring back this old-age way of living? The main objective is to make the other person feel special, like you went out of your way to help her. This has been the focal point of the gentleman since the beginning of time.

In the days of old, a gentleman was a known as a man of high standards; one that was

knighted by a king, or a person of noble lineage. The good thing about our day-in-age is that anyone can become anything. From a CEO to greeter at Wal-Mart, the attitude and finesse of a gentleman can be inside all of them.

The rules of being a gentleman have changed dramatically. Some women don't like men to do things for them, such as opening doors, paying for dinner, etc.

When this is the case, a man should always smile and still insist on paying the tab and opening the door most of the time. If she insists every time, then go half way with her and use an excuse like "I cannot accept letting you pay for this for me. I would feel so bad about myself." Either way, you may save a few bucks.

Don't lead girls on if you have a girlfriend, and if you are not interested in a girl, let her know.

Usually the band-aid method works pretty well – just yank it off quickly so it won't hurt as long. Girls can cope with bad situations fairly well (no matter what you may have heard). All a girl needs is Ben & Jerry's and a bunch of girlfriends cheering her up, and I would watch out for her if I were you.

Always dress like a man who has intelligence and fashion sense. No, you don't have to wear all the latest trends, but be conscious about what you

are wearing. A person never knows who they may meet on a random day. It may be a next boss, a future spouse, or possibly an in-law.

In saying this, a gentleman always dresses to look casual and relaxed, yet sophisticated and keen. Sweatpants, a t-shirt and rainbow flip-flops will most certainly not impress those who will mean something to you in the long run. However, khakis with a nice oxford or polo is one of the classic outfits that will have you prepared to meet anyone.

When it comes to the electronic world, there are some key rules to remember for a true man to call himself a gentleman. Never set your phone, blackberry, PDA, or what-have-you onto the table that you are about to eat on.

These contraptions assemble a brick wall right between you and the other person, and it makes them feel distant, unwelcome, and second-best. These feelings are some that no one should ever experience when it comes to spending time with a gentleman.

In conclusion, take time to fill in the extra steps to become a gentleman. As a result of this, I am certain that you will find more ladies talking to you. Whether they are 80 years old or 19, you must remember to make them feel special and have them thinking great thoughts about you even after you have left.

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"Chivalry is dead." This is a rumor going around that should be brought to a sudden halt.

—Candice Johnson



Photo courtesy of Irina Timchenko

Irina Timchenko (center) poses with her mother, father, sister, aunt, husband and his family after her wedding in Georgia.

OVERCOMING ADVERSITY

Professor endures hardship and achieves success

Kayla McKee
FORUM STAFF WRITER

Promptly after the 12:45 Liberal Arts Math class, Irina Timchenko makes her way down PVCC's 100 wing, books and calculator in hand. Cheery and optimistic, she opens the door to her small but comfortable office and gracefully takes her seat. She is ready for her interview.

"Tell me about yourself," is the first question asked. It is simple enough and luckily opens up a chain of memories for Timchenko – memories of a country not so familiar to some.

Hailing from the Republic of Georgia, a nation west of South Caucasus, Timchenko speaks with nothing but pride about her heritage.

"We have a very distinct culture," she says. "We have a very beautiful language that only Georgian people use [which] is

very different from Russian."

Formerly known as being a part of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Georgia has only recently become an independent state. From the beginning of the 19th century until 1991, the people of this transcontinental country have fought hard for their freedom.

Unfortunately, this battle for independence has often come at the expense of Georgia's people. As many other post-communist countries have experienced, economic crisis and inter-national conflicts soon followed.

"It was difficult to get food," she explains of the situation post the Soviet Union breakup. "It was difficult to get different clothes – it was a real shortage of things because it was a socialist country and everything was owned by the government."

Nonetheless, Timchenko and her fam-

ily pulled through – perhaps even stronger than they expected. In fact, many Georgians united in recognition of these trying times. People shared and exchanged their food, and homes became open to many of those who needed shelter, including Timchenko herself.

"My classmates and I used to travel to different villages, different places," she begins, "and once we went to Kakheti – this is a part of Georgia where there are very nice monasteries.

"But the weather was very bad. We wanted to have a picnic outside in the forest – in the nature – but we couldn't because it was raining. So what we did is we knocked on the door with [about] twenty-five people and explained that we were students who came here to visit but we have some food with us, but we don't have much.

See **ADVERSITY** on page 11

ADVERSITY from page 10

"We just needed a place to eat. So they invited us, they gave us much more food than we had, [and] they gave us wine. We put our shoes outside and after we were leaving we saw that they had cleaned our shoes. They gave us flowers, and they gave us some of their food to take with us. So it was amazing. I was thinking, 'I don't think I can sit anywhere else in the world.'"

However, on the behalf of her mother, Timchenko was about to move to the United States of America from her native Georgia, where she had spent the first 18 years of her life.

Her mother, a college graduate with a master's degree in engineering, was at the time having difficulty finding a sufficient job in Georgia. Therefore she ventured to the Land of the Free, where she recognized the opportunities that could be had for her and her daughter.

Having little English skill at the time, the move proved difficult, as Timchenko had to "start from zero." In Reno, Nevada, she took odd jobs in places such as casinos and restaurants where customer interaction and conversations were minimal.

For a while, life was difficult, and America was completely different from what she was used to.

"People used to just smile at me and strangers would talk to me," she laughs. "Because here I notice you have to show

GEORGIA QUICK FACTS



Capital: T'bilisi

Population: 4,646,003

Language: Georgian

Total Area: 69,700 (sq km)

Currency: Lari



Irina Timchenko
PVCC professor from Georgia

ARMENIA Photo by Kayla McKee AZERBAIJAN

everyone you're so happy and everything is okay. You don't complain even though some things happen. But in my country, it's not like that. Of course people smile and they're very friendly, but we don't talk to strangers."

Fortunately for her, with some trial and error, she adjusted to the lifestyle, and it was then that she appreciated the United States for its different opportunities. She continued her education in Nevada and earned her master's degree.

Shortly after her graduation in the

spring of 2007, she transferred with her husband to Virginia, where she now teaches math at PVCC. Again, her move from Nevada to Virginia proved to be poles apart.

"My first impression [of Nevada] was that it was so brown; nothing is green," she says. "But the climate [here in Virginia] is very similar to [Georgia]. It's green and I enjoy it. The people are good [too], so I like it."

However, the question arises: with the recent events occurring between Georgia and Russia and their dispute over South Ossetia, what became of Timchenko's family in the aftermath of these conflicting nations? Will she return to her home-country?

Although Timchenko does not delve too deeply in the politics of this subject, she does say that it was "one of the worst nightmares we've seen" and reassures that her family is "fine." As to whether or not she will return, she is currently uncertain.

"I'm thinking [about it]," she says. "I might."

There is no denying that she has experienced many things - some more difficult than others. But the glint of happiness in her eyes as she retells her story seems to suggest that those hardships had little effect on her.

But there is one thing she wants everyone to know who is reading this article: Georgia "is not Russia."

"It's a separate world," she says. "Very different from anything else you'll see."



Photo courtesy of Irina Timchenko

Timchenko (lower left corner) with her grandparents, cousins and their families.

Experience Virginia and her wines

Nicole Carnemella
FORUM STAFF WRITER

Looking for something different to do with that special someone? Or even something fun to do with some friends? Maybe a nature lover looking to hike trails that take them through some of the most scenic views in our area?

If so, then visiting a local vineyard is an event that is right up your alley. Most local vineyards are small and family-owned. They hand pick the grapes and hand make their wines.

With more than 130 wineries, Virginia ranks sixth nationally and is the second-largest state in the East for fine wine production, according to www.monticellotrail.com.

Most offer tours of the grounds and facilities, which include showing wine enthusiasts the process the grapes go through to get from the vines to the bottle. And, of course, all offer wine tasting for a minimal price.

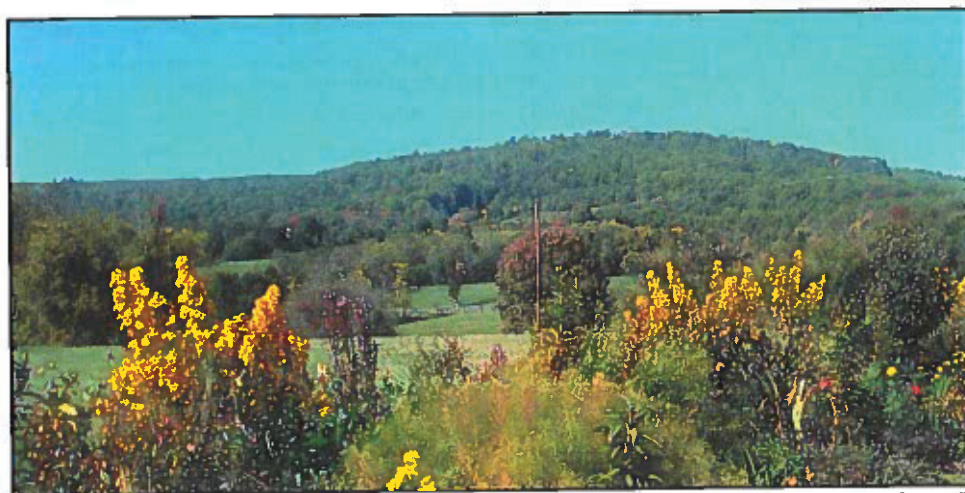
There are 18 local vineyards, a few of which are right down the road from PVCC. The wineries of the Monticello Appellation have been the realization of Thomas Jefferson's vision to cultivate grapevines at his estates.

The Jefferson Vineyards, located between Monticello and Ash Lawn off of route 53, offer fine wines from Jefferson's original estate vineyards. At this estate, partakers will experience a beautiful array of background landscape. There are over forty acres of land available to walk through, get close to the grape vines, and view the countryside.

The Jefferson Vineyard has been open to the public since the 1980s and offer tours every weekend between 12:00 to 2:00 PM. No reservations are necessary, and there is also wine tasting until 6:00 PM.

The tour is free, but the tasting is \$5. After the tasting, customers get to keep their wine glasses. During the tour, the guide will walk patrons through the facility, showing each machine and answering questions anyone may have.

The most interesting part to most participants is the "Barrel Room," which is where



Photography by Nicole Carnemella

Top left: Jefferson Vineyards is located off of Rt. 53, between Monticello and Ash Lawn.

Top right: Jefferson Vineyards offers wine tastings year-round for only \$5.

Above: A view of the mountains and flowers surrounding Jefferson Vineyards.

the winemakers store dozens of large barrels full of whites and reds as they age.

After the tour, interested wine drinkers are led into the tasting room, where the winery offers a wide variety of wines ranging from semi-dry whites to dry reds and dessert wines. These are all produced from the vineyard and can be purchased by the bottle or by the glass.

Afterwards, customers are welcome to sit on the deck right outside the tasting room to enjoy the rest of the afternoon

with companions. They can bring their own food or buy from the gift shop, which offers different cheeses, jams and crackers.

Jefferson Vineyards is open year-round for tours and tastings, but the grape picking usually starts mid-August and lasts until the end of October. October is the best time to go in order to see the ripe grape vines.

Jason Wright, a graduate from UVA and wine enthusiast went to Jefferson Vineyards recently and said, "I came here mainly because it is a smaller vineyard and I like the feel it gives you. It's as if you're just hanging out at the park with your family or friends. This place has a very welcoming feel to it. Plus, all the employees are very knowledgeable in the wines they produce and really seem to enjoy what they are doing, which makes your time spent here all that more fun!"

Jefferson Vineyards

Open daily 10:00-6:00

For more information, visit www.jeffersonvineyards.com

PVCC STUDENTS ENJOY SCIENCE PROFESSOR'S TEACHING STYLE

Jessica Max-Yeboah
FORUM STAFF WRITER

Kristian Hargadon, professor of microbiology, arrived just after 5:30 PM for his foundations of life sciences class that begins at 6.

He describes the class as "a preparatory class for the advanced sciences here, anatomy & physiology and microbiology. It's very similar to the general biology course, though there is no lab component. It focuses on things that are going to be used later in health-related courses."

Hargadon grew up in Powhatan, which is just outside of Richmond, Virginia. He began teaching at PVCC when the opportunity presented itself in his second or third year of graduate school at the University of Virginia.

He received his undergraduate degree in biology from Hampden-Sydney College. In the spring of 2007, he received his doctorate in microbiology from UVA.

In the four years that he's been teaching at PVCC, he has always made an effort to arrive early so that he is available to his students before and, time permitting, after class, should they have any questions.

Three weeks into the fall 2008 semester, he is still putting names to faces as he hands back papers to his class of nearly forty students. The front table is loaded down with recorders, both tape and digital, that are placed there by students who don't want to miss a word of Hargadon's lecture on this Thursday night in September.

"Any questions from last time?" he asks.

The students mull around, each trying to come up with a question.

"Okay. I'll ask you a question," Hargadon prompts. "What makes up a cell membrane?"

Some students begin to chime in, each with a different answer, telling what a cell membrane is made of.

Hargadon draws on the board a picture of the cell membrane, quizzing the students as he goes along to reinforce the lessons that he had taught in the past few weeks.

Before he moves on to new subject matter, he makes sure that everyone understands what they had just covered.

And, even as he moves on to something different, he makes sure to both connect it back to what was covered during the previous weeks, along with what they had just learned.

He uses props to represent Adenosine Triphosphate (ATP), or what is known as *energy* to the body. The props are to ensure that the students understand completely what ATP is, what it is made of, and how it joins together.

Props aren't the only things that he uses to teach. His lectures are based on PowerPoint presentations that he posts on BlackBoard at least a week before each lecture so that students can print them and be prepared for class.

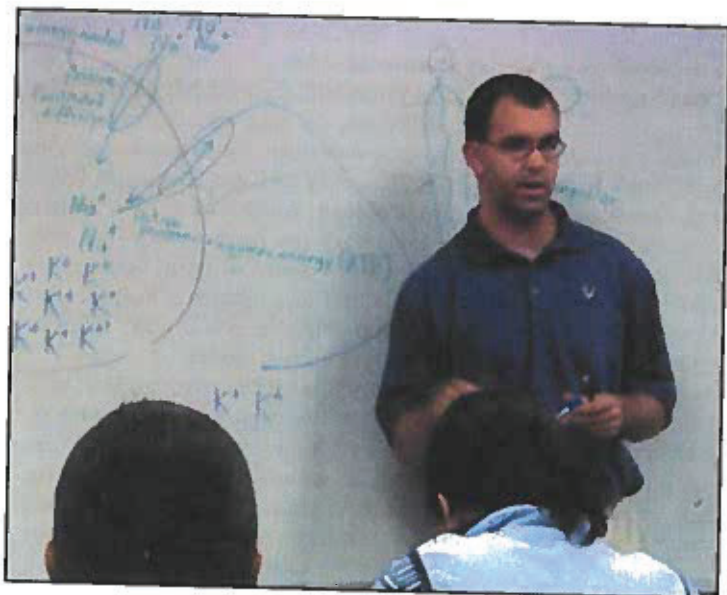
Throughout his lectures, he uses a laser pointer to emphasize the really important concepts. He also draws pictures on the board, relative to the slide being discussed. He always makes sure to check with students before erasing pictures from the board so that he can draw something new.

As another effective teaching method, Hargadon always sets aside one class before each test for review. During these study sessions, everything that will be on the test is gone over. Also, any questions that the students might have are answered.

One of Hargadon's former students, Michelle P., said, "The study sessions are a good use of time. He takes time to go over anything that the class might not have understood the first time."

When not teaching, Hargadon spends his days working at a lab at UVA under Thomas Braciale, studying the immune

See **PROFESSOR** on page 15



Professor of Microbiology Kristian Hargadon teaches foundations of life sciences at PVCC.

Photos by Jessica Max-Yeboah

FOOTBALL: CAVS COME THROUGH IN MAKE-OR-BREAK GAME AGAINST UNC

Paul Montana
CAVALIER DAILY

UWIRE—As Virginia surmounted its improbable comeback and students streamed onto the field at Scott Stadium Saturday following the team's 16-13 overtime victory against North Carolina, my foot was lodged firmly in my mouth for two reasons.

One was that no one is allowed to cheer in the press box, and my shoe was the best object available to absorb my gleeful hollering. The second, though, was a horse of a different — and darker — color. In the two weeks that preceded this game, Virginia had been rolling, and I was predicting failure against UNC and beyond.

So the Cavs beat up Maryland — a fluke! Then they trounce East Carolina — the Pirates are overrated anyway!

I was 90-percent certain UNC would get the better of Virginia Saturday, and 50-50 that it would be by two scores or more. Early in the first quarter, after Virginia went three-and-out and North Carolina went three-and-in — as easy as 1, 2, 3, and ... they're in the end zone — I was 100-percent on both.

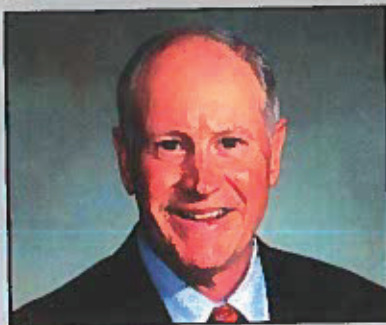
How did Virginia do it? How does an offense that has scored one field goal — off two UNC turnovers, mind you — for the first 57-plus minutes stampede for a shiny 82-yard touchdown drive in the next minute and a half? Since when did Marc Verica become Joe Montana?

Furthermore, how does a secondary missing its best cornerback, sophomore Ras-I Dowling — who suffered a back injury in the first quarter, Virginia coach Al Groh said — contain one of the best receiving corps in the country? The last time Groh lost Dowling mid-game, Virginia gave up three touchdowns in barely more than a quarter — to Duke.

The only way I can understand this win is to agree with Groh that, just like last year's team that won five games by two points or fewer, these boys have guts. It comes in the form of inside linebacker Jon Copper telling anyone on the sideline who would listen that his team was going to win, Groh said, and backing up his words with 16 tackles. It's running back Cedric Peerman getting hammered at the line of scrimmage but refusing to go down or jumping up and screaming



VIRGINIA: 16
UNC: 13



"The difference between where that number goes on the left-hand column or the right-hand column is so small. We'd be saying the same thing about how so many players just fought their hearts out and made plays and played well today if we would've had one less point [at the end of regulation]." —Al Groh

with passion after grinding every inch of a 4-yard gain. It's outside linebacker Clint Sintim racing after the quarterback like a rabid dog after a flank steak again and again.

"A common theme that's developing with this team, an identity that's being forged in the last couple weeks, is just a tremendous amount of resolve and just toughness just to push through these adverse situations," Verica said. "The resolve of my teammates and the coaches has just been awesome the last couple weeks."

And it's resolve that, frankly, these guys shouldn't have. They should be looking over their shoulders at the team that could have been with nine players out of action because of academic, legal or personal issues. They should be yearning to get to 2009, when the current youth can be re-joined by quarterback Jameel Sewell, among others on academic suspension.

After they lost to Duke by 28 points, the Cavaliers should have cashed it in for 2008 as so many fans did.

But Groh and co. wouldn't let that happen. All week, the team spoke of the phrase Groh kept repeating: the one-game season. Next season, they said, was North Carolina.

And looking at the actual 2008 season, each game truly has been a tale of its own. Trying to make sense of what Virginia has done in its first seven games is like trying to merge seven pages from a connect-the-dots book into one unified picture.

The most beautiful part of this win, though, is that this game was make-or-break. Of Virginia's five remaining games, three are on the road: against Georgia Tech, Wake Forest and Virginia Tech. If Virginia had dropped this one to the Heels, Wahoos would have felt distraught about the team's



PHILLIES TO PLAY IN WORLD SERIES

Jessica Max-Yeboah
FORUM STAFF WRITER

For the 15th consecutive season, Joe Torre is managing a team in the Major League Baseball (MLB) postseason. There is only one difference: He is with the Los Angeles Dodgers, instead of the New York Yankees.

The Yankees, for the first time in 14 years missed the postseason, under new manager, Joe Girardi. Though the Dodgers had a 84-78 regular season record and the Yankees had a 89-73 regular season record, sports analysts agree that the American League (AL) East, which is the division that the Yankees are in, is a lot

more competitive than the National League (NL) West that the Dodgers are in. Hence, it was a lot easier for the Dodgers to make it to the postseason.

The World Series will come down to the winner of the American League Championship Series (between the Tampa Bay Rays and the Boston Red Sox) and the winner of the National League Championship Series, the Philadelphia Phillies.

On October 15, The Phillies won the series 4-1, with a final score of 5-1 in Game 5. The Rays have a 3-1 series lead over the Red Sox.

Both of the championship series are of a historic nature. For the first time in the 10-year

history of the franchise, the Rays are in the postseason.

This season also marks the first time since 1993 that the Phillies have made it to the NLCS, and the first time in 15 years that they won the pennant. This was also the first time since 1988 that the Dodgers won a postseason game.

Though the season has enjoyed triumph, it has also included loss. The Phillies' manager Charlie Manuel lost his mother, after a brief illness. She died October 10 (before Game 2 of the NLCS) in a Roanoke, Va. hospital. Details on the cause of her death are not being released.

Shane Victorino, center-fielder for the Phillies, who

hails from Hawaii, lost his grandmother Friday morning, the same day Manuel's mother died. Victorino was not made aware of her death until after the game. Victorino hoped to be able to attend her funeral without missing game, as there was an off-day in the NLCS on Tuesday.

Despite all of the losses off the field, the Phillies are winning on the field. This year's team had a 92-70 regular season record.

Jimmy Rollins, the 2007 NL MVP, set a franchise record by having 28 regular season lead off homers. Pitcher Chad Billingsley had a regular season 6-0 record in seven starts at Dodger Stadium.

PROFESSOR from page 13

responses to strains of the influenza virus. He usually spends at least eight hours a day at the lab.

However, Hargadon said that "at least one day a week I have a 15-16 hour day, and on the other days, I am [there] between anywhere from 8-12 hours." In his free time, which he says "is very limited," he enjoys a lot of sports and outdoor activities, like fishing, tennis, and golf.

"Also, I have just recently started to take up juggling—aha!" Hargadon said. He also likes watching sports, especially JVA sports.

Recently, since there have not being any full-time open-

ings in the science department at PVCC for at least two years, Hargadon has applied to Hampden-Sydney College, Randolph-Macon College, and the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine.

The jobs at Randolph-Macon and Hampden-Sydney would allow him to "continue research on a smaller scale and focus on teaching," he said. That is fine with Hargadon, since it is what he loves to do.

In the meantime, Hargadon will be continuing to teach at PVCC, though he says that he might have a different job by the end of the year.

"I'll probably be called for an interview in October and find out if I have the job in November."

FOOTBALL from page 14

bowl chances.

"The difference between where that number goes on the left-hand column or the right-hand column is so small," Groh said. "We'd be saying the same thing about how so many players just fought their hearts out and made plays and played well today if we would've had one less point [at the end of regulation]."

Because of that tiny difference, though, there are more people who can feel more comfortable in their positions. Verica is now without question a legitimate ACC quarterback. Offensive coordinator Mike Groh silenced all those critics who were wetting their whistles

to again blast him on radio shows and message boards.

And, one game past the midpoint of the season, I finally feel secure in hopping on the UVa bandwagon. The last two weeks, I refused to acknowledge that Virginia was a legitimate team in the ACC. But no more. I'm on the bus.

Of course, now that I say that, Virginia is liable to drop every game the rest of the way.

But, that's my favorite part about it: Even if the Cavs do go winless, they've still got four wins at season's end. After all that transpired culminating in the 31-3 loss to Duke a little more than three weeks ago, that's three more victories than a lot of people thought they would have.

For Sale

Paint ball gun-great condition no scratches. Price negotiable. Contact Mark at: mdn281@email.vccs.edu

BC Rich Warlock guitar and Spider II line 6 amp. Price negotiable. Contact Matt at: 434-591-0863

Stackable Washer and Dryer. Frigidaire Gallery Series, largest load capacity. Only two and a half years old-perfect condition. Contact Kimberly at: kip2251@email.vccs.edu.

Double size futon-good condition. Comes with cover for mattress. \$150 or best offer. Email Steph at Stephabbs@gmail.com

Two blue lazy boy recliners. Will sell both or one at a time. Good condition. Price negotiable. Email Steph at Stephabbs@gmail.com

Wooden TV stand-good condition. \$100 or best offer. Email Mark at mdn281@email.vccs.edu

RM250 dirt bike. \$600 or best offer. Contact Mark at mdn281@email.vccs.edu

1992 Lincoln Mark VII LSC-\$3500. Contact Maurice at momo451057@yahoo.com

Double size futon-good condition. Comes with cover for mattress. \$150 or best offer. Email Steph at Stephabbs@gmail.com

Two blue lazy boy recliners. Will sell both or one at a time. Good condition. Price negotiable. Email Steph at Stephabbs@gmail.com

BC Rich Warlock guitar and Spider II line 6 amp. Price negotiable. Contact Matt at: 434-591-0863

RM250 dirt bike. \$600 or best offer. Contact Mark at mdn281@email.vccs.edu

Looking to Buy

Kitchen chairs preferably wood. Email Caitlin at cqm5m@viginia.com

Vacuum in a good condition. Email Nicole at ncarnemella0001@email.vccs.edu

CD player and speakers for car. Email Matt at Mwood8344@pvcc.edu

Help Wanted

Biltmore Grill is looking for experienced servers and bouncers. Apply within, located at 16 Elliwood Avenue by Mincers off of University Avenue. Or call 434-293-6700 between 10-5 ask for John.

Shown, collected, published local fine art photographer seeks new models (female) for current series. Work is in larger format traditional film (no digital). 12 years experience with dozens of first-time and entirely amateur models (mostly UVA students). Good pay, good fun, minimal time commitment. Dance-yoga-running-skating-gymnastic background useful but not essential. Serious only: susan-moster@hotmail.com

The Forum is offering ad space to the PVCC community free of charge. Please send ads and announcements, along with your full name, mailing address, email, and phone number to theforum@pvcc.edu.

NOVEMBER 5 Senate Elections**Bolick Student Center**

Too young to vote in the presidential elections? Not a U.S. citizen? No problem. The student senate will hold elections to choose a fourth senator and you can vote for him/her. Let your voice be heard and vote counted at PVCC!

Correction

The Forum staff apologizes for the misprint on page 1 in volume 7, issue 3. In the caption below the pictures, the name "Lois" should be "Luis." Also, in paragraph 8 on page 1, the democratic presidential nominee should be spelled "Obama" not "Obam."

Upcoming Events**OCTOBER 23 - NOVEMBER 1****Play On! Theatre presents *Dracula* by Steven Dietz**

The production is based on the novel by Bram Stoker and is directed by Alex Citron. Don't miss the special midnight show on Halloween! For more information visit <http://www.playontheatre.org/>

OCTOBER 25, 3-5 p.m.**Modern Dance Master Class**

PVCC's Master Class series continues with a modern dance class led by Carla Perlo. The class will be held on the Main Stage of the Dickinson Building. Cost is \$10 per student. The class is open to all levels of dancers. For more information and registration call the PVCC Box Office at 434.961.5376 or visit www.pvcc.edu/performingarts.

OCTOBER 29, 12:20-1:15**Arthur Romano**

International peace worker and scholar Arthur Romano honors the legacy and struggle of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. by bringing his teachings to life and illuminating their relevance for today. Stop by the Bolick Student Center and listen to his compelling presentation on the basic principles of non-violence and his ideas about social change.

OCTOBER 30, 4-5 p.m.**Nursing Information Session**

PVCC will host a free information session about its nursing program in the Auditorium (room 229) of the College's Main Building. For more information, contact the PVCC Division of Mathematics, Sciences and Human Services at 434.961.5445 or mshs@pvcc.edu.

NOVEMBER 3, 12:20-1:20**Meet and Greet with President Friedman**

Come to the Bolick Student Center for a chance to ask Friedman questions and bring up issues important to you. Finger foods will be provided.

NOVEMBER 10, 12:20-1:20**Student Music Recital**

An informal music recital will be held in the Bolick Student Center. Come enjoy the musical talents of PVCC students. The event is sponsored by the music club. Interested in performing? Contact Kay Bethea at kbethea@pvcc.edu.

NOVEMBER 23, 3 p.m. at PVCC**American Roots Music Showcase**

\$10 Adults; \$6 Students/Seniors
Tickets available through PVCC's box office. Join PVCC, 214 Community Arts Center and Virginia Discovery Museum as we celebrate America's roots in music and dance with a showcase of some of Central Virginia's best bluegrass musicians, old-time Appalachian singers, swing dancers and more. A fast-moving show that appeals to adults and children. General seating.