

The Davidsonian

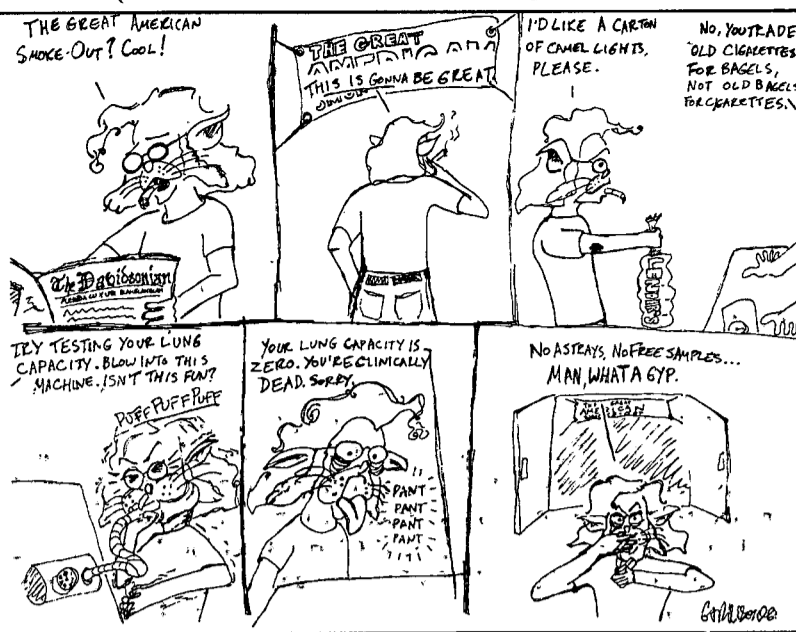
ALENDA LUX UBI ORTA LIBERTAS

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"The South's Foremost College Weekly"

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LETTERS

No excuses

To the Editors:

We were deeply saddened, as were all members of the community, by the recent incident in which an inebriated sophomore made threatening remarks to one student and assaulted another one with a knife.

But we were astonished and offended to read in the November 11 issue the remarks attributed to Lt. D.E. McLaurin, the head of investigations at the Campus Police. You quoted him as saying that the incident was apparently "not intentional," that with the pressure students are under here... they [go out and drink], and alcohol changes their personality." They then "get carried away," and "do things that they might regret."

We trust that Lt. McLaurin was misquoted. Such remarks have the ef-

fect, whether intended or not, of excusing behavior that is in fact totally unacceptable. It is insulting to students, and incompatible with the responsibility they rightly claim as adults, to suggest that the "pressure" they are under is so intense that they may on occasion over-indulge in alcohol, and then "get carried away" and do things which they might regret and which in any case, they never intended. We are all under "pressure," but adults learn to handle that pressure responsibly.

According to your story, Lt. McLaurin concluded that the offending student "doesn't seem like the kind of person who would [do this kind of thing]." We should not have to point out that, in fact, he apparently did.

It would be deeply trou-

bling if those entrusted with campus security really do hold such a "boys-will-be-boys" attitude toward reckless behavior and terrifying violence. If such a casual dismissal of personal accountability is widely shared among members of the Davidson community, then it is hard to see how it will ever again provide the secure and responsible environment in which genuine academic inquiry may flourish.

Jonathan P. Berkey
Department of History
Mark Csikszentmihalyi
Department of Religion
Jeanne N. O'Neill
Department of Classics

Congrats, Reach Out

Finally, the Jettons are moving in. People gathered 'round 537 Westside Terrace Sunday and watched as the family walked into their new home.

After a year of sweat and cooperation, Reach Out and the Habitat Coordinators — Graduate Smrita Donthamsetty, Seniors Meredith Strong, Katie Brasfield, and Bill Abrams, Junior Ben Kinnamon, Sophomore Saralyn J. Damanti, and Service coordinator Catherine Turner, to name a few — have an accomplishment to hold dear to their hearts; a project that will grow with years and give for generations.

Davidson should pull together like this more often. Every week students worked on this project in some form, whether they were pounding nails, selling t-shirts or calling potential donors. Students paid, persisted, and planned, pulling together all sorts of different talents and personalities to raise money and gain support.

In an editorial almost a year ago, the past editors of *The Davidsonian* wrote, "[The work of Habitat for Humanity] isn't just to build a foundation for a house, but a strong ideological foundation on which we all can build in every endeavor of our lives."

The lives of Jettons have been affected by the Davidson Community, and Davidson has been affected by the Jettons. We are lucky to have had the chance to build this house, and we owe it all to a few people who conceived the idea and founded the project.

Congratulations, Davidson, and (even more appropriately) congratulations Reach Out. Every day students participate in service activities, but rarely are the results so tangible or is the support so widespread.

Our Town

Last week the SGA met with town leaders in order to become acquainted with them. This was more than a good idea — it was a step in the right direction.

Davidson students have always had a good relationship with the town, for they are so closely related that they are not, truly, different entities.

However, interaction between the two is minimal beyond the occasional seasonal event — if we work to change that, then maybe our mutual interests will come to fruition with greater ease.

With successful communication, we may be able to avoid problems like the parking scenario earlier this semester.

Town members are friendly and interested, and we are lucky for that. But we should also get to know town merchants, and try to work with them as well.

Davidson can be a town that holds students captive, or a town that invites students to join the community. By working toward good relations, the SGA has promoted a vital student interest. We encourage them to pursue this course, for it is an important issue that students confront every day.

To the Editors:

The article last week on the Project Life Bone Marrow Drive erroneously stated that our fundraising goal was \$1500, and that we had raised \$1200 over the semester. Actually, our goal is \$15,000 and we have raised slightly over \$12,000 to type approximately 400

people. I would like to thank the volunteers who have given countless hours to fundraising for Project Life, and to recognize the tremendous show of support from students, faculty, staff and the community for our program. Without this support we would not be able to continue our drive. I

would also like to encourage anyone who has not been typed to join us at our drives on Tuesday, November 19 and Wednesday, November 20, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Morrison Room of the Union. Thank You.

Liz Abernathy '97

A round of applause

To the Editors:

The members of FLAG would like to thank all sponsors, models, and everyone who helped make the Third Annual FLAG Fashion Show a great success.

Over 400 students, faculty, and staff packed the Chambers Gallery on November 9. We raised over \$1500 which will benefit three organizations, including Time Out Youth, The House of Mercy, and the

FLAG Scholarship.

Time Out Youth is a youth group and counseling center for gay, lesbian, and bisexual teens in Charlotte. In Gaston County, the House of Mercy provides a home for people living with AIDS.

To increase awareness and education in the Davidson community, we are offering a scholarship to an incoming freshman who will continue serving the gay community.

If you would like a copy of the video, please contact Valerie Hansard at 896-6011.

We hope everyone had a good time, and models— get your show ready for next year!!

Thanks again!!
The members of FLAG

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