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I would think of things I'd never think before ...

Students find ways to get brain juices flowing during days before finals

By BETHANY BROWN
 THE BATTALION

As the end of the semester approaches, many students are dreading the most difficult thing about being a student — finals. Students will be absorbing facts for hours on end, but there are ways to break the monotony of studying.

Donnie Perdue, a junior biology major, said he starts studying for his finals three to four days in advance and there is no

way he could survive without breaks.

"The more you study without a break, the less productive you get," Perdue said. "Taking study breaks is a good way to give you a fresh start and keep your productivity level up."

Perdue also said that he stays active during his breaks to keep himself alert and relieve some of the stress studying can cause.

"When I finish a subject, I like to go running or play tennis before studying the next subject," Perdue said.

Ryan Gola, a junior mechanical engineering major, said he likes to do anything that does not involve thinking during his breaks.

"I usually just play on the computer or go procrastinate at the Rec," Gola said. "I like to wait until I have gotten one subject finished so that I know I have accomplished something."

Gola said that study breaks can affect a person's studying negatively.

"I have to be in the right mood to study, and if I take too long of a break or something like that, it gets me out of that mood

and I don't do good studying," Gola said.

Robbie Carron, a junior major, said he tries to take a break hour while studying.

"I study four to six hours for a regular test, and that doubles around time, so my breaks are pretty important," Carron said.

Carron said that he likes to go and get some fresh air, especially if it is at the library.

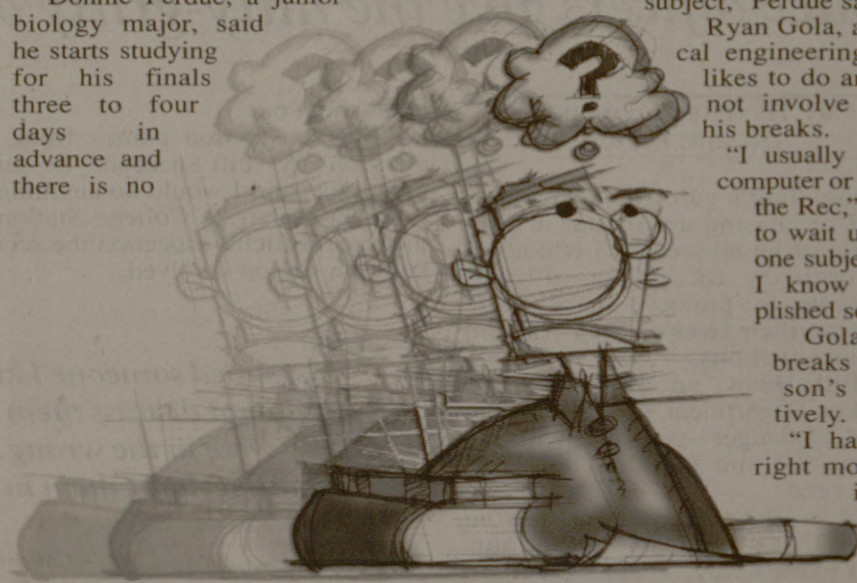
"It helps me wake up and keep going," Carron said.

Nick Welch, a senior finance major, he tries to make his breaks interesting.

"Last year a group of us decided to do Santa's Wonderland during a break," Welch said. "It just seemed like it would be relaxing."

Welch also said that doing something out of the ordinary is a good way to break before studying.

There are other options for staying as well. Those who like to stay at home during their breaks can take a shower, watch a good TV show, or a batch of cookies or cupcakes, make a CD or read a magazine. Those who get out during their breaks can go to a park, get a cup of coffee or a smoothie for a walk with a friend, search for relations at night or play with a pet.



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