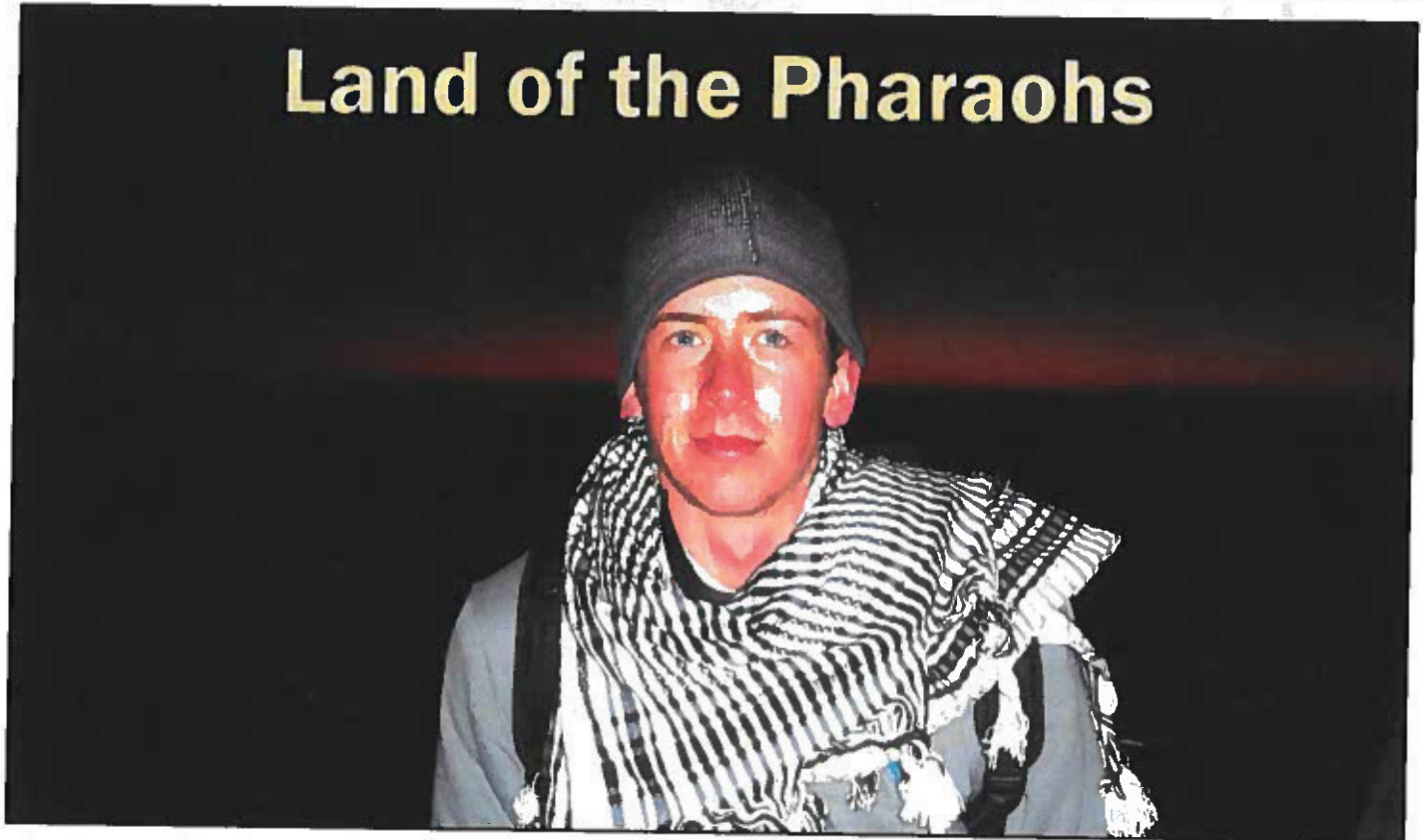


Land of the Pharaohs



PVCC student Jason Bryon stands atop Mt. Sinai at sunrise.

Photo courtesy of Jason Bryon

PVCC STUDENT STUDIES ABROAD

JORDAN MUSSELMAN
FORUM STAFF WRITER

Ask anyone what their views are on attending school, studying and working long hours, and the words “unique” and “exciting” will be a rarity at best. But those are the exact words PVCC student Jason Bryan uses to describe many facets of his life.

One semester away from achieving an associate’s of liberal arts, Bryan found motivation to make the most of his community college experience in preparation for transferring to a university.

A former EMT-B and driver for Greene County Rescue Squad, Bryan said that while he enjoyed the job, he originally took it on “so that I could serve in a unique and exciting way. I think this experience has really given me a desire to do something with my life beyond the confines of my comfort zone,” he said.

What results from mixing a college student of unique and exciting intents with an experience that has opened his eyes beyond the confines of a comfort zone? The answer: far reaching goals — as far as Egypt, to be exact.



Dickinson
Building to
celebrate 10th
birthday with
performance of
Fabulous Flavio

—PAGE 2



PVCC to create
new learning
communities
to improve
students’
academics

—PAGE 4

Dickinson celebrates birthday with new play

JENNIFER TREACY
FORUM STAFF WRITER

The Dickinson building turns 10 years old this spring. In celebration, local singer and songwriter John Carden's first musical will premiere during the first weekend of April.

He describes *The Fabulous Flavio* as a "period piece" with an intricate plotline and personable characters. The two-act play runs an hour and a half, not counting intermission.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for students or seniors. This is a voucher performance, so PVCC students can see it for free by picking up vouchers from the College receptionists.

Performance dates and show times are as follows: April 2 at 7:30 p.m., April 3 at 7:30 p.m. and April 4 at both 2:30 and 7:30 p.m.

Almost Shakespearean in nature, *The Fabulous Flavio* tells two love stories in two different ways. The plot thickens when one of the husbands challenges his wife's father to a duel. The other husband, who is the king's page, helps the king seduce a lovely woman who the king doesn't realize is the page's wife.

Carden was inspired by an Italian play, *Flavio Rei de Lombardy*. He translated it into English and used it as a skeleton for *Flavio*.

"I looked at what was happening and where the characters were, and then I added in the songs," Carden said of the writing process.

The script and lyrics took him two years to complete, and he teamed up with arranger Mary Elizabeth Forbes to set it to music. The music varies from pop and jazz to power ballads. "There's something in there for everyone," Carden said.

Carden asked Hollywood director and producer Raymond De Vere-Austin to look at his script, and Austin thoroughly liked it.

See **PLAY** on page 5



Photo courtesy of Jason Bryan

Jason Bryan is weary after a three-hour hike down Mt. Sinai.

STUDIES ABROAD from page 1

Since arriving in Egypt on Jan. 23, Bryan has studied abroad after two semesters of learning Arabic at home.

Studying at the Arabic Language Institute of the American University in Cairo (AUC), Bryan is taking 14 credits of Modern Standard Arabic this semester. This equates to roughly four hours a day of Arabic instruction, five days a week.

While Bryan's primary goal is to learn Arabic, he says time is against him. "The sad part is that I feel like that though my Arabic is certainly improving, it would take even more time to reach my desired level of proficiency," he stated.

Bryan's worries aren't hitting him too hard, however. When asked his feelings about the Egyptian tour thus far, he said, "This semester is my vacation."

He added, "In the U.S., I had classes at PVCC and UVA, EMT shifts, two jobs, church, and Civil Air Patrol. Words cannot describe how happy I am to be here."

While Bryan still has one semester of school before graduating from PVCC, he says he looks forward to studying international relations in the future. He already applied to UVA and Virginia Tech and intends to apply to Emory.

Speaking of his life experiences and how they've affected him as a student, Bryan said, "I would certainly agree that all of these things have made my experience at PVCC more rewarding and enjoyable. In addition, being an EMT and coming here to Egypt shows me the irony in complaining about life. Especially when we Americans complain."

For fellow students who may be interested, Bryan explained that he discovered the opportunity to study in Egypt "just through internet searches and then asking my Arabic professors about places. There are a lot of opportunities in any country."

Bryan said that though he's paying out of pocket for his journey, "there are so many opportunities to get money, especially from the federal government." He added that he's waiting for replies concerning scholarships with the Critical Language Scholarship and the Boren Scholarship.

With a little over two months until Bryan's return to America on May 23, he has ample time to hit the books and continue learning Arabic, as well as soak in the pyramids, hieroglyphs and African sun.

"During my first month here, I've camped with Bedouins in the Black and White Desert, climbed Mount Sinai, visited Alexandria, visited the pyramids and gotten lost in Cairo," he said. "This weekend, I'm going to the Red Sea to scuba dive!"

In parting, Bryan had a few words for his friends back home: "I want to give a shout out to all my friends: Hope, Aimee, David, Tyler, Brandon, Sophie, Jack, Don Landis and all my friends in the Counseling Office."

Study abroad opportunities at PVCC

At PVCC, there are several opportunities available to students with similar desires to study outside America, specifically in Hispanic cultures. Spanish Professor Jose Torres is in the process of finalizing the opportunity to study abroad in Spain this summer. The tours will last two weeks each but will potentially award the equivalent of an entire semester of Spanish credit.

There is also an opportunity for a two-week summer study in South America this summer. The trip is scheduled for June 2-15, and the cost will be about \$2800 per person. Contact Julianne Milburn (jmilburn@pvcc.edu) for more information about this exciting opportunity in Peru.

SCHOLARSHIPS DEADLINE APPROACHES

REBECCA CRITZER
FORUM STAFF WRITER

Are you struggling financially but still want to continue your education? Don't know where to go for more information on grants and scholarships?

Every year, both potential and current PVCC students are awarded scholarships. This includes students of many backgrounds, ages and interests.

According to the financial aid department, scholarships at PVCC "come from a variety of sources, such as grants and donors to the College."

Various scholarships are available at PVCC. Several programs that offer scholarships are Army ROTC, nursing, NASA MUST, Virginia Foundation for Community College Education and many others.

Mary Jane King, director of institutional advancement and development at PVCC, addressed frequently asked ques-

tions about scholarships.

First, what is the beginning step to finding scholarships? PVCC students seeking scholarships or grants are advised to go to the financial aid page of the PVCC website. There they can find a scholarships link. This link will take students to another page with links leading to information about scholarships for particular programs.

Second, why switch from paper to online applications? King answered that as more students applied for scholarships, it was becoming difficult for those handling applications.

Another benefit of the online application is a questionnaire that helps direct applicants to scholarships that are aimed towards their degrees.

Deadlines for applying varies among scholarships, so don't wait. Though procrastinator defines many college students, this is not something to put off. Students are encouraged to apply as soon as possible.



Who owns content under new Facebook policy?

KRISTINA HUNTER
INDIANA DAILY STAFF WRITER

UWIRE — After Facebook changed its Terms of Use this month, many bloggers responded Monday in an uproar, concerned that Facebook now has more ownership of users' content than ever.

Despite a response from Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg on Monday afternoon, IU law experts said it appears Facebook has the power to use content in any way it chooses.

The terms of use, which were updated on Feb. 4, removed a few critical lines that previously allowed users to remove content, at which point the license granting Facebook content ownership would expire.

The blogosphere began buzzing after The Consumerist, a blog published by Consumer Reports magazine, published "Facebook's New Terms of Service: 'We Can Do Anything We Want With Your Content. Forever,'" on Monday.

The new Terms of Use, without these lines, allows Facebook rights to all user content,

names and photos, even after a profile is deleted.

Facebook's Terms of Use state the site has permission "to use your name, likeness and image for any purpose, including commercial or advertising ... on or in connection with the Facebook Service or the promotion thereof. You represent and warrant that you have all rights and permissions to grant the foregoing licenses."

But whether or not that is full ownership is up for debate.

Zuckerberg issued a statement Monday by posting on Facebook's official blog that people still control and own their information.

"In reality, we wouldn't share your information in a way you wouldn't want," Zuckerberg wrote. "The trust you place in us as a safe place to share information is the most important part of what makes Facebook work."

But the statement does not address the lines removed from the terms of use.

Anthony Fargo, associate professor of communications law, said by removing



these lines, users still own the information, but now Facebook does, too. Users who post content on the site give Facebook somewhat of a "quasi-ownership," or more ownership rights of the content, and he said he believes there are some ethical issues.

"When people join Facebook, they don't read the terms of service," Fargo said.

See **FACEBOOK** on page 9

PVCC TO CREATE NEW LEARNING COMMUNITIES

DAVID CARON AND JOE DICTENBERG
FORUM STAFF WRITERS

The idea of learning communities has been around for many years and is now being further implemented into learning curriculum at PVCC.

"I like how there's more discussion in class – it's a lot more hands-on," said student Charles Putnam about his experience with a learning community. "You get feedback from your classmates as well as teachers, and it brings the class together," he added.

A flier posted at the beginning of the semester proclaimed, "Soar Higher at PVCC with a Learning Community." Following that title were two essential questions about the program. Benjamin Sloan, head of the PVCC English department, answered these questions in a recent interview.

The first question was, "What is a learning community?" According to Sloan, learning communities have been fixtures at PVCC since 2004. The learning community was designed to help students academically.

In a learning community, faculties from different departments collaborate to integrate curriculum. The goal is to create a community environment where two classes of different disciplines have the same students and teachers. These classes are held consecutively with a short break to keep students attentive and involved.

"Students can't differentiate as much because it's like one big period where you have both teachers helping the students and students helping other students," said Sloan.

The traditional education system separates each subject into different classes. However, the real world doesn't always work like that. Part of the purpose of learning communities is to bring different curriculum together. In this way, students create more of a team-like atmosphere by helping each other overcome hurdles.

The second question was, "How do students benefit?" Sloan said that one way students benefit is from the smaller class

sizes. This in turn allows for more individual attention and camaraderie between students and teachers.

According to the aforementioned flier, these classes allow individuals to make new friends, get help with difficult classes and succeed.

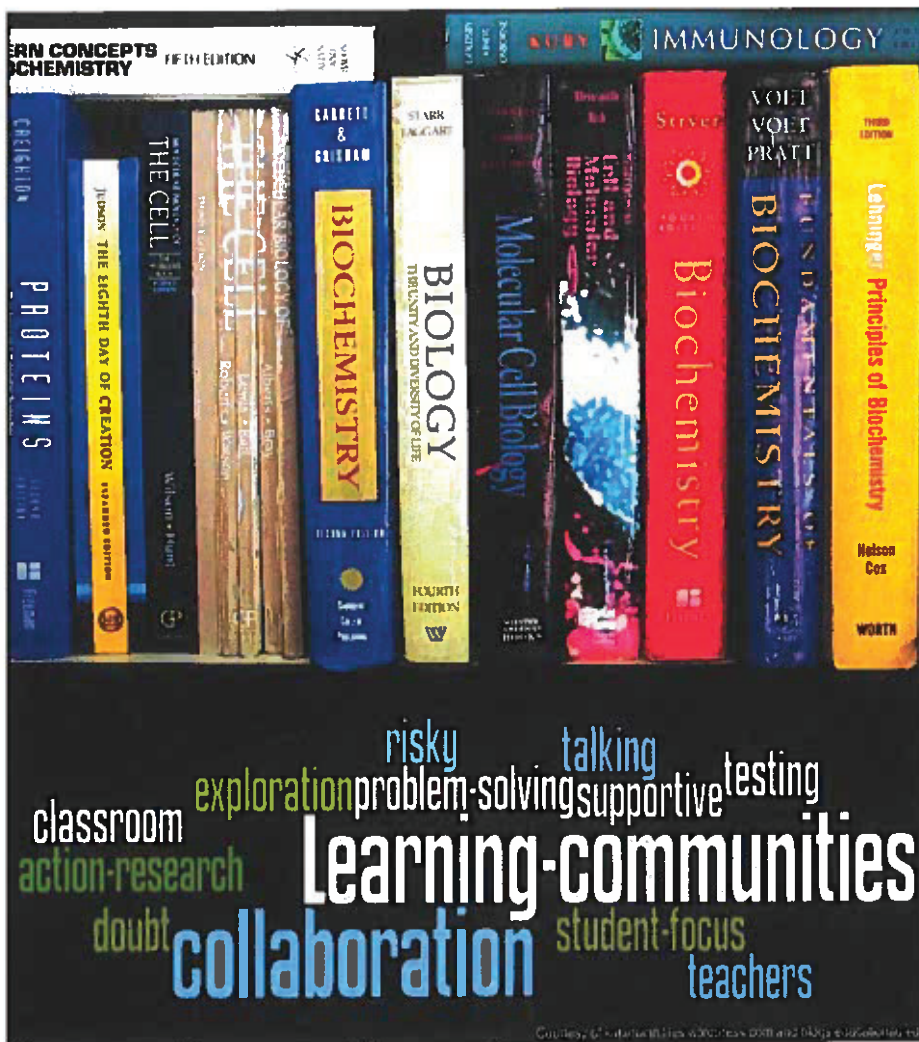
Sloan said the learning community he teaches this semester uses *Newsweek* magazine instead of a textbook, which allows students to be more creative. He added that both teachers analyze all assignments, and the grades for each class are intertwined in that regard.

Currently there is only one learning community in progress. "By fall, we fully expect to have at least five learning communities," said Sloan.

One of the communities that may be formed includes math and chemistry. Sloan says that many individuals struggle with chemistry because they also have difficulty in math. Combining the subjects makes it easier for student to get assistance from teachers when problems arise.

The program at PVCC is collaborating

See **LEARNING** on page 5



Embedded librarian is little-known resource at PVCC

APRIL HARRIS
FORUM STAFF WRITER

Have you ever taken a course that you felt like you needed a little extra help with? Well, you are not alone. Many students feel this way, and they may not know where to go to get assistance. There are places right here at PVCC that can help.

One resource offered by PVCC is the library. Not only are the books useful but so are the librarians.

Two or three years ago, Librarian Judy Cary created a program called the embedded librarian. It is a program available to classes such as bio chemistry, chemistry and various English courses. A class becomes part of the embedded librarian program once a professor asks Cary to come and give extra help to the students. At the same time, Cary explains that "some students don't even know I'm there."

Cary started the program to "reach students we don't see face to face." Another purpose of the embedded librarian is to "get students used to using academic resources," says Cary. In the beginning, it was only

available to students taking online courses.

The embedded librarian is reached through blackboard within the discussion board section. On the left side of the page, there a button that says "Librarian Corner" or "Library Corner." Students can post any questions they may have on class subjects, and Cary will help guide them to answers.

The embedded librarian also includes links to important articles and video clips to help explain course material.

Cary would like to "remind students that they can get help from the library." A good link to reference is http://www.pvcc.edu/library/ask_librarian.php. This website contains the posted hours for the library, as well as information for contacting the librarians.

Please don't be afraid to check out these resources if you feel that you are in need of assistance with any class or assignment. Every student should be familiar with the academic resources provided here at PVCC. There are numerous places to go for help.



Photo by Jon Hasenitus

Embedded Librarian Judy Cary is ready to help students with questions they might have from their classes.

PLAY from page 2

He liked it so much that he agreed to be the special guest director for Dickinson's 10-year anniversary performance.

Auditions were held in September, and Austin made all of the casting decisions. "We've got amazing talent," bragged Austin. "I'm used to auditioning in London or Los Angeles, but I was just amazed when I heard these auditions."

Rehearsals began on Feb. 16. Austin and Carden are proud of the actors and actresses who have each worked so hard.

"What's really special is that all of these people - they're not getting paid. They're here five nights a week, sometimes on Sundays, because they love it, and they want to be here," Austin said of his cast.

"All of these people are coming together and doing it for the love of it, the love of community, and that's what a community college is really all about," Carden added.

LEARNING from page 4

College to find the best education for students. Last June, PVCC collaborated with JSRCC in offering a week-long Learning Communities Summer Institute. A total of 20 JSRCC and PVCC faculty and staff heard presenters from around the country share their learning community-related expertise.

A student at PVCC, Shirley Brown, took the Eng 5-88 and Eng 3-88 classes with Sloan and Professor Tom Hyder.

"The learning style and the technique from this class opened me up and brought me out," Brown said. "I was an internal person. I was the one that liked

staying behind the scene, but when we started doing essays, sharing our papers, talking among one another, it really broke some fears."

Brown added that she would recommend the experience to others. "I would encourage any student that I may run into that may be thinking about taking this class to go for it," she said. "I could go on and on about the class, but I will stop. From my experience this learning center will help others if they stick with it."

Questions might arise about costs and grades. According to Sloan, costs are the same as regular classes, and grades appear on students' transcripts in the same manner as if they were taking two separate classes.

For more information about Learning Communities

Those interested in registering for a learning community can contact the Counseling Center in Room 132. Also, Sloan can be reached at bsloan@pvcc.edu.

RECEPTIONISTS STAND READY TO ASSIST ALL AT PVCC

RACHEL DUMARESQ
FORUM STAFF WRITER

Numerous PVCC students pass by the receptionists' desk every day, many stopping for candy or directions to a class. Receptionist Ginny Payne smiles as she watches, ready and waiting for any questions that might come her way as students pass by.

The phone rings. Payne answers it just as a student walks up, asking for a parking decal. As she talks on the phone, she smiles and hands the student a decal.

These are not the only tasks the PVCC receptionists accomplish. Whether it is Ginny Payne in the morning or Addie Smith in the afternoon, both receptionists are ready to help students with everything from directions, vouchers and parking decals to band aids, tape and candy.

Although some think Payne and Smith are sisters, they are not. "We are double first cousins," the receptionists said. Their mothers were sisters and their fathers were brothers. Because they are only two years apart, they have always been close friends. The cousins grew up together until Smith moved away with her husband.

Smith has had the opportunity to live in a variety of places due to her late husband's involvement in the military. She lived in France for three years, Maryland for five, Georgia for six and Charlottesville for sixteen months while he was in Vietnam.

Smith has also visited other countries such as Italy, Holland and Germany, where she caught a glimpse of Elvis.

"I like to tour the world, tour the states," stated Smith. "I love traveling." She has four children, seven grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

During free time, Smith enjoys dancing, traveling and spending time with friends and her great-granddaughter. Before working as a receptionist, Smith worked in retail at *Stone and Thomas*. She retired after the store closed in 2001.

In August 2006, Smith applied for the receptionist job to keep her busy. The students are her favorite part of working as a receptionist. "I love them," Smith said. "I've never had one that has been negative. I like helping them. I'm the motherly type."



Photo by Jon Hasenfus

Receptionists Ginny Payne and Addie Smith are not twins — just double cousins!

The second receptionist, Ginny Payne, was born in Barboursville. She has lived in the Charlottesville area for her whole life. Smith and Payne have traveled several places together, along with other friends.

"We've been everywhere," said Payne. "We love to travel." She has visited several states and countries, including England, Paris, the Bahamas, Alaska, Las Vegas and the Hoover Dam.

Payne has been happily married for nearly 39 years. She has two children and three grandchildren. She does not have any great-grandchildren but is patiently waiting for the first one. During her free time, Payne enjoys traveling, especially cruises and going places with her friends.

Before working as a receptionist, she was employed at State Farm Insurance for 41 years. After eight years of retirement, she grew tired of staying home and wanted to be busy again. After hearing about an opening, Payne started working at PVCC in October 2005. When it is a slow day at PVCC, Payne does not enjoy

her job as much.

"I like to be busy," she said. However, Payne enjoys her job at PVCC because she likes working with people. "I like communicating with the young people," she continued. "It's gratifying to see the students trying to better themselves."

Many students appreciate the work the receptionists do at PVCC. Student Kelly Warrenski said, "I like them. They are really helpful and very sweet!"

Students also realize that the receptionists are here to help students with any questions they might have.

Beth Russell, another PVCC student, summed it all up by saying, "I think that Addie and Ginny do a wonderful job at what they do. They are very capable and always willing to take time to help students. If they don't know the answers to something they try to find out. On top of that, they are very nice."

With a smile for everyone who walks in the doors, Addie Smith and Ginny Payne are ready to help all who enter PVCC.

VISIT DUNER'S FOR UNIQUE DINING EXPERIENCE

JESSICA FRANKFURT
FORUM STAFF WRITER

Duner's restaurant is the perfect place for a relaxing and dependable meal without paying through-the-roof prices. Located five miles west of Charlottesville on U.S. Rt. 250, it's a restaurant all diners should consider.

The appetizers range from \$5.95-\$7.95, entrées from \$10.95-\$28.95, and desserts from \$6.50-\$7.50. Duner's ambiance is defined as an understated elegance.

Quiet and cozy, it's obvious from the interior and wait staff that the restaurant feels comfortable in its own skin. Duner's exists exactly in the way it is best suited: as a casual diner with good food and drinks.

Beyond the warm atmosphere, Duner's is equipped with a friendly and knowledgeable long-standing wait staff. Quite refreshing it is to have a staff that comes ready with good suggestions and also has the honesty to point out what on the menu is superb and what is just okay.

The available meals range from fried catfish to rack of



Photo by Jon Hasenfus

Duner's Restaurant is located about five miles west of Charlottesville on Route 250.

lamb and everything in between. The appetizers are just as varied, ranging from the perfectly crispy panko crusted calamari to the juicy seared quail with mushroom risotto and brown jus to the country pate with sliced apples, pomegranate, cornichons and crostini.

Few vegetarian options are available, but the menu does sport some options, like the

house-made fresh ricotta ravioli tossed in tomato and garlic ragout with fried sage and parmesan.

Duner's also compensates for its hearty entrée portions with sandwich options that include fried catfish with lettuce, tomato and creole mustard aioli on a rustic roll and grilled beef tips with white cheddar, lettuce, tomato, onion and tarragon lime aioli on a rustic roll.

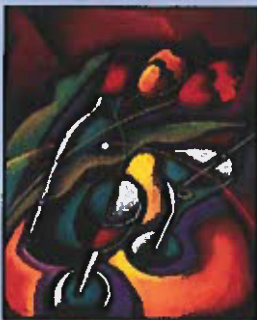
To top it off, all entrées, sandwiches and pastas are served with a fresh side salad or crispy french-fries. The piping-hot complementary bread and whipped butter is a staple of Duner's and gives the restaurant a down-home feel.

The dessert menu ties everything together with the likes of the taste-explosion crème caramel or the lemon cheese

cake with a biscotti crust and sweet cherry compote. The only dessert offered that doesn't seem to fit Duner's consistently fine cuisine is the ice cream sandwich, which comes off as much too bitter and a little dry.

Beyond the regular menu, chefs at Duner's keep the restaurant interesting with nightly specials that are slightly altered renditions of regular menu items. However, regardless of what is prepared in the kitchen, the end result is a welcome treat for any diner's taste buds.

With a sturdy menu and an easy-going atmosphere, the family owned and operated restaurant gets an A+ rating. The restaurant not only offers comfortable dining experience but also a gratifying meal that will leave even the hungriest person full, from start to finish.



Duner's Restaurant

4372 Ivy Road
Charlottesville, Virginia
22903
(434)293-8352
Open Nightly
Seating from 5:00 p.m.
to 10:00 p.m.

Image courtesy of www.dunersrestaurant.com



Keep On Rolling

Auto technician shares tire tips

STEVEN JAMES REDLON
SPECIAL TO THE FORUM

In today's competitive tire market, making the decision to purchase tires can be overwhelming. With prices ranging from "economy" too "are you kidding me," it can become very confusing to say the least.

Thankfully the only colors tires come in are black. At least buyers don't have to make a choice concerning color as well.

With all these options available to the consumer, it's time to shed light on some tire facts.

Tire Inflation: With gas prices changing like a roller coaster ride at a theme park, proper inflation is the easiest, most cost effective way to preserve the life of one's tires. Not only will proper inflation improve handling and braking performance, it will also help prevent premature tire wear.

Over-inflated tires cause

premature tire wear in the center of the tread, and under-inflated tires cause premature wear on the inner and outer edges. Vehicles equipped with Tire Pressure Monitoring System (TPMS) will alert the driver to problems concerning the tires. However, it is important not to wait until the light comes on to check your tires; the idea is to keep your tires properly inflated so the light stays off.

Tire sizes: Tires come in an array of sizes. From tires designed for off-road use to tires for economy sedans, the numbers on the sidewall actually have meaning.

Tire size is known as "aspect ratio." A tire designation of P205/65/R16, indicates the tire is 205 millimeters wide, measuring from sidewall to sidewall. The 65 is the aspect ratio of the tire itself. So 65 percent of the tire's width is height. The height of the tire is measured from the bead to the

top of the tread.

The 16 indicates the tire is 16 inches in diameter. This means one could not mount a 16-inch tire on a 17 inch rim.

"P" designates passenger and "R" designates tire construction. In this case, "R" means radial construction. In laymen's terms, a tire with a designated of 205/65/16 is shorter and wider compared to a tire designation of 215/75/15, which is taller and narrower.

So the next time you're ready to purchase new tires, hopefully these little tips can keep you rolling for many enjoyable miles. Also if you are planning a trip, don't forget to get the brakes checked. A new set of tires can keep you rolling smooth, but eventually you will have to stop.

Steven James Redlon is an ASE certified automobile technician and freelance writer based in Barboursville Virginia.

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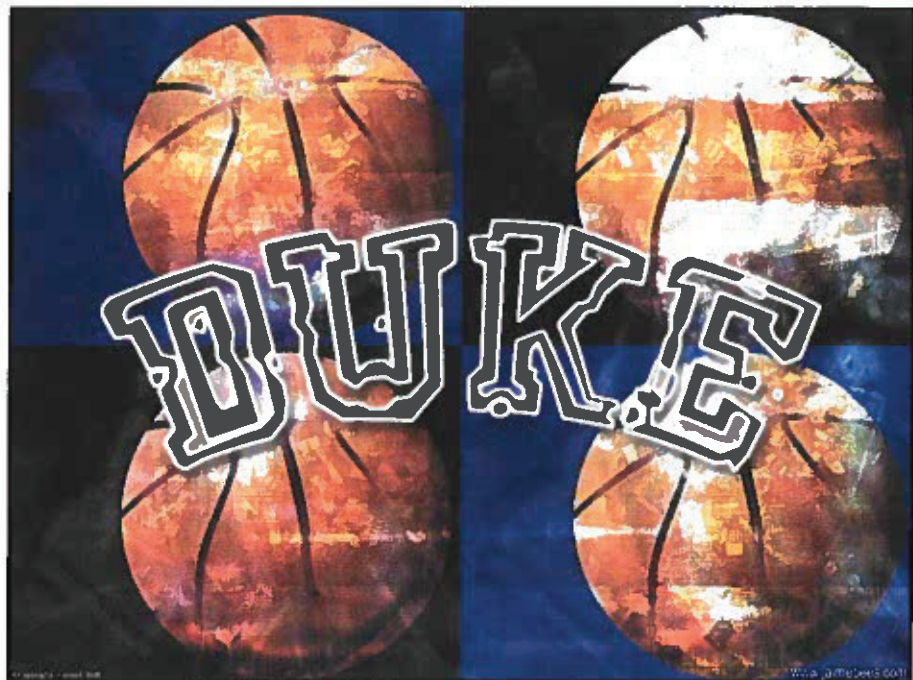
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PHILLIP KELLEY
Copy Center
Manager

Dedication

This issue of *The Forum* is dedicated to Phillip Kelley, copy center manager at PVCC. Kelley has published this newspaper since its creation six years ago. Several weeks ago, Kelley announced his retirement, which will be effective March 31. This is the final issue of *The Forum* published by Kelley. *The Forum* staff wish to sincerely thank Kelley for all his assistance with this newspaper during the past six years. He will be missed at PVCC.



March Madness: ACC final

THOMAS EMERICK
COLLEGIATE TIMES STAFF WRITER
UWIRE

Sunday's final
Duke 79, Florida State 69

Player of the day

It's hard to think that one month ago Duke had lost four of six games and just moved Jon Scheyer to point guard. Since then, the sharp-shooting junior has also become a game manager, earning tournament MVP honors as Duke committed only four turnovers in Sunday's final. Scheyer scored 29 points, including 21 in the second half, and set an ACC final record by hitting 13 free throws.

Sigh of relief

Scheyer and fellow junior Gerald Henderson joined the Blue Devils as they were coming off a stretch of six ACC tournament titles in eight years. But in the duo's first two seasons, Duke won no titles and failed to even reach the round of 16 in the NCAA tournament. "This is the first time we've won something big here since Jon

and I have been here," Henderson said. Scheyer said he drew motivation from the sting of last season's surprise loss to West Virginia in the NCAA second round. "I think we wanted to make sure we remembered that moment, remember how it felt," Scheyer said. "I think we'll always remember walking off the court like that and that's something we never want to experience again."

Coach Mike Krzyzewski said the team "kind of threw them to the wolves" when they arrived as freshmen in fall 2006. "That was our youngest team in the history of Duke when they were freshmen. We didn't have juniors and seniors to walk them through things."

Inside the numbers

Duke held its own inside against a much longer Florida State team, finishing with a 35-34 edge on the boards. But the Blue Devils really won this game on the perimeter, hitting 7 of 10 treys in the first half to take 35-21 halftime lead. The margin ballooned to 22 points in the second half before the Seminoles rallied behind Toney Douglas, who had 28 points.

FACEBOOK from page 3

"I don't see how the new terms can be applicable without an option for members to pull out content before the agreement changed."

Fred Cate, IU School of Law professor and director of the Center for Applied Cybersecurity Research, said this change of terms is just a clarification and isn't a big surprise.

"It's common to do this without a big announcement," Cate said. "This is just clarifying that that's exactly what Facebook can do."

Just because the law allows for a service to change its terms pretty easily, Cate said that doesn't mean he thinks it's fair.

"It's a particular challenge for students," he said. "It's known that a large number of future employers check Facebook before they hire people."

Cate said people who are upset have many opportunities to express their concern.

"People should be upset," Cate said. "But these days it's easy for people to organize ways to provoke a response."

Facebook might have been trying to clarify its terms on ownership, Cate said.

The idea of the Internet, though, makes anything posted online accessible at any time, and if people do not want information released about them, they should watch what they post online, Cate said.

Movie Night at PVCC

The student art club presents

WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO FIND A LOST LOVE?

A. MONEY B. LUCK
C. SMARTS D. DESTINY

slumdog millionaire

march 20th, 7:30pm
dickinson theatre
free and open to the public
piedmont virginia community college

PEDs bad for all athletes, not just users

KYLE MIKKELSEN
FORUM STAFF WRITER

Steroids have forever changed the way we will look at today's superstar athletes. It is the sad and unfortunate truth. But it cannot be changed.

From baseball and football to the Olympics, performance-enhancing drugs have permanently cast a cloud over this generation of competitors. In baseball, steroid users include Barry Bonds and Alex Rodriguez. Football isn't much better. At least one in ten now-retired NFL players admits to having used anabolic steroids while playing. In the Olympics, a name that quickly comes to mind is Marion Jones, another admitted juicer.

No competitive sport is exempt from suspicion. Every athlete who hits 50 home runs in a season, scores 30 touchdowns in a 16-game span or wins 5 gold medals in an Olympic games meeting will be under the microscope.

Most sports fans today harbor some level of suspicion about whether or not their favorite players cheated the game. Though most players—perhaps even the vast majority—have stayed true and achieved star-status through rigorous training and talent, the few who decided they needed assistance dragged everyone else down also.

Not only will fans look at admitted juicers differently, but they will view the most pristine figures, such as Yankees star



Courtesy of chadkorb.com

"Steroids have forever changed the way we will look at today's superstar athletes."

Derek Jeter, in a different light.

Let's face it, we really cannot know for sure if a player has used steroids, human growth hormone or any other performance booster. Sure, a player may undergo extensive drug testing and pass with flying colors, but until athletes are tested weekly, uncertainty will exist.

Weekly tests are not practical. Tests administered twice during a 6-month season prove little. Thus, even after an iconic player retires, we can't help but think that maybe—just maybe—that person experimented with *something* at *some* point during of his or her career.

Case in point: Alex Rodriguez. Up until the slugger's 2003 failed drug test was made public in February, few imagined that A-Rod used banned substances. After all, weighing only 220-lbs, the three-time American League MVP's lean and toned physique is not in line with the bulky body type associated with steroids.

In fact, the first player to ever fail a mandatory drug test implemented by Major League Baseball stood a measly 5'11" and weighed a buck-seventy with his clothes wet. The point: it's not just the 6'4"/250-lb monsters who have turned to PEDs.

Nevertheless, those who have taken illegal performance-enhancing drugs must be forgiven and forgotten. Sports must go on. Abusers should definitely be punished, fined and suspended by their leagues.

But steroid users cheated themselves before anyone else. They must live with themselves knowing this, which could be the worst punishment sufferable. They will always know—even if no one else ever finds out—that they *cheated* to accomplish what they did on the field, court or diamond.

To some extent, PED abusers cannot be blamed for swooping to the low level of illegal drug use. Players are faced with a tough choice: Either cheat or compete against cheaters. With jobs, income and family security on the line, the decision to cheat can be made without much affliction.

Furthermore, we must remember that not every athlete earns \$28,000,000 per season. For every A-Rod, there are many players earning at or near the MLB minimum of \$390,000. And, considering that the average athlete cannot work past age 40, most players must make the bulk of their life earnings during their playing careers.

Their windows for earning enough money for life are so short that some go to desperate measures to ensure an income. While this is obviously not a legitimate excuse for most super-stars, considering their extremely high salaries, it is for the majority of athletes earning far more respectable incomes.

In the end, performance-enhancing substances have tainted the sports world and changed the way we perceive its best performers. While those who have shamed the games they play have done wrong, they must ultimately be forgiven. If we dwell on the past, the day when integrity is restored to sports will never come.



"They will always know – even if no one else ever finds out – that they *cheated* to accomplish what they did on the field, court or diamond." —Kyle Mikkelsen

FEMALE-FRONTED METAL SCENE GROWS

PAUL HENNEN
FORUM STAFF WRITER

What is there still to be accomplished in the world of metal? Loud guitars and drums are mandatory, but fronted by a female singer? It may sound odd to many heavy metal fans, but it's becoming the growing trend.

Heavy metal hasn't been big since the 1980s. Now, with a new scene of metal rising with many female-fronted metal bands, freshness and originality has been a key factor in the return of this genre.

Most heavy metal bands before have been either death or thrash metal, and new bands have invented new types to gain attention. It's stayed mostly underground since the early '90s, with bands diving into different, low-key music scenes until now.

Some of these bands may not be new. Rather, their status is considered "underground." An example of a rising band is Lacuna Coil, whose latest album, *Shallow Life*, is set to be released April 21. Lacuna Coil gained a decent amount of popularity through their last two albums. Their latest single, "Spellbound," is already hitting airwaves.

The popular '80s band Megadeth recently did a re-recording of "Set Me Free," featuring Christina Scabbia, the front woman of Lacuna Coil.

"The band's been saying their new music is meant to sound more rock, so I hope this means they'll gain more fame and attention than they already have," said Charlottesville local, Jason, about Lacuna Coil. With two gold albums behind them, it's very possible another will only increase their popularity.

These kinds of heavy metal have attracted more of a female audience, but they are loved by many male fans as well. The



Photo courtesy of www.100besteverything.com

Heavy metal bands like Flyleaf, with female lead vocalists like Lacey Mosley, are gaining in popularity.

most prominent may be the gothic metal scene, which has the most popular of all bands in the genre: Evanescence. With their hit singles "Bring Me to Life," and "Sweet Sacrifice," Evanescence has sold more than 16 million albums in only six or seven years.

Gothic metal tends to use some choir in exchange for backing vocals and consist of a darker, heavier overtone. A rising band, Sirenia, garnered attention with their new single, "Path to Decay." Their new album, *The 13th Floor*, is set to be released April 21 from Nuclear Blast USA, a special division of Nuclear Blast Records that releases foreign metal albums in the States.

Another type of heavy metal is metalcore, the most well-known kind of music in the rise of heavy metal. These bands employ a combination of pop-esque and punk-like vocals with use of an almost death-metal sound.

While the metal core band Otep has been around for awhile, this sound happened only recently for bands like Flyleaf or In This Moment.

Flyleaf's "I'm So Sick" and In This Moment's "Forever" were added to the catalog of tracks available to the "Rock Band" brand games, which was a sign of increasing popularity.

A PVCC student, Jess, who is a fan of Flyleaf and In This Moment, said, "Lacy Mosley [of Flyleaf] is the best singer I've heard in a long time." Speaking of In This Moment, he added, "Maria is a better metalcore singer than any of the male metalcore bands I've heard."

Other sub-genres of metal can be heavy with harder and faster guitar play, or less heavy, such as the symphonic power metal band Nightwish. Their last two albums gained popularity among fans worldwide, both selling more than a million copies each with at least 300,000 in the United States alone.

What distinguishes Nightwish from other metal bands is their usage of what has been described as "operatic" vocals, along with a backing choir and frequent use of violins. Several of their songs, "Wish I Had An Angel," "Nemo," and

"Amaranth," have charted quite well. They were also included on various soundtracks.

A fan of Nightwish who wished to remain anonymous said, "Both their new and old singers are far better than most of the singers in other kinds of music today." Comments like these seem to be aiming towards the future of metal.

Such elements have allowed the band Within Temptation to sell over 500,000 copies of their last album, *The Heart of Everything*. They've also mixed symphonic with gothic, providing a fresh, new sound for an ever-growing genre.

Many symphonic bands also employ use of a strong death metal influence. The band Epica has one vocalist singing with operatic vocals and another male vocalist with death metal vocals. The stark contrast between female singer Simone Simons and male singer Mark Jansen have made the band stand out among fans.

Both singers share equal vocal duties, creating what has been called the "beauty and the beast effect." Mark Jansen was previously together with his sister, Floor Jansen, as lead singer in the now disbanded band After Forever.

Another symphonic band is Leaves Eyes who, in addition to using an occasional death metal influence, also depicts several elements of folk music. Lead singer Liv Kristine was the first singer of this kind of genre-fuse, having previously been in Theatre Of Tragedy in 1998.

Her sister, Carmen Elise, has a band that is pure folk metal called Midnattsol. These bands also all use acoustic guitars in their music, further separating them from the rest of the metal scene.

The female-fronted metal scene continues to grow, as more new bands show up to tackle a rising of metal music.

Wanted

Do you like to write? Are you Creative?

Do you remember those random English prompts from High School where you had to finish the story?

A fellow PVCC student is looking for your ideas to publish in her book of 100 (or more) short stories! Send her story starters/scenarios, and you could get your name and idea published in her next book! Please send any ideas you may have to Kathleen at: frubafreak17@gmail.com. To see one of her stories, visit <http://frubafreak17.deviantart.com/art/The-Man-with-100-Tales-99381424>*

Be a Tutor at Cale Elementary School!

Volunteer 1 hour / week, starting this semester. Make a difference in a child's life! For more information contact Erin at 961.6530.

For Sale

White Macbook \$700 good condition for me information contact matte@virginia.edu or call 434 295 5615.

Panasonic digital camera-good condition includes memory card. Contact Matt at mwood8344@email.vccs.edu

Services

Looking for a handyman?

Contact Ann Marsh at amarsh8211@email.vccs.edu or call 434-227-7827 for small repairs and/or remodeling in Japanese style.

Upcoming Events

March 20-April 23

Vessels and Automatic Artifacts
Featuring artists' work in both the North and South Galleries. Opening reception Friday, March 20 from 5-7 p.m.

Friday, March 20, 7:30 p.m.

Free Movie Friday: Slumdog Millionaire

Dickinson Building Main Stage
PVCC's student art club presents a free screening of Slumdog Millionaire. For more information, log on to www.pvcc.edu/performingarts or contact Beryl Solla, professor of art, at 434.961.5362 or bsolla@pvcc.edu.

Friday March 20, 8-11 p.m.

Fantasy Casino Night
Bolick Center and North Mall Meeting Room

This event is sponsored by the SGA.

Sunday, March 22, 3:00- 4:30 p.m.

PVCC Faculty Music Recital
V. Earl Dickinson Building Main Stage Theatre

For more information contact Kay Bethea at 434-961-5387 or kbethea@pvcc.edu

April 2-4, 9-11, 7:30 p.m.

April 4, 11, 2:30 p.m.

PVCC Theatre Presents the World Premier of Fabulous Flavio

\$10 Adults; \$8 Students/Seniors General Seating

Written by singer/songwriter John Carden and directed by Hollywood producer, screenwriter, director, novelist and local resident Raymond Austin, this musical comedy will thrill the entire family.

Announcements

Attention Students

Your student activities fee provides you with vouchers for free admission to many events in the Dickinson Building. Pick up a voucher form at the Reception Desk in the Main Building. Tickets obtained with vouchers are only available for pick up at the PVCC Box Office in the Dickinson Building, which is open two hours before the start of each show. Contact the Dickinson Theater Box Office for more information at boxoffice@pvcc.edu or 961-5376.

Deadline for PVCC Educational Foundation Scholarships

The PVCC Educational Foundation is accepting applications for 78 scholarships that will be awarded for study at the College in the 2009-10 academic year. May 1 is the deadline for 2009 high school graduates and homeschooled students not currently enrolled at PVCC. April 1 is the deadline for all other applicants. The scholarship application is available on line at www.pvcc.edu/stars. Questions? Contact the Office of Development at 434-961-5204.

The Forum offers ad space to the PVCC community free of charge. Please send all ads, announcements, and upcoming events along with your full name, mailing address, email, and telephone number to the editor-in-chief, at theforum@pvcc.edu.

Wednesday, March 18, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. 25th Annual Job Fair

50+ area employers will be offering full time, part time, temporary, and internship positions. For more information, log on to www.pvcc.edu/jobfair or contact André Luck, employer services manager, at 434.961.5264 or careers@pvcc.edu.