

# HILLPRESS

H I L L C R E S T H A L L - S W I N G S B O T H W A Y S

## Flex Dollars Ain't So Flexible: Not a Made Up Article

You know what would sound good to me right now: a big bowl of soup, a breadstick, maybe a scone, and a cup of hot tea from Au Bon Pain. All that warm, good food on this brisk fall day sounds pretty delicious. It also sounds like Dining Services ripping me off.

So what's the damage from my lunch yesterday? About ten dollars menu price (obscene). You might inquire: "But don't we get a fifty percent discount?" Wrong. We actually get a thirty-nine (thirteen if you're rocking a Mega Flex Plan) percent *increase*.

Here's the breakdown: a student who purchases the Major Flex plan pays \$1,190 at the beginning of the semester for 430 flex dollars. This works out to be about \$2.77 per flex dollar.

So you walk into West End and see that perfect \$1 (menu price) item. "I'll have that," you say pointing a finger quivering with ex-



*This picture was drawn with a sparkly pink pen.*

citement. As the cashier pulls the item off the shelf you feel your mouth start to salivate and your breath shortening. You let loose a little gasp as the passport is pulled from your hand and swiped through the register. Your day is complete now that you are the proud owner of this \$0.50 item... but you just got had.

Somebody practically just pick-pocketed you, and that somebody is named Virginia Tech. You just paid \$0.50 FLEX DOLLARS, which means that you really just paid \$1.39 REAL DOLLARS. But the exchange, the item, the passport, it was all so intimate! It's ok, it's happened to all of us; we're here for you.

To put it into perspective, without a meal plan you would only have to pay \$6.50 at D2 for dinner (hey that's actually a deal). On the meal plan you actually pay \$9.70.

It's clear that Dining Services and Virginia Tech are just trying to cover their tracks with their complex "Flex System," while in reality they are charging us more for subpar food... and then they're going to cut my financial aid on top of that?!

*John Hoffman says "Fight the Power."*

## Obama's 2012 Campaign Theme Leaked

In a huge blunder just days before the presidential election, several Obama staffers mistakenly leaked a number of posters and banners obviously intended for a 2012 re-election campaign.

The campaign literature contained several slogans, most notably "Same we can believe in", and "Yes we did". The blogosphere is buzzing with speculation that Obama has grown too sure of victory in light of recent polls hinting he will bury Senator McCain in an electoral avalanche.

In response to the leak, the McCain campaign immediately announced a new commercial titled "The Revenge of Miss Cleo" in which images of Obama are morphed into pictures of famous Jamaican psychic Miss Cleo while the narrator explains "Miss Cleo and Senator Obama claim they can see the future, but John McCain really *did* see the past; a whole lot of the past."



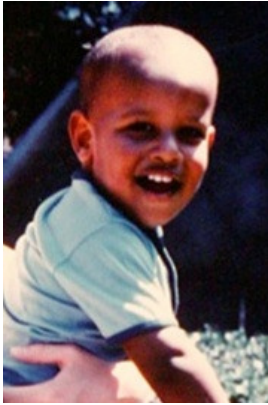
In sharp response to the negative ad, Obama's campaign manager released a detailed statement explaining "While the leak was certainly unfortunate, I believe it demonstrates Senator Obama's farsighted leadership abilities. By the way, John McCain is old. I mean, like, really old".

While many Republicans are up at arms over Obama's apparent cockiness, few analysts think the leak will have a significant impact on the results of this election.

However, some suggest the slip-up may hurt Obama in four years. One particular pundit explained "Now that the campaign slogan surprise is ruined, nobody will be excited to see just how creatively Obama can employ ambiguous nouns in his next campaign."

*Mitch Daniels can see Slusher from his house.*

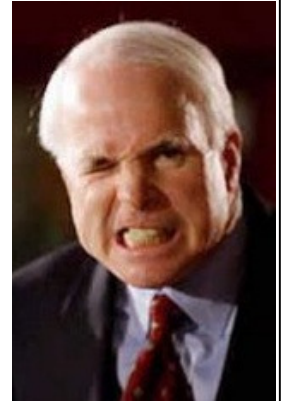
## Things That Are Older Than Barack Obama...



**Barack Obama**  
b. August 4, 1961

- Life Magazine* (1936)
- Chocolate Chip Cookies (1937)
- Jack Dudley (1940)
- Hillcrest (1940)
- Duct Tape (1942)
- Geothermal Milk Pasteurization (1945)
- Hells Angels (1948)
- Apartheid (1950)
- Area Codes (1951)
- Mr. Potato Head (1952)
- Playboy Magazine (1953)
- The Lord of the Rings* (1954-1955)
- The Frisbee (1957)
- Alaska (1959)
- A Castro in charge of Cuba (1959)
- One Hundred and One Dalmatians* (1961)

**John McCain**  
b. August 29, 1936



## ...But Younger Than John McCain

*Peter Kauffmann is the original maverick.*

## Popsicle Freshmen For Sale!

With the first snows of the year upon us, it is time for a most wonderful event- popsicle freshman sales! Unlike the selling of freshmen a few years ago for firewood, this year's sale promises to be much more successful and result in fewer lawsuits.

Have you seen freshmen walking across the Drillfield practically naked? Is their hair wet after coming out of the shower, resulting in frozen hair? Are they dressed like eskimoes (come on, you know what they look like- Ugg boots, miniskirts, and sometimes, if smarter than most, leggings on in between)?

These are just a few of the varieties of freshmen popsicles that will be available for purchase this year. Other varieties include Corp of Cadets freshman (without a coat because the Corp screwed up again and forgot to order them), bicycler with frostbitten hands (your mom was right to pack gloves in your boxes at fall break), and my personal favorite, displaced southern, complete with shorts, flip flops, a t-shirt, and iced tea.



*This outfit only keeps you warm if you're a cartoon.*

These fine specimens will be on sale this week on the Drillfield or at Schiffert Health Center. If you don't want to become a sale item, I recommend coats, gloves, scarves, and a big cup of hot chocolate. Happy coldness!

*Kari Adkins loves cold weather and is considering moving to Canada.*

### DID YOU KNOW...

... that Hillpress can be viewed online at [hillcrest.peterpages.net](http://hillcrest.peterpages.net) ???

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