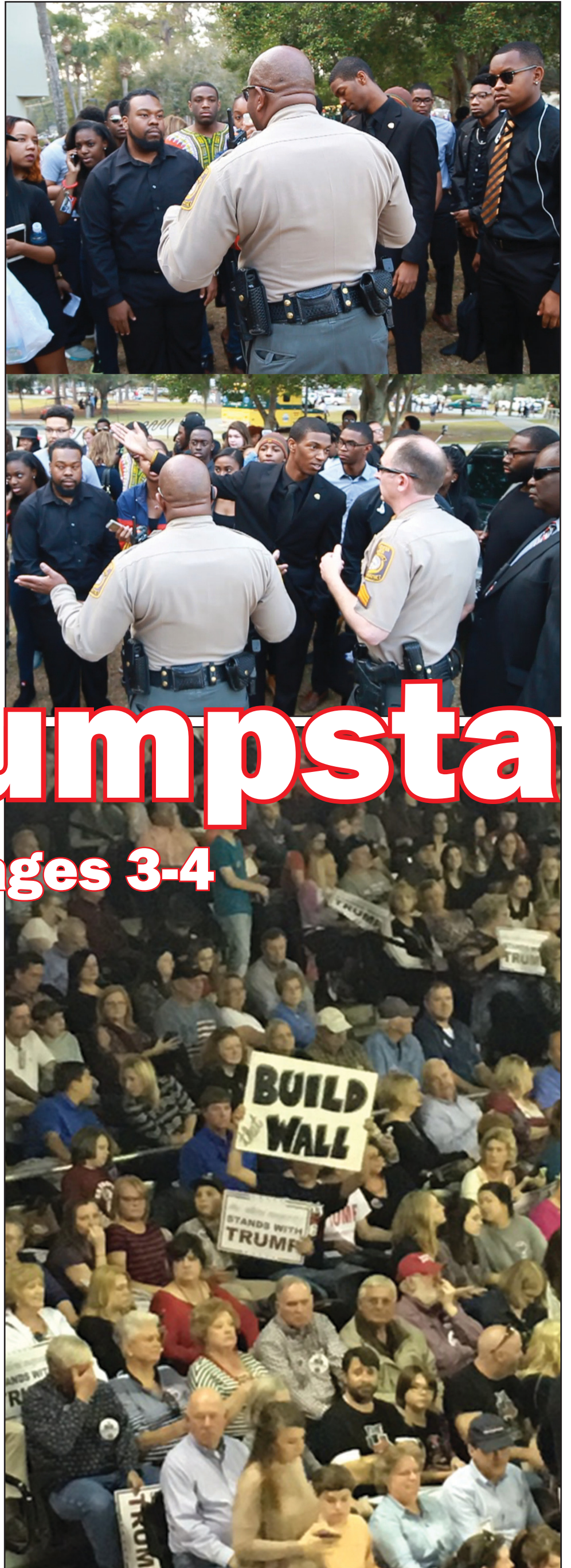




SPECTATOR

THE UNFILTERED, UNCENSORED VOICE OF THE STUDENTS.



#ValTrumpsta

see pages 3-4



Photo of the Week:

Canoe Battleship was held on Tuesday night in the Rec Center. Photo taken by Darian Harris/THE SPECTATOR.

Announcements

CORE's Giant Swing

Get ready to swing. CORE Outdoors is hosting a free giant swing event with valid VSU ID. The event will take place today starting at 2 p.m. and will run to 6 p.m. The event will be held at the CORE Challenge Course.

Anime Tunes

Escape into the animated lands through music this Friday night. Starting at 7 p.m., the "Tune into Anime" event will be in the Student Union Theater.

Fry Baby Fry

The Office of Social Equity will host a fry bread taco event and a showing of the movie "Fry Bread Babies" on March 8. The event will begin at 6:30 p.m. The event will be held in the Office of Social Equity, the white house across from the University Center on Patterson Street. The event is hosted by the Native American Studies Student Association.

34th Annual Connell Lecture

The biology department will host the 34th Annual Connell lecture on Thursday March 10. The lecture will begin at 7 p.m. Tune into next week's issue for our preview!

Want to have your event featured in our Announcements section? Email Editor-in-Chief Jordan Barela at jlbarela@valdosta.edu to have your event featured.

WIN \$100! ESSAY CONTEST!

Professor Emeritus Ron Barnette
Is Sponsoring an Essay Contest for Current VSU Students



"Why Studying Philosophy Is Important To You?"

IN YOUR ESSAY, EXPLAIN HOW CLASSES IN PHIL & REL ADD VALUE TO YOUR EDUCATION AT VSU!

DID PHILOSOPHY:

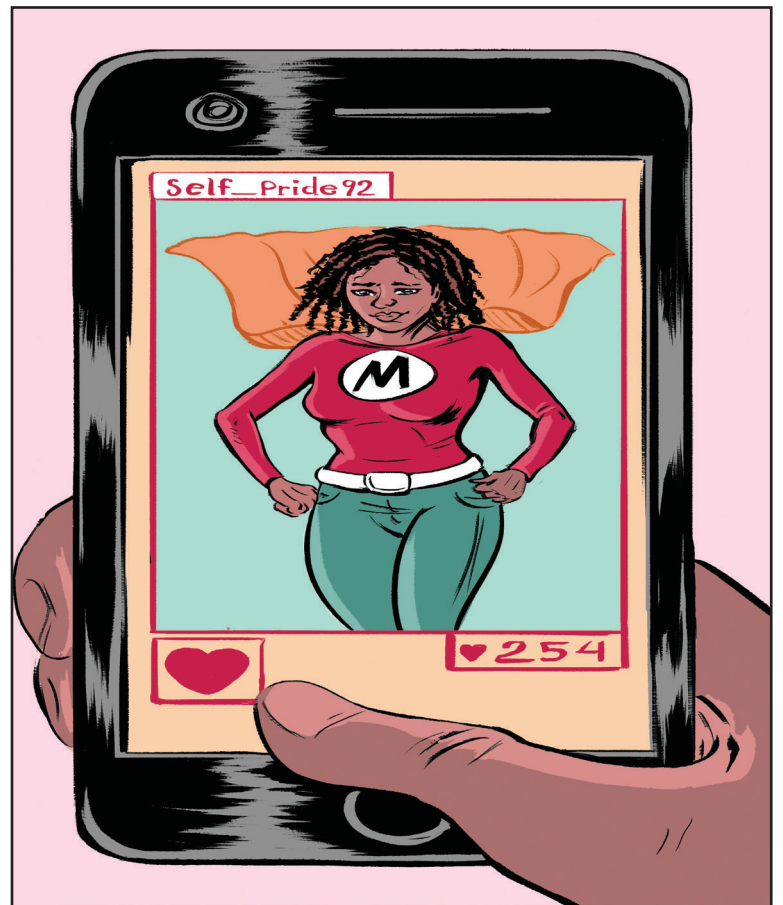
- Help you understand people's beliefs & values?
- Help you to organize a paper?
- Give you critical thinking skills?
- Help you to think about a paper topic?
- Give you a new way of looking at the world?

You do not need to be a major in Philosophy & Religious Studies to enter, but it helps if you had at least one class in PHIL or REL so you can tell us about your experiences!

Essays do not have to be "research papers," they can be personal and reflective. Essays should be grammatically and stylistically correct, and give specific examples of how Philosophy has benefitted you.

ALL ENTRIES SHOULD BE EMAILED AS WORD DOCUMENTS TO DR. JAMES AT CHJAMES@VALDOSTA.EDU

DEADLINE: THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 2016 AT 5:00PM



mctcampus.com

Spectator Classifieds

The *Spectator* prints free classifieds for current students of Valdosta State University only. These must be no more than 40 words, or a \$13.90 charge will apply. Classifieds for faculty, staff, student organizations, student-owned businesses and the general public cost \$13.90 for up to 40 words.

Ads should be sent to the *Spectator* or delivered to our office in 1238 Hopper Hall. The deadline is 5 p.m. Thursday, a week prior. If payment applies, it should be submitted in a sealed envelope at the time the ad is placed or paid via

Mastercard, Visa, Discover or electronic check online through Aimee Napier, Advertising Manager. Email Aimee Napier at acnapier@valdosta.edu to pay online.

Ads must be accompanied by the name and phone number of the person submitting the ad. Students must also submit their VSU Student ID number. Ads must be resubmitted each week, as necessary.

The *Spectator* address is: 1500 N. Patterson St., Valdosta, GA 31698. Our email address is spec_advertising@valdosta.edu.

The *Spectator* reserves the right to reject any classified ad. All ads are subject to standard editing procedures. The *Spectator* is not responsible for mistakes due to a submitted error. The categories for classifieds include: For Sale, For Rent, Sublease, Wanted, Roommate, Services, Personnels and Employment.

vsuspectator.com

For Rent

FOR RENT
RentValdosta.com
229-244-7800

Student Special
SETH TOWNHOMES
2/2.5, \$550/mo
2415 Seth Place, off Pineview

BLAZER COURTYARD
2Bd/1Bth - \$400/mo
909 Slater St.
(2 Blocks South of University Center)
NO APPLICATION FEE
with VSU ID

Services

Options Now
A Life Choice Clinic
A Life-Affirming Clinic Serving VSU

- Free Pregnancy Testing
- Limited Obstetrical Ultrasound
- STI Testing
- Options Counseling

229-506-5017 214 W Park Avenue
OptionsNow.org answer@OptionsNow.org

VSU Students: Your Ad Here - FREE!



Health Tip of the week

“You only have one pair of eyes, so take care of them!”

-CDC.org

VSU students get kicked out of Trump’s rally

Zenobia Harris
COPY EDITOR
zharris@valdosta.edu

Monday night's Donald Trump rally was one filled with thousands of people, both supporters and non-supporters who all came with one goal in mind—to hear from the candidate and get further informed. Unfortunately for a group of about 30 VSU students, that plan was cut short after being escorted out of the Trump rally.

After receiving news of Trump's arrival last week, not all students were jumping with joy. In fact, many were confused as to why Trump was being allowed to use school facilities and students were being notified of the event at such short notice.

One VSU student, senior philosophy major Quinten Sabré Sims, decided to help organize a group of students to go sit in on the Trump rally. Sims said that their plan was not necessarily to go in protest of Trump, but to get informed and silently express displeasure with the administration for failing to inform and include students in the decision to have Trump on the VSU campus.

“We really just wanted to raise awareness that students were upset with the administration, but we didn't want to cause any kind of ruckus in the rally,” Sims

said. “We just wanted to go attend because it's our right to attend the rally just like it's his (Trump's) right to speak.”

The decision to have Trump at the school was one that Dr. Cecil Staton and VSU administration have reiterated had nothing to do with the school.

As stated in a press release from VSU's Office of Communications, Monday's event was "presented by Donald J. Trump for President Inc. The use of VSU's facilities for this event does not constitute an endorsement by the university."

Students who came to participate were encouraged to wear all black, business casual if they could, and bring an item—whether it be a book or headphones—to bide time while at the rally. Many students came with the intentions of genuinely listening to what Trump had to say and printed off tickets to attend like hundreds of other attendees at Monday night's rally.

One student, senior speech communications major Dariel Dickinson, said that she was extremely disappointed with the way the situation was handled, particularly because attending the rally was something she needed to do for a class.

“Basically, we came out here to make a statement,” Dickinson said. “We walked in peacefully, It

was silent; we weren't saying anything. We walked in, walked up the stairs and immediately got told to leave by the police officers.”

The press release from the Office of Communications also stated that protests wouldn't be allowed inside of the complex based on federal law, House Resolution 347.

However, student participants hold firm that the act was much less a disrupting protest and more so a silent show of solidarity among a group of people who were displeased with administration and were looking to learn more about the ideologies of presidential hopeful Donald Trump.

“What happened today was pretty disrespectful, being that we only went in to hear what Donald Trump was talking about,” Khiry Veney, senior speech communications major, said. “We came in with no malicious intent. We walked in quietly. We walked in peacefully. We just happened to walk in as a group and as the same color and that posed a threat to everyone.”

Since the protest, many conflicting reports have come out as to who was responsible for the students being removed from the rally and why.

An article released by USA Today stated that a spokeswoman

for Trump denied reports that students were removed per the request of Mr. Trump. However, VPD Police Chief Brian Childress told USA Today that students were removed by Trump detail.

Valdosta Police Chief Childress also issued a statement on the Valdosta Police Department Facebook page Wednesday morning.

“Second, the youths were clearly being disruptive and according to various sources to include law enforcement, the Trump staff, and other spectators who observed the initial actions of the youth, they were being disruptive to include using profanity, well before law enforcement made contact with them. This and only this reason was why they were asked to leave the complex,” Childress said in the post.

Donald Thieme, assistant professor for the Department of Physics, Astronomy and Geosciences, was sitting across the aisle from many of the students who were asked to leave. Thieme said that while he would consider it a protest, he wasn't intimidated by what the students did and was more so concerned with the Trump supporters who were allowed to stay.

“I applaud our students for trying to attend the Trump rally even if they disagreed with most of his proposals and message about bringing back things from

America's past,” Thieme said. “Although I would prefer to have seen the situation handled differently, I did not feel that I had any authority to intervene on their behalf since VSU was not really in charge of the event. I do think that there was a violent situation unfolding, and I respect the police for keeping the peace by defusing that. It sounds like the violence at the rally in Virginia may have caused them to overreact.”

While the students were disappointed that they did not get to see Trump enter the stage, Sims said that students should continue to stay informed, speak to the administration about the event, and work on mending a broken bond between students and VSU officials.

“I think that the student body needs to speak out against the administration, and actually—not to deter them or anything—get clarification to what's going on,” Sims said. “(We need to) rebuild the bond that we used to have with the administration because it was a beautiful thing when I got to this school, and I hope that it continues on from when I graduate in May. I think the students have realized there is a disconnect that is happening, and we want to put an end to it so we can move forward and be the best university we can possibly be.”



‘Turning Point USA’ gives students a voice for change

Photo provided by Shelby Simmons

Turning Point USA is comprised of VSU students and anyone else who wants to have his or her voice heard.

Jyrell Wynn
CORRESPONDENT
jdwynn@valdosta.edu

It is time for your voice to be heard through Turning Point USA.

Shelby Simmons, senior political science major, became involved in the Turning Point USA after a field director contacted her to discuss more about the organization. Simmons connected with how the organization ran and the supportive atmosphere towards students. She worked on registering the chapter at VSU to get more students involved.

Turning Point USA's mission is to educate students about relevant information while promoting free market and capitalism. These issues include student loan debt, healthcare, freedom of speech, and anything else that deals with the freedom of students. Tabling and personal discussion allow

students to discuss issues in an open dialogue.

Freedom of speech and student loan debts are some of the main issues at VSU.

“We still have a free speech zone which limits the first amendment rights of students to a specific area on campus,” Simmons said. “We want students to be able to enjoy their full first amendment rights.”

Turning Point USA is working on legislation with VSU's Student Government Association to get rid of the free speech zones and “give the freedom back to students.” They also want to discuss student loan debt by informing students why they have so much debt and ways to prevent debt in the future.

Students can go to Turning Point USA's tables, which are up at least once a week and give some information about them-

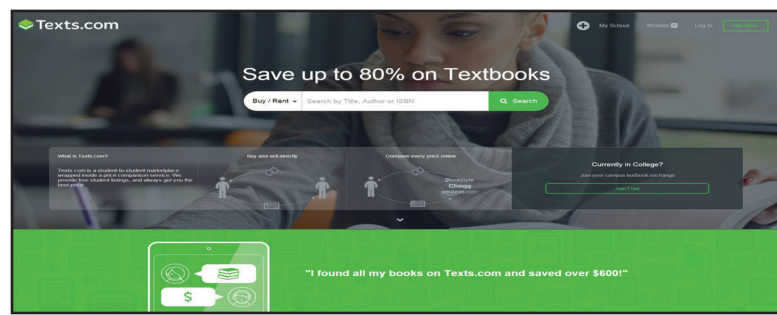
selves so they can be invited to the next meeting or event.

Join them on campus connect at Turning Point USA, Facebook at Turningpointusa@ValdostaState, or Twitter at TPUSA_VSU.

If students wish to write, they can contribute to their website www.hypeline.org and share their opinions. Turning Point USA hosts several conferences such as a Young Latino Conference, Young Women's Leadership, and a High School Activist Conference. The organization flies students out to cities and educate them on how to be better leaders and get involved in communities.

With over 11,000 locations on college campuses across the United States, Turning Point USA is here to stay. They will have a table about less government and more freedom in front of Odum Library on March 9.

SGA partners with Texts.com to help students sell books



Screenshot courtesy of texts.com

Jyrell Wynn
CORRESPONDENT
jdwynn@valdosta.edu

Why do college students pay so much for education, especially textbooks?

With texts.com, there is a solution because it is an online platform for students to buy and sell textbooks among themselves. The Student Government Association has teamed up with texts.com to make textbooks affordable by encouraging students to sell to other students on campus.

Texts.com is specific for only VSU students and compares prices to other online textbook sellers.

Student selling the textbooks will make money and the student receiving the textbook will get the textbook cheaper, so both students benefit. You can also check the condition of the book and can include your notes to pump up how much you charge.

Texts.com reached out to Valdosta State because “they were looking for colleges around our size” to bring their program to campus.

Colleen Kavanaugh, SGA vice president, was interested in the program and presented to the school senate.

A large number of the senators and students SGA have said they buy their textbooks from students instead of from the bookstore or ordering them online.

“As student government, we are supposed to be advocates for the students,” Kavanaugh said. “We want to make students as safe as possible and make everything really easy.”

If students want to take charge of their education, go to texts.com and make an account with your Valdosta State email address. There are no hidden fees. Students are advised to exchange textbooks in an open, safe environment.

NEWS



Valdosta stricken with the 'gooseTrumps'

Photo taken by Kyle Dawson/THE SPECTATOR

Presidential hopeful Donald Trump visited Valdosta on Monday. He held a rally in the PE complex. An estimated 7,000 attendees were piled in the Complex with people still waiting outside.

Kenzie Kesselring

OPINIONS EDITOR
kkesselring@valdosta.edu

Chants of “Trump, Trump, Trump!” filled the PE complex on Monday night as the Republican presidential candidate walked on stage to address the approximately 15,000 people inside and outside of the complex.

Doors to the PE complex were set to open at 4 p.m. but authorities ended up letting patrons in

around 3 p.m. The complex quickly filled up and some were turned away at the door due to lack of available space inside of the gym.

Before Trump entered the rally, there were several speakers who took the stage before him. There was an opening prayer and the singing of the National Anthem before Chad Etheridge, Vivian Childs, and Brandon Phillips spoke.

Etheridge spoke on behalf of Farmers for Trump, while Childs then told the crowd why she was

supporting Trump. Phillips then thanked all of the Valdosta Trump campaign volunteers.

The beginning of the candidate’s time on stage started with Trump announcing the endorsement he received that day from NASCAR. He then introduced the chairman and CEO, Bryan France as well as iconic NASCAR driver Bill Elliot and son, Chase Elliot.

During the remainder of his 45-minute speech The Donald addressed the importance of voting on Super Tuesday, social

security, foreign relations, appealing Obama Care, and of course, building the iconic wall on America’s southern border.

In addition to discussing the important issues, Trump also talked in detail about his self-funded campaign and his current success in the polls. He cited a CNN poll from Monday saying he was polling 49 percent on the Republican side.

Trump attempted to inspire supporters by discussing the exciting movement he believes he and his Trumpeters are inciting in

politics.

“What we have going is so special. It’s incredible,” said Trump.

While most patrons in attendance seem to be supporting Trump and what he was saying, there were a few that did not agree with what the candidate was preaching. Students and Valdosta citizens were free to protest outside of the complex on Reames Field and all protests remained peaceful.

ICHIIBAN

JAPANESE STEAK HOUSE & SUSHI BAR
ALL YOU CAN EAT HIBACHI & SUSHI



Next to 5 Points Shopping Center • 2965 N. Ashley Street 229-249-9010

Trump, first hand.

An editor talks about what it what like to attend rally

Gabe Burns

SPORTS EDITOR
gcburns@valdosta.edu

On Monday, thousands gathered at the VSU P.E. Complex as Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump, took his campaign to Valdosta.

The Spectator was excited to cover an event of such magnitude. Regardless of our views of Trump, this was media gold. The building was already filled with enthusiasm, both for and against the polarizing businessman. We promptly secured a spot roughly 40 feet from the podium.

After about an hour-and-a-half of standing around, I pondered sitting behind the podium. Having covered the opening of the candidate’s Valdosta headquarters, I knew Barbara Schmader, the Lowndes County manager of Trump’s campaign. Ms. Schmader was working the event, and gave me the unique perspective of sitting behind the main stage.

The area was a myriad of Trump supporters. The group passed around a variety of signs:

“Farmers for Trump,” “Women for Trump,” and of course, “Make America Great Again.”

While there was plenty of age diversity among this group, it was also a microcosm of the event.

When Trump came out on stage, we were the first group recognized. Whenever he stepped back following brash statements or during loud applause, he made sure to acknowledge us. Don Jr., Trump’s son, was brought out midway through the speech.

After speaking, Trump came to our section and took selfies with some supporters and autographed apparel and signs for others.

Photojournalists from national outlets surrounded us to photograph Trump.

As Trump made his way back to the primary crowd, those in our section began to disperse.

The event was one each of us will remember the rest of our lives. No matter what job we have in media, this was our first taste of covering a presidential rally.



Police brutality strikes again: Two LAPD officers charged with sexually assaulting women on duty

Our point of view...

We stand with 'Trumped' students

This past Monday, Valdosta State was graced with the presence of Republican candidate Donald Trump. It came at somewhat of short notice and was a surprise to all. Some were excited for his appearance, whereas others were either disgusted or indifferent. There wasn't much preparation for students as far as preparing for the traffic, limited parking or closing of certain on campus facilities.

Students received an email the day of the rally, stating "Those who wish to protest may do so as long as the event remains civil and does not interfere with traffic or other campus operations.

"Protests will not be allowed inside or near the P.E. Complex."

Many students have felt this year that administration hasn't been too keen on listening to students' complaints or concerns. In addition to this lack of attention to students' concerns, many students feel as if the administration did not listen to the frustrations of those students who were thrown out of Monday's rally due to what some believe was racial profiling. Is this how VSU is going to allow their students to be treated?

Concerning the students, Interim President Cecil Staton released a statement saying that "The Trump campaign, together with the Secret Service and other law-enforcement officials, had responsibility for such decisions, not VSU. As we reminded the campus via email last Friday, current federal law (HR 347)

does not allow for protesting of any type in an area under protection by the Secret Service."

It seems like the administration is once again dodging its responsibilities. How could our campus condone someone with such foul and discriminatory rules to come on this campus and throw out students who weren't even protesting? There were a lot of groups at the rally, dressed in the same color, standing together to see Trump. Why were these students different? And how is it that this has been nationally recognized as wrong by many, including news outlets and online magazines, but not by our own university. While we as an editorial staff can see how this could be construed as protesting, if the students escorted out say they were not protesting, then we believe they should have the final word on their intentions while attending the rally. We are firm supporters of peaceful protesting, at the same time; we have to recognize the law that has been put into place as well.

While we support the presidential's candidates' right to free speech, students' right to free speech should be equally as protected.

If VSU is going to host events here, the students should always remain the priority. Our education and safety should always come first, no matter how much money is involved. Our voices should always be heard.

Jada Dukes
STAFF WRITER
jldukes@valdosta.edu

Police brutality is arguably one of the most common phrases of 2015 and the same can be said for 2016. American citizens have been falling victim to assault, rape, and unjustifiable murder at the hands of local law enforcement for years and it seems like there is little being done to prevent these incidents from happening.

It is hard to believe that it has only been a little over a month since the sentencing of former police officer Daniel Holtzclaw, and now there is yet another case of officers abusing their power and cause detriment to local residents.

According to Cosmopolitan Magazine, two LAPD officers have been taken into custody and charged with rape and sexual abuse while on duty. The officers, Luiz Valenzuela, and James Nichols reportedly threatened to send four women to jail if the women did not perform sexual acts on the officers.

Cosmopolitan also reported that the officers have faced similar accusations in the past and were

It is a sad day in America when you realize that American citizens can't even depend on the good ole boys in blue to protect them anymore.

put on leave as a result. There was also a \$575,000 lawsuit filed against the police station that also focused on these same officers.

It is truly ridiculous how police officers will work especially hard to protect other officers no matter the costs, but it seems to take years before they try to do anything to help the innocent civilians. Valenzuela and Nichols have allegedly been getting away with their disgusting antics for entirely too long and the police station they work for has no excuse for waiting this long before doing anything to stop them.

The fact that this is not the first time these two officers have had these kinds of allegations thrown at them shows that there has always been reason to suspect them of foul play but for some reason no one thought to do anything about it, which is more than likely because their police buddies didn't want to rat them out.

These two men deserve to be put in jail for their actions and their badges should be stripped from them permanently. It is sad day in America when you realize that American citizens can't even depend on the good ole boys in blue to protect them anymore.

Freelance writers can now find work on Facebook

Terrance Johnson
STAFF WRITER
terrijohnson@valdosta.edu

With the journalism industry in a slow decline, Facebook has decided to open up Instant Articles to any publisher; any publisher being professional media organizations as well as freelance and amateur writers.

This means that anybody will have access to the same revenue streams as Facebook's professional partners as long as they sign up for Facebook's Audience Network and have a Facebook 'page,' according to a company spokesperson.

Instant Articles participants will receive about 70 percent of the

revenue from ads sold within their stories if they let Facebook do the selling. This could prove to be a great market for freelance journalists to increase their pay.

With traditional newspapers going out of style and online platforms becoming more popular, this could be the direction that the field of journalism is going in. Social media features have already been incorporated in traditional newspaper's online platforms, so it comes as no surprise that social media is now incorporating actual news reporting on to their platforms.

Writing is difficult work, but compensation for that work seems to be wearing thin in the digital age. Writers need a new

and innovative way of getting compensated for their work and in this case, Facebook seems to be trying to help find a solution to the disruption they helped cause in the journalism industry.

"Importantly, all Instant Articles need a web link as well, so someone participating couldn't simply publish their work via Facebook only," said Alex Kantowitz, BuzzFeed news reporter. "They could, however, set up a simple website to stage the posts, and use Instant Articles as the primary distribution mechanism."

It would still be hard to get paid a decent amount considering the rates for online ads, but getting paid anything is certainly better than writing just for attention.

This editorial was written by a member of the editorial staff and expresses the general opinion of The Spectator.

Editorial Staff

Editor-in-Chief:

Jordan Barela

Managing Editor:

Tatyana Phelps

Opinions Editor:

Kenzie Kesselring

College Life Editor:

Mayah Cantave

Sports Editor:

Gabe Burns

Photo Editor:

Kyle Dawson

Web Editor:

Kayla Stroud

Multimedia Editor:

Darian Harris

Social Media Editor:

Tyra Mills

Copy Editor:

Zenobia Harris

The Spectator Staff

Business Staff

Advertising Manager:

Aimee Napier

Business Manager:

Anna Wetherington

Asst. Advertising Manager:

Meaghan Bitters

Circulation Manager:

Tyler Gerken

Graphic Designers:

Casey O'Kelley, Lindsay Schultze,

Kahlil Slader

Reporters/Photographers

Pam Agedah, Tiarra Bell, Tresia Bowles, Miles Brown, Geneva

Crooks, Kelsey Dickerson,

Jada Dukes, Julie Jernigan, Terrance Johnson,

Erin Martin, Ronald Moore, Julia Rodriguez,

Aldean Starr, John Stephen,

Olivia Studdard, Austin Wells, Lamarcus Wilkerson,

Carlus Williams, Jyrell Wynn

Faculty Advisers

Dr. Pat Miller

Dr. Ted Geltner

Cindy Montgomery

Contact Us

VSU Spectator
Hopper Hall, Room 1238
1500 N. Patterson St.
Valdosta, GA 31698

Newsroom

(229) 333-5688

Advertising

(229) 333-5686

Business

(229) 333-5686

Fax

(229) 249-2618

E-mail

spec@valdosta.edu

Adv. email

Spec_Advertising@valdosta.edu

Letters to the editors should be no longer than 500 words in length. Letters are subject to editing for style, length, grammar, and libelous material. Not all letters are published. Letters should be typed and turned in with a disk, or e-mailed as an attachment by Tuesdays before 5 p.m. Letters must include name, year in school, major, job title or other appropriate identification and phone number for verification.

Opinions expressed in the Spectator other than editorials are opinions of the writers of signed columns and not necessarily those of the Spectator and its staff. All rights reserved. Reprints by permission of the editors. Views in this newspaper are not necessarily those of the Valdosta State University administration, faculty and staff.

OPINIONS

The Pope rightfully condemns American leaders' hate speech

Miles Brown

STAFF WRITER

milbrown@valdosta.edu

Two weeks ago on Feb. 12 Pope Francis visited Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, for five days to celebrate mass. The New York Times described his presence "unafraid, and brought with him only smiles and hugs, and words of solace and encouragement."

He made a stop by a prison and gave encouraging words and messages to the inmates. He encouraged them to better society and turn their wrongdoings into something great. One inmate in the prison made a remark on the

Pope's words of wisdom saying that he wants the inmates to be "prophets" and "work so that this society which uses people and discards them will not go on claiming victims," according to the New York Times.

Pope Francis has always visited prisons, schools, villages and homes to talk and inspire not only Christian followers to be a better version of themselves but to help change nonbelievers into positive figures in our society.

His trip to Mexico shows how in touch he is with his Latin American culture and how he desperately wants to do something to

change the country for the better. These words of encouragement and compassion are different from the words of anger, fear and resentment coming from many in the United States.

Many feel as if the illegal immigration problem is getting worse because of the United States/ Mexico border.

"I think he doesn't understand the problems our country has," Donald Trump said after the Pope's comments last week, showing a depth of ignorance that is his trademark. "I don't think he understands the danger of the open border that we have with

Mexico."

The comments made by Republicans such as Trump do represent a large majority of people in the United States, and things such as the ridiculous idea on building a wall on the U.S and Mexico line paid for by Mexico could actually become a reality with Trump running to be the next president.

"A person, who thinks only about building walls, wherever they may be, and not building bridges, is not Christian. This is not the gospel," the Pope told CNN journalist.

This statement speaks volumes about the character of Pope Fran-

cis, showing just how honest he is when faced with ignorance.

The United States should look to the other countries to build relationships and connect, not isolate itself and refuse to acknowledge anyone who is not an American citizen who looks to the U.S as a safe haven.

Furthermore, the Pope's ending remarks were that "At times, I felt like weeping to see so much hope in a people who are suffering so much." This statement served as a reminder that the Pope is human too and wants to see a positive change in Mexico's future.

Kentucky proposing Viagra restrictions

Ronald Moore

STAFF WRITER

ronmoore@valdosta.edu

Health Care Bill (HB 396) sponsored by Kentucky Rep. and nurse Mary Lou Marzian, is gaining national attention. Marzian's "Viagra" House Bill 396 was formed in response to Kentucky's latest majority male sponsored anti-abortion efforts. These efforts include the signed Senate Bill 4, "Informed consent" and state senate approved Senate Bill 152, "Pre Abortion Ultrasound." This bill would require in-person, day-prior consultations and narrated ultrasounds of abortion recipients.

House Bill 396 would require erectile dysfunction medication seeking patients to complete multiple doctor visits, be legally married, provide documented spousal consent to medication and the undergoing of an oath not to use said medication with none other than the consenting spouse,

according to the Kentucky Legislator website.

Analogies between women's reproductive rights and male erection aid aren't perfect, although the comparison has been presented in numerous forms across the nation.

Oklahoma saw the promotion of "every sperm is sacred" and "personhood at conception" legislation, which would've recreated laws banning oral or anal sexual acts, along with masturbation by outlawing and defining semen deposits outside vaginas as criminal acts against the unborn children.

Marzian took jabs at pro-life/gun proponents by expressing intent to sponsor efforts requiring prospective gun buyers to receive in-person, day-prior gun violence counseling. Marzian said her bills are family-value based but does not believe they will pass. "I want to protect these men from themselves," said Marzian.

Apple v. FBI war rages on

Julia Rodriguez

ASST. OPINIONS EDITOR

jrodriguez@valdosta.edu

Last December there was an act of terrorism in San Bernardino. The FBI began an investigation and requested the help of Apple in getting information. Apple released to the FBI all the information that they had access to, but drew the line at building a new version of iOS that would allow the FBI to get information from any phone.

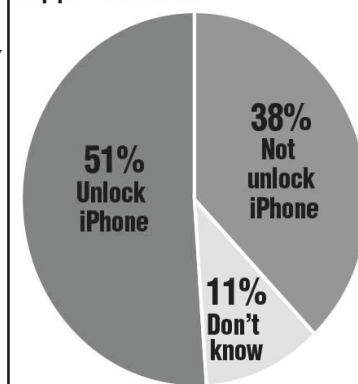
"We were shocked and outraged by the deadly act of terrorism in San Bernardino last December," said Apple in their message to their customers, "We mourn the loss of life and want justice for all those whose lives were affected."

Apple makes it clear that they sincerely care about the situation and are doing all that they can to help. Their reason for not wanting to build a new

Should Apple unlock killer's iPhone?

In response to court orders tied to the FBI investigation of the San Bernardino attacks

Apple should...



Source: Pew Research
Graphic: Tribune News Service

MCTCampus

version of iOS that would allow access to information, is because it would open phones

up to being easily hacked. Apple truly cares about the safety of their customers.

Apple claims that "Rather than asking for legislative action through Congress, the FBI is proposing an unprecedented use of the All Writs Act of 1789 to justify an expansion of its authority."

People tend to keep their whole lives on their phones, from e-mails, to pictures and locations, to bank information and personal records about friends, addresses and agendas. A leak of this information could ruin a person's life but with the current encryption on the phones, people do not have to worry about this information becoming public.

Apple has legitimate fears of putting their customers in danger and therefore is not in the wrong. They have already helped with the investigation and doing any more would do more harm than good.

Hassle Free Flying

- Daily Nonstops Through Atlanta Worldwide
- Competitive Fares
- Free Parking
- Free Wi-Fi
- Hassle-Free Security Screening
- Calculate Rates at www.flyvaldosta.com

Valdosta Regional Airport

1750 Airport Road, Valdosta, GA 31601 • I-75, Exit 13

Reservations: www.delta.com, 1-800-221-1212 or your travel agent

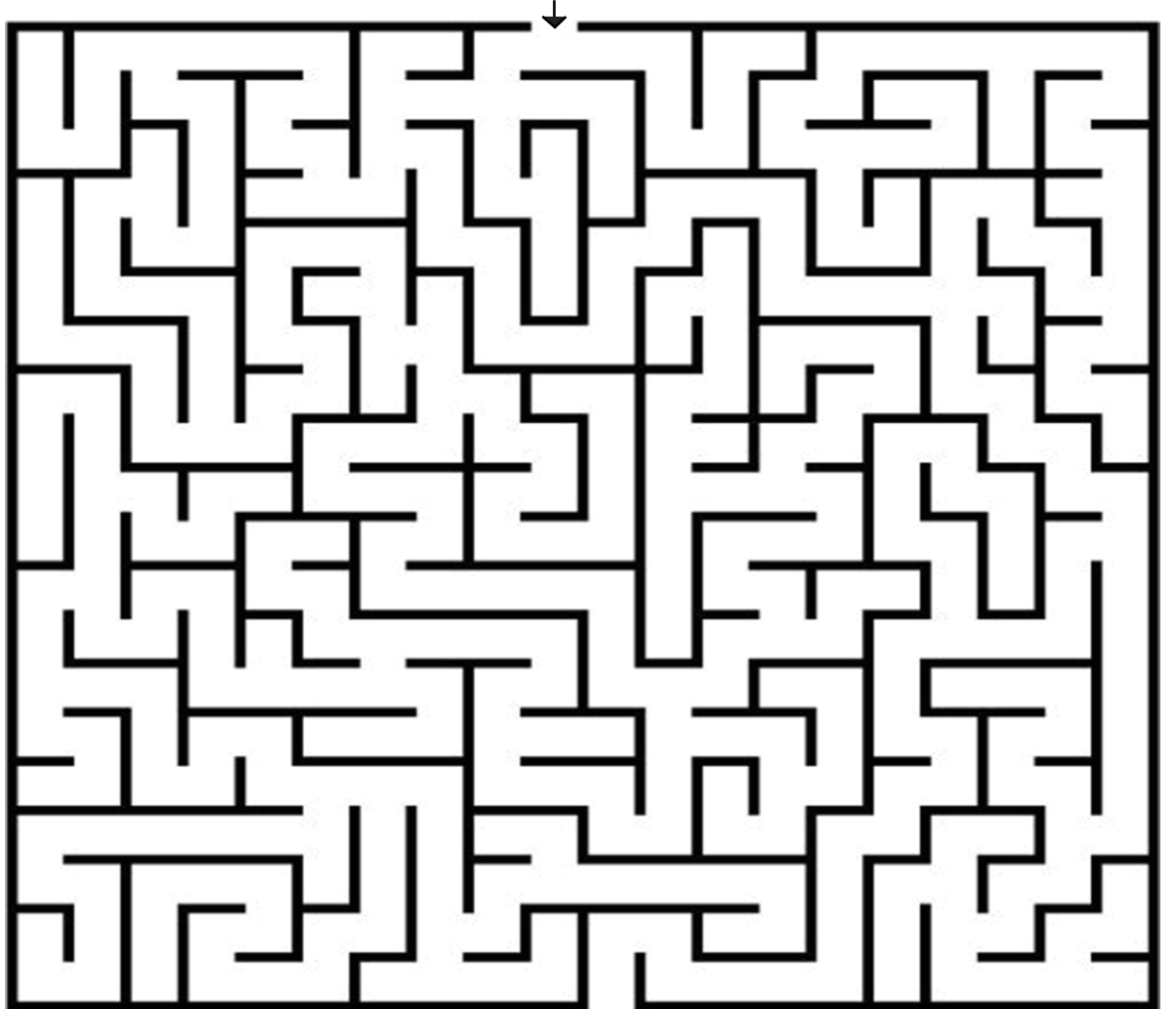
Follow us on Twitter @vsuspectator for VSU news 24/7!



DID YOU KNOW?

If you look hard enough, you can spot Pac-Man in the Disney movie Tron.

Can you make your way through our maze?



THE TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13						14	
15			16						17	
18			19				20	21		
	22			23	24	25				
			26					27		
				28						
	29	30	31		32			33	34	
	35			36					37	38
39							40			41
42			43	44	45	46			47	
48			49						50	
51			52						53	

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

ACROSS

- 1 Conway or Allen
- 4 Actress Turner and others
- 9 Felix or Stimp
- 12 Actress and director Lupino
- 13 Bumbling
- 14 Montgomery's state: abbr.
- 15 "___-Stop"; movie for Liam Neeson
- 16 Caffé ___; Starbucks order
- 17 Actor Gulager
- 18 Excuse
- 20 Fireplace residue
- 22 "CBS Evening News with ___"
- 26 Submerged sandbank
- 27 Linear measurements: abbr.
- 28 Actor Brynner
- 29 Scotsman's cap
- 32 Vote into office
- 35 Drama series for Don Johnson
- 39 Not smashed
- 40 Lucy and Ricky's landlady
- 42 "___ Life to Live"
- 43 "___ Steel"; Henry Cavill sci-fi film
- 47 Not too long ___; recently
- 48 ___ person; apiece
- 49 Growing older
- 50 "Tic ___ Dough"; game show or old
- 51 ...FDR, ___, DDE, JFK, LBJ...
- 52 Below, to a poet
- 53 BPOE member

DOWN

- 1 Turner or Fey
- 2 Kelly Clarkson, Carrie Underwood, Jordin Sparks, etc.
- 3 ___-depressive; bipolar
- 4 Frasier's ex
- 5 Actress Ortiz
- 6 Butterfly catcher's need
- 7 Likely
- 8 Commit robbery
- 9 Stored away, as in a computer
- 10 Actress Kirstie and her family
- 11 Greek letters
- 19 Derek and Diddley
- 21 Stallone, to friends
- 23 ___ with; treated without seriousness
- 24 ___ Zahn
- 25 Burstyn or Pompeo
- 29 Steak choices
- 30 Adopted brother on "Little House on the Prairie"
- 31 Name for a Stooze
- 33 AB followers
- 34 "Sesame Street" fan, often
- 36 "The Suze ___ Show"
- 37 "10 Things ___ About You"; Heath Ledger movie
- 38 "Boston ___"; series that starred James Spader and William Shatner
- 39 Tenth-grader, for short
- 41 ___ up; throw in jail
- 44 "Men of a Certain ___"
- 45 Peeples or Long
- 46 Canadian province in which Alex Trebek was born: abbr.



We've updated our app.

Go and download it from any App Store!



Your one-stop shop for all graduation preparation!

WHEN:

Tuesday, March 8, 2016

10:00 am - 6:00 pm



Wednesday, March 9, 2016

10:00 am - 6:00 pm

WHERE:

Student Union Bookstore

1st Floor

- Purchase Cap & Gown.
- Check Your Graduation Status.
- Check Out VSU Graduate Programs.
- Take A Picture with GradImages.
- Have Resume Critiqued.
- Sign-Up for Mock Interview Workshops.
- Order Class Ring & Announcements.
- Checkout Graduation Items.
- Join The 1906 Society.
- Join Our Alumni Association.
- Get Info About Financial Assistance.
- Sign-Up for Amazing Door Prizes!

www.valdosta.edu/commencement



DID YOU KNOW?

According to SDPCHelp, there are over 20 billion web pages on the internet, and that number is rapidly growing every day.

Physicians unveil first transplant of male sexual organ

Tiarra Bell
STAFF WRITER
tcbell@valdosta.edu

For the first time in U.S history, surgeons will perform a penis transplant on an American veteran that was brutally injured during combat.

The unnamed recipient lost majority of his penis during an explosion while deployed in Afghanistan.

Surgeons hope to find a penis transplant from a deceased man providing full functions including urination, sex and sensation. Whoever is the donor, his family will need to give permission for the penis to be removed and surgically attached to the recipient.

There have only been two penis transplant procedures

in the world. The first was in China in 2006, which ended in the patient wanting it to be removed. The second was in 2014 in South Africa, which was so successful that the patient fathered a child.

The surgery could occur within a few weeks, pending the availability of a donor organ that fits age and skin requirements.

The penis transplant surgery does not involve the testes, so if a man has this procedure completed and fathers a child, he will produce his own genetic offspring, not the donor's.

A penis transplant also raises a lot of questions such as what are alternatives for penis transplants. What are the

requirements for penis transplants receivers?

An alternative to a transplant is penis reconstruction. Penis reconstruction involves cutting a flap of skin along with blood vessels from other parts of the body and shaping it into a penis.

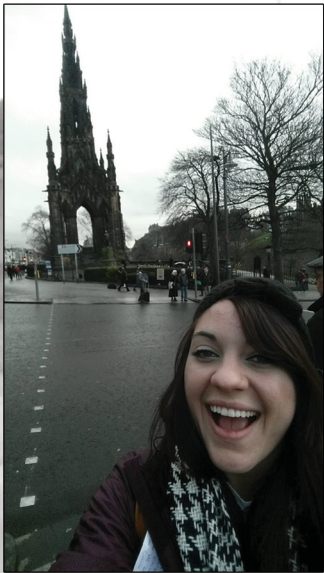
Then there is the expense that cost between \$200,000 and \$400,000 for a surgery that has never been done in the United States before and one that is not covered by insurance.

For now, penis transplants are only being considered for injured veterans. Eventually, the procedure could be performed on transgender men and women, as well as men with birth defects.

SPEND A SEMESTER OR YEAR ABROAD!!!

"STUDYING ABROAD HAS BEEN BOTH A LIBERATING AND GROUNDING EXPERIENCE FOR ME. SEEING THE WORLD OUTSIDE OF THE CONFINES OF EVERYDAY LIFE IS A VERY HUMBLING PRIVILEGE TO HAVE."

"LIVING INTERNATIONALLY HAS RENEWED MY PRIDE IN MY HOME AND STRENGTHENED MY APPRECIATION FOR MY ROOTS."



CHELSEA NABB, 23
ART EDUCATION
SENIOR



SUNDERLAND, UK
UNIVERSITY OF SUNDERLAND



VSU STUDY ABROAD
studyabroad@valdosta.edu
valdosta.edu/studyabroad
229.333.7410

"ENHANCE THE VALUE OF YOUR DEGREE & STUDY ABROAD"

Young Jenners enter the gaming world

Julie Jernigan
STAFF WRITER
jjernigan@valdosta.edu

It's a Kardashian world and we're just living in it, or Jenner to be exact. Kendall and Kylie Jenner have accomplished more in their lifetime than we ever could, and they haven't made it to 21 yet. Whether their success is from nepotism or hard work is a whole other story.

When they're not filming "Keeping up with the Kardashians", they're modeling, making fashion lines, becoming authors, and being social media queens. If that wasn't enough, they just came out with their own video game like big sis Kim Kardashian.

Kendall and Kylie's game is similar to Kim's as both have the same premise--to become famous for being famous like they did. A player can travel to different cities as they become available, and party at events and social gatherings to earn fans. He or she can customize their avatar with clothes similar to Ken and Ky's wardrobe, and can even go as specific as what kind of makeup someone prefers. A player can buy property and furniture, and go on dates with strangers to help

gain status.

Playing Kim K's game when it came out was addicting so when I heard the Jenners were coming out with a game, I told myself, "No, you can't do this to yourself again. It's not worth it, and it'll probably be the same as Kim's." But I downloaded it for the sake of journalism.

Ok, it's not the "best" game out there, but if anyone is looking for a mind-numbing yet addicting game, then this one is for them. This whole game is basically clicking on stars to earn points and fake money to buy fake clothes for a fake lifestyle. Kendall and Kylie's game is geared toward people around their age, so it's more social media prevalent in that whenever an event is finished a player posts a picture with a comment, and it's like their form of Instagram. Also, when he or she starts the game, they have to essentially start as a YouTuber and vlog about everything they do.

Kendall and Kylie interact with the players more than Kim K ever did. Whenever anyone completes a big milestone in the game a video of the real life K and K pop up to send a congratulations. It seems as if I'm actually their friend, however pathetic that sounds.



Let **Centralized Advising** Help You Stay On Course!



VSU Centralized Advising
Pine Hall
Mon-Thurs 8-5:30 pm
Fri 8-3 pm
229-245-4378

- First Year Advising
- First Year Programs
- First Year Learning Communities



DID YOU KNOW?

One third of the tap water used for drinking in North America is used to brew daily cups of coffee.

Women take the stage for 'V-Monologues'

Kelsey Dickerson

STAFF WRITER

kedickerson@valdosta.edu

This past weekend students and members of the community joined together to enjoy a show dedicated to women.

Feb 25 through the 27, Valdosta State's Women's and Gender Studies program put on The Vagina Monologues, written by playwright and women's activist Eve Ensler, in the student union theater.

The theater was transformed into a more intimate stage with a platform lit by small spotlights, a mic stand with a black feather boa, and a set of smaller lights that read "C**T" set on the front of the stage (a campy wink to one of the monologues entitled "Reclaiming C**t"). A podium adorned with a giant red "V" was also set off to one side of the stage where a narrator would stand.

The show had viewers laughing and nodding along. The actresses

unapologetically spoke out about women's issues and the taboo that is women's sexuality in a way that was relatable and funny.

Asia Johnson's performance of "My Angry Vagina" was among one of the funniest and most relatable of the entire show, while Keishaunda Fountain and Cleo Poole's rendition of "Six-Year-Old Girl" is a bittersweet monologue that will remind you of a time in life before society's pressure influenced your thoughts about womanhood.

This isn't to say the monologues are all funny or light, or are entirely about what makes women angry. "Not So Happy Fact," a factoid about genital mutilation, and "My Vagina Was My Village" will remind you of the real struggles women face all over the world every day.

Overall, the monologues were eye-opening, entertaining, and wholly relatable. Thanks to co-directors Beautiful-Summer Spears and Asia Johnson, the entire play stayed relevant to the audience

even 10 years after its conception and went off without a hitch.

According to the program, all profits from the show go to the V-Day One Billion Rising Revolution campaign, a global movement started by Ensler to stop violence against women and girls, VSU's Women's and Gender Studies' sexual assault prevention program, and The Haven, a non-profit that provides emergency shelter and services to victims of family violence and sexual assault.

Adulting Made Easy: Ways to be more productive

Meaghan Bitters

STAFF WRITER

mkbitters@valdosta.edu

With all the hustle and bustle of daily college life, it can be hard to balance school, work, homework, fitness, and your social life. It's easy to become discouraged and feel overwhelmed. Don't let adult responsibilities get you down and prevent your success.

Here are ten tips to help you become more productive, and thus successfully balance college life:

1. Wake up early.

If you wake up 30 minutes to an hour earlier each day, you will have more time for planning out your day. You also won't feel rushed or stressed, but rather calm and ready to take on the day.

2. Make a to-do list

Every morning write down at least three things that you are realistically capable of accomplishing that day. A to-do list can help you stay on task and make sure you're accomplishing what you need to do in a timely manner.

3. Write a stop doing list.

There's always room for improvement and if you set goals to stop doing things that have a negative impact on your life,

you'll start to feel less stressed and therefore, are able to be more productive.

4. Use a calendar

Calendars allow you to have an overview of your schedule.

5. Set alarms to keep you aware of time

You can set alarms to remind you to complete a task, take a break, or to move on to the next task

6. Set aside time for when you can relax

Setting aside non-working time gives you something to look forward to and can be motivational. According to psychologytoday.com, solitude helps to improve concentration and increase productivity.

7. Stop multitasking

8. Use technology to eliminate distractions

9. Change your evening routine

Do things at night that will better prepare you for the morning.

10. Prepare meals ahead of time

By making your breakfast, lunch and snacks the night before, you'll save time and money by not having to go out and buy food throughout the day.

Did You know That Philosophy Majors Will Be Top Earners in 2016?

Philosophy majors are projected to be the top-paid Bachelor's degree graduates in 2016, according to results of NACE's Winter 2016 Salary Survey.

Academic Major	Mean	25th Percentile	Median	75th Percentile
Philosophy	\$49,000	\$43,000	\$48,000	\$55,000
Visual & Performing Arts	\$47,600	\$42,000	\$46,000	\$50,000
History	\$46,286	\$40,000	\$46,000	\$50,500
Foreign Language & Literature	\$46,083	\$40,000	\$43,250	\$50,000
English Language & Literature	\$45,438	\$40,250	\$43,500	\$48,000
Liberal Arts/General Studies	\$45,063	\$40,000	\$45,000	\$50,250

Source: Winter 2016 Salary Survey, National Association of Colleges and Employers

Find out more about Philosophy and Religious Studies Courses at Valdosta State University!

Watch our video here!



For more info, contact the VSU Department of Philosophy & Religious Studies. 229-333-5949

Scan here to visit our website!



Go check out our social media!

Facebook: The Spectator

YouTube: ValdostaSpectator

Website: vsuspectator.com



VSU ODUM LIBRARY MORE THAN JUST BOOKS!

- Schedule Your Consultation with a Reference Librarian
- Email Your Research Questions/ Problems for Help
- Live Chat with a Reference Librarian from Home
- Individual Research Appointments



9 REFERENCE LIBRARIANS, WITH UNIQUE AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY, A LIBRARY TECHNICAL ASSISTANT & STUDENT ASSISTANTS ARE AVAILABLE TO HELP!

Odum Library Hours

SUN NOON - 2:00 AM MON-THURS 8:00 AM - 2:00 AM FRI 8:00 AM - 9:00 PM

Internet Cafe Hours:

SAT NOON - 8:00 PM MON-THURS 24 HOURS FRI CLOSES @ 9 SUN OPENS @ NOON

229-333-7249

valdosta.edu/academics/library/services/students.php

COLLEGE LIFE

What's so super about 'Super Tuesday'? Politics 101: A quick guide to primary voting

Mayah Cantave
COLLEGE LIFE EDITOR
mcantave@valdosta.edu

Tuesday was Super Tuesday, and it has come and passed like any other day. It has been plastered all over the news and other media sources. But the big questions include: What is Super Tuesday? Why should I care? Why is it important? The answer is quite simple. It's when a bunch of states have their primary voting.

It's one of the most pivotal voting days in America. It can either make or break a candidate.

Super Tuesday is the day when states cast their votes for their favorite political candidate, mostly Democrat or Republican. The votes will narrow down the candidates.

One thing to remember about primary voting is that voters are not voting directly for their favorite candidates. You're

voting to tell the delegate assigned to your area which candidate to vote for when they vote for nominees at the Republican and Democratic conventions which will be held this summer.

Thirteen states and one territory participated in Super Tuesday. These include: Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Colorado, Georgia, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas,

Vermont, Virginia, Wyoming and American Samoa.

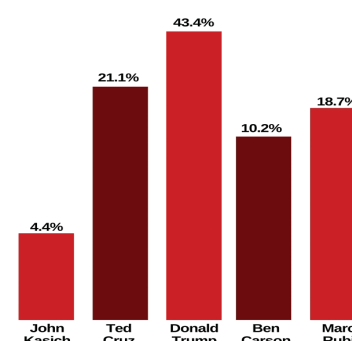
On the Republican side, Donald Trump, Marco Rubio, Ted Cruz, Ben Carson, and John Kasich battled their way to the top, with Trump winning the majority.

While On the Democratic side, Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders battled head to head with Hillary taking the lead.

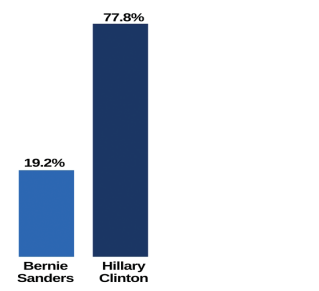
If you don't like who's taking the lead, take a stand and vote.

PRIMARY RESULTS

REPUBLICAN

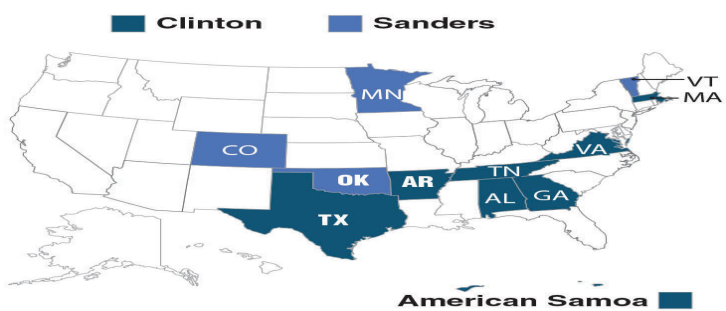


DEMOCRATIC



Source: www.politico.com
Tatyana Phelps/THE SPECTATOR

Super Tuesday results



WORRIED THAT YOUR GPA WILL COST YOU HOPE? WE SAY UP YOURS!!

*GPA INCREASE BASED ON QUALITY POINT AVERAGES DETERMINED AT MIDTERM AND FINALS

VSU STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER

MON-THURS	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
9 a.m. - 8 p.m.	9 a.m. - 3 p.m.	Closed	4 p.m. - 8 p.m.

www.valdosta.edu/ssc for more information

229-333-7570
Located Between Langdale & Palms Dining

CORE STRENGTH MAJOR SUCCESS

Low on funds for Spring Break? Ways to make some quick cash

Julia Rodriguez
ASST. OPINIONS EDITOR
jrodriguez@valdosta.edu

Money is tight, but that doesn't mean you have to give up on spring break plans. There are plenty of ways for students to get extra cash without the commitment of a job.

1. Sell your stuff. Anyone can admit to having clothes they no longer wear or junk stuffed under the bed that still works but doesn't get used.
2. Clear the clutter and have a garage sale. An even more convenient way to sell is online. Vinted is a great app for selling old clothes and shoes. Just post a picture, write a short description, and wait for a notification that someone is interested. Unable to part with your

- clothes?
3. Instead, check the junk drawers. Check for old phones and head to websites like gazzel.com, ecoATM.com or sell-your-cell.com.
4. Other interesting choices for selling would be scraping metal, selling old games or CD's on musicMagpie.co.uk or selling your pictures. If you take artful photos in your free time, you can sell them at fotolia.com or istockphotos.com. Unwilling to part with any of your belongings?
5. There are jobs that do not require commitment such as dog walking or babysitting. Care.com is a great place to start and make a profile where parents or dog owners can find you. There are Other options that do not involve selling your stuff or

- doing a lot of work.
6. Take online surveys for money, give blood or sign up for medical testing. If none of these suggestions will work for you just search the web/ You're bound to find a fun or easy way to make money that fits your likings. Don't forget that the less work involved usually means less money in return; so don't expect to find scam-free handouts. Having money for spring break is great, but your safety matters more than having some extra cash in your pocket. Remember not to get yourself into an uncomfortable situation or in danger just for a few bucks. Once spring break has passed, set aside a large jug and start filling it with change. Next spring break, empty the jar, roll your coins and you won't have to scramble for quick cash.

VSU Department of English Presents

DEAN POLING



Dean Poling is the author of *Waiting for Willie*, a novel about a boy, his mourning mom, his dead father, a bar and a love for Willie Nelson songs. His *Cowboy Boots* and *Pony Tales* and *Redneck Night at the Chinese Restaurant* are works from Poling's writing career. He is a multiple winner of the Georgia Press Association's first-place award for his newspaper columns. During his time as a reporter and editor with *The Valdosta Daily Times*, he has won more than 50 individual writing and journalism awards. He is a member of the newspaper's editorial board and the associate editor of *Valdosta Scene*. A West Virginia native, Dean and his wife, Jetty, live in Valdosta.

A reading will be held at 7:30pm in the Student Union Theater on March 10th.

Check out pictures from Battleship Canoe on the web at www.vsuspectator.com



Basketball season at VSU comes to an end



Darian Harris/THE SPECTATOR

Chris Longoria is one of four seniors who finished their VSU career on Tuesday. The Blazers lost to Union 80-73 in the GSC tournament.

Gabe Burns
SPORTS EDITOR
gcburns@valdosta.edu

VSU's thrilling basketball season was cut short by an 80-73 elimination loss to the Union Bulldogs in the teams' Gulf South Conference tournament opener.

The theme of the 2015-16 campaign for the GSC was protecting home court. Each of the top six seeds had four or less home losses, making the luxury of hosting a playoff game all the more important.

Unfortunately for the Blazers, the Bulldogs are a stellar home team. Union now owns a 13-1 showing on their own court. VSU finishes 11-4 at The Complex and 6-6 on the road.

VSU surrendered the lead for the final time with four and a half minutes remaining.

Despite out-pacing the

Bulldogs for most of the evening, Union's resiliency resulted in its advancement to the second round.

Blake Justice led VSU with 22 points. Justice ends his Blazer career as the 22nd player in school history to score 1,000 career points. In his final season in black and red, Justice averaged 15.8 points per game (eighth in GSC) and was named to the league's first-team roster.

As a whole, the season was progress for the Blazers. The 17-11 record presents marked improvement from last season's 10-18 mark. Finishing with a 13-9 posting against GSC opponents, VSU had its first winning campaign in league play since 2011.

Mike Helfer's group will return next season seeking to build off of this year's GSC tournament appearance.

Baseball, softball falter in Florida



Darian Harris/THE SPECTATOR

Roman Donofro of the Blazers pitches in Wednesday's game against Georgia Southwestern. VSU lost 9-6.

Gabe Burns
SPORTS EDITOR
gcburns@valdosta.edu

Both VSU baseball and softball teams entered this weekend's series with West Florida on fire, but the Argonauts were prepared to douse those flames.

Softball was unexpectedly swept in the three-game set, whereas baseball dropped two of three.

On the softball side, West Florida is distant from its 2015 form. After going 19-30 a season ago, the sweep not only earned the Argonauts a 17-4 mark in 2016, but it also may have made them the conference favorites.

The losses dropped VSU to 14-6-1 with a 4-5 record in the Gulf South Conference (the team had previously loss two of three at North Alabama).

Before visiting Pensacola, the Blazers won eight in a row with seven of those victories coming by at least three runs. It is still too early in the season for VSU to be

overly concerned, but the team must improve its play against conference competition in the near future.

That opportunity comes quickly. The Blazers will travel to West Alabama searching for a rebound this weekend against the league-rival Tigers.

This series comes at the right time for VSU. The Tigers are 6-11 and 0-9 in the GSC, making them not just last place, but the only team to have not won a conference game.

As of Wednesday, VSU ranks sixth in the conference, but only three games out of third place.

On the baseball end of the spectrum, the Blazers won the middle game of the set while dropping the first and third game versus the Argonauts.

Like their softball counterparts, the baseball team recently had a string of strong showings. VSU had won four in a row and seven of eight.

That surge was halted by UWF. The Argonauts asserted them-

selves with a convincing 8-0 win in game one. VSU answered with a shutout of its own in a 3-0 outcome in the second match of the doubleheader.

The Blazers led the rubber game 2-1 before surrendering the lead in the bottom of the seventh. The foes ultimately gave fans free baseball at Jim Spooner Field, and the Argonauts prevailed in the game and series with a walk-off hit in the 11th inning.

The Blazers dropped Wednesday's contest versus Georgia Southwestern 9-6, making the upcoming series all the more important.

VSU takes to the road to take on the Tigers this weekend. Unlike the softball version, West Alabama is strong opposition. Boasting an 11-4 record, the Tigers are even with the Blazers at 4-2 in league play. The two teams are in a four-way tie for second in the close GSC race. All four teams are just a game back of first place Union and UNA.



Student Activity Fee Budget Request Forms

AVAILABLE NOW!

Registered student organizations wishing to request Student Activity Fee Funding for the 2016-2017 academic year may pick up Budget Forms from the Office of Student Affairs & Dean of Students, Student Union, Third Floor.

The deadline to submit Budget Request Forms is **NOON, FRIDAY, MARCH 11th** to the Office of Student Affairs & Dean of Students Student Union, Third Floor.

Budget Hearings Take Place Wednesday & Thursday, March 23 & 24
Questions?

Call Andrea Butler @ 229-333-5941



TIME IS MONEY!

Blazer baseball and softball return to home conference action against the Shorter Hawks March 12-13.

SPORTS

COMMENTARY

NASCAR waves green flag on Trump

Kyle Dawson
PHOTO EDITOR
kkdawson@valdosta.edu

For someone who is so far right wing, Donald Trump brought out some people who love to go left at his rally at the P.E. Complex Monday.

NASCAR chairman and CEO Brian France attended the rally in support of Trump as well as hall of fame driver Bill Elliott and his son and current driver Chase Elliott along with other current drivers, Ryan Newman and David Ragan. However, not all NASCAR fans are Trump fans.

These endorsements come at a confusing time as NASCAR has recently taken some steps to be more progressive, such as begging fans not to display Confederate flags, and the Drive for Diversity program and NASCAR Green, which is a program for environmental conservation.

Camping World CEO Marcus Lemonis was not happy with France's support for Trump, but he said Camping World would not pull their sponsorship of NASCAR's

third tier series because NASCAR is bigger than Brian France.

It is odd that the CEO of NASCAR would back a presidential candidate whose views on political correctness, diversity and climate change are the exact opposite of the beliefs behind NASCAR's recent forward thinking programs.

France and Bill Elliott were the most composed of the NASCAR supporters, as the other three had just come from a 500 mile race in Atlanta on Sunday. Chase Elliott, in particular, seemed to be just repeating his father's opinions with an obedient tone.

The appearances seemed thrown together, as Trump didn't even pronounce David Ragan's name correctly, and there was a lack of security around the NASCAR superstars when they went to sit in the stands.

The New York City billionaire really played to the crowd as Georgia born Bill Elliott has won NASCAR's Most Popular Driver award a record 16 times, and his son recently took over for four-time champion Jeff Gordon.

Trump was going after the stereotypical NASCAR fan during his trip to the

Deep South, and it may have worked, as Trump won Lowndes County on Super Tuesday by a large margin. However, the stereotypical NASCAR fan is quickly becoming a thing of the past.

With the Drive for Diversity program, NASCAR is recruiting drivers from other countries, including Mexico, which also brings in more diverse fans. Also, NASCAR is broadcast in over 20 countries including Mexico, Germany and France.

NASCAR has taken a step back in recruiting these new, forward thinking fans from other countries as well as the USA with the endorsement of Trump, who essentially wants to build a wall in front of NASCAR's diversity plan.

A concern sponsors of the drivers attending the rally should have is that their teams may lose fans because of the drivers' now public political affiliation. NASCAR, unlike most other sports, is very individual driven. Fans often support drivers over teams, and learning that their favorite driver supports the candidate who is a racist, sexist advocate for banning minorities and disregarding climate change could cause fans to find another favorite driver. For example: me.

Blazer tennis underway

Austin Wells
STAFF WRITER
amwells@valdosta.edu

The tennis season at Valdosta State began last month and with it came some very solid play from the men's team.

Their season started in early February, and it began with a victory against the then 12th ranked Georgia College Bobcats, 5-4. The Blazers started

by winning all three doubles matches, including a powerful 8-2 victory by senior Joachim Schemm and sophomore Fernando Rivas over Georgia College's Taylor Powell and Anton Wearn.

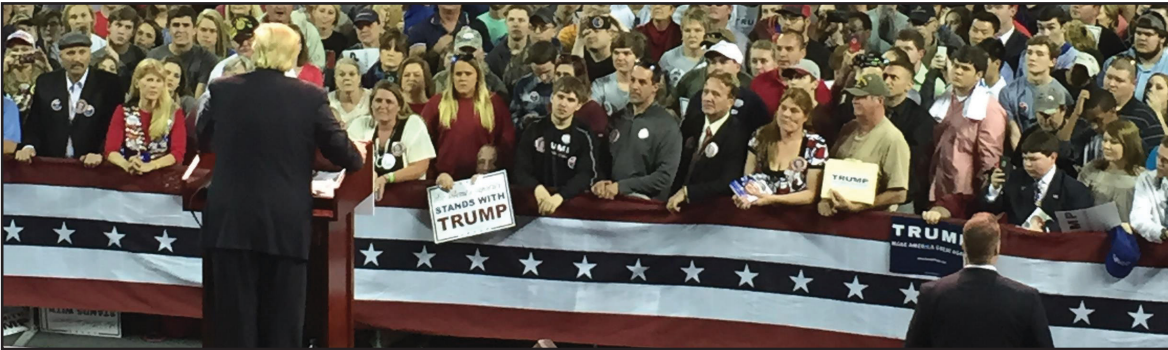
The Blazers weren't able to carry the momentum into their singles matches, however, losing four of the six matches. Despite some of the singles struggles, the two victories by Rivas and junior player Gereon Heitmann lifted the men to an overall victory on the day.

The Blazers went on to lose 3-6 against Saint Leo University before a convincing 7-2 win over Florida Tech at the VSU tennis courts. The men would go on to play the then No. 1 ranked Barry University, and were able to keep up with the Bucs in the singles matches with victories from Heitmann, freshman Jordi Mas and sophomore Xavier Pineda. Despite the tie in singles, the Blazers fell in two of the three doubles matches to lose closely to Barry.

VSU has bounced back after the road loss, winning the last two matchups, including a dominating 8-1 victory at Rollins University. Their latest matches took place Feb. 26 against No. 6 ranked Lynn University, and with it came an upset victory for VSU.

The Blazers got off to a bad start by losing two of the three doubles matches against the Flames. VSU would rally, though, with two singles victories from sophomore Leo Blay, Mas, Pineda, and a commanding 6-0, 6-2 win from senior Niklas Herbring.

With momentum in their favor, the Blazers will now face a conference opponent in the Shorter Hawks this Saturday at 2 p.m. on the VSU tennis courts.



The crowd looks on as Donald Trump speaks at Valdosta rally on Feb. 29.

Gabe Burns/THE SPECTATOR

Follow us on
Instagram:
@vsuspectator

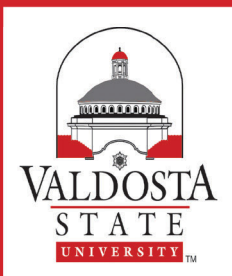
There are a million* reasons to earn your degree at VSU.

Here are a million and one:



JESSI MILLER
SCIENCE TEACHER
MILL CREEK MIDDLE SCHOOL
WOODSTOCK, GA
VSU CLASS OF 2014

"The Middle Grades program at Valdosta not only prepared me for content knowledge and delivery, but also for the day-to-day logistics of working in a large middle school. Not only do I feel confident in the content part of my job, but I learned skills that allow me to demonstrate my professionalism with parents and within the community. The professors went above and beyond just pedagogy and into practical application so that nothing I deal with is overwhelming or a surprise. The professors get to know the students and work very hard to meet the needs of each of us. I felt comfortable getting help, asking questions, and furthering my understanding in all of my classes. I'm thankful my journey as an educator began at VSU!!"



Start here. Stay here. Succeed everywhere.

* A typical worker with a bachelor's degree earns \$1.19 million more than a typical high school graduate, according to Hamilton Project's "Major Decisions: What Graduates Earn Over Their Lifetimes."