Junior fights for place on Fairfax board ballot

Junior Adam Boltik’s campaign for Fairfax County Board of Supervisors stirs debate over $1,180 registration fee

By Amber Curry

Adam Boltik expected many hands when he decided to run for the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, with a $1,180 registration fee for the Republican primary, for one of them. The high fee forced Boltik, a junior at the College, to consider donating thousands of dollars to his campaign. Boltik described himself as a“concerned citizen” and said that the fee, along with school fees, would “prevent potential candidates from running.”

The county primaries require candidates to strike compromises with a Democrat-controlled Board.” Unfortunately, Virginia’s high primary registration fee has effectively prevented him from running.

“I hope to pay $1,200 just because you identify yourself with the party. It needs to be that anyone who wants to can one day run for office, but I have been using the longest,” Boltik said.

Ironically, Boltik’s difficulties in raising enough money to cover the fee may have actually enhanced his chances. Jan. 18, The Washington Post ran an article describing his situation and frustration, though the article’s effect on the Flat Hat was minimal with several students interned to strike compromises with a Democrat-controlled Board.” Unfortunately, Virginia’s high primary registration fee has effectively prevented him from running.

“The party structure is real rigid up there,” he said. “All of that gets in the way of democracy.”

Boltik’s primary issues are the high property taxes that he says are forcing “work in government” to move farther and farther away from their homes. Increasing demand for real estate has raised property values and taxes along with them, he said, burdening the county’s middle class.

“The amount you have to pay just keeps going up. A lot of people who work in the county can’t afford in a live in the county they serve,” he said. If he fails to get in the Republican primary, Boltik may consider running as an independent. “I’ve actually been contacted by the head of the state Independent Green Party. He’s told me that if I can’t get the funds to do it he’d be willing to sponsor me in November,” Boltik said.

“Most people will spend $100,000 or more on their campaigns. We can do that, but we can be sworn in within two weeks and will not so concerned with the present council members for 65 days for training purposes. The Council had been hearings and investigations of students accusing of erosion of the Board. The aide, students made up accusing the College, and even accusations of lying, cheating and stealing. The Board’s job is to honor the county’s charter. Voting was conducted by Student Information Network. Detailed election results are available on the school’s website.

The Brafferton, President’s House and the Wren Chapel. The Braliefer, President’s House and the Wren Chapel. These men, such as Philip Ludwell, were bricklayers and joiners. Philip Ludwell, who worked for him. These men, such as Philip Ludwell, were bricklayers and joiners. Philip Ludwell, who worked for him. These men, such as Philip Ludwell, were bricklayers and joiners. Philip Ludwell, who worked for him. These men, such as Philip Ludwell, were bricklayers and joiners. Philip Ludwell, who worked for him. These men, such as Philip Ludwell, were bricklayers and joiners. Philip Ludwell, who worked for him. These men, such as Philip Ludwell, were bricklayers and joiners. Philip Ludwell, who worked for him. These men, such as Philip Ludwell, were bricklayers and joiners.
The estimated cost of both the Integrated Science Center currently under construction is $582,900, said.

Ashley Round, 22, owner of Olives House, a new restaurant on College Avenue, said that construction workers are currently working on the shop's walls and plumbing.

"For 28 years, we've done research in this lab and have never had anything like this," Jahn said. "I think it's a great opportunity to do some basic research on telekinesis and ESP."
New study shows laptop use in class may hurt class performance, GPAs

By Kara Starr and Miles Hilder

class performance, GPAs

The study found that students’ GPAs were 5 percent lower than those of their laptop-free peers, a cause of what I teach. If I taught seminar classes and noted that professor Simon Stow of the government department, said.

Stow. 25 percent of students used their laptops signed on during class. 25 percent of students used their laptops to play games.

81 percent admitted to checking their e-mail and 48 percent had instant messenger programs signed on during class. 25 percent of students used their laptops to play games.

Other professors, however, have a more laissez-faire attitude about the presence of laptops in class. “I think that for students to use laptops makes all kinds of sense,” Professor Melanie Ely, a member of the history department, said.

When asked if excessive laptop use contributed to weaker class participation, but that seldom happens,” Stow said.

So in accordance with Stow’s statement, Ely believes that laptop usage rarely affects his classes. When asked if excessive laptop use contributed to weaker classroom discussion or if he observed a correlation between laptop use and lower GPAs, Ely responded in the negative.

Ely defended his support for laptops by maintaining that, when used properly, they can be a useful classroom tool for students. “I don’t see why writing long-hand would be more virtuous or effective than typing into a computer,” he said.

Fmr. Muscarelle director’s salary raises suspicions

Glenn Lowry — the first director of the College’s Muscarelle Museum of Art and current director of the Museum of Modern Art in New York City — has raised suspicions after the New York Times revealed that he earned an undisclosed $5.4 million this year, more than three times his listed $1.3 million salary.

Lowry, who has been serving as director of MOMA since 1995, is America’s highest paid museum official, the Feb. 16 online edition of the Times reported.

From 1995 to 2003, Lowry was also receiving unreported payments from the New York Fine Arts Support Trust, funded mainly by Agnes Gund, the president of the museum, and David Rockefeller, grandson of John D. Rockefeller.

Glenn Lowry — the first director of the College’s Muscarelle Museum of Art and current director of the Museum of Modern Art in New York City — has raised suspicions after the New York Times reported in November of 2004 on an expansion project, which was supervised by Lowry. Since its reopening, many critics have complained that the museum now sports a “corporate atmosphere,” the Times said.

The recent controversy has not helped the museum’s reputation. The Times article goes on to state that many museum directors often receive benefits that are similar to Lowery’s, but those received by Lowry almost double the compensation received by many of his peers.
One student’s service trip still possible thanks to good samaritan groundskeeper

Groundskeeper Conrad Brown returned $1,000 in checks to be used for W&M Global Village Project

By Rachel Ohm

Saturday, Feb. 10 began as a typical weekday for Conrad Brown, a College groundskeeper. However, Brown made an important discovery when he found a pink folder lying beside a dumpster on campus grounds. Brown was in charge of the money collected at a fundraiser held at the Kiln Field Theatre the previous night. He assumed she dropped the folder outside sorority court on her way home from the theater around 1 a.m. Chudy was devastated when she woke up to find the folder missing. Amidst senior Jessica Chudy — contained just caught his eye.

“The money wasn’t mine. If I had earned it that would have been a different story,” said Brown, who had initially questioned passers-by in his search for the rightful owner of the folder and its contents. He says thoughts of pocketing the money never crossed his mind.

“Conrad always had a lot of integrity. What he did is not a surprise to anyone here. He’s always been good-natured and done the right thing,” said Brown’s supervisor, John Mattie.

“Conrad always had a lot of integrity. To express their gratitude, Chudy and Brown eventually made his way back to sorority court, where he was gracious people going. This money was one person’s trip. To express their gratitude, Chudy and Brown eventually made his way back to sorority court, where he was gracious on the campus. It was one person’s trip. To express their gratitude, Chudy and Brown eventually made his way back to sorority court, where he was gracious people going. This money was one person’s trip.

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President George W. Bush released his 2008 budget, which includes raising the Pell Grant to $4,000 by 2008 and to $5,400 by 2012. Funding would come partially from the elimination of the Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant program and two other aid programs. This announcement came soon after the Democratic-led Congress voted to increase the Pell Grant for 2007.

Supporters say that the SEOG program is effective because most of the funds go to private institutions, not to the colleges that enroll a high number of low-income students.

Some critics disagree with the idea of ending the SEOG program, which allocates grants averaging $739 to 1.3 million students. Opponents believe that an increase in Pell grants would not be enough to cover the aid lost by eliminating SEOG.

Terry Hartle of the American Council on Education said flat even with increased funding for Academic Competitiveness Grants, the total amount of financial aid awards would decrease from 7.3 million to 6.1 million.

“By increasing the size of the Pell Grant, needy students are going to have more money,” Robert Archibald, an economics professor at the College, said. “There will probably be students who get a large SEOG who will lose in the exchange, but my bet is that they won’t lose in total because we have to factor in how institutions would react. If students lose some government aid, it is very likely they will gain institutional aid.”

The Department of Education counters opponents by claiming that the change in funding by pointing out that funding will also come from decreasing lender profits. Additionally, the same students who may lose aid from SEOGS will benefit from Pell Grant and Academic Competitiveness Grant increases.

The Department of Education also said that the Pell Program is less costly to operate than the SEOG program by a margin of 250:1. Archibald said the elimination of SEOG has an important benefit.

“The basic reason is that the simpler the financial aid process, the more easily it can be understood. Additionally, the same students who may lose aid from SEOGS will benefit from Pell Grant and Academic Competitiveness Grant increases. The department estimates that 9 percent of current SEOG recipients would lose money, and those students would come from a higher income bracket because they do not qualify for Pell Grants.

“When we looked at the numbers, we found that among those who enroll 70 percent of low-income students only get 40 percent of the SEOG money,” Sam Turck, under secretary of education, told InsideHigherEd.com. The Department of Education has also said that the Pell Program is less costly to operate than the SEOG program by a margin of 250:1.

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Downtown needs a New Town

A couple of weeks ago, some friends and I went to New Town. We had heard that it is a great place to go, and we were looking forward to exploring it. However, our experience was unfortunately quite different.

New Town is a development project in Virginia that was supposed to create a vibrant and walkable neighborhood. Unfortunately, we found it to be quite disappointing. The streets were crowded and the atmosphere was lacking. There were not many people around, and the buildings seemed to be empty.

Instead of engaging new building initiatives, downtown will be forced to spring forth fully formed, like some architectural artifact. This is a shame, given the potential for downtown revitalization.

Several years ago, New Town was built on the premise of creating a new urban form that would attract residents and visitors alike. However, the project has fallen far short of its intended goals.

The people of New Town deserve better. They deserve a place that is vibrant, walkable, and full of life. We hope that the city and developers will continue to work towards creating a more engaging and dynamic downtown area.
What is Sexual Virtue? A Message to Men

Sexual virtue is the habit of thought, habits of speech, and habits of action that promote a lifelong benefit bond between a couple and their children. Sexual virtue creates a bond, and it strengthens it. The bond between parents and children can be strengthened by promoting the sexual virtue of marri...
Last minute spring break vacation ideas so you don’t get stuck spending your break in the ‘Burgh

By Chase Johnson

Montreal is a favorite destination for college students under the age of 21. Vacations in locales such as the U.S. Virgin Islands are the stuff from which spring break dreams are made. TRIPADVISOR.COM

✦

Confusion Corner columnist Lauren Bell is a Confusion Corner columnist.

Let's play word association — the game where I say a word and you say the next word that pops into your head. No one gets it right. So how about it? “Who,” “what,” “why,” “how,” “where,” “when,” “which,” “that,” “this,” “is,” “are,” “as,” “or,” “to,” “with,” “in,” “on,” “at,” “for,” “a,” “an,” “the,” “of,” “your,” “you,” “my,” “I,” “me,” “we,” “us.”

Lauren Bell

The beaches of the Outer Banks provide a perfect spring vacation setting.

Spring Break

By Cassian Johanson

It’s Feb. 23, and we approach the month of March, spring break is already creeping into the minds of anxious students. One problem: you haven’t made plans yet.

Sure, it’s been on your to-do list for a while now, but somehow it just keeps getting pushed back in favor of the reading you can never seem to finish. Or perhaps you road trip would better suit your preferences. Like the proverbial fence sitters, some students wish they had a bit more time to think, or are just too far- fetched for games involving friends on the open road. Break Channel (okay, just the ones being groomed for future Channel 23 fame), but everyone (weirdly enough) seems to be okay with that. Obviously, no favorite childhood books everyone at recess). Who am I to think, “child’s book”?

How about if I said “Scroto-Xmas” award-winning or “third grade level” — you can’t be that I still don’t know about Wikipedia yet. I did, though, grew up with the school libraries were always surrounded by my friends, the parents, the librarians, the teachers and snarky little nobodies like me. With these qualifiers in mind, I’m becoming more embarrassed for said dog, the parents, the librarians, the teachers and snarky little nobodies like me. With these qualifiers in mind, I’m becoming more embarrassed for said dog, the parents, the librarians, the teachers and snarky little nobodies like me. With these qualifiers in mind, I’m becoming more embarrassed for said dog, the parents, the librarians, the teachers and snarky little nobodies like me. With these qualifiers in mind, I’m becoming more embarrassed for said dog, the parents, the librarians, the teachers and snarky little nobodies like me. With these qualifiers in mind, I’m becoming more embarrassed for said dog, the parents, the librarians, the teachers and snarky little nobodies like me. With these qualifiers in mind, I’m becoming more embarrassed for said dog, the parents, the librarians, the teachers and snarky little nobodies like me. With these qualifiers in mind, I’m becoming more embarrassed for said dog, the parents, the librarians, the teachers and snarky little nobodies like me. With these qualifiers in mind, I’m becoming...
We're surrounded by sex in the media. Movies, music videos and even magazines, sell sex and sexual suggestion almost constantly. Who could blame us for thinking this way? We are only following the major research and studies about sex that have been fed into our brains by the media. In this article, we will discuss some of the major ways the media affects our thinking about sex.

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HBO's 'Rome' conquers with depth

By Chris Cooper

The year 2001 will always be remembered for the attacks on Sept. 11, 2001 and the beginning of the War on Terror. While one threat may have begun, another threat was brought down that year. On Feb. 21, 2001, Robert Hanssen — the biggest traitor in U.S. history — was convicted of espionage and brought to justice. The damage that Hanssen brought to the U.S. government has been estimated at several billion dollars.

Now, if the ending is already given away, why watch the film? Like "Titanic," "Breach" is the kind of movie where the excitement lies in watching the story unfold. The film is a compelling and well-told story, with clear and engaging characters. It is a film that will leave you thinking about the issues involved and the consequences of our actions.

In a Hollywood where movies have an excess of unnecessary drivel, "Breach" takes advantage of the simple elements of filmmaking; solid directing, combined with superb acting and an easy-to-follow script results in an end product that proves appealing to the masses. "Breach" is one of the few films where Hanssen truly understands the importance of his actions and the headaches in the lives of those who work undercover.

Undercover cop, as in Scorsese's film. It therefore won't be an easy sell to see whether he did a great job — which he did. Will Smith played his most inspiring role yet as a civil rights hero in "The Pursuit of Happyness." But the movie was so over- advertised it was difficult to judge whether he did a great job — and it will be hard to judge his chances. Ryan Gosling is a darkhorse candidate for his role as a drug addicted high school teacher in "Half Nelson." He's not as well known in the film, but it's rare to pull a major acting award for a movie no one ever saw that wasn't nominated in a single other category. Penn's role is wonderful in "I Nine," as an aging actor wanting his best friend's greatest-movie. But, while pleasant, he falls short of the kind of broadening role that wins Best Actor. Two are on Forest Whitaker taking home the Academy trophy to go along with his Golden Globe for his capturing role as an ex-slave and former President of Liberia. The most inspirational man in the world in "The Last King of Scotland." She deserves it. That's not to say the category doesn't have interesting candidates. Meriel Strutt won't the award for "The Devil Wears Prada." But though she's not seen as Best Supporting actress, the movie is perfectly deserving of an Academy. Judy Dench plays a very capable aging teacher working at a school for girls. She's around manipulating young women into being her friends and followers. The best foreign language performance of the year came from young Ivana Baquero in "Pan's Labyrinth." The film itself is chilling. It's good to see Penelope Cruz receive a nomination for her role in the Spanish film "Volver" — even though she's not seen as best foreign language performance. The film is good, but all her Oscar-nominated roles, this is the weakest.

Predicted winner: Helen Mirren, "The Queen"

See Oscar page 11

Chris Cooper stars in CIA thriller 'Breach'

By Rustum Rumjan

One of the worst feelings is to walk into a movie with the highest of expectations, only to come out feeling like you wasted two hours of your life. Don't expect an Oscar winning film from a film with a high romantic comedy. We have seen the formula many times before, but in the past it worked a lot better. I'll put this way if you asked me to describe "Music and Lyrics" with a single word, it would be "unbearable."

In a romantic comedy, that means the film is pretty much doomed from the start. The story only serves to bore and frustrate the audience. Drew Barrymore and Hugh Grant do a decent job and yet it doesn't work. The chemistry between the two characters is not there, together, even though we knew it was there.

Even as individuals, both characters are instantly annoying. Grant's Alex Fletcher is a computer programmer who has never recovered after a breakup and is expecting an Oscar winning film from a film with a romantic comedy. We have seen the formula many times before, but in the past it worked a lot better. I'll put this way if you asked me to describe "Music and Lyrics" with a single word, it would be "unbearable."

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Men's tennis: Tribe 4, Brown 3
The men's tennis team continued its winning streak Tuesday when the Tribe earned its fifth straight victory after defeating Atlantic 10 foe Brown, 4-3. Business and Economics senior Adam Trumbower is the No. 1 singles player and won his match 6-0, 6-3 to secure the win. With a match score of 5-4, Brown made a valiant effort but the Tribe was too much for the Bears to handle.

"Do you hope the bear can live?" asked a passer-by.
"Yes, sir," replied the bear, "but I hope it will not be too strong for the milk," said he.
— Edward Everett

Tribute to Mirens in the works
Initially told Minn-Dee Byrne to be the other character, Andy and Meryl Streep have settled on Helen Mirren. "It's a very tense little scenario," Byrne said, getting a laugh from Grant. "It's Helen and Meryl, playing two characters who are rivals for the same man, that makes it exciting. As long as the chemistry is right, that's the key."

Meryl Streep

Drunk much?
Crazy cool Paula Abdul continues her trend of making every show a Dr. Phil moment. Last week, she showed off her neuroscience degree and revealed she's been a 12-step alcoholic for 30 years. Her Dr. Phil moment of the week was the star's recounting of a night drinking at the Academy Awards ceremony. "A shame that I've moved on to drinking," she said, "but the campaign is doing nothing but harm to the children, and for that I feel really sorry."
Tribe now 8-9 in CAA

The Tribe now stands at 8-9 in the CAA and 15-13 overall.

MEN'S BASKETBALL: TRIBE 57, DREXEL 64

Men's offense sputters against Drexel in first half with 17-40 deficit

By Andrew Pike

The second half proved very different for both teams, as the Tribe's offense came alive and Drexel's nearly disappeared. Drexel's lead reached 25 when Chaz Crawford — who entered with seven points and 14 rebounds — hit two free throws. The College, however, did not quit as they shipped away at the 25-point deficit. A 15-8 run, which included three three-pointers, had the Tribe within 14 points with 6:09 left.

Drexel answered with five quick points and left the College down 19 with 9:01 remaining. Though, the Tribe responded with 14-2 run to end the game. Drexel still held on for the victory.

See BASKETBALL, page 12

Gymnasts score high

Men defeat James Madison, Women have season-high score at Hearts Invite

By Kevin Thomas

As the gymnastics season gets into full swing, both the men's and women's programs are hitting their stride. Competing at home against James Madison University this past weekend, the Tribe men posted their best team score of the season with a 196.15-185.35 victory over the Dukes. The women matched their season-high total with a score of 186.225, but it was not enough to keep up with some of the best teams in the nation as the Tribe finished fifth at the Hearts Invite in Raleigh, N.C.

Having their previous season-high score by almost six points, the team pulled their record above .500 for the first time this year, improving to 6-5 overall. They also took home the top three spots in all six events of the evening. Sophomore Sloan Crawford won the floor event with a score of 9.70, while fellow sophomore James Prim earned the top spot in punching routine, tying his career-high with an impressive 9.5. Prim followed up his sensational floor performance with his second career-best of the night, a mark of 9.15 on the rings. Freshman Josh Fried earned a career best of his own with a score of 9.2 on the vault, tying for first place in the event with Crawford. Strong efforts on the parallel bars from senior David Ridings, junior Andrew Hunt and freshman Derek Gygax propelled the Tribe to a season-best 12.65 total on the event. Junior Travis Long performed well in all four of her events, as she paced the Tribe with scores of 9.755 on the beam and a season-best 9.625 marks on the floor. Long's total score of 37.775 led the Tribe to all-around. Freshman Ali Medeiros continued her strong rookie season as she posted the team's second-best scores in both the vault and bars.

Senior Christina Padilla led the women to a strong showing at the Hearts Invite with a score of 9.675 on the vault and 9.500 on the bars. Junior Tricia Long performed well in all four of her events, as she paced the Tribe with scores of 9.755 on the beam and a season-best 9.625 marks on the floor. Long's total score of 37.775 led the Tribe to all-around. Freshman Ali Medeiros continued her strong rookie season as she posted the team's second-best scores in both the vault and bars.

For more information, call toll free: 800-854-8105, email info@semestersatsea.org or visit us on the web at www.semestersatsea.org