



Local Day celebrated at U of M



The Student Activities Council hosted a Local Day event Wednesday afternoon on the University Center lawn. The event featured the Say Cheese food truck, various types of moon bounces and a photo booth. SAC president Ashton Toone said she wanted to host the event "to bridge the gap between the campus community and the greater Memphis community."

PHOTOS BY JACQUELINE HANNA AND MITCHELL KOCH | STAFF

Where do you think the term 4/20 comes from?

BY MAISA JABI | STAFF

The sacred day for potheads falls on April 20. every year. Many believe its name came from a group of California high schoolers who found a map of a marijuana farm and decided to explore, according to BBC. Meeting at their normal meeting time, 4:20 p.m., they unsuccessfully searched for the field. The boys of California, now in their 60s, back up their story with paperwork, something no other claimed inventor of 4/20 has done.

Wherever the number came from, it has inspired marijuana festivals on April 20 worldwide, and it has also inspired potheads everywhere to do some questionable things, like stealing the 420-mile marker from Colorado interstates, they have now replaced it with a 419.99-mile marker. We wanted to see what the day means to some U of M students and how they think the number originated.



"It's a day of Earth appreciation by smoking weed. I don't have any idea from where the term comes from. I just like the date."

- Joshua Jamison, 20, mass communication



"I don't know what it is. I have no idea about it."

-Brittney Sledge, 21, biology



"It is a police code for smoking weed. I think the term comes from the police."

- Omar Amro, 21, biology



"It is another day for me. I have no idea from where the term comes from."

-Kiara Fentress, 19, psychology



"It means smoking weed. Back in the days, when college students get out of classes 4:10 p.m., they said let's get 420, which means let's get high."

-Anthony Dang, 20, electrical engineering and computer technology major

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Five ways to 'pass' your drug test

By Sage Cotten

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As the man in the white lab coat followed him into the bathroom, Nathan Vickery felt calm and relaxed.

Just a few hours prior, while smoking weed with some friends, he got a text informing him he had been selected for a random drug screening for his school's tennis team. This was his first drug test, but Vickery had a trick up his pant leg.

"I used something called a 'Whizzinator,'" Vickery said. "It's basically a fake penis."

Employee drug screenings have become more common during the past 15 years. At the same time, the number of college students who smoke marijuana has risen from 30 to 38 percent since 2006, according to a study done by Monitoring the Future, an organization that monitors American youth.

Whether it is for a prospective job, a school sport or staying on the law's good side, many students will probably have to take a drug test at some point. For frequent smokers like Vickery, this can cause pressure to falsify or cheat on drug tests. The 21-year-old has passed multiple drug tests using the phony phallus, but there are many other ways someone might influence their test results.

Here are five ways people pass drug tests:

1. Don't do drugs, at least for a while.

It may be common sense, but one way to pass a drug test is to not do drugs. It would seem impossible to fail a test if no drugs have been taken.

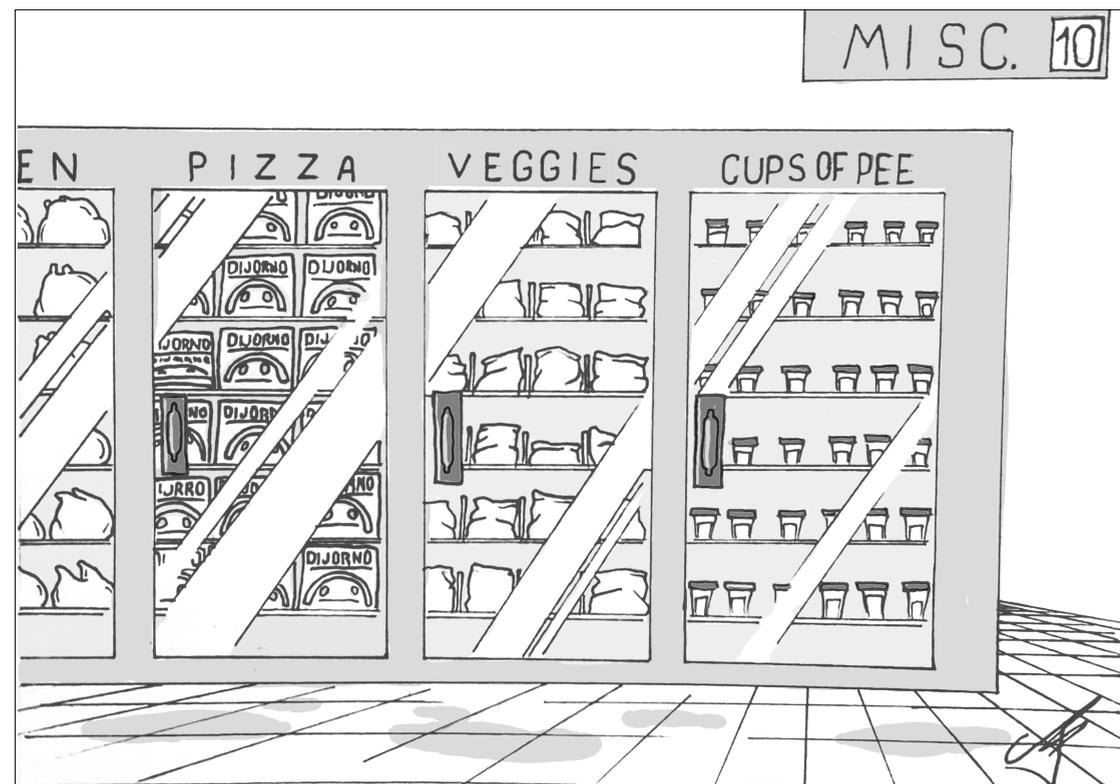


ILLUSTRATION BY JEFF B. CARTER | STAFF

However, Pseudoephedrine, Ibuprofen and supplements or foods containing hemp seed oil may cause false positives, according to studies done by Medline Plus and the Mayo Clinic. Also, Drinking tonic water can cause a test to register for opiates or quinine, according to study from the journal Addictive Behaviors.

For the most part, those who've never smoked have little to fear, but for the for the one out of 22 students who smoke marijuana on an almost daily basis knowing how long drugs stay in the body could make a big difference.

Smoking marijuana a single time can cause the THC — or tetrahydrocannabinol, the active substance in marijuana — to be detected for up to three days after use, according to studies done by the Mayo Clinic.

Smoking marijuana four times a week can

be detected for up to five days, daily use can be detected for up to 10 days and "chronic heavy use" can be detected up to 30 days.

The length of time marijuana can be detected in a person's urine can vary because of many factors, such as a person's metabolic processes, dietary habits and exercise habits, said Kelly Dobbins, president of Mid-South Drug Testing.

"Marijuana attaches to fat cells, so depending on how fat you are can be a factor in how long

marijuana stays in your system," Dobbins said.

2. I can't believe it's not urine.

On its website, the Whizzinator is described as a "discreet synthetic urine device that is safe for all types of scenarios."

"It has straps that go around your legs and waist and a little thing of fake pee," said Vickery, the tennis player who passed that drug test. "It even has a

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►► **PASS**

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pouch for some HotHands to keep it warm. After I used it the first time, I knew I was golden."

Although the product claims it is "not intended for any illegal purpose" and "is not to be used to defeat lawfully administered drug tests," the lifelike member comes in a variety of skintoned colors.

As Vickery's story illustrates, it might fool both the lab and observers who might be present. But without something to put inside it, students looking to fool a drug tester will be left holding their Whizzinator.

Synthetic urine is usually used by drug testing labs

to calibrate equipment, so it is difficult for monitors to determine whether the urine is real. The fake pee has the same pH, acidity and color as the real deal.

"Labs use it primarily to test the reagents (testing samples), but I don't know that we would even know that it's synthetic," Dobbins said. "And the lab doesn't report that it's synthetic. It looks like urine - it smells like urine. You wouldn't think it isn't urine."

Lab technicians are looking for an accurate urine temperature within the range of normal body temperatures, or from 96 to 100 degrees, Dobbins said. So, walking in with a bag of fake and cool urine will likely result in a rejected sample.

3. Use detox products.

There are many detoxification products on the market, some of which advertise the ability to either temporarily or "permanently cleanse" one's body of the traces of drugs.

"There are things they sell in head shops (smoke shops) that you can drink," Dobbins said. "Most of it you drink within a certain time frame. If you're trying to hide marijuana, most of that stuff works, unfortunately."

These products work by temporarily allowing the user to drink enough water

work as well."

Because THC byproducts are stored in the body's fat cells, a user might be able to naturally flush their system by avoiding fatty foods, drinking lots of water and exercising.

4. Borrow urine from family and friends.

Despite there being a market for synthetics and masking products, the most common way people try to fake a test is to bring in the urine of a friend or relative.

"I know that more people bring in other people's urine," Dobbins said. "Out

test will require the test taker to attend drug awareness programs and complete monthly screenings for up to a year, assuming they keep their job, Dobbins said.

5. Location, location, location.

One loophole that can be used to pass a drug test is to not get tested. The industries that screen their employees most are related to safety, transportation or the government, Dobbins said.

"One area that we're still not seeing a lot of drug testing in is the restaurant industry - that and hairdressers," Dobbins said.

Even if a person lives in a state where marijuana is legal, like Colorado, it can still be grounds for dismissal. In a 2015 case, the Colorado Supreme Court sided with Dish Network after it fired an employee for testing positive, even though his doctor had prescribed it. He also proved he had not smoked marijuana on the job.

In states where marijuana is legal recreationally or medicinally, the issue of drug testing is becoming more complicated. However, Tennessee is not one of those states.

The state government incentivizes businesses to conduct drug education and screening through the Tennessee Drug Free Workplace program with insurance and workers' compensation benefits. The program cites data supporting the argument that drug use in the workplace can affect productivity, absenteeism and workers' compensation cases.

While it is possible for a state to pass laws making a falsified drug test a crime, most states will avoid getting directly involved with the relationship between employer and employee, University of Memphis law professor Barbara Kritchevsky said.

"It seems unlikely that states would want to intrude on the employment relationship. Some states might have penalties for cheating on drug test, but in the employment context, this is likely to be a matter between the employer and the employee," Kritchevsky said.

Memphis is the fourth highest drug-screening city in the country, behind only Houston, Indianapolis and Los Angeles, according to National Drug Screening, Inc.

If you're trying to hide marijuana, most of that stuff works, unfortunately."

- Kelly Dobbins

President of Mid-South Drug Testing

to dilute the metabolites in their urine. The drink replaces those vitamins and nutrients that the tests normally measure urine for pH, acidity, creatine, protein and color. The urine does not show up as being diluted because those components have been replaced, so these drinks can work for light smokers.

Camille Jones, a student at Southwest Tennessee Community College, passed her drug test by using a product called fruit pectin.

"It hides the presence of metabolized THC in your body, and you can buy it at Kroger in the Jell-O aisle," Jones said. "You have to drink it four hours before a test and after the four hours are up, it doesn't

of 30 drug tests today, you'll have 10 people bring in someone else's urine."

A fake penis can cost upward of \$100. It is much more common for someone to tape a bag to their leg or hide it in a bra, Dobbins said.

Drug test administrators know that many people will try to fake a test and are careful to check for properties like temperature and color. If caught, ramifications can be serious.

"Anybody that brings in someone else's urine and tries to use it to fake the test is considered a positive test," Dobbins said. "As far as I know, courts, schools and employers universally consider this the same as a positive test."

In some fields, a positive

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- Salman Rushdie

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Tennis teams confident heading into conference tournament

PHOTO BY JOE MURPHY | GOTIGERSGO.COM

By Jeremiah Graham
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With the regular season over, the Tigers men and women's Tennis teams have both secured a five seed in the conference tournament as they begin play this week.

The women's team greatly improved since last season when they went 3-17. They finished the regular season 11-7 and look to make a run in the conference tournament. Women's head coach Hayden Perez thought his bunch over-achieved in the regular season.

"We played at our best during the middle of the season and won about seven out of eight matches at one point," Perez said. "We were rolling until Anki Wind's knee injury set us back a bit."

When Wind went down with a knee injury earlier in the season, Perez looked to players such as freshman Katherine Cao to pick up the slack. The added pressure was "nerve-racking" for Cao at first, but she has gained more experience, earning an 18-8 record this season.

"I'm pretty confident now because everyone has been playing so well and doing well," Katherine said.

"Overall, I would grade my performance a 9 or 10 on a scale from 1-10, with 10 doing really well, because I honestly didn't think I was going to do so good."

The Tigers have earned a first round bye and will face the four-seeded Cincinnati Bearcats Thursday. The Bearcats won the last meeting between these two teams in Cincinnati. The Tigers were playing on the second day of back-to-back road matches, winning against Xavier the day before.

Katherine's twin sister, Josephine, said the team's confidence level is high going into the rematch.

"I would say we are ready for conference," Josephine said. "We won a lot of matches this year against teams ranked higher than us and we also barely lost to a big 10 school. We feel really good about our chances."

The men's team finished

14-10 last season and is going into the conference tournament at 14-7 this season.

The tournament begins Friday with a matchup against SMU. The last time these two teams faced off was April 1 when the Tigers rallied from a 2-0 deficit to defeat the Mustangs 4-2.

The Tigers have played a tough schedule this season, matching up with ranked teams such as Oklahoma State, Cornell and Stanford. Kai Lemke says the schedule has built the team's confidence level heading into the tournament.

"I think the team did well so far this season," Lemke said. "We had a few unlucky losses to top teams like Oklahoma State but we can be proud of the way we competed with the best teams in the country."

Although players such as Felix Rauch and Christopher Patzanovsky think they have not played up to

their individual expectations, they feel good about the team's chances of making a run in the conference tournament.

"I did not play as good as I expect myself to play, but as long as the team does well I am happy, too," Rauch said. "We as the team set the goal to make it to the NCAA's, which we are in a good position for right now if we keep up the good work."

After getting off to what he describes as a rough start in the fall, Patzanovsky has been pleased with his progression in the spring, even winning his first seven matches.

"I am extremely happy with the way my season has gone so far and I think as a team we cannot complain with the way the season went, but I still feel like we can get more out of our very deep team than we have so far," Patzanovsky said.

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