

HILLPRESS

SPECIAL MOVE-IN EDITION

H I L L C R E S T H A L L - I T ' S O N L O C K - D O W N !

Bush Administration Announces Nominee

Carey Selected to be Secretary of the Price

In a Rose Garden ceremony last week, President Bush announced that he was nominating actor and television personality Drew Carey to succeed the now retired Bob Barker as Secretary of the Price. This position's responsibilities, although largely ceremonial, affect millions of people through its entertaining, eponymously egotistical, almost game show-like daily press briefing, *The Price is Right*. The program, broadcast on local CBS affiliates throughout the nation, represents one of the government's largest social welfare programs, ranking just behind the combined Medicare/Medicaid programs in total federal spending.

If confirmed, Carey would enter in the presidential line of succession between Secretary of the Interior Dirk Kempthorne and Secretary of Agriculture Mike Johanns, putting him ninth in line as dictated by the Twenty-Fifth Amendment to the Constitution. Should the preceding officials become

unable to perform their duties, whether from a terrorist attack, a nuclear holocaust, or a comical snow cone mishap, Carey would be called upon to lead his



country, a fact that was not lost on the President. "Furthermore, Drew's generous size and thick glasses make him statistically likely to survive the inevitable Cylon Armageddon of 2012, allowing him and future Acting President Cheney to lead the country to victory against our robot oppressors long after I and other less resilient humans are gone," Bush said.

However, this move by the administration has already garnered outspoken criticism. West Virginia Senator Robert Byrd has already announced his intention to disrupt congressional hearings on the matter, citing the nominee's "close ties to major media outlets" and "the fact that *Geppetto* was a positively terrible movie." In response, the reanimated corpse of Senator Strom Thurmond (R-Purgatory) accused the long serving democrat of "partisan politicking" against a "good yet misunderstood man" and implored his colleagues to simply "let the man come on down."

Confirmation hearings are set to begin on Tuesday.

White House correspondent Peter Kauffmann tries to write articles on actual topics from time to time. However, he usually just winds up shooting rubber bands at Helen Thomas, hence the quality of this story.

Picking a Floor 101

Boxers or briefs? Yankees or Red Sox? Fold or crumple? More importantly, which floor of Hillcrest is better, the second or the third? Alas, it is a debate as old as, say, Collin Calhoun. For the record, I am boxers / Sox / crumple / third floor resident. What is to follow is a discursive analysis of the advantages and disadvantages of life on each floor. It is pretty useless to ask your average person for an opinion on the matter. Even faculty members are generally unreliable. For example, when asked which floor of Hillcrest was better, Dr. Papillon chose Main Campbell. Therefore, I have been forced to do my own, totally unbiased, field research. Finally, the two floors will be laid side by side for an in-depth look. Please note that I am knowingly excluding the so-called "2.5 floor." These charlatans think that being handicapped inaccessible makes them better than everyone else. If you apply correct significant figure procedures, 2.5 conveniently rounds down to 2. Problem solved. Onward!

The Second Floor

Ahhh... the second floor. You will invariably need to spend time on this floor, even if you don't live on it. The second floor houses priceless relics - such as the jukebox, Bill's chair, and a bed that Mitch Daniels slept in for two semesters.

Pros:

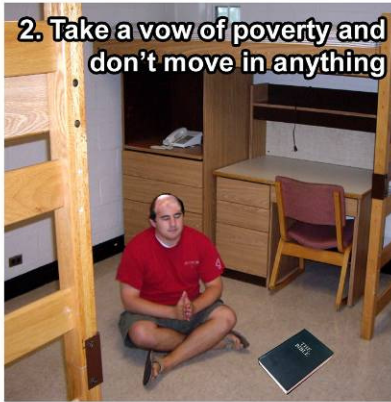
- The second floor is a nice, central locale in Hillcrest. You can survive without actually going up that last flight of stairs. The second floor has the kitchen, the T.V. lounge, and the pool table.
- You will never miss the D2sday crowd.
- Kevin Finelli.
- Any meteors that land on Hillcrest will hit the third floor first.

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THE TOP 6 UNORTHODOX WAYS TO MOVE IN TO HILLCREST



1. Fax yourself into the office downstairs.



2. Take a vow of poverty and don't move in anything



3. Use the Floo Network



4. Skydiving



5. Break your stuff into small pieces and train an army of ants to carry it.



6. Forget ninja doors. Real ninjas climb in through the ductwork

David Choquette plans to just move into Jeremy's room, because he has enough stuff for about 10 people.

A TOPOGRAPHICAL SURVEY OF HILLCREST

Good morning, oh lucky freshmen, and welcome to Hillcrest. I am your tour guide around the building, here to let you know the ins and outs of this unique building that you will call home for the next nine months. As you walk through the doors, to the right you see the stairs, leading you up to the tallest room of the tallest tower, on the always empty third floor. Walking alone on the third floor at night? You will never hear a peep out any of the doors. Walking around during the day? Still, no sound of life. But trust me, people do live there, and you could be the lucky freshman to change this phenomenon and bring new life to the third floor. As you amble around on the third floor, beware of the intense studying coming from the third floor lounge and homework lounge. Good luck meandering through the piles of books, old

homework, and papers that have graced the lounge for who knows how long. And if you even think of making a sound in the lounge – if you do a scary senior might just come out and sell you for firewood.

As you drift back down to the second floor, I think we should start our tour on the all-girls hallway. What is that you say? You didn't know there was an all girls hall in Hillcrest? Well, lucky for you, there is. 20 beautiful women grace these halls, and you should meet them. The trick is finding them in the building. These girls are very busy, but are also a bunch of fun to hang out with. After traversing the girls' hallway, you enter the second floor lounge, home to the couch dwellers. During any point in the afternoon, either Star Trek or Law and Order will be on, so if you need to procrastinate,

here's the best way to do it. The loud music you hear in the lounge, thank the senior electrical and computer engineers for their contribution to the building, the refurbished jukebox, complete with records of all musical genres. As you enter the room, watch out for flying pool balls, as pool is played in this room at all hours of the day and night.

Leaving the pool table behind, you find the RA office, home to countless hours of entertainment and endless procrastination. That loud scream you hear? Probably a group playing spades or hearts. Doing homework in the office usually doesn't happen, so something fun is always going on in there. If sitting in the office, you will probably hear Sweet Home Alabama blasting down the halls.

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Picking a Floor...

(Continued from page 1)

Cons:

- Possible conflicts could arise due to the sovereignty debate over the 2.5 floor. There have been rumblings of a move towards independence.
- The second floor contains the all-girls hallway. Venturing into this region without at least three days of supplies and a flare gun is not recommended.
- Brad Shapiro.

The Third Floor

The third floor is considerably smaller than the second floor. It is, on average, pretty quiet and laid back when compared to the second floor. It houses both of Hillcrest's study lounges, as well as Erin Rubin.

Pros:

- In general, it is a lot easier to get work done on the third floor. The D2sday mob rarely ventures in the region.
- Strategic employment of a sentry system on the third floor can provide an early warning of an impending zombie strike.
- When the zombie strike occurs, the occupants of the second floor will be eaten first.

Cons:

- A lot of people that live on the second floor never actually go to the third floor, which means third floor occupants often need to be proactive in order to meet everyone
- Mitch Daniels is now an RA on the third floor, which means triops. Triops are cannibalistic invertebrates the size of rice grains that live in tupperware on Mitch's desk and smell like over-salted Chinese food. If Mitch wants to show you something "Really sweet," run for your life.
- Who am I kidding? There aren't any real drawbacks to living on the third floor. Also, I am not biased in the slightest.

Conclusion

As a journalist, I have no responsibility to conduct my personal research in an honest manner. I am also totally unbound to societal norms and morality in general. This makes my decision that the third floor is better much easier to make. Fortunately, I don't have to back this up to any further extent.

Tory Smith is completely and utterly incompetent.

The 8 Most Important Things I've Learned In China

8. Beijing "Hot Pot" does not refer to a food, rather to a climate. The Forbidden City in the day time has recently reached a universal record temperature of 55 degrees Celsius, beating out the previous record of 54.8 set by Hell in August of 1949 and tied by Mexico City in 1972.

7. The streets of a Chinese city are comparable to the world's largest game of Chicken. The participants: cars, bicycles, pedestrians. The rules: there are no rules to speak of. The traffic laws -mere suggestions at best. The winner: the one with the biggest balls.

6. "You can regard nothing as true until it has been denied. Anything officially denied by the government is probably a fact." -Paul Theroux

5. Before arriving in China I read about the lovely ideals of Marxist thought, cooperation rather than competition and work for the common good. I also read the lovely Buddhist ideals of harmony with nature and the Taoist ideals of easy goingness. Then I stepped off the plane in Beijing and stood in a

"line." Within 5 minutes of entering China, all of these ideals were immediately and violently shattered.



4. "The Chinese laugh is seldom a response to something funny - it is usually *Ha ha*, *we're in deep shit* or *Ha ha*, *I wish you hadn't said that*, or *Ha ha*, *I've never felt so miserable in my life ...*" -Theroux

3. "In a country without any privacy and with very few trees, it was a wonder that

any children are conceived." -Theroux on the one child policy in China.

2. Urinal Etiquette is not a local phenomenon. It is not a Western Ideal. It is a Universal State of Mind. If you don't know what I'm talking about, you are probably a girl or have been living under a rock since you were old enough to tinkle standing up.

and the number 1 lesson I've learned in China...

1. To toast a Chinese person is to challenge their ability to drink, and if you fail, it is a gross sign of disrespect. Once the challenge begins, the Chinese cooperate, and each person wants to toast you. It is a seemingly never ending rabbit hole. Just how deep does it go? I can honestly say... I don't remember...

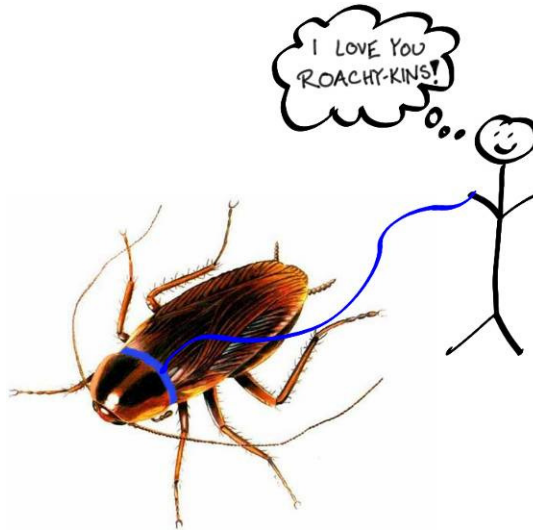
Brad Shapiro had a phenomenal time in China. He admires the people and their pride in their country. He followed the Taoist ideal of going with the flow and inevitably ended up the butt of most jokes, though now a legendary drinker in Tianjin. Special thanks to Paul Theroux for so eloquently saying what so often Brad has been thinking throughout his trip.

Solving Separation Anxiety in 3 Easy Steps

Everybody misses little Snookums, Spot, and Chompy McPitBull when they come to school. There's a Facebook group about it so it's got to be true. In Hillcrest, we'd like to help smooth out the college transition. I now present to you a fool-proof method to give freshmen a truly Hillcrest experience and also ease the pain of pet separation in three easy steps.

Step 1. When you first move in, your parents always make sure you're all set up and have everything you could ever possibly need for your first year away from home. Insist that you'll need two college essentials: potato chips and cookies. Step 2. Snack. Actually, when you do, pretend you're a typical (read: messy) boy. Don't clean up the crumbs. Step 3. Wait for your new friends.

If you've done this correctly, you should soon have a plethora of new cuddly pets to choose from. We've got it all folks! Lady bugs, roaches, silverfish, and even big hulking centipedes! If you'd like your new creepy-crawly a little less... that, come down to the laundry room. There, you can almost always find a nice pet roach who hasn't been crawly for weeks!



Your new pet needs to be a mammal? Well, I did say we've got it all! Who wouldn't want a little *Mus musculus* to call their very own. For this one, I'd take the Katie Robbins' approach and eat box upon box of cereal. Those little fuzzy guys love the left-over non-marshmallow bits of your Lucky Charms. Plus, no milk is required!

And, as long as you don't have a cage, it's not technically a pet. But don't let that stop you from treating your new friend like a new friend. We've got cockroach collars and silverfish sweaters for the winter. There are centipede life jackets (don't want to accidentally flush your little friend) and Vera Bradley mouse leashes- straight from Volume Two Bookstore!

So, new freshmen, don't fret about your pet, Mom and Dad are taking good care of him. Just replace him with authentic Hillcrest pest pets and this place will feel like home in no time.

Erin Rubin is one of the larger pests in Hillcrest. Like the old dog in the pound, nobody has tried to adopt her, but she is holding out that this years freshmen offer her cookies and other baked goods.

TOPOGRAPHICAL SURVEY...

(Continued from page 2)

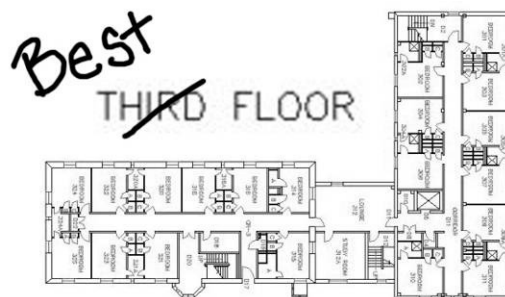
Thank one of the resident North Carolinians, who luckily knows about the goodness of Cook-Out milkshakes, Lexington barbeque, and Cheerwine, Dylan Greenwood. Turning the corner, those smells of trash and old food are probably coming from the kitchen. If you dare to enter the kitchen, do so at your own risk. Right now the kitchen looks clean and safe for human contact, but beware... after a month of stupid people leaving their trash in the kitchen and their old food in the fridge, I wouldn't cook in there. A word to the wise, keep it clean, or who knows what I might do to you. After escaping the scent of the kitchen, if you want to get your ass kicked at video games, I recommend meeting DT. You can always hear video games or anime coming from DT and Cas'

room, and this is a fun place to hang out and procrastinate some more. Oh, and Cas makes a mean sweet tea-some say it makes Jacob crazy, but it's just an urban legend. And after getting schooled at video games, if you decide to continue up the second floor hallway, you approach the mysterious 2.5 hallway. Some say this hallway is home to ghosts and goblins, but I think that it's usually home to *The Simpsons* and Greg's smelly

shoes. They might just smell worse than the kitchen. You are almost at the end of the second floor, and usually on the 2.5 floor you can find people playing hall sports (shame, shame) or watching the sport of the season, be it basketball, football, or baseball.

Thank you all for taking this brief tour of Hillcrest. Having seen the ins and outs of this venerable building, it is now your turn to write the next chapter in the sights and smells that we all still talk about. Until next time, this is Tour Guide Barbie, signing out.

Kari Adkins is mapping out the entire relationship web of Hillcrest for her undergraduate research.



An Epidemic of Epidemic Proportions

Medical professionals nationwide are speaking out today about an alarming affliction spreading at epidemic rates through our country. After years of remaining cloaked by social taboos and Puritanical elements in our society, we as a people are poised to confront our virginity problem.

“Virginity is a disease that affects a staggering proportion of the American populace,” said Dr. Troy Jan, a researcher at the University of Chicago Medical Center. “Nearly all Americans are born with a blistering case of virginity, but few of them even learn of it until they are entering their pre-pubescent years. In most cases, people affected by the disorder do not rid themselves of it until they are at least thirteen years old. It’s amazing that we’ve allowed this tragic state of affairs to continue unabated in the richest country in the world.”

In a cruel twist of fate, the people affected most severely by this condition are often people who would otherwise seem to be very successful members of society—academics, engineers, Al Gore. This “Poon Drain” in the upper strata of the American population has led some to speculate on the dire consequences that virginity might be inflicting in the fields of doctoral dissertations, differential equations, and documentary production—consequences unseen by the public, but perhaps very real. Politicians have lost no time weighing in on

the issue. In a heartwarming show of bipartisan support, legislators on both sides of Congress have come forward to denounce the slow progress made by the medical community in combating this adversary. Predictably, however, the broad cooperation the Congress displayed when the virginity issue first burst into the open has broken down as partisan lawmakers outlined rival plans for protecting the American people.

“We can see clearly that the American medical system has failed to stop the encroachment of virginity into our homes,” said Democratic Senator Barack Obama. It’s time for the government to step in and establish anti-virginity clinics where, for a nominal fee, members of the public can rid themselves of their virginity once and for all.”

But former Representative and possible Presidential candidate Newt Gingrich fired back with a plan of action more suited to the Republican base he hopes to win over next year. “What we need is not to abandon the independent efforts of American doctors by switching to a state-sponsored system. Instead, we need to support it by allowing a free-market system of de-virginicators to flourish. I have a vision of an America where our citizens can lose their virginity for a few bucks on any street corner, at any time of day. This sort of system will serve

our citizens better than any state-sponsored system.”

As the political debate rages on, innovators are looking in strange places to find stop-gap measures for fighting virginity without government assistance. In a shocking follow-up interview with Dr. Troy Jan, he admitted that some doctors had recently traveled to Alabama and other places in the Deep South, becoming the first medical professionals of any kind to travel south of the Potomac River since the American Civil War. They hope that they can come back to teach the rest of the country to emulate the South’s admirable virginity metrics. So far, they think, the news is mixed.

“At first I thought to myself, ‘Well, all we need is to make booze a little more available, and we’ll have this thing beat.’ Then I began to understand the special circumstances that make the South unique. To really gain anything from their example, we’d have to convert every city and town in the rest of the country into wasted, soulless ghost towns devoid of culture and recreation, and surround them by pine trees. And at some point you have to ask yourself if it’s really worth it.”

Collin Calhoun enjoys pina-colodas and getting caught in the rain.

Actual News: Relevant Dates in Hillcrest

Wed, August 15

- Move-in Begins
- First day to turn in Duty Aide applications

Fri, August 17

- Meal Plans Begin
- Mandatory Freshmen Community Meeting (2pm in Fralin 102)

Sat, August 18

- Cascades (11:30 departure from Hillcrest, 3:15 return to Hillcrest)
- Joint Community Dinner in Owens 6:00

Sun, Aug 19

- Memorial Dedication Ceremony on Drillfield (noon)

Monday, August 20

- Classes Begin
- Ticket reservations close for *A Concert for Virginia Tech* (noon)
- Reading Group Meeting (5pm)

Friday, August 24

- Last day to turn in Duty Aide applications
- Last day to add classes and add/drop audit option



Greetings, gentle readers! After a lovely summer full of warm breezes, sandy beaches and peaceful naps taken in hammocks swung gently by the glistening bronze arms of your sweet and naïve pool boy Pablo while you sip a cool lemonade, the time has come for you to return once more to school. I am pleased to inform you that we should have another year of absolutely fantastic weather here in Blacksburg to look forward to as we embark upon this journey together, which should help ease the separation pangs we will all surely feel from our summer freedom.

Now, for the incoming freshmen, I realize that there may be some surprises about our lovely college. At the top of the list is the fact that, despite all inward appearances, Blacksburg is actually in Appalachia. Especially if one ventures to what is commonly called "The Homeplace," there are a few things you ought to know. I myself am a native of this Appalachian region, and have here provided a few simple tips for getting along with the local color. These are things to remember when ordering your meals:



This young mountain girl is in her natural habitat, holding a kitten.

- If you prefer UNsweetened iced tea, you must specify. Just saying "tea" will get you a cup of Lipton's best tea-flavored sugar water.
- Many menu items may contain unexpected amounts of meat, so if you're vegetarian, be careful what you order. Expect to find some type of ham in all salads, potatoes, beans, greens, and some desserts. Occasionally we even put ham in ham.

And here are a few key phrases you might encounter along the way:

- "Like the dickens." This does not mean that something is behaving in a manner similar to a socially commenting British author. Rather, it means it is performing its intended purpose with enthusiasm. Ex. "Will Hutcheson sure is procrastinating like the dickens!"
- "Ease up off my charlie!" Once again, not referring to an attack on aforementioned author. This phrase can be used in the place of other more common ones, such as "Lay off me, I'm starving." As for what exactly a charlie is, we're not quite sure.
- "Witcha-ditcha." This is the mountaineer's way of making a common phrase easier and more fun to say. Those unaccustomed to our speech would normally say this as "with you, did you." Ex: George: "Ginny tried to get me to bring her tonight!" Fred: "But you didn't take her witcha-ditcha?"

Armed with this knowledge, you may now face the unfamiliar territory with confidence! If any further assistance is required, I am available over yonder in room 234 for Cultural Acclimation Counseling, free of charge.

Kathleen Cooperstein's long hair just can't cover up her red neck.

HILLPRESS STAFF



Kari Adkins *Junior Geography Major*
Kari spent her summer washing cars, sunbathing, and wondering why she didn't think of being a beach bum before.



Collin Calhoun *Senior Senior Citizen*
Collin graduated last year, but as they say: If you can see Collin, he can see you. If you can't see Collin, you may be only seconds away from death.



David Choquette *Resident Half-Blood Prince*
David spent his summer hunting spiders and bumblebees so that he could take them back to the psychology lab and scare small children with them.



Kathleen Cooperstein *Slack-Jawed Yokel*
Kathleen spent her summer churning apple butter and eating gravy. No, REAL gravy, you pervs.



Peter Kauffmann *White House Reporter*
Peter spent his summer playing connect-the-dots with surveying points and making water flow downhill. He was constantly afraid that his job would be replaced by a 6-year-old.



Erin Rubin *Not Your Mom*
Erin spent her summer waiting for viral sample to thaw from -80C. It's more fun than watching paint dry.... unless that paint is toxic. Then it's about even.



Brad Shapiro *Asia Bureau [He's got Gūanxi]*
Brad has been trekking around Asia for the past two months, courtesy of one of those sophomore scholarships. He will start bugging all of you sophomores about them when he returns next weekend.



Tory Smith *Morale Officer*
Tory Smith spent his summer studying German - in Germany of all places. He learned that a Danaumdampfschiffahrtskapitaensmuetze is actually just a hat. If you think you hear him clearing his throat or choking to death, he is probably just conjugating a verb.



Mitch Daniels
Jeremy Henry
Ryan Luck

Sirs Not-Appearing-in-this-Film

Do you want to fabricate information write creative stories every 2-3 weeks? If so, you should join the illustrious staff of *Hillpress*! For more information, speak to one of the mentally deranged individuals above. Sorry, but we are not accepting new residents on the *Hillpress* staff this semester. Feel free to apply in the spring, however.