

# HILLPRESS

HILLCREST HALL · 162+

## Scandal at NerdFest!

After our heartbreaking last-minute loss to Main Campbell in ultimate Frisbee last month, I—like many of you—fell into a deep spell of despair. We were so close, and now we're down by thirty points? Come on!

Fortunately, just when I was reaching the lowest of the lows, John Hoffman issued the next NerdFest challenge and a gleaming white knight came striding up to answer the call: Trevor Helderman. With Greg James and Luke Shrader out of town for the weekend, Helderman represented our last best hope at victory against the presumably shirtless Main Campbellionians.

Come race day, the stage was set. The sun beat down on the twelve cyclists as Hoffman released the race locations, but a mild breeze kept the day's temperature in check. As the riders sprinted away across the drillfield, all indications pointed to a close finish to the race. However, only 28 minutes later at the finish line, the assembled masses were shocked to see a defiant Helderman riding alone up the slopes of Mount Hillcrest. Jubi-

lation and glee filled the air as the crowd lauded their new hero for singlehandedly cutting the competition's point deficit to ten.

Although the cheers of that day still ring in my ears, it is with a heavy heart that I must inform you that Virginia Tech Anti-Doping Agency (VTADA) spokesperson Erin Hannan announced this past Tuesday that Helderman tested positive for the banned blood doping drug EPO. Said Hannan: "our analysis of the sample B of Trevor Helderman's urine has confirmed the adverse analytical finding discovered by the Anti-Doping Laboratory of Blacksburg on 26 September in the rider's sample A. In accordance with UCI rules, VTADA will request that the NerdFest Cycling Federation open a disciplinary procedure against the rider."

Despite the fact that these anomalous results



could just as easily have been the result of DX food as synthetic hormones, our building's cherished ethical traditions make it clear that the only just course of action is to strip Mr. Helderman of his title and give it to the rider who came in second place last Sunday.

*Peter Kauffmann placed second at the NerdFest Bicycle Race last Sunday.*

## College of Science Votes to Drop Teaching

In a decision late last week, the Virginia Tech College of Science voted that it would vanquish any form of teaching it once had in favor of pursuing more research. Grad students will still, however, occasionally be available. This decision comes as no surprise to students all throughout the University who have ever taken a science course.

"We just felt that it wasn't important anymore," said one anonymous COS representative. "Really we're doing the students a favor: by not teaching them, our professors get to spend more time doing research, making the University look better, and then finally the student's degree looks fantastic to employers and grad schools. No one really cares if they don't actually know what they're talking about."

It appears to be the general consensus among departments on campus that somehow, even though the quality and amount of education has gone down, the quality of the degree has gone up.

Wading through stacks of textbooks, proofs, derivations, and eraser shavings, I found freshman Mandi Wasmer working on Math-1206 homework.

"Well, I still don't know the answer to this Empo question, but I did end up with a proof the Riemann hypothesis," she said as she battled #7: Find the derivative of  $f(x)=4x+29$  at  $x=1$ .

Wasmer's struggle is clearly evident of what the college has wished to achieve in previous years: creative thinking through lack of teaching.

"If we don't tell them anything, then they're forced to go and figure things out on their own. We're creating people as smart as Isaac Newton, Charles Darwin, and Tom Cruise by telling them they have to know and understand 'F=ma', the theory of evolution, or the history of psychology, and then not telling them anything else. They go out and derive the equations on their own, cut open the animals in the Duck pond, and invent facts that ultimately make them smarter people," said Debbie Wilson in a mass email.

Tests, quizzes and exams will still be given as normal and you will be expected to know all of the same things. Teaching officially ended on Monday although most of you have probably not noticed a difference.

*John Hoffman is not at all frustrated by the teaching at Tech. .*

# \$700,000,000,000 = Seven Hundred Billion Dollars = A Freaking Ton of Money

In an effort to mend the further deterioration of our fundamentally strong economy, Congress has been working hard over the past week to formulate a bipartisan 'bailout' plan. As conversation in the capitol comes to a conclusion, it seems likely that the final solution will involve some seven hundred billion dollars of your hard-earned monies. Being the indefatigable journalist that I am, I decided to thoroughly research several other ways in which the government could manage this huge wad of cash.



*million years:* I'm still on the 'Four Year Plan,' but if I ever switch to the 'Era Plan,' I'll be sure to keep this in mind.

- *Pave 277,000 tennis courts entirely in \$100 bills:* These are getting a bit ridiculous.
- *Produce 3,888 sequels to 'The Dark Knight':* How can you possibly argue against this?

As you can see from the examples listed above, there are some really awesome ways to squander our wealth. Be sure to write to your representatives to let them know which bailout plan you support!

*Mitch Daniels actually calculated all of the numbers in this article. He is feeling very, very poor.*

- *Buy 10 new iPod Nanos for each American citizen:* Honestly, who could complain about this Somewhat-Less-Than-Great Depression with ten of these adorable gadgets lying around the house?

*Another option currently under consideration.*

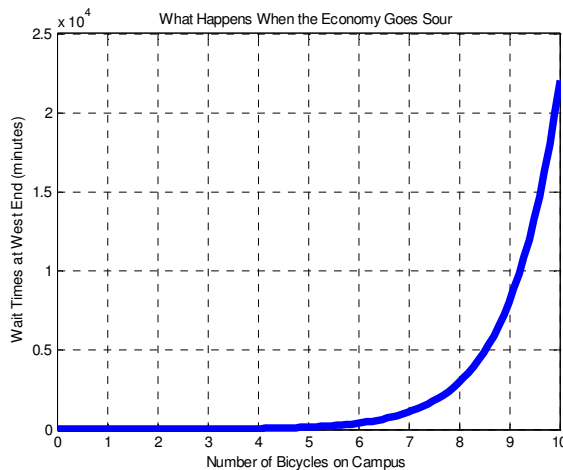
- *Build 60 Large Hadron Colliders:* With so many to go around, everyone will have a chance to destroy the universe!
- *Purchase my textbooks for the next 700*

## Bicycles No Longer Allowed on Campus Roadways

Have you been walking around campus lately and been forced out of the cross-walk by careening bicycles? Have you purchased (or stolen, for shame!) a bicycle in an effort to stay fit and save gas in the faltering economy? Have you noticed how many bicycles are parked near the on campus dining facilities during peak hours?

Believe it or not, the high number of meal plan holders and bicycle riders are positively correlated. As VT News reported last week, there are over 18,000 people with meal plans, and there is just not enough space for all of them. This star reporter has delved down into the depths of the unknowns concerning the statistics of meal plan holders and bicycle riders and has found a startling revelation: the more bikes we have on campus, the more people dining has to feed.

Didn't you know that riding a bike makes you



more accessible to on campus resources and hungrier at the same time? It's a phenomenon that not even Newton could have predicted! So, instead of using their brains for a minute or actually consulting the accountants for the university, Dining Services has decided to ban bicycles from campus, because that will fix the problem in no time. By doing this, cops will have nothing to do, pedestrians will be

safer, and the whole campus will add inches to their waistline.

But what were Dining's alternatives? One team recommended using a lottery system to dole out meal plans to off campus residents. Has anyone seen the football lottery actually give tickets to freshmen while they have been here? I don't like the idea of betting my ability to get food on a lottery. But taking away the bicycles, that's an excellent idea!

*Kari Adkins wants to ride her bicycle.*

### Hillpress Staff

- Philly Kathleen Cooperstein
- Cub Peter Kauffmann
- Ray Kari Adkins
- Brewer Tory Smith
- Dodger Mitch Daniels
- ~~Twin~~/White Sock Will Satterwhite
- Red Sock John Hoffman
- Angel Matt Allen