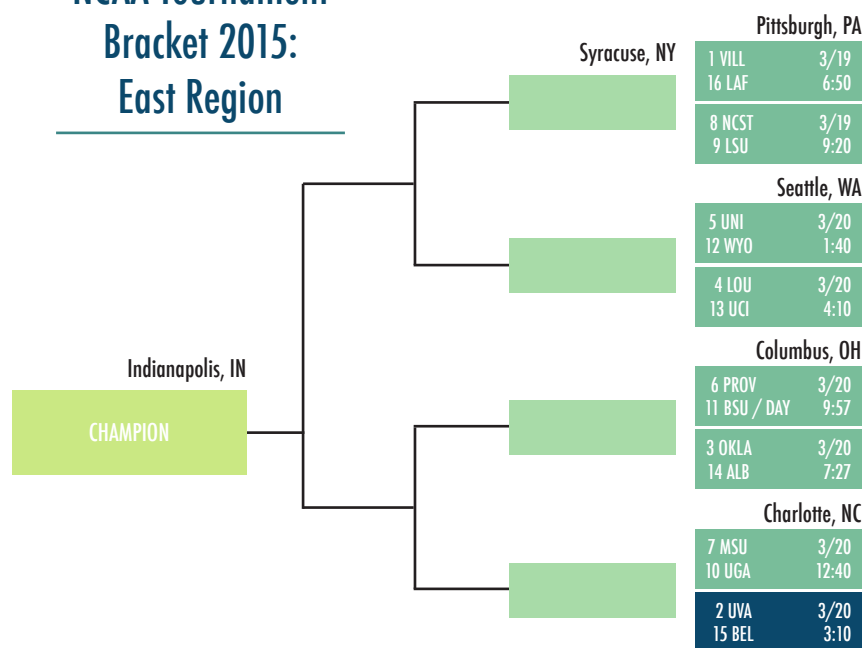


NCAA Tournament Bracket 2015: East Region



Timeline



Virginia falls in ACC semis

Brogdon scores 22 points in second half, Tar Heels hold on

Peter Nance
Senior Writer

The No. 3 Virginia men's basketball team's quest for a second straight ACC Tournament title came to an end Friday evening in a 71-67 loss against No. 19 North Carolina in Greensboro. The loss was the second in three games for the Cavaliers, who claimed their second consecutive ACC regular-season title earlier this month.

Virginia (29-3, 16-2 ACC) started slow and struggled to find a rhythm in the first half. The Cavaliers fell behind 7-1 by the first media timeout and would trail wire-to-wire. The Tar Heels (24-10, 11-7 ACC) led by as many as 11 in the opening period and held a 30-23 edge at the half after Virginia went on a 4-0 run in the last minute.

"We were definitely out of sync," senior forward Darion Atkins said. "I think we unraveled defensively and offensively. We didn't know what shots to get, we were careless with the basketball, they were great defensively and we have to learn from it. It's very tough."

North Carolina shot 52.4 percent from the field in the first half against the nation's top-ranked scoring defense. After the break, the Tar Heels fared even better, making 12

see ACC SEMI-FINALS, page 7

Cavs No. 2 seed in East, face Belmont Friday

The Virginia men's basketball team received a No. 2 seed in the 2015 NCAA Tournament Sunday evening. Competing in the East Region, the No. 3 Cavaliers (29-3, 16-2 ACC) will play Ohio Valley champion Belmont (22-10, 11-5 OVC) this Friday at Time Warner Cable Arena in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Big East champion Villanova earned the No. 1 seed in the East Region, while Big Ten champion Wisconsin, Duke and overall No. 1 seed SEC champion Kentucky garnered the top seeds in the West, South and Midwest, respectively. West Coast champion Gonzaga, Pac-12 champion Arizona and Kansas received the remaining

No. 2 seeds.

Should Virginia advance, two-time ACC Coach of the Year Tony Bennett's team will play either No. 7 seed Michigan State (23-11, 12-6 Big Ten) or No. 10 seed Georgia (21-11, 11-7 SEC) in Sunday's third round. The winner of that game will travel to Syracuse to play in the Sweet 16.

Virginia — which fell to Michigan State as a No. 1 seed in last year's Sweet 16 — will appear in back-to-back NCAA Tournaments for the first time since the mid-90s. The Cavaliers have now qualified for March Madness three times in Bennett's six seasons in Charlottesville. Virginia has never before received a No. 2 seed in the

tournament.

Also competing in the East Region are No. 3 seed Oklahoma (22-10, 12-6 Big 12), No. 4 seed Louisville (24-8, 12-6 ACC), No. 5 seed Northern Iowa (30-3, 16-2 MVC) and No. 6 seed Providence (22-11, 11-7 Big East).

Virginia won its second consecutive ACC regular-season title and retained a top-five ranking in both the AP Top 25 and the USA Today Coaches Poll for much of the season. The Cavaliers fell to North Carolina — the No. 4 seed in the West — in the ACC Tournament semifinals.

Tipoff against Belmont is slated for 3:10 p.m.

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Obama outlines college affordability plan

President discusses Student Aid Bill of Rights with college reporters

Mitch Wellman
News Writer

President Barack Obama discussed the importance of higher education and college affordability Wednesday in a conference call with college journalists from across the country which included The Cavalier Daily. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan participated in the call as well, and Under Secretary of Education Ted Mitchell and James Kvaal, deputy director of the Domestic Policy Council, later joined him for a Q&A session with the roughly 50 journalists.

The conference call follows a presidential memorandum — which is being called the “Student Aid Bill of Rights” — signed by Obama Tuesday morning, directing the Department of Education and other federal agencies to ease loan payment burdens on student borrowers. The bill states that every student borrower deserves access to affordable, world-class education, and the means to pay for a higher education with an affordable payment plan and fair, first-rate customer service.

Obama said achieving this goal will require effort across the board, but that the memorandum will serve as guidance.

“We’re going to have to do things at the federal level, state level, at the university level, to really mobilize the entire country around the issue of college affordability,” Obama said. “To

help us do that, I released what I am calling a ‘Student Aid Bill of Rights,’ which declares some simple values that we want everyone to sign up for.”

According to the memorandum, the Department of Education must create a new system by July 2016 through which borrowers can file federal student aid complaints. Duncan said the department must also raise standards for banks servicing federal loans and ensure debt collectors actively assist borrowers who have difficulty repaying the loans.

The bill also details a more centralized loan payment system, what Mitchell said would be an integrated database easily allowing borrowers to check the balances of all their student loans and to make choices as to how best to allocate payments across those debts.

Obama first outlined the bill Tuesday at Georgia Tech where he told an estimated 10,000 students and guests that his commitment to increasing higher education affordability comes in part from personal experiences with financial aid programs — scholarships, student loans, and work-study — to which he attributes much of his academic success.

“I believe that higher education, as you believe, is one of the best investments that anybody can make in their future,” Obama said. “And it’s also one of the best investments you can make in our country’s future...Higher educa-

tion has never been more important, but it’s also never been more expensive.”

The White House reports there are more than 40 million Americans with student loans, and that 70 percent of those earning a bachelor’s degree leave school with debt, averaging \$28,400 between public and non-profit colleges.

The president’s recent directive builds upon his earlier initiatives such as increasing the maximum Pell Grant by \$1,000, creating the American Opportunity Tax credit and instituting a cap on student loan payments at 10 percent of income.

Duncan said the student bill of rights is also in many ways a continuation of the president’s free community college proposal, which was presented during his January State of the Union address and aimed to reduce the overall cost of higher education. Duncan said Congressional approval would be required to secure funding for the bill.

“We need Congress to partner with us on [the free community college proposal], and that on the front end could help reduce the cost of college by 30, 40, 50 percent if that were to become law,” Duncan said. “The goal here is not just to reduce the burden of debt, but to reduce the cost of college.”

Mitchell said the bill aims at supplementing all sectors of higher education — public and private — and reducing costs

through institutional competition and transparency.

“As we talk about pulling costs down, institutions are going to need to respond to other institutions that are bringing their costs down,” Mitchell said. “Another incentive is simple transparency and visibility — you have probably have taken a look at our college scorecard that allows prospective students to know what the average price is of colleges and universities that they would be interested in applying to, and we think that that transparency plus a little healthy competition is going to influence all sectors of higher education.”

Increased state investments in higher education can also reduce the costs of college, Duncan said. In Virginia, however, Gov. Terry McAuliffe plans to cut \$45 million from state higher education during the fiscal years 2015 and 2016, and the University’s reduction amounts to an \$8.1 million cut each year. There are an estimated one million borrowers with outstanding direct or FFEL loans in Virginia as of Jan. 2015, totaling \$30 billion in outstanding balances.

The Department of Education and the president’s vision going forward is to think of education in terms of “pre-K-14” instead of the traditional K-12 paradigm, Duncan said. The vision is bipartisan and stems from educational initiatives in the traditionally Republican states of Oklahoma and Tennessee, he added.

THE CAVALIER DAILY

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The Cavalier Daily

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Questions/Comments

To better serve readers, The Cavalier Daily has a public editor to respond to questions and concerns regarding its practices. The public editor writes a column published every week on the opinion pages based on reader feedback and his independent observations. He also welcomes queries pertaining to journalism and the newspaper industry in general. The public editor is available at publiceditor@cavalierdaily.com.

Saving Sweet Briar seeks to keep Sweet Briar College open

Despite group's efforts, institution's president says closing is inevitable

Alison Phanthavong
Senior Writer

Saving Sweet Briar — a non-profit organization founded by Sweet Briar College alumnae seeking to save the college from its recently announced closing — has gathered new support from some of the college's faculty. The all-women's liberal arts college is set to close after this spring semester due to financial, enrollment and endowment concerns.

John Ashbrook, the University's History department chair and associate professor, was one of the faculty members to speak out in support of attempting to save the college according to a press release from the non-profit. He was joined by Sweet Briar Anthropology Prof. Claudia Chang and Asst. Prof. Marcia Thom-Kaley, both of whom spoke

out against the closing.

"We knew the school was in trouble, but not to this degree," Ashbrook said. "If the administration and board had been more forthcoming and told the alumnae and faculty we were in this much trouble, I am sure we would have seen the same level of engagement as the Save Sweet Briar movement, but with more time to turn us around."

Ashbrook said he and others were told by the administration that the college needed to turn itself around within a few years if it was to avoid closure. However, he said he remembered being told not to worry.

"I don't want to point any fingers, I'm not trying to do that, but I don't think that we were given enough time and I don't think that the Board and past administrations have done enough to save the school," Ashbrook said. "There was poor financial plan-

ning and a lack of vision, and now we are at a point where the higher ups think it necessary to close the school."

Sweet Briar President James F. Jones said the strain on financial aid dollars proved to be one of the most difficult challenges involved with keeping the school open. He said 43 percent of the entering class were on Pell grants, requiring an immense amount of financial aid dollars.

"We gave away 62 cents of each of our financial aid dollars, leaving only 38 cents for operational purposes," Jones said. "Schools that can do this are very well off...we cannot afford this because our endowment is very, very small."

Jones said a wide spectrum of solutions was explored in attempt to ameliorate the financial situation of the college, none of which worked out.

"We have run a marketing survey to see if we could change our basic mission to attract more women [and] we ran another survey to check the donor capacity for a huge new campaign, neither one of those came back with any positive repercussions," Jones said. "We looked at all forms of mergers, being absorbed into larger institutions, larger curriculum models, changing our missions from purely liberal arts to missions concentrating on learning disabilities, environmental stability, even equestrian focuses — simply none of those options played out to change the yield on who actually comes here."

Ashbrook said he saw Sweet Briar's impending closing as a threat to liberal arts and single gender institutions nationwide.

"Some of us, not me personally, feel that if we speak out there will be repercussions," Ashbrook said. "However, if the faculty and alums give up, there will be repercussions for traditional liberal arts schools across the country. It isn't just Sweet Briar's fight. It's a fight for liberal arts."

Jones echoed what he said is the intrinsic value of a liberal arts education, recalling his time at the University, from which he graduated cum laude in 1969.

"I have held for 40 years that the most important tool that any school can put into your toolbox as a student is the tool of breadth and judgement," Jones said. "I'm not sure that you get that out of purely vocational training. I can look at my life and see how it has been blessed in myriad ways through a liberal arts education, even at my time at the University of Virginia and then beyond...I will go to the grave in support of liberal arts in every possible way."

Despite the surge in activity by Saving Sweet Briar, however, Jones held steadfast on the board's decision to close the school.

"If there had been any way to keep the school open, I can assure you that with the diligence that the Board has been working with for a very long time, the Board would not have elected to do something as hard and difficult as voting unanimously to close," Jones said. "The board's unanimous decision to close is final."

All the same, Jones said he has been flooded by the support being given to Sweet Briar students. There are now 200 schools willing to let current and newly admitted Sweet Briar

students enroll, including 12 "teach-out" schools that have waved transfer dates, agreed to accept Sweet Briar credits and have accommodated residence plans to help provide alternatives for students.

"The outpouring has been absolutely mind-boggling," Jones said. "We are all incredibly appreciative of the support received from these schools, including that of the University of Virginia."

Though these options are available for Sweet Briar students, leaders of Saving Sweet Briar urge current students and other universities to wait on making definitive commitments for the upcoming fall, as the organization tries to rally efforts to keep the school open.

"As we advance our legal strategy and develop alternatives to the closure of Sweet Briar College, it is critical that current students give our efforts time to bear fruit before they commit to attending other institutions," Saving Sweet Briar said in a Mar. 7 press release. "As we ask our current students to wait before making decisions to leave, we also ask our sister colleges to give our efforts time to succeed."

Ashbrook also said he encouraged the alumnae and Sweet Briar community to continue to fight against its closing.

"I would like to encourage the alums and the community, if they can, to support Saving Sweet Briar, and to stay strong," Ashbrook said. "We didn't teach the alums to be passive, we taught them to be active in their time here and there is no better time to show that than now."



Courtesy Wikimedia Commons

Sweet Briar College is set to close after the completion of the Spring 2015 semester.

Palcohol federally approved, banned by Commonwealth

Virginia Congressmen cite concern over potential for abuse

Brendan Rogers
Senior Writer

The Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau announced Wednesday the approval of Palcohol, a powdered alcohol substance.

The dry substance, similar to Kool-Aid powder, contains dehydrated alcohol and is intended to be mixed with non-alcoholic drinks. Four varieties of have been approved, including cosmopolitan, "Powderita," straight rum and vodka.

Palcohol has come under harsh criticism since its introduction, with several states — including Virginia — banning it due to safety concerns. Commonwealth of Virginia Attorney General Mark Herring, a leading proponent of the ban, said he is particularly concerned about potential abuse of the powdered substance by young populations. He praised the

bipartisan decision to ban the substance.

"It's great to see Democrats and Republicans come together to help keep Virginians safe and healthy—particularly teenagers and other young people," Herring said, according to a press release. "The risk of abuse and misuse is just so high with this product."

State Delegate Alfonso Lopez, D-Arlington, was a leading supporter of the legislation, which passed in February and specifically bans Palcohol's sale, importation and possession in the state. He said he was disappointed by the federal government's failure to take similar action.

"This legislation is a common-sense public safety measure designed to safeguard Virginians, especially our young people, against the growing dangers of powdered and crystalline alcohol," Lopez said. "While I am disappointed that the Alcohol

and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau would approve this dangerous substance with such a high potential for abuse, I am proud that we were able to take action this session to protect our young people and ban powdered alcohol in the Commonwealth of Virginia."

Dr. Christopher Holstege, chief of the University's division of medical toxicology, commented on the possible form of abuse involving snorting the powder to accelerate intoxication.

"It's a product that has ethanol in a cyclodextrin ring," Holstege said in an email. "It's meant to be ingested and we highly doubt snorting would be of benefit."

Other concerns include the possibility that the powder could be brought into events without detection, used to illicitly spike drinks or discreetly cooked into food.

Unlike Kool-Aid powder, Holstege said a package Palcohol takes

approximately a minute to fully dissolve, and alcohol content is based on the quantity of powder used as opposed to the volume of the resulting liquid. Servings are individually packaged in pouches the size of postcards and are equivalent to one shot of alcohol.

According to Palcohol's website, the powder was created by outdoorsman Mark Phillips, who envisioned the powdered alcohol serving as a lightweight substitute for carrying heavy wine and liquor bottles on hiking, biking, camping and kayaking trips.

Palcohol is expected to hit shelves this coming summer, once the company is able to arrange for the product's manufacture and distribution. It will be sold only at stores where liquid liquor is legally sold.

Palcohol did not return requests for comment.



Courtesy Palcohol

Palcohol was federally approved on Wednesday.

Women's Center honors Women's History Month

Groups seek recognition of ongoing, global battle for female empowerment

**Alison Phanthavong and
Owen Robinson**
News Writers

The University Women's Center is planning events for the coming two weeks to honor Women's History Month — an effort intended to increase awareness in the community of the ongoing, global fight for the empowerment of women.

Jaronda Miller, program director of Global and Engaged Scholarship at the Maxine Platzer Lynn Women's Center, said the center will host four events. The main event will highlight the obstacles and rewards to expanding educational opportunities to young girls worldwide.

"Our signature event is going to be the Beverly Cobble Rodriguez Lectureship on Mar. 17 at 5 p.m. in Garrett Hall," Miller said. "Jessica Posner Odede, CEO and cofounder of Shining Hope for Communities, an all girls school that they opened in Kenya, is coming to speak about global education for girls, opportunities and challenges with transforming poverty."

The Women's Center will also be hosting a film series on Mar. 20, 21 and 24, as well as a presentation on empowering women in Cameroon on Mar. 27 and a discussion addressing human trafficking and sex trafficking on Mar. 31.

Miller said this was the first time the Women's Center

had honored Women's History Month, but that it was rewarding to get students engaging more with the obstacles holding back women across the globe.

"This is the first time having events planned for International Women's Month," Miller said. "It was really important for me to make sure that the students were involved and that we had for our signature lectureship someone who students could relate to and someone who was doing phenomenal work around education and health which is one of the requirements of the lectureship."

President of University Democrats Porter Koolman, a third-year College student, said U Dems will also honor Women's History Month. He said the

group will be co-sponsoring an event inviting discussion of the rights women possess over their bodies concerning abortion and contraceptives, sexual assault, gun rights and domestic equality.

Koolman said he hopes the event will draw greater attention to current issues facing women in society, such as the wage gap between male and female workers.

"[Wage inequality is] critical, and I'd say along with marriage equality it's one of the biggest human rights issues of this generation, and it's one which is so multi-faceted," Koolman said. "It's in the workforce, it's on college campuses, it's evident when a mother has to decide if she wants to give up her career to raise her

children."

The origins of Women's History Month date back to 1981, when Congress authorized and pushed for the president to designate a "Women's History Week" during the week of Mar. 7, 1982. The National Women's History project petitioned Congress for a full Women's History Month in 1987.

Koolman said recognizing March as Women's History Month was important, as women's history should be part of an ongoing conversation throughout the year.

"It's not an issue to highlight for one month and forget about," he said.

Hailey Ross contributed to reporting.

"Scriptures As Operational Artifacts" Lecture by Ambassador Aref Nayed

6:15pm Sunday, March 22, 2015

Location: Nau Lecture Hall 101, University of Virginia, *Open to the Public*



Dr. Aref Nayed is the Libyan Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates. This year, Ambassador Nayed was ranked among the top 50 most influential Muslims in the 2014/15 edition of The Muslim 500 published by The Royal Islamic Strategic Studies Centre in Amman, Jordan. During the Libyan revolution he was also the Chief Operations Manager of the Libya Stabilization Team, and before the liberation of Tripoli in 2011, he was appointed by the National Transitional Council of Libya as the coordinator of the Tripoli Taskforce.

In addition to his ambassadorial duties, Dr. Nayed is the founder and director of Kalam Research and Media, Senior Advisor to the Cambridge Inter-Faith Programme, Fellow of the Royal Aal Al-Bayt Institute in Jordan, Visiting Professor at Fatih Sultan Mehmet University in Istanbul, and a member of the Board of Advisors at the Templeton Foundation. Among his past positions are professorships at the Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic studies in Rome and the International Institute for Islamic Thought and Civilization in Malaysia. His published works include *Operational Hermeneutics: Interpretation as the Engagement of Operational Artifacts* (KRM, 2011), and the forthcoming *Catholic Engagements: A Muslim Theologian's Journey in Muslim-Catholic Dialogue* (KRM) and *The Future of Muslim Theology* (Blackwell).

For more information on Dr. Nayed, visit his profile on Kalam Research and Media's website.

For more information about this lecture please visit:

<https://sipgradconference.wordpress.com/plenary-speaker/>

read more at...

cavalierdaily.com



Virginia Tech sweeps No. 1 Virginia in weekend series

Top-ranked Virginia baseball dropped all three games of this past weekend's road series against Virginia Tech.

Hokie senior Sean Keselica out-dueled junior Nathan Kirby in Friday's contest, as Tech (10-9, 4-2 ACC) eked out a 2-1 series-opening victory.

Keselica allowed one unearned run on four hits in a complete game effort. Kirby threw 7.1 innings of one-run ball while allowing five hits and four walks and striking out six.

The Cavaliers (12-5, 2-4 ACC) scored their only run on a RBI single by sophomore catcher Matt Thaiss in the opening frame, which scored freshman first baseman Pavin Smith.

Late-inning drama characterized the game. Virginia coach Brian O'Connor was ejected in the eighth inning while arguing a batter's interference call. O'Connor made contact with home-plate umpire Craig Barron and received a mandatory four-game suspension.

An error and two walks — one intentional — loaded the bases for the Hokies with one out in the bottom of the ninth. After entering the game for sophomore Jack Roberts, junior Josh Sborz walked senior first baseman Brendon Hayden

on four pitches to force home the game-winning run.

The Cavalier offense sputtered yet again in Saturday's 3-1 loss. The Virginia bats tallied nine hits but stranded 11 runners on base.

Sophomore Connor Jones took the mound for the Cavaliers. He surrendered three runs on seven hits and five walks in 5.2 innings en route to his first loss of the season.

Again, Virginia jumped out to an early lead. Freshman right fielder Adam Haseley led off the frame with a single — one of his three hits on the day — and advanced to third following a passed ball and sacrifice fly. Haseley reached home on a groundout by Smith.

Virginia Tech tied the game in the third and scored two runs in the fourth on the strength of four consecutive hits. Sophomore shortstop Ricky Surum's infield single drove home senior right fielder Kyle Wernicki and sophomore left fielder Miguel Ceballos walked to force in a run.

The Cavaliers were not without chances in the later part of the game. Virginia loaded the bases with two outs in the seventh, but sophomore shortstop Daniel Pinero could only muster a pop fly.

With their backs against the wall, the Cavaliers loaded the bas-

es once more in the ninth inning. Sophomore Luke Scherzer got a third strike past Smith to end the threat and the game.

Virginia's bats woke up for Sunday's finale, but the Hokies relied on more late-game magic to pull out a 6-5 victory.

Junior Brandon Waddell started and threw six innings of four-run ball — only three were earned. Virginia Tech tagged Waddell for six hits, but the Houston native did fan six.

The Cavaliers pulled ahead in the fifth inning on a two-run home run by Pinero, his fourth of the season. A stiff wind blowing out significantly shortened the walls at English Field.

The Hokies countered with three in fifth, but a double by junior designated hitter Kevin Doherty knotted the game again in the sixth.

Virginia Tech pulled ahead for good in the eighth on a wind-aided homer by senior second baseman Alex Perez.

Virginia looks to return to its winning ways Tuesday against Towson. First pitch is scheduled for 4 p.m.

—compiled by Matthew Wurzbarger



Ryan O'Connor | The Cavalier Daily

Sophomore shortstop Daniel Pinero swatted his fourth home run of the year Sunday with the wind blowing out at English Field.

Wrestling captures first ACC championship since 2010

DiCamillo, Sulzer win individual titles, seven Cavaliers qualify for NCAAs

Matthew Wurzbarger
Senior Associate Editor

No. 18 Virginia wrestling traveled to Pittsburgh as the underdog and left the Petersen Events Center as the champion.

The Cavaliers entered the ACC Championship as the fourth overall seed, but a true team effort propelled Virginia to 85.5 points and its fifth ACC title.

"I don't think anyone predicted this was going to happen," coach Steve Garland said. "It was a heck of an upset win and we are really excited about being a part of something that we think is going to be a good story about Virginia wrestling for years to come."

All 10 wrestlers placed in the top four of their weight classes and six made the finals. Of those six, sophomore George DiCamillo and senior Nick Sulzer won their

brackets.

A 2013 ACC champion, DiCamillo topped Duke freshman Mitch Finesilver 12-6 for his second individual title. The Ohio native missed the 2014 season in its entirety due to a hip injury.

"We wrestle our best when we have a chip on our shoulder, and I feel like we did a good job of responding to some controversial seeding and some adversity," DiCamillo said.

Sulzer dispatched North Carolina redshirt freshman Ethan Ramos 5-2 to claim his second consecutive title at 165 pounds. Ramos upset Sulzer in Chapel Hill earlier in the season.

"I think it's great, but the even better part is the team title," Sulzer said. "We finally got the ACC title that has eluded us the last few years. It puts the cherry on top."

Redshirt freshman Andrew Atkinson and juniors Nick Herr-

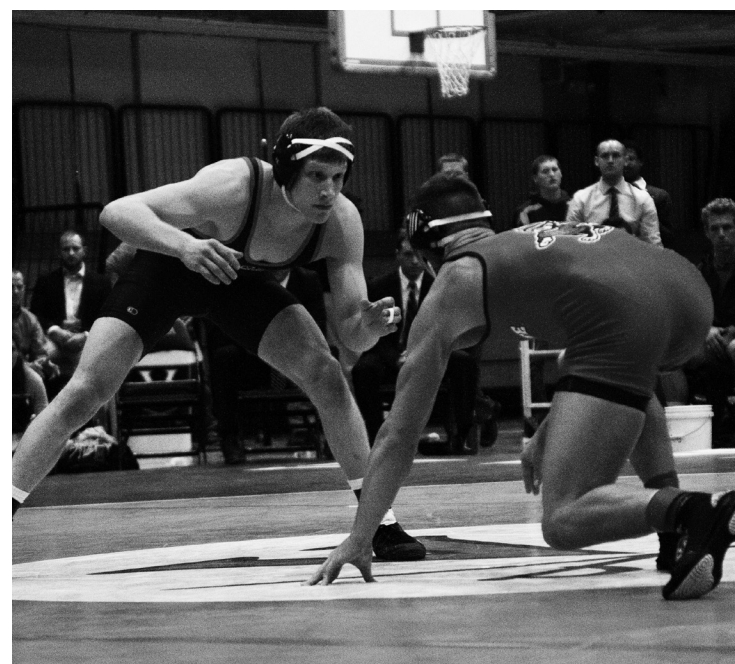
mann, Blaise Butler and Zach Nye all lost in the championship match. However, the four did qualify for the NCAA Championship.

Senior Joe Spisak was the seventh and final Cavalier to receive an NCAA bid. The Boiling Springs, Pennsylvania native took third at 141 pounds. Spisak and Sulzer became the seventh and eighth Virginia wrestlers to reach the NCAA Tournament four times.

The remaining three wrestlers — redshirt freshmen TJ Miller and Tyler Askey and junior Patrick Gillen — placed fourth in their weight classes. None received at-large bids for NCAAs.

Host Pittsburgh placed second with 71 points. Virginia Tech — the regular season champion — was a distant third with 59.5 points.

The NCAA Tournament will be held March 19-21 in St. Louis, Missouri.



DJ Govenor | The Cavalier Daily

Senior Nick Sulzer claimed his second consecutive ACC title at 165 pounds.

Junior Becca Corbett became the first female diver in program history to qualify for the NCAA Championships after placing fifth in the 3-meter event.



Courtesy Virginia Athletics

Divers Kolod, Corbett star in Buffalo

Senior JB Kolod and junior Becca Corbett stole the spotlight for the Virginia diving teams last week at the NCAA Zone A Diving Championships in Buffalo, New York, punching tickets to their respective NCAA Championship meets in all three diving events. No other Cavalier diver qualified of the five men and four women competing.

All female divers who place in the top seven in an event are eligible to compete in the NCAA meet, while the men must place in the top seven in the 3-meter and platform events and the top

five in the 1-meter springboards.

Monday, Corbett became the first female diver in program history to qualify for the NCAA Championships when her score of 613.25 earned her a fifth-place finish in the 3-meter event. Corbett provided two more inspiring performances after, again taking home fifth in the 1-meter springboards with a score of 546.15 Tuesday. Wednesday her score of 515.55 put her in fourth place in the platform event.

Kolod earned his third consecutive NCAA appearance Monday with a score of 662.9

in the 1-meter event — good for second place. Kolod again corralled second Tuesday with his score of 794.3 in the 3-meter springboards. Last year, as a junior, Kolod earned the program's highest finish in the 3-meter event at the NCAA Championships after placing seventh.

Although Kolod finished ninth on the platform dive, he is still eligible to compete in the event at the NCAA meet by virtue of his two second-place finishes and his top-12 finish Wednesday.

—compiled by Robert Elder

Young, DMR deliver in Arkansas

Six athletes from the Virginia men's track and field team competed in Fayetteville, Arkansas, at the NCAA Indoor Championships over the weekend. At the end of competition, Virginia placed 23rd — the top finish among ACC schools.

In two events Friday, the Cavaliers scored a total of eight points. Sophomore Jordan Young, an Arizona Wildcat last season, finished fourth in the weight throw with a distance of 22.87 meters. This mark was only .05 meters off his school-record throw from the

ACC Championships.

At the end of day one, the men's distance medley relay — senior Payton Hazzard and sophomores Nathan Kiley, Mike Marsella and Henry Wynne — earned sixth place.

The group's time of 9:33.24 — fourth best in school history — outdid talented programs, including Duke, Arkansas, Oklahoma State, Stanford and Virginia Tech. Young and the four DMR members received All-American honors for their performances Friday.

Saturday, redshirt freshman

Filip Mihaljevic competed in the men's shot put. Mihaljevic's first toss of 18.40 meters was respectable. But his next two throws — both fouls — cost him a spot in the finals. It was likely a disappointing day for the school record holder and ACC Indoor Champion.

Fortunately, Mihaljevic can turn the page on his performance. The 2015 outdoor season starts Saturday with the Virginia Cup at Lannigan Field.

—compiled by Grant Gossage



Senior Payton Hazzard teamed up with sophomores Nathan Kiley, Mike Marsella and Henry Wynne for a sixth-place finish in the men's distance medley relay.

Marshall Bronfin | The Cavalier Daily



Marshall Bronfin | The Cavalier Daily

Senior midfielder Ryan Tucker scored three goals in the 11-9 loss. He has 12 goals this season.

Late rally falls short against Notre Dame

The luck of the Irish got the best of the Virginia men's lacrosse team this St. Patrick's Day weekend. No. 4 Notre Dame (4-1, 1-0 ACC) used a 7-0 run to start the game and a subsequent 8-2 halftime lead to win its conference opener, 11-9, against the No. 7 Cavaliers (5-2, 0-2 ACC).

Despite gaining extra possessions by winning eight of the game's first 12 faceoffs, Virginia committed 11 first-half turnovers and never found any rhythm on offense without All-American junior attackman James Pannell. Pannell is currently out for the season after tearing his ACL in

Thursday's practice.

Notre Dame junior attackman Matt Kavanagh kick-started the vaunted Irish offense — which averaged over 15 goals per game entering the contest — by scoring Notre Dame's first two goals, while freshman attackman Mikey Wynne — who led all scorers with five goals — netted four of his tallies before halftime.

Although the Fighting Irish struck first to begin the second half, Virginia answered with a four-goal run — which included two tallies by junior midfielder Greg Coholan — to cut its deficit to 9-6 with just over 12 minutes

remaining in the fourth quarter.

But two Notre Dame goals extended the Fighting Irish's lead to 11-6, large enough to withstand Virginia's late three-goal run over the final 4:43.

Coholan led the Cavaliers with four goals, while senior midfielder Ryan Tucker added three of his own. Senior attackman Owen Van Arsdale finished with three assists and sophomore goalie Matt Barrett recorded nine saves.

Virginia will next play No. 16 Johns Hopkins Saturday at 6 p.m.

—compiled by Robert Elder

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CAVALIERDAILY.COM

ACC SEMI-FINALS | Heels shoot 54.8 percent, hit seven 3-pointers

Continued from page 1

of 21 shots. Their shooting percentage for the game of 54.8 percent was the best against Virginia since Nov. 22, 2010 — a span of 163 games.

“Credit to them, they hit a lot of shots,” junior forward Evan Nolte said. “We didn’t play the type of defense that we’ve been playing or that we’ve been taught to play the whole year. That part’s frustrating but they came to play and they outplayed us, simple as that.”

In the second half, each time Virginia began to gain momentum, the Tar Heels answered swiftly to reignite a partisan North Carolina crowd. They led by double digits for much of the second half before a last-ditch comeback attempt led by junior guard Malcolm Brogdon made things interesting.

The Cavaliers trailed by 13

points with under nine minutes remaining, but were able to make a game of it late. Virginia went on a 14-5 run in just over three minutes to pull within one point with 2:52 remaining. Brogdon was responsible for 10 consecutive points during the run as he made three lay-ups and a pair of 3-pointers.

“He really kept us in the game,” junior forward Anthony Gill said. “They didn’t have an answer for him. Unfortunately, we didn’t have an answer for anything they were doing.”

Brogdon’s 22 second-half points were not enough and a one-point deficit would be the closest Virginia ever achieved. After a driving lay-up by Brogdon cut the North Carolina lead to 63-62, North Carolina junior guard Marcus Paige hit a contested floater in the lane as the shot clock expired to push the lead back up to three with 44 seconds remaining.

At the other end, Virginia jun-

ior guard Justin Anderson missed a 3-point attempt and sophomore forward Kennedy Meeks corralled the rebound and later was fouled by Brogdon to stop the clock. He missed the front end of his one-and-one and the Cavaliers got the rebound. However, by this time Brogdon missed a potential game-tying 3-point attempt.

“[Brogdon] had hit a couple threes, and I thought he had rhythm,” coach Tony Bennett said of the shot. “He got a pretty good look, and he had made a few, so I was okay with that.”

North Carolina made all six of its free throws in the final 15 seconds to oust Virginia and become the third team to top the 70-point mark against the Cavaliers.

“Defensively for us to win a game like this, we had to have a much stronger, more sound, solid effort, and we just didn’t,” Bennett said. “So that kind of stings, but we’ll grow from it. This is one and

done and the next one is one and done, so you’ve got to try to get it right.”

Virginia struggled to find effective adjustments after North Carolina took control early. When the Cavaliers started to pack the paint and pressure the Tar Heel post players, North Carolina got hot from outside and drilled 3-pointers. UNC was 5-of-9 from deep in the opening period and 7-for-14 overall.

Nobody did more damage than freshman forward Justin Jackson. He entered the game shooting just 26 percent on 3-pointers but proceeded to put in four of his five attempts, finishing the night with a team-high 22 points.

“I always knew I was a shooter,” Jackson said. “Obviously, the numbers didn’t show it. But for me, I knew it would come around sooner or later. I’m just glad I was able to contribute to this game and be able to move on.”

Following their second loss in a week, the Cavaliers will look to work out the kinks before returning to action in the NCAA Tournament.

We definitely can regroup but we really just got to reevaluate ourselves and just sit down as a team and really just get back to doing what we do best, which is play defense,” junior forward Mike Tobey said. “I think in the first half we didn’t necessarily do that...for the most part we just didn’t play the way we should be playing. We really got to not reinvent ourselves but just get back to what we’re doing.”

As for the Cavaliers’ case for a No. 1 seed in the bracket, Virginia players had no interest in lobbying.

“That’s up to the committee,” Brogdon said. “I think we’ve played really good ball and been successful this season.”



Porter Dickie | The Cavalier Daily

Junior guard Malcolm Brogdon scored a career-high 25 points, with 22 coming after halftime.

VESSEL

A Swedish doctor provides abortions on a ship in international waters. . .

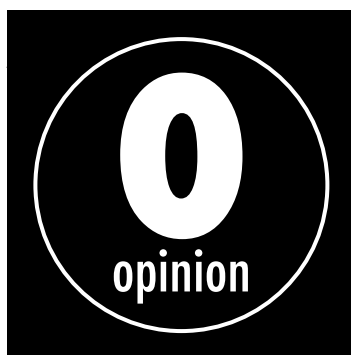
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You are invited!



Chill Out!

Don't let midterms melt your iceberg.



Comment of the day

"It is of equal importance that students gain a better understanding of the people around them in life, because those students will be interacting with other people on a daily basis, often in situations where the understanding and knowledge gained from such courses could help them significantly."

"Chris Allen" in response to Ben Rudgley's column "Looking back on 'End Women's Studies'"

LEAD EDITORIAL

Combating racism on campus

Racist activities at the University of Oklahoma and University of Maryland demonstrate the systemic nature of racism

The University of Oklahoma made headlines last week with the discovery of a video of fraternity brothers in Sigma Alpha Epsilon participating in a racist chant — which included lyrics such as "there will never be a n— in SAE" and even lyrics supporting lynching. Shortly after this discovery, officials at the University of Maryland began investigating an email sent by a Kappa Sigma fraternity brother in Jan. 2014, which included racial slurs and other racially charged language.

The universities and national organizations in question have taken swift action. The national SAE organization suspended its Oklahoma chapter and the university itself expelled two students (though the constitutionality of this action has been questioned). At Maryland, national leaders of Kappa Sigma immediately suspended the student in question and are now working to formally expel him from their organization, while the university is investigating the incident through its Office of Civil Rights and Sexual Misconduct.

But these investigations and the ensuing dialogue lack the holistic approach necessary to combat the apparent racism persistent on college campuses. The expulsion of the students at Oklahoma and the investigation of the Maryland stu-

dent are significant in demonstrating those schools' zero tolerance for racism, but these actions should not replace university-driven discussion of the systemic nature of racism on campus. Developing a constructive approach to dealing with obvious racists is essential for all schools, but so is investigating the environment that can allow such racists to get away with racism.

Since our University is no stranger to this type of racial scandal, these issues are just as relevant for us. At a party jointly thrown by the University chapters of Kappa Alpha and Zeta Psi in 2002, some guests came wearing blackface. In that case, the University, like OU and Maryland, took relatively swift action. Both fraternities were initially suspended pending investigation. However, once it became clear that none of the individuals wearing blackface were themselves affiliated with either fraternity, both fraternities were reinstated by the school and cleared by the Inter-Fraternity Council of any wrongdoing.

In that specific case, while members of KA and Zeta Psi did not themselves participate in racist activities, they were — at the very least — inactive bystanders. We can readily point to the party-goers wearing blackface as racist in their actions — but why not also

consider the fact that these two fraternities, by ostensibly failing to criticize these guests and failing to kick them out, contributed to an environment in which racist behavior was acceptable? There are likely many more cases of racism at our University — both within Greek communities and outside them. It is the implicit acceptance of such racist activities that allows the perpetuation of explicit racism — and this makes bystanders culpable.

Of course, it is immensely difficult logistically to punish a group for contributing to a culture in which racism is tolerated. But there are tangible ways to combat this culture. Perhaps the first tangible way is to acknowledge its existence — something all universities have failed to do thus far. But after acknowledgment comes action. At Georgetown University, students are currently petitioning for the creation of "Diversity, Power and Privilege" two-course requirement for all undergraduate students which would educate them on "issues concerning race, class, ethnicity, sexual identity, immigration status, gender and gender identity, religious identity and disability/ability." According to the petition, Cornell University, Brown University, Dartmouth College and Yale University all have similar required courses.

The implementation of this type

of required course — at all schools — would ensure students learn the impacts of their statements and actions. There are inevitably individuals who will remain apathetic to the unethical nature of racism, but there are also individuals who may simply be uninformed or scared to be active bystanders, or who may not understand the full consequences of racist activity. Implementing required courses on diversity and privilege would educate such students and possibly ensure the diminishment of environments in which racist behavior is tolerated.

Our University should strongly consider implementing such a requirement as well. It is important to be proactive in the face of racism, and not reactive. Statements from the presidents of the University of Oklahoma and the University of Maryland pointed to the strength of those schools' respective communities and their intolerance for racism — but clearly pockets of those communities exist where racism is tolerated. Those same pockets exist in our community, too, and if a single student is caught saying or doing something racist, calling that student an anomaly only covers up the true problem. Racism is not confined to certain outspoken individuals; it is systemic. The only way to cure a systemic problem is to take a systemic approach.

The missing link

The Cavalier Daily should provide more links that give readers crucial information and context

Distinguishing pieces and increasing site should better partition its sections, and provideAs I read through recent issues of The Cavalier Daily, I was confused at times about what sort of piece I was reading.

I have noted that in comments, many people are confused about articles versus columns, the latter containing opinion and the former reporting in which the author strives for objectivity. On several occasions, I recall commenters alleging bias on the part of a columnist and thinking that it was at least partly because the commenter is reading the piece online and didn't note the distinction between sections of the paper or type of piece. In looking to see whether my notion held up, I came away thinking there are places where The Cavalier Daily can and should do more to highlight the location of an article or column in its appropriate section and to identify

the author and author's intent.

Effective labeling is especially important in the digital space, where the lines between sections and types of pieces within sections are more easily blurred.

In the current website design, sections are labeled in the navigation bar and in text at the top of each article. This seems reasonable for both the News and Opinion sections where the type of piece is then clear. In other sections, though, the readers are left to sort out for themselves whether they are reading an objective news report or an Opinion column. This can be especially tough to figure out if the reader is not using the website itself to navigate the paper but coming directly to a specific page from an outside link source like Twitter or Facebook.

Matthew Comey's ability to write for multiple parts of the paper highlights this issue. His work appears in

both the Sports and News sections. See, for example, his column in the Sports section, "What happened to the Virginia men's swimming team?" Only at the bottom of the piece are we told that Comey is a weekly Sports columnist, with the understanding that the foregoing piece was opin-

plies it may be intended to be more of a news report. Comey also wrote recent articles that were under the News heading. While there is more leeway, generally, in sports writing (especially in reporting results which can be exceedingly dry if it's literally just the facts) for less objectivity than

in news, knowing the underlying intent of a piece is still critical for understanding it. Adding the role of the authors with their byline would help, just as The Cavalier Daily currently does in print. In the case of Comey, "Matthew Comey, News Editor," or "Matthew Comey, Sports Columnist," clarifies his role and

the type of piece before the reader starts the piece. See, for example, page two of the January 15 and page nine

of the February 26 print editions.

One other brief note: in the past, I've called for more links online where they can be used to point readers to more context, previous articles on the same topic or data. I've been gratified to note that in recent weeks there have been several instances of pieces that make good use of such links. The lead editorials on March 2 and March 4 and John Connolly's Opinion column from March 5, for example, all offer links that both support their arguments and present additional context. I hope it's the start of a trend at The Cavalier Daily. I'd especially like to see more links in News pieces where they can offer similar utility to readers.

Christopher Broom is the Public Editor for The Cavalier Daily. He can be reached at publiceditor@cavalier-daily.com or on Twitter at @CDpubliceditor.



Effective labeling is especially important in the digital space, where the lines between sections and types of pieces within sections are more easily blurred."

Expanding our idea of spring break

The way the administration and students discuss spring break lacks nuance

Somehow — miraculously — out of the frigid maw of this February we have emerged onto spring break. Some people are excited to fly to Europe, some to service trips in the American South or in Central America, some to Cancun and Florida to sit on beaches and drink and still others home to rest. I'm just excited to see my cat.

But safety is always a preeminent issue during spring break — as Dean Groves' recent email and the latest issue of the Stall Seat Journal remind us. Going to other countries is dangerous. Drinking is dangerous. Have a buddy. Make sure to eat food. Wear sunscreen. This is all very good and deserves repetition and due consideration, but, in the University's constant admonitions of caution, they are perpetuating the clichéd, "22 Jump Street" stereotype of spring break — at times to the detriment of other options.

There's no doubt the spring break stereotype is a stereotype for a good

reason. According to Orbitz, 55 percent of college students are planning to fly to some warm destination for spring break. Las Vegas heads the list, followed by Cancun. Panama City Beach, Florida, the apparent 12th most popular option, has a website filled with pictures of exactly what I thought spring break was when I was 12. Dean Groves' grim warning to stay away from "Molly" (i.e. ecstasy) represents the fact that, for many, spring break is the long-awaited chance to forget the rigor of classes, the stab of a Charlottesville February and the peril of another round of midterms.

And that kind of spring break is great. Fun can't be overrated, but a lot of students don't have the money to travel to Mexico or the Keys, or don't identify with that type of party culture. They'll be going home, going on a more service-oriented or sober trip or just staying in Charlottesville. Ultimately, the opportunities to do something else abound. One can

go on Alternative Spring Break and, debates about the value of a week-long service trip aside, help others. One can even try to bankroll the trip through fundraising. One can go on a road trip, or just hang out with hometown friends.

But the problem is, the University is not doing enough to advertise these alternative options. Everyone knows they exist. There have been posters around Grounds for months advertising alternative options. But they only get vague, token references in University emails and publications. In Groves' email, the Dean recognizes that a "significant number of students choose not to drink alcohol, especially when under the legal age" — a reassuring reminder that it's okay not to break the law — but it's specifically said in the context of facilitating the behavior of others who do wish to drink. Groves encourages non-drinkers to "sign the pledge not to drive after drinking and look

out for their friends:" the underlying assumption is that if a student isn't drinking over spring break, he'll definitely be by others who are — an unfair assertion which entirely dismisses other choices. I realize the intention of Groves and the Office of the Dean of Students isn't to solely promote the traditional spring break experience but, in effect, his email is

ditional spring break" with a touch of other options.

Currently, given that the administration sends emails to the entire University listserv, it is simply perpetuating the spring break stereotype on a school-wide scale. University-published infographics, like this one, provide a valuable reminder of party-protocol — but in a vacuum, it just reinforces the conception that spring break is about ditching the parka, donning the swimsuit, getting horribly sunburned, blowing hundreds of dollars and drinking a lot of alcohol. The University has an easy opportunity in the future to vindicate students not going to Cancun. It just has to give them a nod.

There's no reason administrators can't do this, but there are many reasons why they should. And if that extra bit of coverage convinces some to pursue other avenues of leisure, that's a victory for an administration looking to downplay the University's party culture in a post-Rolling Stone era.

Brennan's columns run bi-weekly Thursdays. He can be reached at b.edel@cavalierdaily.com.



BRENNAN EDEL
Opinion Columnist



But the problem is, the University is not doing enough to advertise these alternative options."

doing exactly that — marginalizing alternative spring break options as a side effect. Although it's not the express job of the University administration to publicize alternative options — many of which are student-organized — and more their job to ensure student safety, they should match their coverage of "tra-

Jefferson deserves our praise

We should evaluate Jefferson in the context of the period in which he lived

As any casual visitor to the University can see, Jefferson's name and face are omnipresent on Grounds. The Jefferson Scholars, the Jefferson Society and the statue of Jefferson on the Lawn demonstrate how his legacy lives on at the University he founded. Yet a recent article in The Cavalier Daily by fellow Viewpoint writer Alexander Adames questions this adoration of Jefferson on the grounds that "such sycophancy ignores the fact that Thomas Jefferson was a racist and slave owner." Adames makes a valid point: to venerate Jefferson as a demigod would be to accept his ideas as flawless. However, Adames is wrong to say we can only "extol his ideas... instead of the man." There is a middle road between the extremes of deification and rejection, one in which we accept Jefferson's flaws as congruent with the flaws of

the society he lived in, yet still admire him as a man for his intellectual contributions, leadership and the creation of the University we now attend.

Looking back at history through the lens of modern morality, it's easy to see the cracks in the glorified historical leaders we have been shown. Many acted in a manner we would consider despicable today. George Washington was a slaveowner, Franklin Roosevelt was anti-semitic and Theodore Roosevelt was a eugenicist — to name a few. There were even some who acted immorally by the standards of their times. Both John F. Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. were adulterers, and Dr. King plagiarized parts of his sermons and speeches. Despite their glaring flaws, these men still feature prominently in our society, with monuments and memorials to their names.

This is because for the most part their beliefs and actions are considered a byproduct of the unenlightened times they lived in, or inconsequential compared to the enormous positive changes they wrought on this nation. Jefferson should not be any different.

As Adames points out, Jefferson was far from perfect. He was

the sins he refrains from committing, and the echoes of Jefferson's accomplishments still resonate today. As president, he doubled the size of the United States with the acquisition of the Louisiana Territory and helped map the North American continent by commissioning the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Earlier, while

a leader of the Enlightenment, he was a proponent of the ideas of self-government and freedom of religion, ideas which became cornerstones of the Declaration of Independence. As an architect, he designed his home, Monticello and the

University, which was noteworthy for his idea of an "academical village." Through these actions, Jefferson's legacy lives on both physically and intellectually, and

it is a legacy that makes him worthy of our admiration.

While Jefferson's actions certainly make him praiseworthy, Adames is right to note that saying Jefferson was "holistically a noble, benevolent or great man is misguided." Where Adames goes wrong, however, is saying that praising "Jefferson as a person" suggests "appreciation for everything about the man, including his personality and practices." Jefferson was flawed, to be sure, but his sins were the sins of his time, and did not belong to him alone. Our praise for Jefferson as a man in no way suggests we approve of all that he did, only that we admire his exceptional leadership, intellectual abilities and the contribution he made to forming our nation.

Alex Mink is a Viewpoint writer.

ALEX MINK
Viewpoint Writer



Jefferson was flawed, to be sure, but his sins were the sins of his time, and did not belong to him alone.

a racist and a slaveholder even though he claimed to believe in freedom and equality. But we base our admiration of a person on his accomplishments, not just

follow @cavdailyopinion on twitter

Looking back on “End Women’s Studies”

Shortcomings of the WGS program are founded in problems with our culture, not the discipline itself

Last year I penned an article — originally a Cavalier Daily Opinion section application piece intended for my editors only — entitled “End Women’s Studies.” It was deservedly met with a deluge of criticism and controversy. Just hours after the article was published, I received a flood of Facebook messages from strangers either praising my “courage” or ridiculing me for stupidity, misogyny and just generally being an all-around degenerate. The article’s comments ranged from logical deconstructions of my argument to the obscene. In one of my discussion sections, a student expressed her take on the article by saying to me, “It’s a real shame, because you seemed like a nice guy.”

Even if the circumstances of the article’s genesis seem extenuating, I am still acutely aware that I have to take ownership of what I wrote. I regret the article not just because it caused offense, but also because it was poorly constructed and inadequately researched.

With this in mind, last semester I enrolled in the Women, Gender

& Sexuality survey course “Introduction to Gender Studies” with Professor Corinne Field. After introducing myself and expecting a deserved rebuke for what I wrote, Professor Field surprised me by instead

warmly and excitedly welcoming me and my perspective into her class. Over the next few weeks and months we engaged with rigorous source material, written from a range of academic disciplines, that examined how gender and perceptions of gender shape the world around us. One week we would examine the intersectionality of oppression, in another the problems with the gender binary and in one particularly poignant week, we discussed the sexual assault epidemic occurring not only on Grounds but across the nation.

Not only was WGS not what I wrote it was, but it also proved to be a wellspring of expansive and insightful critical debate. Thanks to the class, I am now far better equipped to understand and deconstruct both forms of explicit patriarchal oppression and the subtler implicit biases that con-

tinually erode at the possibility of equal opportunity for women and minorities in all spheres of personal, work and civic life.

Though it would be possible to continue at length to illustrate both the class and the discipline’s wider resonance and importance, it is necessary to address why WGS fails to attract some of the students who could benefit most from its teachings. First, there is unfortunately a stigma attached to any class with “women” or “gender” in its title. This isn’t a failure

inclusive community that has the courage to unchain ourselves from the shackles of delineating modes of thought and inquiry into those that are more serious (male-dominated fields like engineering, hard sciences and economics) and those that aren’t (female-heavy subjects like fine art, gender studies and art history).

The second reason for WGS’ lack of appeal among male students is this time self-inflicted. Students might be adverse to taking a WGS class out of a fear that cer-

tain beliefs might be pushed through as fact while anything said to the contrary would be cast as offensive, and they’re not entirely wrong. At times it seemed as though the structure of the class was formed in order to present certain conclusions (that sex is a social construct or that obesity is usu-

ally an involuntary condition, for example) and then explain the reasons and evidence that get us to

them. When my teaching assistant started discussion with a summary of a certain conclusion and then asked us if we understood how to get there, there was a definitive academic aura in the air that felt less like open debate and more like agenda-pushing. However, these less-than-critical junctures in class were few and far between and can perhaps be explained away by pointing to the simple fact that the “WGS” sides of the debate have been historically ignored or ridiculed and therefore deserve a greater share of our attention.

In short, I feel lucky to now know the extent of my past column’s inaccuracy. I would encourage students of all backgrounds and interests to enroll in a WGS class before they graduate because it will undoubtedly challenge assumptions, bend — and meld — orthodoxies and illuminate many of society’s most tragic, and overlooked, shortcomings.

Ben Rudgley is a Viewpoint writer.



Not only was WGS not what I wrote it was, but it also proved to be a wellspring of expansive and insightful critical debate.”

of WGS but rather a demonstration of how, as a culture, we are far behind where need to be: an

Why endorsements don’t matter

The results of the 2015 student elections prove that formal endorsements are not as important as personal connections

The 2015 student elections results proved endorsements are insufficient for and unnecessary for winning. Of the 16 Cavalier Daily-endorsed candidates in competitive elections, only nine won. Without a single endorsement, the fourth-year class president and vice president, second-year class president and vice president, a College Honor representative, a Commerce Honor representative and a College University Judiciary Committee representative won in close and competitive races. It is clear that inherently impersonal endorsements cannot compete with personal vouching.

The Cavalier Daily endorses candidates despite being the only newspaper on Grounds to report on them, a practice questioned by Opinion columnist Jared Fogel last March over (now-moot) concerns that endorsements carry too much sway. Depending on the election, candidates are also endorsed by the Minority Rights Coalition, Black Student Alliance, Latino Student Alliance, College Republicans, University Democrats, University sus-

tainability groups and the Inter-Fraternity Council.

A candidate can advertise the organization’s backing and may be listed on an organization’s email to its members, but in University elections an endorsement is ineffective at increasing the number of votes. “Endorsing organizations in life offer far more resources. Why union endorsements matter so much in New York is that a union endorsement means boots on the ground getting out the vote,” explained incoming Student Council President and current Second Year Council President Abraham Axler. Such action by endorsing organizations is influential as voting rates are poor, like those at our University. Despite a large number of competitive — and close — elections, only 21 percent of eligible students voted for the Student Council president, 19 percent for Student Council vice president of organizations, 27 percent for Honor College representative and 34 percent for Honor Commerce representative.

Reading the endorsements of the

impersonal, bureaucratic-sounding Cavalier Daily Managing Board or receiving a listserv email promoting a list of candidates is unlikely to convince a busy and disengaged student it is worth his time to vote. Endorsements’ detachment cannot impart an obligation to vote, thus limiting the influence endorsements could have on an election. Third-year students Jack Vallar and Parisa Sadeghi lost their re-election campaign for class of 2016 president and vice president, despite collecting all six endorsements offered to their

dia in elections. Yet this is less contingent on the sheer quantity of a candidate’s connections than on the quality of his relationships. How many support you well enough to publicly advocate for you? Axler pursued this angle with personal endorsements through his “My Friend Abe” initiative. Friends of 28 Axler supporters were greeted on election morning with an email (or emails) entitled, “My Friend Abe.” Each asked the recipient to vote for Axler, explained his endorsement and linked to Axler’s campaign website.

About 4,000 emails were sent, perhaps influencing his 2,654 to 2,150 win.

Axler’s “get-out-the-vote machine” systematically used secondhand vouching, but this process can explain more broadly which candidates incite students to bother voting: those with support-

ers willing to advocate for them. Such personal endorsements make a candidate look accessible and personable: someone a voter might approach with an idea or enjoy working with. This explains how the affable Emily Lodge won Student

Council vice president of organizations without The Cavalier Daily’s endorsement and with under 1,000 Facebook event invitees (the race was 2,635-1,690). Caroline Herre, deemed “approachable” by the Managing Board, likewise won College Honor representative without a single endorsement.

While approachability often characterizes a good leader and a well-organized campaign may foreshadow an effective term, the necessity of personal endorsements could hinder the candidacy of the capable but less connected. By changing their practices, endorsing organizations could try equalizing the playing field with active promotion of candidates they deem most competent and aligned with their goals. In such a way, a CIO could create the personal connections a candidate may lack. As they presently stand, passive endorsements from organizations suggest the CIOs are themselves unenthused about their candidate of choice. This leaves personal endorsements as the sole force motivating students to vote.

Elaine’s pieces run bi-weekly Fridays. She can be reached at e.harrington@cavalierdaily.com.



ELAINE HARRINGTON
Opinion Columnist



Endorsements’ detachment cannot impart an obligation to vote, thus limiting the influence endorsements could have on an election.

positions. Only about 38 percent of the class voted in their elections.

Personal connections more effectively convince students to vote, a friend-of-a-friend dynamic criticized by Opinion columnist Mary Russo in her critique of social me-



Yards for Yeardeley

Women's lacrosse team participates in project to raise awareness about domestic violence

Allison Turner
Feature Writer

Fourth-year College student and women's lacrosse player Caroline Seats joined Boston College women's lacrosse players Covie Stanwick and Molly Erdle this December in Yards for Yeardeley — a project in which teams pledge to run one million yards in one month. The project has quickly expanded to include women's and men's teams at colleges and high schools across the country.

The project was inspired by Yeardeley Love, a University student and lacrosse player who was murdered in 2010 by ex-boyfriend George Hugueley, also a University student and lacrosse player. After her death, her parents established the One Love Foundation to raise awareness about relationship violence.

"This spring marks the five year anniversary of [Yeardeley's] tragic death, so we felt that it was extremely important to bring awareness to relationship violence and in-

crease support for the One Love Foundation," Seats said.

After students at the University and Boston College started the project, 80 college lacrosse teams across the country joined. The project continues to draw more college and high school players every day, and other sports teams such as soccer, rowing and field hockey have joined as well.

"No one could have predicted how many teams would join this incredible movement," third-year College student and women's lacrosse player Ella Cooper said.

As teams participating in Yards for Yeardeley ran their one million yards, they posted to Instagram, Twitter and Facebook to track their progress and spread their mes-

sage.

"Members of [the U.Va. and Boston College] teams were encouraged to create Facebook and Instagram posts as they completed their yards," third-year College student and women's lacrosse player Kelly Boyd said. "Girls on other teams saw these posts and really wanted to get their teams involved."

The women's lacrosse team completed their one million yards over winter break while training for the spring season.

"One million yards sounds like a large number, but most teams [are] able to complete their yardage within three weeks," Seats said. "During our one month tracking period, [the team] completed 1,861,064 yards

for Yeardeley."

The players on the women's team have been thrilled with the project's progress, Boyd said.

"We have had a lot of fun with this project and watching it expand has been awesome, especially knowing that it all began with one of our teammates and friends, Caroline," Boyd said. "We are all so proud of her efforts and the work she has put into this project."

Nearly five years after Love's death, the lacrosse team has emphasized its commitment to preserving her memory and teaching others about the dangers of relationship violence.

"When I was a [first year], the [fourth year] class was the last remaining class to have played with Yeardeley," Cooper said. "I know these girls feared that once they were gone, some of the traditions we have to remember Yeardeley would be lost. This movement has reinforced how important Yeardeley was to the lacrosse community and provided a platform to expand awareness and education regarding domestic violence."

Courtesy Yards for Yeardeley

Making an impact

Alternative Spring Break seeks to expand efforts beyond a single week

Margaret Mason
Feature Writer

Most students imagine their spring break to be exactly that — a break. Select students, however, dedicated their week to one of 29 service trips organized by the University's Alternative Spring Break program.

Founded in 1992, ASB has a long tradition of service and leadership, garnering hundreds of student applications for trip placement each year. Unlike service trips organized through other schools, ASB is entirely student run and led. Two student "site leaders" are assigned to each site and select team members, in addition to coordinating travel plans and bonding activities throughout the week.

"Because all of the applications are name blind, it brings together different parts of the University," fourth-year College student and ASB Vice President Rosa Waters said. "They can form uncommon friendships they may not have encountered otherwise. People bring different academic disciplines and areas of interest to reflections every night, [creating] rich conversation."

During the week, students fan out in geographically diverse locations across the western hemisphere. ASB trips this year included California, Florida, the Virgin Islands, Utah, Costa Rica and Maryland, to name a few. Allowing students to experience the best of both worlds, ASB trips combine service with travel and grant students access to new experiences while helping others.

"I applied last year because I have always liked doing volunteer work and I wanted to do something different for spring break," third-year Commerce student and Hilton Head site leader Neale Walton said. "I wanted to meet new people and see what it was like to build strong friendships based on only being with people for a week."

ASB members said the key to a successful trip was a diverse group of volunteers, which is fostered through the application process. In a process of mutual selection, applicants rank trip preferences while site leaders rank applicants they deem well-suited for each trip.

"When people know each other well going into a trip, the group dynamic is definitely affected," second-year College student and

San Francisco site leader Amanda Halacy said. "It's awesome to see how 10 strangers become so incredibly close after just a week"

While on location, ASB participants work into the afternoon and are granted free time in the evening to sightsee, connect with the local community and reflect upon the day. In preparing dinner together and engaging in group discussion, service groups build a bond not only with the community they serve but also with one another.

"I love that I get to meet a variety of different people — different years, different schools and different backgrounds," Walton said. "We build bonds like none other, filled with inside jokes and trusting friendships."

According to the organization's website, ASB serves as, "a year-round experience that emphasizes self-awareness through educational and cultural programs that take place before, during, and after the projects." As a requirement, each trip group gathers to discuss their work, the meaning of service and ways to bring what they have learned back to the University.

"[Participants] have those discussions [where they] really talk



Courtesy Neale Walton

Alternative Spring Break offers participants the opportunity to travel across the world and engage in service and sightseeing. The program brings together students of different years and majors.

about bringing [their experiences] back to Charlottesville," fourth-year College student and ASB President Caroline Trezza said. "That's what ASB is really about — those conversations in addition to service."

Historically, ASB has faced criticism due to the short nature of the trip. Whether or not it is helpful to offer service to communities for a single week at a time has been called into question.

"We have a lot of old articles criticizing the group from 2007 [and] as an executive board we try to ensure we don't go back to that organization," Trezza said. "Most of the trips bring one of those articles

with them [to] talk about the criticisms and how they can do more in their interactions with the volunteers they work with to maximize what they can do and take away. We really try to address those valid criticisms."

Additionally, the organization also encourages students to find new ways to bring back what they learned during the course of the trip to the Charlottesville community and expand their impact.

"It's easy to come back from any trip and reflect on it and then keep on living life but we try to keep getting the groups together and talk about what they can take away," Waters said.



Annie Mester
Life Columnist

2 Aloe

This one hits extremely close to home, as an accidental nap on the sunny beach of Miami has forced me into a painful, sunburned reality in which I can't lay down on my bed without shedding a tear. My ego and my ability to shower have also taken hits — the water scalds my shoulders, and the only thing my mother has said to me since I returned is "I told you so." The sweet green glow of aloe is responsible for my current happiness.

4 Money

Speaking of things growing on trees (just kidding), money in its various forms is seldom something to complain about. Maybe you've worked really hard at your job recently, or hit the money shot in your intramural basketball game. Maybe your professor told you your answer to the midterm question you thought you bombed was "right on the money." Maybe you found a penny heads-up on the ground or came up with a million-dollar idea. In any shape or form, money is something green to celebrate.

3 Leaves in the Springtime

Four-leaf clovers especially, as those elusive little things both bring luck and add an air of legitimacy to the timing and theme of this article. Plus, the little bit of green finally showing itself on Grounds is giving me hope that spring is coming and the snow will finally give way to some nicer weather. Note: though these may not be the obvious plant choice when one hears the word "green," consider that it's March, not April. We'll celebrate that foliage-based high holy day when we get there.

5 Solar Panels

The epitome of green: sustainability. Good for the environment, your wallet and future generations. Here's an idea: install a solar panel on the roof of your apartment. Your friends will be green with envy over how much money you saved on your utilities bill. Plus you'll have a little more green in the bank. You heard it here first: I'm starting a petition to change the 'Early Meal Plan Sign-Up Rocks' shirts to 'Being Green Rocks.' BGR has a much better ring to it than EMPSU anyway.

1 Green M&M's

I know what you're thinking: don't all M&M's taste exactly the same? Well, think what you want, but I forced my friend and her boyfriend to participate in a self-conducted, extremely scientific blind taste test over spring break. Needless to say, they agreed the green ones were the best. If that's not the happiest marriage of love and science you've ever seen, your favorite green thing is probably the Grinch. There's a reason why the green M&M's stick around for the holidays and the brown ones don't.

6 Green Beer

As wonderful as nature is, there is certainly beauty to be found in the unnatural. Exhibit A: Trinity's St. Patrick's Day beer. A word of wisdom: green beverages look a lot more festive going down than coming back up, so honor the Irish in another way by eating some carbs in between beers.

7 Limes

Though limes currently hold a special place in my heart as an inducer of tequila-related spring break debauchery, they are one of the more underrated members of the citrus family. Where would Sprite be without the latter half of its lemon-lime flavor? What would Hint of Lime Tostitos be hinting at? The lime's color and its tang make it a bright, yet sassy addition to any dish. Honestly, I think one should always strive to be the lime of his or her friend group.

8 Shamrock Shake

You worked so hard on your spring break body that it's definitely time for a reward of the McDonald's famous, green and ice cream variety. Knowing Charlottesville weather, we're going to have a snow day in the middle of May, so your body will forever be hiding behind that huge sweater anyway. No one will notice the extra pounds when you realize you can't stop drinking these milkshakes. Don't tell Cook Out. Though it's unclear what exactly makes these milkshakes green, I've had one to twelve every year since I can remember, and I'm not dead yet.

9 The Chicken Left in Your Refrigerator Over Spring Break

On the bright side, I can bet I wasn't the only one who overlooked the whole throw-your-perishables-out-before-you-peace-out-for-a-week thing. Though the chicken I made probably would've tasted better with green pesto on it, the shade of green it's currently rocking is quite dashing. Luckily, I'm not scared of a little mold, but I'm scared of my roommates finding out I was the source of the awful smell in our kitchen. Don't tell.

10 Leprechauns

Thanks to the snow day and the work of the devil himself, many of us still have midterms after spring break. We're all going to need the "luck of the Irish" to help us on this one. I'm personally feeling good about myself because I managed to bring my books with me on vacation. But that pride ends there, as I didn't open any of them. But, with some well-timed prayers to St. Patrick and a green beer or two, we'll all get through it. After all, it's darty season.

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