

COLLEGIATE TIMES

An independent, student-run newspaper serving the Virginia Tech community since 1903



CHEN JIANG / COLLEGIATE TIMES

Hammering away ALS

Jeremy Campbell, a junior mechanical engineering major, participates in Phi Delta Theta fraternity's first "car smash" to raise money for the ALS Association, March 3, 2015. The event was held in front of the Graduate Life Center and was the fraternity's first philanthropy in eight years.

Search continues for the Hokie Bird

Last week a Hokie Bird statue was stolen off of Research Center Drive. Police are still investigating the theft.

MAURA MAZUROWSKI
news editor

The search for a missing Hokie Bird statue continues.

The theft occurred sometime last Thursday night, Feb. 26, from the 1800 block of Research Center Drive, according to a Blacksburg police news release.

The statue is described as approximately 5 feet tall with a black base and blue shoulders that are "superimposed with flowers across the entire body," according to the news release.

The stolen Hokie Bird was one of many such statues that originated in the Summer of 2006 as part of the Gobble de Art program, established by the Blacksburg Partnership. The project was an initiative to bring attention to the community, attract

see **HOKIE** / page 3

Tiny homes, big ideas: students try sustainable living

By building 400-square-foot mobile home units, one Virginia Tech student and alumnus hope to live a more economic and sustainable lifestyle.

KAITE BRITT
lifestyles staff writer

College students struggle annually to make plans life for after graduation.

While 60 percent of Virginia Tech students had jobs at the end of 2014, 17 percent were still searching and 23 percent of students were continuing their education, according to a "Post-Graduation Survey" by Career Services.

What if a college student had their plan laid out in a complete blueprint? Lyndsay Digman, an interior design major, and Ian Cobb Ozanne, an alumni from science and technology studies, decided to build a Tiny

Home.

A year and a half later, the couple is installing interior elements and bringing the project to a close as Digman is using the house as a model for her thesis.

"That's the weird thing about building a project," Ozanne said. "There are these stages you go through where you feel like you are working every day and you have nothing to show for it. And then like two days go by and suddenly it looks completely different."

Tiny Homes are mobile homes at an average of 400 square feet; however, the tiny home community believes that the miniature houses are unique due to the

completely customized design.

Companies such as Tumbleweed Houses and Four Lights Houses sell prefabricated homes while the majority of Tiny Houses are custom built and designed, often by the future owners.

"There is a huge class bias against Tiny Homes. I think that's the biggest hurdle in the movement, is overcoming this, you know. Because people look at Tiny Homes and think trailer, they think mobile home," Ozanne said.

Digman and Ozanne began planning their Tiny House in January of 2014. Ozanne would later take on building the exterior while Digman would use her skills

as an interior design major to plan the the inner layout.

The two drew sketches of a floor plan and design ideas for furniture placement. A challenge was to find ways to make every inch count and make every space multi-purpose areas. They used "Revit," an AutoCAD program, to design the internal and external house structure.

Digman and Ozanne's Tiny Home is 8.5 feet by 24 feet by 11 feet on a slant. The primary factors the pair thought about while building were heating, sustainable energy, building materials and weight.

see **TINY** / page 4

Surge rally protests minimum wage

CLARE RIGNEY
news staff writer

The movement to increase the minimum wage reached into the Blacksburg community on Tuesday night.

Every seat in Surge 107 was filled during the Raise Up for 15 meeting. Raise Up for 15 is an organization that wants to raise the minimum wage to \$15 per hour and encourage workers' rights to form a union without retaliation.

"We want \$15 an hour as a living wage. We want freedom to join a union and dignity and respect on a job. How will we get that? By doing what we're doing today," said Cassandra Shaw, the Virginia Raise Up organizer. Shaw has been working to preserve rights and higher wages for minimum wage workers for five years.

According to a press release, the Virginia People's Assembly and local sponsors like the Coalition of Justice, the NAACP at Virginia Tech and the Virginia Tech Chapter of United Students Against Sweatshops collaborated to organize the event.

David Breslau from the Virginia Peoples' Assembly gave opening remarks about how the movement has traveled and the struggles that workers face when earning minimum wage.

"They can get fired for no reason, fired for all the wrong reasons ... and this is something that affects all of us," Breslau said.

Workers and sympathizers have been organizing strikes in Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and other southern states in order to demand payment of \$15 an hour for minimum wage workers.

Some states, such as Washington, have increased their minimum wage payment requirements among employee complaints of inability to buy food,

housing and transportation with their current salaries.

Shaw said that the issue with minimum wage is national, and its most prominent offenders are McDonald's and other fast food companies. She said that it is also a large contribution to racial tensions because most fast food workers are African Americans and Latino immigrants.

There were two speakers at the event who shared their stories with these issues involving race, low wages and unfairness in the work place.

Jessica Resendiz is a student at Virginia Union University who was enraged with her high school after fights among students broke out and the school began calling on Latino students to search their bags for weapons. On graduation day, Resendiz and other students protested against the school and demanded an apology, which they finally received after two years.

"It takes time for change to happen, but if we don't keep pushing it towards what we want, it's never going to get done," Resendiz said.

Resendiz has struggled with her job at a restaurant as well, where her employer takes three percent of all her sales. Resendiz said that she might make only \$30 in one day, which she said may "just go away in gas."

The other speaker was Thomasine Wilson, a home care worker for 15 years who did not think that her wage of less than \$9 an hour was representative of her skill set.

Wilson often deals with older people who struggle with mental, emotional or physical issues and may behave violently. She said that levelheaded people like her are necessary in her industry.

"People like me are needed for this type of work, and we should be compensated at a higher level

see **RALLY** / page 3

Local housing search site comes to Tech

Recent college graduates launched an off-campus housing site in Blacksburg to simplify the search process.

CALLI ZARPAS
news staff writer

While most people spend time in their dorm rooms sleeping, eating and watching Netflix, Jason Okrasinski, Tim Jones and Evan Dancer found their University of Michigan dorm room to be useful for creating a business. Last fall, the recent graduates launched Cribspot, an off-campus housing search engine that aids college students find the best housing possible.

Three weeks ago, the trio brought the site to Blacksburg.

"We talked to a bunch of our friends at different schools like Virginia Tech, Indiana, Michigan State and New York University. We realized across all the demographics across all the different schools it was a really crappy process to find housing because everything was scattered across the web," Okrasinski said. "Most people we found were finding housing by going door to door or Craigslist or just calling those properties. We thought there just had to

be a better way to do it."

Cribspot allows students to search for properties using a map or using filters like "apartment," "house," "furnished" and "parking." Most listings offer a picture and description of the property and the ability to contact the landlord or visit the rental site.

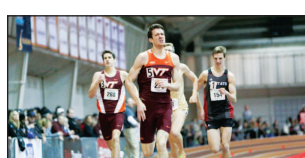
Currently Cribspot is offered at 87 different schools with some of the most popular campuses being Michigan, Indiana and Alabama.

"We have a bunch of friends that went (to Virginia Tech) or are currently there and they kept talking about the same issue," Okrasinski said. "We heard how stressful it was to actually find places, which mirrored our own experience."

Jaelyn Koger, a freshman human development major, found her off-campus housing search to be similarly challenging.

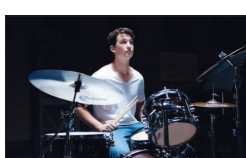
"Going into the process, I was not knowledgeable at all. I didn't really know what was good or what was bad. The group that I was with

see **SEARCH** / page 3



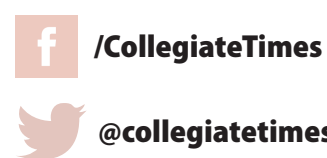
MEN'S TRACK
The Hokies captured the ACC Championship last week.

page 6



WATCH: "WHIPLASH"
Our reviewer ranked this flick five out of five stars.

page 5



opinion

collegiatetimes.com/opinion



MCT CAMPUS

column

Keystone pipeline debate symbolic of American politics

The construction of the Keystone XL pipeline has been under debate for six years now. Six long years of both sides fighting to preserve or destroy a project based on nothing but rhetoric and symbolism.

On one side, Republicans are fighting for the pipeline because it is going to be a massive job creator that will get Americans back to work. On the other side, Democrats are fighting against the pipeline, claiming that it will only lead to greater dependency on fossil fuels while accelerating climate change.

For the record, I oppose the Keystone pipeline. However, I do not oppose it because I side with the Democrats; I oppose the Keystone pipeline as a conservative fighting against reckless eminent domain and for private property rights.

The Keystone pipeline would affect the lives of many regular Americans and the lands of many Native American reservations, and yet both sides have been too busy fighting a symbolic argument to fight for the livelihood of the citizens of this country. Both Democrats and Republicans have been basing their arguments for or against the legislation on exaggerated facts, rhetoric, propaganda and symbolism while rejecting the truths of the Keystone XL pipeline.

Before discussing the debate of the Keystone XL pipeline, it is important to understand exactly what it is. The Keystone XL Pipeline would be a 3800 mile pipeline network that will transport 830,000 barrels of tar sands oil from Alberta, Canada to American Gulf Coast refineries. The project was initiated by the Canadian company, TransCanada, and will cost \$8 billion, according to TransCanada.

Republicans have supported the pipeline by pitching it as a jobs bill. Speaker of the House John Boehner (R-OH) said last year in an op-ed for USA Today that, "The nearly six-year delay in approving Keystone is costing Americans more than 100,000 jobs."

Wisconsin representative and 2012 Republican vice president nominee, Paul Ryan, included in his 2013 federal budget proposal that the Keystone XL pipeline would create 138,000 jobs. However, a report from the State Department stated that the pipeline would result in 42,000 temporary jobs, each of which would last around 19 weeks, or roughly 7 million hours of labor. This would result in one year of work for roughly 3,900 workers, or two years of work for 1,950 workers. The number of jobs created in the long-term? Thirty-five permanent jobs, with 15 temporary contractors!

Although there is still debate on the actual total number of jobs created, the facts have reached one important consensus: Republicans have grossly overstated the number of jobs that will be created by the building of the Keystone XL pipeline.

Another false argument made by Republicans is that the pipeline would drastically increase American energy independence and allow us to end our addiction to foreign oil. According to the Energy Information Administration, the United States exported 1.8 million barrels a day of refined oil in 2008, a number that increased 3.2 million in 2012. By the end of 2014, the U.S. was exporting 8.5 million barrels of oil per day, and the trend is continuing.

Brian Milne, a refined fuels analyst for Schneider Electric, stated in an interview, "Once refined, it will be impossible to tell exactly where the oil that came down the pipeline went, but with more oil, that export number will continue to increase." What this is saying is that a lot of the oil that will be transported via Keystone will continue to be exported at a growing rate, and one pipeline is not going to change that.

Democrats also used arguments that were not grounded in reality to attack the Keystone XL pipeline, claiming that the results of its construction would be environmentally catastrophic. They claimed that the increase in carbon dioxide emissions would be horrific, and that an oil spill would be catastrophic. Both of these arguments are not based in the reality of the world we live in for several reasons.

Not building the Keystone pipeline will not end tar sands oil production, or even hinder it. In fact, we already have many pipelines running tar sands from Canada to refineries in America, and not building the Keystone pipeline will have no impact on the carbon emissions produced by tar sands oil.

Let me be clear, I am against the production of tar sands oil for environmental reasons. With that being said, the decision to build or not to build the Keystone pipeline will have absolutely no effect on greenhouse gas emissions, as the carbon dioxide will be emitted regardless.

The second issue is that if we do not have a pipeline transporting the oil, the tar sands would most likely be transported to American refineries via Rail, a system that has shown to be far worse in terms of disaster than pipelines. In 2008, 9,500 crude oil tank cars were running on U.S. railways. By 2013 there were over 400,000. Between 1975 and 2012, 800,000 gallons of crude oil were spilled during railroad accidents. In 2013 alone, 1.5 million gallons of crude oil were spilled. This past month, an oil tanker carrying more than three million gallons of crude oil derailed and exploded into a devastating inferno. This is not uncommon, and the scariest part is that this particular train is one of three in the nation that had tank cars that exceeded federal safety standards.

Pipelines are, by far, a much safer way to transport oil than by rail, and even if tar sands oil is bad for the environment, Democrats must choose the lesser of two evils.

Up to this point, regarding only the arguments given by the two major parties, I am in favor of building the Keystone XL pipeline. However, there is one major issue that neither party has brought up that changes my view to full opposition of the Keystone XL pipeline, and that is the issue of private property rights and eminent domain.

Eminent domain is the right of a government to take private property by force while providing compensation to the affected parties, when the property is used to serve a public need. The issue has been one that many conservatives have fought ever since the Fifth Amendment was ratified, especially regarding the 2005 Kelo v. New London Supreme Court decision.

In 2005, the United States Supreme Court ruled that eminent domain gave the government power to transfer land from one private entity to another to further economic development.

When I first read about Kelo my sophomore year in high school, I was outraged by the decision and felt it was one of the worst mistakes that the Supreme Court has made in United States history. Many Republicans and Democrats came out when the ruling was first made and spoke out against Kelo as well. House Republicans stated shortly after the decision that, "the use of eminent domain to take farmland and other rural property for economic development threatens liberty, rural economies and the economy of the United States."

They are 100 percent correct. 365 members of the House promptly voted on a resolution expressing their dissatisfaction with the Kelo decision. Out of those 365 reps, 88 are still currently serving.

All 88 voted in favor of the Keystone XL pipeline.

Native American tribes have been protesting the Keystone pipeline from the beginning, claiming that the pipelines will be running directly through reservations and tribal lands, undermining tribal sovereignty. Unfortunately, the government does not really care. The Rosebud Sioux tribe released a statement shortly after the South Dakota House passed a measure to help speed along the building of the pipeline:

"The Rosebud Sioux will not allow this pipeline through our lands. We are outraged at the lack of intergovernmental cooperation. We are a sovereign nation and we are not being treated as such. We will close our reservation borders to Keystone XL; it is an act of war against our people."

Other Native American groups have been pleading to let their voices be heard, but as usual, the interests of big business and Washington drown out the voices of indigenous people that are already struggling to survive.

Native American tribes are not the only ones who are being threatened with losing property rights. Many ranchers and farmers are also fighting to keep their land.

Julia Trigg Crawford owns a 600 acre farm in Texas and has been fighting since 2011 to keep TransCanada off her property. She was ultimately forced to give up her land for the building of the Keystone XL pipeline. There are hundreds of others like her that are fighting for the ability to hold onto their land. Jane Kleebe, founder of the anti-Keystone group, "Bold Nebraska," said, "I have not seen a single group that would normally rail against eminent domain speak up on behalf of farmers or ranchers on the Keystone XL route."

One big example of this is Senator Rand Paul, a man who has vehemently opposed Kelo and has even attempted efforts to pass a constitutional amendment that would end eminent domain, but who has challenged Democrats on not supporting the Keystone pipeline. Senator Ted Cruz once said, "I am disturbed by eminent domain abuse, because I think private property rights are fundamental to who we are as Americans. . .I don't think we should be helping out private interests." He then said at a later date, "The problem with the Keystone Pipeline isn't the issue of eminent domain, the problem is the Obama administration with the stroke of a pen shut that project down."

To politicians like Senator Paul and Senator Cruz, I challenge their position by saying that you believed eminent domain should not even be used when it is to fulfill a public need. Yet now you claim that it's fine, when the interests belong to a Canadian oil company? That sounds like pure hypocrisy at its finest.

I urge Americans to do what politicians are doing with this argument, and use the Keystone pipeline as a symbolic argument too. A symbol of why politicians are incapable of running this country with any degree of competence. A symbol of how they try to gain our support using lies and deceit. A symbol of the fact that politicians have strong convictions and beliefs, but then have no problem being hypocrites when money is involved. A symbol of how members of both parties have refused to stand up for the facts and have refused to stand up for the people of this country.

While Republicans are lying about how many jobs the pipeline will create and Democrats are lying about how the pipeline would completely jeopardize the environment, there are average civilians like you and me that are fighting tooth and nail to hold onto their property and land. This battle is much more important.

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news

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HOKIE: No updates in theft

from page 1

visitors and raise awareness about local visual arts. Proceeds of the project went towards the Blacksburg Partnership Foundation.

Every statue is different. Since 2006, approximately 75 Hokie Birds have taken the streets of Blacksburg and Christiansburg.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the Blacksburg Police Department at 540-961-1150, anonymously at (540) 961-1819 or by email at CIU@blacksburg.gov.

There are no updates in this investigation.



COURTESY OF BLACKSBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

The stolen Hokie Bird is one of many located in Blacksburg.

@MauraMazurowski

RALLY: Raise Up leaders organize more strikes

from page 1

than what we are paid," Wilson said.

As a mother, Wilson discussed the struggles of maintaining a family on her salary.

"If I don't do an additional job or have additional resources, I can't survive ... Even though it's low income, you don't get low rent," Wilson said.

Raise Up for 15 organizes strikes to support its cause, the next of which is scheduled for April 15 in Richmond. "Since 2012, we've done about six strikes in Richmond, and each time we do a strike, it's done throughout the country," Shaw said.

Shaw said that she has seen about 200 students who deal with these issues to show up at their strikes, showing how even young workers "take these jobs seriously ... they take pride in their work."

There are 10 Raise Up team leaders who organize strikes. One

leader, Roladha MacMillian, was once homeless. Shaw said that she has seen her on several occasions bring audiences to tears.

Raise Up for 15 plans to join a strike called the "National Day of Action 4/15," on April 15 to support the cause. According to a paper passed out at the event, the "National Day of Action 4/15" is a march in which they encourage people across every community "to call for higher wages, union rights and better jobs."

Shaw said that she hopes those who attend the strike will be inspired to start a similar movement in their own communities. Shaw said that supporters should head to Facebook and other social media to support the cause and sign the petitions that Raise Up has posted.

"We're all in this together," Shaw said. "Let's come together. That's the only way we're going to win."

@CollegiateTimes

West End dishes presented to UMass dining services

EMELIA HUGHES
news reporter

Select dishes from West End Market were prepared alongside other top-ranked schools at an event that took place on Tuesday at the University of Massachusetts Hampshire Dining Commons in Amherst, Massachusetts.

"They're exposing their students to some of the finest dining programs in the country," said Ted Faulkner, director of dining services.

Other schools represented were Bryn Mawr College, Cornell University, St. Olaf College, UMass Amherst and James Madison University. Bowdoin College was not present at the event although they appeared on the original ranking, said Bill Hess, associate director of dining services.

"We've done this for four years ... and we've had Turner chefs go, D2 chefs, Owens go, and usually we try to break up the culinary teams from the units," Faulkner said.

Representing Tech were executive chef Mark Bratton of West End Market assisted by chef de cuisine Charles Morse of Turner Place.

"The reason that I think we are where we are is (because of) the dedication and commitment of our employees."

Bill Hess
Associate Director of Dining Services

"More or less, what they're doing is bringing some of the recipes that are popular on our campus ... asking those schools to come to their campus and prepare them and present them to their students," Faulkner said.

Among the dishes offered was the

smoked and roasted New York strip served with fresh horseradish sauce — a carved item from J.P.'s Chop House — and Wrap World's two-bean Mexican wrap, a new item available on Fridays.

Faulkner also said that Wired, a smoothie-based spot in West End, is now offering a Snickers cupcake.

Snickers cupcakes were provided to the UMass students as well. The power green salad available daily from Leaf & Ladle was also featured, consisting of baby black and scarlet kales and wild arugula with a pomegranate Greek yogurt dressing and toasted walnuts.

"Back in '08 was the first time when we received the No. 1 ranking," Faulkner said. "Back in '08, UMass reached out to us and said, 'We'd like the No. 1 dining program to come and bring their dishes to our campus.'"

Faulkner said during the first year, West End dishes such as the London broil, garlic mashed potatoes and crispy chicken were brought to the event, which recognized

the top-ranked program. Tech was invited back the following year.

"Of course, we sent up some Tech paraphernalia and banners to deck out our ... station and our presentation, so the students know that it's ... Virginia Tech offerings," Faulkner said.

Burger '37 and Goodwin Hall are among Virginia Tech Dining Services' newest establishments. Hess, who spoke at the event, said they served roughly 3,000 customers, mostly UMass students.

"The reason that I think we are where we are is (because of) the dedication and commitment of our employees," Hess said. "Without our employees from ... the servers to the dishwashers, we wouldn't be anywhere."

@CollegiateTimes

SEARCH: Housing site to become more transparent

from page 1

who wanted to live together just decided to live somewhere and I just didn't look into it that much," Koger said. "Cribspot showed me some options I never would've found on my own, but it also didn't show some options that I would've wanted to see like some of the big and popular apartment complexes."

The disparity in listings is something Okrasinski is working to improve.

"We're looking to bring on more students, mainly to start getting even better data. We realize that we're obviously missing properties here. So, that's kind of the first goal to improve our site," Okrasinski said.

The trio's second goal is to start listing reviews on landlords and to make the site more "transparent" to make factors such

as rent prices more clear," Okrasinski said.

Some changes have already begun as the site has recently offered the ability to post a sublet listing in addition to year-long rentals. The team plans to keep expanding in order to offer more to students.

"We're run by college renters and students, so we have over 150 people on our team from different universities across 60 different schools, and we're all kind of working together to crowdsource, keep the

information up to date, create new properties, and I think eventually we'll get into reviews and other things of that sort," Okrasinski said.

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crimeblotter

date	time	offense	location	status
Feb. 14	12:30 a.m.	Liquor Law Violation x 6	New Hall West	Reported by Student Conduct
Feb. 16	7:15 p.m.	Liquor Law Violation	New Hall East	Reported by Student Conduct
Feb. 17	12:15 a.m.	Liquor Law Violation	Pritchard Hall	Reported by Student Conduct
Feb. 19	5:00 p.m.	Drug/Narcotic Violation	Cochrane Hall	Reported by Student Conduct
Mar. 2	7:44 a.m.	Vandalism/damage/destruction of property	Saunders Hall	Inactive

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COLLEGIATE
TIMES

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LIVE AT LYRIC

TINY: Homes provide unique and affordable lifestyle

from page 1

"We have bamboo flooring in some areas, which is rapidly renewable," Digman said. The majority of the materials the couple bought for building the Tiny Home were repurposed or refurbished. The two entrepreneurs wanted to look into high quality salvaged materials to keep the project within budget, natural in appearance, and eco friendly.

“There are these stages you go through where you feel like you are working every day and you have nothing to show for it. And then two days go by and suddenly it looks completely different.”

Ian Cobb Ozanne

All of the appliances have been energy star approved and eventually Digman and Ozanne wants to hold permanent residence near a river where they can run on a small-scale hydro system. The Tiny Home will run off of electricity like a normal home until the couple can install solar panels in the more immediate future.

A goal in building the Tiny Home was to keep the project economically sustainable, energy efficient and product efficient. The project even took into account the possibility of a composting toilet.

"It's going to end up costing us about 20,000 dollars," Ozanne said. That budget, however, only covers materials and completely discounts hours of labour put into building the house. Prefabricated tiny homes of similar quality often sell for 20 percent to 50 percent more than Digman and Ozanne's "Do It Yourself" project.



COURTESY OF LYNDASAY DIGMAN

Senior Lyndsay Digman and alumnus Ian Cobb Ozanne built their own Tiny Home, saving 20 to 50 percent in expenses.

"It'll be nice to not have to pay monthly. I can just live in this house and pay off my bills. We won't have a mortgage. You know that will be really nice," Ozanne said. She will be graduating this year in 2015 as the proud co-owner of a home. Their primary payments will be directed toward paying off student debt that many college students are burdened with.

By the end of the summer, Ozanne and Digman want to travel to Oregon with their Tiny Home to stay with family and find a place to more permanently set up their residence.



@CollegiateTimes

study break

Today's Birthday Horoscope: Your work flowers this year. Strategize for a launch after 4/8. You come into your own element after the Equinox eclipse in your sign (3/20). Confidently dive into summer action after 6/14. The source of your success rests in your community. Grow partnerships and networks together.

su|do|ku

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CHAMPS
Restaurant & Sports Bar

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By Jeffrey Wechsler 3/04/15

ACROSS

1 Twisted
5 Completed
14 Virtually done deal?
16 Pure as the driven snow

17 Light unit
18 Mentalist who failed to bend Johnny Carson's spoons
19 Out

20 Rips into
21 Go down the wrong path
22 Brooding sort?
23 Like some ball gowns

25 Cheese originally from the department now called Seine-et-Marne
26 Prevented a return from
28 Safari setup
29 Troubled
30 Expense account item
32 The younger Hardy boy
33 Involves
34 Canines
38 Gov., e.g.
39 Husband
40 Throws in the towel
43 Traditional tim for hot cross buns
44 Early word
45 Co-star of Hugh on "House"
46 One who got plenty of sack time in Rome?
48 Crestor target, for short
49 Acct. entry
50 Green sauce
51 One may be seen from a box

53 Repulsive
55 "Good ___": 1966 #1 song
56 "Evidently ..."
57 Energetic
58 Locke pieces
59 Candy machine input

DOWN

1 Therapist's challenge
2 Confident declaration
3 Ensued
4 Bauhaus school teacher
5 Many flowers grow in them
6 High overhead business?
7 Supple
8 ___ hippo
9 Lea grazers
10 FedEx riva
Four-time 1980s Stanley Cup champs
12 Ont. site of a of 1812 battle
13 Bring to light, with out!
15 Purposes
24 Whatsoever

25 Emitted a backup signal?
27 Bum wrap
Top dog
31 Verizon communications service
32 Interim ruling group
34 Backs up
35 "Deathtrap" playwright
36 Popular burning spot
37 Cruise routes
39 Haitian coin
40 Fail
41 Satellite's ey
42 Crooner Rudy
43 They may be seen around calves
46 "___ la giubba": Pagliacci" aria
47 1970 Kinks classic
50 Over
52 Game with four-person eams
54 Sumac of song

Piled Higher and Deeper by Jorge Cham

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SONY PICTURES

Watch: *Whiplash*



BRADY TICKLE
movie reviewer

Who knew the guy from the Farmers Insurance commercials could be so scary?

Apparently, writer-director Damien Chazelle saw something in J.K. Simmons when he cast him to play an intense music instructor in his new film, "Whiplash."

If there is one award win I agreed with other than Best Picture at the 2014 Academy Awards, it would be Simmons' win for Best Supporting Actor. I genuinely could not tell what his character was going to do next, and this is thanks both to the excellent writing and Simmons' off-the-wall performance.

The film follows Andrew Neyman (played by Miles Teller), an ambitious young jazz drummer who has the sole goal of becoming one of the musical greats in order to escape from the shadow of his father's failed writing career.

At the beginning of the film, Andrew appears to be well on his way to attaining this lofty goal; he is attending one of the most prestigious music conservatories in the country, and one of the most respected instructors of the conservatory, Terence Fletcher

(played by J.K. Simmons), offers him a place in his group of upper-class musicians.

Everything seems to be going great until Fletcher throws a chair at Andrew's head for being a bit off-tempo; from that point on, the film becomes a thrilling emotional rollercoaster focusing both on Fletcher's abuse of Andrew and on Andrew's alienation of those around him (including his girlfriend) in order to become the best.

The theme of working hard to get to the top is rather daring (especially when placed in the context of such an abusive relationship), but it's necessary in a time when society thinks everyone deserves to get a trophy for just showing up.

As stated, Simmons' performance is jaw-dropping, and he alone warrants seeing the movie at least once. At times, Fletcher comes off as a genuinely nice guy, only to have that illusion destroyed seconds later when he is red-faced and straining his vocal chords to make a point about rhythm to one of his musicians.

Miles Teller is also incredible as Andrew, not only for his acting chops but also for his skills on the drum set; Teller, who was in a garage band in

high school, proves that he is also quite talented in the realm of music, particularly in his final solo. Teller plays Andrew as socially awkward and frightened of never living up to his own expectations, and the performance is haunting. The other actors and actresses are great as well, but the dynamic between Fletcher and Andrew provides the true core of the film.

"Whiplash" deserved all the Oscar-buzz it received, and it probably deserved a few more of the awards it was nominated for. This is a film that very few people have heard of, yet everyone who can should definitely check it out.

The last time I remember being so consistently on the edge of my seat while watching a movie was when I saw "The Dark Knight" for the very first time; this is saying a lot, considering "Whiplash" is about a music school and "The Dark Knight" is about a homicidal clown.

Hopefully, more directors will begin to utilize Simmons after seeing this movie, as he has proven that he is one of Hollywood's most underrated thespians. I give "Whiplash" five out of five stars.

@CollegiateTimes

The Long Box: Marvel's creepiest spring break ever

PAYTON KNOBELOCH
comics columnist

Last time, remember how I reintroduced you to the world of comics? Remember how I told you comics are more diverse and accessible than ever, with fresh and interesting stories for every demographic?

I'm about to lose all that goodwill with what is possibly one of comics' more baffling and uncomfortable missteps. Because before I can show you how high comics have risen, I have to show you how far they've fallen.

With spring break just around the corner, that can only mean one thing: The Marvel Comics Swimsuit Special is rearing its ugly head.

Just that title alone is enough to warrant a scowl. I know, the idea of taking the already hyper-sexualized heroines and Adonis heroes and putting them in Speedos is, put politely, creepy.

But this isn't just any old comics weirdness. This is 1990s comics weirdness. The '90s were a dark time for the medium, when we thought superheroes needed to be extreme. We thought Superman needed mullets and we believed Rob Liefeld to be a major talent. How wrong we were.

Beginning in January 1991 with "Marvel Illustrated: The Swimsuit Issue Vol. 1," Marvel stripped away the pouches and anatomically incorrect muscles in favor

of more revealing fare. The main concept was self-explanatory enough, taking male and female heroines alike and drawing them to closely resemble what one would find in Sports Illustrated – complete with ridiculous, playful biography blurbs.



As the tradition(?) continued for four more years, stuff got even stranger real quick. By stranger, I mean some out-there superheroes got paraded around. The creativity here was almost impressive, considering DeviantArt wasn't yet a thing.

For instance, you had Invisible Woman in an invisible bikini (read: you can see through her body) and Luke Cage in Daisy Dukes – even Ghost Rider posed nude, if that makes any sense at all. Oh, and Namor the Submariner in a seashell G-string is the stuff of nightmares. I know this is a newspaper, and I don't have room for many pictures, but I encourage you to Google this

stuff. Or don't. Totally your call.

However, just to emphasize how truly un-erotic these comics were, take a look at Thor. Not Hemsworth Thor – goofy 90s Thor. Oh, and the guy in the skull bikini? That's The Punisher, antihero vigilante who employs brutality to enact justice – or beach volleyball, depending on the weather I guess.

Now that I've burned these ideas into your head, take your much-needed spring break to do anything that will make you forget. And once you've realized how far comics have come, we can get into the good stuff.

Again, sorry. My recommendation this week is most certainly not the Marvel Swimsuit Special, though I bet the stories in those pages are truly inspired. Instead, head to the ocean with "Aquaman Vol. 1: The Trench" by Geoff Johns, Ivan Reis and Joe Prado. This is the book from a couple years ago that made Aquaman cool again, making him more powerful and not shying away from him being the "guy who talks to fish." Whether you're into creepy fish monsters, Jason Momoa with a trident or both, this book is smooth sailing.

And I end it with a water pun. No one will ever read my writing again.

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sports

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Men's track claims ACC Indoor Championship

Manuel Ziegler broke a school and conference record in the triple jump competition as the Hokies won their third ACC title in the last five years.

TODD SMITH
sports reporter

Going into the ACC Indoor Track and Field Championships last week, the Virginia Tech men's team had high expectations, finishing the season as the top team in the conference. When all was said and done, the No. 8 ranked Hokies did not disappoint. Virginia Tech claimed their third ACC indoor title in five years.

The Hokies finished with 101 total points, 15 ahead of second place Florida State. The team was led by four individual titles in the mile, triple jump, pole vault and 3000-meter race.

“The pole vault competition proved to be the Hokies' best event of the day with all five competing athletes earning points for the team.”

Mile-runner Patrick Joseph started things out for Virginia Tech, winning the mile with a time of 4:01.57 thanks to a late push on the final lap that propelled him to the top.

The pole vault competition proved to be the Hokies' best event of the day with all five competing athletes earning points for the team. Chris Uhle led the pack, matching his personal best height of 18 feet and 1.25 inches. Uhle's toughest competition of the day was Nikita Kirillov of Georgia Tech who had to withdraw from the event due to an ankle injury. Jared Allison finished on the podium as well, claiming third place, while Brad Johnson, James Steck and Jeffrey Linta all racked up points for the Virginia Tech.

Probably the most impressive individual feat of the day belonged to senior Manuel Ziegler in the triple jump. Ziegler set a school record of 54'1" on his second jump, enough to win the competition.

Ziegler wasn't finished yet though. He

would outdo himself on his fifth jump by resetting the school record and ACC record with a jump of 54'6".

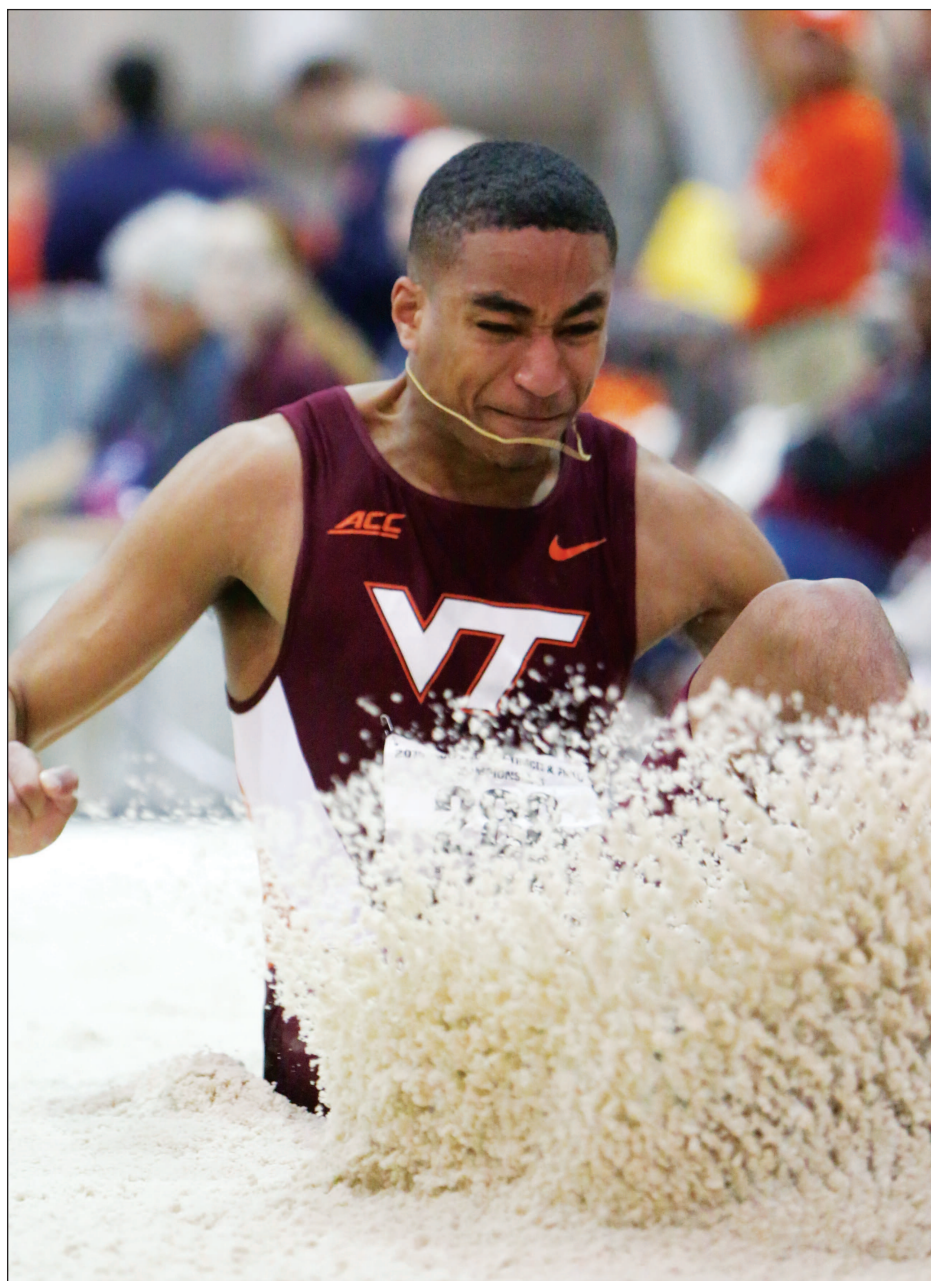
Finally, in one of the most critical events of the day, the Hokies relied on one of their top athletes, senior Thomas Curtin. After Florida State gained points in a few other events, they were gaining quickly on the Hokies for the top spot in the championship. Coming into the 3000-meter race, Virginia Tech had the ability to clinch their third championship. Curtin finished the race in 7:52.92, winning the event and setting the ACC Championship record in the process. Teammate Darren Barlow finished in fourth place and with the points they combined for, the Hokies were able to secure the overall team title.

Contributions from top to bottom were the key to success for the men's squad as just about everyone was able to provide valuable points. In the one-mile run, Neil Gourley finished in third place behind Joseph. J.C. Coleman, also a running back for Virginia Tech football, finished fifth in the 60-meter dash, Grant Pollock finished sixth in the 800-meter event and Marek Barta finished seventh in the shot put. The 4x400 relay team consisting of Prince Owusu, Martin Dally, Chester Hebden and Dante Price also finished in seventh, again gaining valuable points for Virginia Tech.

The women's team also tacked on their own individual championship with sophomore Hanna Green winning gold in the 800-meter with a time of 2:03.43, bringing the overall individual championship count for the Hokies to five combined between the two teams.

Sarah Rapp also came in second place in the 3000-meter with a time of 9:12.86.

The Virginia Tech women's team finished eighth overall in the tournament with 44.5 points overall.



CHEN JIANG / COLLEGIATE TIMES

David Prince hits the sand after competing in the long jump on Feb. 28, 2015. Prince finished 12th for the Hokies with a distance of 6.97 meters.



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