

the water tower.

uvm's alternative newsmag



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having the *trip of your life*

aka literally what am i doing? expedia help!

by lauragreenwood

The text I received from my mother this past week reads like this: "Just arrives in Istanbul Big cargo and tanker ship cross the landing strip in the water Lots of women in head scarves Male employee yelling at female employee then grab her walkie talkie from her"

Looking past the lack of punctuation and the choppy thoughts, I read my mom's text in the middle of class and instantly worried that she didn't know her data plan was roaming in Turkey. In her late 50s, alone, and determined, the woman who put up with my crazy brothers, my father, and me, got the cajones to hop in a plane and go on an adventure across the world. Why you may ask? Simply, because she really wanted to do and no one would convince her otherwise. No matter the flack we gave her, or the reluctance of my father to join, my mother booked a flight and flew to a country where she didn't speak the language and only knew one person there.

My mom's trip comes at an interesting time since, not so long ago, I made plans to go on a similar journey. I stopped tiptoeing around the idea of my best friend and bought two flights, one in and one out, for this summer to Europe. I have no idea what I'm doing. I'm twenty, only proficient in Spanish and English, I suck at packing, and I mostly hate going forward without a plan. I think my mom and I, two women at completely different stages of our lives, may be embarking on the trips of our lives.

Taking the "trip of your lifetime" has some peculiar implications in the phrase itself. I think most of us picture some massive-scale, Disneyland-firework, trumpets-blowing journey that ignites your soul as you bravely traverse across exotic (and of course gorgeous) terrain: It's backpacking across Europe with no destination and maybe casually running into some divine

European lover who has no priorities in life but doting over you while eating macaroons. Or maybe it's somewhere in South East Asia sitting ocean side with endless clear blue waters, your feet dangling off a weathered dock and your mind at peace. No, surely it has to be in a rainforest, sweat pouring out of you as you are face to face with a tiger elephant snake beast of the wild, and the primordial challenge causes an instantaneous life changing epiphany. The "trip of your lifetime" will be epic and surely you'll never look at life the same way after it happens.

I've been lucky enough to travel a lot as a kid and young adult. Each time I fly somewhere new the trip is as great as the last and I become newly convinced that "no, no, no this one HAS to be THE trip of my life", the pièce de résistance of my life's work. At the age of five, I could have sworn that getting my face painted at Legoland in Denmark while wearing my favorite elephant zoo t-shirt was the absolute best moment of my life. I was at fucking Legoland, dammit. It can't get better. But, then I think about cresting over that endless hill after a week of hiking the Dingle Peninsula in Ireland. I was happy, I felt healthy, and I was in a place that felt like home. Life can't get any better, right? Now as I look back, I am struck by how much each of those trips has felt like THE GREATEST. Have I already had my trip-of-all-trips, my one journey that will define my soul and inspire me for the rest of...well, ever?



marilyn mora

My next trip is in a little less than two months and to say I'm anxious is an understatement. For once, I am just going to trust that, despite no clear itinerary, us, two girls will make our entrance to Turkey and departure from Morocco in one piece and (hopefully) on time. What happens in between those two places is uncertain right now, but, unlike my stressful panicky rituals during finals or my meticulous tracking of my bank account, I'm

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just going to go with this one. I'm not sure exactly why I'm so calm about Europe. I'm not an expert on traveling and, since the one time I flew alone on an airplane the woman next to me was arrested, I don't think I have the best track record. I think this adventure is just coming at the right time in my life, where I'm antsy to break away from my usual routine of apartment to class to work to apartment and just have faith in my own independence. I don't throw this word around lightly, but I'm feeling like go head first into this trip is one of the more courageous things I've done.

My mom just got home from Azerbaijan last night after having experienced airport strikes, flights cancelled, and many confused taxi drivers who only spoke Arabic.

She was there for a wedding, where there were five-hundred guests, endless rounds of vodka shots, extravagant traditional garb—oh and my eccentric mother who loves to dance and voice carries loudly. According to my dad, the groom unexpectedly posted her up in a gorgeous hotel where she dined like an Arabic princess. Also according to my dad, my mom found a bunch of the groom's college friends and proceeded to do college-like shots on shots of acrid vodka until she was undoubtedly sloshed. My mother is not a shy woman. I don't know what to expect in Europe, but then again neither did my mom in Azerbaijan and she made it out relatively unscathed with just a nagging hangover.

What I have learned from my mother's trip and from daydreams of my trip to come is that the trip of your lifetime doesn't have a strict deadline or destination. If you had told my mom back in college that she'd be going to Caucasia, I'd expect she would have said, "No thank you, reroute me to Germany". Or if you had told her when I was a kid, she would have said, "What? Why? I'll take a trip to the Caribbean instead." I think less hype needs to be attached to the journeys we embark on. Whether you're old or young, going across the country or across the world, every trip will feel like the most amazing one yet if you go in with a clean slate and an open mind, ready for whatever comes next. I'm flying alone, determined, and probably stupidly blind to Europe and I'm just going to go with it. I have faith that this trip won't be my last, but for now that it will be THE GREATEST. ■

get
inside
me

protests, an american
tradition
by daveanderson

dorm life
by wesdunn

horoscopes
by jessebaum

core review
by staff

the best news team in the universe.



a letter from the editors

Dear readers,

You may be a little confused by the layout this week and wondering what the hell happened to the paper you know and love?!?!?

Don't worry folks! We had a clusterfuck of technical difficulties this past weekend as we went to put this week's issue together, so we had to resort to using a program released in 2007 on a computer still running OS 10.4. In short, nothing went our way and there was a moment where we didn't think we would be bringing you a paper this week.

But we're a dedicated bunch, and through sheer force of will we present to you the first post-April Fool's Day issue. Next week we should be back to our normal programming (and layout...) so keep your eyes open! Thanks for sticking with us, readers, we couldn't do it without you.

Much love,
The Eds

the shit list with mikestorage

Police Officers: Ok so I understand the need to restore peace, justice, and order in Vermont's largest "city." But does the Burlington Police Department really need the assistance of the Department of Liquor Control to patrol routine house parties.

21-Year Old Drinking Age: I know that this issue has been addressed countless times, but the illogic of this heightened drinking age continues to astound me. The United States is one of seven countries in the entire world with a 21-year old drinking age, tucked amongst the ranks of Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, and Sri Lanka. That leaves everyone else with a normal drinking age, and leaves me still pissed off.

Summer Plans: The age-old "What should I do with my life?" question rears its ugly head once again for the umpteenth time. This version includes, "How should I spend my summer in a way that I can make money in my actual career field" and "How the hell haven't I found a job yet?"

Group Projects: I get it. We're supposed to learn how to work together and solve problems jointly. While that's all fine and good in theory, in reality group projects are just another way to torture us by forcing us to deal with 4 other schedules on top of our own, right in the middle of finals prep. Cause that's such a good idea, right? ■

the water tower.

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the news in brief

with mikestorage

"This senseless vigilante style attack is not the essence of who we are as Detroiters and will not be tolerated."

-**Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan and City Council President Brenda Jones**, issued this joint statement after a conflict between Steve Utash and a mob of Detroiters left Utash in the hospital in critical condition. Utash accidentally hit 10-year old David Harris with his truck, which resulted in the child's broken leg and the angry mob.

"Vladimir is a person who in many ways viewed America as an enemy. I tried, of course, to dispel him of that notion."

-**Former President George W. Bush**, made the statement about the Russian leader in order to generate publicity for his exhibit that has gone on display in the George Bush Presidential Library and Museum in College Station, Texas. The exhibit features twenty-four paintings of world leaders, including a spectacular one of Putin, that Bush conducted business with during his term of office.

"The myth that this hunt was in any way scientific can now be dismissed once and for all."

-**Willie MacKenzie**, the Greenpeace activist made this comment in response to the United Nation's International Court of Justice order that Japan stop its whaling expeditions in the Antarctic. Japan has claimed that the expeditions are for scientific purposes, but many have believed that the real motive of these expeditions is commercial whaling.

"The Nigerian population is not better off tomorrow because of that announcement. It doesn't put more money in the bank, more food in their stomach. It changes nothing"

-**Nigerian economist Bismarck Rewane**, made this statement based on the recent news that Nigeria officially has the largest GDP in the continent of Africa. The newly accounted \$509.9 billion includes new sectors such as telecoms, airlines information technology, music, and film production and places South Africa in second place with \$370.3 billion. ■

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join the wt.

New writers and artists
are always welcome

Weekly meetings

Tuesdays at 7:30pm

Williams Family Room

Davis Center - 4th Floor

Or send us an email

Our generation stands at a crossroads. As we walk through a world ever connected to a thunderstorm of news and reflection, we risk losing the ability to think for ourselves. **the water tower** is for us non-thinkers. We provide witty and sometimes outlandish opinions so that you don't have to come up with them yourselves. We can't promise that you will agree with everything that we say, but you will respect the tenacity we have to say it. Every once in a while we will generate something that is truly thought provoking. We are the reason people can't wait for Tuesday. We are **the water tower**.

protests a great american tradition

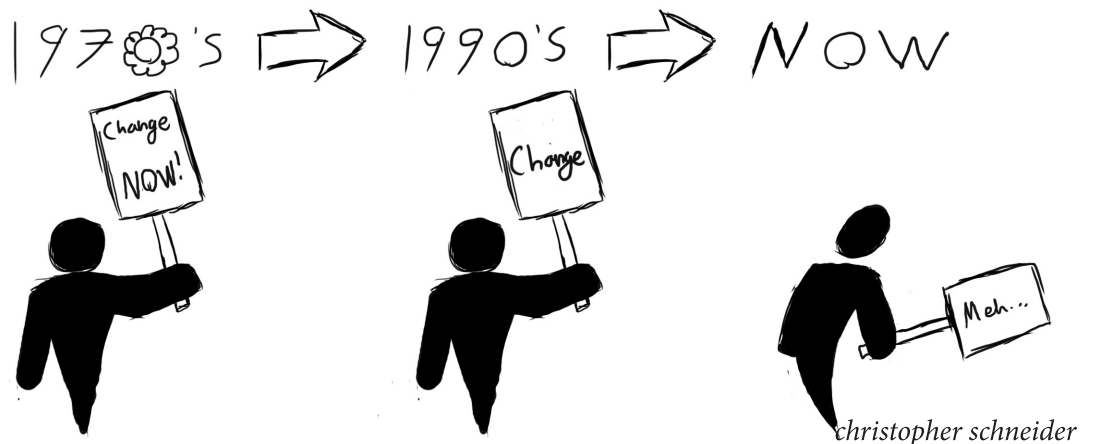
by daveanderson

On April 2, protests took place in Maoming, China over the installation of a pyroxene petrochemical plant. The citizens are concerned with possible environmental and health hazards and although they do not have a right to protest without permits, they did it anyway. Eventually the police cracked down on the protest and it turned violent. There were no casualties but several protestors were injured, it is unclear if any police officers were injured. Despite the violence at the protests, they seemed to accomplish something; the local government released a statement that they will take the public's opinion into consideration before commissioning the plant. Although only time will tell if the public's opinion means enough to the Chinese officials, this is a classic example of the power of assembly, a real American tradition.

It's tough to argue that the art of protest is not engrained in American culture, hell it's in the very first amendment which we all know is the best. Something that should make us worry as citizens of the United States is that we're losing our position as a protesting powerhouse. Protests used to get shit done, that's what we loved about them. Now American protests are a shade of the great assemblies in the 20th century, from the civil rights movement to anti-war Vietnam protests, we used to get loud and people used to listen.

The most recent American protest that I read about was a peaceful protest outside of the White House to convince President Obama to not sign off on the Keystone XL pipeline. How did that end? With the arrest of several hundred Georgetown students and other youth for "obstructing the sidewalk." Looking back at history, protests in the U.S. seem to be getting less and less effective. Even Occupy Wall Street, a massive movement that dominated the streets of New York City for months, received more arrests on protestors than corrupt bankers. It seems that the only movements that can gain any traction are those backed by big money such as the Tea Party.

Going back to the Keystone protest, the arrests of these students in a non-violent demonstration was an ugly situation on both sides, many students handcuffed them-



"hell, we can get riots going when uconn wins a basketball game but we can't be bothered to lift a finger when the supreme court rules that corporations can freely contribute to campaigns or even when the government literally shuts down."

selves to the gates, yet it's debatable if that should really deserve police intervention. It is easy to shrug this off as just some hippy kids (ignoring the fact that most go to Georgetown) being shut up in front of our capitol, but it is essential that we pay attention to this. It is important that our right to protest is respected. The American people are having less and less influence in our own politics, the new voice of the American people is the lobbyist, and the only people they are listening to are corporations.

Unfortunately the integrity of protest is eroding. Hell, we can get riots going when UConn wins a basketball game but we can't be bothered to lift a finger when the Supreme Court rules that corporations can freely contribute to campaigns or even when the government literally shuts down. I am not saying we should all go out and start violence, but we need to make our voices heard. We university students must realize that we are no longer in the back seat when it comes to politics. The youth are the future of this country and we are losing our voice to corruption, lobbyists and Congress. We have been too passive about some really serious issues and it is important that we make our voices heard publicly. ■

mr. putin

by dustineager

tear down this wall

Last week, the 28 members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) convened in Brussels, Belgium for the first time since the Russian annexation of the Crimean peninsula. NATO issued a statement that it will "suspend all practical civilian and military cooperation", in light of recent events. Russia's annexation of Crimea and subsequent troop buildup on the Russia - Ukraine border have led to the worst crisis in East - West relations since the end of the Cold War two decades ago.

U.S. Air Force Gen. Phillip Breedlove, the top NATO commander in Europe, has called the buildup of approximately 40,000 Russian troops on the Ukrainian border "incredibly concerning". NATO has estimated that the force is "capable and ready", and could achieve an "incursion" into Ukraine in a matter of 3 to 5 days if the decision were made to do so. NATO experts envision a tour de force by a new and improved Russian military, with Vladimir Putin personally leading the charge on horseback. Meanwhile, NATO countries have been augmenting military forces in Eastern Europe. The U.S. and other NATO member states have agreed to send more assets and hold more exercises in the region, as well as examining a possible "re-posturing" of long term strategy in the region. The NATO response stopped short of calls by Poland for a larger permanent military force to be based there. It looks like Poland is stuck in the middle of another dispute between regional powers. Russia's permanent representative to NATO Alexander Grushko said in a statement on April 2nd that NATO was interested in maintaining political contacts despite a cessation of military cooperation. Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov told the Interfax news agency that U.S. policy makers need to "calm down, maybe do some yoga and accept that Crimea is now part of Russia."

The Russian annexation of the Crimean peninsula is a complicated subject. In the West, it is depicted as a blatant violation of Ukrainian sovereignty by a leader with more ambitious regional designs. Russian (super) president Vladimir Putin is painted as an opportunist and a liar. He is accused of seizing upon an unstable political situation in Ukraine as a pretext to claim part of its territory. Russian claims of the need to protect ethnic Russians in Crimea are depicted as overblown or fabricated. An estimated 40 to 60 percent of the population of Crimea are ethnic Russians. It seems feasible that not everyone living on the peninsula was happy about the way the borders were re-drawn following the collapse of the Soviet Union. In light of the total success of the post WWI

re-alignment of political borders, these developments were completely and totally unexpected by Western policy makers.

Western leaders have criticized the Crimea annexation as unwarranted, aggressive, and part of puppet master Putin's grand regional scheme. Viewed from the standpoint of its implications for Russian geopolitical interests, it was a brilliant maneuver of which Machiavelli would be proud. Crimea is home to the Russian Navy's Black Sea fleet, which will be now kept there without a concession of lower natural gas prices to Ukraine. Due to a confluence of circumstances - the ethnic Russian population in Crimea, political instability in Ukraine, a weakening united policy front on the part of NATO in recent years - Russia was able to annex the peninsula without serious repercussion from the West. When Mr. Putin assumed the Presidency in 2000, his stated objective was to return Russia to the position of global prominence that it had so sorely lacked following the collapse of the Soviet Union. The annexation of Crimea serves that end from both a rhetorical and practical geopolitical standpoint.

The talks underway between U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry and Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov have shifted away from the idea of reversing the Crimean annexation to de-escalating the military standoff on the Ukrainian border, suggesting that it may be accepted at the negotiating table as fait-accompli. Whether Crimea remains a part of Russia, or Mr. Putin has immediate plans to invade other areas in Eastern Europe (Moldova? Finland?) is unknown.

When studying the Russian government, there are only two numbers that you really need to remember. There are 89 (90 if you count Crimea) subnational units in the Russian Federation, and Putin is number 1. The system of super-presidentialism that has emerged under Mr. Putin makes him completely responsible for Russia's next move in the standoff at hand. Not only is he the face of the nation, but there is not a shadow of a doubt who is calling the shots on foreign policy. Whether or not the NATO response to recent events is an overreaction or not is not relevant to what happens next. Only Mr. Putin has the authority to take the necessary actions to de-escalate the international crisis at hand. If he has no further regional designs, as is his claim, he should take action to avert the deterioration of relations between Russia and the West that has people talking about a new Cold War. ■

around town

that good ol' dorm life

things to *think about* as you move *off-campus*

by wesdunn

As we transitioned into April recently, I realized that this is my last month living in the dorms. First reaction? Hell yeah! I can't wait to move into an apartment, forsaking Sodexo, shared showers, late night parties when you're trying to study, bass booming from the room next door... This is what I've been waiting for since coming to UVM. Having lived on my own for a couple years before college, dorms felt like a bit of a regression – no more cooking all the time, walking around constantly nude, having incense and candles, stuff like that. Finally, I can feel like a bit more of an adult!

But then I started to think about the things I'm going to miss, and that I'm going to hold onto tightly for this last month. We can certainly complain a lot about them, but when it comes down to it, dorms are pretty amazing. When else in our lives are we going to be surrounded by thousands of people our age (sexy and often available people at that), with easy food prepaid food right nearby? Occasional free food events and movies, laundry right there, no responsibility for cleaning anything other than the area around your desk basically, free condoms always accessible... guys, this is a pretty freaking great deal. You get to (are kind of forced to, I suppose) meet all sorts of people in dorms. While you probably don't get along with many in the end, a lot of people make really good friends with those they live with and near. It's a high intensity, unreal experience. Dorms are where all the exploration and experimentation (sexual, illicit and otherwise) of freshman year hits its peak. They are one of our best opportunities to live communally, to unabashedly eat

copious amounts of microwave food, to simply not have to think that much about the realities of housing.

Speaking from my experience in high school, and as many upperclassmen can likely attest, the world of independent living outside dorms is very different. There are bills. There is a lot of cleaning. Like seriously, you could do nothing and still probably have to clean the fucking place at least bi-weekly. Food doesn't materialize when you're hungry – you have to buy it, prepare it and preserve it. Rainy and cold outside? Too bad, if you want to

“rainy and cold outside? *too bad*, if you want to eat something other than *that old leftover potato thing* in the back of the fridge, you better get your ass over to the store...”

eat something other than that old leftover potato thing in the back of the fridge, you better get your ass over to the store...

These just aren't things we have to think about in the dorms. Everything you need (and most things you want) is right there. Classes and all other university things are close by, and the UVM bus system doesn't go on strike

so you don't really have to worry about getting around. Food, transportation, maintenance, bills – these aren't really a concern in dorms.

This lets you have a very different schedule than you might otherwise. If your classes are all over the place and at wildly different times, that's not much of a problem. Bad weather doesn't factor as much in your decisions about what to do with your day. Not having to acquire and prepare food is huge. I personally love food being a preeminent part of my life, but I also know that the schedule I've been keeping for the last two years would never work if I wasn't able to grab food instantly, pretty much whenever. I simply wouldn't be able to do as many things – I wouldn't be as flexible.

When you live in a dorm, trying out new clubs and going to events and meetings takes hardly a second thought, which is awesome. Off campus, you've got to keep a lot of things together, and your time is going to be limited by that. Think getting out of bed to go to class is hard? Try getting out of bed, making oatmeal, boiling over the pot because you didn't make coffee yet, cleaning the stovetop while starting coffee going, getting everything into the appropriate bowls and cups,

then cleaning everything, then missing the bus because that took too long, then walking 20 minutes or more to be late to class. Don't get me wrong, I can't wait to move off campus; I'm ready. But I'm also very grateful in a certain way for the very unique experience of the dorms, and urge those of you with another year to go to enjoy it while it lasts. ■

an ode to *mud season*

by jessebaum

Finally! I thought as I wrestled my bike out of its tangle in the bike room. The sky was a pure bright blue, it was a balmy 45 degrees outside, and I was biking along East Avenue en route to Trinity, where dreams come true. But as I serenely watched the crusty, filthy snowbanks on the curb melting into swift rivulets under the sun, a car pulled past me and drenched me in... gutter sludge. Sufficiently irritated, I retreated to pedaling slowly on the narrow sidewalks, cutting over soggy lawns to avoid puddles the size of Lake George. Yep, Mud Season had arrived.

For the uninitiated, spring is a festive time at our fair Groovy UV: a time for girls in colorful skirts to sunbathe in the grass and boys to break out their most cherished hacky sack. It is a time when we can relish the sun on our faces and forget being hunched over in the cold, scuttling from building to building in the dark, depressing mornings. However, here in Vermont real spring is preceded by heavy rains, 4-loko-level-crazy temperature fluctuations, and a very waterlogged campus.

Like many sequels, Mud Season is hotly anticipated, *almost* good, but sucks. It's tantalizingly warmer... until it rains. The snow melts and you can see bare earth again... only it's the consistency of that pint of Ben and Jerry's that you stuck in the mini-fridge,

forgetting that your fridge was not up to the task. And no pair of boots is safe.

There are some perks, of course to this George H. Bush of a season (so called because it is sandwiched between two far more memorable things): the days get longer, the first thunderstorm hits the mountains, and if you have nothing better to do you can go out to the golf course and make a mudslide. Actually, you should do that even if you

have things on your plate. Best of all is when it rains for the first few times rather than snowing; you get the soothing sound of rain, finally, and the rich petrichor that comes from the ground (interestingly, petrichor, the smell that comes after it rains, is actually caused by the bacteria in the earth that is churned up, not from the actual rain. And now you know.) However, you'll be sick of the rain (and the salt and grit caked to your jeans) before it's gone for good.

I thought about this as I biked home, with more of Mud Season's iconic slurry drying on my jacket. If we're gonna be Zen here, we could say that the mud season makes the following season all the more sweet. If we're gonna be frank, we could say that mud season is a cold mess that lives up to its name. And if we're gonna be Real Vermonters, we should just say 'fuck it' and break out our shorts anyway. ■

“and if we're gonna be *real vermonters*, we should just say '*fuck it*' and *break out our shorts anyway*.”

happy hour: *my so called life* by katjaritchie

This cult classic may have only run for one season in our infancy, but goddamn if anything can capture the slings and arrows of high school heartbreak better than Angela Chase in all her floral-print, inner monologue glory. The good news? All 18 episodes are at the internet's disposal, making this a perfect opportunity for one hell of a throwback night you'll never remember. The bad news? Yeah, only 18 episodes. The world may never know what happened to poor Brian Krakow's love letter, or his love triangle between Angela and the enigma that is Jordan Catalano (you beautiful, grungy bastard), but at least the WT can help you relive the glory days of 1994.

Take a drink when:

- Angela begins an interior monologue
- Sharon has sex with Kyle
- Rickie is seen in the girl's bathroom
- Jordan Catalano leans (he leans good.)
- Rayanne offhandedly mentions something shocking (generally related to her partying/unstable home life)

Finish your drink when:

- Parent sex happens
- TINO (self-explanatory)
- Danielle makes a cutting comment that briefly shatters Angela's emotions
- There is sexual tension between Graham and Hallie the homewrecker that makes you want to stab something

Pour one out for Rayanne's OD episode/subsequent foray into sobriety.

4

-addendum: drink twice if whatever Rayanne says just makes you want to party with her

it's that time of year again.... *prepping for nbr*

by wesdunn

We've entered the month of April, and it will soon be time to take your last class of the semester and celebrate by running around naked! Not all of us are as comfortable with this cherished UVM tradition – what if we're not looking our best when we bare all for thousands of our peers? Worry not, friends – here are some workout tips for the month ahead to get you looking sexy come NBR night.

First of all, though we call it the “naked bike ride,” most of us are going to be running. If you want to keep up with the crowd and be able to move the next day, you're going to want to get some running in. I recommend:

- At least 3 runs a week, long as you like and even-paced. Running a solid 5K is probably a good idea, but just getting out there regularly is what's important.
- Do some fast sprints. the NBR features a lot of choke points, where it's important to be able to pick up your speed quickly so you don't get trampled. Keep jogging until you feel your breath coming back and then do it again, for as long as you can.
- Hill sprints. I recommend Cliff Street, at the edge of Redstone campus. Run hard up the hill, jog back down, and repeat until you're kinda sad.

Alright, so running is great, but we want potential mates to be awestruck by our glistening abs and toned arms, right?

You could hit the gym and lift weights and stuff, but if you aren't already doing that you probably won't start now. Here are some simple things you can do:

- Planks! Act like you're getting into a push-up position, but instead of putting your weight on your outstretched hands, bend your arms and have your elbows on the ground. Keep your back straight and just hold it. Try it for a minute and then take it from there.
- Brupees! The worst thing ever, but great for yo body. Do a pushup, but instead of doing a second pushup, stand all the way up and do a jumping jack, then hit the floor again for another push-up. Try to do this 10 times, and work your way up from there.
- Push-ups and sit-ups. Can't go wrong here.

Finally, some very NBR-specific training tips. Highly effective and sure to get you ready for the big night.

- Sex. Intercourse, heavy petting whatever – just grab an enthusiastically consenting friend and get sexual! (If that's your jam) It's a really great workout and gets you prepared for crucial nudity aspect of the event.
- Practice public nudity. This can be done pretty much anywhere. Start small, in your dorm or something, then upgrade to the walk to class, your grocery run downtown, stuff like that. Your boy is beautiful and becoming comfortable with that is very important for NBR success
- Drawing/Painting Class. If you can take some sort of crash course drawing or painting class, or even just watch some YouTube tutorials, this can give you a big let up when it comes time to apply the body paint. While others are settling for flowers and crappy American flags, your friends will be flocking to you to give them that cutting-edge flair that will make them stand out! Personal opinion: the more sparkles the better. Clip on bowties and masquerade masks are also grand.

With these preparations, your NBR experience is sure to be unforgettable! Unless of course you are under the influence, in which case it will hopefully be momentarily enjoyable! Be safe, have fun and enjoy one of the best opportunities this in relatively mainstream setting to be nude in public! ■



julianna roen

what's that noise? *just seven sounds music festival*

by kevinbloom

I am writing to the **Water Tower** to both shamelessly self promote and to explain why the Seven Sounds festival is different from everything else on-campus. The Seven Sounds lineup is comprised entirely of UVM students, faculty, and staff. These musicians, poets, visual artists, fashion designers + models, and masters of grilled cheese will all be joining forces for one day, in one place, with no price of admission.

Bible Camp Sleepovers will be both awake and on the main stage at 5. Squimley and the Woolens will begin melting brains with mountainous jams from their new album *10,000 Fire Jellyfish* at 9. Come early and stick around to catch more great UVM bands.

Dan Fogel, UVM's 25th president, as well as Charlie Cunningham, the master guru behind the Marketplace falafel and many more will be reading poetry between musical acts. You may have heard Charlie recite E. A. Poe while masterfully rolling your falafel on a Thursday, but for his set at Seven Sounds, Charlie will be reading original poetry and displaying original glasswork mosaics (alongside over a dozen other UVM visual artists).

Mysteriously, April 12 happens to align with the phase of the moon that signifies National Grilled Cheese Day. On such High Holiday, it is only fitting that FeelGood will be in attendance.

UVM Fashion Club has been working with Burlington Dress for success to create recycled clothing from their unfit-for-use donations, with a runway show starting at 2:30.

Somewhere exists an artist whose mind must be moving at some incredible speed.

Believe it or not, there exists many of these artists that share your steps walking, sometimes running late to class.

UVM is a strange place where many artist minds are hidden in plain sight. For such a zone, high in density of artist brains, one would think they would gather, say once a year, to assemble as one.

Seven Sounds will be that assembly and exists to empower these artist brains among us to help create not-for-profit positive change. Prints of each visual artists work will be for sale and 100% of all proceeds from each sale will be donated to a registered 501(c)3 of each artists choice. The artist knows where that money can do the most good.

From what petri dish did this newfangled festival grow? Seven Sounds is 100% student run, organized, and staffed; made by people who live around here to share with anyone who feels like stopping by. About fifty students will be volunteering their time; without their help, this first year festival would not have been able to happen. Be there, be a part of making this new festival a UVM staple. . ■

LIVING AND LEARNING CENTER

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reflections.



the grand budapest hotel

by mikestorage

a review of wes anderson's newest film

All Hail Wes Anderson and his quirky, wry humor and bizarrely wacky dialogue! *The Grand Budapest Hotel* marks his eighth directing project. Of course, Anderson also wrote the screenplay for this picture. Featuring a riveting story line, Grand Budapest Hotel may be the most entertaining Anderson installment to date.

I have never seen a more packed house at Merrill's Roxy Cinema than on the opening weekend of *The Grand Budapest Hotel*. My first intention was to watch the 7 PM film, but it was completely sold out, so I bought tickets for the next showing and made sure I got there early. Good thing I did, because there wasn't an empty seat in the entire theatre.

The plots of Wes Anderson movies are almost irrelevant to their actual content, however *The Grand Budapest Hotel* features a fast-paced plot. This is highly unusual compared to most Anderson movies. Usually his movies are leisurely paced, and filled more with witty dialogue than action scenes. I don't want to spoil anything, so I will spare the details, but the highlights of Grand Budapest's action include murder(s), betrayal, and an incredibly entertaining mountainous chase scene.

The basic plot of the movie follows the outrageous story of infamous concierge, M. Gustave, at a famous hotel in the mountains of Budapest, Hungary. This mysterious man befriends a lobby boy in the hotel named Zero Moustafa. The two encounter some interesting things after M. Gustave is bequeathed the famous painting *Boy with Apple* by one of his past lovers. The movie takes place in between

the World War I and II, and much the movie portrays much the racial tension between European countries that existed during that time.

Characterization may be the strongest feature of Anderson's films, and it certainly reveals itself in *Grand Budapest*. The most important character in the film is M. Gustave, and the dynamics of his friendship with Zero are really fun to observe. Another interesting, and entertaining, characteristic of M. Gustave is his manner of interaction with those around him. Gustave exudes an aura of superiority, and his curt demeanor is incredibly witty.

Some of the most entertaining parts of *Grand Budapest* are the appearances of a plethora of famous actors. The casting in this movie is superb, and everyone plays his or her role perfectly. The movie features Jeff Goldblum, William Dafoe, Jason Schwartzman, Edward Norton, Harvey Keitel, Adrien Brody, and Jude Law. All of these actors shape the film with their diverse rolls that they play.

The *Grand Budapest Hotel* has rapidly risen to the top of the rankings in my personal list of favorite Wes Anderson films. It is clever and unpredictable. It is an amazing movie, but I'm not sure if it can top the likes of *Life Aquatic* and *The Royal Tenenbaums*.

Rating: 9/10

"my first intention was to watch the 7 PM film, but it was **completely sold out**, so I bought tickets for the next showing and made sure I **got there early**. good thing I did, because there **wasn't an empty seat** in the entire theatre."



hannah montgomery

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Jenna
Political Science '14

you're future is in the stars

by jessebaum

A note to the reader- enclosed you will find a (somewhat) personalized forecast based on the heavens. You will see that I have written prophesies only about the original twelve signs, without including the newest (thirteenth) sign, Ophiuchus. I did not do this to ignore those that believe that the sign encompasses their true spirit and personality; I did it because the thirteenth sign is a myth put forth by crackpots.

Aries (March 21- April 19) There will be an important lunar eclipse Monday night (April 14-15th), so get ready for something unpleasantly earthshattering, such as the cancellation of a favorite show. Use this calm before the storm to reflect on life's sad, fleeting nature, even as we move into the more forgiving months. Winter may be going, but valar morghulis all the same. On an unrelated note, my Aries pals, if you haven't been watching *Game of Thrones* you need to take that self-reflection to a new level.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) Due to the arrangement of Uranus and Pluto in the sky, change is coming, Taurans. Fucking run. Change is the worst, even if it is just your friend from down the hall getting a haircut, so rest assured that this shift, no matter what it will be, will prove difficult to adjust to. You might find that your favorite Dirty Brennan's chef is working new hours, or that one of your best-loved cereal has been reformulated. All I can say is that life will (most likely) go on.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) Because of the alignment of Jupiter this month, you will be surrounded by interesting people, so know that you (already a twin) will have an even harder time standing out. Try taking yourself to a venue where you know the company will be dull, such as Horticulture club, or chess club if you're feeling daring.

Cancer (June 21-july 22) The peculiar nature of Uranus right now means it's probably time to change your major. Who are you kidding anyway? I mean... really. The only other advice I can offer is to look for long term solutions to your problems- a new tattoo, hair color or going up a gauge size is usually the way to go.

Leo (July 23-August 22) Good things are on the horizon. Maybe it's free cone day! However, if you are reading this after April 8th, you are too late. Sorry. However, because of the pull of Venus, all of your ingrown hairs and acne will be gone with two weeks to spare before the Naked Bike Ride. The rest of the horoscope salutes you.

Virgo (August 23-September 22) Stop spending money! If your roomie owes you for the Jägermeister that the two of you decided to split earlier in the semester, threaten to break their legs if they do not cough up your cash, post haste. The eclipse on the night of April 14th will cause additional strife creating further disputes between you and your roommates over the dirty dishes situation. And it's a real shame, because Virgos already have it rough, being the George Michael Bluth of the horoscope. My sincerest apologies.

Libra (September 23-October 22) Everyone fucking loves a Libra. Why don't you all take a day off? Too bad you can't, as you will be very busy in the week to come... almost painfully so. This is because Pluto is having some fun with you. Remember though, free time is important... So try to catch glimpses of those lucky bastards that have some.

Scorpio (October 23- November 21) Things are going down, as you well know. Rather than be proactive about these changes, however, it might be more fun to take a passive roll and watch the craziness ensue.

Sagittarius (Nov 22-December 21) Mars is in retrograde, so... don't even get out of bed. Seriously, what is the point of it all? It's time to reread *Marley and Me* and have a good cry when you are alone. However, the influence of Mercury means that doing shrooms is a good idea this weekend, so maybe when you're done with the sad stuff you can give your friend who knows a guy a call.

Capricorn (Dec 22- January 19) Damn, you need to shake things up! This is due to the influence of Io, one of Saturn's moons, on your pet fish. If you've been hitting on your TA, hit harder. Clean your room a bit, and rip some creative holes into your sheets. And if you've been working out, for fuck's sake stop making the rest of us look bad. And just a warning, you are going to have an INSANE Friday. Now you know.

fork it over

of core-se it's delicious!

ben and jerry's new core flavors

by mikestorace

Hooray for Ben & Jerry's Free Cone Day!!! That's right everybody, today is the day I have been waiting for all year. The day I get to eat the most quality ice cream for the FREE. Ben & Jerry's (owned by Unilever) is the best company with the brightest ice cream ideas.

On top of free cone day, BJ's has recently unveiled a lineup of CORE Ice Cream Flavors. These four stunning new pints feature two brilliant ice cream flavors wrapped around a solid fudge center.

The best of these flavors is clearly Peanut Butter Fudge. For anyone who enjoys the amazing flavors of a peanut butter cup (umm everyone...?), than this is the flavor of ice cream for you. The two featured in this CORE are classic chocolate and a savory peanut

butter. I am not usually a huge fan of peanut butter ice cream, but Ben & Jerry's PB flavor possesses the perfect level of sweetness to inspire a waltz from my taste buds. The center of this CORE is pure fudge, which is everything that I could have ever asked for. Now what peanut butter ice cream flavor would be complete without peanut butter cups? Your answers have been solved by the genius minds behind Ben & Jerry, because this pint features sporadically placed peanut butter cups to dazzle and wonder all that eat it.

Unfortunately, you will not be able to eat CORE flavors on Free Cone Day. However, you will be able to buy some of the individual flavors within the COREs. Check out Hazed and Confused and Salted Caramel Blondie. Don't worry you can get back into line as many times as you want. ■

that's my jam!

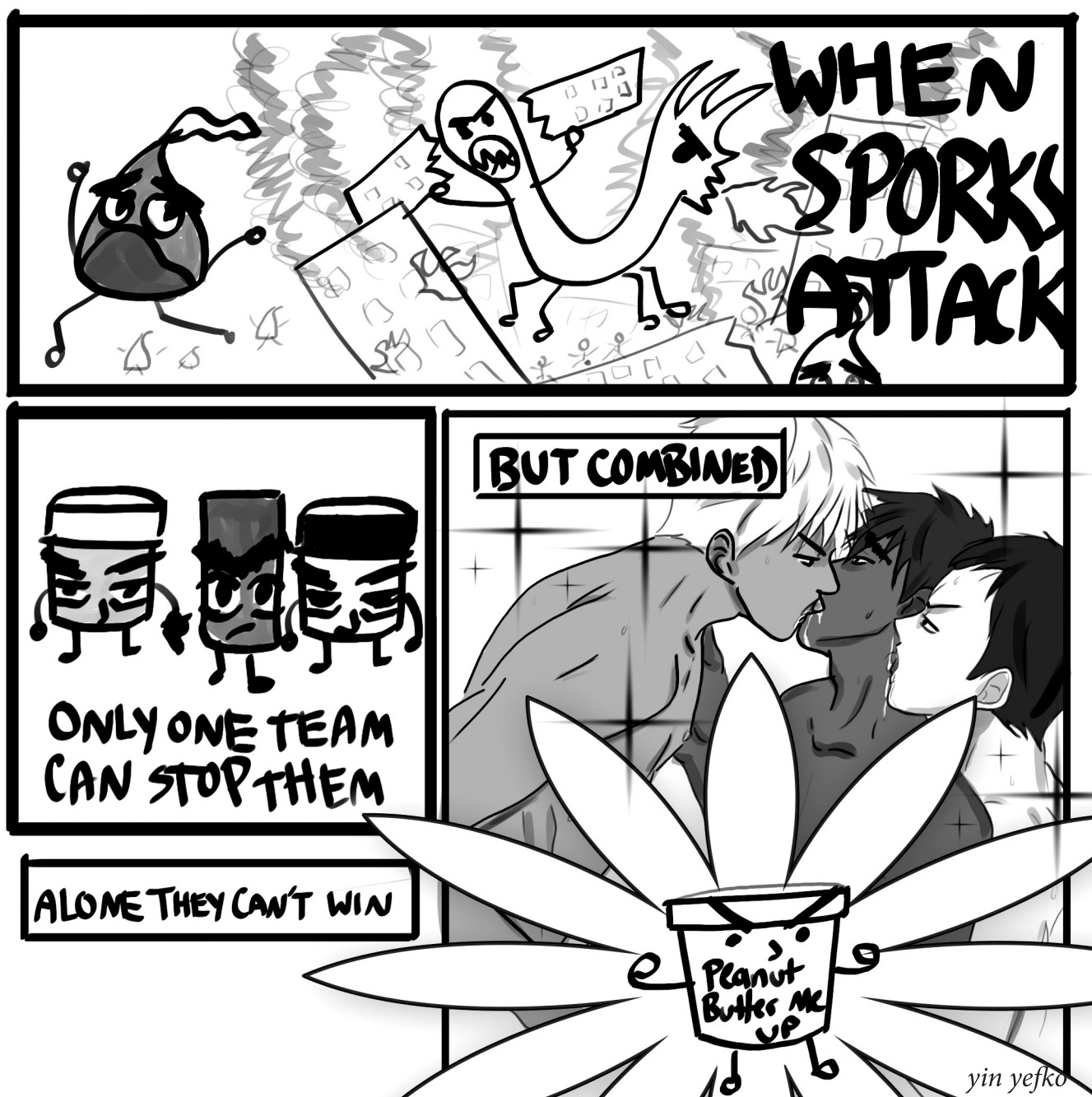
(but it may not be yours and that's totally ok too)

by mollyo'shea

The Raspberry CORE is the ultimate flavor combination! It combines refreshing, fruitful raspberry and rich creamy chocolate. Only one thing could make this combination any better: a raspberry jam CORE. That's my Jam is one of Ben and Jerry's new core flavors, and it is legen- wait for it -dairy (hah). For those of you who haven't heard, the core flavors from Ben and Jerry's contain two different ice cream flavors and a filling straight through the middle.

That's My Jam features raspberry ice cream with little chocolate-fudge chunks, chocolate ice cream, and a raspberry jammy/jelly CORE. Raspberry and Chocolate is a classic combination, but to be honest if you are not a fan of jam then this is not the ice cream for you. The raspberry ice cream by itself was delicious. It was light and creamy and the great little chocolate nuggets made my mouth happy. The chocolate ice cream was good too; you can't really screw up chocolate ice cream. The jam core, was by far the highlight. It was actual jam, and it was quality jam. There were even little raspberry seeds in it. The combination of jam mixed with the chocolate ice cream was mind blowing. How has no one ever thought of mixing jam and ice cream before? Or if they have, how come no one told me until now? The jam was crazy good, and even its texture was great. The best part was that it still kept its jammy consistency after being frozen. It made me wish that Ben and Jerry's sold just the raspberry jam filling so I could put it on everything.

As delicious as I thought this ice cream was, it definitely isn't for everyone. The jam has a very strong raspberry flavor, and it's jam; so if you don't like jam or raspberry this is not the core flavor for you. This core flavor is definitely one worth trying. ■



créatif stuffé.

when he won't wake up

by mikaelawaters

7:00am: The room is pretty dark except for a few champion light rays managing to fight through the blinds in the corner. Wait, but whose blinds are those? I never close my blinds. Also whose arm am I lying on...? Oh, yup, that's a male arm. Attached to a living, human male. This is weird. He's naked, whoa, and pretty hot. Ha! I'm in bed with a hot naked guy; high five, high school self. Focus. What happened last night...? Ugh, my head hurts...

9:00am: Whoa, did not mean to fall back asleep. Is he still sleeping? Yup, and taking all the fucking covers too. And the whole bed. And his mouth is completely open. Haha, he looks dumb; still hot though. Ugh, ok, I'm absurdly uncomfortable. How the hell am I supposed to sleep in this, like, one-foot space? Can other people do this? Do other people do this? I have to pee... can I get up without waking him up? Can I hold it? Nope, can't hold it. I'll just slip my right leg off the bed, then the left, suck in my breath and...woo-hoo, made it! And I'm still naked...clothing...must find clothing. Oh, there's a shirt! Nope, not mine, his. Clean? Who cares, this will work. Do I need pants? Fuck it; no pants, no problem. Haha, wait, this is gonna be so funny if I see anyone in the hallway.

9:05am: Don't know if I'm relieved or bummed I didn't see anyone in the hall. I would have been famous, like, "Bro, I saw this chick straight-up no pants in the hall this morning go back into [male name]'s room." #celebrity status. Ok, phew, I didn't wake him up, he's still totally out. Wait, fuck, he's still asleep; how do I get back into bed? Slowly...slowly...baby movements...boo-yah, we



liz stafford

are back. Wow...I'm not tired anymore; this is boring. Maybe he'll wake up if I rustle around a little bit. Nope...if I flip over? Nope... "accidentally" brush his arm? Fuck it; purposefully brush his arm, kinda like draw on him with my fingers? Aww, this is cute, I feel like I'm in a rom-com. Except he's passed the fuck out from last night's intoxication and we're not deeply in love, awakening embraced to look in each others' eyes. I should have just left last night. Whoa, my stomach just growled so loudly; do you think he heard that? Of course not, he's literally tranquilized. Ok, I'll give him ten minutes to wake up or else I'm leaving.

but I hope he texts me later. Something like, "Hey cutie, bummed when I woke up and you weren't next to me, but I had a great night. What are you doing later? I'd love to see you again." Haaa, okay there, partner, simmer down, we all know that is not gonna happen. Okay, open the door, slowly...slowly...ah, it's open. Wow, the hall is light. Is he still not fucking awake? Nope. Well, pal, it's been fun. Maybe you'll booty call me again sometime. Wow, did I really just wave to a sleeping naked guy? Yup, I've officially lost it. ■

9:15am: Fifteen minutes and then I'm actually gone.

9:45am: By ten. Ten AM. He'll totally be up by then.

10:03am: Alrighty then, I'm done. I don't even care if I wake him up when I stand up! I hope he wakes up. And he didn't...typical. 'Kay, pants...pants...pants...ah, there they are. And my shirt, score! Bra and underwear...come to mama... where are you...boom, bra, found. Underwear...Marco? Nope, no "Polo." Well, fuck. Do I just leave it? No, that's so weird. But I can't find it...wait, now that I'm getting ready, I really don't want him to wake up. Stay. Stay asleep. Why is he moving...that is movement, confirmed. HOUSTON, WE HAVE A PROBLEM. Man down, SOS; sorry, underwear, but those who fall behind are left behind. I am so out of here, fuck him...

trash.

i want you so bad

With the semester starting to run out of time, I figured why not try and write a rhyme. Learning about RNA polymerases wasn't all that fun. Until the day I noticed you and my heart started to run When I catch your glance, my knees start to shake You're the best part of biochem, for heaven's sake! You have amazing eyes and a smile that makes me swoon With a mustache like yours it's hard to be immune. I think you are so hot you would denature my proteins, And it wouldn't even take DNA helicase to unzip my jeans You're tall and muscular and kinda gangly Which helps my rhyme because your name is Langley Lets start with new bases, Like de novo biosynthesis, And talk face to face to see if you like this.

When: every MWF

Where: BIOC 212

I saw: you sitting in the front

I am: in need of some tutoring

the ear

Kalkin Bathroom

Stoner Girl 1: Wait, you're doing a thesis? What is a thesis?

Stoner Girl 2: I don't know, but I know it's really stressful.

Votey Hallway

Dude 1: So someone stopped me in the parking lot this morning....

Dude 2: Stabbed you?!

Dude 1: No! Stopped me!

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cat litter.



collincappelle
comics by loenardbartenstein

A tiny horse.



A tiny horse.



how to get a little captain in you

or: the right way to watch the new captain america movie

1. Grab a bottle of Captain, preferably 100 proof, that's the good stuff.
2. Cut out a Captain America shield logo and wrap it around the bottle.
3. Dress up as Captain America and start drinking from your power bottle.
4. Get so blindly drunk that you forget when the movie is and end up wandering around church street burping up a little vomit so your recently purchased costume gets all dirty, all the while stumbling a mumbling to yourself, "Where have all the avengers assembled" and finally look someone right in the eye, lift your leg like Captain Morgan, and scream, "AVENGERS ASSEMBLE". You will have a great time, I promise



date the water tower

On the request of Stacey, one of our Reflections editors, I created a dating profile for her in the hope that a nice man will ask her out on a date and they could settle down and share a wonderful life together in the South of France.



About Stacey:

Description: Stacey is an English and Art Major. She's in some clubs, I guess, and she does other things as well.

Likes: Rattail haircuts, daredevils, chocolate pudding, vanilla pudding, Yorkshire pudding, basically all pudding, Finland, plain color t-shirts, and hot wheels toy cars

Dislikes: Alberta Canada, scary movies, violent pornography, and the word 'scalene'

If you are interested, you can contact Stacey by seeing her and talking to her. No, I am not going to give out her number, that's just kind of creepy. Don't be nervous, she only bites when she's cornered so make sure you approach her in open areas so she doesn't feel threatened.

tunes.



the *musical genius* that is jack white

by leonardbartenstein

Back in 2012, the world reveled in the majesty of Jack White's first solo single, "Love Interruption," and then his first solo album, *Blunderbuss*. This album combined elements of blues, rock, country, and folk music to make one of the year's greatest albums, and an epic addition to Jack White's already storied discography. Throughout 2012 and 2013, Jack White toured to promote the album, and folks had been waiting expectantly for more.

Jack White fans were overjoyed when in late 2013, the Dead Weather (a band for which Mr. White Drums) released a new single as a part of a Third Man Records (Jack White's very own record company) special vault package release. The single, "Open Up (That's Enough)" and its B-side, "Rough Detective," were great re-introductions to the band's gritty psychedelic rock style, with vocals from Alison Mosshart of the Kills, bass from Jack Lawrence of the Greenhornes, and guitar from Dean Fertita of Queens of the Stone Age.

This single alone was enough to stir up excitement for a rumored new album from the Dead Weather in 2014, so it came as a complete surprise when on April 1, Third Man

Records announced Jack White's new album, *Lazaretto*, and released the first single, an instrumental, guitar-squealing track called "High Ball Stepper." It debuted with video of paint being bounced on speakers, due to the vibrations of the song. Without any bias, I can say that it was really freaking awesome.

"it debuted with video of paint being bounced on speakers, due to the vibrations of the song. *without any bias*, I can say that it was really freaking awesome."

This song is anathema to the first single of Jack White's previous album. "Love Interruption" was a mellow, acoustic guitar and bass clarinet driven song that was featured, according to White, so that it wouldn't be passed over while folks listened to the whole album. "High Ball Stepper" is much louder and seems to be highly improvised, following more in the style of the later B-sides of Mr. White's singles from *Blunderbuss*, such as "Blues on Two Trees" and his cover of U2's "Love is Blindness." This might indicate a change in sound for Jack White's second album, suggesting that it will be much more driven by heavy rock and roll songs than softer bluesy melodies.

It will be very interesting to hear how Jack White plans to follow up the 5 time Grammy Award nominated *Blunderbuss*. *Lazaretto* will be available June 10. ■

the *tips* and *tricks* to pandora

by dylanmccarthy

Hey there lovelies. When you're tired of your pre-loaded playlists or are just too lazy to pick out individual songs Pandora is there to save the day. Not satisfied with being a mere Internet radio service, the website/app has long purported itself as the "music genome project." The concept's simple enough: make a station based off a song or band you like, thumbs up the songs you like, thumbs down the ones you don't, and bam perfect (almost) endless playlist of songs you love. Well, all's not as easy as it seems and I'm here to provide you with the hidden tricks to Pandora to keep your stations perfect.

1. Giving any song a 'thumbs up,' especially songs you like, can permanently wreck a station.

Yeah, this seems completely counter-intuitive to the entire Pandora project, no? Well it's true, and some of you are probably nodding your heads along with me. A lot of stations take the "shotgun" route and throw in tons of songs and artists of similar genres onto stations they don't necessarily belong in. If you're enjoying the songs on a station you've created and haven't been 'liking' many songs, your best bet is to just not click the 'thumbs up' button at all.

For example, let's say you're enjoying your Pixies station. You're enjoying the related surf rock songs and artists, and you like the general upbeat and weird tone of the entire station. You've even thumbs upped "Hey" and "La La Love You" in hopes of getting a more light-hearted feel. All of the sudden "How Soon is Now?" by The Smiths comes on. You love The Smiths, hell everyone loves the Charmed theme song so you obviously thumbs up the track. Wrong move. All of the sudden, since Pandora is built to read your thumbs up as a 'I not only like The Smiths, but all things The Smiths related' your surf rock station is BURSTING with the mopeiest songs of The Cure, and every sad song from Kid A. Listener beware, like the songs that fit the feel of your specific station, not just the songs you like

2. Combining two stations doesn't actually do anything special.

This may seem like a nit-pick more than a serious hang up, but you should be warned that the "music genome project" isn't going to give you Jazz Rock songs because you combined your Louis Armstrong station with your Led Zeppelin station. The only thing fusing stations on Pandora really does is forcing your hybrid station to alternate genres every third song or so. Basically, if you're listening The Misfits' station and you want to hear more of their doo-wop inspired songs, you won't get them by throwing your Ink Spots station into the mix. However, when you start adding three or more together things can get awkwardly specific. Take this equation...

3. The Misfits station + The Ink Spots station + Beastie Boys station = "Seven Nation Army."

This definitely falls into the "other important tips" category, and only barely at that. The first song you get after combining these three stations is often "Seven Nation Army." Makes perfect sense to me.

4. Always make clones of your favorite Pandora stations.

Cloning is pretty cool in general, but it's a damn necessity for extended listening on Pandora. Pandora only lets you skip 5 or so songs a day on a given station. No matter how much you like your favorite station, at a certain point there's a bad streak of tracks and all of the sudden you're either forced to sit through a song you hate, switch over to your 'homework only' classical station, or call it quits all together. Never again my friends, never again. The best way to get around the 'limited skip rule' is by making two or three stations based off songs from that same artist. "The Game of Love" and "Television Rules the Nation" stations should accompany every Daft Punk station.

5. The Nirvana station is nothing but The Offspring, Red Hot Chili Peppers, and 90's one hit wonder grunge tracks.

A parting warning for any mega fans or people just trying to get their top tier grunge on: If you want to listen to a song that's not "Smells Like Teen Spirit" you're going to have get through some Offspring RHCP and at least one "Black Hole Sun." I'm not saying I don't love some "All I Want" or "Can't Stop" when the time is right, but the Nirvana station is not the place. ■

