

THE CAVALIER DAILY

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ADAIRE BURNSED & AVA PROEHL | THE CAVALIER DAILY
PHOTO COURTESY SANJAY SUCHAK

Streak of MIDNIGHT

TRACING A TIME-HONORED PATH FROM THE
ROTUNDA TO THE HOMER STATUE

NEWS

This week in-brief

CD News Staff

Fifth-year students will not serve as Resident Advisors

The University's Housing and Residence life recently implemented a new policy which will prevent future students in their fifth year of completing a 4+1 master's program from serving as Resident Advisors or Senior Residents in undergraduate housing.

4+1 programs in areas such as Public Health Sciences and the accelerated master's in the Batten school allow undergraduate students to begin graduate work early to obtain a master's degree just one year after graduation. This HRL new policy goes into effect with the Class of 2025 — current fourth years in the Class of 2024 will still be able to serve in their fifth year.

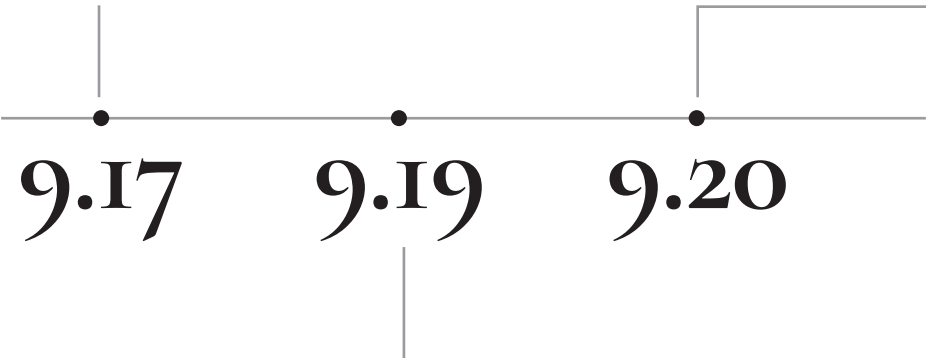
Resident Advisors receive free housing and a partial meal plan as benefits. By eliminating access to these advantages, fifth-year Batten student Holly Sims said she personally worries this policy may deter students from continuing their education at the University.

"This policy could potentially completely change some students' advanced degree planning," Sims said. "Any third or second years who had been relying on financial assistance may not be able to stay at U.Va. to pursue their advanced degree."

While HRL did not provide a figure for the total number of fifth-year RAs, there are currently five fifth-year SRs out of a total of 28 SRs — students who lead the residential staff within a building. Sims also serves as a Senior Resident.

University spokesperson Bethanie Glover said Housing and Residence Life made this decision based on the differing academic calendars of fifth-year programs.

"These schedules often conflict with required training, opening and closing for the dorms, which are integral to both [the RA and SR] positions," Glover said in an email statement to The Cavalier Daily.



U.Va. ranked fifth best public university

U.S. News and World Report ranked the University the fifth best public university in the country Monday in its 2023-24 ranking of Best Colleges. The University fell two spots from last year's rankings, where it had been tied for third place with University of Michigan Ann Arbor.

The University was also ranked 24th best national university this year, moving up one spot after ranking 25th for the past two consecutive years. The 24 spot is tied with Georgetown University, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Carnegie Mellon University, Emory University and Washington University in St. Louis.

The University of Michigan Ann Arbor maintained its third place ranking and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is currently ranked fourth.

U.S. News ranked the University 26 in best value schools, moving up six spots from last year's ranking of 32. The University was also named the 10th best college for veterans and 34th for studying abroad.

The University was reported to have a 15 to one student to faculty ratio, and it was ranked 48th in best undergraduate teaching programs.

To be included in the U.S. News rankings, universities must be regionally accredited, enroll at least 100 undergraduate students and have reported data about financial expenditures to the U.S. Department of Education, among other qualifications.

Vice Provost for Enrollment Steve Farmer told the University that "results demonstrate the strength of our students and the way our community cares for them and encourages them to excel."

Student Council considers upcoming annual budget

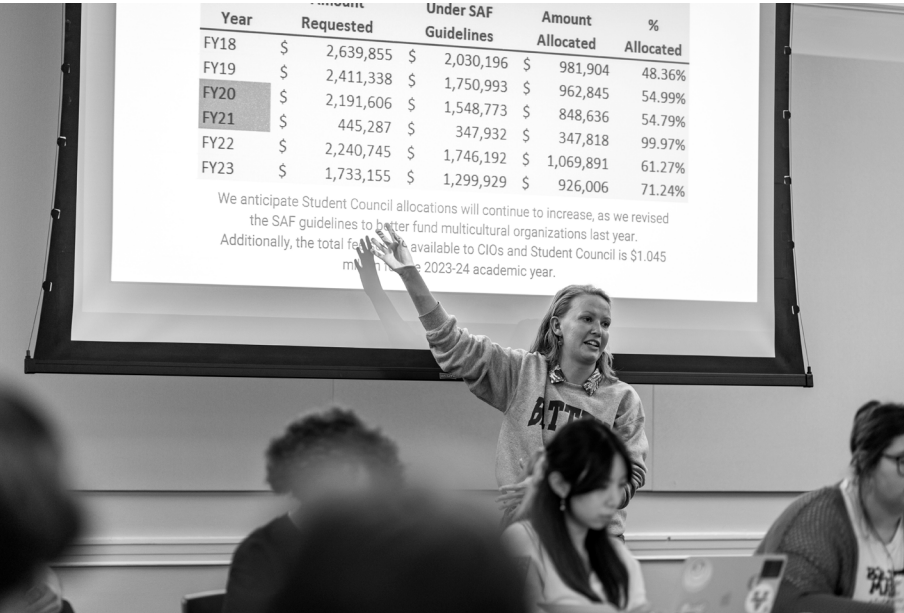
Student Council passed a resolution amending the 2023-24 budget to include \$3,750 in additional funding towards improving Ramadan meals for students. The General Body also approved fourth-year College student Matthew Docalovich as the new Rules and Ethics Chair after the previous chair, third-year College student Seamus Oliver, stepped down from the position.

The Ramadan budget amendment was sponsored by second-year College representative Imane Akhanous and third-year College representative Yassamine Kamal, who hope the change will replace and improve the current system of providing Ramadan meals to University students.

The budget amendment passed and will now be a part of the Student Council 2023-24 annual budget that Holly Sims, vice president for administration and graduate Batten student, presented during last week's meeting. With the added \$3,750 from this amendment, the proposed budget now totals \$317,787.

Student Council voted to table the budget for reconsideration next week — by-laws require the budget to remain unchanged for a week until it can be officially voted on.

Ramadan — the holiest month of the year for Muslims — includes a 30 day fast from sunrise to sunset. Communities come together after sunset to eat a meal called iftar. While U.Va. Dine has provided students on meal plans with Ramadan meals through GrubHub in the past few years, Kamal said the University has not committed to continuing this program due to large amounts of food waste resulting from students not eating the meals.



ALBERT TANG | THE CAVALIER DAILY

Student Council will meet again next Tuesday to discuss the tabled bill proposing the 2023-24 annual budget.

Students excited about new Raising Cane's on Corner

Students waited in the early morning hours for a chance at a year's worth of free chicken

Cecilia Mould | Staff Writer

Students flooded to Raising Cane's new location on the Corner Tuesday morning to celebrate the restaurant's opening with a raffle drawing for a year of free food and a formal ribbon cutting ceremony complete with a pep squad. Through the elaborate opening following weeks of promotion, management behind the new restaurant aim to connect with the local community and maximize the potential of the location being so central to the University.

Tuesday's grand opening marks the second Raising Cane's in Charlottesville. Charlottesville's other Raising Cane's location, on Route 29, is notoriously popular and has caused traffic issues due to its busy drive-thru.

With rents increasing on the Corner, students have seen frequent business turnover in recent years. Many smaller, local businesses have left the area. The Cane's Corner location was formerly occupied by Sheertz, which closed in 2021. The building was vacant for nearly a year before Cane's — a national chain — began construction last year.

Energy was high opening morning as the line of students snaked down the Corner for a chance to win the "Lucky 20" raffle drawing for a year of free Cane's — which includes three free meals a month for the next 12 months. One student winner, second-year College student Will Holland, was the first student inside the restaurant after waiting outside the restaurant since 6 a.m. Tuesday morning.

"I think the Corner is a really cool place for this [business]," Holland said. "I love Raising Cane's and having free Cane's for the next year is amazing."

A ribbon cutting ceremony with the Charlottesville Chamber of Commerce followed the raffle. The University mascot and cheerleading team were present to celebrate, and a DJ was hired for the day. The first 100 customers received free customized t-shirts.

University cheerleaders helped celebrate the opening by cheering on raffle winners and welcoming in customers after doors officially opened. Mackenna Caruso, cheerleader and second-year College student, said she plans to eat at Cane's often and thinks the new location will be a hit with students.

"We get asked to be in a lot of things as cheerleaders, but this by far has been the best thing I've

ever been asked to do," Caruso said. "Just remember, in darkness there's always a light on the other side, and my light on the other side is Cane's."

Warren Sewell, regional leader of restaurants for Raising Cane's, said his team aims to tie together both the University and Charlottesville communities through the new location.

"We understand how important the University is to Charlottesville and vice versa," Sewell said. "We hope to be a household name and a staple for the students and the community, because it is a small town that's fueled by a very big university. We want to make sure people feel comfortable and they feel at home."

The restaurant's interior features many homages to University life such as framed U.Va. varsity jackets, scarves and football attire. More modern elements like neon lights and disco balls hanging from the ceiling break up the vintage feel.

In preparation of opening, the Cane's location has already hired nearly 115 new employees,

including managers, and has conducted training over the past three weeks. Sewell said the high number of employees was strategically chosen to anticipate high demand.

"Once we get to a steady state, where it's less crazy, those numbers might change," Sewell said. "I don't know if that's ever going to happen."

During this training period, the restaurant invited local business owners, University students and faculty to dine for free before doors officially opened. Sewell said that management planned these meals to connect with the local Charlottesville community.

Along with other members of the University, third-year College student Victoria Pham was invited in and received free food ahead of the opening. She said that the staff was very friendly during the promotion day she visited.

"They were very welcoming," Pham said. "It was such a fun experience to have everyone welcome us in. I think I got six boxes for free that day to take home, so it was really cool."

Students report they are generally excited about the opening of this new Raising Cane's location so close to central Grounds, despite the possibility of increased foot traffic on the already busy University Avenue.

Andrew Pollard, fourth-year College student and Corner resident, said he thinks the new restaurant — open until 1 a.m. weekends — may in fact reduce lines at other late night options like the White Spot.

"Personally I'm pretty excited — I've actually never had Raising Cane's before and look forward to trying their food," Pollard said.

Second-year Engineering student Dan O'Connor mentioned some possible negative sides to the opening of a new chain close to Grounds.

"As someone who really enjoys Raising Cane's I am excited by its opening, but of course there are concerns about a major chain opening in such an important area," O'Connor said. "Foot traffic does concern me a bit — I imagine the initial excitement around its opening will be pret-

ty dramatic but may calm down over the semester."

While it remains to be seen how long the chicken frenzy will last, the restaurant joins over 740 Cane's nationwide. The chain notably expanded with a 8,000-square-foot Times Square flagship store and has over 100 other openings scheduled for this year.

Sewell said Cane's franchise has seen success at other colleges such as Northwestern, Ohio State and University of Nebraska and he hopes the Charlottesville location will also blend well with student life.

"Charlottesville has been supportive of Raising Cane's for a very long time," Sewell said. "We've continued and will continue to give back by ensuring that we are helping the community we serve."

Cane's will be open weekdays 10 a.m. to 12 a.m. and weekends until 1 a.m.



KATE FRIER | THE CAVALIER DAILY

Raising Cane's opened its doors Tuesday morning to a line of students snaking down the Corner for a chance to win a free year of chicken.

Ix Art Park pauses some operations

The Charlottesville nonprofit has stopped paying five full-time employees

Thomas Baxter | Staff Writer

Ix Art Park, a nonprofit known for its organization and involvement in several Charlottesville-area arts events and exhibits, has announced that it will be pausing operations because of funding challenges. Five full-time employees were removed from the payroll as part of the ongoing pause.

Ix Art Park manages a communal art space near downtown Charlottesville. The space is used for many community-oriented events aimed at fostering creative empowerment, inclusivity and collaboration.

One of the affected exhibits is the Looking Glass, an immersive art space where guests can interact with three-dimensional art installations created by local artists. The Saturday farmers' market and Sunset Market — organized by Market Central but taking place at the park — will not be affected by the change. Both markets are popular weekend activities for many University students.

Discussions about the future of Ix Art Park are ongoing between the foundation's board, key donors and the property owner. Ix leadership thinks the nonprofit has been trying to stretch itself too thin.

Susan Krischel, founder and board president of the Ix Art Park foundation, said she's trying to take a step back and look at the change with an optimistic perspective.

"Sometimes I think the Ix Art Park was trying to be everything to everybody," Krischel said. "We just need to slow down, pay attention to where our strengths are and focus on those first."

Krischel said lasting effects of the COVID-19 pandemic still influence the nonprofit's ability to stay financially afloat. One of the largest drains on the foundation's finances was their decision to keep full-time employees on the payroll despite a halt in operations during the pandemic.

"We just didn't want to see [our employees] become casualties of what many across the country were casualties of," Krischel said. "And then we came into inflation as soon as the pandemic was over, so prices of labor, insurance and running things increased dramatically."

While other organizations had a strong donor base to rely on during the pandemic, the foundation, which only transitioned to a nonprofit model in late 2019, struggled to find donor sup-

port. Krischel noted that the Art Park generally relies more on earned revenue than donations, so the pandemic was especially harsh when programming was severely limited.

One of the Art Park's more ambitious projects is the Looking Glass, which Krischel proudly acknowledges as the first and only installation of its kind in Virginia. According to Krischel, the project, opened in 2019, was expensive to construct and staff. It will now only be open on weekends.

According to the Art Park's 2022 Impact Report — a statistical analysis of the outreach and participation of the nonprofit — the nonprofit had a significant impact on the Charlottesville community in 2022, attracting a cumulative audience of around 290,000 people across all events. The foundation also provided arts-based programming for children through a partnership with the Boys and Girls Club and their own six-week summer arts camp.

Stevie Meyer, a second-year College student who grew up in Charlottesville, said that the Ix Art Park has been a very important part of the Charlottesville creative scene, hosting a variety of events including Charlottesville Pride.

Meyer said she believes the news of the foundation's financial struggles might motivate more people to get involved.

"Hearing that [Ix Art Park] is struggling with funding right now is going to mobilize people to care about it more," Meyer said. "So I don't think this is going to be the end in any way — there's going to be a lot of interest in revitalizing it."

Aside from the farmers' market, though, the University community has historically not been very involved with the Ix Art Park's programming, something both Krischel and Meyer noted.

"A lot of people just forget that there's a larger community around," Meyer said. "Between academics, tons of CIOs on Grounds, Greek life and whatever job they have, it makes sense that a lot of people don't have a lot of time to explore Charlottesville."

Not every program will disappear when the Park pauses its operations, and Market Central, the organizer of the farmers' market at the Ix Art Park, reaffirmed their continued programming in a Sept. 15 blog post, though they mentioned that community talks will be held this fall and winter to dis-

cuss the long term future of local markets.

In an email to The Cavalier Daily, Market Central said community talks about the market's future are still in the planning stage.

"The Ix Art Park has been a sponsor and supporter of the markets, and will continue to be," Market Central said. "However, we do need to address the future of markets in the community, and invite anyone interested in future forums to contact Market Central."

Although there are many long term logistics up in the air, Krischel said she remains committed to the project and optimistic about its future. She hopes the Art Park can use this pause as an opportunity to reassess its mission in a way that could be beneficial to the longevity of the organization and its role in the community.

"This is not a goodbye," Krischel said. "This is more us breathing and reanalyzing where we are. We're not gone."

Residential colleges threatened by 2030 housing plan

The Office of Student Affairs clarified that a final decision will not be made this year

Caroline Hagood | Senior Writer

After panic spread amongst residential colleges last week over rumors of closures, student representatives met with administrators who confirmed no final decisions about the future of residential colleges will be made this year. The final decision on these housing options, however, remains uncertain, as the University maintains that all options are on the table.

Leaders of Brown College, a residential college open to students across all years, sent an email to residents Sept. 7 and said that the Office of Student Affairs would be allegedly voting on a plan to eliminate residential colleges in the following weeks. Interim Dean of Students Cedric Rucker met with students Sept. 15, however, and told representatives that the committee responsible for the decision has yet to discuss the topic.

University spokesperson Bethanie Glover affirmed that while the University is working with an external consultant to develop options to house all second-year students on Grounds, no changes will occur this year.

"The second-year housing requirement is still several years out, and will

be communicated to future prospective students well ahead of its official implementation so that they are aware of the requirement before joining the University," Glover said in a written statement to the Cavalier Daily.

This adjustment to housing reflects a central goal of the University's 2023 strategic plan — housing all second-year students on Grounds. There are currently about 1,978 beds available for upperclassmen students, not including residential colleges. This year's second-year class contains just over 4,000 students.

One of the development projects moving the University towards this goal is construction of new dorms on Brandon Avenue. These dorms are nearing completion and will house an additional 348 upperclassmen. Even with these new spaces, the University must create a minimum of 1,500 new beds in the next six years to accommodate an entire second-year class — this calculation does not account for third and fourth-years staying on Grounds.

A separate 712 beds on Grounds currently belong to the University's three residential colleges — tight-

knit living and learning communities among students with similar values or passions that students must apply into.

After meeting with Rucker, Lara Howell, grand poobah of Brown College and third-year College student, said she remains uneasy about the long term outcome of Brown and other residential colleges.

"Walking away from the meeting, I was glad I could tell the students I represent that they'll have housing for next year," Howell said. "But I'm worried about the problems that the future student leaders are going to have to face in residential colleges."

The University began an external review on the situation with a consulting group last year, according to Howell. Student leaders discussed the importance of residential colleges through sessions with the firm, but the consulting group's final report was never shared with the public.

The University is still exploring limiting how residential colleges will factor into housing requirements for both under and upperclassmen in coming years.

A presentation obtained by The

Cavalier Daily from Brailsford and Dunlavey consulting group lays out three main housing scenarios, including minimized, moderate and maximized development.

The minimized development plan includes one new 1,500-bed second-year housing development with all residential colleges and nearly all other housing allocated to second-years.

Another option involves adding two new second-year developments totaling 2,100 beds, constructing a 500-bed third and fourth-year building and designating IRC and Hereford for second-years only. Brown College would be reallocated to third and fourth-years.

The most expensive plan requires the construction of 2,600 beds for second years which would allow Brown College and IRC to function in their current capacity as residential colleges. This plan would save the two residential colleges and maintain the current percentage of third and fourth-year students living on Grounds.

None of these three outcomes would maintain Hereford's status as a residential college. Specifics, including a timeline on these options, were not

provided in the portions of the presentation obtained by The Cavalier Daily, and it is unclear if the University is still considering any of these options specifically.

Stephenny Odom-Thomas, prime minister of IRC's council and third-year College student, said the new housing goal pushes upperclassmen out.

"I am concerned overall, with what seems to be a prioritization of first and second-years over third and fourth-years, particularly in regards to the residential colleges, which had a precedent of housing all [four] years [of students]," Odom-Thomas said.

Howell and Odom-Thomas said they would like to continue meetings with administration to understand what the University is planning and how they are prioritizing different housing options.

"I think the biggest thing we want at this point going forward is a seat at the table and to be part of the conversation," Howell said. "We understand the value that residential colleges bring to the community and to the University as a whole."

LIFE

Hoos streaked the Lawn?

Conversations with students who have streaked the Lawn illuminate the unique, albeit a little ridiculous, college tradition at the University.

Cynthia Jia | Staff Writer

It's a cool, crisp night on Grounds. Lawn residents begin to tuck in for the evening, switching off their lights and shuttering their windows. The enormous Rotunda yawns before the expansive field, its lights gleaming under the equally bright stars. Between the drowsy night routines, laughter and shouts of joy shatter the silence. On ground designated as a UNESCO World Heritage site, students cast off their clothes at the base of the Rotunda and partake in an equally historical tradition — streaking.

The basic idea is simple — students disrobe at the historical Rotunda steps facing Old Cabell Hall and run down the Lawn to the Homer statue before returning to the Rotunda to don their clothes and go home.

The tradition of streaking the Lawn can be traced back to 1937. The Cavalier Daily, then called College Topics, reports a group of first-year men rushing back to their room from the Corner in “Adam and Eve” fashion. Nearly 90 years later, running naked down the Lawn has turned into a tradition — a silly one, perhaps, but one that is widely recognized as part of the fabric of what makes the University unique.

For students like second-year College student Eleanor Fox, streaking the Lawn is a must-do college bucket list item.

“I’ve always heard of people doing it, and I know it’s a tradition at U.Va,” Fox said. “I’m not going to wait four years like everyone else so I’ll just do it once in my four years... not that I wanted to get it over with, but I just wanted to say that I’ve done it.”

For students nearing the end of their college careers, streaking is on the bucket list, too — Makana Brooks, fourth-year College student and Lawn resident, said the Class of 2024’s “124 Things to do Before We Graduate” poster has a list item called “How fast can you run from the Rotunda to Homer and back?”

“Obviously they cannot say, ‘Did you streak the Lawn?’ because this is a poster, [but] basically if you know, you know,” Brooks said.

But streaking is not just haphazardly running naked down the Lawn. Rather, it has a set of well-established, unwritten rules that students must accurately



ALBERT TANG | THE CAVALIER DAILY

The basic idea is simple — students disrobe at the historical Rotunda steps facing Old Cabell Hall and run down the Lawn to the Homer statue before returning to the Rotunda to don their clothes and go home.

follow to be considered a successful streaker. Not every streaker follows every step, but most believe that it's very important to be completely honest to this tradition — something as morally weighty as following the honor code on Grounds.

“People do it in underwear and they say that counts — I disagree,” Fox said. “You have to be 100 percent naked, and you have to run around [Homer] three times and kiss his butt and then whisper ‘Goodnight, Mr. Jefferson’ into the keyhole [at the Rotunda] when you’re done.”

Besides these rules, running au naturel in the pitch-black night down the tiered hills is a lot more difficult than people expect — at 740 feet or a third of a mile, the Lawn is longer than two football fields.

“I tripped because there’s tiny little hills,” Fox said. “I had a huge bruise on my knee. I don’t know if I pulled my hamstring, but it was tight for the next cou-

ple of days.”

One second-year College student admitted that he felt tired, sick and “puked every single time [he has] done it.”

“I think it’s a cool piece of U.Va. tradition that kind of binds all U.Va. students together, because for the most part, everyone has experience with it, and has for a long time,” this anonymous student said. “I think it’s like one of the reasons why when people come to U.Va, they stay and love it. Because of these traditions people have a sense of connection to the school.”

Serious and seasoned Lawn streakers, however, are not daunted by these challenges. Some record their naked runs on Strava — an app that tracks and recommends nearby trails for runners — where a segment called “running up and down the Lawn” exists. Athletes can not only record their time for streaking the Lawn, but also can compete with others to be the top

10 Lawn streaker on the leaderboard. Fox said she would like to be one of those serious streakers.

“I’ll get [on the leaderboard] one day,” Fox said. “I need to just get my pacing around, train a little bit — like practicing running naked.”

For students who are not looking to streak at the peak level of athleticism, the tradition offers an opportunity to bond with friends — certainly bringing them closer than working on a group project or eating a meal in a dining hall together.

“You just ran naked with someone — that’s almost as close as you can get,” Fox said. “[I] recommend doing it with someone you feel comfortable with, and that it’s just like you both can be nervous, like don’t do it alone.”

Brooks does not think Lawn streaking is too unique to the University itself, but she agrees that streaking the Lawn offers students a “fine and freeing” feeling, a way for them to celebrate

their freedom and youthfulness.

Other universities have similar traditions, but not as detailed or sustained in student culture at the University. For example, the University of Michigan had the “Naked Mile,” but it was abolished by university administrators in 2004. Living on the Lawn for only a month so far, Brooks confesses that she has already seen many people streaking it, especially in “very big groups”.

“[Streaking] is a quintessential college sort of tradition,” Brooks said. “There’s this association between like college students and kind of reckless behavior, kind of goofiness.”

Nearly 90 years old, the tradition of streaking the Lawn is indeed a tale as old as time. Although the Lawn streakers are unsure whether this tradition will persist in the future, for now, nowhere else in the country can you run up and down a UNESCO World Heritage Site naked — and not get arrested for it.

Finding my element — in the elements

How a summer vacation to Iceland helped me reaffirm my college major

Sam Saks | Staff Writer

I've never had a gut feeling governing what I pursue in life. There has been no calling that has led me to my declared major. I didn't discover that I wanted to become an author at seven or have an epiphany that launched me on the premed track early in life. I've always enjoyed creating things — Lego sets know no age limit — and science classes always kept me engaged. As someone who is excited about innovating new solutions, helping people and mitigating climate change, the Environmental and Water Resources track within civil engineering seemed like a solid possibility — and so I decided to try it out.

As a first-year, I felt like everyone around me in the School of Engineering knew that that's what they were going to pursue — engineering. The only question for them was what field. My question still revolved around engineering being the right fit for me. Early this summer, as a rising second-year Civil Engineering student, I was wondering why, after a year of college, I still hadn't had

that “aha” moment where engineering just clicked.

I'd been frustrated about how I had to actively decide on a major rather than feel naturally gravitated toward one. How could I know what I didn't want to do if I didn't try it firsthand? I didn't want there to be any question about what I was studying and why, and yet the doubts crept in.

These doubts were still present, albeit quieter, in my mind when I landed in Keflavik International Airport near Reykjavik, Iceland this past June for a family vacation. I didn't know it yet, but within a few days of exploring this country, I was going to gain some much-needed clarity on both what I want to do, and how I knew that it was right for me at the time.

As soon as my family and I started on Route 1, the seemingly never-ending road that loops all around the island, I felt as if I had landed on another planet. Molten rock flooded my view through the window, and someone in the car would point out

yet another waterfall every five minutes. Driving just about anywhere in Iceland and stepping outside of the rental car, I was immersed in 360 degrees of awe-inspiring beauty, and the polarity of the environment was stunning.

Glaring sheets of ice contrasted lush, green vegetation. Wild horses, goats and sheep roamed mountainsides — and the highway. Walking in gorges, behind waterfalls, on black sand beaches and on top of glaciers, I felt more connected with nature than ever. Every time we pulled off to the side of the road to check out the view, it was harder to get back in the car. As I felt compelled to stay outside just a few minutes longer and take pictures of everything — to capture the fragility and power of what I was experiencing — I came to an important realization. I might not have an innate calling toward engineering, but I have a strong reason propelling me to pursue it.

My time exploring Iceland strengthened my deep appreciation for nature and the sheer magnitude

of beauty it holds on this planet — something I often neglect to indulge when I'm stuck in the suburbia bubble. My desire to continue having opportunities to immerse myself in nature works in tandem with my desire to ensure the ability of ecosystems to thrive.

This reflection was not an “aha” moment. I didn't suddenly know that I was absolutely pursuing the right field study for me. But it did help me to understand that my love of nature is my reason for pursuing civil engineering. Maybe it's not a calling, but it's my purpose and logic behind doing what I'm doing. Logic — I must be an engineer, after all.

Studying civil engineering is what I feel I want to do, and if my passion for preserving places like those I visited this summer evolves into another form of action — perhaps law or policy — then that's awesome, too. Not knowing if we want to involve ourselves in work that directly aligns with what our majors “call for” isn't just okay, it's normal. A major declaration is not a life decla-

ration — it's simply a starting point.

My experience in Iceland helped me realize that every day I actively choose engineering is a day I continue to learn more about myself — something I'm still figuring out at 19 years old. Taking other types of classes in tandem with the prescribed engineering curriculum — exploring subjects like foreign affairs and policy — will empower me to pursue engineering in a way that makes sense for me and incorporates my varied interests.

Self-discovery can still take place without a dramatic realization and in an experimental, trial-and-error way. However we start on our paths and wherever we find ourselves down the road, our life experiences will continue to shape our decisions.

There are no missteps — so keep climbing and journey forward.

New eateries revive on-Grounds dining

A review of Za'atar, Rookie's and the West Range Late Night Breakfast menu

Carolina Aronhime | Staff Writer

Several new on-Grounds eateries have opened up to replace old ones this semester, while others have refreshed their menus. I decided to try out Za'atar, Rookie's and West Range Cafe's Late Night Breakfast menu. Za'atar is a great spot for lunch or dinner, Rookie's is perfect for a sweet treat — but not for brain-boosting foods — and West Range's Late Night menu is decent if you have no problem with the wait.

Za'atar

Behind Old Dorms, what was formerly known as The Castle has been rebranded as Za'atar at The Castle. Za'atar retains the foundation of its predecessor's menu but infuses it with a new Middle Eastern character. For my lunch, I ordered a bowl of Za'atar seasoned rice and chicken shawarma. It was topped with tabbouleh, cucumber and tomato salad, hummus, feta cheese crumbles and crispy chickpeas. A drizzle of lemon tahini sauce and tzatziki added the final touch.

As a former frequenter of The Castle, I hoped the new menu at Za'atar would beat out the old, and I can gladly say that it did. The rice was softer than the sometimes crispy rice at The Castle. The chicken shawarma was

done well, cut into thick, tender slices and seasoned just enough to be tasty but not too much for someone who can't handle spicy food.

The toppings were well-blended throughout the bowl. There was perhaps a touch too much sauce, but the portion was generous enough that with some mixing of the rice and the other ingredients, the mix was far from drowning in tzatziki. For those eager to try out the new menu, Za'atar is open Monday through Friday, from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Rookie's

Situated at the mural-adorned entrance to Brown Library in Clark Hall is the eatery I was most excited to try — Rookie's. In the corner formerly occupied by Greenberry's Coffee, which was moved to Wildsford Hall, Rookie's boasts an array of ice cream flavors and warm cookies. Its classic black-and-white interior imbues the space with a retro vibe. Coupled with a profusion of leafy green plants, a felt letter board and upbeat music, the spot feels like an uplifting and relaxing respite from the intense quietness of the study spaces in Clark — a reminder to any student that it's okay to take an ice cream break.

For those who took advantage of Greenberry's coffee and to-go salad boxes to propel them through study sessions, fear not. Rookie's offers coffee options from a cappuccino to an affogato, a single espresso shot over ice cream. And if you're wondering why the library café would only offer ice cream — after all, it's not the best brain fuel — don't stress about it. Rookie's also has some nutritious grab-and-go salads and bowls. However, only two of those were available on Grubhub when I visited.

As for dessert, customers can choose from a variety of frozen dessert varieties and of course, cookies. I thought the coolest option was the cookie skillet — a cookie baked in a small pan topped with ice cream — or three cookies with milk. There are gluten-free and vegan choices, and visitors can also purchase packs of cookies to bring home to roommates.

For my dessert, I ordered a half ice cream sandwich made of chocolate chip cookies and a scoop of lavender ice cream. While I was prepared to cringe at an oversaturated flavor, the lavender ice cream was delicious. The cookies were yummy and soft despite the coolness of the sandwich.

I advise customers to eat quickly

to avoid the lavender-soaked cookies that I got, but even then, they were tasty. I will return to Rookie's the next time I crave a sweet treat, and the only change I'll make to my order will be to ask for a full ice cream sandwich instead of a half — the half-cookies can't quite support the weight of a full scoop. Rookie's is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Late Night at West Range Cafe

Lastly, I tried the new Late Night Breakfast menu at West Range Cafe, the hidden eatery on the first floor of Hotel E where the Lawn rooms meet Garrett Hall. The Late Night Breakfast menu appears on Grubhub at 7 p.m. and though I chose and placed my order for French toast with Nutella and strawberries within two minutes, I found myself far behind those who had already planned theirs. I was thrown into number 35 in line, and my food was ready at 7:36 p.m.

I found my food to be relatively satisfying, but it didn't quite hit the spot. The two thick slices of French toast are topped with cut strawberries which spill onto the bread, and between the slices is a layer of Nutella. While the French toast seemed to con-

tain all of the ingredients of a perfect breakfast for dinner, I found it lacking. Perhaps this is because I went home before eating it to avoid walking in the dark, and the meal lost some freshness, or maybe the recipe needs altering. Somehow I found that, despite the toppings, I wished it were sweeter.

Nevertheless, I plan on returning to West Range for Late Night Breakfast and finding something I prefer from their other intriguing options like the Bacon Egg and Cheese Biscuit, or the Flap Jack Sandwich. West Range is open Monday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. and Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

While Za'atar and the Late Night menu may not be a step up for those without a meal plan, they're good options for those who do have one, and everyone should stop by Rookie's for a scoop. Za'atar and West Range offer options for flex dollars and meal exchange, and Rookie's can be purchased with flex dollars.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Farrah Hanna is taking on New York City

The singer-songwriter and U.Va. alumna talks about her move to the big city, her newest music and how it felt to see her face in Times Square

Siona Pathak | Staff Writer

Farrah Hanna, singer-songwriter and Class of 2023 alumna, calls herself “the luckiest girl in the world.” A year ago, she was gearing up to release two new singles and head to New York City after graduation, and now, after landing placements on Spotify playlists and releasing her first EP, she’s there.

Hanna’s career was already seeing success prior to her big move to New York. She says that the most life-changing moment of her career came with the release of two singles titled “22” and “Signs,” released during her fourth year at the University in October 2022.

A few days after the release of the singles, Hanna was sitting in her major capstone class when she found out that her songs had made it onto Spotify’s “Fresh Finds” and “Fresh Finds Indie” playlist.

“Since I started recording music, [landing on a Spotify playlist] was always what I had been told is the way to break into the industry,” Hanna said.

“22” and “Signs” also got her an interview with Atlantic Records that fall, but she was told she was “too

green” to sign, with label executives wanting to see her release more music prior to considering signing her. In a spur-of-the-moment decision, Hanna told them that she would have an EP out by January 2023.

This became her first EP, “Dog.” Hanna went up to New York once a week to record. Eventually, the eponymous lead single off of “Dog” landed on Spotify’s “New Music Friday” playlist.

Hanna said that it felt surreal and overwhelming to see her burgeoning career take off while simultaneously juggling her college career and attending classes like any other college student.

“It was the last day of the J-Term, January 13th, and I had to go to my class while my song was on New Music Friday with ‘Flowers’ by Miley Cyrus,” Hanna said.

She moved to New York shortly after graduation to continue to pursue her music career, and has seen her career progress quickly since then. Within ten days, her next single “TMILTM” was picked up by indie record label SunPop. She credits this immediate

success to her manager, Class of 2023 alumna Hannan Mumtaz, who works at the record label.

Hanna juggles recording music with her job as a waitress at a restaurant in Midtown. In the middle of one of her shifts, she said that she got a text from Mumtaz saying that she would be on a billboard a week after her single was released.

“I asked [Mumtaz] multiple times if I was understanding her correctly,” Hanna said. “It just felt like, ‘No, this was not happening.’”

The photos on the billboard, advertising her new single were a series of photos taken of Hanna by Class of 2023 alumna Aniella Weinberg in London. When the pictures went up on the billboard, Hanna said that she gathered with her friends to view it and celebrate together in Times Square.

Hanna recalls that her pictures followed singer Cody Fry’s video on the billboard, an artist she listened to in middle school.

“That was kind of like a full circle moment where I was like, ‘I’m sharing a timeslot with Cody Fry,’” Hanna

said. “If eighth grade me knew this, she would die.”

Hanna is currently working on her next EP titled “Conversations with Friends” and said that she is excited to be playing with newer, more experimental sonics. Her recently released EP “Dog” has a soft indie sound, with light guitar strums and angelic layered vocals that echo a mix of Mac DeMarco, Clairo and Faye Webster.

Her next EP will have a stronger indie punk rock influence, a change she feels is reflective of the current phase of life she is in. Hanna wants to avoid committing to a certain genre, but rather try new sounds and find her fit as an artist.

“One of the things I really admire about the artists I love is their ability to go from genre to genre seamlessly,” Hanna said.

Hanna has always placed an emphasis on vulnerability and authenticity in her music. For her latest EP, Hanna said that she and producer Ben Coleman scrapped two songs that felt fabricated, rather keeping the ones that felt more natural, as if they were stumbled upon.

“Ben and I believe in this thing — this is so cheesy of us — when you’re making music, you’re not so much creating it as you are discovering it,” Hanna said. “It’s somewhere in the world, somewhere in the universe, somewhere beyond us.”

When asked about her future as a musician, Hanna said that she is more of a present-minded person and was not quite as certain about what her future will hold, though it is something she admits she has had to wrestle with. While acknowledging that talented artists can often struggle to make it in the music industry, she says she wants to continue to make music as much as she can, continually improving her music so that it is “better in 5 years than it was today.” In the near future, she hopes to open up for an artist she admires, and eventually go on tour herself.

While the future may be uncertain and fans hold out for a prospective tour, they can certainly anticipate new music from Hanna with her new EP, “Conversations with Friends.”

Flux celebrates self-expression through spoken word

The organization amplifies student voices and fosters community through the power of poetry and prose

Delores Cyrus | Staff Writer

Every Thursday evening in the belly of Brooks Hall sits a collection of poets, creatives and arts enthusiasts that make up Flux, the University’s student-led poetry and spoken word organization. The only group of its kind at the University, Flux plays a unique and important role in the community, giving its participants a place to express themselves and a platform to share their work.

Azhané Pollard, president of Flux and third-year College student, said the club welcomes all art forms, not just poetry and prose.

“We try to cultivate a safe space for people to share their work at all stages, authentically and as truthfully as they can,” Pollard said.

Flux’s open mic nights — the club’s hallmark event — are where this celebration of all art forms takes place most frequently. Anyone and everyone is welcome to sign up to perform, resulting in an assortment of evocative pieces covering a wide range of topics and concepts.

For Maria Rahmouni, Flux’s out-

reach chair and third-year College student, Flux is the most diverse community on Grounds that she is a part of, in part because of the variation in the styles of pieces presented.

“Anything that you share will resonate with someone who is in the community because it is so diverse,” Rahmouni said. “We have people share incredibly silly topics and incredibly serious topics, and they’re all received well.”

Every performer who comes up to the mic to share is met with an extremely attentive audience. Each piece is responded to with “mmhs,” snaps and cheers of admiration, exclamations that blend together into a symphony of support.

“Everyone really hones in and gives the poet their undivided attention — they’re locked in, and people are reactive,” Pollard said. “Everyone’s so vocal about the experience and what the person is sharing.”

This sense of comradery among artists is the heart of Flux, Pollard said, and transcends into the other

events and activities that the club hosts throughout the school year.

“I think there’s a sense of unity in that we are all writers and we all acknowledge that everything we write has a bit of us in it,” Rahmouni said.

From collaborative events with other student organizations to poetry writing workshops and featuring submitted pieces in their literary magazine, Flux gives creatives many opportunities to come together and uplift one another.

“We are bringing people together through art and through orality and through spoken narrative,” Pollard said, explaining that those who come to Flux find solidarity through a mutual appreciation of art and of sharing it.

Being part of this community is just not reserved for students at the University, but extends to Charlottesville at large. Describing the group as one that prioritizes being a welcoming and accessible space, Pollard emphasized how important it is for Flux to make an effort to hear

the voices and see the perspectives of those outside the “bubble” of the University.

Just last semester Flux hosted an open mic night in collaboration with New Dominion Bookstore. Pollard explained that the event was open to the public in an effort to “open the gate” between students and members of the community.

“It’s definitely open for the entire community,” Pollard said. “We want to make sure that we’re hearing creative expression from non-U.Va. students alike, just so we can hear that diverse perspective.”

Flux will take this commitment to cultivate conversation to their upcoming Arts on the Hill feature, a recurring event on Carr’s Hill spotlighting artists and academics from the University and beyond. The evening of Sept. 26 is something that all of Flux is looking forward to, and that Rahmouni has been working on for a month.

“It feels like an acknowledgment of the value of written work, and put-

ting your feelings or ideas and emotions into poetry,” Rahmouni said.

The night will feature a selection of speakers from Flux, with an open discussion at the end of the evening’s readings, and the culture of arts on Grounds. Tickets to attend are available for University staff, faculty and students by a lottery system. The last day to enter is Sept. 21.

“This is the first time at U.Va. that I’ve seen poetry advertised in such a way by the entire community and by U.Va. itself,” Rahmouni said. “I’m really proud of it and it feels like an honor to be able to share our work with everyone, and hopefully get some positive recognition.”

In the meantime, Flux will continue to do what they do best — craft community through artistic expression.

First-ever Charlottesville Zine Fest is a success

The growing organization works to revive the lost art of local, limited circulation print publications

Sophie Hay | Staff Writer

On a warm Saturday in a bright, low-ceilinged space beneath the Downtown Mall, a group of local creatives convened for the first-ever Charlottesville Zine Fest. The organization had been building to this event for over a year — connecting artists, consolidating resources, staging workshops — as part of an ongoing mission to strengthen and showcase Charlottesville's growing network of zine-makers.

For the benefit of the unenlightened, the Zine Fest website defines a zine as a small-circulation publication which is often handmade and photocopied for the purposes of distribution. One person's zine might include prose, another's poetry or photography — the appeal of the medium lies in its openness.

Liz Mayer, co-founder of Charlottesville Zine Fest, emphasized the accessibility of zine-making, and how this accessibility empowers artists to express themselves freely.

"There's no gatekeeper, there's no barrier," said Mayer. "You don't have to go through an editor or a publisher. You can put out exactly what you want to put out in whatever way you can."

According to Mayer, Zine Fest

represents over a year of collaboration between herself and other local artists and arts organizations. After conceiving of an event that would both help artists to circulate their work and invite the community to learn more about this underappreciated medium, Mayer said that she — along with a group of local zine-makers — began by setting up a series of workshops over the summer.

Six artists spent 10 days at Blue Ridge Juvenile Detention teaching kids how to make their own zines in June. In July, multimedia artist and advocate Jess Walters spoke on the political power of zines through her Zines for Change workshop, and artist Mary Lamb partnered with writer and artist Sarah Lawson to put on a workshop focusing on collage zine-making.

As this was happening, Mayer and her collaborators were continuing to plan their big event. With the aid of a \$2,800 New City Arts Initiative SOUP grant, they were able to secure locations for several of their workshops, as well as buy supplies, copy zines and otherwise gear up for the festival, hosted Sept. 9.

On the day of, 26 vendors and

around 300 visitors came together in The Underground from noon to four p.m. to participate in Charlottesville's exciting zine scene.

One vendor, Raven Mack, said that he had been making zines for 30 years. He brought issues of his Southern Gothic Futurist zine to Charlottesville Zine Fest.

"Prose, poetry, stories," said Mack, describing the content of his zine. "It's my personal mythology... my whole thing is Southern Gothic Futurism, so it's like, what comes after the end times, what is after the end?"

Outside of zine-making, Mack is a multimedia writer and hosts haiku slams at the Twisted Branch Tea Bazaar.

Jay Simple, executive director of The Bridge Progressive Arts Initiative, shared zines affiliated with The Photographer's Green Book, a national resource and publication focusing on inclusion, diversity, equity and advocacy in the field of photography — motivated, in part, by the death of George Floyd.

"We were really thinking about how these moments and actions can galvanize our communities, seeing what was happening in the arts and

in a lot of places, looking for equity in different ways," Simple said. "We started the Green Book as an avenue to try to enact that change in the visual medium."

While the Green Book zines represent parts of a national whole, reporter and DJ Erin O'Hare zoomed in on Charlottesville in the first volume of "Under the Table and Screaming," a zine she created for local radio station WTJU.

"I interviewed more than 50 people for the project," O'Hare said. "I also have two radio shows on WTJU, I play in bands and book shows, so I have a lot of knowledge and love for local music."

O'Hare writes for multiple local publications, including Charlottesville Tomorrow, and touched on the role of print in an ever more digital media landscape.

"I think it's so important to have a print product, because you can engage with it in a very different way," O'Hare said. "You can keep it around, you can refer back to it. It's a lot harder to do that when it's digital."

To many of the event's vendors and organizers, the power of print links to the power of zine-making

and zine distribution.

"It allows people an avenue to have a voice and an opinion and let their own ideas be out," Simple said. "People have historically used zines or a paper medium to get their ideas out, whether that was Riot Grrrls, or the Black Panthers."

Following the first Charlottesville Zine Fest, Mayer has high hopes for the future.

"We definitely want to do it annually, and we want to keep going with the workshops," Mayer said.

She recommended that those interested in upcoming Charlottesville Zine Fest events follow the organization on social media, and noted her dedication to building connections between community members and creating opportunities for artists to share their work.

"Making art can be such a solitary endeavor," said Mayer. "Something like this, it's like a little book you made yourself and you photocopied, like, 30 copies or something, just to be able to get the 30 copies to other people — I think that's very meaningful."



SHANE WAN | THE CAVALIER DAILY

On the day of, 26 vendors and around 300 visitors came together in The Underground from noon to four p.m. to participate in Charlottesville's exciting zine scene.

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OPINION

LEAD EDITORIAL

EDITORIAL: The new Honor system demands a new approach

In March 2023, we gave the Honor Committee a mandate to reformulate our honor system — they need to start thinking more creatively about what that means

Following last spring's successful passing of an Honor referendum outlining a multi-sanction system, the Committee has been working to detail exactly how this new system will work. This year's departure from the 180-year-old single-sanction has forced Committee members to fundamentally reimagine the way the Committee operates. This is no small task, and their work thus far has largely been admirable. The reality is, though, that the Committee is still thinking too small. Their recent conversations too closely mirror the problematic fixation on punitive measures that plagued the old system. The Committee must start addressing more systemic questions that engender a complete and total embrace of the case-specific and restorative mindset that the new constitution is supposed to reflect.

Consider their current conversations surrounding the viability of community service as a sanction. There is nothing inherently wrong with asking students to serve the community that their actions have endangered. Broadly

speaking, however, community service prioritizes an offender's retribution over their rehabilitation — it seeks to help students repay an imaginary debt to the Community of Trust while ignoring the realities that drive students to lie, cheat and steal.

Ignoring the realities that underpin cheating is particularly problematic in the age of ChatGPT. With AI, cheating is easier to do and harder to detect — it is not surprising that the Committee has been contemplating the admissibility of AI detection software in Honor trials. We think, however, that these conversations fail to see the bigger picture. ChatGPT and other AI technologies highlight the ultimate futility of simply punishing crimes after they occur. We just aren't at a stage where we can detect the usage of AI accurately and consistently.

Instead of playing a game they know they cannot win, then, the Committee should dedicate more energy and resources toward preventing cheating before it occurs — towards truly fostering a Community of Trust.

The Committee's multi-million dollar endowment and pre-existing tradition of working across Grounds to educate students make it the perfect institution to start conversations about addressing the systemic issues that lead to cheating. A fundamentally different educational landscape requires a fundamentally different approach to how we think about Honor.

Some on the Committee are already aware of the pressing need to address root causes. In their endorsement interview with The Cavalier Daily's Editorial Board, Engineering School Representative Alexander Church underscored the need to interrogate why some students cheat. They advocated for using the Committee's resources to proactively work with professors and students to address the underlying, systemic causes of Honor violations. This sort of holistic thinking is what has been notably absent in recent discourses on the multi-sanction system's implementation. The student body elected the Honor Committee and passed the multi-sanction referendum

not to perpetuate old patterns of punitive thinking but to intervene in contemporary debates regarding honor violations, their punishments and their causes.

It is important to acknowledge that the Committee is delivering much-needed fundamental reforms to our Honor system. We write this editorial not to minimize or disparage its efforts but rather to call on our representatives to adequately harness the wide range of opportunities their new constitution affords to them. The radical power of the multi-sanction system lies not in its ability to dole out punishments but in its flexibility to creatively address the very circumstances which produce lying, cheating and stealing. By creating space for rehabilitative sanctions, the new constitution gives the Committee the necessary structure to figure out why students violate the honor code and use its work to address these underlying issues which lead to problematic behaviors.

As a community, we like to tout

Honor as something that is unique part to the University experience. However, the reality is that many universities across the country have honor systems that are also run by students. Many universities have honor systems that dole out punishments based on the severity of the crime committed. If we are truly committed to crafting a system that sets the University apart, then we must ask questions that don't have easy answers. We must realize that sanctions — in and of themselves — are not solutions. If we truly care about having an exemplary Honor system, then we must think more radically about the work we can do as students to truly create a Community of Trust.

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AZIZ, DODSON and NARKE: The new system delivers

The new bylaws address long-standing problems with our Honor system by tackling concerns about fairness, efficiency and accountability

In June, the Honor Committee successfully implemented the multi-sanction referendum by passing a series of bylaws. But these bylaws did more than just create a multi-sanction system — they provided comprehensive reforms essential to a well-functioning adjudicative system. In other words, the Committee did not merely enact a set of multi-sanction rules and call it a day — the Committee tackled long-standing issues that could have continued to plague a multi-sanction system. By addressing larger concerns about fairness, efficiency and accountability, the bylaws have finally delivered an Honor system that we've all been waiting for.

First, the bylaws and a related set of sanctioning guidelines ensure that each student's case is fairly and holistically reviewed.

The new Constitution authorizes the Committee to impose permanent sanctions, temporary sanctions, educational sanctions and a broader category of amends, whereby the student takes actions to repair their relationship with affected parties and the wider community. If a student is found guilty of an Honor offense, a Panel for Sanction will determine what sanctions are appropriate for the case.

The bylaws provide opportunities for the reporting party and the guilty student to present arguments about reasonable sanctions. The Panel will also consider other aspects of the case, like recommendations from the Panel for Guilt, aggravating factors and mitigating factors.

at least five random student members of the Panel for Guilt do not believe that the offense merits such a severe punishment, then they can remove it from the potential sanctions available to the Panel for Sanction. Additionally, students who submit an Informed Retraction cannot be expelled. Gener-

tion to act in a timely manner after an IR is submitted or a Panel for Guilt renders a guilty verdict. These largely procedural changes will promote the speedy and fair resolution of cases.

Additionally, the bylaws introduced a set of changes intended to ensure that Committee members are

Alternatively, the Committee may consider an impeachment measure if half of the Committee members submit a petition seeking the removal of a colleague for unethical conduct. While we do not anticipate that these procedures will be regularly used, the new bylaws are a victory in the critical task of ensuring that elected representatives fulfill their obligations.

Overall, a system which sanctions students for their actions based on the severity of their misconduct will, hopefully, reinvigorate our community's shared commitment to ethical behavior and the possibility of rehabilitation when we take responsibility for our actions.

Overall, we believe that the multi-sanction constitution and bylaws will usher in a new era of Honor that earns the approval of students, faculty and alumni."

To address potential inequities and disproportionate punishments in crafting sanctions, the Committee developed a set of sanctioning guidelines to help the Panel for Sanction with its deliberations for each case. While the Panel for Sanction is not bound by precedent, the guidelines ask panelists to reflect on the underlying fairness of any sanction and whether the sanction would be appropriate for similarly-situated individuals. Thus, sanctions must not be arbitrary.

And while expulsion is available as a potential sanction, there are guardrails to its use — notably, if a student is found guilty for the first time and

ally, expulsion will be used in only the most egregious cases.

Moreover, the bylaws introduce much-needed improvements to the process of investigating and reviewing cases. Honor has historically struggled with lengthy case processing that frustrates both accused students and parties who report offenses. Under the new bylaws, students may file an Informed Retraction before an investigation rather than during the investigation. Honor will only investigate a case if a student declines to submit an IR. The bylaws also provide set timelines for students to respond to evidence and require the Panel for Sanc-

held responsible for the duties and ethics their position requires.

In recent years, the Committee has grappled with elected representatives occasionally falling short of the expectations for attendance and sharing case processing responsibilities. The new bylaws establish a stronger Standards Panel to review allegations that a Committee member violated our Code of Ethics or otherwise acted improperly. The panel may recommend impeachment of a representative, which would then be referred to the full Committee. By a two-thirds vote, the Committee may remove an accused representative.

HAMZA AZIZ is a fourth-year College student and chair of the Honor Committee for the 2023-24 Term. **TIM DODSON** is a graduate Law and Architecture student who represents the School of Architecture on the Committee. He is the co-chair of the Committee's Policies and Procedures Subcommittee, which drafted the new multi-sanction bylaws. **KELLEN NARKE** is a third-year College student, and co-chair of the Policies and Procedures Subcommittee.

SAWAYA: Applaud U.Va.'s dedication to foreign languages

In a nation where language learning is increasingly undervalued, the University has shown a laudable dedication to foreign languages

The University, like all institutions of higher education, is flawed. It can be remarkably short-sighted about lived student experiences. But we, as students, also need to acknowledge the good that does exist in this institution. Notably, the University has shown an admirable commitment to the development and maintenance of its foreign language department. This commitment is especially important and noteworthy in an educational climate that is no longer prioritizing language education and the cultural awareness that is produced therein. The University, as a leader in the field of higher education and as a model for other institutions, must sustain this commitment.

The numbers do not lie. According to U.S. News and World Report Rankings, the University ranks fifth in the nation among all public universities and twenty-fourth among all universities. These statistics are a testament to the University's academic strength and rigor. Even more impressively, however, the University's Foreign Language and Linguistics department is ranked sixth nationally among all institutions of higher education. This achievement suggests a particular investment in the language department, one that

surpasses comparable colleges. It is clear that we attend a University that is not just highly prestigious but also punching far above its weight in relation to other foreign language departments.

The University has countless clubs dedicated to the pursuit of languages in tandem with cultural awareness, including the Arab Student Organization and the French

their chosen language while also experiencing cultural activities often facilitated by native-speaking international students. The University has supported this reality and helped to facilitate genuine language learning in these language houses.

The University's commitment to its language department and multifaceted approach to language learning is highly unique and commend-

es has been used to justify many of these highly concerning actions. It is true that language enrollment has been in decline for many years. However, the more likely causes of this decrease are an increased emphasis on STEM disciplines and reversals of foreign language general education requirements. In eliminating foreign language requirements, administrators communicate

ing. Universities are the place where young minds are inculcated with the knowledge and tools necessary for changing the world. Language is one of the most powerful of these tools, and to deprive students of it is to fundamentally misunderstand the needs of our present moment.

The University's commitment to languages should be thoroughly applauded, especially given the current milieu in which many institutions are divesting from foreign languages. Not only is the Foreign Language department extremely prestigious, the University has provided the tools for a truly holistic form of language learning that is just as much about understanding diverse cultures as it is about conjugating verbs. Going forward, the University must maintain its commendable commitment to languages — which serves as a commitment to linguistic diversity and global perspectives.

We live in an increasingly globalized world — the power of multilingualism is difficult to overstate."

and Francophone Club. Language clubs are student-run but bear witness to the thriving polylinguistic scene at the University and are important extensions of more formal learning opportunities.

The University is also home to an extensive series of language dorms — la Maison Française, Casa Bolívar and Shea House. These dorms include opportunities for immersion in French, Spanish, Arabic, ASL, Chinese, German, Hebrew, Hindi and Urdu, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Persian and Russian. Here, students are able to immerse themselves in

able in this day and age. Between 2013 and 2016, over 650 individual language programs were forced to close, with French and German taking the hardest hits. Most recently, West Virginia University has proposed eliminating its entire foreign language department, leaving students to rely entirely on online classes. Done under the guise of fiscal responsibility, many faculty members see this as a "blood bath" which will completely undermine the holistic liberal arts model which WVU purports to offer.

Decreased enrollment in language

to students what they should value — STEM — or on the flip side what they should not value — languages. Universities are themselves the cause of the decreased enrollment, which they then use to justify closing language programs and departments.

We live in an increasingly globalized world — the power of multilingualism is difficult to overstate. The ability to not only communicate with diverse peoples across the globe but to also gain an intimate understanding of their culture and mode of interaction with the world is paramount to the project of peacebuild-

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HUMOR

University President Jim Ryan Plans to Stop Raising Cane's

The energy inside of White Spot was tense as University President Jim Ryan met with the Board of Visitors there late last night in an emergency meeting to discuss the future of the Corner amongst a new threat — Raising Cane's. Originally founded in Louisiana, this chicken tender tycoon has managed to insert itself into college towns all across the United States, effectively wiping out every family-owned restaurant within a ten-mile radius. It now threatens our beloved Corner and our lives as we know it.

"This is unfathomable!" a Board member said between tears and Gus Burger bites. "I don't even like chicken! I'm vegan two days a week!"

Raising Cane's first invaded our city along Emmet Street and the effects have been disastrous. Occupying a space right next

to Popeyes and KFC, Raising Cane's has managed to effectively wipe out the rest of the chicken market.

Have you ever seen someone risk life and limb to drive across four lanes of traffic to get a Famous Bowl? Has Popeyes ever created main road traffic so bad you had to swerve into the neighboring lane and pray the person barreling forward behind you won't hit you? Only Raising Cane's has managed to bring this level of chaos to our streets. Despite this, the hold Cane's already has on our quaint college town is simply not enough for these fast food frontiersmen. After recently opening its doors, Cane's has eliminated any memory of its predecessor — our beloved Sheetz — and set up shop right at the center of our social scene. The restaurants currently on top of The Corner's food

chain, like The Virginian and Crozet Pizza, are no match for cheap chicken and a questionably small menu. With Cane's poised to crush the competition, all of the small shops we know and love will go out of business. Our sacred Corner will become Caniac Combo Central.

We managed to catch up with Ryan while he was on his daily run today. Well, more accurately, I attempted to chase him down on a Veo and yelled at him using a megaphone until he agreed to give a comment.

"We must no longer let the chicken cross the road!" Ryan yelled while attempting to run away from me.

Ryan is set to outline a comprehensive plan to protect the other restaurants on the Corner this afternoon. However, one of our reporters was able to recover the napkin he wrote this plan

on from one of the trash cans in The White Spot and we were able to make out the majority of his plan — a scribbled note reading "DEPLOY CAVMAN."

Ryan's plan is clear — he wants us to do absolutely nothing. Our noble knight in blue and orange, CavMan, will fix everything. After all, CavMan can ride a horse and has 2.8k followers on Instagram. That seems like enough for me. Why would we make this a community-wide problem when we already have our most qualified soldier on the job? We have so much to worry about as students already — like how many classes we can reasonably skip and how much caffeine we can drink in a day and still survive — so we simply do not have the brain power to add, "Save the entire Corner from shutting down" to our to-do lists. Let's all do our part and simply ig-

nore the problem at hand until CavMan makes it go away.

We here at The Cavalier Daily will keep a close eye on this story and CavMan as this threat unfolds, but for now writing about this devastating tragedy has made me hungry. Chicken tenders, anyone?

MAGGIE MCHATY is a Humor Columnist for The Cavalier Daily. She can be reached at humor@cavalierdaily.com

CARTOON

Brand New Jumbotron

William Cobey | Cartoonist



SPORTS

Who is the ‘Hoo?

Looking back at Virginia’s weirdest mascot 40 years later

Connor Lothrop | Senior Writer

Last May, the Sickos Committee, a social media group of self-styled college football fans loyal to the weirdest parts of college football, posted a thread on X containing an artifact most Virginia sports fans had no memory of. This thread followed the brief life of a mascot who lived in Charlottesville for just three weeks in 1983 — the forgotten ‘Hoo, a failed commercial stunt and object of revulsion.

Virginia has a history of iconic mascots. There was a succession of canine representatives — including Beta, who once found his way back to the Beta Theta Pi fraternity house after being left at a football game in Athens, Georgia — and Seal, who once inspired Virginia football in a comeback victory against Pennsylvania by urinating on an opposing cheerleader’s megaphone. The mounted Cavalier has also represented the team on and off since 1947, when a student on horseback rode into Scott Stadium before the Cavaliers shut out Harvard.

The introduction of AstroTurf at Scott Stadium meant the mounted Cavalier was given the boot for the time being, and a grounded Cavalier failed to excite crowds.

In that era, the Virginia football team was in a sorry state. Between joining the Atlantic Coast Conference in 1954 and 1983, the team won more games than it lost exactly once. In the two years prior to the introduction of the ‘Hoo, the team had won three games, two of them against non-major school Virginia Military Institute.

Even in the 1970s, athletic departments depended on football revenue to provide money for other sports. The Cavaliers’ continued winless ways were not effectively pulling in fans, and money was getting tight within the athletic department. The pressure was on to find something to draw the fans to Scott Stadium even if the football on display was unwatchable.

Enter Todd Turner. A former ticket director for the athletic department, he had risen up to Director of Promotions and Associate Athletic Director below Athletic Director Richard Schultz in just a few short years. With University officials in strong opposition to in-stadi-

um advertising, Turner needed to find a way to make money fast.

Turner found inspiration further north, where the Philadelphia Phillies had stumbled onto a new way to generate cash with the 1977 introduction of their mascot, the Philly Phanatic. The Phanatic was not the first mascot in history, but he proved that fans would show up to games and buy merchandise — even if the team was historically bad.

The Phanatic sparked a wave of fuzzy mascots across the country, drawing media attention and sellout crowds, even to historically bad franchises. Turner saw an opportunity and seized it — he created a mascot that was eerily similar to the Phanatic but decked out in Virginia colors. Named after the school’s unofficial Wahoo mascot, the ‘Hoo boasted orange fuzz, owned a Phanatic-like bulbous snout and a wagging tongue. It sported an oversized blue vest and a blue and white ballcap, both emblazoned with an orange “V” and paired with blue and white sneakers.

The ‘Hoo was immediately reviled. According to Sports Illustrated, the ‘Hoo was pelted with bottles and ice cubes from the stands and had its tongue removed by fraternity boys during the first game, a 38-30 victory over Duke.

After the game, multiple students expressed their distaste for the mascot to The Cavalier Daily.

“The spirit of the Cavalier was executed most heinously Saturday when he was replaced by ‘the ‘Hoo,’” two students wrote in an op-ed the following week. “A bastard child born of an incestuous relationship between the athletic department and a cash register. We do not want to be represented by a beast resembling a cross between Papa Smurf and Yogi Bear.”

Editorial cartoons that week showed the ‘Hoo being run over by an M1 tank, pushed back into a car, shown the nearest exit and more.

Professor Carl Knospe of the Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering department, then a student at the University, remembered the reaction to the new mascot.

“It came out at one football game that season and was booed off the field almost immediately

— the reaction from the crowd was very negative,” Knospe said.

Forced to take into account the safety of the student inside the ‘Hoo costume, the mascot only made a brief appearance the next Saturday against Navy — also a victory.

However, the athletic department again created controversy. Instead of the traditional halftime pep band performance, the Naval Drum and Bugle Corps was invited to play halftime in another bid to boost attendance. However, this backfired, sparking rage in the pep band and general student body, with Turner again taking most of the heat.

After those two weeks, Schultz invited the student council to propose an alternate mascot to replace the ‘Hoo, reacting to backlash by claiming he also did not like the creature.

“The ‘Hoo can die a sudden death for all I care,” Schultz said.

It was decided that the ‘Hoo would engage in a climactic battle with the pep band mascot, “the What”, a fuzzy, blue parody of the ‘Hoo.

The following week against JMU, the ‘Hoo “shot” the What during the pep band’s show and then was supposed to disappear forever. However, after the mock

shooting, the student inside the costume saw some of the kids in the crowd were upset by the performance. Like the prodigal son, the ‘Hoo returned to the field one last time to offer them comfort — and then it was gone.

In the weeks after the disappearance of the ‘Hoo, several more op-eds ran in The Cavalier Daily, lambasting Turner and the athletic department for their perceived greed and further degrading the ‘Hoo. One particular opinion piece advocated for tying the mascot costume to the back of the escort service car and dragging it around Grounds on game days, creating ‘Hoo pinatas and satirizing Student Council by nominating the ‘Hoo for student council president.

As the year progressed, the ‘Hoo retreated from memory. It was very rarely mentioned again by The Cavalier Daily after November 1983. The only traces of it left on the internet before the Sickos Committee tweeted the Sports Illustrated article from late 1983 were a mention on the official Virginia Sports Traditions page and a few blog posts. It was like the ‘Hoo had never existed.

Meanwhile, Virginia has kept the mascot wheel churning. The

AstroTurf was removed from Scott Stadium and a human Cavalier, most recently Julie Caruccio, assistant vice president for research on the student experience, has ridden in on horseback to the strains of AC/DC’s “Thunderstruck” ever since. A costumed Cavalier has been present at athletic events since 1984, a direct replacement for the ‘Hoo. Another costumed mascot named ‘Lil Hoo, again developed after tightening athletic budgets, also saw the field for just a few years in the early 2000’s. The athletics department has not introduced a Wahoo themed mascot since.

The original purpose of mascots was to attract luck, not cash. Despite the commercial motivations behind the ‘Hoo and the near universal disdain it acquired, Virginia went 3-0 in games the ‘Hoo was on the field in 1983 and 3-5 otherwise. As the program has succumbed to losing ways and the ‘Hoo’s fortieth birthday passes us by, one wonders — if it meant winning a few more games, who would say no to bringing back the ‘Hoo?



COURTESY THE CAVALIER DAILY, VIRGINIA ATHLETICS

The mascot may have had a short lived run, but it created many headlines in the press.

Paul Chang's bizarre climb to the top of the golf world

The unranked Virginia junior has earned a spot on the Cavalier squad and amongst the greatest young golfers in the world

Stephen O'Dea | Staff Writer

The last few months have been a whirlwind for Virginia junior Paul Chang. Just this spring, he was competing on the club golf team, yearning to get the attention of the Cavalier coaching staff. But after an incredible round at the premier amateur golf championship in the United States, he finally was offered a spot on the Cavalier varsity team. In just his first match, Chang has already made a real impact on the team that he strived to get a mere place on.

For Chang, golf has been a life-long fascination.

"I was nine when I started — it was just a hobby," Chang said. "I loved it though, I loved golf, and I always hit balls around when I was free."

It was not until he moved from China to England to attend Oakham School that Chang started to play in tournaments. Chang still considered golf as nothing more than a fun pastime. That all changed when Chang decided to take a break from academics after finishing high school.

"From the gap year onwards, I played in some very serious tournaments and I wanted to win every single one," Chang said.

Even then, he still had no prospects of playing in college. He came to Virginia for all of the other reasons that appeal to so many aspiring students.

"My grades weren't good enough for Ivies, so I applied to a couple of schools and made my early decision here," Chang said. "I liked the campus and there is a good history."

Upon his arrival at the school, Chang reached out to golf coach Bowen Sargent — he was quickly met with a disappointing reality. Sargent denied him a spot in the program due

to obligations to recruits but urged him to play on the club team, which he did for the next two years with a revitalized drive to improve his game.

"I've made quite a few leaps during my time here," Chang said. "I have always been a good ball striker but now I have gained 20 to 30 yards off the tee. I got much better at putting, much better at chipping, so it's really better all over."

This development was certainly on display when he and his partner qualified for the 2023 USGA Amateur Four-Ball in September of last year, but it was even more glaringly obvious when he came out of nowhere to qualify for the U.S. Amateur Championship two months ago. Chang shot a scintillating 64 in the opening round and was lucky enough to catch the eye of Sargent, who was scouting a potential high school recruit. Chang's performance was simply too shocking to overlook, and Sargent finally rewarded him with a spot on the squad for the upcoming season.

With a spot secured in Charlottesville, Chang set his eyes on Denver, where the renowned Cherry Hills Golf Club and the Colorado Golf Club would be hosting the U.S. Amateur. He entered the tournament as one of only a few players not named in the World Amateur Golf Rankings.

"I arrived and no one knew who I was but, inside, I knew that I have game that I can work with," Chang said. "I had never played with them and I didn't know how good they really are, but I was confident in my skills so I just went out there and tried my best."

And try his best he did, firing an opening round 69 and following it



COURTESY VIRGINIA ATHLETICS

Paul Chang's meteoric rise has finally secured him a spot on the Cavaliers' varsity team.

up with a 73 to qualify to advance to matchplay although the Cherry Hills'

short yardages did not necessarily fit his game.

He continued his stellar play with a 2-and-1 defeat of Caden Fioroni in the Round of 64 and stunned the golf world with a 22-hole sudden-death victory over former world number-one Caleb Surratt in the Round of 32. Later that day, Chang was set to play the 11th-seeded John Marshall Butler as the only remaining unranked player in the field.

"This is David versus Goliath," Sargent said. "This just doesn't happen in today's world."

David gave Goliath one final blow in his afternoon match against Butler, holing out from the fairway on the 16th hole to take a one-up lead. A spot in the quarterfinals was not to be, however, as Butler won on the first playoff hole the next morning.

With his name fresh in the minds of fans, pundits and players alike, Chang returned to Charlottesville to begin his career as a Cavalier. It did not take long for him to make an impact. His final-round 69 was a team low for the Cavaliers at the

Valero Texas Collegiate over a week ago now, and it propelled Virginia to a fourth-place finish and a 10th-place individual finish for Chang in his first college event.

"It really feels like I am part of the team, that I can contribute to this insane team that we have this year," Chang said. "For this season, I want to play every event. Obviously, I want wins. If not wins, then top-20s and top-10s to get my ranking up."

The junior currently holds the 4,042nd position in the World Amateur Golf Rankings, and he is bound to rise even more with the new opportunities that college golf will provide him. Chang's success is proof of the depth of talent that exists beyond the eyes of college recruiters.

Not only has Chang become a hero to so many young golfers around the globe — he also represents the Cavalier way, a man who has defied the odds at every step of his career and found success in the strangest of circumstances. It is now clear — Virginia has a burgeoning star in Paul Chang.

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A deep dive into Virginia volleyball's new faces

Entering the 2023 volleyball season, Coach Wells has transformed the Cavalier lineup with her first full recruiting class

Caroline Connor | Staff Writer

Coach Shannon Wells had a massive project ahead of her when she accepted the Virginia Women's Volleyball head coaching job in 2021. Before her tenure, the Cavaliers finished dead-last in the ACC standings twice out of the previous four years.

Wells inherited a team that went 0-11 in ACC play the previous year with a 2-12 overall record. Worse, the former Florida associate head coach entered with another disadvantage — recruiting. Volleyball recruiting happens early, approximately two years in advance.

“At that time, I’d been in the SEC for 11 years,” Wells said. “I really didn’t have a ton of experience in the ACC... didn’t know our own team, and our strengths and our weaknesses.”

Wells and the coaching staff instantly had to look ahead to the 2023 recruiting class. While they would coach the team for two years before then, the Wells era wouldn’t fully be underway until the first set of 2023.

In 2022, the ACC continued to be a thorn in the side of Wells’ squad during her second year. They finished with a 4-14 record in ACC play last season, compared to a 12-17 overall record. Entering her third season as coach, Wells finally has her first Virginia recruits on the roster.

Almost half of the 16 personnel roster are newcomers for the 2023 season, with the purpose of barging the squad to new heights, both figuratively and physically. All of the freshmen in the 2023 recruiting class, except for the libero position, are at least six-foot-two.

“The biggest difference [from] last year to this year is, with seven new people — our potential is so high,” Wells said. “There’s chances for more people to come in and compete and take our team to a new level.”

The Transfers Milan Gomillion

The biggest headline in the offseason for Virginia was securing the transfer of junior libero Milan Gomillion from Maryland. Despite more pressing positional needs, Virginia’s heads were immediately turned to Gomillion, who stood out in the transfer portal like a sore thumb.

“Milan was the best player [in the portal] and there wasn’t an immediate need,” Wells said. “I have three other players that have experienced that libero and felt really comfortable going into

the season with all three of those athletes. But at the end of the day, my job is to recruit the best players in the country and help us win.”

Gomillion is considered one of the premier liberos in the league for the past two years she has played for the Terrapins. A defensive specialist, Gomillion led the entire Big 10 with 4.67 digs per set as a freshman. Gomillion’s impact on the Cavaliers has been immediate. The transfer is currently leading the team in digs and has played every single set possible for the Cavaliers.

Ciera Hecht

Wells used her SEC history to secure graduate student outside hitter Ciera “CiCi” Hecht from Texas A&M. The two had crossed paths before, with Wells coaching from the Florida sideline while Hecht played outside hitter for the Aggies.

“I’ve just always admired her game,” Wells said about Hecht. “She’s an undersized outside. Just a little baller, little chip on her shoulder, always found her way on the court.”

An Honorable Mention All-American by both Under Armour and PrepVolleyball.com, her experience in the SEC for Texas A&M has been visible on the court for Virginia. Hecht is currently fourth on the team in kills this season and has played the majority of sets.

Regan Trueblood

Another graduate student, setter Regan Trueblood arrives in Virginia from Illinois Springfield, a Division II program, though she spent her freshman year in Division I at Indiana University–Purdue University Indianapolis. Having played Division II volleyball herself, Wells knew Trueblood’s level of competition well.

“We needed somebody that could add some tempo to what we were doing,” Wells said. “The best Division II teams can beat any... of the smaller mid-major division one school.”

Trueblood had a full-time job by the time Wells called her about the opportunity to play for Virginia. The setter jumped at the opportunity and is currently on an eight-month break from work to play for the Cavaliers, where she looks to be a nice, effective, rotation piece for Wells.

The Freshmen Laurn Bowe

Freshman outside hitter Laurn Bowe was the first recruit to



ALBERT TANG | THE CAVALIER DAILY

With time to assemble her squad, the Wells era is now fully underway.

commit to Virginia under Wells’ regime. Recruited from Westerville, Ohio, the six-foot-two outside hitter racked up the accolades in her high school career.

“We knew she had an elite arm,” Wells said of the recruiting process. “She [played] right side for a really top level club in the country, and then she played outside for high school. So we always knew that she had potential.”

Bowie has been a key player for the Cavaliers in the first few matches of the season, and her role will only continue to grow this year. She is currently second on the team for kills.

Meredith Reeg

A Raleigh native, freshman defensive specialist Meredith Reeg made waves in the North Carolina high school volleyball circuit as a dual-threat defensive specialist and libero. Reeg garnered national recognition, earning spots on the AVCA All-American Watch List and the JVA Watch List.

“Meredith was somebody that we targeted a while ago — she’d been committed for over a year, [we] really felt that she can contribute right away to our program from a defensive perspective,” Wells said. “She’s jumped

in really well and been able to contribute.”

Reeg has been a reliable option off the bench during her Freshman year, even winning the game for the Cavaliers against UMBC on September 10th with an ac

Lily Gervase & Nala Cornegy

Alongside instant contributors, Wells secured depth and sustainability in a pair of tall middle blockers. A Raleigh native and club teammate of Reeg’s, freshman middle blocker Lily Gervase joins the class standing at six-foot-four, instantly making her one of the tallest players on the squad. Gervase has found her way into some sets but hasn’t been as involved as Reeg.

Standing at six-foot-three, freshman middle blocker Nala Cornegy was the second to officially commit to Wells’ class of 2023. Originally hailing from Brooklyn, New York, Cornegy played high school volleyball in Virginia at Episcopal High School, ranked as the 19th best recruit in the state by PrepDig.com.

With the influx of new talent, Wells is ready for her team to take the next level, while attributing a successful transition

to the initiative of the returning players. By the time the coaches walked into the gym in August, the players already had a good feel for each other, according to Wells.

“We just try to keep a really close eye on them and keep building those relationships on-and-off the court, and be really clear and honest about what their roles are and where they need to improve,” Wells said. “I think that that process has worked really well for our program.”

While Wells secured the Virginia job in 2021, this 2023 season is the first time we see her team-building skills in action. The Cavaliers, currently sitting at 7-3 after their early-season tournaments, will face their first ACC test in Chapel Hill, North Carolina Sept. 22 against North Carolina. Later this season they will host Virginia Tech in John Paul Jones Arena— a testament to the strides the program has made under Wells.

“This is going to be a fun team. Because where we started the first week, definitely will not be where we end at the end of the week, or the end of the year.”

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