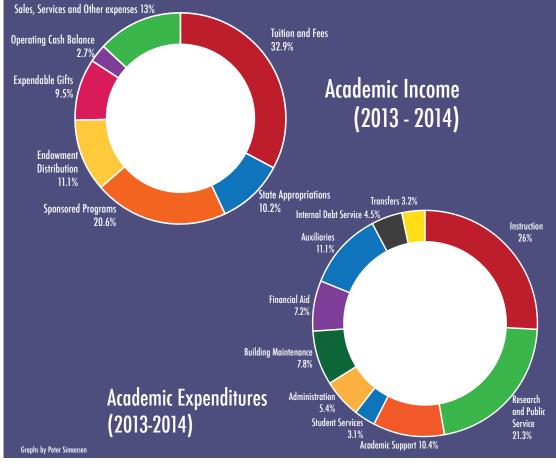
The Cavalier Daily

Thursday, November 14, 2013 Vol. 124, Issue 24

U.Va. BY THE NUMBERS: WHERE IS YOUR MONEY GOING?

Breakdown among different University schools, departments reveals disparities in fund distribution for 2013-2014 academic year





University testing new budget model

Enrollment-based budget distribution model to start next year; aims to foster innovation, interdisciplinary studies

> Jordan Bower & Alia Sharif

Associate Editors

The University is currently testing a new activity-based budgeting model intended to change the way schools and departments receive funding. The new system aims to make funding more responsive to the specific costs and revenues associated with particular activities — such as starting a new course offering.

One of the main changes will be an alteration in the way the money from students' tuition is allocated to various schools and departments. Enrollment will now play a much more direct role on the allocation of funding to schools for course offerings, University spokesperson McGregor McCance said in an email.

"Historically, there has been no direct relationship between enrollment in a school and the budget they receive," McCance said. "Tuition has been booked centrally and the pool of tuition and state appropriations has been allocated to schools and adminis-

see BUDGET, page 4



Scholarship agencies supplement AccessUVa

University partners with outside organizations to provide aid to high-achieving, low-income students in targeted urban areas

Kathleen Smith
Associate Editor

University partnerships with outside scholarship agencies have long strived to make the University more affordable for prospective low-income students, offering an entryway outside of the realm of University aid programs such as AccessUVa.

This fall, the University added a partnership with the Posse Foundation to its long-standing work with Quest-Bridge, both of which are financial aid agencies that target students at the lowest income

bracket.

At the Posse Foundation, students from a selected city who display academic and leadership potential are placed into 10-person "posses." Partners of the foundation then extend four-year full-tuition scholarships to the Posse Scholars.

The first set of students, from the Houston Posse program, will come to the University as part of the Class of 2018, University President Teresa Sullivan said.

In addition to streamlining the financial aid process, such agencies offer counseling to chosen students and their families throughout the application process. The Posse program, unlike QuestBridge, also requires the University to offer specialized counselors to students once they come to the University, Dean of Admissions Greg Roberts said.

Such partnerships also aim to increase diversity within the student body.

"Questbridge and Posse are aimed at first-generation students, public school students in inner-city areas — kids who show great potential early in life but are not in a high-income area," Sullivan said. "So we see those as helping us diversify in more than one way."

These scholarship and aid

programs have emerged at the height of a heated debate within the University community concerning the Board of Visitors' August decision to cut all-grant aid packages to low-income students, instead requiring they take out loans as part of any financial aid package. AccessUVa's annual cost runs more than \$40 million, and the move is expected to save roughly \$6 million annually once implemented.

But Roberts said needbased aid remains a top priority for the University, rather than merit-based scholarships.

"There are some schools that have chosen to focus money on

merit-based scholarships," he said. "It is a philosophical difference between schools. We choose to focus our money on financial need, and I think the University partnership with organizations like Posse and QuestBridge illustrates that."

The few merit-based scholarships offered by the University come from philanthropic donations, Sullivan said.

"Our biggest merit-based aid program is the Jefferson Scholars," she said. "I don't control that program and don't have access to their money. We have a lot of donors who like this program because it brings in top scholars."

U.Va. investments boast strong returns

UVIMCO draws on stocks, investment pools, private equity, donations to form University's financial base

Katherine Wilkin

In discussions of the University's finances, one word constantly crops up: the endowment. But an endowment is nothing if managed poorly — the University can credit a large portion of its endowment's size and comparatively high growth rate to the University of Virginia Investment Management Company (UVIMCO), the non-stock corporation that manages the University's investments.

UVIMCO is administered by a Board of Directors, three of whom are specifically selected by the Board of Visitors and one whom is selected by the University President.

In the past 20 years, UVIMCO has played an increasingly large role in the University's operating budget. Since 1991, the state appropriations contribution to the University's budget has decreased from 33 percent to just less than 10 percent. In this same period, the percentage of the Academic Division's operating budget coming from UVIMCO's endowment contribution has increased by more than 5 percent, now comprising more than 10 percent of the budget.

UVIMCO's funds are currently divided into short-term and long-term pools. The Short Term Pool, launched in October 2012, is designed for "near-term liquidity needs," while the Long Term Pool supports "endowment spending requirements and risk profile of the University," according to an overview of UVIMCO services in the 2012-13 annual report.

Highly liquid investments, like those in the Short Term Pool, are stocks that can be "easily and quickly sold, and thus convertible to cash," Economics Prof. Maxim Engers said.

The addition of the Short Term Pool, managed by Sherri King, is meant to provide quick access to funds through a stable portfolio, Chief Executive Officer Lawrence Kochard said in the 2013 public report.

The Long Term Pool aims to allocate 60 percent of its annual funds to equity managers, who are responsible for investing into a diversified stock portfolio.

In the past 20 years, private equity has contributed heavily to the Long Term Pool's perfor-

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Top 10 donors from the past 10 years

Donor	Amount	Primary Designations
Frank Batten, Sr. (deceased) & Jane Parke Bat- ten; Batten Foundation	\$100,000,000	Established and endowed the Frank Batten School of Leadership & Public Policy
Estate of David A. Harrison III	\$81,216,400	Realized bequests and deferred gifts from the Estate of David A. Harrison III benefitted the following: the David and Mary Harrison Faculty bequest to endow professorships at the Law School, endowed professorships for eminent scholars at the Medical School, the Harrison Institute at the UVA Library, additional endowed professorships at the Law School and Medical School. The bequest also included a deferred gift.
Trust of Ward Buchanan	\$52,865,742	Endowed the Ward Buchanan Fund at the Medical Center to provide operating income to purposes designated by the Medical Center
J. W. K. Properties, Inc. (John Kluge)	\$48,784,318	Gift of Morven Farm property
The Ivy Foundation	\$47,500,000	Gift from the Ivy Foundation funded the following projects: Sheridan G. Snyder Translational Research Building; Children's Medical Center Barry and Bill Battle Building; Emily Couric Clinical Cancer Center; Rector & Visitors general funding; Medical School general funding
Paul Tudor Jones	\$44,485,000	Lead gift for construction of John Paul Jones Arena
Altria Group, Inc. (and associated entities)	\$25,000,000	Altria Group, Inc. made a single pledge to the Campaign in 2007 of \$25 million, which was fulfilled through gifts to the following areas: UVA Health System for tobacco research, the McIntire School of Commerce, the Curry School of Education for the Youth-Nex positive youth development program, a scanning electron microscope to the School of Engineering & Applied Science, and funding for the Virginia Center for Translational and Regulatory Science within the School of Medicine
Dan Meyers Claude Moore Charitable	\$22,999,998	Through multiple gifts and pledges, provided lead gift for construction of Bavaro Hall at the Curry School of Education
Foundation	\$17,500,000	Lead gift to Claude Moore Medical Education Building
Albert Small	\$15,733,765	Portions of the Declaration of Independence Collection to the University Library

Social media under consideration

Admissions Dean Jeannine Lalonde says office rarely considers applicants social media profiles, except for candidates seemingly 'too good to be true'

Jiaer Zhuang
Associate Editor

As the admissions process for the Class of 2018 begins, attention has been drawn to how applicants' social media interactions may reflect on their eligibility for admission.

About 31 percent of admission officers check social media sites of potential applicants, according to a recent New York Times article. But the University admissions officers' use of social media is not this high, Senior Assistant Admissions Dean Jeannine Lalonde said.

"We get so many different perspectives on the applicant," Lalone said. "I don't feel the need to go out and search for extra. There's enough in that file to make a good decision about a student."

Dean of Admissions Gregory Roberts echoed Lalonde's sentiments.

"We don't feel like it's our job to be detectives and try to delve into everyone's personal life," Roberts said.

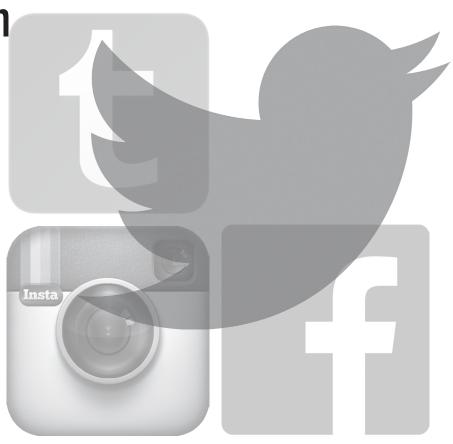
The only time when an applicant's social media presence may become relevant, Lalonde said, is if something in the application leads the officer to a profile, if there is lacking information on the applicant's school, or if something looks "too good to be true."

In general, it is very rare that an applicant's social media presence will impact their chance of admissions, Roberts said.

"In one instance, it led us to find a bit of information in the application that was not true," he said. "If there is an issue brought to our attention, we follow up. We wouldn't make a decision based on a random Facebook page."

Even if the process of combing through social media sites is rare, Lalonde still encouraged students to exercise caution in their social media habits, especially the use of hashtags.

"I don't think they always realize how many folks are watching that hashtag," she said. "Make sure if you tag it with U.Va. you really want everyone at U.Va. to have access to that"



Attorney General race still undecided week after election

State Board of Elections to release official voting tally by Nov. 25 after final audit, razor-thin voting margin makes recount almost certain

Sarah Rourke Associate Editor

After an uncharacteristically tight race between Virginia State Senators Mark Obenshain, R-Harrisonburg, and Mark Herring, D-Loudoun, unofficial results posted by the Virginia State Board of Elections show that Herring currently leads the race by a mere 164 votes more than a week after the Nov. 5 election.

"Changes in the actual number of votes received for each candidate during this process are normal," an automatic phone recording from the Virginia State Board of Elections said. "The State Board of Elections will be meeting on Nov. 25 to certify the results of the statewide election. Once the results are certified by the State Board, the losing candidate can petition the court for a recount. The court will then set the date and time for when the recount will be held."

Nikki Sheridan, confidential policy advisor for the Virginia State Board of Elections, said that though localities have finished entering information into the elections board's database, the



Courtesy Herring Campaign



Courtesy Obenshain Campaign

State protocol allows a losing candidate to ask for a recall if the voting margin is 1 percent or less. The State Board of Elections will not announce official results until Nov. 25, making any recount unlikely to start before December.

board is currently reviewing the data for potential errors. Only once the board has finished reviewing all precincts' data will the results be certified.

Though a recount is never

automatic in Virginia, a losing candidate may call for one if the margin of a loss was 1 percent or less, she said. If a recount is requested, it is likely to begin in December.

"Recounts take as long as the process requires to be accurate and decisive," Sheridan said.

In a press conference held in Richmond on Wednesday, Obenshain underscored the importance of following the board's procedures.

"It is important that we allow the state board to do its work in ensuring that every legitimate vote is counted," he said. "While many have inquired, it is premature to talk about a potential recount until that review by the State Board of Elections has been completed. We owe it to the people of Virginia to make sure we get it right, and that every legitimate vote is fairly counted and subject to uniform rules."

The neck-and-neck results should come as little surprise, Center for Politics spokesperson Geoffrey Skelley said, as the polls leading up to the election indicated it would be a hotly contested race.

"Pre-election polling averages had it basically at a tie," Skelley said. "Amusingly, that's awfully close to the current reality."

At this point, Skelley said a recount is very likely.

"The state will even pay for [a recount] if it's less than a 0.05 percent difference," he said. "This election is way, way between the confines of a recount — it comes down to hundredths of a percentage point."

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BUDGET New model to shine light on low-enrollment courses

Continued from page 1

trative units based on those units' needs and on institutional priorities."

Those working on the new model are approximating 25 percent of a student's tuition dollars will automatically go to the school in which they are enrolled. The other 75 percent would be distributed according to the courses they sign up for. As an example, the tuition dollars of a College student taking a course in the Commerce School would be distributed between the College and the Commerce School.

The exact percentage is subject to change before the model is formally implemented, however,

and it might change from year to year afterward, said Mark Hampton, assistant vice president for budget and financial planning.

The new model will make schools and departments accountable for their expenditures, said University President Teresa Sullivan. Under the existing model structure, the University pays for upkeep and maintenance costs—like utility bills—and individual schools have no motivation to reduce these costs. "[But now], if a dean turns off the lights, conserves energy, [the new model] will transfer some of the benefits to the deans," Sullivan said.

By tracking both the expenditures and rates of enrollment in certain classes, this new bud-

get model aims to allow a greater awareness of the financial condition of departments and schools across the University.

"I think the model is a very positive thing," said Robert Bremer, associate dean for management and finance at the Engineering School. "It would provide us greater transparency in understanding how what we do drives resources to the Engineering School."

Hampton said this increased financial transparency could help to encourage and reward innovation in the University.

"If a school decides its going to take a new academic program right now and that new academic program generates a lot of tuition, the current budget model doesn't have a way of returning the revenue associated with that," Hampton said. "And what that led to was the school not being particularly innovative because they bore the cost of innovation without any of the return on the innovation."

McCance also said the model could help encourage new interdisciplinary courses and programs, since even courses which pull resources across schools can split the costs and revenues more easily.

An enrollment-based budget model will also shine a new light on small departments with low course enrollment.

"They are going to be on notice that they are being subsidized, and that is OK," Hampton

said of departments with low course enrollment. "A great university requires some internal cross-subsidization, and that's a fact. It already goes on now, and the only thing the model is doing is putting numbers on something everybody already knows."

Sullivan said the new system will also encourage departments to identify reasons for low enrollment rates.

"There's all kind of reasons why a course is not popular, I think professors and deans should continue to address those factors," Sullivan said. "Does it meet at 8 a.m., or have an extensive number of prerequisites? ... Because of the greater transparency of the model, people will see what's happening."

UVIMCO | Returns support professorships, scholarships, program offerings

Continued from page 2

mance, with an average annual return of 21.1 percent on investment. It has also comprised the largest portion It is also the largest subset within the Long Term Pool, comprising 66 percent of the funds as of June 30, University spokesperson McGregor McCance said.

Another 10 percent of the pool is allocated to real asset managers, who manage commodities like precious metals, oil and land.

"Real assets provide protection in an inflationary environment," Kochard said. "[They] tend to benefit a diversified portfolio during periods of rising prices or interest rates and/or a depreciat-

ing dollar."

The final 30 percent of funds go to fixed income, marketable alternatives and cash, which "refers to investments in bond, hedge funds, private equity firms and things which are not traded on the exchanges the way stocks and bonds are," Engers said. Fixed income and marketable alternative investments provide financial protection when the economy is weaker.

In the past 10 years, UVIM-CO has emphasized such non-traditional investment strategies, but during the 2008-09 financial crisis, UVIMCO reduced investments in long and short equities, favoring the more stable cash and bond portfolio.

Returns on investments made from the Long Term Pool are al-

located to three major aspects of the University. Of the endowment's 13.4 percent return on investments in the 2012-13 fiscal year, 61 percent was distributed back to the endowment, 22 percent to University-related foundations and 17 percent to University's long-term operating reserves.

The portion of returns designated to the University is used to expand the University's program offerings and facilities by supporting professorships, scholarships, fellowships, lectures and other aspects of academics at the University.

The University receives a large portion of its Long Term Pool from donations and long-term operating reserves. Philanthropic support of the University totaled \$242.6 million during fiscal year 2011-12. Donations can be contributed in the form of restricted or unrestricted annual gifts, endowments, trusts and estates, and corporate and foundation gifts.

"Gifts may be unrestricted, with no direction on how the gift is expected to be used, or may be very specific, such as an endowment gift for a specific professorship," McCance said.

The University's allocation of financial support provided by donors is contingent upon the requests of the donor. If the donor makes no specific requests regarding the use of such finances, the University's Board of Visitors is free to determine how the donation will be used.

When it comes to evaluating donations and their sources,

UVIMCO and the University work on a case-by-case basis.

"We look carefully at the gift agreement, because we don't want to accept money for a purpose that we can't fulfill," University President Teresa Sullivan said. "In terms of where the money comes from, I would say in some places there would be reasons when accepting money could be a problem, [for example] researchers are not able to accept NIH funding if they are accepting money from a tobacco company."

The University's endowment currently ranks among the five largest for public institutions for higher education and among the largest 20 of all American colleges and universities.

— Tiffany Truong contributed to this article.





Comment of the day

"Wow! Considering this latest action taken by StudCo, how could anyone question their relevance?!"

"Nick" responding to Sarah Pritchett's Nov. 12 article, "Student Council passes all-grant aid resolution."

Have an opinion?
Write it

Join the Opinion section.

Or send a guest editorial to opinion@ cavalierdaily.com

LEAD EDITORIAL

Accumulating interest

The University should restore all-grant aid for low-income students

Protests against cuts to AccessUVa took on a second wind this week.

More than three months after the Board of Visitors voted to eliminate all-grant aid for low-income students, University administrators sat down with students at a Monday evening town hall meeting in Newcomb Theater.

The next day, Student Council unanimously passed a resolution urging the Board to include a return to all-grant aid in the University's strategic plan. University officials will present the strategic plan — a blueprint for the University's next five years — to the Board Thursday and Friday.

Calls to restore all-grant aid never went away. But this week's Board meetings give students a chance to ensure that University leadership takes note of lingering discontent with the changes to AccessUVa.

AccessUVa's re-entrance into University-wide conversation shows that the cuts to all-grant aid will not be a matter of fleeting interest. Students' memories are short. But an institutional apparatus — most notably United Students for Undergraduate Socieconomic Diversity and the "I am not a loan" campaign — has already sprung into being. The blow to AccessUVa affects enough people — an estimated 335 low-income students in the first year of implementation — to hold students' attention.

Yet students are concerned with the cuts not only because the policy change makes their peers' lives harder. The elimination of all-grant aid also sends a powerful message - and the wrong one, at least for a university that prides itself on "affordable access" and frequently points to its standing as a top "best value" school. The reduction to AccessUVa support occurs alongside signs of opulence: most damningly, a \$12.4 million squash court at the Boar's Head Inn, which opened in April, paid for largely by an alumnus of the Commerce School. The University justified the venture in part by insisting that the facility would help attract new students. The high-profile investment in a traditionally upper-class pastime, followed by a more high-profile disinvestment in the University's neediest students, sends a disheartening message about what kinds of students the University hopes to

This tension — between, on the one hand, the presence of wealth, and, on the other hand, the desire to serve as a school for the public, a stepping-stone for the talented and disadvantaged — will play out at the University for the foreseeable future. For this reason, interest in AccessUVa — much like the interest on the loans low-income students will now be obliged to take out — will continue to accrue.

This issue will not go away. Nor should it. What the Board and the University should realize is that the decision to eliminate all-grant aid is not irrevocable.

We want to resist the too-easy calculus that says that because the AccessUVa grants are a tiny fraction of the University's operating budget, the school can restore them easily. We sympathize with the difficulties that come with balancing a budget. But AccessUVa should be a top budget priority. The cuts affect our most vulnerable peers. They also cast a shadow over the University's claims to serve the public.

Be it a targeted push for alumni donations or merely a decision to build one less superfluous facility, there must be a way to affirm the University's commitment to financial aid without turning its pockets inside-out. We encourage the Board and the University's leaders to restore funding to AccessUVa as soon as possible. We also urge students to continue constructive dialogue with administrators and faculty. Attending Board meetings this week is one way students can make their concerns heard.

Students who wish to relay concerns to the Board via the body's student representative, fourth-year College student Blake Blaze, should email him at beb3ez@virginia.edu.

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A needed trans-ition

The FDA's ban of trans-fats is necessary and beneficial to Americans

Alex Yahanda Senior Associate Editor

Today's political rhetoric often involves the perceived dangers or benefits posed by big government, and various government interventions into people's private lives are often met with much hostility. Recently, however, a new form of government control is being met with little resistance from either side of the political spectrum.

Last Thursday, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) made public a proposal to ban artificially manufactured trans fats from all food products, effectively eliminating such fats from the food supply. Under this new program, partially hydrogenating oils into solid fats — the process by which trans fats arise — will result in products that the FDA would no longer designate fit for consumption. All products containing trans fats will be stripped of their "generally recognized as safe" labels

Conservatives and liberals alike should appreciate the benefits created by the FDA. The FDA is responsible for regulating the quality and production of food products, pharmaceuticals, medical devices, tobacco products, vaccines and scores of other products that can affect one's health. It is indispensable for making sure that companies cannot knowingly cheat consumers with products of lesser quality or unforetold side effects, and is an important ally in enforcing public health initiatives—a characteristic that it reaffirmed last week.

If these proposals are seen to completion, they will be a tremendous public health victory. Granted, the general sentiment toward trans fats has been gradually changing. Many restaurants — most notably fast food chains — and other companies have sought to reduce the amount of trans fats found in their foods. That being said, trans fats are still abundantly used in food products, some of which are not even required to provide accurate nutritional facts. Currently, a company can claim that their products contain zero trans fats if those products have fewer than 0.5 grams of trans fats per serving. So, while companies may have worked hard to reduce the number of trans fats to meet those standards, consumers could still be ingesting food that is far unhealthier than reported. The new FDA regulations would eliminate such false advertising by ensuring that every product, not just those erroneously claiming zero grams, would be devoid of trans fats. Furthermore, banning trans fats would ensure that people all have an equal opportunity to choose between healthier items. Those who are faced with little choice in their food consumption — people whose finances limit their food purchases, for instance, or children in school — would no longer be forced to choose between cheaper foods that contain higher levels of trans fats. Doing away with trans fats universally would have positive health impacts for every level of society.

Restaurants and food producers may incur substantial costs to eliminate trans fats from their products. But those costs are an investment in the average American's long-term health. Indeed, placing regulations on trans fats, though not implanted on such a large scale, has already been accomplished in various parts of the country such as California and New York City. Studies done

on the New York City ban — which only ensured that restaurants eliminate trans fats in cooking and did not eliminate all food items containing trans fats - indicate that New Yorkers on average ingested 2.5 fewer grams of trans fats per restaurant meal. Imagine, then, the health benefits that could be reaped by ensuring that trans fats were eliminated for every food item that Americans eat. Eliminating trans fats is especially sensical given the drain that heart disease, obesity and obesity-related ailments have on our healthcare system.

These new regulations are also not measures that too strongly limit private consumption. If nothing else, illustrating the brief history shared by humans and trans fats can provide support for the FDA's plans. Trans fats have only recently become a normal part of the human diet. Negligible amounts naturally occur in dairy and meat obtained from ruminant animals. but not in the levels that are added to many manufactured foods. Our bodies have not developed to process trans fats in the same way we are naturally occurring fats, and increased trans fat intake raises one's

chances of heart disease. Trans fats raise the levels of low-density lipoproteins (bad cholesterol) while diminishing the amount of high-density lipoproteins (good cholesterol). Thus, banning trans fats is a perfectly reasonable move. The government is not unduly imposing itself on consumers' food choices — it is seeking to rectify an unhealthy, manmade food modification that serves no health benefits

As of now, there have been no vehement objections to this new initiative, which is strange since other debates about food choices — such as healthier school lunches or genetically modified produce — have left people incensed. Nor does there seem to be the same opposition as whenever the FDA attempts to take on other sectors such as the tobacco or pharmaceutical industries. Backlash or not, the FDA's strong stance against trans fats represents a government mandate that objectively benefits all Americans. *

Alex Yahanda is a senior associate editor for the Cavalier Daily. His columns run Wednesdays.

Not so pretty in pink

Breast cancer awareness month does not paint an accurate image of breast cancer and does not greatly increase research funds

Ashley Spinks
Opinion Columnist

Breast Cancer Awareness Month does not paint an accurate image of breast cancer and does not greatly increase research funds

October, with its endless midterms, interminable stress and great parties, has finally ended. With it came the end of another source of angst: Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Now, let me begin by saying that the idea of dedicating an entire month to the sufferers and survivors of this terrible illness is a noble one. I have nothing but respect for the people who actively work to try to cure cancer, to support survivors or try to raise awareness in a useful way. But every year I dread the arrival of October because, overall, the ways in which the theme of "breast cancer awareness" manifests are much more problematic and offensive than they are positive or helpful. Those who actually have a desire to combat this disease should not participate in the gimmicks of the month.

The worst part of Breast Cancer Awareness Month is the inevitable "pink-washing" of literally everything. Suddenly companies are selling pink t-shirts, pink sports jerseys, pink bracelets, pink notebooks, pink housewares—the list goes on. This is offensive for two reasons. Firstly, it feminizes breast cancer and makes it pretty. Pink is lovely, bright, optimistic and girly. Having breast cancer is none of these things. Breast cancer is not a tool you can use to market a line of products. Breast cancer does not feel pink or beautiful at all, and wearing pink does nothing to help those who are suffering. Wearing pink sends an empty, nonspecific message. It would be better to actively promote women getting screened and knowing warning signs of cancer than to own a dyed NFL jersey.

Secondly, many well-intended people will buy these products because they truly believe it is a helpful gesture; they are misled into thinking that the profits will be donated to the American Cancer Society or to research. The assumption that the money will be donated is largely untrue. As an example, the NFL donates only about 11 percent of the profits from its pink merchandise to the American Cancer Society. Rather than effectively helping to fund research, it seems more likely that they are using breast cancer as

a cause to boost their own bottom line (at minimum about 13 percent of the profit goes back to the NFL, often more). This is despicable.

Here's another problem I have with Breast Cancer Awareness Month and the movement in general: The Keep a Breast Foundation. Although you may be unfamiliar with the name of the organization itself, you are surely familiar with its most popular product, the "I Love Boobies" wristbands. The absolute baseness of this campaign is unbelievable. Many will think I'm being oversensitive, but I challenge you to consider the message that this campaign is effectively sending. The message is this: "You should care about fighting breast cancer because boobs are great! In fact, you should value the boobs over the woman that they belong to! Women are worth saving because if they die from this disease, we can no longer objectify them or enjoy looking at their breasts!" The foundation is called "Keep a Breast." They couldn't be any more explicit about what they are valuing. And how terrible is it for women-strong, determined, impressive women who are fighting to beat a disease that is destroying their body and their will-to hear that they are only worth keeping around because of their body parts? Semantics aside, the Keep A Breast



Breast cancer does not feel pink or pretty at all, and wearing pink does nothing to help those suffering.

Foundation has an equally terrible track record when it comes to actually and effectively serving the cause and assisting in the fight against breast cancer.

I looked up Keep a Breast's financial statement on their website. While the company made \$2.9 million in 2011, they only donated about \$140,000 to research endeavors, which is a little less than 5 percent of their profits. Additionally, the money that they kept for themselves is vaguely allocated for "programs" that "educate" and "bring awareness," but even after browsing their website for a good while it was unclear to me what exactly Keep a Breast does to raise awareness, other than spreading around more pink merchandise that make people think about breast cancer.

While it may have been unfair to only mention the NFL and Keep a Breast in my tirade against Breast Cancer Awareness month, know that my overall point is larger. They are not the only two organizations that participate in the problematic madness of October, but they demonstrate the type of disappointing behavior that you can expect out of many breast cancer awareness campaigns. For those who are genuinely concerned about combating breast cancer and serious about furthering the cause, I would encourage to donate money directly to the American Cancer Society, which is a truly wonderful organization which uses over seventy percent of its revenue to fund research and programs for cancer victims. Don't use a pinkwashed middle man. Go directly to the source. Donate to the ACS or research funds.

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Tea partied out

Republicans can find political success through moderation and compromise

John Connolly
Opinion Columnist

Now that the dust has cleared from the Nov. 5 elections in Virginia, New Jersey, Alabama and New York, Republicans must consider the various successes of their candidates. Candidates with broad, mainstream appeal — Chris Christie in the New Jersey governor's race and establishment candidate Bradley Byrne in a special election for an Alabama congressional seat - were victorious. Tea Party-backed candidates without appeal to independents and moderates — Ken Cuccinelli and E.W. Jackson in Virginia were defeated. These races should indicate to Republicans that the path to electoral success, particularly the presidency, runs through the establishment candidates, not the Tea Party ultraconservatives.

To be sure, the Tea Party has achieved tremendous electoral success. There are currently 48 members of the House of Rep-

resentatives "Tea Party Caucus," and this bloc represents a formidable obstacle in passing legislation. Adding to their power is the fact that they often break from more establishment Republicans, such as Speaker of the House John Boehner, on important votes. The most powerful speakers of American history - Sam Rayburn or Tip O'Neill, for instance - ruled their caucuses with an iron fist, forcing fellow party members to step in line. John Boehner lacks this ability. Time and time again, the Tea Party caucus has thwarted his attempts at compromise, putting Boehner in an uncomfortable position as mediator between the Tea Party firebrands and the more mainstream Republicans. This tension is indicative of

the conflict that defines the Republican Party to this day. Tea Partiers seem to think that the path to electoral success runs through candidates such as Ted Cruz, whose uncompromising principles place him at odds with Republicans willing to work with

the other party. The Tea Partiers seem to think that the answer is for Republican candidates to be even more conservative than they already are. This has led to the vicious primary fights between establishment Republicans and Tea Party types.

But the Tea Party largely consists of politicians who are unable

[T]he Tea Party largely consists of politicians who are unable to find success beyond the district level.

to find success beyond the district level. Former congressmen such as Todd Akin of Missouri, Denny Rehberg of Montana, Pete Hoekstra of Michigan and Zach Wamp of Tennessee all were defeated in bids for statewide office (either for governor or a Senate seat). Their losses have largely been attributed to their unbending conservatism. Not coincidentally, all hail from states with penchants for electing both Democrats and Republicans. Mainstream appeal matters.

Tea Party-backed, ultra-conservative candidates appear to be unsuccessful at the statewide level, especially in more moderate states. Perhaps Cuccinelli would have triumphed had he run against Terry McAuliffe in Texas. But in a purple state that swung for Obama in 2008 and 2012, a successful gubernatorial candidacy requires mainstream appeal. Cuccinelli's uncompromising conservatism was not politically practical in Virginia. I would argue that a more moderate Republican nominee - perhaps Bill Bolling — would have bested McAuliffe. On the other

hand, in New Jersey, Chris Christie, who has built a reputation as a principled conservative who is able to compromise with Democrats, won a resounding re-election to the governor's office.

The lesson could not be more obvious. Candidates such as Cuccinelli lack the mainstream appeal to win in moderate states such as Virginia — states that are necessary for the Republicans to regain the presidency. Candidates such as Chris Christie, who prove that it is possible to be conservative and to compromise, have the awbility to win even in traditionally Democratic states such as New Jersey. If the Republicans are looking for a model for electoral success, this election should provide them with one: mainstream appeal trumps Tea Party fanati-

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Shaken by the storm

Hurricane Sandy's aftermath prompted New Jersey Governor Chris Christie's reelection

Conor Kelley
Opinion Columnist

For Governor Chris Christie, the path to reelection started with a storm — Superstorm Sandy, that is. In a state where the majority of voters disagree with the sitting Governor on issues such as abortion and same-sex marriage, the best thing that Christie could have hoped for was a means that could enable him to shift the focus of the race away from policy concerns to an area where he knew he could win: trust. Sandy provided him with such an opportunity. Christie's resulting reelection has demonstrated that trust and likability are two of the most powerful factors that can help politicians win elections.

Within a year, New Jersey voters both resoundingly backed President Obama and their Republican governor in their respective reelection bids. The percentage of New Jersey votes was 58 percent for Obama and 60 percent for Christie. Despite the well-known policy differences of these two men, the voters of New Jersey did not seem to weigh their policy considerations as heavily as voters in other states. The voters' key concern this time around, so it seems, was something entire-

lv different: trust.

New Jersey voters, plagued in recent years by corruption in Trenton, had been yearning for a governor that they could rely on. Recent political scandals in the capital, such as accusations of extortion during the administration of Governor Jim McGreevey, have promulgated a lack of trust in



Though the power of trust and leadership have carried Christie to victory on a largely non-Republican platform, there is reason to doubt that the aforementioned 'spirit of Sandy' will be potent enough to preclude

state politics. In such an environment, it is not surprising that voters craved a politician that they could depend on. The relative lack of scandals in Christie's term has provided them with some relief.

a new escalation of political rifts.

Prior to the devastation of

Hurricane Sandy, Christie's reelection was by no means assured. Some polls showed that the governor race in the state was relatively close. In a poll by Quinnipiac University taken in October of 2012, prior to the storm, Christie came in at 49 percent. In nearly every poll following the storm, polls consistently put Christie at 60 percent or greater.

Out of the storm's wreckage emerged a somewhat changed governor, one who emphasized his duty as a leader in a time of crisis. His response to the disaster, marked both by his attitude of resilience and demands for federal assistance, appealed strongly to a wide base of Jersey voters, including many Democrats. Indeed, exit polls showed that 85 percent of voters approved of the way that the governor handled the storm. In many ways, his appeal as an attentive, dependable leader during the crisis effectively displaced more partisan concerns over his specific policies. The trust element has proven to be a powerful factor in Christie's success, particularly in attracting Democratic voters to his cause. In 2009, Christie was only able to garner 8 percent of Democratic voters, vet in 2013, this number rose to a startling 38 percent.

The "spirit of Sandy" infused

New Jersey politics with an atmosphere of compromise and of mutual trust. Believe me when I say that for a state whose citizens place a high premium on self-reliance, this is anything but an easy task. The storm made politics intensely intimate in a way that New Jerseyans have not experienced in recent memory. The immediacy of the governor's response to the storm elicited an emotional response from voters of all varieties. In this environment, the conventional electoral atmosphere was turned upside-down — there was a momentary suspension of traditional, issue-motivated voting behavior.

Yet, as New Jersey moves forward, voters may find their feelings of trust transitory. Absent a new natural disaster, Christie may find it difficult to sustain the public trust which was generated in the wake of last year's storm. Moreover, Trenton will likely return to the business of governing as usual, which necessarily includes a return to traditional party politics. This, in turn, may serve to reignite partisan divides among voters. As a state that continues to be a hotbed of many currently evolving political and social issues such as unemployment, gay marriage and education, New Jersey may be unable to avoid a reintensification of party politics.

Though the power of trust and leadership have carried Christie to victory on a largely non-Republican platform, there is reason to doubt that the aforementioned "spirit of Sandy" will be potent enough to preclude a new escalation of political rifts. New Jersey may have voted their governor back into office based upon nonpartisan considerations, yet they should not be surprised if state politics become fiercely partisan once more. Christie's partisan agenda will likely come to be contentious in the years ahead.

Though one exit poll shows that in a general election, New Jersey voters would still favor Hillary Clinton over Chris Christie, New Jersey voters were effectively swayed in this election by Christie's emphasis on trust. Politicians rarely receive the opportunity to connect personally with their constituents in a way that establishes a lasting sense of trust. Last year's storm provided Christie with such an opportunity, allowing him to firmly establish his likability and, in the process, secure his re-election.

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Primary colors

Primary elections do not grant enough opportunity to moderate candidates and leave voters with more polarized options

Dani Bernstein Opinion Columnist

Since New Jersey Governor Chris Christie's sweeping victory last week — and before it — many pundits consider Christie the likely GOP nominee for president in 2016. As the nation becomes more and more disenchanted with the dysfunction in the Republican Party, a moderate like Christie seems like a sensible candidate. But even if Christie appeals to Americans across party lines, before he can win the Presidency he has to win over extremists in Republican primaries, which could very well be his downfall.

Until fairly recently, Christie has been persona non grata in the Republican Party, especially after his support of President Obama's response to Hurricane Sandy. There is therefore every reason to believe that Tea Party Republicans and other extremists will oppose his nomination. We know these far right wing groups have the political skill to drive out moderate Republicans, based on their successes in congressional elections; in the 2010 midterm elections, 17 Tea Party candidates were elected to the House. and that number doesn't include other current Congressmen who now identify with the Tea Party. But Tea Party wins in congressional primaries have also led to Democratic wins in general elections—Christine O'Donnell of Delaware and Richard Mourdock of Indiana received national attention for ousting moderate candidates in 2010 senate primaries, only to be defeated by the Democratic candidate.

We've seen a similar situation on the national scale: in 2012, former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney had too moderate a record to appease his base during primary

The current primary system gives party extremists a considerable amount of sway — in the 2010 midterm elections, about half of the voters in Republican primaries supported the Tea Party — and this can misrepresent the interests of the majority of Americans.

season. He faced significant opposition from more conservative candidates like Rick Santorum, and as a result Romney himself moved further to the right. Then, after moving right enough to become the GOP nominee, Romney struggled to rec-

oncile his platform with his record as governor of Massachusetts, since there were severe inconsistencies. As governor, Romney was pro-choice, but as a candidate in 2012 he was pro-life; as governor he instituted Massachusetts' healthcare plan, as a candidate he opposed Obamacare. Though these inconsistencies and Romney's more conservative platform might not be the reason Romney lost, they are certainly relevant. According to exit polls, 56 percent of voters who self-identified as moderate voted for Obama.

Since the Republican loss in the 2012 presidential election, extremist Republicans haven't exactly become subdued. Christie would face the same criticism as Romney did for his lack of conservative credentials - among other, somewhat more moderate platforms, Christie now supports a New Jersey version of the DREAM Act, an act which is widely disliked by conservatives. It's possible that Christie will be able to appease Tea Partiers and ultraconservatives, but if he does so he risks losing the same moderate votes Romney lost in the general election.

This paradox suggests a greater problem in our political system. The current primary system gives party extremists a considerable amount of sway—in the 2010 midterm elections, about half of the voters in Republican primaries supported the Tea Party—and this can misrepre-

sent the interests of the majority of Americans. Earlier primaries also often have considerable influence over the later primaries, not only because of media coverage but also because the emergence of a frontrunner early on can discourage turnout in subsequent primaries. The fact that the Iowa caucus occurs early in the primary season creates especial difficulty for more moderate candidates. Caucuses require a serious time commitment from voters, so voter turnout from extremists in a party is greater. An early win for an extremist candidate therefore further disadvantages moderate candidates.

If Christie can manage a victory in Iowa and then in subsequent primaries, it's unlikely that we will take time to reevaluate this system, though in all likelihood Christie's platform will have to be noticeably more conservative for this to happen. And it would be unrealistic to suggest that we eliminate the primary system altogether; simply in terms of organization, primaries are necessary to eliminate undesirable candidates and give voters clear choices between two distinct tickets. But reforms can be made to prevent the polarizing effect of primaries on Republican and Democratic candi-

One such reform is the use of an open primary system. In an open primary anyone, regardless of party affiliation, can participate. There are obvious downsides to this, one being the attempt to sabotage another party by voting for a less electable candidate and therefore undermining the leading candidate. But in the presidential open primaries that already exist — 22 states have open Democratic primaries and 17 have Republican ones, including Virginia there is little evidence of sabotage. Having a diverse set of voters participate means primaries are more likely to result in the nomination of a candidate who is more reflective of the views of the general population, and not just that candidate's party.

The American populace is noticeably frustrated with the lack of bipartisanship among our elected officials; we are in need of a more moderate and balanced set of options, instead of the polarizing ones we have recently had. If we don't have plans to modify our political system — and at this moment, it seems like we don't - then moderate voters need to mobilize and increase their voter turnout during primary season, and conservative extremists need to look towards the viability of their candidates and their ability to work across party lines, not just how staunchly conservative they are.

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Home on the range

Ranch farming treats livestock more ethically and provides greater benefits to humans than industrial farming

George Knaysi Opinion Columnist

About 99 percent of U.S. meat comes from industrial farms. I am by no means a vegetarian, but I propose there are significant moral, environmental and health costs associated with these contemporary methods. More traditional, ranch-style farming serves as an alternative to large-scale industrial methods, and its practices better account for animal interests. The mass production of meat and dairy is a complex business, but even a brief look at the pros and cons of each model suggests that ranchstyle farming is preferable for an ethically- and environmentallyconscious public.

The moral problem boils down to the fact that animals are thinking and feeling creatures, yet they are treated as inanimate objects. Animals are often packed in filthy, crowded buildings without sunlight, fresh air or grass. They are processed with maximum efficien-

cy, ensuring a brief, miserable life for them and cheap meat for us. The minimally-enforced Human Method of Slaughter Act (passed in 1958), recognized the need for animals to receive a merciful death. Unfortunately, the law does little to recognize a need for a merciful life.

In contrast to industrial farms, more traditional farms acknowledge animals' needs for space, nutrients and outdoor ranges. Animal sentience is not treated as an inconvenient and irrelevant idea. but as a factor worth significant consideration. Cattle are fed grass rather than forced to eat an unnatural diet of corn and antibiotics. They have space to roam and experience sunlight and fresh air. For the cost of decreased "efficiency," ranch farms practice a more ethical system of business. If the law were to enforce these standards of decency, industrial farming methods would need to change drastically.

The largest — and perhaps only — advantage that industrial farming holds over traditional methods are economic. American factory

farming is a monetary success. For the past 80 years, productivity has steadily risen, causing lower food prices and greater availability for consumers. But are the economic gains so significant that industrial farming reform is undesirable? If ethical considerations do not convince American lawmakers and consumers, then environmental and health factors could be the catalyst.

To fully assess the costs and benefits of industrial and traditional farming methods, we must consider two additional key factors: environmental and health costs. Ranch-style farms utilize a more holistic method of production: animal waste fertilizes the soil, which grows the crops, which then feed the animals. Referred to as a closed ecological loop, this sustainable process is incompatible with the globalized methods of industrial farming, which often leave a dangerous excess of animal waste and chemical fertilizers. And because cattle are fed on an unnatural diet of corn, they produce abnormally



The moral problem boils down to the fact that animals are thinking and feeling creatures, yet they are treated as inanimate objects.

high levels of the gas methane—a greenhouse gas emission 23 times more harmful than carbon dioxide. Traditional methods simply avoid such waste and pollution.

If our extensive moral and environmental obligations do not convince, there is also industrial meat's risks to human health. The cornantibiotic mixture fed to cattle provides ideal conditions for certain strains of lethal bacteria to flourish, since a diet of antibiotics in such unclean conditions increases the risk of bacteria developing immunity. Traditional farming methods avoid such problems through

grass-fed diets and by removing excess antibiotics. But even without the threat of lethal bacteria, organic beef has a number of health advantages. It contains less fat, more essential vitamins, is easier on the digestive tract, and causes less of a risk of heart disease. In terms of health factors, traditional farming methods again prove preferable.

Animal interests are clearly better served through ranch-style farming, but this itself may not be enough of an incentive for the general population to advocate widespread reform. Although industrial farms prove more economically advantageous than traditional farming, they lose in all other categories. If ethical standards do not provide reason enough for reform of the meat processing industry, then perhaps environmental and health factors can appeal to human self-interest.

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HUMOR Just for wits.

Adventures in tree crying

Charlotte Raskovich Humor Columnist

As soon as I heard the door open, I slammed my laptop shut with such panicked speed the only reasonable explanation could be that I had been watching two adults have consensual sex. In fact, I had been watching a fan-made music video for Andrew Jackson Jihad. If you want to reread that and imagine an embarrassed dog going "Woof," by all means proceed.

Apart her proclivity to have friends over when I want to make ugly sob noises, my roommate is pretty ideal. Our shower isn't horrifying, I've never received a threatening message via Post-it note and it's only mostly unbearable to walk through her room when I have to pee. Brown College has been described as "aggressively quirky" by at least three separate people but the residential community's defining feature is the necessity of avoiding eye contact with another human when you're tracking shower water into her nicely decorated living space.

For the record, having two

connected rooms is better than sharing a room and is the main reason why I made my application absolutely shameless. There was a drawing of Karl Marx on my essay about cats and I'm not proud. I'm not proud at all. But I did earn the privilege of seeing the fruits of my roommate's interior design labors before entering my own room, which has been described as "like an upscale Russian prison cell." The main piece of décor is the pile of clothes that spurs night terrors when it's 3 a.m. and the wrinkles in a pair of leggings looks exactly like a face attached to an amorphous cloth body. This phenomenon is called pareidola (many thanks to Wikipedia, both for giving me the answer to "brain seeing faces" and the answer to why I haven't failed every class.)

After an evening with at least three signs from the universe that everything I would ever do would be a failure, I was ready to throw a pity party. Pity parties are the best kinds of parties, because you get to wallow without having to get your friend drunk enough to listen to you.

Crying is a big event. Around

age 13 I decided that crying was lame, a decision that was followed by two years of psychologically rich diary entries. Writing in a diary wasn't lame; it's a composition notebook. I was the toughest preteen around, excluding the actually tough preteens, who terrified me. All feelings were garbage nonsense that could just sit inside my chest and take it.

This streak of being cool and outwardly not caring about my Algebra II exam was broken when I saw "The Corpse Bride" and sobbed off my shoplifted mascara in my friend's basement. It wrecked me. This film is a whimsical animated feature often described as "Not a sad movie, what is wrong with you?" Something about Helena Bonham Carter's claymation surrogate turning into butterflies (they represent freedom. She just wanted to be free and she turned into butterflies and flew up to the moonlight because you don't get moonlight in the underworld) struck a chord in my heart. My friend patiently listened to me bawl "BUTTERFLIES" into her mom's decorative pillow until the credits, when she left to make popcorn. As it turned out, growing up to be a lady in a motorcycle jacket wasn't an option. I'd have to learn to be a human girl.

I don't know how to be a human girl. Thirteen-year-old me thought crying was gross for emotional reasons, and I still think crying totally is gross, but for snot reasons. This is called maturing into a self-actualized person. In the no-cry zone, my idea of what weeping was mostly based on music videos where the singer gets shot. With crying, I had hoped I would look like a French girl from a '60s movie: with a single tear sliding down my French cheek, instead of a bowl of raw mussels. If the English language is still evolving, I'd like to suggest we remove the term "ugly crying" from our vernacular, as it implies there are people who are attractive when they cry. Furthermore, if attractive criers exist, I suggest a witch-hunt.

With my roommate and her compatriots in the next room, having the type of full-fledged, Great Gatsby-style pity party I yearned for wasn't an option. The big tree outside of Brown was private enough and made me feel enough like a literary character to

draw my aching soul to its foliage. One of the big roots made an adequate sitting space and I would have remained there instead of clambering up the branches like a very sad squirrel if a group of girls singing "The Time Warp" hadn't passed. These madcap youths have definitely sung tunes from 'Rocky Horror Picture Show" in the past and I briefly considered emerging from the tree leaves like a spooky old forest witch to chastise them for waking people up at 2 a.m. with their quirky antics. I was awake at that 2 a.m. but, other people probably weren't. When I say "considered," I mean "didn't really consider."

Perched on a branch, it felt right. Drunk people passed, unaware of my preternatural ability to silently cry without shaking enough to fall off my roost. Thirteen-year-old me would have been disgusted, but 13-year-old me had some seriously rank Sun-In highlights and would be in no place to judge.

Charlotte Raskovich is a humor columnist for The Cavalier Daily.





A helping hand

Commerce, Engineering schools offer specialized career services; student engagement with UCS remains low

Rebecca Blank & Srujana Yadlapalli Staff Writers

For most first- and second-years, the long trek to Bryant Hall to visit the University Career Services office may be an unfamiliar one. The reasons often vary: the need to find a job feels far off, the divergence from Central Grounds seems needlessly lengthy, and some haven't even heard of or considered UCS in the hunt for jobs or internships.

Many students, upperclassmen included, will never have the need to visit Bryant. Those enrolled in Engineering or Nursing schools, or who have elected to matriculate into the Commerce, Education or Batten schools, have access to separate career services tailored to the specifics of their education.

Aside from saving them the long walk, do these specialized career services offer any particular advantages to students?

Out of all of the University's schools, the Commerce School boasts the highest undergraduate job placements. In 2013, according to the Commerce Career Services 2012 Destinations Report, 86 percent of the students who graduated with a Bachelor of Science

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in an effort to recruit students.

In addition, the Commerce Career Services hosts several employer-inresidence programs, through which students are exposed to professionals from different industries. These professionals critique resumes, hold mock interviews and inform students about the job search and internship process. The companies themselves fund such programs, as it helps them to establish their presence and boost brand value, as well as recruit the most talented individuals.

Fourth-year Commerce student Mike Rusie said career services' role in cultivating relationships between students and companies before graduation is critical. "The biggest impact [career services] have is getting employers in the door to give us face time with those that we wouldn't otherwise have access to," he said.

These efforts seem to be paying off, as nearly three quarters of 2012 Commerce graduates used career services programming as part of their job search.

The most popular destination for Commerce graduates is the financial sector — 48 percent in 2012 — followed by consulting jobs, at 31 percent, according to the report.

The median base salary of a Commerce graduate in the financial sertrack was \$70,000, overall mecompared to an for 2012 Coldian of \$38,000 lege graduates. The En-

gineering School's Center for Engineering Ca-Development boasts a similar track record, and it employs similar methods for exposing their students to different industries and

A survey conducted by the CECD found that the median base salary for an Engineering student graduating in 2012 was \$65,000. Consulting again was one of the most popular industries, with Accenture, Deloitte and Booz Allen Hamilton being the top three recruiters.

CECD plays a major role in this job placement, with 41 percent of accepted job offers coming from through the center's programming.

"One major advantage of the Engineering School is that students are exposed and encouraged to work with CECD from the beginning," said Peggy Reid, an employer relations manager with CECD.

The center gives presentations in each section of the required first-year seminar, "Science, Technology and Society." As a result, students are exposed to CECD from the beginning of their time at the University, and they can begin forming relationships with advisors in their first year.

The Curry and Batten schools also have teams committed to helping their respective students find jobs and internships in their specialized fields.

But for College students, who make up 71 percent of the undergraduate population, existing career services attract less attention. In UCS' 2012 survey, more students said internships, friends and family members were most helpful securing

employment than any of the University's career services, including CAVLink job listings and On-Grounds Interviewing.

The UCS office has worked to increase its presence on Grounds — evening opening up space in Monroe Hall, with drop-in hours for general advising as well as advising specifically for those on the pre-law or pre-health tracks.

They also offer career fairs, and are responsible for much of the programming and employer events offered across Grounds and On-Grounds Interviewing program..

But even with regular email blasts, presentations at first-year dorms and various organizations, and peer advisors to help spread the word about UCS to their classmates, participation remains

The College does lack a first-year seminar to disseminate the word about career services like its Engineering School counterpart — but for students who are lucky enough to hear about UCS in the classroom, the exposure can make a huge difference.

Second-year College student Hanna Stanley, who had a UCS representative speak to one of her classes, has already made her first trip to Bryant Hall as a result. "[Otherwise] I probably wouldn't have taken it upon myself to go over there and visit," she said. "I always ignore my emails for UCS, and

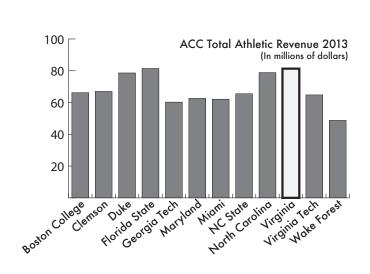


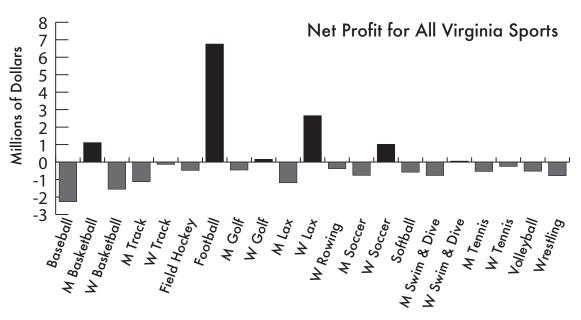
Courtesy of Cole Geddy, University Communications



BIG BUCKS HUNTING

Despite football program's relatively pedestrian financial performance, Virginia ranks among top ACC athletic departments in revenue, profit





Graphs by Peter Simonsen

Michael Eilbacher Senio Associate Editor

Virginia's most prominent sports team may be mired in a seven-game football losing streak. But for the teams operating outside of Scott Stadium, the fall has been highly successful. The women's soccer and field hockey teams this week received bids to their respective NCAA tournaments, and the ranked men's basketball team played one of its most anticipated games in years against Virginia Commonwealth Tuesday

Athletic successes like these do not come out of thin air; schools have to carefully balance the costs of additional teams, facilities and coaches with their on-field performances. Funding is always at a premium, and no school's decisions are the same.

The Department of Education requires all schools that receive Title IX funding to release yearly reports on the revenue and expenses of their athletic departments under the Equity in Athletics Disclosure Act. Schools are not, however, held to particularly strict guidelines regarding how they must report their

finances. This leaves openings for variation from school to school, but the EADA report comes closest to providing an overall comparison of NCAA schools.

These reports are a little bit interesting, because it is a little bit about how you allocate things," said Steve Pritzker, associate athletics director for business operations and chief financial officer for Virginia Athletics. "Everyone looks at that differently. It's a good first stab from the NCAA to try to get metrics that are across the board, but its still a stab."

In the EADA numbers, Virginia comes out remarkably well, reporting the second highest total athletics revenue in the ACC behind Florida State, and the highest profit in the conference at almost \$7 million for the 2010-11 school year, the most recent available data.

The school performed so impressively overall despite football pulling in the fourth lowest total in the conference and providing just 29.6 percent of the athletic department's total revenue, the conference's lowest proportion. The school has instead succeeded by finding revenue in other sports.

"I think the athletic department has done a strong job of saying, 'Where can we spend? What is the right place to do it? How does it impact us in a positive way?" Pritzker said. "I don't know if anyone sat down and said, 'The return on women's golf will be X.' I think it's, 'Is this where we can succeed and does it fit the profile of what we want to do?"

Virginia is one of two schools in the ACC, along with North Carolina, that fields a team in each of the conference's 21 varsity sports. The school even funded some sports, including women's rowing, before the conference sanctioned them.

"Some people argue that universities field too many teams, and some people argue that universities devote too much money to the teams they do have," said Assoc. Education Prof. Brian Pusser, who specializes in higher education funding. "At the same time, there are universities and donors that would like to add teams and spend more money on athletics. Budgets vary dramatically within and across the divisions of the NCAA. Universities that compete at the highest level spend a great deal to achieve competitive excellence in all sports, and they hope that excellence generates additional revenue."

For Virginia, the decision to build a large athletic program targeted not only athletic competitiveness but also financial efficiency.

This is before my time, but my understanding was that in about 2000, 2001, there were some financial challenges, and the Board of Visitors came back and said 'We want to fully fund everything that we do. If we're going to do it, we're going to do it right." Pritzker said. "That was a decision made a decade ago, if not more now, so the athletic department and the University to that effect has said that that's a decision we want to go forth with, and that's really parlayed into success across the board."

The investment certainly seems to have paid off. Between 2002 and 2012, Virginia teams picked up 52 ACC championships and 7 NCAA championships, including at least one national title in each of the last four years.

One area for discrepancies in the EADA report totals comes from revenue and expenses that are listed as "not allocated by gender/sport." Schools have various ways of reporting what goes into that category on both sides of the balance sheet, with room for wide variation between schools. Duke, for example, listed less than \$4 million in "non-allocated" revenue in the 2011 report, while

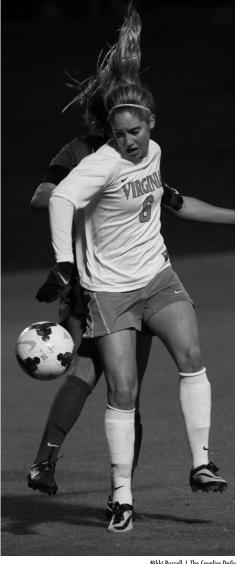
Virginia had more than \$32 million listed. The schools nearly matched each other in total revenue, with Duke reporting \$78.6 million and Virginia \$81.3 million.

For Virginia, Pritzker broke down the "non-allocated" revenue into five categories: fundraising, money from the ACC, ticket revenue, assorted revenue from sources such as marketing and concessions, and student fees. The student fees are perhaps the most controversial — a 2011 USA Today report on athletic financing for public universities showed Virginia taking in close to \$13 million in student fees — but Pritzker pointed out that schools use various means to stay competitive.

"At whatever time, the University Board of Visitors made the decision to go that route," Pritzker said. "[To financially support their athletic departments], some schools do tuition waivers, for example, or discounts; some will do payments from the university to the athletic department. ... Student fees stick out ... but certainly there are some of our peers that are being subsidized heavily in different ways. It's a decision that the Board of Visitors made to make sure that across the board we are competitive in that way.

SPORTS 12 The Cavalier Daily

Junior midfielder and ILS Women's Senior National Team member Morgan Brian scrambles for the ball during a game at Klöckner Stadium earlier this season. Brian leads the Cavaliers with 38 total points



Top-seeded Cavs host St. Francis

Swanson, players hope last week's Tech defeat alerted them to deficiencies, steeled them for deep tournament run; if winning, squad will stay home until College Cup

> Ryan Taylor Ássociate Editor

Thanks to its stellar play throughout the regular season, the Virginia women's soccer team earned the University's first ever No. 1 overall seed in the NCAA tournament and will host St. Francis Friday night at Klöckner

Despite becoming the first team since Stanford in 2009 to post a perfect regular season record and priming themselves for a conference title, the Cavaliers (20-1-0, 13-0-0 ACC) faltered against in-state rival Virginia Tech in the ACC Tournament semifinal last Friday. The Hokies were able to penetrate the usually staunch Virginia defense and put up four goals on a team that had already registered 13 shutouts in

"It's a long season, 21 games, and it's unfortunate that we had a bad game against Virginia Tech," said Morgan Brian, junior midfielder and first team All-ACC player. "It was one of our worst

games this season. There were just a couple of things that broke down all over the field during the

Coach Steve Swanson is eager to see how his players respond to a result they have not experienced all year. A handful of key contributors, including starting goalkeeper Morgan Stearns, are freshmen who before last week had never felt the sting of a loss at the collegiate level.

"It's been a while since we've been put in that position, so it's tough and it's disappointing," said Swanson, the ACC Coach of the Year. "But I think there is a lot to be gained from it in terms of improving as a team and understanding what we have to do in order to be successful. We've had some very good practices the past few days, so there is a good sense of focus and their head is in the right place. We've played 21 games and we've lost one game, so I like where we are right now."

Selection Monday paid tribute to Virginia's conference, with the ACC snatching all four No. 1 seeds in the 64-team tournament.

While allowing just six goals in 13 conference games during the regular season, Virginia shutout each of its fellow top seeds — Virginia Tech, Florida State and North Carolina — in regular season play.

"It's such a difficult conference and you know that when you go through it, but I'm not sure anyone else really appreciates it unless they're in there slugging away," Swanson said. "It's a good statement for our conference to get all four No. 1 seeds."

The No. 1 overall seed is the program's first, carrying with it high expectations and a favorable path to the College Cup. The Cavaliers will have home field advantage all the way until the Final Four, which means an incredible amount to a squad that yielded just six goals in its 14 contests at Klöckner this year.

"Playing at Klöckner is great for us," Brian said. "It's a big field with a great surface that plays to our advantage. The crowd has

see W SOCCER, page 14

Virginia commences tourney journey against Massachussetts

Battered by two consecutive defeats, squad works to regroup to reach NCAA semifinal round; if victorious, Cavaliers will face Duke-UNH winner in quarterfinals

Matthew Comey Associate Editor

The No. 7 Virginia field hockey team will seek redemption at the NCAA Tournament this weekend with a first round battle against No. 10 Massachusetts in Durham, N.C. after ending the regular season with a loss and subsequently faltering in the first round of the ACC Tournament.

The Cavaliers (15-5, 3-3 ACC), who last made the NCAA semifinals in 2010, have presumably their best shot in three years to return to the Final Four after missing the tournament in 2011 and getting paired with eventual national champion Princeton in the quarterfinals last year. This year, the biggest threat to Virginia in the first two rounds is fourthseeded Duke, the team responsible for ousting the Cavaliers from last week's ACC Tournament.

"I think there's pressure on everyone at this point," senior forward Elizabeth Hanks said. "There are 16 teams left, and everyone would love to be in the spot that those 16 teams are in. At this point, every game is hard, and there's pressure on every single team."

Entering the tournament, Virginia lost two consecutive games for the first time all season, falling to No.1 and ACC Champion Maryland in the regular season finale before getting eliminated by the No. 5 Blue Devils (14-6, 3-3 ACC).

In its regular season matchup against Duke, Virginia won 4-3 despite allowing two goals early in the second half with a 4-1 edge. In the second meeting between the teams, stellar play by Duke sophomore goalkeeper Lauren Blazing silenced the Virginia attack for much of the game, despite a generally good effort from the Cavaliers as they fell 2-1.

"Their goalkeeper had an outstanding game," Virginia coach Michele Madison said. "We were

able to create some offense and put pressure on, but not enough to penetrate ... We need to improve opportunities in the circle. In that game we were actually inside the 25 [yard line] 40 times, and only in the circle 14 times, but usually we get there 75 percent of the time.

The top four seeds in the NCAA Tournament this year hail from the ACC, and the conference is the only one in the nation with all its teams represented. The Cavaliers have defeated six of the remaining 16 teams in the field.

But before the Cavaliers can even hope to take revenge against the Blue Devils, they must first get past the Minutewomen (18-4, 7-0 A-10) in the opening round.

"It's go big or go home time," Madison said. "The players can't save anything, and I can't save substitutions. It's all about putting your best team out there and your best effort and getting it done.

Massachusetts earned an au-

tomatic berth to the tournament after winning the Atlantic-10. The team has had mixed results against ACC opponents this season, defeating No. 11 Boston College 4-2 and falling to No. 2 Syracuse by a margin of just 2-1, but getting crushed by No. 1 Marvland, 4-1.

"Massachusetts is solid," Madison said. "They have a sweet upfront and they move the ball well. It's going to be a big challenge."

Massachusetts ranks seventh in the nation in goals per game with 3.3, slightly higher than the 2.8 goals per game the Cavaliers are averaging. The Minutewomen are also allowing fewer goals per game on average than Virginia, but both stats may be moot given the much higher level of play in the ACC compared to the Atlan-

For members of the Cavalier senior class, including All-ACC selections forward Elly Buckley

see FIELD HOCKEY, page 14



Senior forward Elizabeth Hanks' career may conclude at the Durham, N.C. regional this weekend, should Virginia fail to secure the two victories it needs to reach the Final

Akash Khunaar I The Cavalier Daily

SPORTS
Thursday, November 14, 2013

VIRGINIA 23

Jenna Truong | The Cavalier Daily

Though yet to score, freshman point guard London Perrantes has regsitered three steals and appeared composed during his first two career collegiate games.

No. 25 Virginia visits Davidson

After wrenching VCU loss, players hope to adjust, heed lessons learned during upcoming road debut against struggling Wildcats; Bobcats' Time Warner Arena will host game

Krishna Korupolu Senior Writer

After a heartbreaking loss to No. 14 Virginia Commonwealth on a buzzer beater, No. 25 Virginia will travel to Charlotte, N.C. and look to bounce back against Davidson.

For the Cavaliers (1-1), the VCU game served as a gut check, and the matchup against the reeling Wildcats (0-2) presents an opportunity to develop much-needed offensive rhythm. Against VCU, the Virginia offense was at times stagnant, attributable to the strength of the defense they played against. Even so, Virginia still grinded its way to 33 free throw attempts — but only converted 19.

"Coach [Tony] Bennett has been emphasizing free throws every day at practice," junior forward Darion Atkins said. "But, even the best free throw shooters miss free throws."

The Cavaliers will have the opportunity to execute the lessons they learned Tuesday against a Davidson defense ranking No. 208 in the country in Adjusted Defense, which takes into account the pace

of play. To put that into perspective, the Cavaliers so far trail only defending national champion Louisville in the same statistical category.

"It's good to get a loss early in the season because we get to learn from it," sophomore Malcolm Brogdon said. "Now we have that feeling in our stomach and we don't want that again. We need to bounce back and get ready for Davidson on Saturday."

In their two losses this season, the Wildcats gave up 111 points to No. 4 Duke and 81 points to a Milwaukee offense ranked No. 221 in the nation.

One of the adjustments that Virginia will have to make against Davidson — as well as for the rest of the season — is to the new emphasis on rules that put the Cavaliers at a disadvantage early in the game against VCU when key players like sophomore Mike Tobey and senior Akil Mitchell treaded into foul trouble early in the game by committing personal fouls on the defensive side of the ball.

"The officials have points of emphasis and they are doing their jobs," Bennett said. "It is hard. Es-

pecially when there is contact. There are a lot of stoppages with the new emphasis on the rules."

When the pack-line defense that Virginia plays was first developed by Dick Bennett, Tony Bennett's father, the defense was meant to be an "athletic-equalizer"—a way for teams to compete with other squads featuring superior talent by pressuring the ball handlers on the perimeter and swarming the dribble penetration. One of the tenants of the defense is to bother the offensive players with hands in the face of and hand checks on opposing players. The NCAA's recent emphasis on the use of hands by defensive players somewhat mitigates the packline's efficacy, a reality the Cavaliers have accepted and will be forced to adjust to moving forward.

Starting, Brogdon says, with the road opener Saturday.

"It's [loss to VĆU] definitely going to help us," Brogdon said. "I think this loss is going to end up being a blessing. Even though we started the year ranked, we need to not get too high on ourselves, take it down a notch, and work harder in practice."

Boyle looks to continue juggling deep rotation during early season

Roster flexibility affords coach options, allows her to tinker with lineups; squad hosts Louisiana Tech Saturday hoping to record second consecutive victory

Kristen Cauley
Senior Writer

As the Virginia women's basketball team prepares to host Louisiana Tech Saturday, it is quickly discovering the benefits of a deep rotation.

By the end of the first half of their 73-54 triumph against High Point, the Cavaliers (1-1) had already played all 12 players on their roster, with 10 getting on the scoreboard. Being able to play her entire bench so early in the season allows coach Joanne Boyle to experiment with various rotations before the season starts to heat up.

"Eventually you have to find what rotations are working and kind of put into a five, six through nine [player rotation]," Boyle said. "It's nice to be able to look at different combinations early in the season."

Virginia's strong rotation al-

lows individuals to shine while also building team chemistry.

"It helps us energy-wise because if you go hard when you're out there, you have a sub coming back in," sophomore guard Faith Randolph said. "It brings us together more when we're all working together."

Two games into the season, Boyle is already getting a sense of which rotations work and which ones need tinkering. After starting senior guard Ataira Franklin in a season-opening defeat to James Madison, Boyle slotted in fellow senior guard Lexie Gerson into Franklin's starting spot for Monday's victory.

"I didn't like the rotation we had in the first game bringing Lexie off the bench because we got in foul trouble and she became a four for me," Boyle said. "Starting her at that wing spot allows me to get her in her sweet spot defensively and then move her to the four if I need to."

Still recovering from last spring's knee surgery, Franklin's time on the court has been limited. She came off the bench for the first time since her freshman year against High Point, and has amassed just 52 minutes of play in Virginia's first two contests .

We're trying to keep her in practice for about 30 to 45 minutes twice a week — and play games. I don't want to jeopardize where she's at with her knees."

"She hasn't been on the floor for us since last spring, so she hasn't really been able to practice," Boyle said. "She's a worn soldier right now, that's the whole reason we're kind of tweaking the lineup a little bit-Randolph has compensated for the recovering Franklin with stellar offensive play. After averaging 5.0 points per game in

see W BASKETBALL, page 14



Junior forward Sarah Imovbioh leads Virginia with 18 rebounds in the squad's first two games.

Emily Gorhman | The Cavalier Da

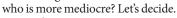
14 | The Cavalier Daily

Mediocre Kombat

Another week, another loss. Another football season all but gone down the drain, and the fans are screaming for the coach's head.

This sounds familiar.

Before Mike London's arrival in Charlottesville, Virginia fans were equally outraged with then-head coach Al Groh. The pair may go down in history as two of the most frustrating and inept coaches we've seen at Virginia — but



KERRY MITCHELL

Bowl Games

In Groh's time at Virginia, the Cavaliers went to four consecutive bowl games from 2002-2005 and one in 2007, compiling a 3-2 record.

London has only taken Virginia bowling once, when he led the squad to the 2011 Chick-fil-A Bowl. While "Back-to-Back Continental Tire Bowl Champions" doesn't really make for a flashy Tshirt, it's better than nothing. Plus one for Groh.

Recruiting

Groh was notoriously bad at recruiting in-state. He and his ever-changing cast of assistant coaches

never quite developed the relationships with high school coaches necessary for reining in top high

school players. So lured by a strong football program and perhaps an affinity for cows, most of the state's top prospects flocked to Virginia Tech.

Improving on Groh's recruitment record wouldn't have taken too much effort on London's part, but he has admittedly excelled in his own right. London's recruiting classes have been the best the program has

seen in years, with five-star recruits Andrew Brown and Quin Blanding highlighting next year's class. Attracting five-star players is no guarantee of on-field success, but at least London is bringing in some weapons. Point to London.

Beating Virginia Tech

In his nine years, Groh managed only one victory against the Hokies. A decade later, Virginia fans hardly need to be reminded of last year's time-out fiasco or 2011's shutout at Scott Stadium with London at the helm. Barring some kind of miracle Nov. 30, let's just say that both coaches have been woefully unsuccessful against our hated in-state

rival. Tie.

Beating Duke

Even if neither can stack up against Tech, surely they've been able to thrive against our lesser ACC rival, Duke? Maybe not.

In four years, London's Cavaliers have up and died before the less-than-mighty Blue Devils three times. Groh only lost to Duke in the last two years of his career, but it's worth mentioning that in 2008 the Cavaliers went from a second-place ACC Coastal finish to handing Duke its first conference win in 25 attempts, with a score of 31-3 in Durham. It's all been downhill from there. No points to anyone.

Quarterbacks

Matt Schaub, the last great Cavalier quarterback, thrived during Groh's early coaching years. But he was recruited in 1998 by George Welsh, not Groh. After Schaub left, Groh's only winning season came with Jameel Sewell at the helm if you're asking "Who?" right now, the correct answer is, "Exactly." Groh left the Cavaliers in the lessthan-capable hands of Marc Verica. leading up to London's similar issues. The past four years have seen a changing cast of subpar QBs as well Michael Rocco, Phillip Sims and poor David Watford among them so both coaches get a solid M for Mediocre.

Coach-isms

Groh owns this category. Not exactly a media darling, he arrived in Charlottesville having proclaimed that, with his NFL coaching experience, other coaches merely played checkers while he played chess. Yikes.

Groh's exit was just as, shall we say, interesting as his entrance. At his final press conference, Groh recited Dale Wimbrow's "The Guy in the Glass," then proceeded to spell out his own virtues — being the mastermind behind a 3-9 season not among them — to the media. Less than 24 hours later, he was fired.

London's hallmark for the year has been something along the lines of "I have to do better" — you think? — but unless he starts telling people that he's playing Settlers of Catan while everyone else plays Chutes 'N' Ladders, he won't ever be as cringe-worthy as Groh. Point for London.

Hanging-On-By-A-Thread Factor

At the onset of the 2007 campaign, Craig Littlepage told disgruntled Virginia fans that Groh would remain the head coach at least throughout the season. Still, after a disappointing few years,

Groh's performance that year would be under heavy scrutiny, and the slightest mistake could have cost him. Perhaps because his job was on the line, Groh delivered a winning season, a bowl game appearance, and an ACC Coach of the Year award — enough to keep him on for another two years of bad coaching.

Now, in 2013, London faces a similar situation. Littlepage has insisted that his head coach will stay in Charlottesville throughout 2014 despite a terrible performance and a livid fan base. It remains to be seen whether London will pull off a miracle like his predecessor in 2007, or whether he will provide yet another year of the disappointment that both coaches seem so adept at creating. Half a point to Groh.

Verdict

Honestly, the real losers in this scenario are Virginia fans. It might not be fair to compare London to Groh — London hasn't had nearly as much time to rack up wins and bowl games. But he has certainly proven capable of being just as bad as his predecessor. London will have at least one more season in Charlottesville, but whether he sinks or swims, we've seen enough mediocrity in Scott Stadium to last a lifetime.

W SOCCER | Red Flash's talented McKibben poses formidable threat

Continued from page 12

been great this year with the support they have given us, so for us, it is huge to play at home."

St. Francis (13-7-1, 7-1-0 Northeast) is currently riding a five-match winning streak, highlighted by a 1-0 victory against LIU Brooklyn Sunday to clinch the Northeast Conference Championship. The Red Flash boast

a roster brimming with talent, headlined by senior forward Tesa McKibben. McKibben has rewritten not just Saint Francis' record books, but the NCAA's as well. She is the first ever player to win her conference's Player of the Year

award in four consecutive seasons, and her 171 career points lead all active players in the country.

"It doesn't really matter who we play at this point, we just need to focus on how we can play and making sure that we keep getting better throughout the tournament," Brian said. "Everyone from here on out is going to be a good opponent."

The Cavaliers will clash with the Red Flash at 7 p.m. Friday at Klöckner stadium.

FIELD HOCKEY Victories would hand Madison school record

Continued from page 12

and defender Carissa Vittese, this weekend could represent their last wearing a Virginia jersey. The current seniors made the NCAA semifinals their freshman year, but have not returned since.

"We've been to the Final Four, been to the Elite Eight, so we know what it's like to make it far," Hanks said. "Obviously it's our last chance to make it even further. Our point of view is that this could be the year for everyone on the team, not just the senior class."

Buckley leads the team in of-

fensive production with 48 points and 20 goals, but the top three players behind her on offense are all freshmen. Forwards Riley Tata and Caleigh Foust each have 10 goals on the year and midfielder Lucy Hyams has 5 goals and 10 assists. Hyams was named the ACC Freshman of the Year on Monday for her performance this

season

"I feel like it's a team award in a way," Hyams said. "I'm only one part of a team and I know that I don't run the team. It's nice that I received the award, but I got on behalf of the other players as well."

The Cavaliers face Massachusetts at 2 p.m. Saturday, and if

victorious will face the winner of Duke and New Hampshire for a berth in the semifinals Sunday at 2 p.m. Madison, who is scheduled to be inducted into the National Field Hockey Coaches Association Hall of Fame next week, would become the winningest coach in Virginia field hockey history with two victories.

W BASKETBALL | Depth helps Cavaliers weather defensive rule changes

Continued from page 13

30 contests in 2012-13, she has contributed 37 points in just two games this year.

"I tried to take in all the things that I did last year and try to improve on that," Randolph said. "I know my shooting percentages weren't that great and I tried to improve on that and I think the time I had last year definitely helped prepare me for this year."

In addition to coping with Franklin's injury, the Cavaliers' bench has allowed them to adjust to the NCAA rule changes. Along with a new 10-second backcourt violation, officials are emphasizing offensive freedom of movement by consistently cracking down on defensive contact.

"It is really tough because you're wondering about the next play and 'How are you going to play the person with the ball?" junior forward Sarah Imovbioh said. "Sometimes it's frustrating but we've just got to do our work really early and beat them to the spot and move our feet."

After just two games, six Virginia players have accounted for

27 fouls

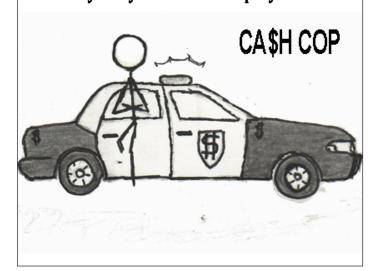
"Thank goodness we have a bench this year," Boyle said. "That's all I have to say."

Virginia will look to further iron out its lineup and any kinks in its defensive strategy against the Techsters (0-1) Saturday at 2 p.m. at John Paul Jones Arena.



MOSTLY HARMLESS BY PETER SIMONSEN

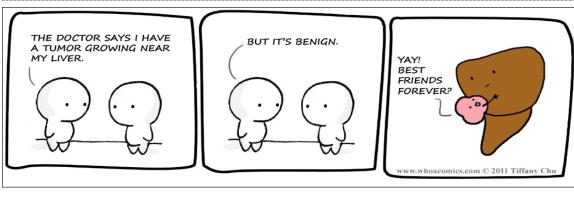
There are millions of police cars in America, but there's only one that pays you! Get arrested by CA\$H COP and I'll quiz you all the way to the station. If you get stuck, you can plead the fifth, or use your one phone call to shout out for help-- but remember, with Cash Cop, it's three strikes then a life sentence! What d'ya say? You wanna play?



THE ADVENTURES OF THE AMAZING <THE> A-MAN BY EMILIO ESTEBAN



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SOLE SURVIVOR BY MICHAEL GILBERTSON



The New Hork Times Crossword

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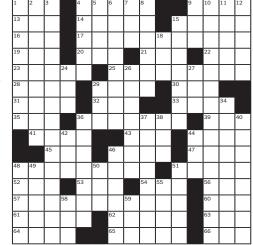
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"A Single Shot" backfires

Katie Cole Arts & Entertainment Editor

Attending screenings at the annual Virginia Film Festival is like drinking a glass of red wine and then having a conversation with the vintner. It might not be the newest or most buzzworthy drink (here's looking at you "Ciroc boys"), and you might not always enjoy the wine, but the experience allows you to understand the mastery it took to create the wine and gives you a new appreciation.

This is how I felt about David Rosenthal's latest film, "A Single Shot." I see the cinematic value of the film. Eduard Grau, the cinematographer, shows his mastery with intriguing angles and smart lighting. The acting is superb with Sam Rockwell giving life to the internal struggles of his character, who says little and yet is the focal point of the film. The literary genius behind the film, which is based on Matthew Jones' novel by the same title, shines through in each and every scene. And yet, this film doesn't

make my taste buds sing to the heavens and back in the same way that a great glass of red wine does — though admittedly, that is a tall order.

The film, set in a rural town in upstate New York, follows a middle-aged, unemployed man, John Moon (Rockwell) struggling through the aftermath of accidentally killing a young woman while poaching for food. This woman, however, is no ordinary hiker, but actually part of an elaborate criminal money scheme. Trapped in this criminal spiral, John is threatened and tormented by unseen men demanding he return the money he took off the dead girl and planned to use to better his life and buy back the wife who left him for a brighter future for herself and their son. The story leaves John unsure of himself and cruelly victimized by own mistakes.

"A Single Shot" begins not with the shot that sets the





supposedly fast-paced film into motion, but instead with a rather mundane scene. John moseys around his trailer, getting ready for the morning's poaching from the local national park. The suspense just doesn't hit the right note — to be honest, it doesn't hit at all. I wish it had started with the bang that I anticipated from the synopsis; perhaps it would have set a better tone for the rest of the film. Instead, I sat around for 10 minutes waiting for the film to actually start.

But perhaps we can chalk that flaw up to my own impatience. The acting was truly superb and, in the true spirit of the festival, Jones offered interesting insight into the making of the film afterward. He wrote the screenplay himself after five screenplays didn't meet his expectations because they veered too far from the source material.

But those rejected writers' urges to move away from the

book are understandable. The narrative relies heavily on John's internal guilt about his accidental murder, and movies without voiceovers struggle to convey that same level of internal strife. Even though Rockwell did as good a job as anyone could hope for, without knowledge of the book beforehand much of the character's motives seemed ambiguous.

This leaves a lot of room for potential misunderstanding. Though Jones insisted that John should be seen as a "good guy," many could look at his actions differently. This is complicated by the strange drawl the actors adopted for the film. It was often difficult to understand what came across as an almost "southern" accent — peculiar because Jones insists the

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Distance sucks. There's really no other way to put it.

Sure, with the Internet expediting communication and shows like "Catfish" glamorizing transcontinental romance, you'd think it'd be easy to surmount hundreds of miles in pursuit of love. The 73 minutes of incredible filmmaking that are"Hank and Asha" exist to test that hypothesis. This is a story of boy-never-meets-girl.

Asha (Mahira Kakkar) reaches out to budding film-maker Hank (Andrew Pastides) via video message to gush about his film she just saw. He didn't show up to the question-and-answer session after the screening, so she uses the Internet to pick his artistic brain. Unfolding in alternating video clips, the action centers around these two radically different people as they try to connect across the ocean.

There are definite differences in the personalities of the two eponymous characters. Asha is an Indian student abroad in Prague, tied to her culture and to the strictness of her family. Hank

Cable-crossed lovers

'Hank and Asha' offers refreshing spin on classic formula

Courtesy ifccenter.com

James Cassar Associate Editor is a free spirit stationed in New York City, estranged from his parents and unafraid to impress his Internet crush with a streak of boldness. Hank's scenes earned serious laughs from the crowd, whereas Asha's were greeted with cutesy giggles. Opposites attract, and the chemistry isn't as disconnected as their computerized courtship may suggest.

Eventually, the honeymoon phase passes — secrets build up and emotions run high. Hank attempts to shore up the cracks in their foundation with an idealistic portrait of the future and a proposed trip to Paris; Asha is decidedly less keen on making big plans. The emotional ride for the last 20 minutes of the movie is as shaky as the realistic sway of the handheld camera work.

It's a simple concept. Boy meets girl, boy desires to relentlessly pursue girl, boy encounters hurdle, boy is undeterred. Updated for the 21st century, "Hank and Asha" offers a fresh spin on what the romance film can do, and it remains genuinely human despite its digital backbone.

Julia Skorcz Senior Writer

Ruben Amar and Lola Bessis' upcoming film, "Swim Little Fish Swim," offers a successfully whimsical twist on the trials of reality. Set primarily in New York City, the humorous film follows Lilas (played by the charming Bessis), the daughter of renowned artist Françoise de Castillon (Anne Consigny), as she struggles to establish her own artistic identity in America. After escaping — quite literally — from her eccentric artist boyfriend, Lilas enters the life of an atypical American family.

The father in that family, Leeward (Dustin Guy Defa), is a talented musician but a child at heart. Much to his wife Mary's (Brooke Bloom) dismay, Leeward often turns down well-paying jobs, alleging that commercial work would sacrifice his artistic integrity. And then there is their daughter

Maggie (Olivia Durling Costello) — or is it Rainbow? Her feuding parents cannot even agree on their child's name. Perhaps this tragic state of affairs would consume the film's mood, if not for the dynamic characters that enliven their circumstances with a little hope and some simple melodies.

This sense of simplicity allows the directors to turn potentially serious material into a comedic film. I had the pleasure of Skyping with Amar and Bessis this past weekend to discuss the unparalleled creativity behind "Nage Poisson Nage," the French title for the film.

I was greeted by smiles from both and a "How are you?" in Amar's eloquent French accent, as

the two got comfortable. After a brief interval of my gushing over their film in a typical star-struck teenager sort of way, we began our conversation with a discussion of their developing film styles - something that Bessis said has changed a lot in the past decade. The changes, according to Amar, are the result of "trying many things through short film" as well as "taking a different approach with the actors."

The construction of "Swim" followed about a decade of experimentation with short films, starting with the 2006 release of Amar's "Objet Perdu(e)." That film, much like Bessis' "Chinatown Portrait" from 2010, is a student film. It wasn't until 2011, with the production of "Checkpoint" that the two had enough money to complete a more distinguished short film. In fact, Amar revealed, they had more money for "Checkpoint" than for

"The subject matter was very different because we shot at the border between Israel and Palestine [for 'Checkpoint']," Bessis said. "It was more political [than 'Swim']. But there is one similarity ... We still have the point of view of the kid."

Not only was "Swim" filmed in a decidedly less political environment, it also enjoyed a unique creative process.

"I would say that the main difference was ... for 'Swim, Little Fish, Swim' we wanted to write a very simple storyline so that we could have room to experiment with the actors," Bessis said. "We wrote all the dialogue with the actors ... We chose the words of the actors and [allowed] their way of talking and moving to inspire us."

This inspiration played a major role in crafting the film's cunning humor.

"We really wanted the movie to be a comedy," Bessis said. "The characters all have something kind of funny in their behavior."

But the necessity of plot complications introduced more serious themes such as gender differences and marital conflict.



Zigzagging through life Dutch coming ot-age story exce

This year the Virginia Film Festival brought Charlottesville a true wonder with the 2012 Dutch film, "The Zigzag Kid." The film was one of three at the festival made from a Jewish perspective, but its message resonated with all audience members, encouraging them to embrace their individuality.

The plot centers on young Nono (Thomas Simon), a 13-yearold boy with creativity and spirit to spare. Nono hopes to follow in his father's footsteps and become the greatest inspector in the world. Though he loves his father, Jacob (Fedja van Huêt), Nono wonders why he was never told about mother, the mysterious Zohara (Camille De Pazzis). Considering the rest of his reserved, humdrum relatives, Nono wonders how he got his colorful imagination and free-spirited personality. He suspects the answer may lie in finally discovering more about his mother.

While on a train en route to his boring Uncle Simoel's house, Nono finds a letter wrapped around a bar of Luxor chocolate. This letter promises to send him on a whirlwind adventure, one that will train him to follow in his father's footsteps as the world's greatest detective and simultaneously prepare him for his upcoming Bar Mitzvah. On the way, he teams up with the notorious criminal mastermind Felix Glick (Burghart Klaußner) and glamorous grande dame Lola Ciperola (Isabella Rossellini). "The Zigzag Kid" succeeds in bringing new life to the lesson that there is just as much to gain from the journey as from finally reaching the destination.

Director Vincent Bal does a spectacular job of capturing the

elegance and excitement of travel. Nono and his accomplices race across a luxury-car-driving, evening-dress-wearing, croissant-eating Eu rope, creating a continental adventure just as rich and fun as Nono's imagination.

Bal and the film's all-star cast deserve all possible praise for infusing Nono's adventures with both tremendous comedy and true feeling. Nono is a boy in search of himself, and Simon plays his first major role with impressive sensitivity and intelligence. He captures the complexity of Nono's relationship with his father, striving to make him proud while remaining true to himself.

Bal does not sweep such serious subjects under the rug. As Nono pursues the truth behind his mother's absence and his own feeling of not quite fitting in, he must come to terms with the reality beyond his imagination. The world, he learns, is not always pretty and carefree. Val's film, however, is as bright and stunning as possible.



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT Thursday, November 14, 2013

Seeing double in 'Jake Squared'

Goldberg creates confusing, time-bending, unresolved narrative with quirky Woody Allen-esque film

Amber Fauber Staff Writer



Before the start of the "Jake Squared" at the Virginia Film Festival, director Howard Goldberg warned the audience that it would be a "mind-bending" comical experience. Mindbending is an understatement.

Elias Koteas stars as Jake Klein, a neurotic 50-year-old man trying to make it in the movie world by throwing a giant party in his house and setting up cameras to catch all the action. Jake hires an actor (Mike Vogel) to play himself and watches the movie unfold from his iPhone. Everything seems to be going well for Jake's movie until his past literally catches up to him. He finds himself face to face with his 17-yearold self, 30-year-old self, 40-year-old self, dead father and grandfather, ex-wife and first love (Jane Seymour). Jake has absolutely no clue what to make of everything, but continues filming for his movie. The movie then morphs from a laid-back comedy into a philosophical tale about the endless search for love.

Goldberg's time-bending story is quirky but charming. Koteas does a wonderful job playing 50-year-old Jake, 40-year-old Jake and 30-yearold Jake. It felt as though I was at the party with him, as he periodically breaks from the scene to talk directly to the audience. He needs our help to make sense of what is going on and determine whether or not he's going crazy.

In addition to breaking the fourth wall, Goldberg periodically displays quotes on screen both during the action and as a transitional tool. With lines from Marcus Aurelius, Mark Twain and even the Beatles, the quotes are put to use as both comedic relief and a plot device. At some points, the actors actually motion to where the quotes appear on the screen. It's all very surreal, much like the film's narra-

All these disparate elements fail to come together for a cohesive ending; however "Jake Squared" is stylistically comparable to a Woody Allen film and if that's your thing, you would probably appreciate this movie more than I did. But, I felt cheated by the ending. Despite the film's great potential, the overall storyline fell short. It is as if the takeaway message is supposed to be, "You've made your bed. Now lie

Yes, the movie is charming but it could have been so much more. I found this to be extremely ironic, considering the movie is itself about life's missed opportunities. It had everything it needed for success: a diverse cast, an original plot and a natural connection to the audience. But there are just too many storylines to settle, and Goldberg opts to leave essentially all of them unresolved.

For a movie that is simply supposed to be about a man making a movie, it becomes quite confusing to follow Goldberg's train of thought. This detracts from the movie as a whole because instead of trying to make sense of Jake Klein's life, I found myself trying to decipher what was actually happening in the movie.

All in all, I'd say it is definitely worth a watch, but only a watch. And if I were you, I'd bring pen and paper to take notes.



Heartland humor elevates excellent 'Nebraska'

Ali Jawetz Senior Writer

Though Will Forte is best known for his spot on "Saturday Night Live" and his goofy spin-off movie "MacGruber," he shows off genuine acting chops in "Nebraska," a poignant story about a father-son relationship. The film, directed by Alexander Payne ("The Descendants," "Sideways") follows David Grant (Forte) and his father Woody (Bruce Dern), who receives a notice suggesting he won \$1 million and wants to travel from Billings, Mont. to Nebraska to claim the prize. Despite the clear false pretenses of the notice, Forte's character agrees to drive his dad to Lincoln. They stop in Hawthorne, the small town in which Woody grew up, which provides the setting for much of the movie and reveals the humorous idiosyncrasies and drama of the Grant family.

The movie was filmed in 35 mm black and white, a style that was originally dismissed by Paramount, the film's distributor. Ultimately, however, the black-and-white

form lends well to the ambiguity of the time period of the film and the classic portrayal of the Midwest. It also complements Payne's minimalist filming style — a style that may be off putting at first, but ultimately allows for the script to remain the primary element of the film. As Forte said about his acting style, "The script does so much of the work for you. It taught me not to try to act too much, just be in the moment."

The movie surprises the audience with its comedy despite the plotline of an alcoholic and ornery parent becoming senile. Dern, who won Best Actor at the Cannes Film Festival for his role in the movie, has a remarkable ability to convey determination, helplessness, excitement and loneliness, all with very few words and within a very short amount of time. June Squibb steals the show as Kate Grant, Woody's wife, whose foul mouth and forthright attitude makes you want her as a great aunt who tells great stories at the holidays — but

only for those brief holiday visits.

The movie also includes a large number of non-professional actors who play various characters in the town and members of the Grant extended family. Given the current Hollywood landscape that tends to exclude older female actors, the inclusion of nonprofessional actors in these roles and others lends additional authenticity to Hawthorne.

At the 2013 Virginia Film Festival, Forte was interviewed with a litany of slightly cringe-inducing questions, such as "When you watch the film, do you see parts of your acting that you regret or that make you feel uncomfortable?" or "The film depicts a sort of nonsense view of the Midwest. Do you think people from Nebraska would be offended?" But Forte fielded the questions with great poise and concluded beautifully, "There are crazy people everywhere. And wonderful people everywhere. But the movie could have taken place anywhere and shown [the same humanity]."



SINGLE SHOT | Some vintages are best enjoyed just once

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film is set in upstate New York, where he grew up, and was filmed in Vancouver. The only actors speaking clearly enough to understand were Ophelia Lovibond who plays Abbie, and Jason Isaacs, who plays Waylon and is better known

from his role in Harry Potter as Lucius Malfoy.

The treatment of women in the film is also questionable. Every female character is killed, manhandled, shown naked or assaulted during the film, with the exception of John's estranged wife Moira (Kelly Reilly) - who herself is portrayed as greedy and

pretentious. It might have been an attempt on Jones' part to portray the culture of upstate New York, or perhaps he thought it was necessary to showcase how much of a "good guy" John was — the topic didn't come up in the Q&A — but either way it did leave a sour after-

Despite these vivid flaws, the

film still has a spark of appeal. It's not an action-packed James Bond thriller. But if you're looking for mild suspense, explicit gore (a finger is cut off on-screen and, yes, you can hear the bone crack) and unnecessary sexuality (there is a scene with a naked woman watching porn) then maybe this movie is for you. Film students looking

dark novel might enjoy this movie,

As for me, I could see why the bottle of wine is supposed to be good — it comes from a reputable vineyard, it went through the proper fermentation, and is a good year. But I think I'm happy with just one glass.

