

The Cavalier Daily

online | print | mobile

Monday, March 23, 2015

Vol. 125, Issue 45

BSA leaders reflect, react

President, political action chair speak on arrest, reaction

Chloe Heskett and
Kayla Eanes
News Writers

Black Student Alliance President Joy Omenyi and BSA Political Action Chair Aryn Frazier sat down with The Cavalier Daily Saturday to reflect on events of the past week following the arrest of Martese Johnson in the early morning of Wednesday, Mar. 18. Omenyi and Frazier discussed what they viewed as contributing factors, student and national reactions and their plans for moving forward.

Omenyi is a fourth-year College student and Frazier is a second-year College student.

Johnson's apprehension by Alcoholic Beverage Control agents, the details of which remain undetermined, allegedly took place after a discrepancy over the zip code on identification he presented when looking to enter Trinity Irish Pub on the Corner. Video footage of the arrest, showing Johnson on the ground with his head bleeding, has since gone viral, bringing national media to Charlottesville for the third time this academic year.

Amid the recent frenzy, Omenyi and Frazier both said it is important to remember that there were many contributing factors leading up to the altercation — "race being one of them."

"It would be misleading of us to try to make this only a racial issue, because it's not," Frazier said. "This is a convergence of a lot of problems."

A significant problem lies with ABC, Omenyi said, referring back to the case of Elizabeth Daly, a Uni-



TRINITY OWNER DISCUSSES ARREST

Badke describes Johnson as sober, cordial night of arrest, denies discriminatory policies

Julia Horowitz
Editor-in-Chief

Interactions between third-year College student Martese Johnson and bouncers outside Trinity Irish Pub Tuesday night were cordial and fairly standard, Trinity owner Kevin Badke said in a limited exclusive interview with The Cavalier Daily. Badke said Johnson "seemed sober," and refuted claims that Trinity's bouncers were especially antagonistic toward Johnson or treated him differently because of his race.

Badke sought to shed light on the period immediately before Johnson was apprehended by special agents from Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control. Graphic cellphone pic-

tures and a video which shows three agents holding Johnson to the ground have prompted a state investigation into whether the agents used excessive force in an encounter which left Johnson with 10 stitches.

Upon being denied entry, Johnson did not raise his voice and "just seemed disappointed he didn't get in," Badke said.

Badke, who was periodically working the door as a bouncer Tuesday night due to a high volume of patrons on St. Patrick's Day and notification that ABC would be monitoring the establishment, said he personally checked Johnson's identification. Their interaction was slightly longer than average because Johnson could not provide the correct zip code on his Illinois ID.

"He was in line, tried to give me his ID,"

Badke said. "I looked at it, and the only thing I looked at was the zipcode — because through ABC training that we've had as a liquor licensed business, one of the things you want to ask is certain questions about the ID...Before you even look at the photo or the birthdate, one of the things I ask...is their zipcode. And he gave me the wrong zip code."

Badke said that Johnson, likely realizing his mistake, explained that he had moved. At this point, Badke, who also from the south side of Chicago, says he and Johnson had a brief conversation about where Johnson had gone to high school before reiterating that he could not provide entry.

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Badke said that because the ID was already "in doubt," he did not look at the date of birth or photo on the ID, and could not confirm it was Johnson's state-issued ID.

"He grabbed his ID and walked away — it was business as usual," Badke said. "I went back to carding other patrons that were coming in, and then I heard a commotion. I turned around, and he was on the ground."

Badke said he did not see the initial confrontation between Johnson and the ABC officers, which occurred after Johnson took back his ID and walked northwest up University Avenue, but that it occurred "only a few moments, maybe a minute" after he left Trinity. The confrontation did not take place directly in front of the bar, but rather about 30 feet up the street.

Badke said he did not speak or interact with the ABC agents following his interaction with Johnson. A week prior, Badke said ABC notified him that the bar would be receiving extra scrutiny on St. Patrick's Day "because they were of Irish heritage."

This description of events largely matches the one provided by Daniel Watkins, Johnson's lawyer, at a press conference Thursday evening. In a statement, Watkins also said discrepancies arose over the zip code on Johnson's ID.

"Martese presented a valid Illinois state identification card, issued in 2011," Watkins said. "The employee then asked Martese

for a zip code and he recited his mother's Chicago city zip code at her current address, which is different from the Chicago city zip code on the identification card, which was nearly four years old."

According to Badke, Trinity's policy is to enforce a strict 21-and-over policy after 10 p.m. on busy nights, typically Tuesday through Saturday, with the exception of private events. When the bar is at capacity — 271 total — the bar lets patrons in on a "one in, one out" basis. At peak hours, between 12 and 1 a.m., interactions at the door tend to be brief, so as to expedite the process for those waiting in line. At no point in time are patrons profiled based on race, gender, sexual orientation or national origin, he said.

Based on his own estimates, Badke spent extra time scrutinizing about three dozen IDs Tuesday night, and turned away roughly 25 percent. To keep students who may want to use false IDs in check, Badke said it is Trinity's policy to give IDs extra scrutiny at random — "just like airport security."

Badke said his interaction with Johnson was roughly 20 seconds long, and was only about 10 seconds longer than a typical interaction between bouncer and patron.

Questions over whether Trinity profiles patrons at the door have come up since former Trinity employee Dante DeVito, a 2014 Commerce graduate, alleged it is company policy to ask minority patrons for an extra form of identification.

"If they didn't look like the ste-

reotypical college student or they were a minority, we were required to scrutinize them a little closer," DeVito told The Cavalier Daily Thursday. "I hated doing it. It was super racist. I would get called out on it all the time...it really bothered me. I would check 20 IDs, and if the 21st was a black guy, I would have to ask for a student ID."

Badke and his lawyer, Cheri Lewis of Lewis Law Offices, vehemently denied these claims.

"Comments made by a previous employee by the name of Dante DeVito that Trinity instructs its management to scrutinize persons of color for entry, are patently false," a statement released Saturday read. "Mr. DeVito was employed by Trinity for six months and was terminated by management for cause. His comments are those of a disgruntled former employee and are not accurate."

Badke said that Trinity employs staff of all races, and does not tolerate profiling or discrimination.

"Our current head of security is African American," Badke said. "Over the years, we've had five heads of security. Three of them have been African American. I take huge offense to that."

DeVito, reached for comment Saturday, said he was never officially fired and stopped working for Trinity of his own accord as he neared graduation. He said that while Trinity did not have an official policy of discriminating based upon race, regular profiling occurred as part of management's

efforts to cater to certain clientele.

"We kind of just were trying to create a certain brand around Trinity," DeVito said. "We didn't want to have a lot of townies in the bar...in doing that, we would discriminate against minorities... The way we would do that was by asking for student IDs."

On Tuesday night, prior to Johnson's arrest, Badke said the ABC agents monitoring the bar told him the establishment was complying with state policy.

"They were outside along University Avenue looking into the establishment," Badke said. "[They were] standing against the bike rack. I spoke with them. They said we were doing a great job, happy with what our employees were doing, going through procedure in a good way. They said the reason they were still hanging out was to make sure there 'wasn't a riot.' That was an exact quote."

Badke said he has seen ABC agents make arrests outside Trinity in the past, but that he has never seen an apprehension become physical.

According to the official ABC docket, Trinity is scheduled to appear at an Apr. 1 hearing for three infractions: sold to intoxicated person, allowed consumption by intoxicated persons, and establishment so illuminated agents prevented from ready access/observation. The ABC agent listed on the docket for Trinity's infractions is J.B. Miller, the same agent who filed Johnson's warrant of arrest.

—Chloe Heskett contributed to reporting for this article

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The Cavalier Daily is published Mondays and Thursdays in print and daily online at cavalierdaily.com. It is printed on at least 40 percent recycled paper. 2014 The Cavalier Daily Inc.

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BSA | Omenyi, Frazier discuss days following Johnson's arrest

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versity student who was arrested in the parking lot of Harris Teeter in 2013 after ABC agents mistook a case of water for beer, leading one agent to draw a weapon.

"I think there needs to be a review of ABC and what their powers are," she said. "After the incident with the other young lady happened, you put things into place to make sure that doesn't happen again."

Omenyi said there are issues with law enforcement outside the bounds of the University that students do not necessarily hear about, and said there should also be a wider review of "what is going on in the greater Charlottesville area."

Omenyi and Frazier said the common factor between the Johnson case and others which have received national attention — including the cases of Eric Garner and Mike Brown — is the element of police brutality, in particular the convergence of that with black bodies. Omenyi said being a part of the national conversation could prove beneficial, as national coverage is an impetus for change.

"I don't think it can be removed from the greater conversation about everything that's going on," Omenyi said. "I think the fact that there is this nationwide coverage has forced the University community to pay attention to this case and to take it with all seriousness. [It is] really forcing us to evaluate ourselves as a University community. What are these issues that are causing us to be in the spotlight for the third time?"

Johnson himself has been framed as part of a larger narrative about police brutality against black Americans, his name mentioned alongside Mike Brown, Eric Garner and Trayvon Martin. His leadership status — specifically his position on the executive committee of the Honor Council — has been highlighted in both local and national media. In a similar way, Trayvon Martin's school records and character were closely exam-

ined following his death, Omenyi said.

"I think in situations like these, no matter the victim of the situation, there's always a narrative that's going to be painted," Omenyi said. "It's important because when you talk about relating this to all the other cases, in many of those cases it was, 'This person has a criminal background, this person has done such and such.'"

Omenyi said that while the details of each case — and the narratives presented by media — vary widely, the common outcomes speak to a greater systemic problem.

"When you add in all these different elements, if the story stays the same, what does that mean?" Omenyi asked. "This could happen to any person regardless of their background."

As news of Johnson's arrest spread — with it pictures and video footage showing the violent nature of the arrest — hundreds of University students have attended events which have collectively generated a vociferous response. Omenyi said the mass meeting of students held in the amphitheater on Wednesday night was an important step, and allowed students to express emotions and be heard.

"It was a space for us to begin the healing process — there were so many emotions going through peoples minds," Omenyi said. "At the end of the day i do think it was effective that people who needed to say something were able to say something, and on a grand scale."

Omenyi said while it is hard to characterize student reactions as a whole, most experienced the same initial reaction of concern and hurt. Many students have reached out to her, she said, and expressed disgust, anger or sadness over the incident.

"This was a communal wound, a University wound," Omenyi said.

For the BSA, the incident was a unifying one. Omenyi said the BSA constitution includes all black students at the University beginning at matriculation, though any student can join. There are no membership dues, and no requirements for involvement, so

the group tends towards a decentralized structure. It was not hard, however, to get people to come together in the wake of Johnson's arrest, Omenyi said.

"I think what happened with Martese was galvanizing," she said. "People realize that this is the time that we need to do that community building."

For a Student Council panel session with representatives from ABC, local police state officials held Friday afternoon, BSA prepared hard hitting questions for panel members and chanted "answer the question we asked" when they felt an answer they were given was indirect or insufficient. Omenyi said when panelists provided inadequate answer, they would be asked the same question again.

"We organized that plan because we knew the kinds of questions we had, they were trained to work around," Omenyi said. "We would not be accepting inadequate answers."

Moving forward, Omenyi and Frazier said the BSA has a four-part plan in working towards creating a "better UVa." Black Dot shared this plan with members and student, faculty and alumni allies at a meeting Sunday night. The plan focuses on creating a culture of trust, the elimination of physical and economic abuse, the proper allocation of resources and an increased presence of both black faculty and students at the University, Omenyi and Frazier said.

"One of the big things that we want to do is create a culture of truth at UVa., and that culture of truth needs to extend to Charlottesville as well," Frazier said. "Those are conversations around race but those are also the conversations we're having with people in these positions of power being completely honest with where they are currently, where they've been and what it is they're doing."

Frazier said the "culture of truth" also extends to conversations within the classroom about the history of both Virginia and the University in order to teach students how to be citizens of Charlottesville before teaching

students how to be citizens of the world.

The elimination of economic, psychological and physical abuse in the greater Charlottesville area, Omenyi said, is another important factor in creating a "better UVa."

"This university is the largest employer of Charlottesville residents but doesn't pay them a living wage," Omenyi said. "That's economic abuse — these people who clean our classrooms and feed us every single day — they're the same ones the police are protecting us from, so how does that work?"

Omenyi said students need to be citizens of Charlottesville before being a citizen of any other place.

"The biggest part of that is respecting the people who do all this work for us," Omenyi said.

"Respecting the people's who's home we come into for four years and leave... it's an abusive relationship between the University and the Charlottesville community."

Another aspect of the larger plan is the proper allocation of resources, which entails making sure both monetary and spatial resources are distributed appropriately, Frazier said.

"Part of that is actual funding... making sure that funding is going to the proper places, as opposed to going through administrative ties," Frazier said.

Frazier said another scant resource is space. In the past week, she said, the BSA has had difficulty finding space for the hundreds of students wanting to meet.

"It's been recognized that its something the University values that those students have that space to collaborate amongst themselves," Frazier said. "We need space for people to be able to meet and to be able to host their cultural programming and to really be amongst themselves."

The BSA's plan also focuses on an overall increase of black presence on Grounds, including increasing and retaining the number of black students and faculty, Frazier said.

"For black students who attend the University and for any students who attend the University, it's very unlikely you'll have a black professor," Frazier said. "What does that say to black students about the university they attend, and also about what they think they should be doing with their degree?"

Omenyi said the recruitment and retention of minority students is an issue which affects other minority populations as well as black students.

"It's important that this conversation is not just limited to the black populations," Omenyi said. "This is an issue for many communities of color."



Marshall Bronfin | The Cavalier Daily

Frazier addressed the crowd at a panel held Friday with representatives from Virginia police, the Commonwealth ABC and state officials.

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Legislation proposes removal of ABC law enforcement

Three proposals have gone to Commonwealth House, Senate

Juliana Radovanovich and Hannah Hall
News Writers

Legislation to remove law enforcement powers from the ABC has received renewed attention following questions of excessive force in the arrest of third-year College student Martese Johnson by Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control agents early Wednesday morning.

The legislation was previously proposed by State Sen. Creigh Deeds, D-Bath.

Deeds said he has proposed this piece of legislation at each session for the past three years. The bill would mandate a review of the organization's law enforcement abilities by a Commonwealth commission.

The legislation has failed with each proposal. This year was the first that Deeds was able to push the bill through the Senate and into the House, where it was killed in a subcommittee, Deeds said.

"What I've proposed in the past ... is legislation that basically would require a review commission to study the idea of putting the law enforcement authority

over to the state police," Deeds said. "It would raise professionalism and accountability, and it would also create efficiencies of scale."

Deeds said taking law enforcement abilities away from ABC and other non-state-police organizations would prevent the questionable actions taken by ABC in the past couple of years.

"There's been two instances in the past two years of overreach of law enforcement officers with ABC in Charlottesville — that's disturbing to me," Deeds said. "Our department of state police is one of the finest state law enforcement agencies in the country — their integrity, to a large degree, is beyond reproach."

Following Johnson's arrest and subsequent hospitalization, University President Teresa Sullivan called for a state investigation of the ABC officers' use of force. As announced by the office of Gov. Terry McAuliffe, the state of Virginia is proceeding with both an administrative review and a criminal investigation.

Deeds said the details of the situation remain unclear.

"I'm disturbed and sickened, frankly, about the pictures and

the video," Deeds said. "I can't imagine what justification there was for that sort of force. I'm really anxious to look at all the facts, and there's an investigation."

Johnson's attorney has said that there was no fake identification involved, heightening the controversy over the actions of the ABC officers and the reason for Johnson's arrest.

"There's no evidence to suggest that this young man is an-

ything but an upstanding guy who's worked hard at the University, done very well, a good kid," Deeds said. "It's difficult for me to understand what was the justification for force the other night."

Deeds said he thought both the investigation and any future legislation removing the law enforcement power of ABC officers would take time. Because legislation cannot be proposed until the Jan. 2016 session of the Virginia

General Assembly, he said there is a fear that this issue will lose its potency.

"It's difficult to know what the issue du jour will be in January, whether this will still have currency," Deeds said. "But I think a whole lot of people are paying attention to what's going on in Charlottesville, what went on the other night, and I'm happy that the Governor is taking this seriously."



Marshall Bronfin | The Cavalier Daily

Virginia State Senator Creigh Deeds, D-Bath, has proposed legislation three times which would have reviewed the ABC and its law enforcement powers.

Black Action Now hosts die-in, responds to Johnson's arrest

VCU students engage in demonstration

Anna Higgins
Associate Editor

The Richmond chapter of Black Action Now — an organization that aims to promote awareness of African-American issues — held a protest and die-in on Wednesday in support of Martese Johnson, drawing roughly 50 Virginia Commonwealth University students.

Ashleigh Shackelford, the lead community organizer of Black Action Now, said the organization decided to host the rally after hearing about the response of the University student body to the arrest of Johnson. In part because the incident was so close to home, the organization wanted to clearly establish solidarity, Shackelford said.

"We were devastated by the arrest and violent brutalization of Martese Johnson," Shackelford said in an email. "After hearing

that there was a protest at U.Va. for justice for Martese, we knew we had to do something at VCU and in Richmond to show support and bring visibility to these issues in our state."

Shackelford said that because the event had to be planned so quickly, the organization relied heavily on social media and word of mouth to mobilize protesters.

"We used social media to our advantage and made sure to reach out to all of our networks in Richmond and at VCU," Shackelford said. "Honestly, there are a lot of people in our community ready to march and protest at a moment's notice because this is personal."

VCU senior Chris Kindred, one of the event's attendees, said he learned about the event from a friend and decided to spend the night at the protest.

"I got a text through one of my friends who was very close in proximity to the organizing,"

Kindred said. "I went ahead and joined in and I was there for the whole night."

Kindred said the atmosphere of the protest was anxious because of police presence. He said the Richmond Police were following the protesters to a greater extent than the VCU Police were, even though the rally mostly took place on VCU's campus.

"A lot of us were ready for arrest that night because it was a higher number of police presence than usual, and VCU Police wasn't involved as much as Richmond PD was," Kindred said.

Members of Black Action Now said the police monitoring were less concerned with ensuring protesters' safety than they had been at past protests. Whereas the police had shut down streets and seemed supportive in the past, this time they brought six police cars and eight police on bicycles to follow the 50 participants, Shackelford

said.

"The police were in full effect in trying to shut us down and arrest us," Shackelford said. "That tells me that we've become an inconvenience and that they're tired, and expected us to be tired."

Despite dissatisfaction with the police, both Shackelford and Kindred said they felt the rally was successful in making the issue more visible.

"It definitely established that we do care even if someone doesn't die, we still care about this issue and as long as we see cases like this, we will be out here protesting," Kindred said. "I think it accomplished something in the fact that it made waves. It brought a lot of people's attention."

Both Shackelford and Kindred said the rally was part of a long-term goal to end police brutality, especially towards black Americans. However, Shackelford

said protesters could not do this alone, and called on the state to do more to end the issue.

"Justice would be the charges being dropped, his school record and criminal record going untarnished, compensation for his injuries and emotional weight of dealing with violent forms of racism and receiving a full apology from the authority figures that brutalized him and criminalized him wrongfully," Shackelford said.

She said she hopes to see more protests in the future to keep the issue in the spotlight.

"I think it's amazing that so many people from U.Va. have come to support Martese and taking a stand against institutionalized racism," Shackelford said. "I definitely expect to see students and the Charlottesville community to work together to shut it down and keep making noise until they're heard and justice is served."

Heroin Task Force addresses Commonwealth drug abuse

Group will focus on education, statewide reaction



Marshall Bronfin | The Cavalier Daily

McAuliffe created the task force in September to combat rising heroin use in Virginia.

Urvi Singhania
Senior Writer

In an effort to combat the rising number of heroin-related deaths, Gov. Terry McAuliffe signed Executive Order 29 last September, establishing the Governor's Task Force on Prescription Drug and Heroin Abuse. The group was formed to reverse the growing death toll from heroin overdose, which has doubled in the last two years in Virginia.

Chelyen Davis, communications advisor for the Virginia Secretariat of Health and Human Resources, said one of the biggest contributing factors leading to heroin addiction is unnecessary and excessive consumption of prescription painkillers, or opioids. As the availability of prescription drugs decline, people often switch to heroin.

"From 2007 to 2013, nearly 70

percent of all drug [and] poison deaths were attributed to opioids," Davis said in an email. "In Virginia, overdose deaths are now more common than traffic accident deaths."

Davis said abuse of the drug was not uniform across the state. According to a report released by the state government, while southwestern Virginia also suffers from heroin usage, central and eastern Virginia have the highest number of heroin overdoses.

"The problem is different in some regions of the state than in others, but it is a concern statewide," Davis said. "It's such a devastating problem, in both fiscal and human cost, that Governor McAuliffe made it a part of his A Healthy Virginia report, a 10-point plan designed to address significant health needs that are affecting Virginians."

The task force is intended to address heroin issues across the state,

chiefly through expanding methods for safer storage and proper disposal of prescription drugs, working on law enforcement to implement best practices when responding to persons addicted to opioids and providing greater access to abuse treatment services.

"The task force has five work groups, each with a distinct set of focus areas — education, enforcement, storage and disposal, data and monitoring and treatment," Davis said. "The task force will develop recommendations for the governor as to the best approaches to stemming the overdose and addiction problems in Virginia."

Among the task force's members are representatives from the Commonwealth legislature and judiciary, the Office of the Attorney General, health and behavioral health care professionals, community advocates, state and local agents and individuals who personally suffered addiction.

**TAKE A BREAK &
RELAX.**





Zack Bartee
Senior Writer

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — For the second time in as many years, the second-seeded Virginia men's basketball team exited the NCAA Tournament at the hands of Michigan State. With a bid to their second consecutive Sweet 16 on the line Sunday in Charlotte, the Cavaliers could not overcome the sluggish starts to halves that have become all too familiar in recent weeks, falling 60-54 to the No. 7 seed Spartans.

Poor shooting plagued Virginia throughout the contest, as the Cavaliers shot a season-low 29.8 percent from the field on 17-of-57 shooting, including 2-of-17 from beyond the arc for an 11.8 percent mark.

"I feel like we started both halves slow and it put us in holes," sophomore point guard

Cavaliers defeated at NCAA tournament

Men's basketball falls to Michigan State in March for second consecutive year

London Perrantes said. "We have been doing that all year and it finally caught up to us... We couldn't knock down a shot from outside, so they knew they didn't have to defend it."

Michigan State senior guard Travis Trice led all scorers with 23 points, while senior forward Branden Dawson followed up his 24-point, 10-rebound performance against Virginia last year with a 15-point, nine-rebound encore.

Junior forward Anthony Gill led the Cavaliers with 11 points, while senior forward Darion Atkins posted 10 points and a career-high 14 rebounds in his final game in a Virginia uniform.

After trailing by as many as 12 points early in the second half, the Cavaliers fought their way back to a 42-36 deficit. Atkins then appeared to block sophomore forward Gavin Schilling's shot as the shot clock was near its expiration but was whistled for his fourth foul — drawing animated reactions from Atkins and Virginia coach Tony Ben-

nett and sending Atkins to the bench with 8:36 to play.

"When you're clawing and scrapping, trying to get back in it, you need everything to go well for you," Bennett said. "It seemed like there was a little bit of a momentum shift there, but that certainly hurt us. Maybe when I watch the tape, I'll realize that I overreacted to it, but I thought it was a good block and again, we needed everything at that time."

Atkins sat on the bench for four minutes before returning to the game with the Cavaliers facing a seven-point deficit. The senior, seemingly determined to prolong his collegiate career, sank a pair of free throws to cut the Spartan lead to 49-44.

But Trice had other designs. With the shot clock winding down, Trice waived off a screen, instead electing to pull up multiple steps behind the arc with



Kelsey Grant | The Cavalier Daily

Senior forward Darion Atkins scored 10 points and grabbed a career-high 14 rebounds in his last collegiate game, but Virginia left Time Warner Cable Arena with a 60-54 loss.

see M BASKETBALL, page 7

Softball finishes 2-2 at U.Va. Home Tournament

Team splits games against Delaware State, Marist; Chapdelaine makes season debut on circle

Chuck Siegel
Associate Editor

Putting it all together has been a challenge for the Virginia softball team so far, but this weekend brought many positives for the Cavaliers (7-25, 1-8 ACC) as they continue to march on through their season. Virginia hosted the U.Va. Home Tournament, featuring Delaware State (5-14) and Marist (9-13), earning an even 2-2 split over the course of the weekend.

After a disheartening loss to Delaware State Friday, the Cavaliers regrouped to earn two bounce-back wins on Saturday, before Marist upended Virginia in the team's tournament finale.

In the Cavaliers' first tournament game against Delaware State, the team faced the Hornets for the second time this year. In the first encounter, Virginia pounded Delaware State with four home runs and eleven hits to earn a 14-1 victory.

This time, however, it was the Hornets whose offense exploded as they routed the Cavaliers 15-3. Shaky defense by Virginia played a huge role in the game, first allowing Delaware State to break open the game with two runs in the top of the second inning. However, the Cavaliers struck

twice with the bases loaded in their second inning turn, on a sacrifice fly by sophomore catcher Katie Park. A 3-2 bases loaded walk followed, drawn by sophomore utility player McKall Miller to even the score.

In spite of the rally, the Cavaliers committed four more errors in the fourth inning, which the Hornets capitalized upon to score eight runs and take a 10-2 lead. Virginia was only able to muster one run in response, scored on a solo shot by freshman third baseman Lauren Heintzelman, the first of her collegiate career. Two more miscues in the sixth inning led to five more runs, and Delaware State ran away with a 15-3 victory. Of the 15 runs scored by the Hornets, only two were earned.

Bouncing back, however, was no problem for the Cavaliers.

"[I told them] they need to walk the walk," coach Blake Miller said. "They had to quit talking about it and decide, if they're gonna say it, they better go down and do what they're saying."

Virginia realized its potential the following day, earning two come-from-behind wins over Delaware State and Marist.

In the first game of Saturday's doubleheader, the Cavaliers faced the same Delaware State team, hoping to show them a very different team from

what the Hornets had just trounced.

The game did not start out well for Virginia, as two errors by the Cavaliers opened the door for Delaware State to score five runs in the top of the first inning. Sophomore first baseman Kaitlin Fitzgerald hit a RBI triple to score freshman outfielder Allison Davis, but the Hornets scored two more runs to hold a 7-1 lead entering the bottom of the third inning. However, the Cavaliers came roaring back, scoring seven runs over the course of four innings, finally taking the lead in the bottom of the sixth. Sophomore outfielder Iyana Hughes ignited the offense with a leadoff home run in the bottom of the third, and the Cavaliers plated at least one run in every inning following the second as they earned the 8-7 win.

The game also marked the season debut on the circle for sophomore pitcher Aimee Chapdelaine, who took the control of the game in the third inning, surrendering only one run through five innings. Delaware State finished 3-1 in a remarkable weekend for the Hornets, who were 2-13 prior to the tournament.

In Saturday's second game against Marist, the Cavaliers again rallied to earn the victory. Virginia again allowed their opponent to strike first as Marist scored three runs to take a 3-0 lead. However, the bats came alive to

unearth Virginia from its deficit, as an RBI single by Fitzgerald scored Hughes and Davis in the bottom of the third to cut the Red Foxes' lead to one.

The Cavaliers' offense exploded in the following inning, scoring six runs to take an 8-4 lead. Senior outfielder Megan Harris led off with a triple and reached home on a RBI groundout by Park. Fitzgerald again knocked in two runs with a single, before freshman infielder Danni Ingraham smacked a double to left field to plate Fitzgerald and Miller.

After adding an insurance run in the fifth, Virginia held a 9-4 entering the bottom of the seventh when the Red Foxes made a bid for a comeback. Marist scored four runs and had runners on the corner when freshman pitcher Andie Formby caught a line drive and tagged first in a game-sealing double play, as Virginia survived 9-8 to complete their doubleheader sweep.

"We just game back swinging," Ingraham said. "Swinging hard, and swinging for the fences."

Miller expressed his pride over how the team overcame in the close games, which have been a problem for the Cavaliers so far this season.

"It was nice to get the girls in good spirits," Miller said. "After all the really close losses that we've had, to be

able to push through and come on top with a one run deficit."

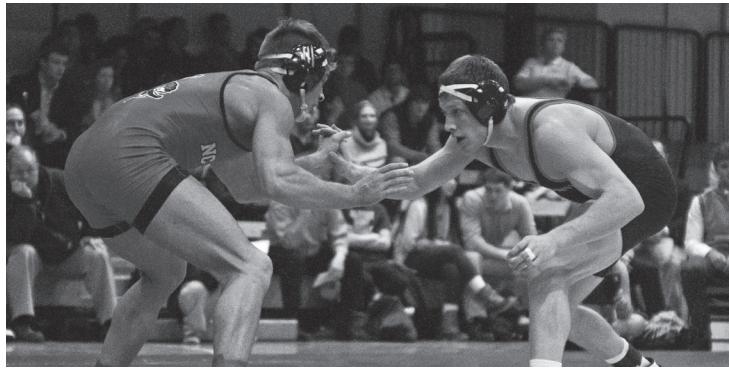
Unfortunately for Virginia, the team could not carry over its success on Saturday into their tournament finale against Marist Sunday. Despite putting up 17 runs over the course of two games the day before, Virginia's offense fell mostly mute as the Cavaliers only scored one run on a solo shot by Harris in the bottom of the fourth. Two errors by Virginia in the third inning allowed the Red Foxes to take a 2-0 lead, and Virginia was unable to produce any more runs as they fell 4-1. Marist ended up 1-3 on the weekend, narrowly avoiding the sweep with their win against Virginia.

After 17 errors over the course of the weekend, stronger defense remains a priority for the Cavaliers in the future.

"Big thing is that right now we've got to field the ball," Miller said. "[Our] pitchers kept us in the game, but we didn't do our job at the plate. We gotta find our focus, and it's gotta come every day."

After an underwhelming season so far, this weekend represented many positives for the team. Virginia will hope to build upon their success this weekend as they prepare for a rematch against George Washington at the Park this Wednesday.

Sulzer becomes Virginia's second three-time All-American



Senior Nick Sulzer starred at the NCAA wrestling championships in St. Louis, Missouri.

DJ Govender | The Cavalier Daily

Virginia senior Nick Sulzer ended his illustrious career with an exclamation point at the NCAA wrestling championships in St. Louis, Missouri.

Sulzer became just the second three-time All-American in program history with his fifth-place finish at 165 pounds. Chris Henrich, who wrestled for the Cavaliers from 2008-11, was the only other grappler to accomplish such a feat.

The Cleveland, Ohio native clinched All-America honors on Friday night when Northwestern senior Pierce Harger took a medical forfeit. He then bested Wisconsin redshirt

sophomore Isaac Jordan — the reigning Big 10 champion — 11-6 to reach the consolation semifinals.

Although Ohio State redshirt freshman Bo Jordan got the better of Sulzer in the consolation semifinals, Sulzer rebounded by rolling past North Carolina freshman Ethan Ramos 12-4 in the fifth-place match.

Sulzer's victory over Ramos ended his career in the Virginia singlet, but his legacy will remain in the program's annals for years to come. Sulzer's 122 victories are the second-most behind Henrich's 136 and he holds the record for most NCAA

tournament victories with 15.

Two other Cavaliers came within one bout of claiming All-American honors. Both sophomore George DiCamillo and junior Blaise Butler were eliminated in the round of 12.

As a team, Virginia finished the tournament in 19th place with 26.5 points. Led by senior Logan Stieber — the fourth ever to win four national titles — the Ohio State Buckeyes, and their 102 points, ran away with the team title. Runner-up Iowa tallied 84.

—compiled by Matthew Wurzburger

No. 7 baseball drops two against No. 11 Florida State

Cavaliers struggle on mound, youthful team falls to 3-6 in conference play, Thaiss launches 435-foot home run

Matthew Wurzburger
Senior Associate Editor

No. 7 Virginia baseball dropped two of three games against conference rival No. 11 Florida State this past weekend.

Virginia (14-7, 3-6 ACC) required late-inning heroics to topple the Seminoles (19-6, 7-2 ACC) 8-4 in the first game of the series.

Florida State got to junior pitcher Nathan Kirby for three runs in the second inning. After striking out the leadoff batter, the ace dropped an underhand toss from freshman Pavin Smith to put senior Josh Delph aboard. From there, the Seminoles rallied off three consecutive singles. A bobbled relay exchange by senior Kenny Towns accounted for the final run of the frame.

Kirby struggled with his control early on. He walked four batters — including three straight in the first inning — in the first three frames. The Midlothian, Virginia, native would not issue a free pass during the remainder of his outing.

"I kept getting behind, and they made me pay for it," Kirby said. "I've been lucky to get out a lot of those situations, but it came back to bite me today."

The Cavaliers scored twice in their half of the second inning. Towns turned on the first pitch he saw for a leadoff single, and sophomore Matt Thaiss walked to put runners on first and second with no outs. Following a sacrifice bunt by freshman center-fielder Ernie Clement, junior Kevin Doherty drove home both Towns and Thaiss with a hard-hit grounder up the middle.

Virginia was running out of daylight as they entered the seventh inning trailing 4-3. When the dust settled, the Cavaliers hung five runs on the board and sent 11 batters to the plate. Both Towns and Thaiss drove home two with a single and double, respectively. Clement also contributed to the barrage with a run-scoring single.

The trio of Towns, Thaiss and Clement propelled Virginia's offense Friday. The collective batted five-for-10 with six RBIs and five runs scored. In the fourth inning, Thaiss launched a 435-foot home run that sailed out of Davenport Field.

Doherty's two-way heroics made him the star of the game. The Laytonsville, Maryland, native started in left field, drove in two runs and earned his first career win as he threw 1.1 innings of shutout ball in relief of Kirby.

"I didn't [expect to pitch tonight]," Doherty said. "But I was supposed to be prepared to pitch."

Kirby went six innings and allowed four runs — two earned. He worked around traffic all game long and allowed six hits and five walks, but he did fan 11. Junior Josh Sborz pitched the final 1.2 innings to earn his fifth save of the year.

Saturday's contest was a high-scoring and a back-and-forth affair that the Seminoles won 12-10.

"I was proud of our team," O'Connor said. "We certainly hung in there and battled. It's an example that if you don't throw the ball over the plate enough it's going to be tough to win."

The Cavaliers jumped out to an early 2-0 lead in the first inning before Florida State came up big in the fifth.

To that point, sophomore pitcher Connor Jones was cruising. Striking out freshman Dylan Busby to start the inning, Jones was the ninth consecutive batter retired by Jones. Busby would also be the final out recorded by Jones. A walk, a hit and a single loaded the bases. Junior John Sansone then punished Jones with a grand slam home run.

The Cavaliers entered the seventh inning trailing 8-3 but scored five to tie the game. The stalemate would not last for long as Stewart hit a solo shot in the eighth.

Virginia responded with two more in the bottom of the inning to take a 10-9 lead into the ninth. Florida State then hit two home runs off Sborz.

Virginia turned to junior left-hander Brandon Waddell in Sunday's rubber match, but the Seminoles would cruise to a 13-1 victory.

"We've got a lot of work to do," O'Connor said. "I've never seen us with that kind of command trouble."

Waddell could not key into the strike zone in the first inning, throwing only 12 strikes out of 32 pitches. The Houston, Texas native walked three batters in the opening frame, and Florida State made him pay to the tune of four runs. Freshman Dylan Busby took a Waddell delivery over the left-center wall for a three-run homer.

A model of control in 2014, Waddell walked only 19 batters in 114 innings. Through 31 innings in 2015, Waddell has walked 12 batters — including five in five innings of work in a losing effort Sunday.

"You try not to think about mechanics while you're out there, but when you start struggling it's your na-



Mitchell Vaughn | The Cavalier Daily

Junior left-hander Nathan Kirby struck out 11 Seminoles Friday, when Virginia got the series started with an 8-4 win.

ture to wonder what could be changing with each pitch," Waddell said.

Once again, the free 90s contributed to a Seminole run in the top of the fourth. Waddell retired the first two batters before walking Stewart. Sophomore first baseman Quincy Nieporte doubled into right-center to score Stewart. Suddenly, Florida State appeared to be on its way to a big inning. Marconcini singled hard into right, but the big arm of Haseley gunned down Nieporte at home to save a run and end the inning.

Meanwhile, the Cavalier batters could not solve Florida State freshman Cobi Johnson. In seven innings of work, Virginia managed just one run on five hits off the Seminole

righty.

Florida State put the game on ice with a five-run seventh inning, and once again Cavalier pitching could not find the zone. Sophomore Jack Roberts walked both batters he faced, and O'Connor quickly replaced him with sophomore Alec Bettinger, who could fare no better. Bettinger walked two and surrendered a back-breaking grand slam to Stewart — the only hit in the inning.

Virginia pitchers issued 15 walks on Sunday. The staff walked 34 batters over the three-game series.

The Cavaliers look to bounce back this week with a Tuesday home game against Georgetown and a Wednesday game on the road against Liberty.

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Courtesy Virginia Athletics

Junior Leah Smith claimed the 1,650 free NCAA title as Virginia reached new heights as a team.

Women's swim and dive places fifth at NCAAs

At the conclusion of Saturday's events, the Virginia women's swimming and diving team could finally take a collective sigh of relief — it had accomplished its goal to become the best team in program history.

The Cavaliers earned 229 points at the women's NCAA championship meet to earn a fifth place finish, besting the program's previous top finish of seventh in 1988. California tallied 513 points to take the national title.

Virginia started the meet strong Thursday as sophomore Leah Smith's preliminary time of 4:30.37 in the 500-yard freestyle broke the NCAA record. Smith won the event later that evening to become the program's first national champion since 2001. Saturday, Smith earned her second individual national championship in the 1,650-yard freestyle. She also placed seventh in the 200-yard freestyle Friday.

Junior Courtney Bartholomew added two-second place finishes in the 100 and 200-yard backstroke, with the latter coming in an ACC record time of 1:49.35. In addition, she touched fifth in the 200-yard individual medley Thursday.

Sophomore Laura Simon earned multiple All-American honors after placing fourth in the 100-yard breaststroke Friday and second in the 200-yard event Saturday. Both times were

program records.

Stanford out-touched Virginia's 400-yard medley relay team by .01 seconds Thursday as the Cavaliers earned the second-place finish in a program record time of 3:36.42. The top-two times were the fastest in the history of the event.

For the first time since 2009, all five of Virginia relays finished in the top 16.

—compiled by Robert Elder

M BASKETBALL | Cavaliers plagued by cold shooting, slow start

Continued from page 5

junior guard Malcolm Brogdon's hand in his face. The ball sailed through the net, extending the Spartan lead to eight with 2:51 to play and immediately snuffing out any momentum the Cavaliers had from an otherwise solid defensive stand.

Virginia was then unable to make enough shots down the stretch, never coming closer than five points in the final three minutes.

"We got some good looks,

but when you're that cold, it's hard to beat a team like Michigan State," Bennett said. "You have to be able to make some plays. Trice made them for them. Dawson made them. We couldn't get those."

Trice also imposed his will on the Cavaliers to start the game, ripping off 13 points in three minutes and 43 seconds to break a 2-2 tie and stake the Spartans to a 15-4 lead.

"I thought [Trice] was too comfortable at the very beginning," Brogdon said. "Losing him in transition and just not

pushing him out of his comfort zone. When players that can score at that level get comfortable, then they're going to knock down a lot of shots."

Atkins ended the Cavaliers' nearly six-minute scoring drought when he stuffed sophomore guard Alvin Ellis III's dunk attempt, setting up a 3-pointer on the other end from freshman guard Marial Shayok. Atkins then trimmed the deficit to six on a pretty hookshot in the paint.

Although Atkins put forth one of the best performances of

his career, it was not enough to overcome the team's poor shooting and defensive lapses.

"The more you miss, the more added pressure you have on your next possessions to get points," Atkins said. "It causes frustration and panic."

But Atkins also took a moment to reminisce on his career in spite of the afternoon's disappointment.

"I wouldn't trade my career for anything," Atkins said. "I am blessed to be in this position and we had a great run. I had a great last year... I love these

guys so much."

Bennett echoed his lone senior scholarship player's sentiments, already with an eye turned toward next year.

"It stings right now, of course, the finality of the season after we've had a heck of a year with these guys, but it just leaves that feeling that you wish you could have taken it further," Bennett said. "But it doesn't take away — when all the dust settles — what was accomplished, and we give thanks for that, but will certainly learn from what took place."

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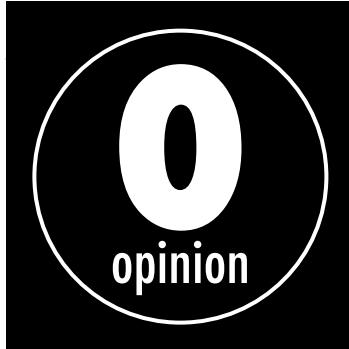
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Comment of the day

"While some of yik yak is undoubtedly offensive and absurd, the majority have expressed frustration that a civil dialogue is not possible... This is much in the same way that if you even so much as questioned Jackie's story, you were unsupportive of survivors of sexual assault. That's a real problem and the editorial board should really consider addressing it."

"Wahoo123" in response to the Managing Board's March 20 lead editorial, "Martese Johnson and the Yik Yak effect."

LEAD EDITORIAL

Are we showing up for black students?

Despite our exhaustion, now is not the time to disengage

For the third time this year, national media have flooded our space. University students are, understandably, exhausted. In part because of this, the arrest of our classmate Martese Johnson and the subsequent response — while it has garnered national attention — has not seen the same response from University students as other controversies. We understand that students are tired. We are tired, too. But it would be a grave mistake to let the exhaustion we feel from the other events of this year prevent us from seeing and changing injustices happening right in front of us.

We wrote Friday that too many peers are taking to anonymous platforms to attack Martese — but others are not even paying attention to students' concerns stemming from his arrest. At a school of over 21,000 students, only a few hundred came to Wednesday night's forum — a showing Aryn Frazier, a second-year College student and the political action chair for the Black Student Alliance, described as the biggest showing of student support members of the BSA have seen since they have been talking about violence against black bodies. The attendance at a dialogue Friday between students and members of local law enforcement was also scant — even though there were two overflow rooms provided for the event, half the seats in Newcomb Theater were empty. At a

meeting Sunday night hosted by the group Black Dot to discuss tangible changes in response to Martese's arrest and general student concerns, even with members unaffiliated with Black Dot present Wilson 301 was not close to full.

We have written before that it should not take a graphic image to incite a widespread response from the student body on behalf of black peers — but we are seeing that even that graphic image is not inciting as much engagement as we would hope. Perhaps seeing such an image is too much for some students — too upsetting to respond to. But it is such upset that should be channelled into attending events like those described above and hearing the concerns of our peers. If you were held to the ground, covered in your own blood, wouldn't you want to know your classmates cared?

For black students at the University, a lack of engagement probably doesn't feel new. In 1987, the University's Task Force on Afro-American affairs issued a report called "An Audacious Faith," a comprehensive look into issues facing black students and black Charlottesville residents. In 2007, University students and organizations compiled "An Audacious Faith II." The issues presented in both reports differ very little. Since 1987, students have been lobbying to change the Carter G. Woodson Institute for African and African-American

Studies from a program into a department; since 1987, they have been requesting more resources for the Office of African-American Affairs — which is currently housed in what was meant to be a temporary building. Now, in 2015, we still have not seen results.

To lobby for particular changes over a long period of time and see minimal results shapes the context in which Martese's arrest occurred. For students who have become accustomed to seeing their needs sidelined, a lack of community response to the brutality Martese experienced may not be surprising. And this is something we need to change.

At Friday's event, Frazier noted, "The stories and the voices of black people have been regulated, denounced and silenced by the very systems to which they have spoken. They have been co-opted, too." Martese's arrest is by no means the first instance in or around our University of a black University student being hurt — verbally or physically. In an interview with The Cavalier Daily, Joy Omenyi, a fourth-year College student and president of the BSA, said, "When we talk to alumni... they remember [events like this] like it was yesterday." She discussed the need for an archive of all the incidents in which black students have been targeted, "So we can understand the history of this place that we occupy. And understand that when

things like this happen, no, it isn't the first time. And a lot of these don't happen in a vacuum — in isolation."

If discrimination against our classmates is not an uncommon occurrence, then there is all the more reason for us to show our support. We all process tragedy in different ways — perhaps students who do not attend events like those listed above are engaging in this issue in other ways. But numbers mean something, and showing Martese and our classmates that we support them, in this case, requires showing up. It is all too easy to see tragedy and turn away from it — to see ourselves in the national spotlight and want to hide. But think about future U.Va. students — the recipients of our legacy. In the same way that we can look to past generations as fighters — against a school that would not co-educate or integrate; against a University president who belonged to a whites-only country club; against a Board of Visitors that refused to be transparent — how do we want the world and posterity to see us?

Our classmates don't feel like they are being heard, and in many cases, they are not. Let's show them we're listening.

Editor's note: Managing Editor Chloe Heskett abstained from participating in this editorial due to her coverage of Johnson's arrest.

Exceeding expectations

The Cavalier Daily provided exceptional reporting and concise summaries of events in the wake of the Martese Johnson incident

Once again there was a disturbing event involving a University student and once again the staff of The Cavalier Daily has risen to the occasion in reporting it. Martese Johnson was arrested early Wednesday morning and since then The Cavalier Daily has seemed to be everywhere on the story. As they did covering previous stories that attracted the attention of the country, the writers and editors have delivered work that kept up with or exceeded other outlets.

I again applaud the decision to have a single writer handle most of the reporting. It helps limit the chaotic feeling when there is so much information coming so quickly. Chloe Heskett has done a good job handling all of it. She and the rest of the Managing Board (Heskett is the managing editor) also made the appropriate decision to have her sit out from the lead editorial on March 19. Avoiding

the appearance of bias is important and that was an important choice to get right.

Beyond good reporting on Heskett's part, the paper offered an outlet and a focal point for readers. There are hundreds of comments across the pieces, both News and Opinion, about Johnson's arrest. I thought the roundup of statements and responses was particularly helpful. In part, it helped show how quickly the story moved beyond just the University or Charlottesville. That the story was national was evident, especially from outside Charlottesville. I was in Washington, D.C. at the end of the week and both CNN and MSNBC led off-hours with segments on the story. I noted as I watched and also read coverage in the Washington Post that I didn't learn anything from those national outlets I hadn't already learned from The Cavalier Daily. Indeed, The Cavalier Daily had the first

interview with the owner of Trinity, the bar outside of which the arrest happened.

Once again there was a disturbing event involving a University student and once again the staff of The Cavalier Daily has risen to the occasion in reporting it."

While I think the coverage, overall, has been very good, I do have some concerns. Primarily, I'm struck by the fact that the core of the reporting on this story has been done by two members of the Managing Board. Chloe Heskett and Julia Horowitz (the editor-in-chief)

have done a good job in writing, but ideally it shouldn't be them doing it. The limitations of being a volunteer, collegiate publication show here, I think. On a story like this, it's important to get it right and it makes sense to turn to the most experienced people you have. In the case of The Cavalier Daily, that's almost always going to be the members of the Managing Board. Once those people step back into a reporting role, though,

I think it becomes more difficult to maintain a bright line between News and Opinion at least as far as that story is concerned.

From a more mechanistic perspective, I have questions (or perhaps nits to pick) about a few things. In the main news article about Johnson

and the events of early Wednesday morning there was the note: "This is a developing story, and will continue to be updated with the latest information available." I presume there were, indeed, updates but none of them were labeled. From the perspective of the reader, it would be helpful (or at least interesting) to know what information was known or reported when. I'd also be interested to know more about how the interview with Trinity owner Kevin Badke was "limited." It was described in the article as a "limited exclusive interview." I simply don't know what that means and would have appreciated more of an explanation with the article.

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

Don't ignore race

Ignoring race as an influential force in society impedes progress

Officially, legalized racial discrimination ended over 40 years ago with the shuttering of Jim Crow laws in the late 1960s. Still, as the decades went by, many Americans yearned for the erasure of the color line not just by the state but by the people, hoping to overcome internally what W.E.B. Dubois identified as the defining problem of the 20th century. With the election of the nation's first black president, many believed the end of racism in America was tantalizingly close; perhaps widespread racial discrimination would finally be eradicated, successfully swept under the rug of the 20th century. Yet here we are in 2015, and all we are left with are the violent images of Ferguson protests flashing on our televisions, racist fraternity chants ringing in our ears, and the bloody images of one of our own being arrested. Lingering in these events is the problem that has haunted our nation since the end of the civil war: How do we get past the plague of racism?

We cannot answer this question if we don't recognize race as an issue. The truth is that a majority of white Americans refuse

to believe race is a factor of discrimination in the recent events of racial upheaval. A survey by the Pew Research Center on the topic of officer Darren Wilson's non-indictment by the grand jury showed that the factor of race in the judicial system is seen differently by blacks and whites. In Ferguson, 64 percent of blacks agreed that race was a major factor in the grand jury's decision not to indict Darren Wilson for the death of Michael Brown, with an almost equal 60 percent of whites claiming the opposite. Note that the issue here isn't necessarily whether Wilson was guilty, but the underlying assumptions made by many non-black Americans that race has ceased to be a "real" issue. Dan Cox, Research Director at the Public Religion Research Institute, notes, "three-fourths of white Americans have only white people in their social networks" and that for many whites, "race is no longer an issue because generally, in their lives, it doesn't really come up."

After all the pain the color line has inflicted upon the American psyche, many just want race not to matter. Increasingly, the

idea of the "post-racial society" and the struggle to attain it have become mixed in with the ideals of the American dream, an ideal that imagines a utopia where race is left unacknowledged. Yet such an idea is misleading when racial distinctions are so ingrained in humanity's history. While racism isn't necessarily inherent in human nature, the formation of in-groups and outgroups is an evolutionary mechanism encoded in our biology. In 1979, Tafel and Turner developed their Social Identity Theory, which explains how people tend to associate themselves into a social group and elevate the status of their own group. Modern research has shown that children as young as four have the ability to discriminate between groups and attach superiority to specific groups. Although it is technically possible for such in-group mental divisions to originate in factors other than race, in the context of today's multiracial world, discounting race as a divisive factor in the determination of in-groups and out-groups would be blatantly naive.

The implicit belief in the post-racial society argument is limited not just to whites. Mindy Kaling, a South Asian comedian and star of her show "The Mindy Project," refuses to answer questions about how her race has in-

fluenced her career. When asked about her role as a pioneering Asian actress, Kaling responded, "I think that it's insidious to be spending more of your time... talking... in smart ways about

tions in pursuit of the post-racial pipe dream aren't plausible ways to overcome deeply embedded divisions. Racial boundaries have existed for centuries through slavery and Jim Crow, still exist in today's Ferguson-esque world, and will continue to exist for the foreseeable future. No matter how egalitarian we may become, humans will always maintain dividing lines between groups. This doesn't mean we shouldn't strive toward ending racial discrimination

— far from it. We must continue to minimize racism as best we can, but at the same time leave behind the false hope of its total extinction. Rather than trying to bulldoze the social boundaries we have erected over the millennia of human existence or despair at every small instance of racism, we should aim to demilitarize our borders — to realize that the all too real divisions of color will always exist, but that they are in no way justification for discrimination.

Hasan's column runs Fridays. He can be reached at h.khan@cavalierdaily.com



HASAN KHAN
Opinion Columnist



The sad truth is that a majority of white Americans refuse to believe that race is a factor of discrimination in the recent events of upheaval across the nation."

your otherness... rather than doing the hard work of your job." Kaling is vehemently tone deaf to the question of race. And while it isn't her job as an actress to have meaningful commentary on racial issues, refusing to even acknowledge its existence is wrong-headed. As Bengali writer Samhita Mukhopadhyay notes, such a pattern of moving away from the acknowledgment of race is common among immigrants who simply want to better fit into their American surroundings — similar to many whites who are also reluctant to acknowledge race.

Ignoring race or working toward ending all racial distinc-

The new U.Va.: building a change coalition

Different forms of oppression are interconnected

I am writing as a concerned and committed alumna. Recent incidents on Grounds have shocked and disturbed the community. Moreover, they have signaled the need for collective contemplation, direct action and a commitment to socio-cultural, political and ideological change. In other words, the changes the University must undergo are totalizing. Age-old traditions, attitudes and practices must be forgone and they must be replaced with new customs, values and traditions that speak to our evolving ideals.

To be exact, recent incidents — ranging from the federal investigation of sexual assault mishandling, ongoing living wage disputes and police misconduct that resulted in the hospitalization of an unarmed black student — point to the fact that

oppression is at the core of University life and culture.

At face value, these separate incidents may seem unrelated. Drawing the conclusion that oppression exists at the center of University life and culture may seem exaggerated. In other words, it may be difficult for some to relate the ways in which different expressions of oppression and exploitation, such as rape, labor abuse and racial brutality, are in fact interrelated.

To make these interconnections clearer, it may be useful to briefly examine a few of the theories that have emerged from black feminist discourse. I'll mention one. In "Black Feminist Thought: Knowledge, Consciousness and the Politics of Empowerment," Patricia Hill Collins introduces the matrix of oppression. By definition, the

matrix of oppression explains how race, class and gender, though recognized as different social classifications, are all interconnected. The interconnectedness of these forms of op-

pression is made obvious by the very existence of, for example, working class women of color who experience the oppressive realities of racial subjugation, class exploitation and gendered subordination simultaneously.

On a micro-level, black feminist thought demonstrates the ways in which the exploitation of workers on Grounds, many of whom are women and/or people of color, is related to the assault of Martese Johnson, the sexual abuse of women of all races and the not-so-distant attack on a gay student near the Corner in 2012.

To avoid being long-winded, I'll conclude by stating the following: U.Va.

is at a socio-cultural, ideological

and political cross-

roads. At this very moment, we as workers, rape survivors and friends of rape survivors, humanists, students, survivors of racial assault and friends of people who have been racially assaulted, alumni, Charlottesville

residents, educators and administrators must determine the course of our collective destiny. It is my hope that we can organize a coalition of oppressed and exploited persons and our allies that is committed to eradicating all forms of oppression, fostering a safe space and building a strong intellectual community. It is my hope that we can understand the interconnectedness of our plights and the utility of a unified assault on dehumanization, exploitation and bigotry. The whole world is watching. And to borrow the words of Assata Shakur, "We have nothing to lose but our chains."

Jared Brown is a 2013 graduate of the College.



It is my hope that we can understand the interconnectedness of our plights and the utility of a unified assault on dehumanization, exploitation and bigotry."

Policy is more powerful than dialogue

We should promote political activism by supporting specific policy proposals

Student groups' efforts to promote "awareness" and "start the conversation" of the discriminatory treatment of minorities by law enforcement and the courts, while well-intended, distract from more effective forms of advocacy. The rampant use of buzzwords like "awareness," "paradigms" and "dialogue" has saturated the already limited space for meaningful action pertaining to criminal justice reform.

If we want something to change we need more than social media activism; we should pursue paths of action that will directly impact our governing institutions. In short, emailing, writing and calling state and federal legislators to advocate on behalf of concrete policy proposals is a far more direct, substantial and powerful way to enact real change. There are four realistic policy proposals that, if campaigned for and implemented into law, would achieve far more than nebulous dialogues.

The first, and most ambitious, would be to usher in a bipartisan criminal justice reform package through Congress like the REDEEM Act introduced

by Senators Rand Paul, R-KY, and Cory Booker, D-NJ. Such a reform would help young people and others who have served sentences for nonviolent crimes escape what

Paul described as "a cycle of poverty and incarceration." Taxpayer funds would be channeled toward rehabilitation efforts that would help young people and minorities, who are disproportionately affected by astronomically high incarceration rates for nonviolent drug offenses, avoid the revolving door of the prison-industrial complex. The United States' incarceration rate is the highest in the world: while it represents 4.4 percent of the world's population, it is home to 22 percent of the world's prisoners. This type of bipartisan reform would go a long way in both reigning in taxpayer dollars and breaking the vicious cycle of poverty, crime and incarceration.

Mandating that police officers wear body cameras would yield instant results for all citizens, particularly among minority groups that are disproportionately victims of excessive force. In the first year of such an initiative in Rialto, California,

complaints filed against police officers fell by 88 percent while the use of force dropped by almost 60 percent. William A. Farrar, the Rialto police chief, succinctly explained the efficacy and manifold benefits of police cameras when he said, "When you put a camera on a police officer, they tend to behave a little better, follow the rules a little better... if a citizen knows the officer is wearing a camera, chances are the citizen will behave a little better."

According to the National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center, the Department of Defense's 1033 program "permits the Secretary of Defense to transfer, without charge, excess U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) personal property (supplies and equipment) to state and local law enforcement agencies (LEAs)." Ending this program would be a huge step toward repairing the relationship between communities and their law enforcement agencies. This program, more than any other, has facilitated the rapid militarization of the police. Seeing police with grenade launchers and military armored tactical vehicles roaming the streets of Ferguson has hard-

ened the widespread perception that the police are invasive forces bent on suppressing nonviolent civil dissent. Reversing the process of the militarization of the police would allow for trusted and revered police officers to work side-by-side with local communities to ensure freedom and security for all.

A fourth solution would address police immunity in the court system. 68 percent of felony defendants, from the general population in 2006, were convicted while 48 percent were incarcerated; in 2009-10, just 33 percent of law enforcement officials accused of misconduct were convicted and a mere 12 percent were incarcerated. Greater civilian oversight of the judicial process tracking law enforcement misconduct accusations from submission to conviction and incarceration would ensure that police do not remain insulated from the law we've entrusted them to enforce.

At a time when overincarceration hemorrhages the public coffers, hampers the possibility of the American dream for millions of young Americans and leads to young black males being 21 times more likely than their white peers to be killed

by police, we need to focus all our attention on advocating on behalf of specific policy solutions rather than kicking the can down the road with impotent calls for "awareness." The Civil Rights Movement would never have culminated in the Civil Rights Act and the Voting Rights Act if its leaders like Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. did not focus their efforts on making inroads with legislators. Similarly, if we espouse the need for cultural change and raising awareness in lieu of pointing to specific policy solutions, we may lose the momentum we need to stop more Americans from falling victim to police brutality and the revolving door of the prison-industrial complex. Though I am continually dismayed by the injustices of the criminal justice system, I have hope advocacy for such solutions could confirm the poignancy and truth of Dr. King's declaration that "the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice."

Ben Rudgley is a Viewpoint writer.

We need professionals outside of student health

Peer health educators are a reasonable, reliable alternative to CAPS counseling

With the depressing number of tragedies the University has experienced in the last year, mental health awareness has become a leading issue for the administration. Every email and address University President Teresa Sullivan sent out about recent suicides has included information for how to use the University's Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS). There were free mental health screenings earlier in the semester and a mental health awareness week. The message from the administration has been clear: we want you to get help if you need it.

Yet, the way the current mental health system is set up discourages many people from seeking help. The previous managing board wrote a great article about why forcing medical leave, due to problems like depression, causes undue burdens on students. CAPS has the problem of confidentiality. Many people go to talk to mental health profes-

sionals because they don't want their friends to know about their problems. This is something psychologists understand and, as a result, they try to keep their conversations as private as possible. However,

as health professionals they have unavoidable legal obligations. On its website, CAPS states that there is a substantial list of problems it is obligated to share with relevant people: if a student is acutely suicidal, suspected of child abuse or neglect or unable to take care of him- or herself. This means that these issues get put onto a person's medical record, which can be looked at when getting a government job. Whether these are issues that need to be made public is a moot point. Students need a place they are comfortable going for mental health advice, even if the people students go to do not have the authority to hospitalize them. Having someone for these students to talk to is better than them talking to no one at all.

There is an alternative to CAPS: Peer Health Educators (PHEs). These are students who apply and train to advise other students on health topics that affect people in college. PHEs are a great resource when it comes to general mental health questions. In addition, many people feel much more comfortable talking to a fellow student rather than a professional psychologist. However, they are not trained to handle more complex and dangerous problems like the psychologists at CAPS. PHEs are also instructed to provide confidential education sessions, though the extent of the confidentiality is unclear.

The solution to the lack of training of the PHEs and the lack of confidentiality of CAPS is simple: anonymous mental health advising. These meetings could be on a one-time basis to let students talk through their problems and figure out possible solutions before approaching CAPS. Health professionals could hear students' problems with no way to report who they

were to any sort of medical record. Confidentiality and qualifications would no longer be an issue. The main problem for this sort of program would be liability. I believe that making it clear that the program is not a replacement for a meeting with CAPS and is only there to provide an outlet for those people who really need it should be enough. It's impossible to wholly ensure no liability problems for any program involving mental health. However, I believe that presented in the right way anonymous mental health advising could be an overall positive program for the University.

Anonymous mental health advisors could provide people exactly what students need. Students who want someone to talk to don't have to fear possibly getting hospitalized. Importantly, having this option does not invalidate using other mental health services. PHEs and CAPS are still available for anyone to use, and an anonymous health advisor can suggest for a person

to talk to one of those organizations. This program would reach people who fall between the cracks of the University's mental health system.

There are many obstacles people with mental health problems face. Recognizing you have some sort of problem is just the first step in what could be a long process. Many feel they lack control over what is happening to them. Given how CAPS operates, they have even less control if they decide to be treated. Asking people to freely give themselves up to another person's opinion is too much to expect of most people. Anonymous mental health advisors would ease that process; students would not have to blindly relinquish their control. The University needs change in how mental health is addressed and I believe this would be a solid first step.

Bobby Doyle is a Viewpoint writer.

Grinding down gender roles

"Grinding" as a form of dance objectifies women and perpetuates systemic gender inequality

"Grinding" is a word young adults know all too well. It is a form of dance popularized by hip-hop. Typically, the heteronormative dance involves two parties: a man and woman. Usually, the woman faces away from the man. Both parties slightly bend their knees. Soon afterward, the woman will begin gyrating her buttocks on the crotch of the man. Both members will sway in correspondence to the rhythm of the song being played. During the dance, it is commonplace for many males to exhibit sexual arousal. Meanwhile, on the other hand, after previous experiences with grinding, some women will find the dance to be mundane and lacking any pleasure.

I am not here to shame, condemn or discourage grinding. Like other sex-positivists, I believe that everyone should be entitled to choose whether or not they would like to engage in a particular sexual activity. If one chooses to engage in grinding, then one should not be prohibited from doing so. However, any embracement of sex-positivism should call for critical examination of sexual practices. We cannot simply neglect the latent gender and

power structures in this style of dance.

Much of mainstream culture perpetuates misogyny and the objectification of the female body. Objectification is the reducing of a person's

role or purpose to that of a tool. In the case of the grinding dance, the female is reduced to an object that fosters sexual arousal in the male.

What is fascinating about grinding is the internalization of the roles ascribed in accordance to one's gender performativity. The next time you are at a party, I encourage you to examine partygoers on the dance floor. You will find there is no discussion of who will take the role of the grindee or grinder. The roles are assumed. Both individuals presume that the male or masculine person should be the grindee and the grinder should be the female or feminine person.

In the encounter, you will likely not witness either member ask the other "So, do you want to be the grinder or the grindee?" If a man is seen grinding on a woman, then onlookers will regard the performance as comical. Some will suggest that these are natural positions

for each gender. That assertion will be made out of misinformation or prevarication. One does not emerge from the womb with knowledge of the dance and predisposition to the role of grinder or grindee. These roles are embedded into the heads of men and women through the reinforcement of the gender roles in urban music genres (i.e., hip-hop and pop).

In "Grinding on the Dance Floor: Gendered Scripts and Sexualized Dancing at College Parties", sociologist Shelly Ronen investigates the gender dynamics of grinding. In her study, as many readers will notice at college parties, male partygoers often approach female partygoers from the back by grabbing the waist of the desired dance partner. This approach noticeably lacks the request of consent. Thus, it insinuates that the only possible purpose for the presence of women at parties is to serve as objects rather than agents. To elaborate, I offer an analogy: If you see a set of stacked cups (an object) at a party, then you may choose to grab one because you may want a beverage. For this act, no one will condemn you because cups are used for drinking and, as a result, do not require anyone's consent to be

used for such a manner. Instead of assuming that women will be okay with such an approach, partygoers should be straightforward and ask if the person would like to dance

then one should never assume that it is appropriate to place one's hands on that person.

Ultimately, people are free to engage in any dances they please.

Though, if we are to achieve gender equality, then it is imperative that we peruse everyday gender relations such as grinding and other forms of dance. Though sex-positivism is great, all gender relations are not grounded on the idea of treating all genders equally. The

performativity of sexuality seems to be constructed around what society deems as appealing to men and does not take into consideration how women feel about the sexual performance that is expected of them. If we are truly to achieve gender equality, then sex-positivists cannot disregard the foundation for certain gendered sexual practices. Other than mutual respect, no gender should hold any expectations of the other.

Alexander Adames is a Viewpoint writer.

Don't exaggerate systemic racism

Individual acts of racism do not imply systemic or institutional racism

A recent editorial by the Managing Board argues that in order to respond to the "systemic racism" on Grounds, the University should take action, namely to implement a diversity requirement which is expected to inform and educate students on racial issues and to diminish the tolerance of racism. The argument is based on the claim that individual acts reflect systemic racism, which need to be addressed via proactive actions. An opinion article by my fellow columnist Nazar Aljassar in 2013 expressed similar points, explaining systemic racism as racism which "manifests itself in social systems and extant inequalities. It exists both by its inertia and by elite efforts to preserve power structures."

While racism is certainly not extinct in our community, claiming racism is systemic is an exaggeration. Arguing racism is systemic implies the University is institutionally racist and that the

whole University community participates in the spread of racism, which can hardly be a fair description of a community composed of 28.4 percent minority students. While individual acts are unlikely to be absolutely isolated from the general culture, rushing to label a community as practicing systemic racism is not conducive to a proper recognition of the problems minority groups are facing. Such labelling dismisses the

supportive actions taken by the student body and the University, including, for example, the Minority Health International Research Training and career support for minority students seeking STEM careers.

The fairer way to describe the situation is that the community is influenced by cultural stereotypes of race. Racism involves dehumanization and discrimination against racial groups by labelling them as inferior, and thus it oppresses the abused groups. Racial

stereotypes, on the other hand, are sets of beliefs about typical characteristics of certain groups and mental shortcuts that people employ to help reduce the cognitive efforts without the intent to dehumanize certain groups. Confusing racism with racial stereotypes would obscure the real issue and undermine prospects for promoting multi-cultural understanding. Racial stereotypes could instill inaccurate images of groups, but realistically they are unavoidable, and prohibition of such thoughts is both a violation of the freedom of speech and an impractical practice. What the University currently needs to address is prevalent racial stereotypes, which people tend to generate naturally from daily experience. Instead of prohibition or indoctrination, possible solutions include giving more support to minority student groups for holding student-sponsored cultural events, changing the procedure of residential assignment for first-year students to increase interaction and limit self-segregation effects, and increasing the representativeness of the traditionally exclusive spaces, including the Lawn, as an

earlier Managing Board editorial suggests.

The editorial further argues that the University also needs to impose a diversity course requirement for students. The argument goes that requiring all students to attend weekly lectures on diversity-related issues will symbolize the efforts and achievement in addressing multicultural and racial awareness.

However, a diversity course requirement is unnecessary at the University and ineffective in general. First of all, it would be a repetitive area requirement. The University requires students in the College to complete a non-Western perspective requirement before they graduate. The Curry School requires most degree-seeking students to take courses on non-western culture, and McIntire students are required to take COMM 3050, Entry Strategies in Emerging Markets. There is no regulation preventing students from taking more non-western perspective classes, but putting an additional requirement on the University level will put unnecessary burden upon students with packed schedules.

In addition, the well-intentioned goal of combating racism, which has been overly exaggerated as systemic, should not be approached by adopting a wrong route — namely by emphasizing diversity courses. College is the institution where students are autonomous and encouraged to think independently. Diversity courses inevitably instill certain cultural values and emphasize the "correct attitudes" toward diversity; while students are free to choose to take such courses, they should never be compelled to do so. The non-western perspective requirement contains more courses that would accommodate a wider range of academic interest and political orientations, and thus does not violate the principle of college education, while a diversity requirement potentially could. The freedom from politics and ideology in the academic experience should be preserved for students of all backgrounds and political orientations.

Sasha's column runs bi-weekly Fridays. She can be reached at s.wan@cavalierdaily.com



SASHA WAN
Opinion Columnist



Anthony Skaff
Staff Writer

After being a member of the team that discovered the gene for myotonic muscular dystrophy almost 25 years ago, University of Virginia's School of Medicine's Medical Director of Molecular Diagnostics Laboratory, Dr. Mani S. Mahadevan, has now successfully tested a therapy in mice that reduces the deleterious effects of the disease.

The therapy is in clinical trials for patients with other autoimmune diseases, cancers and certain stroke patients, but not yet for patients with muscular dystrophy. Mahadevan, a professor of Pathology at the School of Medicine, has already shown the drug's potential in mice models and is working on moving it into clinical trials for human patients with muscular dystrophy.

Muscular dystrophy is characterized by the inability to relax the muscles, as well as muscle degener-

ation. It is one of the most clinically variable disorders, where, even within a single family, you can have mild and severe cases, and the disease tends to get worse with each generation. Moreover, muscular dystrophy is a multisystemic disease, not only affecting the muscles but the heart, brain and endocrine systems.

Mahadevan's initial discovery of the gene laid the path for future investigation into the unusual mechanisms of the disease. Usually a gene encodes for a protein, and a mutation in the gene leads to an abnormal protein that causes the disease. In the case of muscular dystrophy, however, the mutation doesn't affect the protein structure. Instead, the mutation occurs in a non-coding region of the gene, which is a region of the gene that does not get encoded into a protein, in an intermediate stage between the transcription of the gene and the translation, or formation, of the protein.

"This might be the first example of a disease that's caused by toxic or poisonous RNA. You are taught that the product of the gene is protein, but really the product is RNA that then

becomes protein. We found that the RNA itself is toxic," said Mahadevan.

In studying RNA toxicity, Mahadevan identified a key receptor called TWEAK that binds the TWEAK protein, sending a signal to cells to respond to inflammation or tissue growth and regeneration. Normally, TWEAK is present in extremely low levels. But in cases of muscular dystrophy, muscle degeneration caused by the toxic RNA causes hyperactivity in the TWEAK pathway, leading to overproduction of TWEAK receptors.

With this knowledge Mahadevan approached the biotechnology company, Biogen Idec, who had been working on the TWEAK receptor pathway for over a decade.

In collaboration with Biogen, further testing on mice revealed that removal of the TWEAK receptor allowed the mice to run better, grip better, and live longer. Biogen already had a therapy developed, but instead of targeting the TWEAK receptor it targets the ligand that binds to the receptor. The therapy is a biological molecule called anti-TWEAK.

"We showed that anti-TWEAK

works in mice with muscular dystrophy but now we want to move it into humans," said Mahadevan. "To do that requires a lot of work and a lot of money."

The therapy is already in clinical trials for other autoimmune diseases but not for patients with muscular dystrophy. If approved, the therapy would be administered as an injection containing the anti-TWEAK.

"Biogen has already tested this therapy for safety in normal individuals which is the phase one trials and are now on to phase two trials for people with the disease," said Mahadevan. "This means we wouldn't have to go through all the steps. What I'd like to do is convince the company that they should do clinical trials for myotonic dystrophy patients as well."

This therapy does not cure the disease, but what it has demonstrated in mice is the ability to prolong life by reducing the deleterious side effects.

"Working on this disease has been fascinating for me as a career because it actually allowed us to look at biology in a new way," said



Courtesy University of Virginia

Dr. Mani S. Mahadevan has tested a therapy to reduce the effects of muscular dystrophy.

Mahadevan. "Muscle wasting and muscle weakness is a major concern in patients and if we can address that to some extent through the therapy then I think we would have done something worthwhile for the community."

Medical school students celebrate Match Day

Graduating class receives acceptance letters, future residency information

Meg Thornberry and Prathibha Chintagunta
Staff Writers

Residency program acceptance letters, unlike college acceptance letters, aren't sent directly to the accepted individuals. They're sent to their medical schools. So, this year's medical school graduating class gathered in the McLeod Auditorium Friday morning where their deans handed out residency acceptance letters as part of a year ceremony known as Match Day.

"I've had a lot of people say, 'You have to come, you have to come. It's such an amazing experience,' so I wanted to come see before I experience it," said third-year medical student Molly Cincotta.

As students walked into the auditorium, they were each given a class t-shirt. Once everyone was quiet and seated, the class president gave an introductory speech and explained the Match Day process.

All of the envelopes containing students' acceptance letters were placed in a sack, then pulled out at random. When a student's envelope was picked and their name was called, they came up on stage. Each student put their class donation envelope in one box and a dollar in another.

Then, they received their acceptance letter, shook hands with the four deans and received a glass of champagne or cider from the Medical Alumni Association. The last student to be called also received the box full of dollar bills.

At exactly 12 p.m., students were invited to open their envelopes. Some students whooped, others cried, some hugged and a few started dancing.

"[It's] pandemonium, happy pandemonium," Dr. Rasheed Balogun, assistant dean of student affairs, said. "I've been here 15 years, and I've been a dean for five years. It's exciting every year."

Balogun also revealed that he along with the other three assistant deans already knew where everyone had been accepted but that the excitement came from seeing students' reactions.

"It's fabulous. It's one of the most gratifying moments of being an educator to see success the students achieved themselves," Dr. Christine Peterson, assistant dean of student affairs, said.

Also in attendance was Dr. Vivian Pinn — Medical school class of '67, for whom one of the medical school's four colleges is named. Pinn was both the only woman and the only person of color in her graduating class.

"I think things were much more formal then," Pinn said. "There were faculty I liked and students I liked, but the fondness the students had for their deans, to me, that's a very striking difference, and I was very pleased to see it. I think that it's because of the four-college system. It's one of the positives here, besides being U.Va."

For many, Match Day is actually bigger than graduation.

"It's been four years of hard work to get a piece of paper that tell you where you'll get your first job," Dr. John Densmore, assistant dean for admissions and student affairs, said. "It's rare that you just get a piece of paper that just tells you where you're going."

After graduation, most of the medical students will have about two months to relax, before moving, in some cases with their spouses and children, to the places where they will continue their education and start their jobs. The University students will be spread across the map, from Honolulu to John Hopkins, and from Maine to Texas.

However, 28 students will enter residency programs at the University Health System.

"A lot of U.Va. students want to stay at U.Va., because it's hard to leave Charlottesville, and we have a lot of great residencies," Meg Keeley, assis-

tant dean for student affairs, said.

Austin Drake, however, along with his wife, a dental hygienist, will be moving to the Army Medical Center in Honolulu.

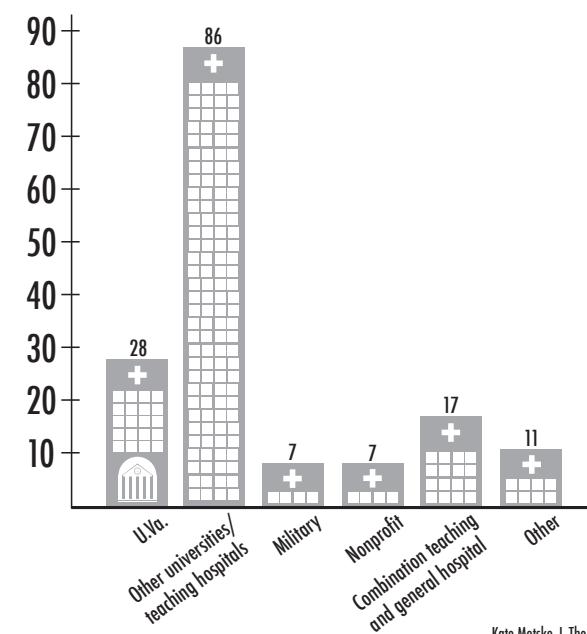
"It's a little crazy," Drake said. "It's a lot of change in a short amount of time, but it's what we signed up for and it's great to see your life unfold."

It's what we've been waiting for."

The Drakes will also be bringing along an infant son, Noah.

"He's pretty excited about being a beach baby and getting a tan," Drake said. "Well, since I'm going into pediatrics I don't really want him to have a tan. But he's excited to be a surfer."

MATCH DAY HOSPITAL ADMITTANCES



Kate Motoko | The Cavalier Daily



LOVE CONNECTION: RYAN & GABBY

Gabby engages Ryan in conversation despite the distractions of the basketball game

Alex Stock
Love Guru

Ryan and Gabby met on Friday at 7 p.m. and went to Cafe Caturra on the Corner.

Gabby: [I signed up because] I love meeting new people! Plus, I'd never been on a blind date before.

Ryan: I've never been on a blind date before.

Gabby: At first, I was surprised at how fast it happened, but, in general, I was just really excited and nervous to meet him!

Ryan: [When we met], I didn't know who I was looking for. Thankfully she came up to me.

Gabby: I didn't know if it would be awkward or whether both of us would be able to have a good time with it.

Ryan: My first impression was that she was cute. She was really outdoorsy, which seemed kind of cool.

Gabby: I thought that he was a walking Vineyard Vines ad.

Ryan: [The date] was definitely awkward at first. I felt unprepared. She made it less awkward by stimulating the conversation.

Gabby: [We went to] Cafe Caturra.

Ryan: We both had a nice big glass of water. I had the club sandwich, which was excellent.

Gabby: The conversation was pretty easy and natural. However, I felt like I initiated [conversation for] the majority of the date. Our conversation focused mainly on sports — U.Va.'s men's basketball team — and traveling.

Ryan: She was definitely doing most of the talking — without a doubt. I would have been fine with just watching the basketball game, but [I] was trying to [engage in] the conversation.

Gabby: [One thing we have in common is that] we both love sports.

Ryan: We've both been to Europe, but she seemed more keen on travelling the world

than I [am].

Gabby: If we were to go out again, it would be as friends. While I didn't feel a romantic connection, Ryan was still fun to talk to and hang out with.

Ryan: I didn't feel that there was too much flirting going on. We were trying to be nice and [we both] recognized that it's an awkward situation.

Gabby: As soon as we finished eating, we decided to leave because there were others waiting to get seated.

Ryan: I'd be open to exploring a romantic connection.

Gabby: I would rate the date a 6. I had a fun time, but we are just very different in terms of interests and passions.

Ryan: I would rate the date a 7. It was kind of awkward at first, but we seemed to be able to carry the conversation despite me being angled toward the basketball screen [the whole time].

This week's Love Connection is sponsored by Cafe Caturra.



Year: Second
Major: Pre-Comm
Hometown: Fairfax
Ideal Date Personality: Someone fun, easy to chill with
Ideal Date Activity: Watching the Hoos dominate basketball
Describe a typical weekend: Going out on Friday night, getting up early on Saturday, a few parties, dinner with some friends, doing all my homework Sunday night
Hobbies: Sleeping, eating and watching the Hoos
What makes you a good catch? My witty sense of humor and laid-back vibes make me pretty easy to get along with.
What makes you a less-than-perfect catch? I often come off as not caring, and sometimes people take that the wrong way.

RYAN

Courtesy Ryan

Year: First
Major: Economics/Pre-Comm
U.Va. Involvement: Smart Women Securities, volunteer at Charlottesville SPCA, Kappa Delta
Hometown: Virginia Beach

Ideal Date: Tall, athletic, brown or blonde hair, good smile
Ideal Date Personality: Kind, easy going, ambitious, intellectual, funny

Ideal Date Activity: Ice-skating, U.Va. sporting events, hiking, bowling, trip to Downtown Mall

Describe a typical weekend: Movie nights with my best friends and going out to eat at new places on the Corner or Downtown Mall.

Hobbies: Reading, shopping, Netflix, watching soccer

What makes you a good catch? I'm really easy to get along with. I'd also like to believe I have a good sense of humor. I'm obsessed with soccer, so I can definitely hold a legitimate sports conversation. I am very dedicated and ambitious.

What makes you a less-than-perfect catch? I can be stubborn and tend to be a perfectionist — especially when it comes to school-work. I am also involved in numerous clubs, so stress is kind of a normal state for me.



Courtesy Gabby

GABBY

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Shaving heads, saving lives

The St. Baldrick's Foundation raises money to support childhood cancer research

Drew Friedman
Feature Writer

Thursday night at the Biltmore, 75 volunteers shaved their heads to raise a total of \$42,571 for childhood cancer research. The St. Baldrick's Foundation is a national organization interested in raising money for cancer research by holding events like these throughout the United States and in other countries.

The largest non-government funder of research for childhood cancers, St. Baldrick's has been at work since 2000. According to St. Baldrick's website, in 2014

the foundation reached a total of \$38,965,915 in donations.

"St. Baldrick's raises funds in a unique and fun way, through its signature head-shaving events where volunteers shave their heads to stand in solidarity with kids with cancer," St. Baldrick's Media and PR Manager Traci Shirk said in an email. "It's a clear and visible sign of people taking action and helping to conquer childhood cancers."

Adult cancers occur more frequently and a large portion of the U.S. federal funding for cancer research is put towards research for them. According to the St. Baldrick's website, 4% of the U.S. federal funding for cancer research

goes to research for childhood cancers.

"St. Baldrick's is helping to raise awareness and funds for research that will find better treatments and cures for kids fighting cancer," Shirk said in an email. "Childhood cancer research is largely underfunded and organizations like St. Baldrick's are needed to help fill that gap."

People at St. Baldrick's believe it is imperative to continue funding research partly because of how frequently kids are diagnosed with cancer. The individuals associated with the organization bring a sense of community to the cause which compels people to continue volun-

teering.

"The fact that every three minutes a child is diagnosed with cancer worldwide and in the U.S. one in five kids diagnosed will not survive, is unacceptable," Shirk said in an email. "I have had the opportunity to meet the most wonderful, inspiring, generous, courageous people around the country — St. Baldrick's volunteers, donors and families."

In addition to raising money for the cause, St. Baldrick's aims to foster a bond between those who have cancer and those who want to help.

"When people shave their heads, they stand in solidarity with those who have cancer," third-year College student Javier Badillo, Vice President of Executive Board for St. Baldrick's at U.Va., said. "Because of the events, I feel like there's more of a connection with the participants and those who are helping."

Although many volunteers shave their heads for the St. Baldrick's event, there are other ways to aid the cause.

"Anyone can get involved. You can still be a volunteer and not necessarily shave your head," third-year College student Wayne Fullen, President of Executive Board for St.

Baldrick's at U.Va., said. "We look for any donation of time, money and effort — it's all appreciated and it all goes towards our goal."

Fourth-year College student Emily Moore, PR Chair of Executive Board for St. Baldrick's at U.Va., said the shaving events foster a sense of community among volunteers.

"It just kind of brings out the best in everybody," Moore said. "The cause in general is so special because you see how much these people are giving up. It's a very powerful experience because it's so personal to so many people."

Fullen said he has dedicated himself to the organization after coming to the University partly because of the personal stories he hears from everyone about cancer.

"I've floated amongst organizations, but I've definitely just committed myself to this, and I think it's just because you hear people's stories and testimonies," Fullen said.

"It's kind of a motivation because there's no kids related to me who have been affected with cancer, but I know of friends, and you can ask anybody and they know somebody who knows a kid who's been affected by cancer."



St. Baldrick's is a national organization which raises money for cancer research by having volunteers shave their heads after gathering donations.

Entering the brotherhood

Black fraternities hold neophyte presentations to induct new members

Brittany Hsieh
Feature Writer

The crowd at New Cabell Hall erupted into applause and loud cheers as masks were pulled off third-year College student Garrison Ambrose and his line brothers, revealing the new inductees of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity. Alpha Phi Alpha was the first black fraternity this spring to celebrate its new members in a neophyte presentation last week.

"[A neophyte presentation] marks the culmination of the efforts of the young men who pursue Omega," alumnus and Omega Psi Phi member Anthony Onuoha said. "It is the culmination of their effort, hard work and sacrifice of time."

Most neophyte presentations include chanting of the fraternity's history and lineage as well as stepping and dancing or singing. However, each fraternity brings its own unique traditions to the event. For example, Omega Psi Phi members pride themselves on having educational and entertaining presentations.

"Excellence, enthusiasm and

methodical precision are expected," Onuoha said. "During a [presentation] the expectations are high. There should be no mistakes. We want people to feel it; we want to move the audience."

Starting from induction and even afterwards, Omega members work as a team to uphold the fraternity's motto: "Friendship is essential to the soul." Fourth-year Commerce student and Omega Psi Phi member Cecil White was drawn to this fraternity because of its motto and ideals.

"My process was one of the most life-changing things I have ever experienced," White said. "It meant coming into my own as a man and committing myself to something that was bigger than me. It meant understanding the true meaning of friendship and brotherhood."

Preparing for their presentation can be emotionally, mentally and, at times, physically toiling, White said. The preparation process is secretive, which dates back to the 1980s when hazing was banned and black fraternities and sororities went underground.

"The process is meant to chal-

lenge you, your mind and your spirit," fourth-year College student and Alpha Phi Alpha member Colin Williams said. "You are finally finishing your process. The one thing you need to do is focus on the end-goal and stay true to the reasons why you wanted to join the fraternity."

Once members enter the fraternity, they began participating in the organization's service projects. Black fraternities are predominantly service organizations, rarely hosting parties and instead focusing on giving back to the community.

"We take pride in service first and foremost," Onuoha said. "We might have one to two parties a semester. IFC fraternities might have parties once every two weeks and only have one big service event a semester. With us, we have weekly servicing."

While Inter-Fraternity Council chapters recruit first years, chapters of the National Pan-Hellenic Council initiate third or fourth years. Black fraternities and sororities look for individuals who have already established themselves within the University community, as becoming a member is a life-long commit-



Alpha Phi Alpha was the first historically black fraternity this spring to celebrate its new members in a neophyte presentation last week.

ment.

"They say the real work starts after you graduate," White said. "The vast majority of Omega members are graduates. We bring in more initiates through graduate chapters than undergraduate chapters."

Although black fraternities differ from IFC organizations, they are subject to the same regulations. For example, after the publication of a Rolling Stone article detailing allegations of sexual assault at Phi Kappa Psi fraternity, frustration resonated among black Greek life when President Sullivan suspended all fraternal events.

"We were involved in absolutely none of the conversations that took place regarding University-wide remediation on a wide scale," White

said. "We weren't included in the conversation and yet we still faced the same sanctions the IFC did in terms of being suspended. I do think that we are underrepresented and underacknowledged."

In the future, black fraternities hope to see greater representation within the University community and collaboration among different councils.

"[I hope to see] more interaction between the IFC and the NPHC," Onuoha said. "It doesn't happen frequently enough. Also, general knowledge about each other [is important]. Some NPHC organizations don't know what IFC organizations do and they just stereotype. I feel like people just need a better understanding of [both]."

The business of conservation

Students traveled to Costa Rica to learn sustainable business practices

Sarah Brotman
Feature Writer

While many students were binge-watching Netflix or sleeping in until 2 p.m. during spring break, students in COMM 4693 — “The Business of Saving Nature” — traveled to Costa Rica to explore sustainable business practices. Led by Commerce Assoc. Prof. Mark White, the trip offered students the opportunity to witness what they had learned about in class firsthand.

“I am very passionate about the environment and sustainability, but as an undecided first year, I don’t know if I want to major in that,” first-year College student Audrey Jackson said. “Taking this class was an opportunity to learn more without committing to anything.”

The trip to Costa Rica was only one part of a semester-long course revolving around sustainability. For the first half of the semester, students learned about sustainable business practices related to conservation through case studies.

“In most of the case studies, there would be a cliffhanger at the end where a business had to make a difficult economic decision, and we’d go into depth about why they chose the option they did,” Jackson said.

In addition to preparing students through case studies, White also helped to build a community both in class and on the trip.

“When you’re young and traveling in a foreign country with people your age, you see things you don’t quite understand, you talk with them about your questions and get their perspective on the issue,” White said.

First-year College student Bill Koepsell said the friendships he cultivated with his classmates enriched his experience in Costa Rica.

“You’re with people in class, and you see them as students [who are] always trying to say the smart thing because that’s what students are supposed to do,” Koepsell said. “On the trip, however, within just a couple short days, everyone had let their guard down, and we became one big, eighteen-person family.”

Koepsell also attributes his positive experience in part to diversity within the group of traveling students.

“[We encompassed] such a broad range of years and majors that we probably wouldn’t have met any other way,” Koepsell said. “Being on our tour bus for a while, though, packed into a tight space together, we were all just college students in a new and unfamiliar place.”

The students primarily learned about ecotourism — an industry interested in conserving natural environments for the sake of capitalizing upon visits from tourists — and visited ecotourism sites such as EARTH University.

“We went to an indigenous community, and they basically showed us around,” Jackson said. “We paid them to show us how they live, make their chocolate and use their plants. They’re working, but it also helps us see around the country.”

On top of traveling to an ant farm, a five-star resort run by a Commerce alumnus and a banana processing plant, the class still had time to go on a canopy zipline tour of the rainforest.

White has taught this class for over 10 years, and travels to a different location each year with students. This course has sent students to South Africa, Brazil and Ecuador and will center on business in Cuba next year for the first time.

For students who are unsure whether study abroad is right for them, White emphasizes the hands-on aspect of a trip that simply cannot be replicated in the classroom.

“Talking with your peers as you’re trying to make sense of the world is the most fantastic thing you can learn,” White said.

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