

## Staff Editorial

## ♦ LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ♦

## Be content this March

No grade inflation here; these high marks are well deserved. Professors take note: giving an A is not a crime.

**Basketball: A+**

Team: After a spirited SoCon Championship run and a hard-fought game vs. Ohio State, Davidson cannot help but be proud of its basketball team. The school, as much as the team, will miss the class of seven seniors.

Fans: Announcements asking fans to remain in their seats were drowned out by Davidson's screaming fans. Many 12:30 classes were canceled, and the Union was rockin'. The usually defunct SGA also deserves credit for organizing an affordable 2 a.m. bus to Dayton, Oh.

**Music Scene: B+**

Props to the Union Board for drawing larger crowds to smaller band events by using more effective advertising. Slight discord still exists when it comes to finding musicians who interest the majority of students. Some have criticized the decision to bring Bob Dylan to perform on campus, arguing that the generation gap is too wide to turn out a large crowd. Initial ticket sales, however, seem to prove the contrary. Students waited in line for hours in the Union to snag the best seats. Word is over 1,200 tickets were sold in the first four hours. Rock on, Bob!

**Theater: A**

A standing ovation for the thespian crowd, including the RSC and the Davidson Community Players. The students and professors who throw themselves into the shows, however, get a standing ovation and a bouquet. From the polish of "For Every Passion Something" to the magic of "The Emperor's New Clothes" to the explosiveness of "Vagina Monologues," theater at Davidson wins the "most bang for your buck" award hands down. Hopefully the college will put enough money into renovating the Cunningham Fine Arts Center to ensure that future seasons have resources to match the efforts of participants.

**Community Service: A-**

Student efforts in service have been particularly fruitful this semester, with Red and Black Ball, Earthquake Relief Dinner and Bosom Buddies exceeding fundraising expectations. Generous students can go broke just walking around the Union spending parent-given CatCard money on worthy causes. Service reaches well beyond the big name events, as many students devote their time to regular volunteer programs. Although Davidson's service record is to be commended, student groups need to increase collaboration to bestow greater benefits upon those in need.

## The Davidsonian

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## Cafe problems not all about student abuse

While I agree that students have displayed disrespect toward the Union Café and its workers, I wish that the article, "Union Café reacts to disrespectful students" (Mar. 15), had provided an adequate student perspective.

I would like to think that only a slim minority of students inspired such an article to be written. I would like to know why students might be reacting as they are. At our core, I definitely do not see us as the destructive, abusive and rude individuals that we were depicted as. I mean, we are Davidson students.

I personally had an experience a few weeks back where I was right outside the Union Café (not inside) complaining to a couple of my friends about how I was annoyed that the Union Café had limited their already sparse and sporadic hours. I guess I was being a bit more boisterous than I thought I was (also I am told that my voice carries), but the next thing I know the Manager of the Union Café is demanding that I hand over my CatCard so that she can take down my ID number and name and threatening me with an Honor Code violation if I fail to comply.

After a few minutes of discussion she had explained to me that the current register worker had been offended by my comments and had complained to her about my behavior. Apparently the Union Café reserves the right to restrict not only hours, but also speech.

I know that I am not the only person to have had such an encounter like this over the past few weeks. Why wasn't anything like this included in the article about student rowdiness in the Union Café? I realize that many inebriated individuals do head to the Café for late night snacks (what other options do we have on campus?) and that some are belligerent, but the way that the staff treats us perpetuates this cycle and it's unfortunate.

I would not come to the Union Café if I had any other on campus option at night, but I don't. I'm tired of being scowled at by certain late night workers as I pay for my food no matter how much I try to smile or strike up a rapport. I'm tired of the same disgusting convenience store options that I am given. And I'm tired of being threatened with the Honor Code for expressing my disappointment in more restricted Café hours.

But I digress. I hope that they continue to scale back hours, continue to provide the same unhealthy food and continue to provide us with the same unsmiling service. I'm sure that if this continues, students' behavior gracing the Union Café will become positive, pleasant and polite.

Graham Jaenicke '07

## March Madness is catching



CARA CHRISTIAN

Room?

The 'Davidson vs. Goliath' spirit of throwing pebbles at the big guy?

The bi-hourly promotional emails?

The sweet sweet possibility of filling out a killer bracket and making my roommate cry?

Here are the components I've singled out thus far: one part hype, one part pride, one part Brendan Winters...blended,

I'll admit it. I'm a girl's girl. I've danced at more Davidson men's basketball games than I've watched this season. But something in my pink-ribbon hard-wiring switched Selection Sunday, and since that night ("what does 15 mean?") ESPN.com and I have been as inseparable as that obnoxious couple snuggling on the Union couches. What was it that finally drew college basketball and me together?

Was it the shoulder-to-shoulder mass of manic fans in the 900

## Gay alumni reunion creates segregation

When I read the article "College to Host Gay Alumni," (Mar. 15) my egalitarian nerves were tweaked. If we, as Matt Merrell said, are "committed to embracing diversity on this campus," where are the Single Mother and the African American Weekends?

Spotlighting this one issue, I think, will do less to father community as it will to alienate alums that do not belong to a favored minority.

After reading the report, I realized that this Gay Alumni Weekend is overreaching in its goals to heighten gay and lesbian acceptance. I know that alumni requested this recognition, but is it necessary to make a weekend so that they can "network" and "meet other alumni?"

Possibilities extend beyond an exclusive party. Alumni events already coordinated, including the similar one two years ago, are open to everyone of every gender, nationality, sexual orientation, and race.

For the school to host a weekend dedicated to a controversial issue is to segregate people more and to reheat a sensitive issue that seems to be improving. Do we, as an institution, owe homosexual alumni an apology? If so, we should try to integrate them further, not separate them.

On the other hand, females were not welcome to Davidson until almost forty years ago. The Jewish community is rising but still outnumbered by Catholics, Atheists, and Presbyterians.

I do not want to trivialize a noble cause, but when will we hear of Alumni and Presidential-supported weekends for other minority groups? There should be a more egalitarian way to re-welcome our alumni.

Paige Taylor '08

The Davidsonian welcomes letters to the editor. Please e-mail submissions of fewer than 250 words to davidsonian@davidson.edu by Sunday night. We reserve the right to edit for content, brevity and grammar. Anonymous letters will not be printed.

served cold and dashed with sheer gambler's luck. I don't know who was going to tell me that winning is involved in this "tournament" business, but now that I'm in the secret circle of trust, let me pass this gem along: calling an upset falls just short of playing God. Gloating and "I told you so's" free with purchase.

Sure, there's camaraderie, sportsmanship and the gainful employment of sportscasters and nacho vendors.

But let's be honest. Friday was all about cherishing learning where liberty has arisen all over the Buckeyes' face. We rubbed arisen liberty all over their shoddy first-half three-point shooters and cherished their awe-struck faces all the way to a 29-25 half-time lead.

The winner's high didn't last much longer than that lead did (and neither will my bracket's momentum after Gonzaga gets pummeled)—but I'm hooked. I'm stuck. I'm riding the 30-second refresh on ESPN's scores page all the way to the end, dancing along with the tournament as a full-fledged basketball enthusiast.

This time without the red leotard.

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