brennan’s isn’t gross anymore!

by colby nixon

brennan’s, home of Jalapeno Poppers and greasy fried food, a hallmark of really poor service, was one of the Crown Jewels of the University Dining Services collection, which also includes such fine establishments as New World Tortilla and The Marketplace.

However, over the summer, Brennan’s underwent a major renovation and became what might be known as the “New Brennan’s” - an environmentally conscious, organic food-serving bastion of salads and sustainability. The new tagline on the menu reads, “Local. Sustainable. Organic.” It’s like if Wendy’s decided to use only free-range chickens in its chicken nuggets.

In addition, now Brennan’s is serving breakfast... all day. This means if you’ve missed your Grundle waffles on Saturday morning, you can still get Vermont Buttermilk Pancakes at UVM’s new favorite underground dining facility.

So how does the “New Brennan’s” compare to Old Brennan’s? I ordered the most expensive item on the menu, the Cuban Grilled VT Sliced Steak Wrapper, along with a “100% local ice cream” Vermont Apple Cider Shake, bringing my total to 13.40 points.

Instead of being handed one of the old food-stained, poorly laminated numbers, I was handed a buzzer, meant to go off the buzzer. The Wrapper is a solid choice, receiving three out of five stars. It is very filling and flavorful, but I felt like a caveman trying to masticate woolly mammoth muscle due to the apparent elasticity of the meat. This problem could be solved by getting quality cuts of meat and cutting the steak into pieces smaller than my stapler before wrapping it up. That aside, I was very happy with the flavor of the Wrapper. The avocado and caramelized onions were great complements to the local wheat wrap that they were served upon, though I’m not sure exactly what makes this sandwich “Cuban.”

The shake was equally good, but overpriced. I could have made the same thing with some vanilla ice cream, apple cider, and a blender for a fraction of that price. One of my dining companions had ordered the Vegan Chili with Local Baked Bread (6.00 pts.), which she complained was “too spicy,” while another ordered Tamara’s Chicken Tenders (7.50 pts.), which were in fact, just chicken tenders, leaving us to wonder who the hell is Tamara?

Brennan’s is different, without the sports jerseys (which are now in the Grundle), the Dane Cook posters (which are now in compost somewhere), and TVs (which were distributed around Central Campus for the 2010 fiscal year by the Vice President for TV Reallocation). The food is less greasy. There are more vegetarian-friendly options, and a diverse shake menu. However, under the new façade lingers that same windowless charm, and that same unjustifiably long line snaking out into the Davis Center Atrium. The New Brennan’s may appear to be different, but just remember that when you feel something vibrating it’s the buzzer, not your phone, because you still don’t get service in the Davis Center basement. Perhaps that would be too much change.
Yo, no offense to anybody, but the old water tower logo was awesome and everybody loved it, particularly me, and I REALLY don't like the new one. Sorry to the artist. It's just that the old one was so good. I understand trying to make one that fits the new font, but the old one was great and the new one is not. It looks like a UFO. I'm sorry. I just feel very strongly. This sounds ridiculous, but I used to stare at the old logo and think about how cool it was every time I got a new issue. I'm not joking. Other than that, great job so far. I love the water tower.

-Jeff Schumann

Sometimes reading the water tower makes our readers want to get naked and fight the power. But most of the time, they just send emails.

Send your thoughts on anything in this week's issue to

thewatertowernews@gmail.com

and we'll print it.

Ashley Jo Beach Simple steps to being a good teacher: 1. Show up to class on time prepared to give a lesson. 2. Do not have sex with your thirteen-year-old student. 3. Do not have sex with said thirteen-year-old student in the buses. 4. Don't do this for the rest of your career.

Mahmoud Ahmadinejad The Iranian president recently had this to say concerning our Jewish friends worldwide: "The pretext (Holocaust) for the creation of the Zionist regime (Israel) is false... it is a lie based on an unprovable and mythical claim." Everyone left mid-speech, mildly disappointed that Ahmadinejad hasn't come up with something new to say about anything.

Best Buy Remember when setting up video games was easy? Now you have all of these extra steps like opening the box, taking out the console, plugging it in and turning it on. What a headache! Now, for $129, Best Buy will send Geek Squad to your house to set up your Playstation 3 for you. And people wonder why we're still in a recession.

Mike Duval This California Republican had to resign after bragging to a fellow state assemblyman over an open mic about his extramarital affairs with young women. In an official statement on his website, he makes no effort to confirm or deny the validity of his statements. Here's the part that really gets me: The number of Republicans in government these days has decreased significantly, but the number of Republicans making asses of themselves has skyrocketed. Did we vote out all of the good, honest Republicans?

Egypt In an ingenious attempt to combat the spread of Swine Flu, the Egyptian government had all the pigs in Egypt killed earlier this spring. It seems like very rational thinking. But the pigs in Egypt are almost wholly responsible for cleaning up all the organic waste in the country (you can't expect a government that kills pigs to take care of real problems like waste). Now, garbage is piling up stories high in the streets of Cairo, and nobody can get a bacon egg and cheese.

"Bitingly smart!"

-The new apparent worst film critic in the world, Tom Charity, reviewing Megan Fox's latest picture Jennifer's Body where she plays a high school queen bee who seduces boys, has sex with them, and then eats them. The film should feature plenty of cleavage and carnage, but I highly doubt that any part of it will be "bitingly smart."

"One apology is sufficient."

-Rep. Joe "You Lie!" Wilson, refusing to apologize again when heckled by reporters for his now infamous battle cry during the President's joint-address to Congress. Mr. Wilson also insists that the only thing he ought to apologize for is his incivility—he insists his claim that Obama was lying is accurate. To this, I am compelled to respond, "Mr. Wilson, you lie!"

"The Russians may have convinced the Americans that there is no need for such a shield."

-A senior Iranian government official commenting, on the United States' decision to scale back its Bush-era plan to envelope all of Europe in a Star Wars-style missile shield. Only in Iran's mind, however, was this decision motivated by the "convincing" of the Russians as opposed to the fact that the shield is a tremendously expensive waste of time that only works in 10% of all tests. Gotta love state-run media.

"This is the very, very last resort."

-Ephraim Sooh, a former Israeli defense minister, telling the international media that, if the United States does not impose serious sanctions of Iran within a year, Israel will be forced to strike Iran's nuclear power plants. This is the Israel with whom our alliance is "unshakable." Thanks AIPAC.

We are UVM's alternative newsmag and is a weekly student publication at the University of Vermont.
“You lie!”

the new shot round heard by briancoffill

Just days before the anniversary of the Sept. 11th attacks, Congressman Joe Wilson howled "You lie!" at a televised speech by then-president Obama. Wilson later apologized for the outburst, saying he only meant to express frustration with what he considered Flip针 on issues ranging from the war in Iraq to health care. Wilson was responding to Obama’s comments that health care is a right, not a privilege. Wilson has been criticized for his aggressive style and his views on issues ranging from Iraq to health care. He has been involved in several controversial incidents, including a confrontation with a female reporter. Wilson has been accused of being an agitator and a divider, and many have called for him to be removed from his position. Wilson has been a vocal critic of Obama's policies, and he has been a consistent supporter of the Tea Party movement. Wilson's recent comments have sparked a debate about the role of politicians in public life and the importance of civility in political discourse. Wilson's words have been widely condemned, and many have called for him to be held accountable for his actions.
The end is here....

by mollykelly-rahner

T he End is Here. You have probably heard of the Harry Potter books, and you most definitely have heard of the Harry Potter series. This is a series of books that have been around for many years, and they have made many people fall in love with reading. However, the end of the Harry Potter series is here, and many people are feeling a sense of loss and nostalgia for the world and characters they have come to love. This is a bittersweet moment for fans of the Harry Potter series, as they say goodbye to a world that has been a part of their lives for so long.

The Harry Potter series is written by J.K. Rowling, and it was first published in 1997. Since then, it has become one of the most popular book series of all time, with millions of copies sold worldwide. The series follows the story of Harry Potter, a young boy who discovers that he is a wizard and attends a magical school called Hogwarts. As he grows up, he faces many challenges and battles against evil forces, including the Dark Lord Voldemort.

The series has been adapted into a series of movies, which has also been successful. Many people have grown up with the Harry Potter series, and it has become a cultural phenomenon. However, as the end of the series approaches, many people are feeling a sense of loss and nostalgia for the world and characters they have come to love. This is a bittersweet moment for fans of the Harry Potter series, as they say goodbye to a world that has been a part of their lives for so long.

As the end of the series approaches, many people are feeling a sense of loss and nostalgia for the world and characters they have come to love. This is a bittersweet moment for fans of the Harry Potter series, as they say goodbye to a world that has been a part of their lives for so long. However, the Harry Potter series has left a lasting impact on many people, and it will continue to be a part of popular culture for many years to come.

The end of the Harry Potter series is a moment to reflect on the impact that this series has had on our lives. It has brought us together, inspired us to think about the world, and given us a sense of hope. As we say goodbye to the world of Harry Potter, let us remember the lessons that we have learned from this series and carry them forward into our own lives.


cristine hill

reflect

the beater stole my quaffle

by cassiejenis

I f you see someone running around with a broom on campus, don’t jump to the conclusion that they read too much Harry Potter and went insane. UVM now has a Quidditch team, and the water tower’s own Cassie Jenis went to investigate.

Quidditch is played in the wizarding community, notably at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry and at the Quidditch World Cup. The game is played on broomsticks with seven players on a team: three Chasers, who pass the Quaffle (the ball) back and forth and try to score by throwing it through one of the opposing team’s three hoops; a Keeper, who is basically a goalie; two Beaters, who control two balls called Bludgers and hit them towards other players; and the Seeker. The Seeker chases a tiny flying ball called the Snitch, which, once caught, both award the team that caught it 150 points and ends the game. This game is played at high speeds and is a contact sport, basically the most exciting and badass game ever invented.

“If you see someone running around with a broom on campus, don’t jump to the conclusion that they read too much Harry Potter and went insane.”

Practice was advertised as BYOB—bring your own broomstick—but the team was used loosely. There to greet me was a motley crew of people holding Nimbus, wooden brooms, plastic brooms, and even mops and Swiffers. A list of these lesser-quality flying devices were unfortunately destroyed on the first run across the pitch. Yes, we ran across the field with broomsticks between our legs, I mean, we couldn’t risk flying, what with all the Muggles around.

We ran back and forth a few times before dividing into groups and passing the ball back and forth while running. Flying a broom while “catching a vollelyball” is much harder than you would think, but most of us were much improved by the time we started running drills. And by drills, I mean trying to score a goal while dodging Bludgers and other people trying to tackle you.

I am not exactly out of shape, but after two hours, I was exhausted, sweaty, and dehydrated. This sport is like soccer—you never stop running. From the moment the whistle blows, you pick up your broom (you start with the item on the ground) run for the ball, dodge people trying to hit you with dodgeballs or tackle you, try to stand over the broom, and pray the other people can bring your own broomstick—but the team was used loosely. There to greet me was a motley crew of people holding Nimbus, wooden brooms, plastic brooms, and even mops and Swiffers. A list of these lesser-quality flying devices were unfortunately destroyed on the first run across the pitch. Yes, we ran across the field with broomsticks between our legs, I mean, we couldn’t risk flying, what with all the Muggles around.

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They are talking. They say thinking and talking is the first thing to do because through that outlet for conversation we all can realize what is meaningful in our lives and then take action to be connected with our surroundings. If there is one word this group insists on reviving, it is community. Their reasoning for this essential revival makes sense if you consider how disconnected many people are from real life. We are overbooked, over-scheduled, and that cuts down on time we have to share and give back to others. Though there’s so busy with their own life. But the interconnectedness of the college campus itself helps in challenging the beater stole my quaffle

by cassiejenis
W

hile the weather’s fine and the novelty of Burlington is still up

us, (perhaps the heat and humidity) the days of the year

students opt for the outdoors in between classes and the

campus becomes a maze of people. Junior Wendy

Burlington vibe: “It’s so

nice and beautiful outside

meals does get rid of the upset stomachs
to tastier and cheaper home-cooked

during the week are now planned less
and clean is lost in this new transition.

food instantly without the hassle of taking
their own meals. Like cereal. The ease

juniors have a vague idea of how to cook

Before moving off campus most

“Do you like living off-campus?” would

make new memories in our humble, tiny

an underclassmen friend who moved

real food in a real kitchen, and freedom

moving into my first apartment, cooking

uurrah! Upperclassmen life has

your shit together is to write it all down:

That’s why these simple guidelines should

a multitude of new ways to lose focus.

pus, with houses and apartments, creates

reality only heightens and becomes more

want whenever we want. This dangerous

that we can basically do whatever we

ever the mountains are just a few that could

would rather sacrifice: schoolwork or the weather?*

I’m pretty sure everyone feels the heat of academia

amongst us this semester with fertility. Exams are

ers are intensifying, and the library is the most

the crowded I have ever seen this early on

to travel with the reality only heightens and becomes more

apt for more trappings in the cam-

pus, with houses and apartments, creates

a new perspective all the time. I’m

if they’re getting drunk and you’re not.

enjoy the time you spend with them, even

and you feel like someone you’re not; it’s

and a jar of peanut butter in your purse

you can’t have your cake and eat it too?

4. Weekday Madness: Try to be as

productive and task-oriented during the
days of school in session, so you can fully

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The lack of physical contact is really getting to me so I sent her a sexy Facebook message when I was drunk. In the message, I told her exactly what I wanted to do if I flew to Italy. It was really dirty and involved pasta and meatballs. I accidentally sent it to her little sister who’s in my class. HTHDTEHTS

I tried to tag myself in a scandalous photo from an ‘Anything But Clothes’ party, and I tagged my older cousin instead. I untagged it immediately but he still received a notification. HTHDTEHTS

My little sixteen-year-old brother came to visit me last weekend. He of course got very drunk with me and my friends. We took him to a party and when the night was over, we returned to the dorms via the Drunk Bus. I looked to my right and what do I see? My brother sloppily making out with my slutty best friend. I started hitting them yelling, “STOP, STOP!!” A guy sitting across from me was like, “Hey, what’s the big deal?” as if I was cock-blocking for no good reason. I then explained the situation to him, still yelling frantically. He understood. HTHDTEHTS

I woke up on Tuesday morning with a random kid in my bed. The sheets were soaked with pee. I still don’t know which one of us it was. HTHDTEHTS

We take Japanese class together. The first day you wore an Oscar the Grouch hat. I want to talk to you and make nanpa! I usually smile from across the room at you. You are SUDA KAWAII.

When: Tues. and Thurs.
Where: Suzuki-Sensei’s class
I saw: a man
I am: a woman

We bumped into each other at the Cowboys and Indians party. You complimented my cowboy outfit, and I said “Arrgh. I think you were the hottest Indian there.

When: Saturday night
Where: Downtown
I saw: a woman
I am: a man

Your friend was eating an ear of corn in front of Pearl Street Bevvy, but it was you that I was after. I share the same first name of a famous serial killer, will you be my next victim?

When: last week
Where: Pearl Street Beverage
I saw: a woman
I am: a man

Take off your ray bans and look around. Hipsters are everywhere. On campus, on runways, in the street. The hippies have traded in their dreads and kept their headbands; the preps have kept their flannel shirts and ditched their polos; the skaters still wear their ripped tight jeans but substitute Dunks for Vans. And they continue to multiply. But in a style that was always based on irony, does it lose some sense of self when everyone is now such an active member of the culture of these clothes? Or, is it the opposite: Since everyone is participating, the irony is at the highest level it ever was.

We overheard a conversation in b-town?
was it hilarious? dumb? inspirational?
tell the ear and we’ll print it.

Crossing Main Street:
Boy: Dude, I’m not, like, a pedophile or anything...
Girl: Haha, yeah... My boyfriend was a pedophile.

Group of Freshmen Headed Downtown:
Freshman Boy: Guys, what area code is 802?

Outside the Davis Center:
Shawn the Baptist: Men were made to conquer and are ambitious, while women are nurturing.

In Front of Waterman:
Girl 1: So for Halloween I am thinking of being either Champ the Lake Monster or Old Greg.
Girl 2: Please...don’t be Old Greg.

A Kid Walking by Shawn the Baptist:
Kid: BIGFOOT IS OUT THERE!!!

with juliettecritsimilios
artwork by danielle berg

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Kid: BIGFOOT IS OUT THERE!!!
a shooting star flies too quick
the quiet twinkling glows—
Brighdy in her eyes,
somewhat he truly knows,
Fallen down are blarey guises.
the bright star shines,
Shooting stars laced with love—
accept and paper limb.
With his work untold above.

"Love me" she whispers soft.
"Hold me" he grumbles low
His mask is defiled
Her heart is show.

the stars shoots across the sky
His lips fold upon her mouth—
Halting "I Do" with a sigh
And thus the star retreats south.

"Hold me" he grumbles low
They talked for a few minutes and then the girl left, as ignorant as when she arrived. I looked at the guy in the
tux and then up at his balloon.

"The second word was 'love,' wasn't it? 'I love you too plain,
you deserve better.'"

He stared at me, bewildered. I put his back. "C'mon man, let's go for a walk. I think we've both had a rough day."
You've been watching it on the news all summer. You've read the horror stories and have seen the consequences of the H1N1 “Swine Flu.” But now it's coming to find us on our campuses and is totally catching us with our pants down. Where is there to do? We can't trust these “doctors” with their “vaccines.” The best thing we can do is arm ourselves with knowledge. Where does the most useful knowledge come from? You got it: zombie movies. If zombie movies should teach us anything, it's definitely how to not act like a raging dickhead, perpetuating the spread of some horrifyingly and spectacularly deadly virus. Remember that you are in the beginning of 28 Days Later when the monkey out? Dickhead.

The following is a friendly reminder of special precautions to take to curb the spread of this pandemic. Studies have shown that those who practice these safety measures are significantly less likely to contract or spread Swine Flu. Do not vomit all over people, especially in eyeholes.

Refrain from eye gouging of any kind.

Don’t eat people. If you must eat, please order from Dominos. They’re open until 3 A.M.

Cover your cough.

Football, Basketball, and Hockey seasons are all starting, while the World Series is almost here. Who are you rooting for?

1. Winning Santana One Day I was one of life’s losers/even my friends were my accuser/and in my head I lost before I’d even begun

2. Mud Football Jack Johnson ft G Love Rain is pouring/touchdown scoring/keep on rolling/never boring/Sunday morning it’s time to go

3. Football Iggy Pop I’m a football baby/Rollin’ round the field/I’ve been passed and fumbled/till I don’t know what to feel

4. Blue Line Delgado Brothers Riding on the blue line so I don’t have to drive/at night it comes alive/come ride some time

5. Basketball Fabulous bow Wow Wow You rock basketball is my favorite sport/I love the way they dribble up and down the court/I like slam dunk/take me to the hoop

6. Where Would We Be Without Yankees Hank Williams Don’t say I said it but the world is really run from New York/where would we be without Yankees/well we wouldn’t be the USA

7. Hockey Jane Siberry You skate as fast as you can till you hit the snowbank and you use your rubber boots for goal posts/

8. Baseball Michael Frank How can I keep control of my nerves/the way you wind up when you throw me those curves

9. I’m Not a Scoreboard Gene Defcon People always ask what’s the score/I’m not a scoreboard/I’m not the sports page/I’m not on ESPN

10. Play The Game Queen Open up your mind and let me step inside/you weary head and let your heart decide/it’s so easy when you know the rules