

THE SETTLER

Student featured in Ben Stiller film

By MICHELLE FRY
Staff Writer

One might use the word "talented" to describe many students on Volunteer State Community's campus, for yet again a student has branched out beyond the typical classroom setting this year to attain hands-on experience in reach of a long-term goal.

Packing the composition and math book to join her on the trip to Eugene Ashley High School in Wilmington, N.C., Lacey Mason, 21, ventured off for over a month of filming in an upcoming movie in which her role consisted of a dancer, a vocalist and a student.

"The Marc Pease Experience" is scheduled for release in the spring of 2008.

Ben Stiller and Jason Schwartzman portray two of the main characters in the film. It is a comedy about a former high school musical star, Marc Pease (played by Schwartzman), who finds himself still living in the past, ten years after graduating.

Working with Stiller in real life

versus seeing him via movie screen, Mason said he was great.

"He's really nice. He told me I was a really good dancer, so I was excited about that. He was also pretty much giving me advice about acting. He just told me that you got to have confidence when you go in because you can't go in a room and feel intimidated. You have to go in with full confidence and full knowledge of what you want to do," said Mason.

Not having any prior acting or dancing lessons, Mason has been able to fall in love with her passions through school musicals and the high school dance team, in which she was the only freshman on a varsity team.

"I didn't know what anything was. I just took it from there and ran with it," said Mason.

Mason moved from Avon, Ind. to Hendersonville in the middle of her senior year of high school. Although she said that it was hard, she knew she had to do what she had to do.



Photo submitted by Lacey Mason

SEE MASON PAGE 3 Student Lacey Mason will appear in "The Marc Pease Experience" with Ben Stiller.

Spam crashes student email system

By LAUREN DAY
Staff Writer

Some Volunteer State Community College students have noticed an unwanted amount of spam filling their student e-mail inboxes recently.

"I started noticing [the spam] a few weeks ago," stated freshman Jessica Sircy.

Likewise, student Luke Canada began noticing spam in his inbox about two-and-a-half to three weeks ago.

"It's probably a student who just wants to cause problems with the e-mail system," stated Canada of the possible cause for the spam.

Not all students have been affected by unwanted junk mail, as student Michael Mash stated that he hasn't received any spam in his student e-mail account.

One potential cause is that students receiving the spam have entered their student e-mail address on an unsafe website which may have requested the

"They can put in any name... and eventually hit somebody."

address for registration purposes. Another possible reason is that "spammers" sending messages to random e-mail accounts discovered that "@student.volstate.edu" is a legitimate e-mail domain.

"They can put any name like 'a.smith1', 'a.smith2' (with '@student.volstate.edu') and eventually hit somebody,"

stated Jason King, assistant systems and network manager.

According to Coordinator of Technical Services Randy Fuqua, "spam is a

**- Jason King
Assistant Systems and Network Manager**

business" and corporations ranging from drug to mortgage companies use spam to advertise their products or services.

King added that spammers are constantly changing the methods used to circulate the junk mail, which forces the authors of spam filters to constantly change their software to

take into account for new methods of "spamming."

Vol State students who are receiving spam may have noticed images containing text are embedded in most of the junk mail.

According to King, this is a new technique being used by spammers.

"The images have text within them, so the filter won't work. The message below the picture is usually legit so it's not flagged by the filter," stated King.

"(Spam filter authors) have to be reactive to how the spammers are spamming. You may not see spam for a while, but when they get a new technique you'll start getting it again." According to Fuqua, someone can set their spam filter to discard any messages containing the words "reduce

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