

THE HUDSONIAN

THE INDEPENDENT MULTIMEDIA ORGANIZATION OF HUDSON VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

THE RETURN OF...

PG. 10 SPORTS

VIKING'S BASEBALL
DOMINATES JCC & NJCAA

IN THIS WEEK:

THURSDAY || APRIL 4

ALL DAY: Paint the Campus Teal

Wear teal to show support for survivors of sexual harassment & abuse. Organized by Health Services & St. Peter's Crime Victims Services (CTR 270)

FRIDAY || APRIL 5

ALL DAY: New York Business Plan Competition (Capital Region)

Network and hear business pitches from local entrepreneurs, including HVCC students.

Scan QR code for more info:



PHOTO BY: JONAH FLANAGAN.



+MEMESONIAN!

PGS. 5-6

SPECIAL, SATIRE EDITION
OF YOUR FAVORITE
CAMPUS NEWSPAPER

RIGHT: ANOUSHKA MILLER POSES WITH HANDMADE LUDO BOARD FEATURING THE FLAGS OF JAMAICA, AMERICA, TRINIDAD & TOBAGO, AND BARBADOS.



PHOTO BY: RYNECIA POLLYDORE.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS CLUB PRESENTS: JAMAICA

MOJSILDA CINARI
Staff Contributor

The International Students Club is multidimensional. It is a club full of colors and knowledge, where every other Monday, students learn more about the cultures of different countries.

Each member takes turns learning and teaching the history, culture, geography, resources, traditional cuisine, and music of various countries.

The presentation on Jamaica was given by students Anoushka Miller and Hasani Thompson. Jamaica is a country famous for its rich culture and beautiful landscapes. It has a population of 2.8 million.

The official language spoken is English, but the Jamaican Patois dialect also exists, which is a colorful and expressive dialect widely spoken in the country.

Jamaican culture is rich in food, music, and the colorful festivals that they have. Cuisine is one of the main elements of Jamaican culture. Flavors of Jamaica includes meals such as: ackee and saltfish, jerk chicken and spicy patties.

Other dishes, available to try during the meeting, were oxtail, curry goat, brown stew chicken, rice with peas, and plantain.

Music is another main element that makes Jamaica unique. Reggae music, popularized by the famous Bob Marley, expresses themes of unity and social justice.

The Reggae Sumfest, is a vibrant celebration of music and culture, has featured an array of talented artists over the years. Reggae, soca, and calypso dominate the parades and parties.

Embodying the spirit of Jamaicans, full of energy, are the many festivals that they organize. Two of the most important are the Jamaican Carnival and the Reggae Sumfest.

Jamaica Carnival is a vibrant and colorful celebration that embodies the spirit of the island. Revelers don stunning and colorful outfits.

Another point that Anoushka and Hasani presented for Jamaica was lifestyle, which includes diversity, education, leisure, and family.

The diversity in Jamaica's population reflects a rich tapestry of Africans, with East Indian and Chinese influence contributing to a vibrant culture.

Education is another key point: Jamaica has a high value in education with a literacy rate exceeding 90% and a strong emphasis on lifelong learning.

As for family and leisure, both play a very important role in the family's lifestyle. The family plays a central role in Jamaican society: fostering strong bonds and a sense of community with lively street dances and laughter.

Every factor mentioned above was best presented by our two students, but who could represent sports better than Usain Bolt and Elaine Thompson-Herah? The two Olympic champions, fastest man and woman alive respectively, are Jamaican nationals.

At the end of the presentation, the students taught the audience some words from the Jamaican Patois dialect.

A call to all students, who are interested in joining this club, and want to come and learn more about other countries: come have fun and enjoy healthy food related to the culture of that week!

The next meeting of the International Students Club will be held on 2 p.m., Monday, April 8 in SCI 110.

**SPECIALTY SUNGLASSES:
KEEP SAFE & KEEP SWAG**
WHERE TO GET YOURS FOR THE
UPCOMING SOLAR ECLIPSE

**HVCC AND UALBANY ANNOUNCE DUAL
ENROLLMENT PARTNERSHIP**
NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR PROSPECTIVE TRANSFER STUDENTS

**WORLD MOURNS THE LOSS OF
"DRAGON BALL" CREATOR,
AKIRA TORIYAMA**
BELOVED MANGA ARTIST DEAD AT 68

CAL MARTIN
Editor-in-Chief

TROY- Students and faculty are encouraged to attend Hudson Valley's solar eclipse watch party, where complimentary eye protection will be provided on Monday, April 8 as the cosmic event passes over campus.

The eclipse viewing will begin at 2:30 p.m. in front of the Science Center. The solar eclipse, projected to peak at 3:16 and last around 15 minutes, will provide partial coverage of 96 percent in the Troy area.

Those directly in the eclipse path, north and west of the capital region, may expect 4 minutes of darkness.

Faculty of the hosting Biology, Chemistry and Physics Department will be available to answer questions regarding the eclipse and ensure proper use of eye protection.

Per the CDC, use of ordinary sunglasses and telescopes is not advised. Viewing the eclipse through sunglasses, cameras, telescopes or other gear "without a special-purpose solar filter secured over the front of the optics will instantly cause severe eye injury."

Sun protective clothing and topicals are also recommended during long periods of exposure.

ADAM CONKLIN
Staff Contributor

Hudson Valley and University at Albany signed a dual-enrollment partnership through the SUNY Transformation Fund on March 7.

The \$75M program aims to support innovation, assist in addressing future

workforce needs, improve academic programs, boost student support services, boost enrollment, and modernize operations across all SUNY campuses.

Through this partnership, HVCC students transferring over to UAlbany

GO TO... TRANSFER PAGE 3

HELICOPTER CRASH KILLS 2 NEW YORK GUARDSMEN
SURVIVING RENSSELAER NATIVE REMAINS HOSPITALIZED FOR INJURIES

COOPER PATSCHURECK
News Editor

Two New York National Guard soldiers and a Border Control agent were killed March 8 when their UH-72 Lakota helicopter crashed in a field close to Rio Grande City, Texas.

The soldiers killed in the crash were 28-year-old Chief Warrant Officer 2 Casey Frankoski, of Rensselaer, and Chief Warrant Officer 2 John Grassia, 30, of Schenectady.

Chris Luna, a 51-year-old Border Patrol Agent, was also killed in the crash. A third guardsmen, Staff Sergeant Jacob Pratt, of Rensselaer, has been injured and hospitalized.

The cause of the crash is still under investigation.

The soldiers were operating as a part of Joint Task Force North, supporting Customs and Border Protection operations on the Mexican-American border.

The soldiers were based out of the Albany International Airport in Latham, being a part of a detachment that specializes in aviation. They were deployed down to Texas last October.

Frankoski was a graduate of Columbia High School and Schenectady County Community College, with an associate's degree in social science.

She enlisted in the Army National

GO TO... HELICOPTER PAGE 2

DOMINIC CACCHIONE
Managing Editor

On March 7, a collective wave of heartbreak was felt around the world following the announcement that beloved manga artist Akira Toriyama passed away.

Toriyama was responsible for the creation of the super-popular Dragon Ball franchise, one of the most recognizable, influential, and highest grossing media franchises in history.

Prior to Dragon Ball, he made his mark on the manga industry with the irreverent and quirky Dr Slump, and went on to provide character and enemy designs for video game franchises such as Dragon Quest and Chrono Trigger.

His genius touched the hearts and lives of millions, and he'll be remembered as a legend for his boundless creativity, unparalleled impact on the industry, and the inspiring and life-changing nature of his art.

Toriyama died of an acute subdural hematoma: in simpler terms, a bleeding near the brain, on March 1, 2024. The condition of his health leading up

GO TO... TORIYAMA PAGE 3

4.03.24

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NEWS

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LONG STORY SHORT...

ICE-T IS COMING TO HVCC

Adam Conklin

Clear out those calendars for Saturday, April 13 at 6 p.m. because famous 90's rapper Ice-T will be speaking at the Maureen Stapleton Theatre in the Siek Campus Center.

Ice-T is known for hit songs like "6 N The Morning", "Colors", and "Original Gangster", and is one of the most recognizable figures in rap history. He also plays Detective Odafin "Fin" Tutuola on the longrunning Law & Order: Special Victims Unit.

Now Ice-T may not be rapping on-stage, but he will be speaking on living through the 90's as a rap icon, with his talk titled "The Cultural Relevance of Rap Music and How It Shaped My Life."

All auditorium seats were claimed by students and faculty by March 20.

Overflow seating tickets with remote, live-streamed viewing will be available for students and staff through the 'Students' tab on Brightspace.

PROPOSED TIKTOK BAN APPROVED BY HOUSE, AWAITING SENATE VOTE

Luna Northrup

Dominic Cacchione

Controversy stirs as US lawmakers move to ban the hyper-popular social media app TikTok.

Some readers may remember that this was already attempted within the last five years. The Trump Administration made an attempt to ban TikTok in 2019, only for the idea to be shot down in court.

This time around it seems like it may actually happen.

The bill has already reached the House of Representatives, who voted in favor of the ban. It has to go through another round of voting in the hands of the Senate before it can reach the President's desk to actually go into effect.

The Senate has made it clear that they will not be rushing to vote on the bill and will do everything by the book. They have already slowed down the process, with some senators preferring to call it a "transition of ownership," a phrase with a much different connotation from the word "ban".

It may take months for the bill to pass at the rate it's currently moving, and with some Republican lawmakers facing threats over the proposition, it's likely to be put off for even longer.

TABLE TENNIS TOURNAMENT WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Cal Martin

Gabriel Santos took home the first place trophy for his performance during the month-long Intramural Table Tennis Tournament.

The tournament is hosted annually by club adviser, George Nagy, and Intramural Coordinator Don Jones.

Jack Van Gorden was awarded second place. Pasang Sherpa, the club's vice president, ranked third.

THE BRICKS THAT MAKE UP KERRY

AN HVCC GRADUATE AND HIS GIFT OF ADVERSITY.

IMRAN KHAN

Staff Contributor

From the tough streets of Troy to finding love and purpose in life, the latest version of Kerry Fagan, a resident of Troy and the owner of Mark Thomas Men's Apparel, took time, patience, a lot of luck, and hard work.

Like a catbird, Fagan moves restlessly in the clothing store he bought from his father 5 years ago. He is constantly busy organizing the loaded racks of men's suits.

He walks heavily inside his store, cordless telephone in one hand and cell phone in the other, calling and texting customers simultaneously.

"No matter what I do, I want to try my personal best. Doing one's best doesn't come for free; it requires much effort. Honestly, I don't compare myself to others; I want to satisfy myself," said Fagan.

"Americans are going branded again. They are tired of buying clothing in big box stores with little selection and poor customer service. I know our products are not cheap, but you're paying for quality, and it's worth the price in the long run," said Fagan.

Discussing his adolescence revealed that Fagan has spent most of his life right here in Troy. "In the late eighties/ early nineties, Troy was rough and very different from what it is today," Fagan said.

"Schools in Troy were rough, rough, rough," he said with genuine emphasis. "It's hard to learn when you're always looking over your shoulder for safety. However, there is a silver lining in every cloud..."

"Experiencing those situations made me tough, resilient, and quick to think on my feet, which I now use daily. Having adversity in childhood made me who I am today, and I wouldn't change that for the world..."

"Sometimes, I joke that Troy is the worst and best thing that ever happened to me. A gift of adversity, it was to live in Troy..."

"IT'S HARD TO LEARN WHEN YOU'RE ALWAYS LOOKING OVER YOUR SHOULDER FOR SAFETY..."

"In school, I probably had what would be called attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) today. But I was a voracious reader," Fagan said with a sly smile.

"I earned my associate's degree

from Hudson Valley Community College and a bachelor's in psychology from SUNY Albany. 99 percent, reading is responsible for that success. One thing I appreciate about myself is that I asked many questions and was curious about everything, and still am today."

Fagan spoke about other challenges as well. "I grew up struggling with finances. My dad worked in retail, and my mom was a nurse. They were not making tons of money," said Fagan.

"Being in financial hardship was another gift that made me resilient. I had to stretch a \$20 bill as much as possible, not knowing when the next bill would come."

To satisfy his soul, Fagan donates to LLS research, the Red Cross, and the Center for disability services in Albany.

"I feel blessed to have had some success, and it is important to help those less fortunate with our time, expertise, or finances. Since I bought the store, I feel like it is what I was looking for, and it helps me enhance my life's purpose," said Fagan.

"...KEEP SEARCHING: ONE DAY, YOU WILL FIND YOUR MISSING PIECES."

Fagan firmly believes that there are no mistakes in life; they are all learning opportunities. "Every mistake is precious and a massive opportunity for learning." You can learn a semester's worth of knowledge from one mistake.

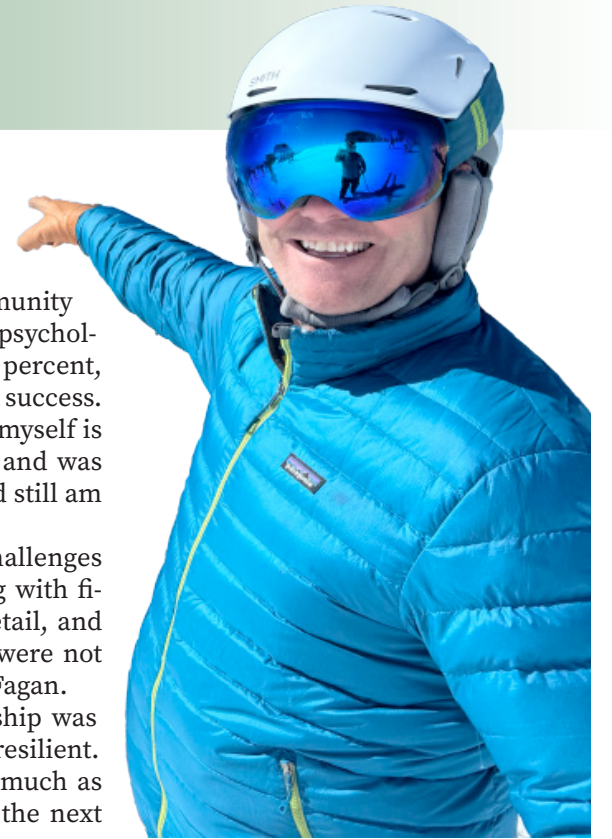
A testament to his work ethic, laziness bothers Fagan. "Life is a precious gift; we shouldn't waste even a minute if we can help it!" he said.

"People think that they are going to live forever. You don't know how many more cups of coffee you can drink with a friend. Time is a precious gift. You can earn more money but not more time. That's why I advise everyone, don't waste time."

I asked him whether he had ever fallen in love; Fagan replied vehemently. "Absolutely, I think the reason we were put on earth is to love and be loved."

Discussing fears, Fagan said, "Life is full of surprises; the only thing that scares me is to lose everything and start over. I mean family, business, home, and starting over at age 46. I know I can do it, but I don't want that to happen."

Fagan shared his belief that success at the end of the day comes down to



FAGAN POSES DURING A SKI TRIP MADE POSSIBLE BY HIS RESILIENCE AND ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT.

PHOTO COURTESY OF KERRY FAGAN.

"quality of life."

"Money doesn't make you happy. Some people have a lot of money but are frustrated with their lives. You must be open-minded, knowing there are a gazillion possibilities. Keep searching; one day, you will find your missing pieces."

Unsurprisingly, his downtime is used to good effect; Fagan likes morning walks. "I love fresh air. It doesn't matter how cold or hot it is; I must consume fresh air."

"I like playing golf because it makes me walk. It's an infinitely frustrating game. Even if you can play well, you continually struggle to improve," insisted Fagan.

Speaking about recreation, he talked about other places and things he enjoys. "Chatham is my favorite place for a vacation," Fagan explained. It is a seaside town at the southeastern tip of Cape Cod in Massachusetts, famous for its beaches on the Atlantic Ocean.

Fagan's reply to the big question of what life is all about exemplifies his trademark optimism and work ethic:

"Becoming the best version of yourself, whatever it may be. I don't mean a big house, money, or anything essentially material; it may be, but it's not limited. Go to the edges of the earth, and you will find out whatever fits you," said Fagan.

The bricks laid in his early life have formed a foundation for someone who may say he's afraid to start over.

But if the world was collapsing, Kerry Fagan would quickly start to build it back up, layer by layer.

CONT... HELICOPTER

Guard in 2016 and became a warrant officer in 2019.

Frankoski was a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter pilot and was deployed to Kuwait from 2018 to 2019.

Grassia graduated from Schalmont High School and enlisted in the Army National Guard in 2013.

He started as a UH-60 maintenance specialist, before being appointed as a warrant officer in 2019 and becoming a UH-60 helicopter pilot.

Grassia was deployed to Kuwait from 2013 to 2024, and served on state active duty from 2020 to 2022 during the Covid-19 pandemic. On the civilian side, Grassia was a New York State Trooper.

The return of Grassia and Frankoski's remains to the Capital Region on March 18 was overseen by Governor Kathy Hochul and fellow National Guardsmen.

The Veterans Resource and Outreach Center, alongside the Rensselaer County Joseph Dwyer Veterans

Peer Support Program, held a campus remembrance ceremony on March 22. It included a moment of reflection and vigil to honor those lost and Pratt's recovery.

Resources and support were provided for those struggling with the event. Attendees included local clergy, veterans, and law enforcement.

Anyone seeking assistance regarding the losses is recommended to contact the campus Veterans Resource and Outreach Center at (518) 629-7051.

JIMMY FALLON MAKES SURPRISE APPEARANCE AT UALBANY'S KEGS AND EGGS

ADAM CONKLIN
Staff Contributor

Albany is no stranger to throwing wild and out of control parties, and this year is no different. For years, college students around the city have participated in a tradition called 'Kegs and Eggs' full of borgs, hundreds of students, and mayhem.

This year was a bit more mild, with police surrounding and containing the apartments of Hudson Ave. It didn't stop the residents from blasting music and partying their hearts out though.

And when everything seemed to start to die down, a wild card was thrown into the mix. A wildcard by the name

of Jimmy Fallon.

Jimmy Fallon has hosted NBC's popular late night talk show, 'The Tonight Show' for over 10 years. Within that decade, Fallon shaped himself into a household name.

Fallon is also one of few celebrities to receive the exclusive honor of having a Ben and Jerry's ice cream flavor named after their work. In 2015, Ben and Jerry's unveiled 'The Tonight Dough', which you can still purchase today.

Dozens of videos have been posted online featuring Fallon trying to make his way through the sea of students bombarding him. Some got high fives,

some got handshakes, and plenty of selfies to share.

"They said to never meet your heroes...but they never said anything about not dapping them up," said Sam Kipling, a UAlbany student attending the event.

Now, why was Fallon there? We didn't get a concrete answer, but it likely has something to do with the fact that he's a former student of Saint Rose (What he now refers to as "the Spirit Halloween on Western Ave").

Fallon attended way back in 1992, but never got around to graduating. But who can blame him for reliving the glory of his college days?



COMMUTING EFFECTS YOUR MENTAL HEALTH: BUT FOR BETTER, OR FOR WORSE?

SCIENTISTS AND STUDENTS CAN'T SEEM TO AGREE.

LUNA NORTHRUP,
NICO LOGIUDICE

Layout Editor, Staff Contributor

Recently, there's been some disagreement on the effects of the commute to college on students' mental health. Some studies say that a longer commute can cause a higher chance of developing depression.

Other studies say it can decrease stress, as it gives you a chance to relax and unwind as you travel from Point A to Point B.

Depending on the length of the commute, the time of day, and the type of vehicle you are using to travel, you can have drastically different experiences that may affect your mental health in different ways.

Dealing with a difficult commute can

lead to stress, depression and anxiety, which is only intensified by the wear and tear on one's vehicle, and the cost to maintain it.

The unpredictability of a commute and the occasional risk of accidents can lead to anxiety, which can cause a fight or flight response. The loss of time caused by commuting can lead to depression as it can take away from time needed for self care.

A study published in the Journal of Travel & Health shows that just ten extra minutes in a commute by personal vehicle, such as a car, can increase a person's chance of screening positive for depression by 0.5 percent. The article goes on to state if you travel by bus or train it can decrease by 4.8 percent.

On the other hand, some people's

mental health can be improved by their commute, as it gives them time to switch gears and prevent role blurring that can lead to stress.

The commute can give someone space for recovery, and allow the driver the time they need to mentally switch gears. Commutes can form liminal space: time free from home and work roles.

It can also help prevent burnout. Some people may find comfort in the structured nature of a frequent commute as well.

Repeating an action makes it a constant, and thus makes it a stable activity. Structure and routine is an important part of having and maintaining positive mental health.

HUNGARIAN PROFESSOR LECTURES AT HVCC ON UKRAINIAN STATE OF AFFAIRS

Cal Martin

Dr. Gabor Csizmazia, expert on Central Europe's political climate, visited Hudson Valley on March 26, giving a presentation to the community titled "Two Years of War in Ukraine: Where are We Now?"

The lecture emphasized history and international relations to explain the evolution of conflict, the broader effects in the United States, and posed potential resolution points.

Csizmazia regularly appears as a consultant on security policy and contemporary conflict within Hungarian media, also serving on Hungary's Atlantic Council.

POLITICS



PUTIN RE-ELECTED; WEST IN UPROAR

LIBBY STAR
Staff Contributor

The Russian presidential election, held from March 15 to March 17, resulted in a landslide victory for incumbent president Vladimir Putin, surprising no one.

Putin has been President since 1999, only stepping down to the lowly rank of Prime Minister from 2008 to 2012 due to constitutional term limits—limits that he has since written off with legislation allowing him to rule potentially until 2036.

He has long stood without significant opposition, and since opposition leader Alexei Navalny's convenient death in February, Putin's administration seems set for another long six years with little resistance.

Significantly, Putin supposedly won a whopping 87 percent of the vote, the highest percentage ever won in a Russian presidential election (though this is only Russia's 8th presidential election since the dissolution of the USSR).

This number was immediately rejected by the West, with representatives from the USA, the EU, and the UK agreeing that the election was neither free nor fair.

Though the votes themselves may have been padded—the opportunity was certainly there, according to an independent vote monitor that point-

ed to the use of electronic voting and a three-day voting process—the constant repression of real opposition like Navalny means Putin likely would have won without any direct 'help'.

There is still some vocal opposition in Russia, seen most recently in the "Noon Against Putin" protests. Thousands of Navalny supporters came out at exactly noon on March 17, voting for Putin's three opposing candidates, sending in invalid voting slips, or vandalizing ballot boxes as Navalny's "last wish".

But Westerners forget that Putin is genuinely popular in Russia, and even disregarding the obvious unfairness of the election, it is not hard to see how he could win by so much. It is well documented that the incumbent administration usually enjoys a spike in approval in times of crisis.

This "rally 'round the flag' effect was noted when Putin annexed Crimea in 2014, and some political scientists have theorized that the popularity boost may be part of why he moved in on Ukraine in the first place.

And polls have shown that it's working - Putin's popularity rose over 10 points to 83% after starting the invasion in February 2022, and it's stayed high ever since.

Russian media has been pushing the "west is the enemy" line for years, and USA sanctions on Russian industry

Photo: Grigoriy Sisoiev, RIA Novosti via en.kremlin.ru

and banks since 2022 have given them something to point to as proof. Regardless of if they have a real choice, Russians appear to be rallying behind Putin more than ever.

The reaction to Putin's re-election signifies a deepening divide between West and East. While America and Europe have denounced the election as a sham, representatives from China, India, Iran, and North Korea have all made a show of publicly congratulating Putin on his win.

As the war rages on with neither side making significant progress, we will likely see global tensions continue to rise.

As the world settles into two camps, with NATO recently expanding to include Sweden, and members of BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa) strengthening their ties, we just have to hope that we aren't, as Putin himself threatened in a speech after his win, "one step away from a full-scale World War Three."

NYS CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS REDRAWN

COOPER PATSCHURECK
News Editor

On February 28, Governor Kathy Hochul approved a map for new congressional districts in New York State. The map, produced by the bipartisan Independent Redistricting Commission, was altered by the legislature before being approved. This comes after a long debate where various maps produced by the commission were rejected before they could be introduced to the New York State Legislature.

Congressional redistricting is supposed to happen every 10 years after a decennial census, and often makes for controversial discussion. New York's last redistricting happened in 2022 after the 2020 census. During this time, New York's congressional districts decreased from 27 to 26 due to population loss. The 2022 redistricting was ordered to be redone by the New York Court of Appeals on December 2, 2023. This was because the 2022 map was created by the New York State Legislature and not the Independent Redistricting Commission. This violated state law and had to be redone.

The redistricting primarily impacted Long Island and Upstate New York. The 20th congressional district, which contains the capital region, faced a few border changes. These include the expansion of the district into Hoosick Falls, Valley Falls, and Amsterdam. In addition, we see transfers out of the 20th district. Corinth, South Glens Falls, Victory and Schuylerville were given to district 21. The new maps will affect the upcoming elections on November 4th.

4.03.24

THE HUDSONIAN

CAMPUS FACULTY PROMOTES STEM CAREER INVOLVEMENT FOR GIRLS

MEET THE FACES BEHIND A CONFERENCE EMPOWERING YOUNG SCIENTISTS FOR A DECADE

JONAH FLANAGAN

Photo Editor

Hudson Valley hosted the 10th annual Girls in STEM conference, Saturday, March 23.

Aspiring scientists ranging from 8 to 14 years in age explored a new view of math and science through a wide array of interactive workshops, aimed to engage students and showcase the knowledge and skills of the participants.

"We want to make science and math less scary, and we want to grow their confidence and open their eyes to some of the future possibilities," said event organizer and HVCC Associate Professor of Biology, Christine Jenkins.

Activities ranged from burning food

to see how many calories it contains, forensics, architecture, and a visual math exercise utilizing cereal.

Conference attendee Izzie, 13, stated, "I liked doing all of the different areas and activities... I have been thinking about doing something in science, or the medical field, and this has helped me expand my horizons of what I want to do."

The conference featured keynote speaker Dr. Michelle Lewis, executive director of the Stack Family Center, which provides biopharmaceutical education at Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences.

Lewis shared her personal experiences, the importance of girls in STEM, and praised the involved nature

of the event.

"Science is an action word, you're not sitting there just memorizing facts. You're actually doing things, creating things, testing your ideas, working with your colleagues to do something that hasn't been done before, and I think that's what most excites me," said Lewis.

"It's still the case that science, technology, engineering and math are male dominated," said Jenkins. But due to the work of educators like her, the world of science is changing and becoming more inclusive day by day.

"Maybe the students didn't think that they like science, and then they come, see a cool workshop and they think 'Oh, it's not so bad!'" said Jenkins.

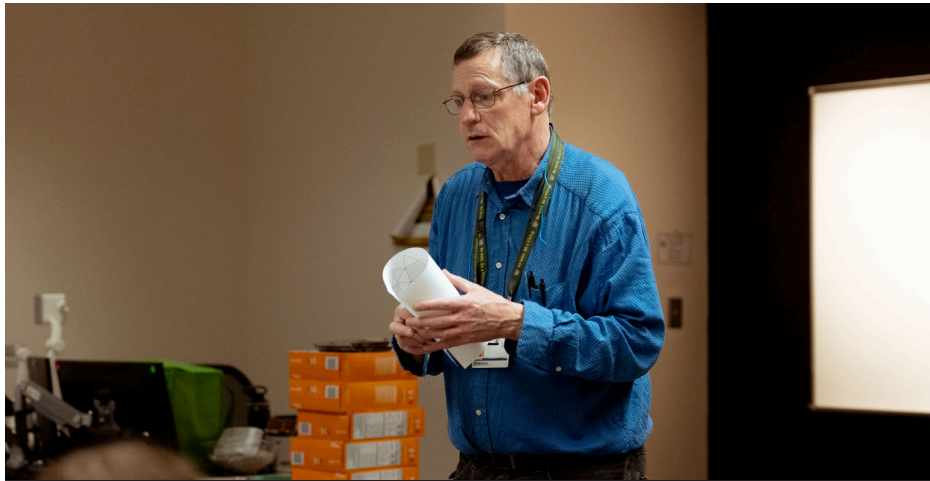
IN THIS STORY:



CHRISTINE JENKINS



IZZIE, 13, ATTENDEE



ABOVE, LEFT: Attendees of Jenkins' "Calories & Combustion" workshop burn food while learning about 'burning' calories through exercise.

ABOVE: Kevin Wynne, Physics Instructor and Learning Center Educational Specialist, uses a visual model to explain physics and electricity.

LEFT: Peter Stix, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, gives a demonstration during his "Cereal, Chocolate, & Math!" workshop.

PHOTOS BY: JONAH FLANAGAN.



DR. MICHELLE LEWIS

CONT... TRANSFER

with an associates degree will automatically have:

- 1.) Junior year status, and waived UAlbany application fee.
- 2.) A select team of HVCC and UAlbany staff focused on the student, making transfer as smooth as possible.
- 3.) While earning an associates at HVCC, dual-enrolled students will have a UAlbany ID card, granting use of the university library, admittance to special events, and the opportunity to take part in extracurricular activities and clubs.
- 4.) Students looking to live on the UAlbany campus get access to priority on-campus housing.
- 5.) Students with sufficient grades will be eligible for a transfer enrollment scholarship.
- 6.) Once transferred to UAlbany, any dual-enrolled student can take the first-year experience course, filled with assistance from academic advisors, financial aid counselors, and peer mentors.

HVCC and UAlbany administrators believe the agreement will make the switch from colleges as seamless as possible. Each year, 200 students already transfer over to UAlbany after receiving an associates degree at HVCC.

For more information regarding UAlbany, visit albany.edu/hvcc.

CONT... TORIYAMA

to this was never publicized, save for a brief statement in his final interview, in which he stated "I am not very confident about my health".

In the same interview, he stated that he was heavily involved in the storyline, worldview, and art direction of the upcoming Dragon Ball Daima anime, which is expected to be his final released work.

Toriyama is responsible for a huge shift in direction in the manga industry, and many of the most popular manga in the world take direct inspiration from his work.

Masashi Kishimoto, author of worldwide manga sensation Naruto, paid his respects in a published statement, expressing both grief and the joy of a life celebrated. "For me, he was the god of salvation, and the god of manga. When we met for the first time, I was so nervous that I couldn't say a word," said Kishimoto. "I still don't know how to deal with this hole in my heart."

Eiichiro Oda, author of One Piece, the most popular manga in the world,

expressed a similar sentiment. "It is too early. The hole is too big. Sadness washes over me when I think that I will never see him again," he said in a written statement.



ART BY: RYNECIA POLLYDORÉ.

"With respect and gratitude for the creative world he has left behind, I pray for his soulful rest in peace. May heaven be the joyous world he envisioned."

Perhaps the loss of Toriyama was felt most poignantly in Latin and Central America, with Brazilian Vice President Geraldo Alckmin offering his condolences on Twitter, and the government of El Salvador declaring a nationwide mourning.

On March 9, hundreds of fans gathered in Mexico City, with people of all ages coming together to perform a final "spirit bomb" (an iconic move from Dragon Ball Z) in honor of the late author.

This event is one of many such demonstrations. On March 10, an estimated 20,000-30,000 fans gathered at the Obelisk of Buenos Aires, Argentina, also performing an imitation of the spirit bomb.

Toriyama is survived by his wife and fellow manga artist Nachi Mikami, son Sasuke Toriyama, daughter Kikka Toriyama, and the immortal legacy of his work.

While human life is temporary, the impact of Dragon Ball is forever, and will continue to inspire and entertain for countless generations to come.

Rest in peace to a legend rivaling the likes of Walt Disney. May he safely make it to the end of Snake Way.

THE MEMESONIAN



BOBBY RAY MISSES MICROECONOMICS AGAIN THIS WEEK... WHAT'S GOING ON?

ADAM CONKLIN
Staff Contributor

Here at Hudson Valley, we strive to see each one of our students academically succeed. But one student by the name of Bobby Ray, sees HVCC as a "joke" and he's got "better things to do."

Robert "Bobby" Ray has more of a 'laid back' lifestyle, under the presumption that everything will just eventually work out in the end for him. In an interview outside of his 2012 Honda Accord, he claimed that "these classes are friggin' crap, man" and that he is "transferring to SUNY ADK anyways".

The Hudsonian attempted to get further information on his sudden exit

plan to leave HVCC, and Robert exclaimed that "this stupid newspaper is a part of his problem with the school" and that it "creeps him out."

After numerous phone calls to Robert and his family, they refused to answer any further questions, only posing the question of, "how did you get this number?" (Editor's Note: You're in the HVCC system, buddy!)

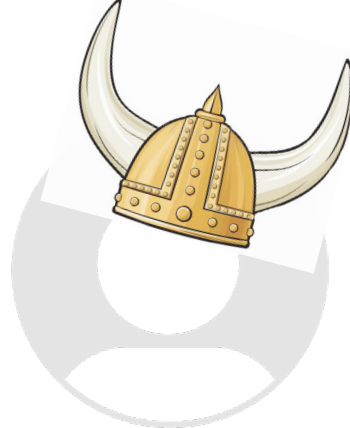
Though Hudson Valley is upset to see a student go, we are more upset that we don't have a clear answer on Robert's hatred for the school.

Since we want to give Robert some time to gather his thoughts and to just wind down and relax, the editorial board has made the collective decision to stop any further questioning and interviewing of Robert on campus.

As a closing remark, we asked Robert to share his final thoughts at his

apartment right down the street, at the College Suites, floor 5, room 817.

Though his words were a bit incomprehensible, we could make out the sentences, "how did you find my house?" and "I'm three seconds away from calling the police."



VIA @BOBBYRAYSTAN4LIFE

MILO THE CAT ANNOUNCES PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN

Matthias Mojallali

With the 2024 elections coming up fast, doubt is spreading throughout our nation of who would best serve as our next president.

But just as the outcomes begin to look dark, a new candidate decides to show his whiskered face. That's right, Milo the Cat is running for President of the United States.

Many Americans believe that Milo couldn't possibly make a good president. He is a tabby cat, after all.

However, Milo's campaign still remains strong as he promises a brighter future for this country. A future where cuddles and love are mandatory for all cats, even stray cats or neglected cats.

And of course, Milo intends to pass a bill requiring all cats to be let outside and not imprisoned in their own household.

But why a cat for president, you ask? The answer is simple: humans aren't making the country great anymore, they're only making it worse.

It's time for the pets to come into power now to make real change.

So what are you waiting for? Vote Milo for president to make our country a better place for our pets!



Y2K WHY YOU SHOULD PANIC BECAUSE THE WORLD IS ACTUALLY ENDING BECAUSE CLOCKS AND STUFF

TIM DESMOND
Jr. Layout Editor

Since the 1960s, an apocalyptic event has been creeping ever forward.

The closer we get to January 1, 2000, the closer we are to our doom. You may be asking, what's so dangerous about Jan. 1, 2000? Well, to put it simply, all the clocks will reset back to 1900!

That's right! You'll be on your computer, enjoying a game of Quake, and when you check the time and you'll see that your computer's clock says Jan. 1, 1900!

Why exactly is this something that we need to worry about? Yes. The world will end as soon as digital calendars go from 1999 to 1900.

How do you know the world will end? Of course I know that the world will end.

Could you imagine the pure chaos that will come about when people are in line at the DMV and the calendar on the wall says 1900? It'll cause mass panic! Riots! People will think that we've all traveled back in time!

The Sony Playstation 2 will never be made available to the public, as it's

scheduled to release in 2000!

The PS2 can't release in 1900! The effects on the timeline would be catastrophic! You'd be stuck on the inferior hardware of the Playstation for the next century!

We'd have to do most of the industrial revolution all over again! If you are reading this, you should be very afraid. There is no way to rewrite some minor operating system GUI code. It's impossible.

The world will end on Jan. 1, 2000. Now go scream into a pillow, because that's the only thing you can do.

HVCC RIPS UP SOCCER TURF, ACCIDENTALLY INVOKES WRATH OF GOD

DOMINIC CACCHIONE
Managing Editor

Fire and brimstone rain down on HVCC after a misguided attempt to replace their soccer turf with a strip mall attracted the attention of a wrathful God.

This event has been met with confusion among students and faculty alike, leaving many to wonder what was so sacred about the soccer turf in the first place.

The strip mall was planned as a collaboration with the city of Troy as a means of bringing more money to the school, but just as plans were finalized and construction

was set to begin, angels bearing trumpets descended from the sky, horrifying the mortals of Troy.

"I don't understand any of this," said Tim Jones, HVCC student and semi-devout Christian. "Why's he going all 'old testament' on us? I always thought Jesus told him to knock it off. That's what happened, right?"

"Let 'em have it," says Jacob Jordans, another HVCC student and avid soccer player.

"I was never really down with all this 'God' shit. I make my own rules, y'know? But now that I know that he's

real and loves soccer, I can't help but love the guy! That's the God I believe in. May HVCC face eternal damnation."

"I told y'all this would happen," said John the Baptist, famed apocalyptic prophet, no connection to HVCC. "All who are not righteous will be burned and shit, you feel me?"

"...I been saying this for years. Dead-ass. And now that HVCC is getting rid of the turf? Shit. That don't sound very righteous to me, you dig? I wasn't playing around. Now y'all get it."

Of course, we were concerned with how our beloved staff and faculty were holding up as their peers faced deliverance from their immortal souls at the hands of burning hellfire.

"Obviously, we're devastated," said a staff member who insisted on remaining anonymous. "Can you imagine all the money that strip mall would have brought in? I'd be rolling in it. Just absolutely rolling in it like a pig in mud..."

"I wouldn't even need to take a little bit from the school anymore, I'd have all the money I could ever need. Er, I mean, it would have given us the finances we needed to continue providing enrichment to our beloved student body with our diverse selection of pro-

grams and clubs...

"And I guess it's pretty bad that people are being burnt to death along with their very souls, that kinda sucks too. Are you gonna keep that first part in there?"

"Of course we don't want HVCC students to suffer eternal death with no afterlife," said a nameless angel.

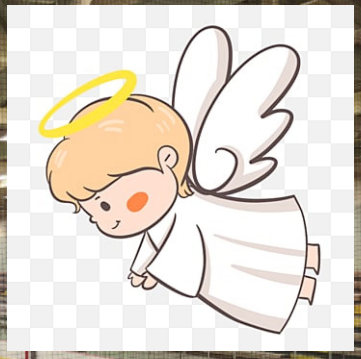
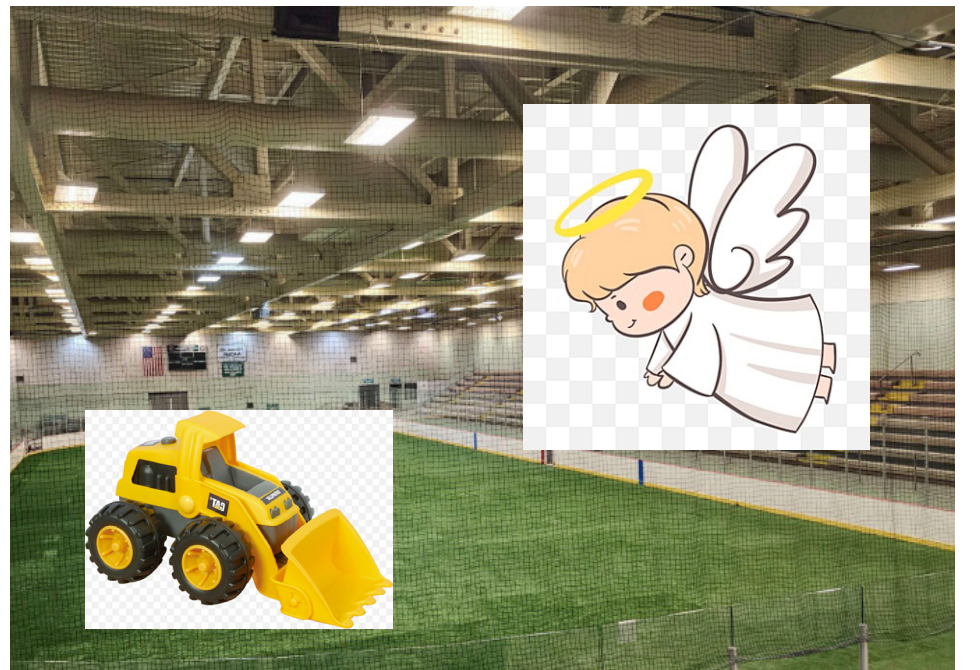
"But the administration brought this on themselves by getting rid of the soccer turf. The big G loves soccer. He

loves HVCC too. And you're gonna get rid of the combination of his two favorite things? Yeah, that's a big no-no."

We have reached out to God, asking him for his thoughts on the unfolding situation, and if there's any act of appeasement we can do to make it stop.

He has yet to respond at the time of publication.

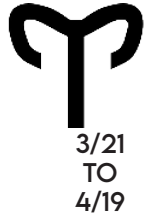
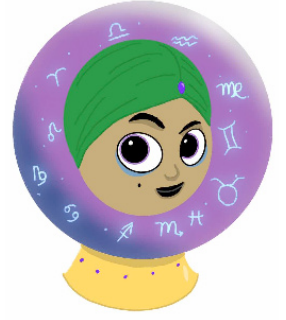
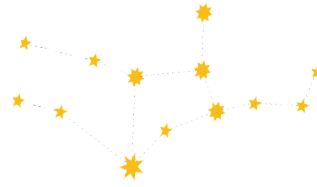
More information about the ongoing apocalypse to follow.



JUSTIN HURLEY || PHOTO

THE HUDOSCOPE

Your weekly astrological insight by Dominic Cacchione & Matthias Mojallali



3/21 TO 4/19

ARIES

Bad news, Aries. Your parents are getting a divorce and it's your fault. You piece of shit. I hope you feel awful.



6/21 TO 7/22

CANCER

Self-explanatory. You have cancer, Cancer. Make the most of what little time you have left on this earth, because it's not much.



9/23 TO 10/22

LIBRA

Watch out, guys. Scorpio is plotting against you. Sleep with one eye open because they're out to get you as we speak.



12/22 TO 1/19

CAPRICORN

Hi, Midtown Dry Cleaners? I'm calling because you mixed up my clothes with someone else's. I came to pick up my sweaters the other day, and when I got home and opened the bag, I found a pair of torn up khakis, a stained pair of underpants, and a white t-shirt with a giant expletive, which I'm afraid to repeat over the phone, on the front in bold letters. Don't worry, I'm not mad at you guys, mistakes happen. But is that what you think of me? That I'd wear clothes like that? I've been coming to this place for years and I thought you knew me better than that. Please call the other person involved in this mixup and see if we can set this straight. Call me back. Buh-bye.



4/20 TO 5/20

TAURUS

You know that one ex you're still hung up on, even though you tell yourself you're not? The one that got away? Well, a lot of time has passed, and they've forgiven you. They want you back. They're giving you another chance. Nah, I'm just kidding. They're constantly talking about you with their new partner because you're so miserable and pathetic. I bet I had you going, though!



7/23 TO 8/22

LEO

Good news, Leo! The stars just told me that you're very uh... How should I put this? You're very physically blessed, but only in one area. God gave you a gift. Now's the time to rock some gray sweatpants, KING!



10/23 TO 11/21

SCORPIO

You guys should definitely go prank Libra lol



1/20 TO 2/18

AQUARIUS

You're going to die. You can't stop it, it's fate. Don't even try to prevent it, just accept that it's going to happen. Tonight, you'll be minding your own business, and then suddenly and unexpectedly, everything will go black. Forever. There's nothing after death. No after-life, just endless nothingness. Now's your chance to write your last will and testament. Enjoy your final few hours, because pretty soon, you'll never enjoy anything again.



5/21 TO 6/20

GEMINI

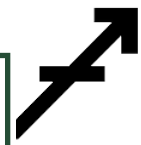
AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAH
HHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH
HH!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



8/23 TO 9/22

VIRGO

Take a shower. Please take a shower. It's gotten so bad that your friends and family are afraid to tell you how bad you smell without hurting your feelings. After you take that shower, deodorant is a good next step. Just please start taking better care of yourself before your noxious odor scares everyone away.



11/22 TO 12/21

SAGITTARIUS

Keep an eye on the sky this week, Sagittarius. You may get hit in the head by a falling anvil, or perhaps a piano. Don't worry, though. You'll survive, just with a very flat head. Just make sure you don't chase after any mice, because then you're pretty much asking for it.



2/19 TO 3/20

PISCES

I won't sugarcoat it, Pisces. Y'all are ugly as hell. Hope you have a "good personality" because that's your only hope at this point. Plastic surgery is always an option too.

VIKING TALKSPOT

“WHAT CAN HVCC IMPROVE FOR STUDENTS NEXT SCHOOL YEAR?”

INTERVIEWS BY:

LIBBY STAR
Staff Contributor

“The funding for our Arts Department is critically low. My friends were doing a performance art project a few weeks ago where they locked themselves in a cage in the library, but we didn't have the budget to feed them. When we got back from spring break, the Digital Media majors had been sacrificed so the Fine Arts majors wouldn't starve. We can't keep losing half our students every year like this.”

-Jason Cantrell, Basket Unweaving

“The funding for our Arts Department is too high. Those hippies always put rocks in my Puppy Crusher machine—that was my final project, you freaks!”

-Holly Gibbons, Corporate Hell Certification

“Public Safety needs to step up its game. They act like sealing the gnome tunnels under the campus is enough to stop the little beasties, but last week they dug up under my car and swallowed it whole. Sometimes I hear whimsical giggling behind me when I walk home...”

-Jenna McDorman, Goblin Psychology

“More support for students with children. I have been laying nearly 15 eggs a day since December, but with no real incubation facilities, I have resorted to hiding them in classrooms and under various bushes around campus. God help us if any of them hatch under a full moon.”

-Emily Better, Secret Physics

“The massage chairs in BTC are alright, but we need some of those fish tanks where they eat the dead skin off your feet. My little piggies have a long way ahead of them.”

-Aaron Walker, just here for some reason

“Do we actually have a Mortuary Science program, or should I tell someone about that room in the science building basement...what was the question?”

-Victor Glenn, Just Crabs

[Jenna McDorman has not been seen since this interview. If you have any information regarding her disappearance, please call 518-629-7568.]

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Letters can be delivered to CTR 291 or emailed to hudsonian@hvcc.edu. Letters will be edited for grammar, style, libel and length.

To join **THE HUDSONIAN**, attend our weekly meetings on Mondays at 2 p.m. in ADM 105 and Thursdays drop by CTR 291 (Hudsonian Newsroom) 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.



WHAT I LEARNED WHILE RUBBING ELBOWS WITH AMERICA'S MOST INFAMOUS CULT

DOMINIC CACCHIONE
Managing Editor

During this year's spring conference for the College Media Association, I stayed in the Marriott Marquis, along with several other editors of The Hudsonian. This was my second year in attendance, and I was pleased to learn that we'd be staying in the same hotel as last year.

Not only did this mean I would get to explore Times Square again, gawking at every jumbotron and billboard like the shameless tourist I am, but it meant that once again, I'd be staying directly across from the Church of Scientology for the week.

Last year, my morbid curiosity got the best of me: I walked through their doors with caution, only for me to quickly withdraw out of fear that they'd "get" me. I resolved that this year would be different.

It was my goal to take a look into the headquarters of the infamous cult, figure out what it is that draws people to them, and live to tell the tale.

The moment I stepped through the door with my team, it was immediately apparent that the driving force behind

the cult is the sale of a specific book, titled *Dianetics: The Modern Science of Mental Health*, by Scientology founder, L. Ron Hubbard.

Of course, there's not much "modern" science to speak of within the book because it came out in 1950. Regardless, the sale of this book was the cult's lifeblood. Countless copies adorned the shelves and window panes of the building, many of which were translated into different languages.

After speaking with the sheepish man at the front desk, my team and I signed up for a tour, each one of us providing an alias and running with the narrative that we're from New Jersey, just to be safe.

Before long, an old man with a friendly disposition came out and spoke to us, introducing himself as our tour guide, and offered to show us a video. The video served as an introduction to Scientology, and it felt oddly like a medicine commercial, complete with people who are awkwardly enthusiastic about the mundane activities depicted, like working a blue-collar job.

Within the video, a narrator spoke of the "reactive mind" and the "analytical mind"; the reactive mind being responsible for our emotional respons-

es to stimuli, and the analytical mind being responsible for our rational thought. The video claimed our life's traumas embed themselves into the reactive mind, which clouds the analytical mind, and that Scientology would provide the means of completely erasing said trauma from the mind.

To anyone with an ounce of sense or critical thinking skills, this should immediately set off some alarms. You're telling me a profit-based religion is offering to erase traumatic memories from my brain? You don't require a master's degree in psychology to understand that traumatic memories can't be completely erased.

But the promise of doing so is going to sound tantalizing to those who have yet to discover a healthy, rational way of working through their pain and overcoming trauma. In simpler terms, the promise of brainwashing yourself into forgetting your trauma sounds good to those who are desperate, but the prospect is just too good to be true.

We were taken to a mini movie theater and shown another, much longer video that spoke about life dynamics, represented by various "zones" meant

GO TO... CHURCH PAGE 9

IS PUBLIC AI PLAYING WITH FIRE?

LIVING IN THE FUTURE: IS IT MEET THE ROBINSONS OR TERMINATOR?

MATTHIAS MOJALLALI
Opinions Editor

"Your scientists were so preoccupied with whether or not they could, they never stopped to think if they should."
- Jeff Goldblum as Dr. Ian Malcolm (Jurassic Park)

AI is here and being widely used for a variety of purposes. 20 to 40 years ago, AI was merely a twinkle in the eye of many a science fiction writer, and considered nothing more than a storytelling device for books and movies.

However, these writers anticipated that one day it would be possible, and communicated this belief through their stories, which were often meant to function as cautionary tales (Lookin' at you, Terminator 2).

Writers warned us a long time ago not to use it haphazardly, and explored the risks in a metaphorical and hyperbolic manner by visualizing it through a robot uprising or machine hivemind takeover.

GO TO... PUBLIC AI PAGE 9



BANNING TIKTOK IS NOT THE SOLUTION- CONGRESS NEEDS TO PASS REFORMS
Nico LoGiudice



On March 13, 2024, Congress passed a bill to ban TikTok if the parent company, ByteDance, was not sold to a company without connections to China or the Chinese Communist Party within 180 days. The bill passed overwhelmingly with a 352-65 vote.

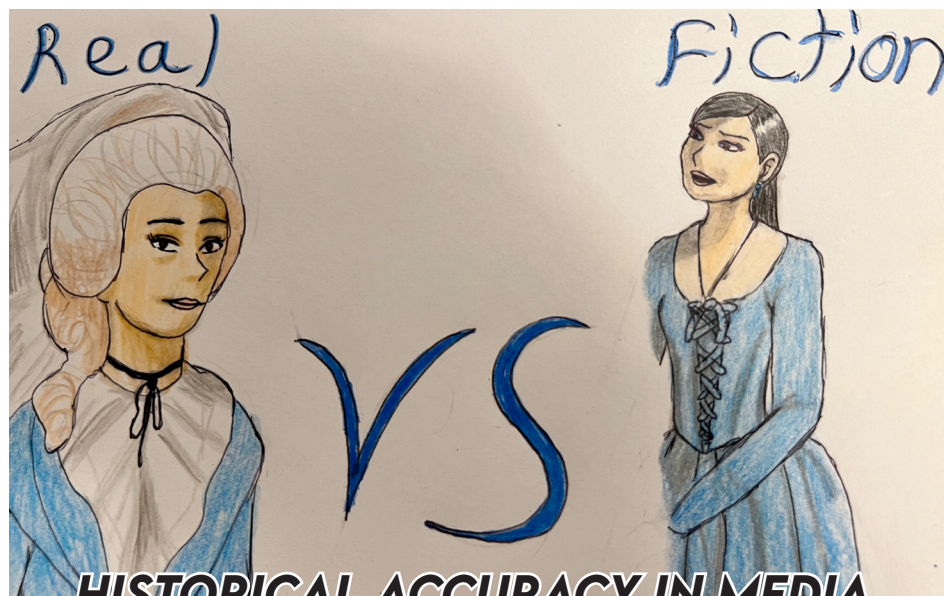
With the bill passed, many creators on TikTok are at risk of losing their following and possibly their income from the app. The ban of this app would set back a lot of small businesses using it to promote their products.

While data safety and mental health are very important, as cited in the reasons for banning the app, they are not the only concerns.

TikTok, for many, is a creative outlet and a source of information. While not all the information on TikTok is accurate, it helps people find new information to research and form their own opinions.

The ban could mean a loss of access to newer information on topics of interest around the world.

The argument for child safety and the effect it has on mental health is much the same for any social media. Better filtration, stricter guidelines, and enforced age restrictions are what is needed, not a total ban on social media.



WHY IT'S REALLY IMPORTANT: HAMILTON VS. APOLLO 13

TIM DESMOND
Jr. Layout Editor

I hate Hamilton. I truly hate Hamilton.

Not because of its music, acting, choreography, set design, or anything technical. Hell, it's quite well written for the most part.

It tells a clear and concise story about a fictional character named Alexander Hamilton, who fought in a fictional war against the British Empire with his fictional friends, founding a fictional country called the United States of America on principles of liberty and equality for all! Whoopee!

Huzzah!

Now you might say to me, "But none of that was fictional. Alexander Hamilton was a real person, he assisted in the real American Revolution and was a founder of the real United States of America."

To that, I'd respond to that with, "Yes, that's true, but Hamilton presents a world so vastly different from what actually happened that it cannot be seen as anything other than fiction."

Hamilton is inaccurate to the point of being genuine propaganda, not just inaccurate.

Hamilton makes the founding of the US seem glamorous and hopeful. Freedom, liberty, equality for all! Ig-

nore the fact that most of these people owned slaves!

Yeah, they call out Thomas Jefferson for his slave-owning shenanigans, but he was not the only founding father who thought it was okay to own people. Several times, the play states that Hamilton fought to free slaves, when in reality he can be quoted as saying he didn't care about the issue of slavery.

Hamilton wants you to see the founding of the US as a clean process. Yeah, there was some drama, but we got there eventually. Land of the free, home of the brave!

In reality, we didn't declare independence solely due to taxes existing. Other reasons included England preventing the colonists from expanding into native territory, and Parliament's attempts to end slavery in the colonies.

That's right, the American Revolution was fought to keep slavery in the colonies.

Hamilton exists to make America seem like the best country ever. It wants you to ignore the fact that every character is a terrible person by modern standards.

By contrast, I love Apollo 13. Genuinely one of the most accurate movies I have ever seen, it functions as proof that movies do not need to take historical liberties to be an amazing film.

In fact, the efforts the filmmakers made to increase the accuracy actually made it better. Most of the scenes that took place in space were shot in an aircraft that would climb to immense-

ly high altitudes and then start to fall, temporarily simulating a zero-gravity environment.

While there are moments that are added in an effort to slightly raise the stakes, like Jack Swigert suffering from the effects of CO2 poisoning well before he would actually start feeling any symptoms, and mildly simplified dialogue for the sake of the audience, it still tells the story as it happened. The narrative is the same, nearly all of the details are the same, hell, a good chunk of the dialogue is the same.

Yes, Apollo 13 does push a theme of American excellence, but in this case, the achievements displayed by the US actually happened. We did go to the moon.

Three men did nearly die in space in 1970. The people at NASA actually did save their lives.

Yeah, Alexander Hamilton was a politician who helped found the US, but he didn't fight to free slaves.

Jim Lovell, Fred Haise, and Jack Swigert did survive the events of the Apollo 13 mission and made it home to their families. If you want to know how, watch the movie. It's really accurate.

All in all, the weight of historical accuracy in pieces with nationalistic themes cannot be understated. Creators must remain mindful, not let the guise of 'creative liberties' allow propaganda to slip into their works.



LUNA NORTHRUP
Layout Editor

Avatar: The Last Airbender is one of the most acclaimed shows of all time. As a child, I would wait with bated breath in between each episode, hardly containing my excitement for the next one to air.

I wish I could give the same praise to the live-action Netflix remake.

To say I was disappointed would be a massive understatement.

After years of discussion and planning, I expected more from the live action show, especially following the god-awful 2010 movie and its demonstration of what NOT to do.

They released only eight episodes for season one, which struck me as a bit odd. How were they going to adapt all of the important parts of the original's first season in just eight episodes?

Turns out, they trimmed a lot of the fat, and only put a few of the important parts from season one in.

They added things that weren't in the original show and changed the storyline a lot. The outfits looked more or less like cosplay, and the clothing looked somewhat cheap.

The first season of the original show's focal point was about Aang learning waterbending. In the live action show he didn't learn any waterbending.

Does anyone remember how Sokka's first girlfriend was Yue? Not in the

live-action version!

In the live-action version, his first girlfriend was Suki instead. The Gaang went to Kyoshi Island early on, and that is where Sokka gets his first kiss from Suki, not Yue.

There was a part that I found a little bit funny but also confusing because it wasn't in the original show. Aang stole Zuko's notebook while he was escaping Zuko's ship.

Later on, Zuko finds out that Aang stole it. Zuko had a moment of rage and threw fire at Aang. I felt it added a tiny bit of comedic relief in a show that was being all too serious.

Zuko was more concerned about his notebook when he realized Aang had it, rather than capturing Aang as is his life's goal.

I didn't like how the episode that included the iconic song 'Secret Tunnel' was done. First off, it was Sokka and Katara in the tunnels, not Katara and Aang, which provides an emotional moment in the original series.

Secondly, King Bumi didn't actually test to see if Aang learned any other forms of bending, like he did in the original series.

Instead, King Bumi decides to play

a "game". The game was a fight to the death, to show Aang that sometimes people have to make hard decisions.

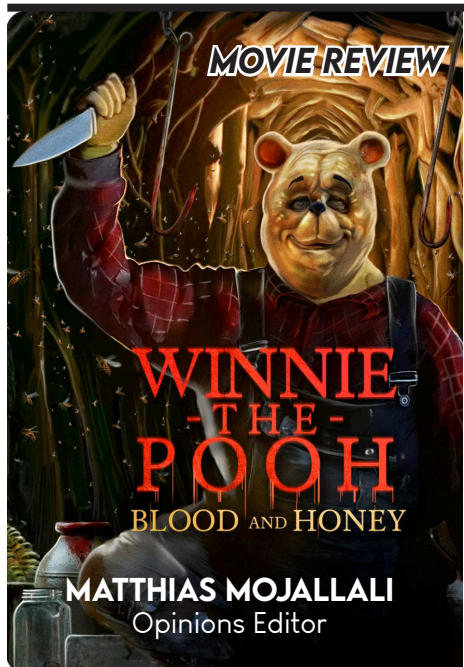
There were a lot of things about the spirit world that confused me as I kept watching: the owl spirit was seen in the spirit world instead of physically manifested, Yue could travel to the spirit world before she even turned into the moon spirit, and the moon and ocean spirits only take on physical forms for one night, instead of always being around.

I will give the directors credit where it is due. The special effects looked really cool compared to the dreaded movie. The directors seemed to cast the right people for most of the roles.

I didn't like how Azula was portrayed. The original Azula was a cold hearted, fire bending prodigy.

In the live-action remake, she didn't seem to be as fierce as her animated counterpart. Her fire bending could use a lot more practice especially her lightning bending, it looked weak.

I'm hoping that the next two seasons will learn from the mistakes of the first, as they have already confirmed season two and three will be happening.



In recent years, Winnie the Pooh was declared public domain, giving the public access to do whatever they wish with the original, beloved children's tale.

So, with the market for gory slasher films accumulating throughout the past 40 years, it was only a matter of time before someone made a horror movie out of the property.

Thus Winnie the Pooh: Blood and Honey was created.

When this film was announced, many people assumed this film was going to be a fun slasher flick that didn't take itself seriously.

While there was one scene that made me laugh out loud, the rest of the film was ironically very tedious.

The soundtrack was pretty good,

along with the camera angles and quality, but that's about it.

Many scenes dragged on for too long causing the movie's hour and 20 minute runtime to feel longer than it should be.

Part of this flaw came from the fact this film tried to take itself too seriously, borrowing obvious components from The Texas Chainsaw Massacre in its cinematography and style.

What furthered my disconnect from this film, other than the acting and dialogue, was the weird lack of official setting.

While yes, it does take place in the Hundred Acre Woods, it's strange how there's a lot of UK characters and some characters with American southern accents.

Finally, there were only two characters established in this film. The rest of the characters might as well have been faceless mannequins with no defining characteristics. It felt as if they were there just to die.

With all that being said, there was one thing about this film I genuinely enjoyed, and that was the scenes in the introduction to this film that were animated.

The frames were very unnerving and creepy, so honestly I would've preferred a full-length animated Winnie the Pooh horror film done in the style of the intro.

Overall, I'm not much of a fan of this movie, even though I wanted to love it. I think the sequel that was just released will be too boring to bear.

AN UNAPOLOGETIC, APOLOGY LETTER TO LIMP BIZKIT

GIVING CREDIT TO A BAND OF ITS ERA AND THEIR ALBUM, CHOCOLATE STARFISH AND THE HOT DOG FLAVORED WATER

LIBBY STAR
Staff Contributor

It's been nearly a quarter century since Limp Bizkit dropped their third album. "Chocolate Starfish and the Hot Dog Flavored Water", sold over one million copies in its first week on the market, then got panned by critics and even voted the worst album and band of 2000 by readers of Kerrang! Magazine.

All these years later, as the mainstream spotlights have moved past nu-metal, critics have begun to look back fondly and lighten their original scathing reviews of the Bizkit, but the ghost of their reputation—whiny, juvenile, misogynistic, crap—still hangs over the heads of poor fans such as myself.

I will stand no longer for the persecution, for justifying my Bizkit habits to skeptical peers. "Chocolate Starfish" is a camp masterpiece that drips with Y2K nostalgia and upholds the great American tradition of being unapologetically stupid.

After an intro that proclaims "Limp Bizkit is in the house" over a twitchy electronic beat, we finally hear Fred Durst himself introduce the album in the second track, "Hot Dog".

Durst is unquestionably the most scorned member of LB, supposedly bringing down his troupe of talented musicians with terrible writing and a

grating voice.

But there is no Limp Bizkit without Fred Durst, and without his voice-cracking s a d - c l o w n squawk or media presence, would the band really occupy any space in 2024 beyond a forgotten "deep cut" Spotify playlist? I think not.

We quickly learn exactly why Durst was so mocked in 2000. "It's a fucked up world and a fucked up place, everybody's judged by their fucked up face," he cries.

The entire rap in "Hot Dog" follows this pattern: "fucked up moms, fucked up dads, a fucked up cop with a fucked up badge"... you get the picture. Critics scoffed at this juvenile writing, and while "Hot Dog" certainly won't be winning any poetry awards, I believe

they missed the point.

Consider the historical context. Y2K had come and gone without the end of the world, but also without the eternal "end of history" period of peace and abundance that the 90s had promised would come.

Everyone was peering into a new and frightening future, with no clue what to expect—LB's "Rollin'" music video being filmed on top of the Twin Towers in September 2000 a chilling reminder of this—and the Internet was becoming truly

ubiquitous, giving humans a window into how small their individual lives were and how much suffering truly happened every day on Earth.

Nu-metal was a reaction to this sorrow, fear, and uncertainty, but if the

worst part was true, and this really was the end of history, there really wasn't much left to say that hadn't been said already. In the year 2000, every sentiment has been used up, and only one thought remains— "Man, this place is fucked up."

Of course, there's also the much simpler truth that Limp Bizkit just doesn't take themselves that seriously. The last verse in "Hot Dog" makes this all too obvious: "If I say fuck two more times, that's 46 fucks in this fucked up rhyme!"

The music video for "Rollin'", too, with guitarist Wes Borland mugging to the camera with one gold tooth "grill" and expressionless backup dancers following Durst's ridiculous steering-wheel pantomime, is a campy self-caricature that makes it a hundred times more fun to watch.

Sitting pretty on top amidst scores of self-serious bands, LB relishes in its own stupidity, and this is why it has lasted so long. Who else has given us lyrical gems of intergenerational connection like "I seen the Fight Club about 28 times"?

Does this not describe every Gen Z guy you've ever met? In these uncertain times (when have times not been uncertain?), sometimes what keeps us sane is dropping everything we know about "taste" and "high art", and learning to just keep on rollin', rollin' rollin', baby.



"In the year 2000, every sentiment has been used up, and only one thought remains— 'Man, this place is fucked up'..."

CONT... CHURCH

to reflect how satisfied one is with their own circumstances.

The higher the zone, the more happy, successful, and motivated a person is said to be. The lower the zone, the more bored, envious, and debilitated a person is said to be.

The church is treating life's ups and downs as something a lot less fluid, instead static and constant, with tie-ins to social class.

For instance, it seemed to me that the people depicted in lower zones were often just having a bad day, shown through mundane occurrences like being chewed out by a boss or road rage. However, it seemed to also imply that people are more likely to commit crimes when in a lower zone, out of desperation.

Suddenly, people committing crimes out of desperation to live are being compared to people dissatisfied with a blue collar job? These two circumstances are obviously hugely different from one another. A boring office job with a difficult boss isn't nearly enough to push someone to commit armed robbery just so they can eat, and the insinuation that these things are on the same level falls apart when analyzed on even a surface level.

When asked how to move between these zones, the tour guide's answer often ended with, "you're gonna have to read the book". He'd provide real life anecdotes of his own experience with Scientology, but when asked for any detailed explanation of his "treatments," he would default to telling us to buy the Dianetics book, exposing his "religion" as a flashy advertisement for a crappy and outdated pseudo-self-help book.

The guide would also respond to questions about the belief system of the re-

ligion itself with empty answers, even citing a vitamin diet plan as part of their teachings. Seriously? "Megavitamins" are Pyramid Scheme 101. I've seen similar scams in my own neighborhood.

Additionally, the guide would only make broad, non-specific mentions of "spirituality", refusing to elaborate on what that actually meant in the context of Scientology.

He made no mention of the wider scientistologist belief that humans are actually a race of aliens called "Thetans", capable of unlimited power when they're not trapped in human bodies. I'll chalk his avoidance of that topic up to a fear of scaring away potential buyers, but the absence of it just struck me as plain odd. You can't be a religion without any solid beliefs.

As soon as we exited the door, the first thing I did was look into various deaths related to Scientology. Many of them were labeled as "suicides", "seizures", or "blood clots"... far too many for it to be coincidental.

One such death is the death of Josephus Havenith, who died at the Fort Harrison Hotel in a bathtub full of water so hot it burned his skin off. The cause of death is officially labeled as a "drowning", despite his head not being submerged.

Herbert Pfaff, also connected

to Scientology, died in this very same hotel, with the cause of death being labeled as a seizure. It was also noted that he had stopped taking his seizure medication in favor of a multivitamin program.

Lisa McPherson is yet another casualty of the Fort Harrison Hotel, who died after spending 17 days in one of their rooms. Her cause of death was labeled as a blood clot, but this was later challenged in court.

Other deaths are accredited to people going berserk after taking a form of personality test with the church, or participating in their alternative approach to psychiatric help. Such examples include Frank Vitkovic, who killed 8 people in an Australian office building after taking a personality test with the church.

Elli Perkins was murdered by her mentally ill son after abandoning his treatment in favor of Scientology.

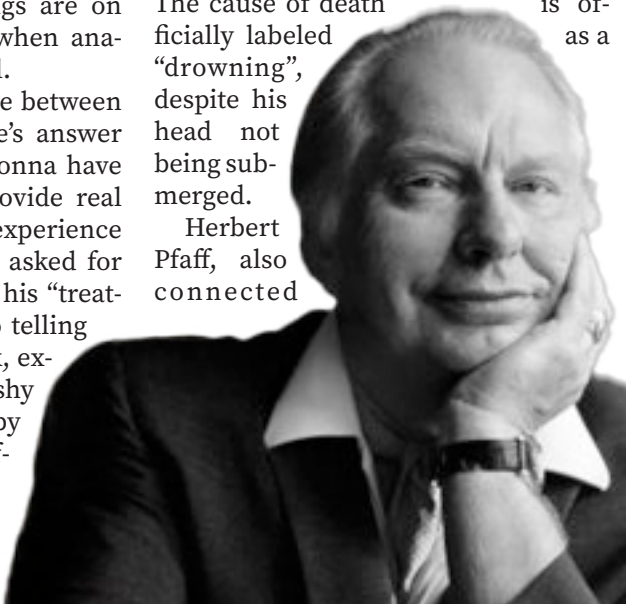
Michael, Kathryn, and Sue Walicki, were killed by family member Linda Walicki after her medication was replaced with the church's vitamins.

With a handful of celebrities such as Tom Cruise endorsing Scientology, it's likely that many people approach the cult hoping for some harmless self-help or life tips, as encouraged by the advertised narrative.

The reality of the matter is that something far more sinister dwells just beneath the surface. Much of

American history is built upon greed, and this glorified, murderous book distribution company we call "Scientology" has no trouble fitting into the mold.

**SCIENTOLOGY
FOUNDER L. RON
HUBBARD BESIDE THE
CHURCH'S LOGO.
PHOTOS: SCIENTOLOGY.ORG**



CONT... PUBLIC AI

Now AI is here, and its creations are quickly becoming indistinguishable from their manmade counterparts.

Many claim that AI can function as a tool to help mankind due to its variety of purposes and seemingly limitless potential. After all, it's just a couple clicks away on websites and smartphone applications.

Because of its convenience and ease of access, many people don't even give it a second thought. However, as evidenced by scam calls using AI to mimic the voices of loved ones, to human artists facing the risk of becoming obsolete because of AI "art," AI is very much becoming harmful.

Yet, intelligent people still are playing with what AI's capabilities are. A group of MIT student researchers created an AI program using gore and snuff content from Reddit. They put it through a series of rorschach tests, to which it responded with gruesome interpretations of what it saw.

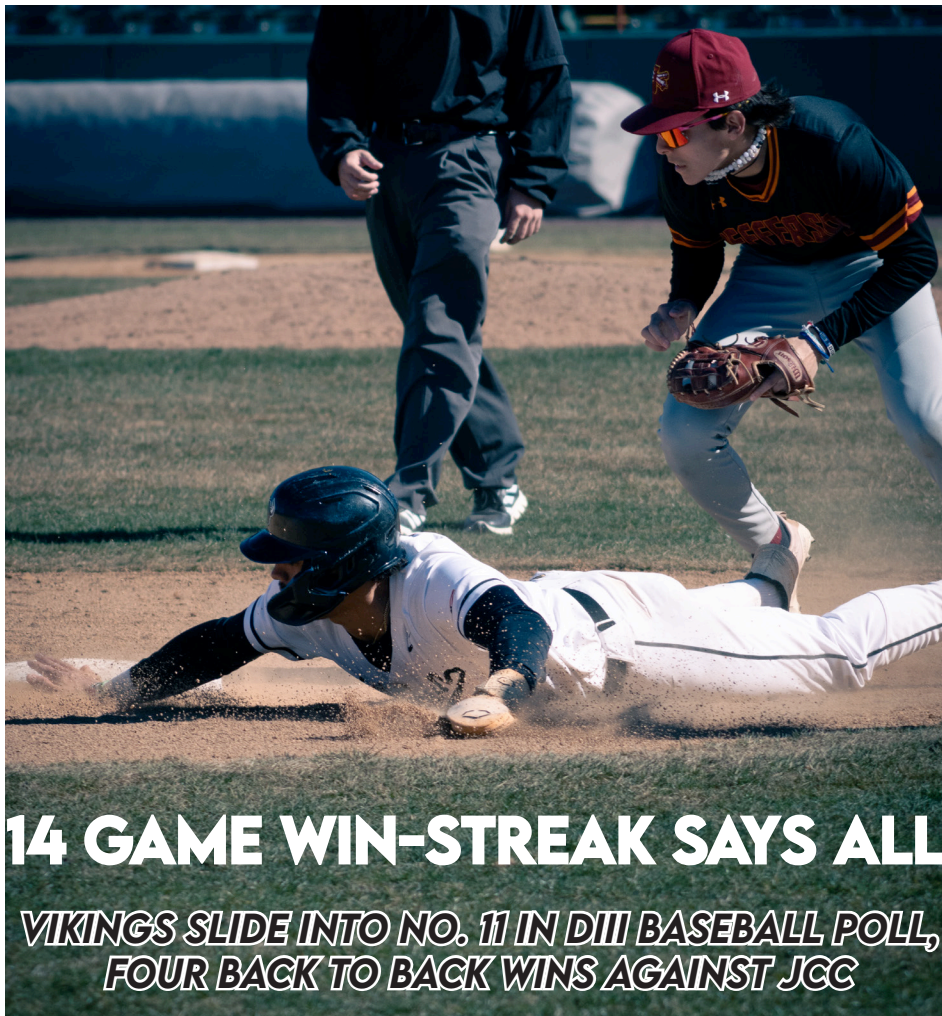
While all things considered, this could be helpful for certain niche reasons, many shudder to think what an AI programmed to be sadistic would be capable of.

In the wrong hands, AI could be an extreme danger to public safety. There are those who don't agree, and feel AI should be a tool for everyone to use.

So, I leave you all with this question: if a sadistic AI such as "Norman" (the aforementioned MIT AI) downloaded nuclear codes, or a terrorist got their hands on AI that could replicate the voice of world leaders, would you still think that AI is a good thing in the hands of the public?

SPORTS

Sports Editor Nigel Addo
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**14 GAME WIN-STREAK SAYS ALL
VIKINGS SLIDE INTO NO. 11 IN DIII BASEBALL POLL,
FOUR BACK TO BACK WINS AGAINST JCC**

**JONAH FLANAGAN,
CAL MARTIN**

Photo Editor, Editor-in-Chief

Hudson Valley's Vikings came out swinging in their most recent baseball games against Jefferson Community College. In Game 1, the Vikings took the win with an astounding 7-0 score. In Game 2, the Vikings held their ground and won by 9-7.

The game started out slow: not much movement, an occasional strike and such. However, it suddenly picked up when HVCC swept their opponents, with Jeremy Taggart swinging amazing hits three times in a row, making two runs, and Jayden Kennedy returning three players home.

In the second game, the Vikings were pushed back but still managed to come in clutch, winning by 9-7 with Anthony Rizzo changing the game by leading two players home and numbers 2 (Marino), 11 (Sorice) and 26

(Tamsett) securing the win. A seesaw of emotions unfolded, with constant sway from pure excitement and raw energy to anxious moments of silence, wondering: what will happen next?

NJCAA baseball poll ratings for the week of April 1 proved no joke, as the Vikings rose to No. 11 status from their former No 12. position.

Joe Bruno Stadium provided a beautiful day full of sunshine, smiles and an audience of family and friends combined with an amazing game. The Vikings are coming out with a bang, with a non-stop force and untapped potential that's truly a sight to behold. We can only sit in anxious awe to wait and wonder how the rest of the season will unfold.

PHOTOS BY: JONAH FLANAGAN.



ARTS & LIFE

WHY IS IT SO HARD?!

AN ESSAY & PHOTO BY:

Mojsilda
Cinari

Staff Contributor

Why is it so hard?!

Why does it seem simple, when it's so hard to get away from people? You simply cannot leave.

You want to, and must leave them, but there is something that prevents you from doing this. You agree to do it and reach the point where you are ready, but then you realize that you cannot leave.

A small question might be, why? Well, because... you love these people.

It's a beautiful feeling, because in that environment you have been with them, the circumstances that come up and are created there, make you love them.

That's where a spark starts and lights up in your soul. It is such a beautiful spark that you accept that it is happening; you tend to it and make it yours.

From time to time, you feel amazed by this spark because its meaning is different. It is the meaning of the pure human.

This spark is what brings beautiful situations into your life, but sometimes these situations make you think so much that you start to get lost. You feel so lost, you don't know if you can believe the thoughts in your head.

Here begins the war of thoughts, where you feel confused and divided. You are totally lost, and you don't know what to do. But then you come to understand something.

You understand that you are a human being. You have a heart that works and pumps blood just the same, but maybe it is not like the others.

Beauty

POEM BY:

LUNA NORTHRUP
Layout Editor

Beauty isn't just looking pretty
Beauty's isn't just dressing nice
Beauty isn't just looking fancy for a night
Beauty is about kindness to others
Beauty is about confidence about who you are
Beauty is about being true to yourself in life

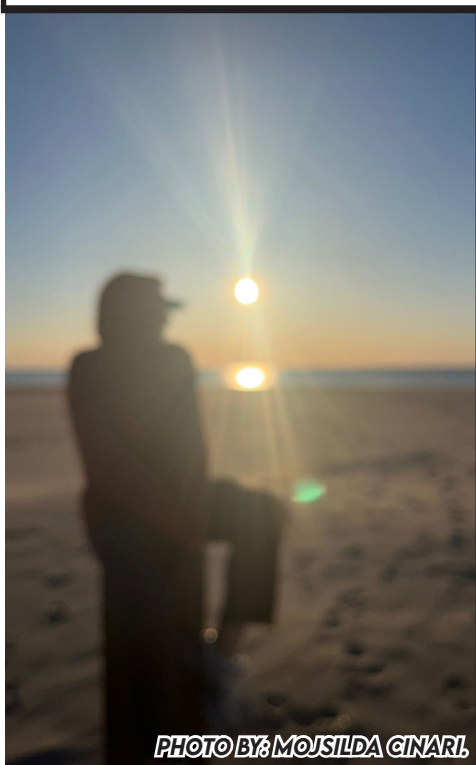


PHOTO BY: MOJSILDA CINARI

PASSION TO FIND THE TRUTH

A CONTINUED SERIES OF SHORT STORIES BY IMRAN KHAN

Traders brought the news of Confucianism to Ishan's temple. He thought he had found the truth after accepting Buddhism, but there is more to it. The passion to find Truth settled beneath his skin.

He wanted to meet Confucius, but the thought of his newly blossomed religion intervened. Proper mentors and guidance were indispensable to maintaining discipline and the value of the religion. After deliberation, he delegated Advik, his senior disciple, to investigate.

Advik found Confucius teaching to a small gathering, his maxims full of wisdom and virtue. His teaching reminded him of Buddha—passionate. For a week, Advik entered Confucius's gathering like a secret agent.

His odd looks would jeopardize his life if he were in a gathering of someone other than Confucius. Fear-free Confucius was instead happy to have someone in his congregation.

Upon Advik's return, he found Ishan waiting by the temple door. Both hugged. Ishan asked him about his experience. "Confucius is concerned with improving the human condition," Advik said.

"More," Ishan interrupted.

"Confucius's five most needed principles can help solve humanity's problems of today and the foundation of his religion..."

1. Jen—A feeling of humanity toward others and respect for oneself. An indivisible sense of the dignity of human life wherever it appears.

2. Chun Tzu—Super person and Humanity-at-its-Best. Advik took a deep breath and hummed,

"If there is righteousness in the heart, there will be beauty in the

character.

If there is beauty in the character, there will be harmony in the home.

If there is harmony in the home, there will be order in the nation.

If there is order in the nation, there will be peace in the world."

These are the most needed elements of Confucius's religion today. Advik looked up and found the soft-hearted Monk crying.

3. Li—Propriety—the way things should be done—in the sense of what it is right to do:

"Every action affects someone else.

Family is the basic unit of life.

The duty of children to their parents is the fountain from which all virtue springs."

4. Te—Is the power of moral example—Goodness becomes embodied in a society not through might nor law, but through the impress of persons we admire. "If you sincerely desire to be good, your people would likewise be good."

5. Wen—The Arts of Peace—The state that has the finest art, the noblest philosophy, and the grandest poetry, and gives evidence of realizing that "It is the moral character of a neighborhood that constitutes its excellence."

"A great teacher is Confucius," Ishan said repeatedly, but Advik threw the dagger, calling Confucianism a Godless religion. "What!" Ishan repeated in shock and dismay.

"Yes, Father, there is dry spirituality and no mention of God."

Ishan's worldview shattered, "No God here as well," and he fell unconscious.