

THE SCENE

THE TARTAN WEDNESDAY, DEC. 3, 2008

Did you know?

In Shakespearan times, a bed mattress was attached to a rope system which could be pulled tighter to make the bed more taut,

or left loose for more give. This is where the term "Good night, sleep tight" comes from.

An urge for smokers to quit for at least one day

On Nov. 20, people around the globe were given the Great American Smokeout Challenge — a plea to smokers to quit for a day.

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Radford University nursing instructors Trish Conklin and Leonita Cutright

danced into McGuffey 203 holding up signs of surgeon general's warnings such as "smoking causes lung cancer, heart disease, emphysema, and may complicate pregnancy" to the beat of "Stayin' Alive" by the Bee Gees.

Conklin and Cutright were participating in the Great American Smokeout, an annual event to stifle smoking. In 1976, the American Cancer Society inaugurated the "holiday," which, according to Health

Educator Swateja Nimkar, inspires and encourages smokers to quit for at least one day.

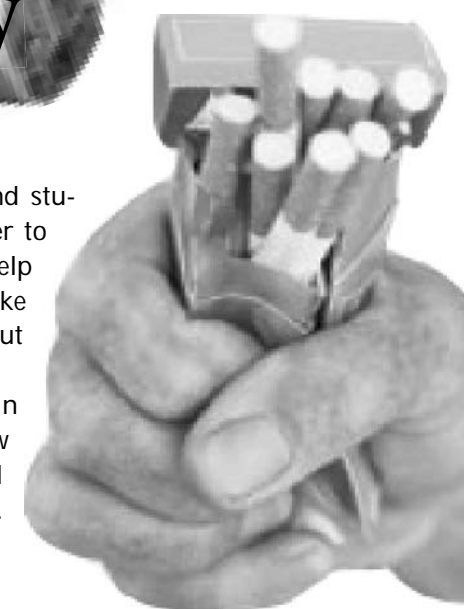
Every year on the third Thursday of November, smokers all over the country take the Great American Smokeout challenge of not smoking for 24 hours. November 20 marked the 33rd annual smokeout.

RU students from exercise, sport and health education, the student health awareness club, the school of nursing,

student counseling services and student health all worked together to set up an event Nov. 19 to help urge students who smoke to take the Great American Smokeout challenge.

As former smokers, Conklin and Cutright understand how hard it is to break the powerful addiction to cigarette nicotine.

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Checking it twice

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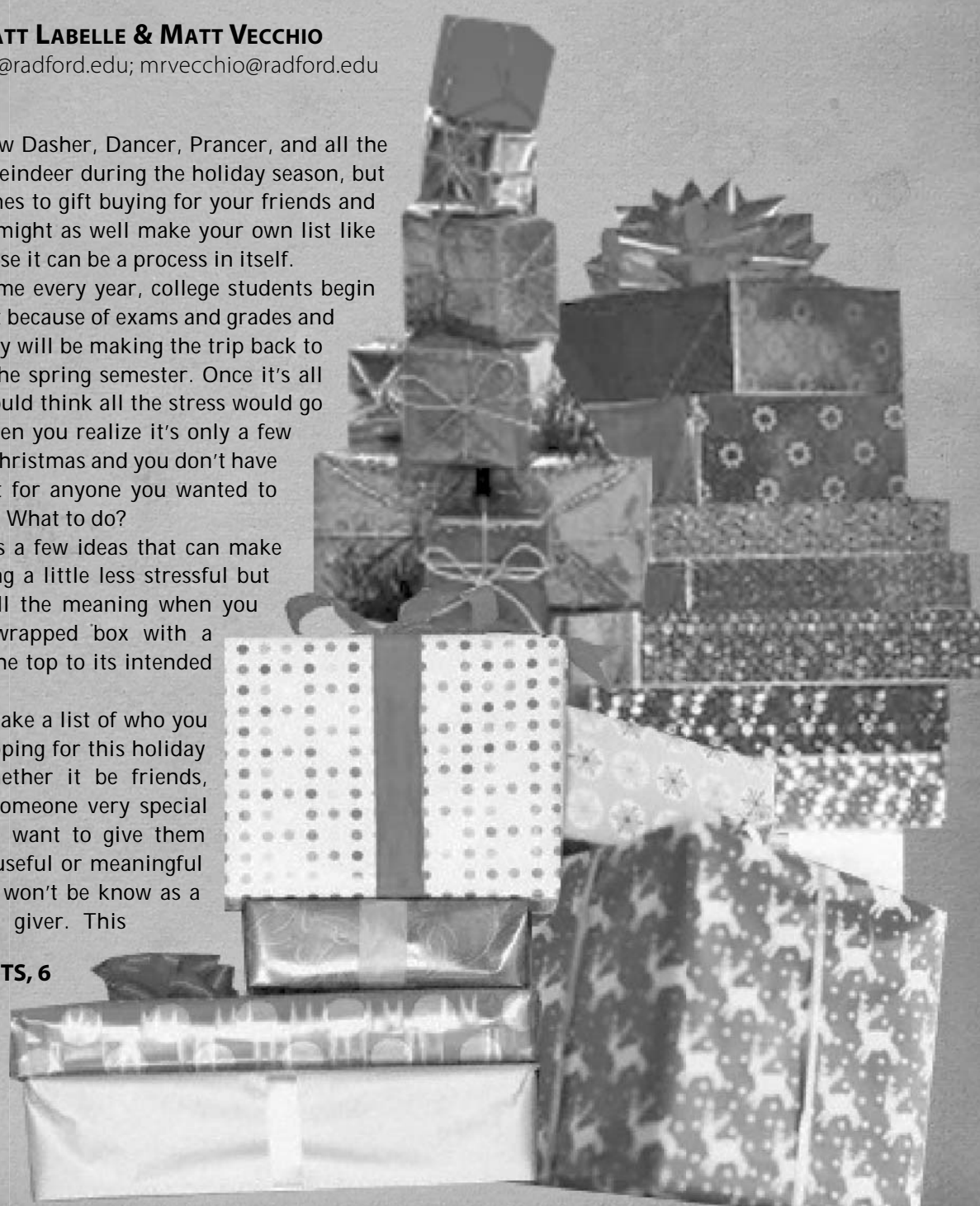
You know Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, and all the rest of the reindeer during the holiday season, but when it comes to gift buying for your friends and family you might as well make your own list like Santa because it can be a process in itself.

This time every year, college students begin to stress out because of exams and grades and whether they will be making the trip back to school for the spring semester. Once it's all over you would think all the stress would go away but then you realize it's only a few days from Christmas and you don't have a single gift for anyone you wanted to get gifts for. What to do?

Here is a few ideas that can make gift shopping a little less stressful but still have all the meaning when you pass that wrapped box with a bowtie on the top to its intended receiver.

First, make a list of who you will be shopping for this holiday season. Whether it be friends, family, or someone very special to you, you want to give them something useful or meaningful so that you won't be know as a terrible gift giver. This

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Heads will roll

Yet another gaming blockbuster launches in 2008, this time long-awaited sequel Gears 2.

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"Gears of War 2" is a game that challenges the user in more ways than one and gives gamers a new and fun experience.

If you have played the original "Gears of War" you know the story. If you haven't played the original then here is the story: Marcus Fenix and Delta Squad are an elite team that take on special missions to defend their world of Sera from the Locust Horde, an underground group of mutants that are bent on expanding their world to the surface.

"Gears of War 2" picks up right where the first ended. The war is still ongoing and Fenix and his right-hand man Dom Santiago take Delta Squad farther into the world of the Locust Horde.

The gameplay is excellent. Besides an occasional bad camera angle, it's very smooth and the controls are simple. Gameplay is the same as the first game with a few new add-ons. You can still take cover and active reload. New game features include chainsaw duels and riding on Brumaks, which are giant monsters that the locusts use to carry giant cannons. Beside Brumaks, there are enemies that will blow your mind and give you a challenge such as the huge worm that can bury entire cities. Killing that thing is ridiculous.

The game features four difficulties but you cannot unlock the fourth, insane, until after you have beaten the game on hardcore difficulty. This gives the game replay value and may help justify the \$59.99 that the customer has to pay for it.

The online gameplay is fun. It features a new game type called Horde Mode, and

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Next Issue

A review of a band concert and symphony scheduled at RU this week.

"Word on the street" strives to uncover how students feel about campus athletics.

Joke of the Week

42.7 percent of all statistics are made up on the spot.

What's Inside?

Juicy Campus gets students talking

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