For both boys and girls, it was a material world

By Daniel Cerullo

Liquid nitrogen, cunning college students, ion beams and ice cream. These were just some of the elements of the Philly Materials Science and Engineering Day, presented by Drexel University and The University of Pennsylvania on Feb. 5.

Scores of people visited the Bossone Research Center in Philadelphia to attend the free event open to the public.

“The Philly Materials Day really showcases the magic of materials engineering,” said Darin Tallman, a Ph.D. student at Drexel and materials science and engineering (MSE) major who helped run the event. “You get young people involved and thinking about materials.”

There was no shortage of ways to get involved. Guests had two stories of hands-on “demos” at their fingertips. There were even live performances in the auditorium.

“The entire staff during the event is volunteers,” Tallman later said in an email. “They range from undergraduates, to graduate students, as well as staff and faculty from several departments.

“The folks doing the demos come from different research groups as well as are general volunteers from the Drexel and Penn Departments of Materials Science and Engineering, Penn Laboratory for Research on the Structure of Matter, and Penn Nano/Bio Interface Center.”

One popular demo involved the construction of a huge structure made of balloons.

“That structure was a not-to-scale representation of a carbon nanotube,” Tallman explained in an email. “Actual carbon nanotubes possess some very interesting properties that are very useful for electrochemical and materials engineering applications.”

The structure was built throughout the afternoon at the “Building Carbon Nanotubes” demo. As it grew taller, it was hoisted higher and higher into the Bossone Center’s three-story atrium.

Kids got their hands (and feet) dirty at another demo called “Non-Newtonian Fluids,” where Drexel students helped them create an ooze out of cornstarch and water. The barefoot kids then walked on and stood in the ooze.

Despite incentives, blood drive turn out low

By Kyle Solimeo

Students, faculty and staff at Marple campus donated 114 pints of blood during the College’s spring blood drive Feb. 2-3. This number is 127 pints short of the 400 pints the College hoped to collect during the academic year.

Even though each person who donates has the ability to save three lives Red Cross officials say, the number of donations is very low.

To create more interest in the blood drive, the College provides incentives for donating. Each person who donated in February was entered into a raffle at Marple, Downingtown and Southeast campuses. Students Brian Schreiber and Sean Gould won the raffle, receiving a $100 voucher to the Lamb Tavern in Springfield.

Carolyn DiPaolo, a support staff member received her birthday off with pay. Fran Cubberley, vice president for Enrollment Management, and Arthur Berlin of the allied health department won a $50 gift certificate to the Lamb Tavern in Springfield.

At Marple campus, students Kim Romansky and Gino Martiinez won VIP parking spaces for the week.

We the students: SGA has big impact at College

By Tom Dougherty

Improving the fourth floor Learning Commons area, enhancing the online College library and organizing the 9/11 memorial ceremony are just some of the recent accomplishments of the Student Government Association (SGA) under the leadership of Nichole Philipp, who became president last spring.

Philipp said she became “interim president” when the president, Anthony Folks, and vice president James Lafferty resigned.

“I was really doing the president’s position, running meetings,” she said. “So in the fall, I decided that I wanted to [become president].”

Philipp, 21, is an engineering major at the College who intends to transfer to Widener University in the fall.

The Learning Commons will consist of the library, the writing center, the tutoring center and study rooms, she explained.

“It’s going to be awesome,” Philipp said. “The library is going to be revamped. They might even have a café up there, which would be nice. You could have coffee while reading a book. It’s going to be user friendly.”
Despite incentives, blood drive turnout low

(Continued from front page)

We the students: SGA has big impact at College

We the students: SGA has big impact at College

"I think that if people were to sign up together, [donating] wouldn’t be so intimidating," said Diane Foster, a member of the Blood Drive Committee.

Despite incentives, it was difficult to attract students. "We don’t have a good amount of time after being vaccinated for German measles, chicken pox, hepatitis B and smallpox. Along with vaccinations and medical conditions that affect eligibility, there are other factors that could prohibit donating, including the common cold, the flu and even getting a tattoo. "I usually give blood, but couldn’t because I got a tattoo recently," said Wills Gillan, 27, an art major.

Exceptions may be made for tattoos that were applied from a state regulated entity, according to the Red Cross. These facilities can be found in 32 states, but eligibility is still determined by a Red Cross health advisor.

Most students say the only reason for not donating is that they were unaware of the blood drive was occurring, despite posters and flyers advertising the event around campus as well as a promotion in the ‘Upcoming Events’ section on the College website and an entry in the student newsletter, according to Foster.

But regardless of how well informed some students may be, there will always be those who choose not to donate. "I don’t like blood," said Karen Derasdizian, 52, a graphic design major. "I have fainted about 10 times at just the sight.

Contact Kyle Solimeo at communitarian@mail.dccc.edu

The Executive Council makes up the core of the association. Its members are elected for a full semester and are expected to attend all SGA meetings.

The member body of the SGA is more fluid—students can attend any number of meetings, as long as they meet membership requirements.

The SGA meets to discuss student’s concerns, plan projects and respond to any other issues at hand.

"If students were interested in getting involved with the SGA," Gaudioso said, "they should stop by the Campus Life Office and we can help them apply." According to Gaudioso, students with a 2.0 GPA are eligible to join.

Campus Life isn’t the only place students can apply for membership. Any interested student can stop by the SGA office in Room 2504 and speak with Philipp about joining the SGA.

Justin CASCADE, 24, a business management major, said he isn’t a member of the SGA, but he feels he is one of many students who are unaware that the College even has a student government so he suggested more “events or posters” advertising the SGA.

"The problem is that not many students know it exists," Cascaden said. "If [SGA] can be more involved in the everyday life at DCCC, it could be a positive influence."

Contact Tom Dougherty at communitarian@mail.dccc.edu
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Rick Santorum versus the world

By Rob Tierney

Rick Santorum, Republican presidential candidate and senatorial homeboy of Pennsylvania, has stated that colleges are full of liberal professors whose goal is indoctrination, and has disagreed wholeheartedly that equality-seeking gays and lesbians are a part of the next great civil rights movement.

That’s enough to deter many readers from voting for Santorum, but I’m going to take this opportunity to nail Santorum to the proverbial cross that he has been parading before the press and his followers.

Women and War: The idea of women on the front line makes Rick a little nervous. He cites the Achilles heel of the fairer sex, emotions, as his reasoning: “…I do have concerns about women in frontline combat. I think that could be a very compromising situation, where people naturally may do things that may not be in the interest of the mission, because of other types of emotions that are involved.”

I’m actually a bit surprised that he didn’t mention the discrepancy in average strength between men and women as a reason too. After all, soldiers do have to lug heavy uniforms, armor and weaponry around. But then again, he might as well have also implied that men are relatively emotionless beings. At least he’s been sexist to everyone.

War on Homosexuals: Rick sees the homosexual rights issue as a war in which he is the defender of the traditional family structure and marriage values. To Rick, marriage is marriage as much as water is water. I do find it strange that he finds sanctity in something that did not exist from the beginning of humanity’s existence. In fact, the monogamous relationship (which one could say includes two people of any sexuality) only formed, so studies imply, because of the longer copulaion periods humans need to procreate. If this is true, then Rick’s “values” become laughable at best.

One last note: He believes homosexuality is a choice, not a genetic trait. I guess the homosexual community chooses to be discriminated against, as I’m sure it’s a fulfilling and rewarding pastime.

Speaking of sex (and totalitarianism)...

Right to Intercourse: According to a quote from 2003, addressing a Supreme Court decision, Rick said: “If the Supreme Court says that you have the right to consensual sex within your home, then you have the right to bigamy, you have the right to polygamy, you have the right to incest, you have the right to adultery. You have the right to anything.” –AP, 2003

Woah, woah, Rick, not all at once! We’ve got to work our way up to Amendment 43, the right to adultery. Give it time! But does Rick really see consensual sex as not a right? Is he against all forms of procreation save Immaculate Conception? Maybe. Rick preaches as if he were the second coming. And if it can’t be in our own homes and if it is not a right in itself then I say we use the First Amendment to have a massive protest-orgy (no S&M; we have to keep it peaceful, people). Free expression counts as free speech, right?

Don’t stop me now. It’s technicality versus technicality. Here’s one more tidbit.

Religious/National Entitlement: To pretty much sum up all of the culture wars Rick is interested in, he has gone on record stating that Satan is a literal, not figurative being, who has laid siege on the United States since its founding. Why America? Well, he says, for one, it’s “a good, decent, influential country,” and two because of the “preeminence…sown by our great Founding Fathers.”

I love my country, but I will not admit to it inherently being the most worthy of an attack by evil forces. Is it susceptible to the “Empirical Storm Cycle” that has taken down Rome, Egypt and Persia? No doubt. But the work of Lucifer? Hardly.

Rick, I’m sorry, but I think the last time you represented me in 2006 should be the last time ever and not just for my sake, but for all Americans’ sake. I would like to preserve the sanctity of America.

Contact Rob Tierney at communitarian@mail.dccc.edu

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"Arcadia made it easy to transfer--and made sure we had the courses to apply for assured admission."

– Ashley and Jennifer Eisenengel ’08, ’11D.P.T., who received the Department of Physical Therapy’s Research Investigation Award for their faculty-student research project “Activation Failure of the Rotator Cuff with Acute Pain.”

The Communitarian is produced by both current and former students of Fundamentals of Journalism II in collaboration with Campus Life and published at Delaware County Community College. Students who would like to write for the campus newspaper and have already completed Fundamentals of Journalism I (ENG 138) should register for Fundamentals of Journalism II (ENG 131). Students who have completed both classes are welcome back to join the senior staff. For more information, send an e-mail to communitarian@mail.dccc.edu.

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By Kyle Solimeo

As bass pounding music pulsed through the open doors, students found themselves drawn toward a unique demonstration of movement on display at the Large Auditorium at Marple Campus. On stage, five dancers movements flowed seamlessly with the music.

During the “History of Hip-Hop” presentation, the Rennie Harris Puremovement (RHP) provided a verbal and visual history of hip-hop dance to approximately 10 students Feb. 9.

After company manager Rodney Hill explained the origins of different dance styles, the six members of the dance company brought each style to life.

Students also learned hip-hop through the years has changed the way people have dressed, from the style of their clothes to their shoes.

“It really showed where hip-hop came from,” said Rahman Wartman, 21, a communications major. “and how it got to where it is.”

The group showed styles of hip-hop dance originating in the late 1970’s such as “locking” and “popping,” which is when a dance suddenly stops in a certain pose, then continues. These styles gained popularity on television shows such as “Soul Train” and were originally performed to funk music.

Other styles of dance came from the Rock Steady movement in the Bronx, N.Y. in 1977. “Breaking” or “break-dancing” as it became known, started during this time and quickly gained popularity.

Different from other styles, breaking was performed on the ground and introduced moves such as the “six step” and “freezes,” which is when a dancer poses in the air.

Derived from street gangs, hip-hop dance groups began forming around U.S. cities and competing against other groups.

“Hip-hop will never die because it changes everyday,” Hill told students. One of the dancers explained how hip-hop dance has grown on a global level. There are now dance competitions across the world with prizes up to $500,000.

Dancers then showed their talents both individually and as a group. One of the dancers in the RHP is Davion Brown, 20, a graphic design major at the College.

“I love the expression and being able to be free on stage” said Brandyn Harris, 24, a dancer with the company who has been dancing for 15 years.

North Philadelphia native Rennie Harris created the RHP in 1992, becoming one of the original all hip-hop dance companies in the country. RHP has been very successful putting on all hip hop dance productions country wide due to the number of awards they have received.

After being selected by the U.S. Department of States Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, they will be one of four acts that will tour the Middle East this spring on the DanceMotion USA tour.

“Hip-hop gets a bad rap,” Hill said. “Don’t prejudge the culture based on what you see in television and the movies.”

Contact Kyle Solimeo at communitarian@mail.dccc.edu.
Phantoms hoop it up, win conference crown

By Creighton Rabs and Tom Dougherty

The third time was a charm for the Delaware County Community College men’s basketball team, as they captured their first conference championship since 1996 with an 85-72 win over Community College of Philadelphia at Widener University’s Schwartz Athletic Center Feb. 19.

The showdown for the Eastern Pennsylvania Collegiate Conference title marked the third meeting between the Phantoms and CCP this season. DCCC won the first meeting against the Colonials 81-77 at Rutgers-Camden on Dec. 3, 2011; the Colonials would return the favor Feb. 4 at Neumann University with an 83-75 win.

DCCC head coach Dwayne Saunders was confident the Phantoms would win the championship, claiming that turnovers and missed foul shots played a huge role in their loss to CCP.

“We missed 16 foul shots and we had 23 turnovers” in the second game against CCP, Saunders said after the Phantoms’ 66-57 win over Bucks County Community College in their Feb. 18 semi-final. “If you take those away, we’re up 50. That’s an engagement, but we’re up by a lot. So we knock those things down and play the game that I know we’re capable of playing, we should be able to win.”

Saunders’ foreshadowing proved prophetic, as (Continued on page 9...)

For both boys and girls, it was a material world

(Continued from front page)

they sink, but when they walk or run across it, they make it across without sinking.”

Another demo, however, attracted more people than the rest: “Liquid Nitrogen Ice Cream.”

Nearly 50 people crowded around two picnic tables to watch Drexel students carefully pour liquid nitrogen into bowls to be combined with other household ingredients.

“Sugar, half and half, heavy cream and vanilla extract,” said volunteer Nasreen Khan, an MSE major at Drexel. “Those are the essential ingredients. We then work in liquid nitrogen straight into the mixture [of ingredients] until ice cream of a solid yet creamy consistency forms.

“The liquid nitrogen is so cold that it causes the mixture to freeze extremely rapidly, taking the 20 minutes most to make a big batch of ice cream.”

The kids watched intently as the nitrogen vapors billowed from the bowls during the mixing process. They were even allowed to take turns stirring, but they had to wear thick cryogenic gloves.

“Because the liquid nitrogen is so cold, there is a potential danger of frostbite if skin is exposed to a large amount of it at once,” Kahn explained in an email. “If a small amount spills on someone’s skin, it probably will turn to gas before it has a chance to really harm them. How-ever, you always have to be trained and careful working with it because it can be dangerous.”

Once the ice cream was ready, the families lined up to get a free sample.

Chocolate syrup, jimmies and caramel as well as the mixing process.

“I think that ‘Liquid Nitrogen Ice Cream’ makes a great demo for kids because it’s visually exciting,” he said in an email. “And you can eat it too!”

“Lauren,” she replied.

“Okay, Lauren. I’ve never done this before live,” Hawk warned. “I’ve done it on TV, but not live, so we’re gonna experiment.”

Hawk pulled out a 55-gallon trash bag, and asked Lauren to get in it. She obliged and began to drape it over her head.

“Wait, don’t put it over your head!” Hawk asked.

“What’s your name?” Hawk asked.

“Lauren,” she replied.

“Great!” chimed in little sister Geneva.

Their father Michael Chernside, who has a master’s degree in MSE from Cornell University, was a fan of the ice cream as well.

“It’s really creamy,” said 9-year-old Ben Chernside.

“Great!” chimed in little sister Geneva.

Their father Michael Chernside, who has a master’s degree in MSE from Cornell University, was a fan of the ice cream as well.

“I think that ‘Liquid Nitrogen Ice Cream’ makes a great demo for kids because it’s visually exciting,” he said in an email. “And you can eat it too!”

Nearby in the Mitchell Auditorium, there were on-stage routines to watch.

One of the acts was led by entertainer Grand Hawk, who performed science labs that “mixed material science with hip-hop.” Hawk ran the labs as his disc jockey played sound effects and music clips.

For one lab, he called for a “very small” volunteer. A young girl trotted onstage.

“What’s your name?” Hawk asked.

“It’s definitely oriented toward younger children and families,” Tallman said. “But we do have some prospective college students come by and check it out.”

Contact Daniel Cerullo at communitarian@mail.dccc.edu
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Ink and art invades Philadelphia

By Kyle Solimeo

With buzzing needle guns, blaring music and interesting art forms, the Philadelphia Tattoo Convention sprang to life at the Pennsylvania Convention Center Feb. 10-12. For three days, tattoo enthusiasts admired the work of the more than 600 tattoo artists while enjoying vendors, bands and other entertainment.

“It’s awesome,” said Justin Davis, a tattoo enthusiast from Philadelphia. “All types of people are getting ink. It really shows the diversity of people who get tattooed.”

Davis showed off a brightly colored bird on his right tricep, adding that he “loved it because this tattoo was especially his.”

The artist who tattooed Davis was Drew Miele of Drewtat2.com. Miele currently works at Hotrod Tattoos in Atlantic City and got into the tattoo scene while he was attending the University of the Arts in Philadelphia, he said.

“I love it,” Miele said about his profession. “I don’t ever have to grow up. I draw on people for a living. It doesn’t get any better.”

Miele disputes the view that tattooing is not an art. By applying elements of color theory, line placement and drawing skills, Miele explained tattooing meets the criteria to be considered an art form.

“Art is subjective and is what you think it is,” Miele said. “To say tattooing is not an art is bold and comes only from personal opinion.”

Miele said he has been concentrating on his favorite style of American traditional tattooing, which was made popular around the time of World War II. According to Miele, he has continued to improve his craft. In fact, the best tattoo he has done changes almost every six months.

The convention featured other artists and different types of art. Zack Dimen, 20, studies at the International Center of Photography in New York City. While living in New York, Dimen became friends with a tattoo artist and was consumed by the culture, he said.

Dimen was selling a large collection of photography at the convention depicting the unique scenes of a tattoo shop.

“A lot of people shoot tattoos,” Dimen said. “But I try to really depict the other side of things and show the artist and work.”

The convention was not limited to those involved in the tattoo culture. There were also a number of bands performed during the event. Other entertainment included auctions and raffles for donated pieces of art, seminars from well-known artists such as Nick Malasto and autograph sessions with Amy Nicoletto, Chris Torres and Megan Massacre of the hit TV shows “LA Ink” and “NY Ink.”

Both experienced and inexperienced tattoo enthusiasts attended the convention to admire the art and gain knowledge through talking to artists, but some participated in the nerve-racking action as well.

“I [attended] the convention because I’ve been really wanting a tattoo for awhile,” said Nick Longo, 18, a student at Walnut Hill College in Philadelphia, who was getting his first tattoo at the convention. “I got a sweet-ass tattoo of a chef skull for like $60 and I love it.”

Contact Kyle Solimeo at communitarian@mail.dccc.edu.

Tattoo enthusiast Justin Davis receives a tattoo of a colorful bird from Philadelphia artist Drew Miele.

Photo by Kyle Solimeo
the Phantoms would shoot 39-for-55 (70.9 percent) from the foul line while the Colonials missed more than half of their foul shots (19-for-40; 47.5 percent).

“When you don’t rebound and you shoot 8-for-18 from the foul line (in the first half) … that’s what killed us,” said CCP head coach Robert DeShields.

CCP jumped out to a 9-4 lead within the first four minutes of the game before the DCCC offense came alive. After CCP’s Marcus Johnson tied the game at 14-14 with a three-point play with 12:57 left in the first half, the Phantoms went on a 20-5 run to take a 34-19 lead with 4:51 left in the first half. During that run, the Colonials were held without a field goal for 5:34.

“Coach Saunders got his team playing up-tempo with a lot of high energy and our guys didn’t come to play,” DeShields said.

The Phantoms, however, weren’t that much better from the field, as they failed to hit a field goal in the last 5:23 of the first half, enabling CCP to close the half to hit a field goal in the last 5:23 of the first half. During that run, Emmanuel Pittman scored seven of CCP’s 17 points, 15 of them from the foul line.

The second half would turn into a battle of attrition, with 63 fouls – includ-

ing four technical fouls and a flagrant foul – called during the game leading to five Colonials and one Phantom fouling out.

CCP began the second half without Taris Dillard-Ford, who drew a second technical foul for arguing with the officials during halftime.

Despite having four players finish the game with four fouls, the Phantoms managed to maintain their composure and their lead throughout the second half. CCP got as close as five points, 66-65, with 8:53 left in the game, yet the Phantoms had an answer for every Colonial run. A 14-6 run, punctuated by a Justin Wright dunk with 3:08 left, gave DCCC enough breathing room to clinch the EPCC title.

Dominique Owens, who had a game-high 28 points for the Phantoms, noted the pre-season outdoor practices on the asphalt courts at Marple Campus, which players and coaches alike credited for building the team’s mental toughness.

“We started outside with sweatshirts and hoodies,” Owens recalled. “We had times where we’d go home in chills, we were practicing so long and so hard.”

It also helped that the entire team had been together from the early prac-

ties at Marple Campus through the final buzzer at Widener.

“This is the first time that the team that we started out with was the team we finished with,” Owens said. “Everybody was eligible through the entire season.”

The play of the Phantoms drew the attention of coaches from four-year schools, including Cheyney University head coach Dominique Stephens.

“They brought a lot of toughness,” Stephens said. “They played hard and they kept CCP out of their strength of their game. They’re a well-poised team that played together. They’re players who compete and have the will to win. There are people in the game who didn’t like to try to get into my program.”

Saunders, in his second season as coach of the Phantoms, beamed like a proud parent after his team’s win.

“They were committed,” Saunders said. “They bought into the system, and they grinded it out. And they stuck with it all year long.”

Saunders wasn’t as impressed, however, with his team’s performance in their semi-final win over Bucks.

The Centurions jumped out to a 17-8 lead with eight minutes left in the first half. Emmanuel Pittman scored seven of his game-high 22 points during Bucks’ opening run while David Gorton (six points) drained a pair of three-pointers.

The Phantoms would chip away at the lead, but the Centurions would take a 26-25 halftime lead.

Committing eight turnovers and shooting 29 percent from the field didn’t help the Phantoms’ cause in the first half.

“We made some adjustments,” Saunders said. “The first 10-to-12 minutes, we didn’t really know what they were doing. We figured [them] out, we made adjust-
ments, kept attacking and grinded it out.”

The Phantoms opened the second half with a 10-5 run — including the first six points of the half — to take the lead for good. Owens and Rashid Hines, who each scored a team-high 14 points, powered the game’s decisive run, with Hines scoring the first four points of the half.

Hines, who grabbed 11 rebounds and blocked four shots, was also a force for the Phantoms defensively in the second half.

With less than three minutes to play, Hines put the game out of reach for Bucks with a critical block leading to a Justin Wright basket and giving the Phantoms their largest lead of the night, 61-48.

Carl McKenzie contributed 13 points, four rebounds, and three steals while hitting five of six free throws.

Tarig Benn added 17 points, eight rebounds and six blocks for Bucks in the loss.

The Centurions earned their berth in the EPCC tournament with an 83-70 win over Lehigh Carbon Community College on Feb. 15 in a play-in game.

CCP advanced to the finals with a 72-52 pounding of Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology in their semi-final game.

Contact Creighton Rabs or Tom Dougherty at communitarian@mail.dccc.edu.
Descendants of 'HeLa' cells donor visit Marple Campus

By Ashley Caldwell
Special to The Communitarian


Members of the Diversity Committee and Campus Life invited Sonny Lacks, Henrietta Lacks’ son, and his daughter, Gerry Lacks, to campus because the book was selected for the college-wide reading program for 2011-2012.

“The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks” tells the story of an impoverished African-American tobacco farmer whose cells were involuntarily taken, experimented on, and eventually used to benefit the development of science and humankind, according to Skloot’s website.

While Henrietta Lacks was undergoing treatment for cervical cancer in 1951, researchers at Johns Hopkins Hospital found that Henrietta’s cells, later named “HeLa cells,” were able to live and reproduce outside of her body. These cells have since aided in the development of polio vaccines, in-vitro fertilizations, cloning and gene mapping, along with other medical advancements.

According to Skloot’s website, her book tells the story of “the collision between ethics, race, and medicine; of scientific discovery and faith healing; and of a daughter consumed with questions about the mother she never knew.”

“Rebecca and my sister, Deborah, formed a close bond,” Sonny Lacks told students. “Everything that is in the book is based on the information they received from their research. They went every-

where together and researched every-
thing together.”

Henrietta Lacks, the woman whose "HeLa" cells have helped scientists develop vaccines, in-vitro fertilization, cloning, gene mapping and more. Courtesy of britannica.com

Speaking to colleges all over the country, Sonny Lacks said he is focused on one main purpose: to make his mother’s story known to the world.

“This journey is very rewarding because a lot of people are now becoming aware of Henrietta,” said Gerry Lacks, who works as her father’s personal assistant. “They are becoming aware of her story, the Lacks family’s story, the HeLa cells.”

Campus Life member and Student Activities Coordinator Darren Lipscomb spoke about the ethical implications of using someone’s cells for scientific research without that person’s consent. He explained that Sonny Lacks’ presentation is important because it creates awareness so that it doesn’t occur again.

Although Lipscomb believes Henrietta Lacks’ story hasn’t gotten much attention, people are now getting interested in her legacy, he said.

“I don’t know much about my moth-
er,” Sonny Lacks said. “I was four years old when she died. But from what I do know, from what my family has told me, uncles and cousins, my mother was a giv-
ing person.”

He added that Henrietta Lacks was most known for opening her doors to people, allowing them to have a place to eat, sleep, and even live.

While Sonny Lacks explained how his mother was never compensated or recognized for her contributions to the scientific and medical communities, attendees’ murmurs of disappointment in both the medical and judicial systems filled the air.

“I would say don’t stop fighting,” said Lonelle Lewis, who majors in business administration and sports management. “Somebody is always going to tell you, ‘Statute of limitations [ran out],’ and it is not really the case. What you should do is send a letter to the Obama Admin-
istration and send them a video copy of this session.”

Sonny Lacks was also scheduled to speak at the American Association Ad-
vancement of Science, Education, and Human Resources Feb. 25.

“Telling the story of my mother, of my family, and my sister Deb, who’s a character within herself, is the most interesting thing I’ve learned,” Sonny Lacks said.

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What DCCC students said before and after Valentine's Day

The Communitarian decided to investigate what students had planned for Valentine's Day. Below are three students who volunteered to share their plans as well as the outcomes of their special day.

**Before:** "For Valentine's Day my boyfriend Kyle is supposed to be at my house by eight in the morning so we can exchange gifts and I can make breakfast for him. Afterwards we are going to see the "Woman in Black" since he and I have never gone to the movies together."

**After:** "Sadly, I guess my ex-boyfriend Andrew somehow found out because he ended up at the movies to see the same movie, and it wasn't a coincidence because he lives a whole hour from me. The movie was great though and at one point I screamed which made my boyfriend crack up laughing until he screamed like a little girl."

- Melissa Kearn, history education major

**Before:** "A friend from elementary school and I made a deal a few years back that if we didn't have a date for Valentine's Day we'd go out with each other. So this year, we planned to see a movie and then go to Dave & Buster's for dinner and some fun."

**After:** "My friend and I went to Dave and Buster's. We had dinner, played some games and had a good time. I really wanted to go to the movies, but unfortunately we never made it. As we were leaving to catch the movie, the girl he is currently dating called and apologized for an argument they previously had. They made up, and I told him he should go see her."

- Ra'eesah Brown, science for health professions major

**Before:** "For Valentine's Day I plan on surprising my wife after she gets off of work with dinner and a movie. I figure some place she likes and whatever movie she wants to see. We've known each other for over 10 years, so I'm pretty sure she's expecting this."

**After:** "My wife was pretty tired when I picked her up from work, so we didn't wind up going to the movies. We went out and had a nice dinner, and then we just went home and watched some Netflix at home. It was a really nice evening, and even though we didn't do as much as I had planned, she really seemed to appreciate the gesture."

- Michael Jones, communications major
1) Should Valentine's Day be for official couples only?
2) Is a dinner date enough of a celebration?
3) Do you feel left out without a date on Valentine's Day?
4) Do you think we'd all be better off if Valentine's Day didn't exist?
5) Do you have a date this year?