

The Davidsonian

Founded in 1914

"The South's Foremost College Weekly"

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Steps In The Right Direction

Kudos to Davidson for some highly encouraging signs that we're starting to get our heads screwed on straight again as a community. In the past week, the college and several members of the Davidson community have made some great strides towards making life better for us all.

First, the decision to build two new sets of senior apartments indicates that the college is beginning to direct its resources towards projects that will benefit the average student rather than a select few like those who gained from the college's last major construction project. By developing better student housing, Davidson shows a true commitment to the day to day welfare of the student body. The construction of the apartments makes Davidson look better than any gym ever could. Building the apartments now is also a wise economic maneuver which will not only save the school money, but also help employ dozens of construction workers suffering the effects of the recession.

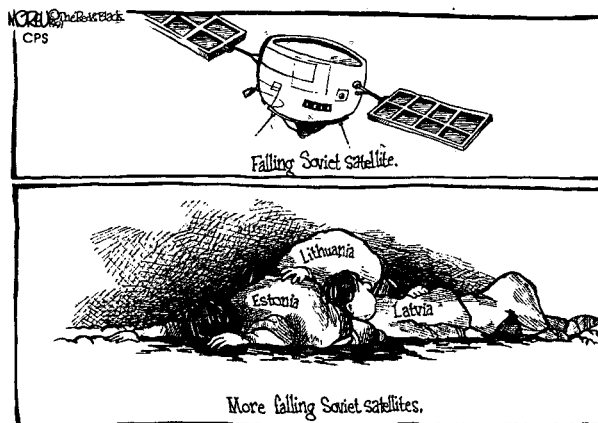
This week also saw 472 members of the Davidson community participate in the Bone Marrow Drive in the College Union. It would seem as if the apathy which has inspired so many opinions pieces is on the wane. What the high level of participation in the drive also conveys is that Davidson is truly a college *community*. Interest in leukemia here at Davidson was inspired when one of our own had to have a bone marrow transplant last year. Whether we knew him personally or not, just about everybody in the community was concerned about David Lindsay's progress. David's transplant last year alerted the college community to the near impossibility of a leukemia patient's finding a donor whose marrow perfectly matches their own, and 472 people rallied together to try and trim those difficult odds.

Finally, last Friday's Rusk House formal was the first in the past three years unblemished by a fight. The past few weeks, in fact, have seen a decline in the number of conflicts that end in violence around here. Rather than beat each other up, we seem to have found better ways to enjoy ourselves on the court.

If even I can't find much to bitch about in an editorial, things must be looking up.

- d.a.t.

The Davidsonian is published weekly on Monday during the spring term by the students of Davidson College. Please address fan mail and correspondences to: *The Davidsonian*, P.O. Box 219, Davidson, North Carolina 28036. Phone (704) 892-2148 or -2149. Offices are located on the top floor of the Grey Student Union building. Opinions expressed in letters to the editor or commentaries do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editorial Board of *The Davidsonian*. Subscriptions cost \$25 per year. Advertising rates available on request. Copyright is held by the Trustees of Davidson College.



Letters

Homosexual Student Responds

To the Editor:

I am very happy about the article that appeared in last week's *Davidsonian*, "Homosexuality At Davidson." As far as most people know I am a "normal" student here at Davidson. I go to court parties, am active in campus organizations and I eye date guys. But I am also a lesbian. Reading this article gave me encouragement.

I have never been "involved" with a woman, but I know that I am gay. I am pressured by the standards of this campus to date men. I have even "hooked" with guys. I have been programmed by years of society's influence to think that I am the one that needs to change. It is only here at Davidson that I have fully

accepted myself and realized that there is nothing wrong with me.

Even though I accept myself, there are a lot of times that I feel completely alone. An entire part of my life is being suppressed because I have no means of expressing it here. If an organization was formed here at Davidson, I would greatly admire anyone who joined because that would require an incredible amount of courage.

There are people at Davidson who fear homosexuality, which is why I would never want my sexual orientation to be common knowledge. But I think not enough credit is given to those people at Davidson who are understanding.

I only choose to tell my

closest friends and they have been more understanding than I could have imagined. They were most understanding because they did not feel it was something I should be ashamed of. They think it's just a normal choice.

Most of the publicity given to homosexuality is the fear that people have here. But I think there are a number of people here who would be understanding given the chance. I also understand very well that it is not easy to tell people that you're gay, even if they are your best friend. I hope that with such articles as Ms. Strickland's a gradual change is taking place.

NAME WITHHELD
UPON REQUEST
March 12, 1991.

Marrow Drive Response

To the Editor:

Six months and almost \$30,000 later, our first bone marrow drive is successfully behind us. Many "Thank Yous" are due.

Thanks to the Union for their support and patience. Thanks to Patterson Court, Campus Police, Erik Christensen and his crew, and Ethan Allen and The Green Mountain Boys for their help during our "Music Marrowthon."

Thanks to Dave Hampton in Personnel for writing

Blue Cross and Blue Shield, which netted our only corporate donation.

Thanks to everyone who supported us financially; every little bit helped.

We were one of the first schools in the nation to attempt a project of this nature, certainly the first in this area, and at a time of year when everyone is tired, and complaints of apathy abound, it was encouraging and heartwarming to see such school support. So a special thank you to every-

one who came and gave.

Leukemia is the only disease that can be cured by the commitment of another individual, and last Wednesday, we made 472 of these commitments.

Davidson College owes a BIG thank you to Gigi Cooke, Millicent McKeithen, David Lindsay, Lindsay Shoemaker, Grier Martin, Robert DuBose, Catherine Turner, Mary Faith Mount, Steven Keller, and Jenny McDonald.

See "Marrow" on Page 7.

To the Editor:

Well, I got that "feeling" last Wednesday. You know the feeling--it's that rush of adrenaline and pleasure one gets when all seems right with the world. It's that feeling you got at the end of *Rocky* movies and *Top Gun*, or when you aced that tough-as-nails midterm, or when you hit a winning shot. On Wednesday, March 13th, Davidson College held its first Bone Marrow Registry Drive. The months of hard, and at times, frustrating work of our committee finally came to a satisfying conclusion. It was as if a page had been lifted from the *Field of Dreams* movie

script--"Build it. People will come..." Well, we did and you did! Over 470 people--which is close to \$29,000 worth of testing--turned out in just over five hours to commit themselves to becoming potential life-savers. I was really psyched to see so many different aspects of our college community represented in their willingness to step forward and unite in this worthy cause. In theory, it might seem doubtful that so many people would choose to spend a chunk of their valuable free time to have their blood drawn, but seeing people lined up out the door waiting to get "poked" to the tunes of the

Eagles and Jimmy Buffett, can be truly rewarding. Even more impressive were those who saw that their very real fear of needles was secondary to their desire to give.

Thanks goes out to the many, many people who gave their time, money, and support throughout the many phases of this drive. On behalf of the Bone Marrow Drive committee, I want to thank everyone who signed their name (in blood) to the list which has and will provide the miracles of a lifetime. Give yourself a pat on the back and soak in the feeling...

Sincerely,
DAVID LINDSAY