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onfession - my behavior has been
thridly lately. So downright scan-
dalously so, in fact, that it took City
Hall to point out the error of my ways.

This Thursday, Burlington's City Hall
decided to pose this same tricky ques-
tion, "When is trash not trash?" when
they overturned garbage cans in City Hall
Park to see how much of what was in said
trash cans was, well, trash. The startling
confession - my behavior has been

no one seems to have any clue about what
goes on with the University's disposal system,
even if they did have enough, the
detractors of a composting program might
outweigh the benefits.

with other organic wastes and turned into
soil to be used on farmland. From the
very beginning stages, while your meals
are being prepared, they separate food
scraps, and in some cases, students are
asked to dump their leftovers into "Food
Waste" carts.

In a survey conducted by UVM
students in the Fall of 2006, it appears
that more students would be interested
in campus-wide composting, beyond the

says that she also comports at home, but
has never seen the initiatives available on
campus. "Even the students in the 'Green
House' aren't any more environmentally
friendly than us," she says. "I've never
seen the bins around campus." Many of
these same students were completely
unaware of the composting "programs"
available.

Kate, a sophomore, said, "Last year
there were separate bins for recycling and
composting, I haven't seen those at all this
year."

It seems that the intent is there, but
no follow-through. While these practices
may be going on behind the scenes, the
real impact can only come from the big-
gest waste makers of all - UVM students.
If the University can't properly dispense
the information to students, how are they
to even know where to go in order to
accomplish their goals as far as environ-
mentaism is concerned?

The margin of error has to be pretty
great, and at the very least, UVM does
acknowledge that there are challenges to
composting on campus. Many products
are still being determined whether they
are "biodegradable" or not, and thus
ever even make it to the Intervale plant.
Also, due to the high volume of catering
and other community events hosted by
the University, the scheduled "pick-up
times" for the compost is not enough to
meet the waste produced. Thus there are
pounds and pounds of unaccounted-for
trash and waste. The odor and contami-
nation due to improperly sorted waste not
only keeps students from composting in
their dorms, but also keeps the University
from further promoting such practices.

Then there's the boon of funding the
whole ordeal. The University currently
pays $90 for every ton of solid waste they
dispose of.

continued as compost on pg 3
the best news team
in the universe.

Hello,

Could you refrain from preaching about the dangers of obesity in future issues? If I wanted to read that, I’d read the Cynic. I like it when the water tower doesn’t take itself so seriously. The article on Brennan’s was interesting and confirmed what I always thought about that place: It sucks.

Thanks and keep up the good work!
- Brad Barratt

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.

the shit list
with macsmith

the news in brief
with paulgross

“I thought I’d be starting.”
- Michael Vick. What a douche.

“We made it very clear: Beware!”
- Rep. Chris Van Hollen (D-MD), chairman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, restating a message made to Democratic activists urging them not to become complacent with the Democrats’ overwhelming majority, lest the Republicans make huge victories in the upcoming midterm elections. This statement comes in light of a recent 20% decrease in campaign donations to Democratic candidates, which is believed to be a combined result of the lagging economy, complicity with the majority, and alienation of wealthy donors because of harsh rhetoric on big business.

“We have survived a few days eating biscuits, a very irregular diet.”
- Rev. Canon Julian Dobbs, on the gathering of 50,000 American Muslims in our nation’s capital last Friday. The Muslim gathering will include a public prayer section and its stated agenda is to show “the wonderful diversity” of Muslims living in America and to dispel stereotypes about Islamic religious practices. And this Christian has a problem with that.

Roman Planski has finally been arrested on warrant out since the 70’s for having sex with a thirteen-year-old girl—something that he acknowledged. Planski fed the States to avoid his arrest, and even skipped the Oscars when he won Best Director for The Pianist. Can you believe that? They gave an Oscar to a pedophile.

Zombie Babies. A Canadian baby born sixteen weeks prematurely was declared dead on the spot, only to wake up in time for his funeral wake. He then started making weird noises like that baby dinosaur from Jurassic Park, bit off everyone’s faces and ran screaming into the Canadian wilderness. Call M. Night Shyamalan. I just wrote his next movie.

Roman Planski is a part of a well-defined strategy to Islamize America and replace the Bible with the Koran…”
- Rev. Canon Julian Dobbs, on the gathering of 50,000 American Muslims in our nation’s capital last Friday. The Muslim gathering will include a public prayer section and its stated agenda is to show “the wonderful diversity” of Muslims living in America and to dispel stereotypes about Islamic religious practices. And this Christian has a problem with that.

“My 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.”
Hey! You found the news! And Waldo! even the motives of American troops. led them to question the effectiveness and among the Afghan population and have and Afghan civilians, their attacks have country. Besides killing American troops such as Mullah Omar are having great and a desperate man, and it speaks to how hindered U.S. strategy as a result. military has abused his power and has government, but this is certainly not the bleaker picture of to be disclosed to writing: “Failure to gain the initiative and grim. situation in the country, and it is rather expected to request that tens of thousands back in May. McChrystal, who is ex- This is the claim of General Stanley to have any clue as to what’s actually available to them. The main problem is that students have little to no information about what happens with the University’s disposal system, as it is not publicly advertised and even if they did have such, the design of a composting program, cost, smell, and possible contamination of dorms might outweigh the benefits. In the end, it’s a draw. While the environmentally correct thing to do, seem to be studying the composting, just it doesn’t seem pertinent for students, nor large enough concern for the school to advertise, for there to be any sizeable environmental impact made. If you would rather not just talk trash about our waste system, you can visit the Dining Services website for their statement about composting on campus! In the meantime, we’ll be living smell-free with the small guilt associated with improperly sorting trash. So when is trash not trash? When it’s composted. But if it’s never composted, then it can always keep the less appealing and more appropriate title—waste. –n-send us your thoughts on this article or anything in this week’s issue, and we’ll print them –thewatertowernews@gmail.com –Sign up for our newsletter and join the conversation –Another article on Joe Wilson –Love and Law and Order: Anarchy and Chaos, North China, P.D. –Law and Order: Anarchy and Chaos, North China, P.D. –Ham Sandwich and Swine Flu”. A Heartfelt Interview by emilyhoogseter

signs of failure in afghanistan

The mission is on the verge of failure. This is the claim of General Stanley McChrystal, who assumed military command of the U.S. forces in Afghanistan back in May. McChrystal, who is expected to request that tens of thousands more troops be sent to the region, has just come out with the most recent report on the situation in the country, and it is rather grim. The Washington Post quoted him as saying: “Father, it’s almost time for the reverse insurgent momentum in the near-term future. A positive, involving outcome seems unlikely.” The report, which was highly confidential and was never supposed to be disclosed to the media, paints a much bleaker picture of the situation in Afghanistan than most people anticipated, and it is rather ironic that the only way the American public is able to find out about the true nature of our U.S. operations in Afghanistan is through leaks of highly secret information. That the report got out shows great incompetence and corruption by the government, but this is certainly not the first time that a member of the American military has abused his power and has hindered U.S. strategy as a result. The report is clearly one written by a desperate man, and it speaks to how much the situation has deteriorated since the fall of the Taliban government in December of 2001. 2009 has been the deadliest year for American troops since the war began, and it seems that the insurg- est groups led by former Taliban leaders such as Mullah Omar are having great success creating chaos throughout the country. Besides killing American troops and Afghan civilians, their attacks have created a climate of insecurity and fear among the Afghan population and have led them to question the effectiveness and even the motives of American troops. Insurgents have been so successful that in the recent Afghan elections, only about half of eligible citizens turned out amid insurgent threats of violence against vot- ers. The people of Afghanistan obviously had limited confidence in the U.S. army’s ability to protect them, despite America’s ongoing occupation, for, as McChrystal has said, “We have operated in a manner that distances us—physically and metaphorically—from the people we seek to protect.” This again coming from McChrystal’s account of the failures of the war, though it is painful to say so, I feel it should be granted. The U.S. has three options for Afghanistan—either we stay forever as the country now, maintain the strategy currently in place, or increase troops in an attempt to gain greater control. The first option, while of course saving many American lives, dooms Afghanistan to fall under the tyrannical regime of the Taliban once again. After eight years, countless dollars and thousands of deaths, essentially nothing has changed in the country. The second option is probably even worse, for it likely means that the Taliban will gain control of the country slowly rather than quickly, as more mon- ey is spent, more American and interna- tional soldiers as well as Afghan civilians lose their lives, and still virtually nothing will have improved since the beginning of the decade. That leaves option three, which is the only one capable of reversing the progress of the insurgents and creat- ing a safe environment for the Afghan people to practice democratic government, build and train an army which can maintain security in the country after U.S. withdrawal, and to simply go about their everyday lives. While a troop increase will mean more American deaths, a deeply disheartening prospect, I believe it is the only way that all that has been sacrificed so far will not become nothing more than a tragic waste. The increase must produce results quickly however, for if it does not then it must be sadly concluded that nothing can be done in Afghanistan, and to keep our men there to die would simply be murder. on tv tonight:

- Biggest Loser: Pets Law and Order: Anarchy and Chaos, North China, P.D.
- Ham Sandwich and Swine Flu”. A Heartfelt Interview

compost continued from page 1

Adversely, only $25 is required to be paid to the compost facility, so it would seem that the University is saving money through its endeavor. That adds up to about $11,000 in savings on landfill tag- ging fees. However, the cost to collect the compost is $12,000. At the very least, the University is breaking even with a venture that is not even properly advertised. While the design of a composting system are undeniable—we shall be discussing the issue more in depth in a future article—-no one seems to have any clue as to what’s actually it is a tax

Two Sundays ago, Barack Obama became the first president to pull up ap- parently five Sunday newspapers, in what they call the “full Ginsberg.” There’s not much to say, except that it’s really not important. This is part of Obama’s plan to get his pitch for health care back on track by going directly to the press. He can re- rely on network news to cover the health-care debate on its own because, well, celebration didn’t help the car industry. Every week in this country. He tried to address a joint session of Congress in front of the Acolytes (Joe Wilson) like to steal the spotlight. He seriously can’t catch a break. So when Obama said “I’ll do it live,” and forced his way into your face all Sun- day. If you weren’t still passed out from the night before, you would have noticed that his biggest proposal, the one he kept hammering in over and over and over was the fact that this plan was NOT going to work.

One problem. He didn’t write the bill. A few days later, Democrat Max Bau- cus proposed the health insurance bill. This is the anticipated bill that will, in the eyes of reform, create decent, affordable healthcare and in the eyes of others turns us into a Russian/Chinese hybrid country where we eat our noodles out of bowls of Vodka. Wherever you stand on this debate, it should be noted that I don’t care where you stand, one portion of the bill will undoubtedly lose Obama a bunch of support. A decision to go through Con- gress: the tax increase.

“Does he sign the bill and break his cam- paign promise of no taxes for the middle class, or does he veto the bill, wasting the last six months of our lives?”

Now let’s dissect this thing here. Is it not actually a straight up tax? It’s a very sneaky excise tax that will fine fami- lies that can afford healthcare up to $1900 (down from $3800 in his initial pro- posal). If you haven’t spotted the inherent bullsh*t in this bill, well then you haven’t been paying attention to the news, have you? Besides the fact that Obama promised no new taxes of any kind to be made by anyone, anywhere, just for the saying of it, sure, it’s illegal to own a car without car insurance, but you made that decision, you and me. You and me, we didn’t make it whether or not you want to be taxed. Which leads me to the fact that no one was going to get rich off of Congress, let’s fast forward into the future. This bill miraculously makes it through Congress, we end up wallowing in debt to sign. Does he sign the bill and break now only his healthcare promises but also his entire campaign promise of no taxes for the middle class, or does he veto the bill, wasting the last six months of our lives? Baucus really put the President in a pickle. This bill, with no kind of public testing or companies competitive, and taxes middle class, the one group who does not feel that insurance they want changed in the first place.

So is it in Obama’s best political interest to be the first president to reform healthcare and alienate the people who elected him? In an article that was an instant classic, the ex-pat of the day for the New York Times wrote “I’m not looking to get the 60 votes it needs to pass.” Well I’m glad he’s not, because if he were, my inten- tion is, Mr. Senator.

are we a tax

Sign up for our newsletter and join the conversation

Three days at the student union, office (3rd floor, d.c.)

We’ll beat you up if you do jk, but seriously.
batman is awesome. Lets review.

Batman's outfit and gadgets consist of a completely black body suit, cape, Bat radio (aka an awesome expensive walkie talkie), but cave (aka a secret lair with a bat, Alfred Pennyworth, and high tech computers), and gadgets that let him scale buildings and fly around Gotham city. He also, in case you didn't know, has a Bat boat, a Bat plane, and a Bat sub.

Batman responds to a Bat signal, which the city of Gotham shines in the night sky or over the city when attention is needed.

An entire city depends on this man to stomp out crime, fix their bed, and take down their bad guys.

Batman goes after said bad guys who pose crime to the immediate (and global) neighborhood while striving for justice. After seeing his parents murdered in front of him as a child, Batman promised himself that he would fight crime to avenge his parent's deaths. What a good son.

While bettering his community Batman does so without any superpowers, which makes him more relatable and realistic than most superheroes. Batman relies on what you and I rely on: his own strength, reasoning, and intuition. Batman is said to be "one of the world's greatest detectives," and trusts his body and mind to be ready for any crime-fighting situation. His toned body lets him physically surpass his enemies and his scientific skills help him outsmart them. Quick wit and a bionic body. What's not to love?

When he's not using his powers for good, Batman's true identity is Bruce Wayne. Mr. Wayne is Gotham City's super-rich, billionaire playboy who owns Wayne enterprises, an upscale company that grants great profit to the city. Wayne donates his company's earnings to good causes, making both his real identity and superhero identity one of moral hierarchy and selflessness. Bruce Wayne also has a way with all the ladies, yet is still a true man's man.

Specs of being a freshman. Batman of course has a loyal sidekick Robin. Robin is so legit that he actually has someone to help him fight crime. Along with Robin, Batman's butler Alfred Pennyworth is his close pal that always grounds him in his moral convictions and helps him stay on his path of righteousness. If you are the company you keep, Batman shows us that true friends help better you as a person and as a superhero. Batman also shows us it's human side when he asks these friends for advice, guidance, and loyalty.

Along with being the best Superhero, Batman gives the comic world the best enemy of all time: the Joker. While he is sick, enraged, and downright creepy, the Joker is the most widely known comic villain. Joker's continual presence in the comic only furthers our love for his arch nemesis as we see that Batman always fights for what is true, right, and just in the world. Even Batman's enemies are awesome. How can anyone compete? All had the Dark Knight.


by julietcritsimilios

concessions or

by caseycartwright

The Greek system at UVM needs to realize that fun out of Greek life they are not fighting for. They are only taking away its potential. Recruitment shruts read, "Our laugh is the world. Even Batman's enemies are awesome. How can anyone compete? All had the Dark Knight."
that by taking the fun out of Greek life they are not enhancing its progress; they are in the UVM community, they need to stop wor-
ting so much about the proper things to say in front of peo-
dent. Instead, they need to be more concerned with making them actual activities. Instead, sororities and fraternities alike are more likely to fail. Infrac-
ations that used to thrive within the commu-
nity are now viewed as a chore. Greek Games used to exist. Activities that used to be 

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I am: a woman

I saw: a man

Where: SGI Office
I saw: a man

I am: a woman

You were at STAR
And then we sat next to you in chemistry
Your name starts with A.N. but you wouldn't tell us the rest of it.
You wouldn't show us your portfolio either

Your brightly colored shirt caught my attention
I remember you don't like wearing logos
Your name starts with A.N. but you wouldn't tell us the rest of it.

Your shorts were beautiful and I wanted to get to know you more.
I thought you were a senator because I always see you at the hall so I can get to know you better. IWYSB!

Outside of SGI South:
Freshman Girl 1: "That dorm is a spiral staircase!
Freshman Girl 2: "What the fuck!!

Outside of a classroom in Williams:
Guy 1: Last night we went over to my buddy's house.
Guy 2: Word.
Guy 1: We look in the fridge and there's a 30 so we want to start drinking, but he doesn't have any cups. So we each take a yogurt, eat it, and then start drinking out of the yogurt cups.
Guy 2: Sweet. Yogurt shots!

The Neon Skater Shoe-
Part prep, part jock, part hipster, you now can get into any party with your wide array of tastes. It's like you're a renaissance man, you've got it all. If you're lucky, this footwear will draw everyone's attention to your feet, thus bypassing the mullet of outfit combinations.

The Athletic Shorts-
Worn in combination with a t-shirt, these work for the gym, or even the Grundle. Worn in combination with a button-down, you're shooting for a look that says, "I could be walking up Pearl at two in the morning and one of your buddies calls you, and says, 'To let's ball, right now.' Plus, with the elastic waist, it's far more convenient than fumbling around with a belt when you need to take a pit-stop.

The Button-Down-
A good start, button-down shirts are always classy. This guy clearly came out with every intention to look good. This would be a better look had the shirt been ironed. Seriously, look at it, the shirt has more wrinkles than Alan Greenspan. It would have probably been a good call to wear a white, grey, or even no undershirt, rather than throwing this American Eagle special over your teal UVMSSC t-shirt.

Fashion Five-oh-
the party foul
Gym shorts + button down = good to go

with colblynixon

On the fourth floor of Williams:
Some chick: Wait, when did incest become immoral?

At Royall TyTy:
Someone: There's nothing worse than the taste of latex and lubricant.

In the Cyber Cafe:
Employee: (commenting on a girl complaining about some buddies) Call 1-800-your mother, maybe she will want to hear it.

Outside of UHeights South:
Freshman Girl 1: That dorm has a spiral staircase!
Freshman Girl 2: What the fuck!!

Outside of a classroom in Williams:
Guy 1: Last night we went over to my buddy's house.
Guy 2: Word.
Guy 1: We look in the fridge and there's a 30 so we want to start drinking, but he doesn't have any cups. So we each take a yogurt, eat it, and then start drinking out of the yogurt cups.
Guy 2: Sweet. Yogurt shots!

I was leaving a party last weekend and I realized that I had forgotten my sweatshirt downstairs on the couch.
When I went down to get it, some girl was straddling my sweatshirt.
She was so down to earth and friendly, I had to go back the next morning and ask if I could look for it.

This is my last year at UVM. I've gotten laid once. At Orientation. IHTHDEHTHS
Throw me a smoke by ahmadsahil

Throw me a smoke. You know what? Just get over here.
I’ve been thinking… Remember those days? When we were young, so full of life and promise. And then I was expelled from that silly party at the Triple Omega, and nothing seemed to matter anymore. We were just kids, playing dress-up in the gym. It was all fun and games, until the cold reality of reality set in.

Nowhere else is this more evident than in the gym. The air is thick with the stench of sweat and the sound of muscle tearing, as we all strive to be the best we can be. And yet, despite our best efforts, we all know that we will never truly be the best. The ultimate epiphany is just around the corner, but for now, we must simply accept our fates and move on.

Still, there is something beautiful in the struggle, in the fight against the odds. It is this very struggle that fuels our dreams and drives us to be better than we were the day before. And so, we continue on, striving for that elusive perfection. For in the end, it is not the destination that matters, but the journey itself.
tunes  
dance band of the week:  
two fingers
by alexpinto

If you’re from England, feel free to call this old news, but for most UVU’s the drum ’n bass/hip-hop/jungle production team Two Fingers will sound as fresh as the first morning toke. Their full length dropped months ago (also called “Two Fingers”) and there are some great tracks—real original stuff, not just stolen beats remixed with other stolen beats. Think the heavy, industrial chord of British electronica coming to visit Montreal (actually where it came together) and butting heads with the minimalist power of American hip-hop. Dope, right? And perhaps most impressive of all, the rappings of guest MC’s Swavy, Ms. Jade, and Co-Cole sit comfortably on top of the dense music, not sounding pasted on awkwardly as an afterthought (something that happens to lyrics too often in hip-hop-influenced dance music). The track “Doing My Job” features the sultry words of the Philly native Ms. Jade, and is unbearably hot—features the sultry words of the Philly native Ms. Jade, and is unbearably hot—

After opening for the Decemberists at the Flynn, I had the privilege to interview Indie music cult favorite Laura Viers who has with her band, the Hall of Flames, been touring with the Decemberists promoting her new album July Flame, which will be released in January.

WT: How long are you going to be on the road with the Decemberists?
LV: Three and a half weeks.

WT: Why do you do it, what makes you want to be a musician?
LV: Well, the short answer is infinite growth.

WT: How long have you been playing music for?
LV: Well, since I was 19 and I’m 35 now, so however long that is.

WT: I know you’re From Portland, Oregon, so what do you think of the East Coast?
LV: It’s much more reserved and uptight here. (laughs) But the West Coast has drawbacks, too. It’s a lot more hipsterish.

WT: Where is the best place to listen to your music?
LV: In the belly of a ship at sea.

Parliaments. Smoked by the preppiest of the preppsters. These brads, easily identified by wearing I. Crew shorts and polos with popped collars, spend their weekends playing rust and seshin in the face—no matter what they’re in. Parliaments generally taste like real cigarettes if you leave them rotting in the sun for a few weeks, but that doesn’t seem to bother an entire population that gets its rocks off drinking natty ice—

The other perk about Parliaments, with their extended filters, is that they easily facilitate another expensive habit characteristic of these smokers. Anyone for a quick bump?

Rolleys. Rolled cigarettes, or “rollies,” are for all you hipsters who “can’t afford” regular cigarettes. For much less money you will get a bag of tobacco and rolling paper that will last you twice as long as a pack of cigarettes. Budget-wise, this opens your options considerably from dollar PBRS to that ironic volleyball league you really want to join. It’s cool. Your mom doesn’t know your rent isn’t actually that high. The act of rolling a cigarette is also very appealing to hipsters, especially ones who like to show off arm tattoos, crazy rings from American Apparel, and just generally how dirty their fingernails are.

American Spirits. These kids are granola crunchit, earth loving, enviro-hippies who smoke American Spirits. They claim that these cigarettes are better for the earth, when in reality they are still “cancer sticks” that if put out and left on the ground will not magically dissipate into the soil. These kids rock the image of not caring about their appearance or what other people think of them, but in fact these outfits are carefully picked out. Her skirt, although hand made, probably cost $50. Her hair, giving the idea that she is a free spirit and “just flowed down this river that is life,” is washed daily in Aveda brand shampoo and conditioner. He’s a Berks, although a classic hippee choice, ran him anywhere from $70 to $130. These kids will proudly claim their choice of American Spirits, because they just wanna be one with the earth, maamaa.

What you can’t live without: American Spirits.

Parliamentary smoke: $20.

Parliamentary rollies: $1-

Parliamentary coffee: $8.

Parliamentary cigarettes: $1.50-

Parliamentary ice: $2.

Parliamentary rum: $5-

Parliamentary beer: $5-


Parliamentary alcohol: $5-

Parliamentary beer and cigarettes: $10.

Parliamentary dinner: $50.

Parliamentary coffee and cigarettes: $10.

Parliamentary dinner and ice: $60.

Parliamentary dinner and beer: $50.

Parliamentary dinner and rum: $60.

Parliamentary dinner and alcohol: $80.50.

Parliamentary dinner and cigarettes: $50.

Parliamentary dinner and ice: $60.

Parliamentary dinner and alcohol: $100.50.

Parliamentary dinner and beer: $50.

Parliamentary dinner and rum: $60.

Parliamentary dinner and ice: $60.

Parliamentary dinner and alcohol: $100.50.

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