

THE CAVALIER DAILY

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Graphic by Aisha Singh

The UVA Spanish Theater group presents:



This week in brief

Maggie Servais | News Editor

Masked group holds anti-Nazi demonstration at Jefferson statue



C HRISTINA ANTON | THE CAVALIER DAILY

One of the demonstrators recited lines from reflections by Nazi-resistor Alfred Delp.

A group of masked individuals calling themselves the “The Otherwise Society” gathered by the Thomas Jefferson statue at the Rotunda last Friday for what appeared to be an anti-Nazi demonstration. The seven demonstrators honored Alfred Delp, a German Jesuit priest and leader of the Catholic resistance to Nazism who was sentenced to death in a Nazi prison.

Using a megaphone, one of the seven demonstrators recited lines from “The Prison Meditations of Father Alfred Delp,” a collection of reflections by Alfred Delp. Friday marked the 73rd anniversary of Delp’s execution, which took place on Feb. 2, 1945.

The demonstrators passed out small sheets of paper, with quotes from their speech and “The Prison Meditations.”

The gathering lasted just under

30 minutes, after which the individuals walked under the Rotunda’s south portico. Reporters from The Cavalier Daily saw several older men believed to be the demonstrators walk out of a bathroom unmasked.

Marsh Pattie, the University’s assistant vice president for Student Affairs and associate dean of students, was observed speaking with members of the group after they moved away from the Jefferson statue. He told The Cavalier Daily it is illegal for adults to wear masks in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Pattie said does not know whether the individuals will face repercussions.

“I don’t know who they are other than what they handed out,” Pattie said.

Charlottesville Circuit Court postpones Confederate statues tarps decision

Charlottesville Circuit Court Judge Richard E. Moore oversaw the latest hearing in a lawsuit filed against the City and members of City Council to stop the removal of the statue of Confederate General Robert E. Lee from Emancipation Park in downtown Charlottesville Monday. Moore declined to make a decision regarding coverings placed by the City of Charlottesville on the statues of Lee and Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson. The coverings will remain until Moore finishes his deliberations, which he expects to go until Feb. 27.

City Council voted 3-2 to remove the statue last February. The lawsuit was filed in March 2017.

Several months later, and a week after the deadly Aug. 12 United The Right rally, City Council voted to cover the two Confederate monuments with tarps.

The plaintiffs are 11 individuals and two organizations, the Monument Fund, Inc. and the Virginia Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, Inc. The city requested to drop the lawsuit, but Moore ruled the case would move forward in October. In November, City Council approved a resolution to begin the process of redesigning the parks and re-



NAVYA ANNAPAREDDY | THE CAVALIER DAILY

The hearing raised the question of the permanency of the tarps covering the statues.

moving the statues.

In October, former City Attorney S. Craig Brown and Deputy City Attorney Lisa Robertson argued the tarp was a temporary measure for mourning, and Moore allowed the tarps to remain.

The biggest question in Monday’s hearing was that of permanence and whether the council’s motion in August and resolution in November constituted an indefinite move to hide the statues, or an extended exercise in mourning.

“If [a statue] is totally covered, I think that’s tantamount to removing it,” Moore said.

The next hearing in the case is scheduled for Feb. 27 at 10 a.m.

City Council passes resolution to implement new meeting procedures

The Charlottesville City Council unanimously passed a resolution Monday to revise its general body meeting structure and procedures of operation.

The revisions address the manner in which the Council’s meetings will be conducted in the future, including how the body will engage citizen speakers and how it will encourage participatory dialogue between the councilors and the public.

Council meetings will now begin at 6:30 p.m. rather than the traditional 7 p.m. start time. Meetings will still be held on the first and third Monday of each month or the following day if the Monday is a legally recognized holiday.

The “Matters by the Public” comment section traditionally held before the Council conducts its regular business meeting will now be replaced with a “Community Matters” public comment period. During this time, 16 individuals will be able to sign-up to speak for three minutes each. Speakers will also be allocated two minutes of time for councilors to respond to issues and concerns brought up during each speaker’s remarks.

Eight of these speakers will be randomly selected from a list of individuals who signed up to

speak in advance, while the remaining eight will be required to sign-up on the day of the meeting on a first-come, first-served basis.

The Council also passed a resolution in a 3-2 vote to eliminate a clause from its originally proposed meeting guidelines which barred speakers during the public comment from ceding their speaking time to others if the recipient had already spoken. Councilors Mike Signer, Wes Bellamy and Mayor Nikayah Walker voted in favor of the resolution, while Councilor Kathy Galvin and Vice Mayor Heather Hill voted against it.

The Council considered a resolution to increase the amount of time for each speaker during the public comment from three to four minutes, though it was defeated in a 3-2 vote. Bellamy, Signer and Hill voted against the measure, while Walker and Galvin voted in favor of it.

The Council will reassess the newly implemented meeting guidelines in two months to judge if they are effectively engaging the public and increasing participation.



GEREMIA DI MARO | THE CAVALIER DAILY

Local attorney Jeffrey Fogel addresses the Council during the public hearing.

2018 IFC recruitment participation declines from last year

Office of the Dean of Students, HRL, IFC work together to create safe recruitment process

Caroline Stoerker | Associate Editor

905 male students participated in the 2018 recruitment process for the University Inter-Fraternity Council, compared to 1061 last year. While participation dropped by close to 15 percent, the acceptance rate of bids — invitations to join a fraternity — was slightly higher than in 2017.

The IFC held its annual Bid Day Saturday, which served as the culmination of a two-week-long recruitment process for 31 active University fraternities.

598 bids were extended and 541 were accepted, amounting to about a 90 percent acceptance rate per bid. About 58 percent of all male students registered for the recruitment process accepted bids.

This year's IFC recruitment process and Bid Day follows a year of controversiality surrounding fraternities across the country. Incidents involving excessive amounts of alcohol led to the death of one pledge at Penn State University in February 2017 and another at Florida State University in November, leading to an intensified national scrutiny of fraternities and the culture surrounding the recruitment process. Florida State, among other universities — including Texas State University, Ohio State University and the University of Michigan — indefinitely or temporarily suspended fraternity activities after chapters at the schools came under investigation for unsafe hazing rituals.

In an email to The Cavalier Daily, Ashwanth Samuel, a third-year College student and IFC President, discussed the number of students who participated in this year's recruitment process compared to previous years.

"We had 905 registered potential new members," Samuel said. "This is lower than last year. However, it is still above the average number of registrants we have recorded since 2008 which is roughly 885."

Samuel acknowledged the tragic events that occurred in fraternities at other institutions, but did not attribute the drop in the number of participating University students to the events that happened on other campuses.

"While one may point towards the national climate surrounding Greek Life as the reason for this drop in registration numbers, it's important to note that after Rolling Stone published A Rape on Campus, registrants actually increased in the subsequent recruitment season," Samuel said.



CHANDLER COLLINS | THE CAVALIER DAILY

First-year College student Liam McCormick gets tossed in the air by members of his fraternity during Bid Day festivities.

"Given the relatively small decline in registration numbers, we are not interpreting this change as a causal indication of a larger trend."

The slight drop in the number of students who went through the recruitment process this year did not change the IFC's mission. Andrew Bell, a third-year Commerce student and IFC Vice President of Membership, said in an email that the recent events at other institutions have increased the importance of the IFC's mission to cultivate a reputable, safe and inclusive fraternity culture at the University.

"The IFC has continually worked to improve the character, reputation, and perception of each of its 31 currently active chapters, as well as of the Greek community at UVa as a whole," Bell said. "In light of recent tragic events at other universities, our mission has not changed but has only grown more important."

According to Bell, the IFC implemented new measures to accomplish their goals, ranging from continual communication with chapters to a new need-based dues scholarship program.

"Through regular messaging to the chapters, a newly implemented need-based dues scholarship, and regular initiatives to improve safety and risk management, the IFC has worked extremely hard over the last year [under former IFC President Henry Crochiere] to further our mission and goals," Bell said.

Hal Turner, an assistant dean and director of Fraternity and Sorority Life, said in an email to The Cavalier Daily that one of the ways University ensured a smooth and safe recruitment process was by maintaining frequent and clear communication between the IFC and the Office of the Dean of Students.

According to Turner, ODOS met with all outgoing and incoming IFC chapter presidents, recruitment chairs and new member educators before recruitment began to discuss University and IFC policies concerning the recruitment process, new member education, social functions and general safety.

"In this meeting, the Office of the Dean of Students discussed the national climate surrounding Greek safety and the importance

of promoting positive, educational and safe experiences for all members of the Greek community at the University of Virginia," Turner said.

Turner also stated that IFC recruitment at the University must follow a strict no-alcohol rule, and that violations are handled at different levels depending on the severity of the case.

"The Inter-Fraternity Council Bylaws state that alcohol is strictly prohibited throughout the IFC recruitment process," Turner said. "Reported violations are investigated, tried, and sanctioned through the Inter-Fraternity Council Judiciary Committee, University Judiciary Committee, or the University on a case-by-case basis."

On Bid Day, members of the Housing and Residence Life resident staff were on coverage and University police were present to maintain a safe and non-threatening environment for both pledges and other residents. Tyler Ambrose, a fourth-year College student and Housing and Residence Life co-chair, discussed the security presence during the presentation of bids to rushees in

first-year dorm areas.

"The coverage that occurred in the dorms spanned ... the times that IFC kind of walked through old dorms and new dorms area to come get residents," Ambrose said. "There was, this year, increased police presence, but that was coordinated independent of the resident staff coverage."

The IFC worked closely with Housing and Residence Life in order to establish a clear set of precedents and expectations for how Bid Day would operate. Ambrose said the day turned out to be a smooth experience with no major incidents.

"It was definitely a positive operation and experience on our end," Ambrose said. "We're really grateful for the IFC for working so well with us this year and looking forward to next year and the years to come."

Town hall explores new Student Activities Building

Office of the Dean of Students, Meriwether Lewis Institute Fellows, others look to gather student insight

Jemma Hoolahan | Senior Writer

A planning team comprised of architects, representatives from the Office of the Dean of Students and Meriwether Lewis Institute Fellows held a town hall at 1515 on the Corner last Friday, inviting students to discuss a new Student Activities Building.

A focus group has been working on improving the current SAB and is trying to gather input to make the student-run building as useful and accessible for students as possible. The SAB, located near Scott Stadium, was first built in 1983 and currently offers a space to hold new student orientation and other student gatherings.

In the summer of 2017, the Meriwether Lewis Institute Fellows focused on the SAB. There are seven MLI fellows continuing to work on the SAB project. Run through the Student Affairs office, the Meriwether Lewis Institute for Citizen Leadership engages a 25-person cohort in a leadership development program. The institute begins with a project in the summer between second and third year and involves other engagements during fellows' third and fourth years.

The interactive town hall was split into a morning and an afternoon session and focused on three topics: "Grounds Journey Mapping," to work out where student activities are around Grounds; "SAB Site," to think about how to make the SAB accessible; and "SAB Functions and Program", to figure out what environment the SAB should be providing.

Caroline McNichols, a third-year Engineering student and MLI fellow, said the town hall was a way of gathering the opinions of different students.

"Today is really about reaching anyone in the community who wants to have a voice regarding the new SAB," McNichols said. "So, the point is to use the tools these consultants have created ... to garner input from more people — what the SAB could be, how it's used now, [and] things people like about it."

Third-year College student Caroline West helped start the venture for a new SAB in the fall of 2016 as part of an independent thesis for her major.

West said the three theatres on Arts Grounds are primarily used for the drama departments' own productions, meaning the theatres do not have the capacity to allow student-run theatre groups to perform there. Thus, student-run performances like those of First Year Players are put on in the current SAB.

"I was in First Year Players my first semester here and was on stage

and just saw all the problems," West said in an interview with The Cavalier Daily. "It's a makeshift stage with two hundred seats crammed in. There's a fan blowing that sometimes goes off halfway through, and you realize you haven't been able to hear the performers. It has a lot of problems."

Marsh Pattie, assistant vice president for student affairs and associate dean of students, has been working on the project with West since 2016.

"Our process in the beginning was to put together an ad-hoc working group to begin to look at the space and do an early needs assessment, about what we wanted to develop and change about it," Pattie said. "Some of it was fed by the work that was done in the space we're standing in — 1515. It had come out of that. Then, as the year progressed, as momentum continued to grow, we realized that we needed a lot of expertise to come in."

Over the summer of 2017, the Meriwether Lewis Institute focused on the SAB as its summer project. Students studied and conducted analyses to develop five separate proposals for ideas that they believed would improve the SAB.

The first group proposed re-

building the SAB with a focus on engaging first-years, while the second wanted it to be a space for performing arts, but with first-year amenities. The third group proposed building a performing arts center in the Emmet/Ivy corridor. The fourth suggested a new SAB — closer to Grounds — to serve as a student union. The final group proposed renovation of the SAB to afford greater flexible functionality.

Following the work done by the MLI fellows, HGA — an architectural firm — began working with the focus group to get recommendations and to begin design concepts.

d'Andre Willis, principal at HGA's Washington, D.C. office, said the firm was currently in the progress of gathering student feedback to make something that would represent students' needs.

"We did a visioning session with the working group last November and then we also launched the student online survey that went out about a month ago," Willis said. "Today, we're backing this up with student discussion and more journey mapping. Altogether, this is really going to help us with making recommendations ... something to work with in terms of framework for allocating money and allocating

site resources."

West said she did not want to discount the five ways in which the SAB is currently used. It is a rehearsal space for Salsa Club; a rehearsal space for student theatre groups; a creative space where all the sets for performances are created; a space for multicultural groups, particularly black fraternities, to host functions; as well as a space for fairs and orientation.

"I think those functions are important to retain. So, the people who use it now, still get to use it in the way they've used it - in a better way - rather than be forgotten," West said. "That'd be a huge problem that we don't want to have happen."

While there have been discussions about whether or not the SAB itself will be moved, West said one of the benefits of having it close to new dorms and the stadium is that it is not so close to Central Grounds.

"It is kind of nice to not be at the center of the University," West said. "You want to keep the integrity of it being a student-run space, and having it not right next to the administration helps that become more of a reality."

West said she was very excited to be a part of the project and was

hopeful that it would be able to benefit a lot of groups on Grounds.

"It's been my passion since I was in the play first semester," West said. "It's just so obtainable for a University of this caliber. It's so fixable, and I think it could improve so many people's lives here."

In an email to The Cavalier Daily, West said she thought the day had been a success. Around 40 students showed up and brought different ideas, which the working group explored.

"Although we as the working group initially thought that an open space might be more conducive to the multi-purpose nature of the building, more and more students expressed their interest in creating a true stage/open theater in the space," West said.

After the town hall, the working focus groups will continue to evaluate exactly what students want to do with the space. Pattie said that by the end of the semester, they will have a time frame and firm design parameters.

"The next step would be to take the program design recommendation and site locations recommendations to the Board [of Visitors] for consideration of approval," Pattie said.



Students engage with Meriwether Lewis Institute Fellows over designs for a new Student Activities Building during the town hall.

U.Va. students propose new Emancipation Park designs

Architecture students exhibit redesign ideas in City Space downtown

Nafisa Mazumdar | Staff Writer

Thirteen graduate and undergraduate students from the University's School of Architecture have created proposals to redesign Emancipation Park in downtown Charlottesville. The designs are on display in CitySpace, a city-owned meeting space, on the Downtown Mall.

The redesign ideas were part of a six-credit Research Studio, open to both undergraduate and graduate students, taught by Architecture Prof. Karen Van Lengen. The class is described as an advanced studio where students explore complex issues and sites, often through interdisciplinary design research. After last year's renaming of Emancipation Park, formerly known as Lee Park, and the vote by Charlottesville City Council to remove the statue of Confederate General Robert E. Lee from the park, she wanted at least one class to focus on the future of the park. She said she prompted her students to think of the effects of either keeping or taking down the statue.

Mert Kansu, a graduate Architecture student and one of the project creators, said the studio was originally centered around sound and how it affects a physical space. The focus of the studio shifted a little, however, following the events of Aug. 11 and 12, when white nationalists held a torch lit march through

Grounds and descended on Charlottesville for the deadly Unite the Right rally.

"The studio's main goal was ... exploring sound and how it kind of informs the space," Kansu said. "So we wanted to create a space, a forum, in Charlottesville but after the events [of Aug. 11 and 12] took place, the studio was also invested in reimagining Emancipation Park."

City Council approved the placement of tarps over the statues of Lee and Confederate Gen. Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson in nearby Justice Park shortly after the events of Aug. 11 and 12. In September, City Council unanimously voted to remove the statue of Jackson.

The City is facing an ongoing lawsuit, filed in March 2017 by 11 community members and two organizations, against the placement of the tarps and the removal of the statues. The plaintiffs argue removing the statues would violate Virginia law which protects memorials for war veterans. In the latest phase of the lawsuit, Judge Richard E. Moore postponed a decision concerning the status of the tarps during a hearing at Charlottesville Circuit Court Monday.

Presented with the options to remove or keep the statue or alter it to change its meaning, Van Lengen encouraged her students to consider

their redesign ideas.

"It became an individual response by each of the students to think about that issue and what it means with the history of the community and the history of African-American culture in America," Van Lengen said. "And, so, getting ready for that, they did a lot of research."

The project started in the fall semester and students worked on it through early December. In order to make a decision about the future of the statue and the park, Van Lengen's students conducted research on the history of the Charlottesville community and African-American culture in America. Students interviewed Charlottesville residents and read the report from the city's Blue Ribbon Commission on Race, Memorials and Public Spaces, which presents an analysis of the legacy of slavery and racism in Charlottesville and recommendations on how to address that history.

City Council formed the Commission in May 2016 to address local concerns regarding the statues of the confederate generals downtown.

Fourth-year Architecture student Sarah Schaefer said she's not too familiar with the history, but she wanted the statue to be removed while revealing and preserving the context behind it.

"What I started thinking of was trees — when they're uprooted, you can kind of see the force that takes down the tree," Schaefer said. "In the whole process of a tree being uprooted, it also lifts the land around it, and it kind of reveals the under-workings, something you wouldn't normally see ... I kind of went on that metaphor, for the statue as a tree, and it has all these roots."

Schaefer said her redesign would show what forced down the statue, while telling unheard stories related to the confederacy. Her main goal with the project was to reveal, in accordance with the motif of storytelling within the project.

As Kansu noted, the project also

included an element of sound design and its relevance to architecture. Van Lengen said students collected stories of everyday people in Charlottesville about significant areas in the town.

"Many students decided to play recordings in the site, installations, to prompt discussion, sort of face-to-face discussion in the park, so the communicative aspects of the project were very important," Van Lengen said.

The designs are open to the public and will remain on display in CitySpace for the month of February.



XIAOQI LI | THE CAVALIER DAILY

Student redesign proposals are on display at CitySpace downtown.

Media Studies Department plans graduate degree program

Proposed M.A. in Media, Culture and Technology is pending Board of Visitors, state approval

Jake Gold | Staff Writer

The University's first Media Studies graduate degree — a master of arts in Media, Culture and Technology — has been approved by the Faculty Senate and is pending Board of Visitors and state legislative confirmation to begin at an undetermined date. Though the department has previously offered several graduate-level courses on a selective basis, it does not award any master's or other postgraduate degrees.

"The purpose of the proposed M.A. in Media, Culture, and Technology is to promote the study of media at the highest level of excellence and to build a pathway for employment in the thriving labor areas of media policy and new media research," the proposal, prepared by the Media Studies Graduate Studies Committee, reads.

Jennifer Petersen, an associate professor of media studies and member of the Media Studies Grad-

uate Studies Committee, is among the group of faculty spearheading the new graduate program, which also includes professors like Hector Amaya and Siva Vaidhyanathan. The Media Studies Department celebrated its 10th anniversary this year. Petersen discussed the merits of working within a relatively young program at the University.

"One of the things that's kind of unique about the program ... is that we are a new department and we have been, in a way, freed to really be forward-thinking about where the field is going," Petersen said. "We weren't formed at a moment when everyone was studying radio, television or film ... we're at the cutting edge of the field."

The master's degree will require students to take 30 credits, including a minimum of 24 graded credits — one introductory media studies seminar, one media history course,

one media method analysis course and five specialized electives. Students' chosen electives must fit into one of three degree tracks: policy and law, screen studies or technology and interaction.

Screen studies, the proposal states, is the most academic and scholarly of the tracks, designed for students who hope to get a PhD in film or media studies. The law and policy track will focus on media-related policy issues. The technology and interaction track is a holistic and technical media research program.

"Technology and interaction is something that's very forward-looking," Petersen said. "Taking some of the strengths that the discipline has amassed ... and thinking about how they apply to emerging media."

Students in the technology and interaction track will be required to complete an internship as a step

toward their degree. Law and policy students are allowed to complete internships, but it is not a requirement for graduation. The proposal also stated the committee's intention to establish a dual degree program with the University School of Law, granting students both a J.D. and an M.A., though a timeframe for the collaboration has not been established.

All students will be required to complete research before graduating, either in the form of a traditional master's thesis or a professional report.

The program will take a variable number of semesters for students to complete, the proposal says. Some students coming in with graduate studies credits may be able to complete the master's in two semesters, but many will have to take a third semester or summer courses. Students can also take longer than

three semesters if they wish to work towards their master's on a part-time basis.

The degree will cost the same as other master's programs in the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences — \$686 per credit hour for Virginia residents and \$1,135 per credit hour for non-residents, as well as \$1,335 per semester in comprehensive fees for residents and \$1,676 per semester for non-residents.

Petersen said that the program is currently pending approval from two legislative bodies. After being passed Dec. 12 by the Faculty Senate, the proposal was sent to the Board of Visitors for approval. If accepted, the proposal will go to the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia in Richmond. Petersen estimated the SCHEV approval process could take up to nine months.



Finding the Downtown Mall's best dessert

Chaps or Splendor's — one ice cream cone to rule them all

Sadie Goodman | Food Columnist

The Downtown Mall is a staple of the city of Charlottesville. Its beautiful brick pedestrian walkway is lined with shops and restaurants of every kind. As a child, two of my favorite places on the mall were Chaps Ice Cream and Splendor's Gelato. Deciding between the two was always the hardest part of my night, but I've finally made my choice.

Both stores are locally-owned and operated, located just a few doors down from each other on the Downtown Mall.

Chaps is welcoming and charming — it serves up rich and delicious ice cream and has a variety of options to satisfy any craving. Their thick and creamy ice creams have been made using family recipes for over 75 years and their scoops are best eaten from the waffle cones handmade in the store.

Splendor's adds a twist on the traditional cold treat by making gelato, not ice cream. Gelato, Italy's version of ice cream, contains many of the same ingredients, but the final product tends to be healthier because it contains less fat.

The environment in Chaps is

cheery with plenty of '50s themed decorations and a large, mirrored wall alongside the booths and tables. The bright, plastic booths are comfortable, but there sometimes isn't enough seating to enjoy your ice cream in the shop — especially during the hotter months. There's always a TV or two on for entertainment if you do end up snagging a booth.

In addition to ice cream, Chaps serves a variety of hot drinks and classic diner food with options for breakfast and lunch. Of their non-dessert options, I've only tried the fries but I guarantee these, at least, are delicious.

Splendor's has an open, modern interior filled with bright pops of color. There is a large brown couch that stretches along the majority of the back wall; I always thought it looked like the chocolate waterfall from Willy Wonka's chocolate factory. The couch is lined with chairs and tables, ensuring plenty of seating for everyone. The large window by the front of the store lets in a lot of natural light and is the perfect way to people watch on the mall. Splendor's also has candies, baked goods and hot drinks avail-

able to complement the frozen desserts.

The ice cream in Chaps is kept in large plastic buckets in the display case. There are so many flavors, it's hard to choose. Chaps sticks to many traditional sweeter flavors like mocha chip, rainbow sherbert, black raspberry, butter pecan and chocolate chip cookie dough. A single scoop will cost you \$3.90, with sprinkles coming in at an additional \$0.20.

The gelato at Splendor's is kept in metal tubs in a well-lit case. The flavors at Splendor's aren't always as self-explanatory as the ones at Chaps, but they offer free samples on colorful tasting spoons to help you decide. Flavors like peanut butter, amaretto and rose are sure to need a taste test, but more familiar options like lemon, mint chocolate chip or salted caramel are always available if you're not a fan of what you try. One of my favorites is cucumber mint, but it is unfortunately only available in the summer. It doesn't sound incredible at first, but it is such a light, palate cleansing flavor that I can't stay away.

Splendor's serves a variety of



SADIE GOODMAN | THE CAVALIER DAILY

Splendor's serves a variety of sizes including the bambino cone.

sizes including the bambino — “child” in Italian — cone, the perfect size for those desiring a sweet treat but not too keen on indulging in a huge dessert. A bambino is \$2.00 and for \$4.25 you can get a small cup or cone with two flavors. Toppings at Splendor's are an additional \$0.50.

Overall, Splendor's offers a healthier product and more novelty with their flavors. The in-

terior is more spacious and welcoming with ample seating, and they make a great effort to add and create new flavors, which is always exciting. While Chaps is delicious, the flavors can feel repetitive. If you're looking for a fun, new place to enjoy dessert on the Downtown Mall, Splendor's is the way to go.

Ace Biscuit & Barbecue: sinfully delicious breakfast

A heaping serving of breakfast, any time of day

Tucker Wilson | Food Columnist

Breakfast, as we know, is the most important meal of the day. A healthy breakfast can be the start to a productive day, a balanced diet and an overall healthy lifestyle. We all try to be a little

healthier early in the morning — some of us may even eat a piece of fruit to start off the day. However, healthy can get a bit boring. Sometimes it's good to be bad, even before noon. Sometimes

we need to swap the whole wheat toast and egg whites for something a little sinful but 10 times as tasty. And if you ever feel the need to break out of that new health kick you just kicked off and start your day with a little indulgence, look no further than Ace Biscuit and Barbecue.

Ace may not be kind to your waistline, but it is oh so good to your stomach.

As the name implies, Ace specializes in two things — biscuits and 'cue, combining the duo to make a killer all-day-breakfast menu. Starting early in the morning — 8 a.m., to be exact — Ace serves up the heartiest of breakfast meals, most between two halves of a biscuit. Their food combinations take traditional savory breakfast fare to a new level of indulgence — combinations like mouth-watering fried chicken, sausage gravy and house-smoked pimento cheese, or slow cooked and tender beef brisket topped with caramelized onions, cheddar cheese and a fried egg can start the day with just the right amount of juicy, fatty goodness.

From the moment you arrive at Ace, it's easy to see where all this down-home cooking comes from. Ace is a quintessential barbecue joint in every sense of the phrase — from the painted white brick exterior, to the chalkboard chock-full of daily specials and savory meat combinations, to the plethora of pig decorations on every available surface. And if the humble and charming homestyle decor didn't sell the restaurant, the smell from the open kitchen certainly will — the smoky smell of cooked meat, something only a true 'cue restaurant can produce, makes the stomach start growling long before your food arrives.

Ace also doesn't limit itself to early morning eats. Open until 3 p.m. every day of the week, the barbecue joint also rocks a satisfying lunch menu. Serving all the traditional Southern fare, like pulled pork, ribs, mac and cheese and collard greens — not to mention the sinfully juicy burger topped with their famous pimento — the lunch offerings prove this breakfast joint also has the chops to contend with any barbecue

smoker in Charlottesville.

However, in all barbecue restaurants, the secret is in the sauce, and Ace's sauces delivers on all fronts. Ace sports five homemade varieties of barbecue sauce, from traditional sweet red sauce and Carolina-style vinegar-based to a more daring mustard-based concoction. The shop even has their own homebrewed hot sauce, providing the perfect amount of spicy kick to your morning routine. Ace's array of sauces provide even more variety to their already expansive menu and ensure that each visit will offer a new set of flavors to enjoy.

I can't recommend an Ace biscuit enough — there really is no better way to start the day than with fried chicken and gravy or a slab of ribs. Whether you go for a savory brunch, an early morning kickstart or just to spend time with staff that makes you feel truly at home, Ace Biscuit and Barbecue is the place to be. Even as a relatively new kid on the block, I've got a feeling that Ace will be serving up delicious homestyle cooking for a long time.



TUCKER WILSON | THE CAVALIER DAILY

Ace is a quintessential barbecue joint in every sense of the phrase — from the painted white brick exterior to the plethora of pig decorations on every available surface.

Top 10 ways to celebrate Valentine's Day if you're single

Being single isn't all that bad

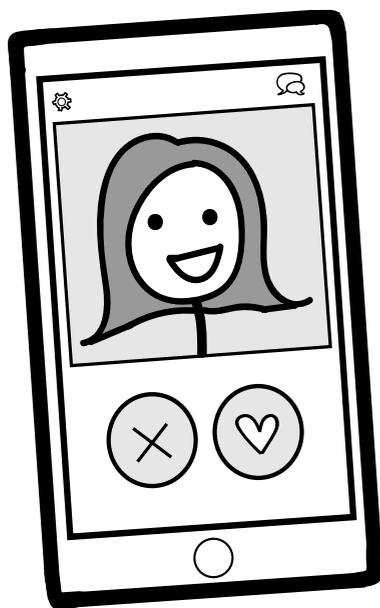
Ashley Botkin | Top 10 Writer

1 Celebrate 'Pal'entine's Day

The best way to pretend you're not lonely is to surround yourself with other single people. Your friends know you better than anyone else, so take this time to fully appreciate everything they do for you. Go on a cute friend date or watch a movie together. Bash your exes and smash glasses! Why not? No one ever said that Valentine's Day couldn't use a little anarchy. I would prefer it that way.

2 Hop on Tinder

I had to explain what Tinder is to my mom for this article, so if I can do that, you can get yourself on the app and try to find someone to spend Valentine's Day with. So what if it doesn't work out? This school has almost 16,000 undergraduates, so luckily the chances that you'll ever see them again are pretty low. And if it does go well, then you've got yourself a brand new boo thang for the rest of the cold winter months. Tinder is just part of the college experience, so you might as well jump on the bandwagon now.



3 Buy yourself a gift

Who needs a significant other to buy them gifts? Not you! You're an independent college student who can treat yourself. Maybe you've had your eye on a book for a while or you really love those Edible Arrangements things. Just go crazy. Buy it all. Nothing is off limits! Soon the joy from the mound of presents you bought yourself will far outweigh your loneliness. Just try not to do this every time you get lonely or you'll soon be feeling pain from your singleness and your credit card bill.

4 Catch up on celebrity gossip

Hot celebrity gossip is great if you want to focus on other people's problems instead of your own. For example, Kylie Jenner just had a baby. Now it's time to go back through all of her social media posts and try to decipher the hints she dropped about her pregnancy. At some point you will go so deep that you will reach the Illuminati, but at least you aren't worrying about Valentine's Day anymore.

5 Pig out

Valentine's Day produces some pretty amazing food and deals, if you ask me. The candy gets significantly cuter, which in turn makes it taste significantly better. If you don't have a sweet tooth, don't worry, even savory dishes get in on the Valentine's Day fun! Chick-fil-A is offering heart-shaped boxes filled with nuggets or Chick-n-Minis. I would honestly love to get either one of those things more than roses. Flowers die so quickly, and they don't taste nearly as good as tiny chicken sandwiches.

6 Binge watch

While I understand that binge watching isn't that different from our everyday lives, there is a way to Valentine's Day binge watch — two ways, actually. One method is go to traditional with sappy rom-coms like "Maid in Manhattan" or "How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days." Then there's the untraditional route with movies and shows that will make you realize you're better off single. For example, in "Ocean's Eleven," George Clooney sabotages Julia Roberts' current relationship with a man just because he's jealous that she moved on. Who needs people like that in their life? Not you, that's who.



7 Practice predicting the future

There are quizzes everywhere on the internet that will tell you when you'll get married, how you'll get married, your honeymoon destination and so much more. So instead of worrying when The One will come along, just let BuzzFeed tell you. Or you could rely on the planets and read your horoscope. Maybe love isn't in the stars for you this Valentine's Day. This way, if things go wrong, you can blame your fate on the fact that you're a Gemini and Venus is in retrograde or something like that.

8 Read the news

Nothing will make you lose hope in love quite as fast as reading the news these days. Between global warming, deportations and government shutdowns, it's a wonder there's any hope left in the world at all. Once you're finished going through the horrors of the day, you'll be so filled with existential dread that Feb. 14 will become just another day in the year of this journey on a rock hurtling through space that we're all eventually going to die on.

9 Pet some dogs

If you need some unconditional love, dogs are the way to go. You could be the most awkward person in the world with the worst romantic track record at the University and a dog will still love you no matter what. Maybe it's time to go out and get a dog yourself. If you've been waiting for a sign that it's time to welcome a furry friend into your home, here it is from a random girl that you happen to go to college with. Live your doggy dreams!

10 Get drunk

This is literally the simplest solution to the single-on-Valentine's-Day problem. Well, unless you're one of those sad drunks that ends up crying in the club every Saturday. If you're one of those people that develops a love for everything and everyone or loses their memory, then this is probably the choice for you.

Whether you're getting drunk with strangers at Trin or with your buddies at home, just remember that Valentine's Day doesn't last forever — but a hangover sure feels like it does.



SPCA offers puppy love year-round

U.Va. students volunteer and foster local animals

Faith Schweikert | Feature Writer

At any given time, one can find a student walking down the Lawn who has stopped, dropped everything and run over to pet a dog. The University knows about the general affinity students have for animals because it brings them in every semester during finals week to soothe students' souls. But in all this anticipation and longing, there's been a place filled with animals just begging to be loved.

The Charlottesville-Albemarle Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals is a no-kill organization that takes in animals from the streets, owners who can no longer take care of them, disaster ridden areas and surrounding shelters when they grow overcrowded. Over 3,000 dogs and cats go through the SPCA in a given year, with roughly 73 percent being adopted or transferred.

The SPCA is located about 15 minutes from Grounds and offers a number of ways to get involved. Fourth-year College student Geny Huss spent three semesters as a volunteer through Madison House's Puppy Pals program.

"I walked dogs ... To give them

some time outside of their kennels and time to interact with humans," Huss said. "[We hoped] that they would feel socialized and ... Be more appealing and ready for adoptions."

Students can also volunteer by managing donations, folding laundry and cleaning the facilities. Currently, the shelter's staff members are overextended because the SPCA accepts almost all cats and dogs brought to them.

"My favorite part was giving dogs individualized attention, which is something they don't get a lot of [while] living at the SPCA because there are so many dogs that need to be cared for," Huss said.

The SPCA also accepts animals from overseas. Currently 10 dogs at the shelter are Humane Society International rescues from a dog meat farm located two hours away from Pyeongchang, South Korea. In total, 170 dogs were taken from the farm.

In addition to volunteering, students can also help the SPCA by fostering animals. Fourth-year College student Mina Hamblet

and her roommates decided to take this next step.

"There was a lot going on after Hurricane Harvey because [the SPCA] was getting so many shipments of animals from shelters in that area," Hamblet said. "All we had to do was fill out a form and fill out some questions [to foster]."

Since then, Hamblet and her roommates have fostered two kittens and have just applied for their third.

"It's nice to come home to a little kitten, it's a great stress release, and we miss having an animal to come home to," Hamblet said. "We had some of the cutest foster kittens but if you're taking on a puppy or kitten, it's not just having a friend to play with, there's a bit of work that goes into it."

Whether students can commit an hour or hours of their time, the SPCA needs its volunteers to operate and keep the animals happy and healthy enough for adoption.

"I loved giving them [the dogs] time outside and allowing them to feel as though they were not confined to a cage," Huss said. "For me, walking dogs was very thera-



COURTESY IVY PETERSON

Students and community members can adopt animals from the Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA.

peutic and a chance to take a break from the stresses of college." from my normal U.Va. routine and

An account of relapse and recovery on Grounds

I came to college towing about three years of anorexia nervosa down Route 29

Lily Brock | Life Columnist

You and I are both going to need a little metaphorical foreplay before I tell this story.

Hurricanes show up so often in Florida that you'd think the Sunshine State owes them money. They knock everything around then leave, littering every strip mall and bleached coral one-story house with displaced palm fronds, drywall and Taco Bell wrappers. A fecund smell lingers for the next week as neighbors emerge from their cardboard-covered homes to clean up the mess left in their yards.

After every storm, my Dad and I would drive all the resulting debris to the St. Petersburg dump in his flatbed trailer, going west down I-275, 20 miles under the speed limit. You can't move fast towing a heavy trailer behind you. Every time, like clockwork, some sunburnt guy with wrap-around sunglasses — probably named Randy or Ray or Rex — would speed past in a scuffed-up Dodge Ram covered in "SALT LIFE" and "Bush-Cheney" bumper stickers, honking his horn to

the high heavens and yelling about how slowly we were going. My Dad didn't care though. He loved and still loves that trailer.

"When you're dragging something big behind you, it doesn't matter how fast you go. It's just satisfying to know you're moving it all forward," he would say.

Now don't get me wrong — I love me a good utility trailer. Nothing gets me going like some treated lumber floorboards. Throw in a nice ramp gate and oh, baby. But unfortunately, this story isn't about utility trailers or hurricanes or even men named Randy.

I came to college towing about three years of anorexia nervosa down Route 29. I won't delve into those years. Just imagine "Black Swan," but without all the fun, sexy times with Mila Kunis. Or more accurately, it was like if you made a psychological thriller, but non-fat Chobani and celery were bankrolling the project so you had to include a bunch of product placement shots of your protagonist desperately search-

ing for that fruit-on-the-bottom like a malnourished Nick Cage in "National Treasure."

Nonetheless, it had gone into partial remission during my first semester here — strapped down just well enough as I moved through the fall of 2016. It was fine. I could work with that. It was like the food at Newcomb or low-rate jokes about the food at Newcomb — not ideal, but sometimes you take what you can get. A little over a year ago, however, I relapsed.

That's what I'd like to talk about. Relapse and recovery as a college student are profoundly different experiences to have on your own. When you're relatively new-in-town, it can feel like you don't have a support system. No one monitors your eating and the few people who do notice your generous spinach intake tend to good-naturedly applaud how healthy you seem. Maybe you consider hitting up CAPS one afternoon, but you might just go to the AFC instead. In my own case, I don't think anyone noticed. I

finished off my first year back in the familiar routines of anorexia.

Oddly enough, it was only when I returned to Grounds seven months ago that I recovered. It was a real recovery this time, not a run-twice-a-day-count-the-calories-in-a-yogurt-wish-I-look-more-like-high-fashion-Gummy-but-I'm-good-now-Mom-back-off kind of recovery that characterized many of my earlier attempts.

There are just as many complicated reasons why people recover as there are personal factors that precipitate the disorder. I don't pretend to understand any of them, but I can say from my own experience that feeling comfortable in your own physical space is essential to recovery. It's critical to tell someone, anyone if you feel like you might be experiencing an eating disorder. Everyone has bad days, but it's important to remember that your body's not the one and only measure of your worth or some larger manifestation of your every flaw to control and punish. Your body is

just a body and ya' know what? I think it's marvelous!

My experience isn't uncommon. According to a study on eating disorders in college, 13.5 percent of undergraduate females and 3.6 percent of undergraduate males suffer from such disorders. Plenty of people at this University are probably going through the same thing I did. I figure it's time we talk about it.

I wrote this little show-and-tell because maybe it can help just one person get to a better place. Help just one person progress to the point where they can feel the fullness in their belly and not detest it. To enjoy the satisfaction of every morsel — not calorie — consumed that day. To free up some mental space for new, gentler thoughts. It's a very particular brand of happiness. A slowly satisfying improvement. Because when you're pulling something big behind you, it doesn't matter if you're going fast. It's enough to know you're moving forward.



Softball prepares to open season

Cavaliers will play doubleheader at McNeese State

Colin Cantwell | Associate Editor

The Virginia softball team will begin its 2018 season this Thursday with a doubleheader at McNeese State in Lake Charles, La. as part of the Cowgirl Classic. Last season, the Cavaliers won eight of their final 10 games of the regular season — including a seven-game win streak — to reach the ACC Tournament for the first time since 2013. The team also got its first win over a ranked opponent since 2014, a 5-4 victory at then-No. 14 James Madison.

However, that Virginia team lost eight players to graduation, including catcher Katie Park, a National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) First-Team All-Region selection last year. They have been replaced with nine new players — including eight freshmen.

Coach Joanna Hardin is entering her second season as the head coach of the Cavaliers, along with assistant coaches Kaleigh Rafter and Katie Repole.

"Our staff is very committed to development — let's learn from our mistakes, learn from our successes and get better," Hardin said.

Prior to taking the Virginia job, Hardin spent two years as head coach and two years as an assistant coach at McNeese State. In 2016, her last McNeese State team posted a record of 43-14, winning both the Southland Conference regular season and tournament titles as they advanced to NCAA regional play.

Rafter is a former player at Detroit Mercy who has been a member of the Canadian National Team since 2008. She was a part

of the team that finished fourth at the 2008 Beijing Olympics and the one that won gold at the 2015 Pan-American Games.

The team will be led by its two seniors, Allison Davis, a pitcher and outfielder, and Danni Ingraham, who plays first base. Both were second-team Virginia Sports Information Directors All-State selections last season. The two have combined to start 308 games in their Virginia careers.

"Their leadership is huge ... They've been through the ringer and through the ACC," Hardin said.

Ingraham is beginning her fourth season starting at first base for the Cavaliers. She led the team in home runs with 10 last season, but also places an emphasis on her

defensive contributions.

"When your teammates make awesome plays, a lot of the times the throw's not going to be there," Ingraham said. "I take a huge responsibility, and I want to make sure I'm doing this for my team."

Davis was second on the team in batting average last season, hitting .328. She started all 54 games and pitched in 12 of them, starting two.

Erika Osherow, a current junior, was the team's top pitcher last year, pitching in 41 games. She started 31 of those games — finishing a complete game in 14 of them — and posted a record of 15-9 as well as an ERA of 4.78. Davis and Osherow were both selected to the All-ACC Academic Team last season, as well.

True freshmen Savana Avilla, Hayley Busby, Kate Covington,

Ashley Jennings, Molly Keshin, Rachel Keshin, Sam Thomas and Madi Traver have joined the team this year. Also joining the team are red-shirt freshman Janelle Zellars and junior Tabby Dabney, a transfer from Richard Bland College.

As part of the Cowgirl Classic, Virginia will also face No. 20 Tulsa, Houston Baptist and Southern. The first game of the doubleheader against McNeese State will begin at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, with the second to follow at 8:30. The team's first home game and first ACC game will be played March 9 against Georgia Tech at The Park in Charlottesville.

Men's lacrosse to take on Loyola Saturday in home opener

The Cavaliers look to get off to a strong start in second season under Coach Lars Tiffany

Zach Zamoff | Associate Editor

Virginia men's lacrosse begins play Saturday at Klöckner Stadium, as the Cavaliers seek to continue the revival of a once nationally renowned lacrosse program that has since slipped into mediocrity.

The Cavaliers have historically been known to dominate the college lacrosse world, with five national championships and 22 Final Four appearances overall. Former Coach Dom Starsia built Virginia into a powerhouse, winning four national championships during his tenure — from 1993-2016. The Cavaliers, however, had two poor seasons at the end of Starsia's career, forcing the legendary coach to leave the program.

In his place is another former Brown coach, who looks to be a new hope for Virginia lacrosse — just as his predecessor had been. Coach Lars Tiffany, known for his potent offensive coaching, has started the revival, bringing Virginia a winning season last year (8-7) after a losing season the year before. However, the expectations were high, and Tiffany failed to deliver any ACC wins and a post-season berth for the third-consecutive year. Thus, the pressure to deliver this year is enormous, as Tiffany brings in some of his own recruits.

Tiffany believes one of the elements that will lead to his team's drastic improvement this year is

a culture change, which must be bought into by every player.

"This group is really, really united," Tiffany said. "I think a lot of coaches say that when you're 0-0, and the season is ahead of us and we're all excited, but there's a big, big difference here between last year and this year. How much we communicate. How much we're sharing of ourselves. How much we're sacrificing for each other."

The players back their coach's vision of a culture change, recognizing that it is essential in restoring the program's greatness. Junior midfielder and co-captain Ryan Conrad, who propelled the Cavaliers offensively with his athleticism last year, emphasized the importance of a change in culture.

"We're not the same Virginia as we used to be, and we need to get back to where we were," Conrad said. "I think that comes down to the culture meetings we've been having. Coach Tiffany has been stressing that a lot to us. We've moving in the right direction, and we have to make sure that we live up to the standards that we have for ourselves."

Conrad makes up a part of Virginia's formidable offense, which was ranked third in the nation last year in scoring. Joining the junior co-captain is the young sophomore duo of midfielder Dox Aitken and attacker Michael Kraus,

who led the Cavaliers in scoring last year. Senior attacker Mike D'Amario is another 40-point scorer returning for Virginia, whose leadership will be instrumental in guiding this team back to the postseason. The Cavaliers already-prolific attack will only be bolstered by the addition of freshman midfielder Matt Moore, viewed as one of the nation's top high school players.

Offense has not been an issue under Tiffany-coached teams. When he took Brown to the NCAA semifinals in 2016, the team averaged 16.3 goals per game — the nation's best. The Cavaliers had a similarly strong offense last year, finishing third in scoring with 14.4 goals per game.

Defense, however, posed problems for Virginia last year, and it is a weakness that must be addressed to complete this program's turnaround. While having the nation's third-best offense, the Cavaliers were ranked 65th nationally in defense, and lost arguably their best defender in All-American Tanner Scales. Scales' void will need to be filled for this Virginia team to succeed, and the defense will need to buy into Tiffany's message of culture change.

Loyola stands in the Cavaliers' way Saturday, who have a strong lacrosse program of their own. The Greyhounds were voted to finish first in the Patriot League

for the fifth-consecutive season, and boast a strong defense that will certainly be put to the test by Virginia's high-powered attack.

Loyola's defense ranked tenth nationally last year, allowing only 8.4 goals per game. This stout defense returns six of seven starters, including the veteran core of seniors Foster Huggins and Ryder Harkins and junior goalie Jacob Stover.

The Greyhounds, however, might struggle to keep up with the Cavaliers offensively — the team touts inexperienced offense, which was its weakness last season. Loyola will have to come up

with some offensive magic and limit Virginia's dynamic offense to have a chance to win Saturday.

As this momentous season approaches, anxious fans hope to witness the second step in the great revival of Virginia lacrosse. Brimming with exciting young talent on the attack, Virginia is sure to deliver a barrage of goals. It is defense, however, that will ultimately send the Cavaliers back to the postseason.

These offseason concerns and more will be addressed Saturday at 1 p.m. at Klöckner Stadium, as the Cavaliers take on the Greyhounds.



CALLIE COLLINS | THE CAVALIER DAILY

Senior attacker Mike D'Amario will be relied on to lead the Cavaliers' offense for the upcoming season.

Football finalizes recruiting class

Cavaliers add 22 players, but only sign three on Signing Day

Jake Blank | Sports Editor

National Signing Day passed Wednesday, and the Virginia football team capped a relatively quiet recruiting period by signing three new recruits to its incoming class.

Signing day was much less dramatic than usual across the country. Many commits signed letters of intent during the Dec. 20-22 signing period — the first time such an early signing period has existed. The early period was created to allow long-committed players to make their choice official earlier in the process, although the true impacts of the change may well be different than anticipated.

Among the new Cavaliers to commit Wednesday was rising senior offensive lineman Marcus Applefield, a graduate transfer from Rutgers. Applefield — who considered Virginia out of high school — is a four-time Academic All-Big 10 selection. He also started 10 games last season at guard for a Rutgers offensive line that tied for first in the Big Ten with only 1.5 sacks permitted per game. Applefield will provide much needed depth along the trenches.

“We targeted offensive and defensive linemen for this signing period,” Virginia Coach Bronco Mendenhall said in his post-signing day press conference.

This trend was apparent in the Cavaliers’ other two new commitments as well, in the form of offensive lineman Micah Mariteragi and defensive tackle Aaron Faumui. Both flipped to Virginia after verbally committing to University of Hawaii a week earlier.

However, much of the signing day drama surrounded a player who ended up elsewhere — cornerback Noah Boykin, who eventually committed to Notre Dame. Recruiting experts believed Boykin would choose Virginia over long-time favorite Florida after a last-minute in-home visit, only to have him surprise them all by choosing Notre Dame. Notre Dame also landed a commitment from cornerback DJ Brown, who decommitted from Virginia in late January.

While much of the day’s focus was on new commitments, four members of the incoming class are already enrolled and on grounds — junior college transfer quarterback Bryce Perkins, outside linebacker Noah Taylor, offensive lineman Bobby Haskins and quarterback Brennan Armstrong.

Taylor is the highest-rated player in the incoming class, according to 247sports’ composite rating. The scouts praise his quickness and length.

Perkins and Armstrong may well be the names Virginia fans come to know best from the class, however, as both are expected to compete for the starting quarterback spot next fall.

Perkins is known for his speed, and has more experience than other quarterbacks on the roster — he performed well at the junior college level after leaving Arizona State.

Armstrong — Virginia’s second highest ranked recruit — is a dual threat quarterback himself, and was a high target of the Cavaliers. Virginia flipped him from Minnesota late in the season. Even if he doesn’t win the job this fall, he may well be Virginia’s quarterback of the future.

The class as a whole ranked No. 13 in the ACC and No. 63 in the nation, according to 247sports. This is similar to last year’s class, which ranked No. 12 in the ACC and No. 58 in the country.

This may disappoint some Virginia fans because, at the same point in his tenure, Mike London’s 2012 class ranked No. 5 in the ACC and No. 25 in the country.

However, the expectation for Mendenhall when hired was never that he would recruit at an elite level. Rather, fans expected him to coach up players, better plan for



RICHARD DIZON | THE CAVALIER DAILY

Bronco Mendenhall will have to rely on the 2018 recruiting class to help build the foundation of the program he’s trying to create.

the long-term with his recruiting classes, instill a unique culture and hopefully win more than his predecessors. This is blueprint for success eerily similar to that of Virginia men’s basketball coach Tony Bennett.

While there are reasons for concern around recruiting — such as the fact that as many recruits were brought in from Hawaii rather than from Virginia — this class seems to be a step in the right direction towards Mendenhall’s goal of build-

ing the foundations of a winning program.

“What we want are amazing football players, that are exceptional students and wonderful people, as well,” Mendenhall said.

The Virginia football team will start its 2018 season at home against Richmond — who defeated the Cavaliers in the first game of the 2016 season. The match is scheduled for Sept. 1.

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LEAD EDITORIAL

Statue tarps fail to address real issue

Charlottesville City Council should reallocate resources from fruitless endeavor

In the aftermath of the events of Aug. 11 and 12, the issues of the Robert E. Lee and Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson statues in Emancipation Park have only become more pressing for the City of Charlottesville. Not only did the statues previously represent nostalgia for the Confederacy’s era of white supremacy, but they also now symbolize violence of the Unite the Right rally and its victims, such as Heather Heyer. Aware of the statues’ polarizing presence in downtown Charlottesville, the City Council ordered that they be covered with tarps. This gesture was originally intended as a temporary sign of mourning and respect for the dead and those impacted by the violence. Unfortunately, the City’s choice to shroud the statue has only devolved into a legal battle and drain on taxpayer resources. As a city, we should encourage the City Council to stop indefinitely covering Lee and

Jackson statues with a tarp in order to seek a more permanent form of their removal from the Charlottesville community.

Responses to the City Council’s choice to cover the statues with tarps have been contentious. The statue’s tarps have been taken down against the City’s wishes by unknown actors numerous times since August, with the most recent removals occurring as recently as Wednesday. In addition, legal action has been taken against the City of Charlottesville, with a collective of organizations and individuals filing suit against the City for its use of tarps. The group’s legal argument rests on their belief that the tarps “impede the public’s right to view the monuments,” copying the strategy of similar case involving Confederate statues that transpired in Birmingham, Ala. A judge heard oral arguments on the case Monday and is expected to make a de-

cision on the issue later this month.

While the City remains in a legal battle in the courts over these statues and their removal, the question of tarps remains within the City’s realm of power. As of February, the tarps have been in use for over six months, extending well beyond their original purpose of mourning. Proponents of removing the statues have pointed out that periods of mourning rarely extend over half a year, bringing into question whether the City’s “temporary” policy on using tarps is truly temporary.

In addition, the policy of tarps has become a drain on Charlottesville taxpayers. The City has had to pay for multiple tarps, signage and additional labor to reinstall the tarps back into position. This also places Charlottesville law enforcement in a cat-and-mouse game of constantly attempting to secure the tarps, while tracking virtually untraceable agents

who consistently remove them. In all, the statues have become a distraction for police, when other issues should be their focus, such as preparation for white nationalists’ possible return and citizens’ safety.

Instead of fighting an endless battle to keep tarps in place, the City should look to providing more permanent closure on the issue. The tarps themselves represent the City’s inability to make a lasting decision on the future of the Lee and Jackson statues as placeholders on the real issue of whether these statues should stand in the public forum. It’s clear that the statues of Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson represent inaccurate, revisionist history that sought to intimidate minorities within the Charlottesville community. With the installation of the statues occurring in 1924 by Robert E. Lee’s granddaughter, these statues never were true histori-

cal relics of Confederacy, but rather a reaction by a public that sought to preserve what they called “the moral greatness of the Old South” — an ironic statement that underlines worst of white supremacists’ beliefs. In essence, there’s no destruction of history with the removal of these statues. These statues should be removed for their representation of false American values, which sought to uphold tenets of white supremacy. These white supremacist symbols don’t represent the ideals of Charlottesville, and the use of tarps only postpones real action to remove a blemish on Charlottesville’s landscape.

Use of the tarps does not provide closure — even temporarily — to the citizens of Charlottesville. Only the speedy removal of the statues will bring true justice to our community.

THE CAVALIER DAILY

THE CAVALIER DAILY

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PRIORITIZE ON-GROUNDS HOUSING

The University should seek to sell students on the merits of U.Va. housing options

This semester, it seems as though some of the most impactful news stories about the University have related to the use of space on its historic Grounds. At the end of last year, the University began a long-slated project to increase on-Grounds housing options for upperclassmen by demolishing existing buildings on Brandon Avenue to build a new residence hall. Students returned to Grounds to find increased construction in this area. The goal of the project is to offer more student housing in a highly-trafficked area in order to entice upperclassmen to continue living on-Grounds.

Additionally, the University reviewed another land-use issue related to the construction of a new stadium for the softball team. The plan — which has now been removed from the list of possible options — proposed that Lambeth Field be turned into a stadium and that the Lambeth Residence Area parking lot be converted to green space. The field and the optimally located parking lot are both attractions for students seeking to live in on-Grounds housing, and the initial decision to repurpose the space is at odds with the University's stu-

dent housing goals. The University's consideration of Lambeth Field as a possible location for its new softball stadium represents a disconnect between the desire to shore up on-Grounds student housing and the desire to develop Grounds.

If the University administration had a true desire to improve its on-Grounds housing options, it would not have nearly accepted a proposal to diminish the quality of one of its longest-standing on-Grounds housing options. Though the Lambeth Field Residence Area is not new, it is still attractive to students who are looking to stay on-Grounds for at least a year and who want to live closer to Central Grounds. In comparison to other upperclass on-Grounds housing options like Faulkner or Copeley, Lambeth is much more central and offers a large and affordable parking area. The residence area is also centered around the large field that the University sought to remove. The space is widely used by students and community members and is historically significant, as it was the original location of the University's football stadium.

As it stands, selling students on University housing is becom-

ing more and more difficult, with many students choosing to move off-Grounds after their first year at the University. The new upperclass housing development on Brandon Avenue is not scheduled to open until Fall 2019, so in the meantime, the University must seek to make all other on-Grounds housing options as attractive as possible. Lambeth

Field Residence Area derives much of its value from the amenities surrounding it, including the field and the economical parking. By considering the removal of two major selling points of the residence area, the University has shown that its commitment to on-Grounds housing is transient.

“As it stands, selling students on University housing is becoming more and more difficult, with many students choosing to move off-Grounds after their first year at the University.”

Though they planned to build a new green space for Lambeth residents as a substitute for the loss of the field, the new space would be built at the expense of Lambeth's convenient parking area. A new space would also lack the historical significance of the current Lambeth Field area.

As it stands, the University's lack of commitment to upperclassmen housing is an important issue

for students because it shows some inconsistency on behalf of the administration. The University states that it wants to offer second, third and fourth-year students better options for housing, but at the first available opportunity, it nearly accepted a proposal to decrease the value and amenities of one of the few, convenient on-Grounds housing options for upperclassmen. The plan to build a softball field at the Lambeth Field Residence Areas uncovered a lack of dedication to the University's existing on-Grounds housing options and, if the University expects students to develop enthusiasm about on-Grounds housing, it must show universal support for its own facilities. The new development on Brandon Avenue is certainly a step in the right direction, but the University could both demonstrate its commitment to on-Grounds housing and increase student interest in these units by selling students on the amenities of Lambeth Field, rather than seeking to remove them.

Though they planned to build a new green space for Lambeth residents as a substitute for the loss of the field, the new space would be built at the expense of Lambeth's convenient parking area. A new space would also lack the historical significance of the current Lambeth Field area.

As it stands, the University's lack of commitment to upperclassmen housing is an important issue

CARLY MULVIHILL is an Opinion columnist for *The Cavalier Daily*. She can be reached at c.mulvihill@cavalierdaily.com.

THE BOUNDARIES OF SPEECH IN U.VA.'S PUBLIC SQUARE

The University community must fight hate speech and create a nurturing space

As we approach the six-month marker of the neo-Nazi terrorist attacks of Aug. 11 and 12, we have an opportunity to step back and evaluate how our community has changed since that violent weekend, for better and for worse. As individuals, we must summon the courage it takes to honestly confront ourselves about if and how our thoughts and actions have shifted. As a student body, we must hold our representatives accountable for the goals they have been tasked with addressing. As a University, we must center the truth-seeking mission of this institution in our work to build a community that lives by the values that our press releases and website espouses. To effectively realize this mission, I contend that a select category of speech presently protected by a persuasive liberty paradigm fails to further the truth seeking charge of our scholars and institution of higher education.

Public universities bristle at the very mention of campus speech regulation, fearful of sensational press headlines, ACLU-sponsored litigation and watchdog lobbies that will accuse them of constitutional violations and an affront on the value of liberty. However, Noah Feldman, a professor of con-

stitutional and international law at Harvard University, advances an understanding of the relationship between a public square and a public university that illuminates a path forward through this thorny territory. In a piece he published in the *Chicago Tribune* in August 2017, titled “Universities can do more to curb hateful

“As students, we must not only fight repugnant speech with louder speech, but we must enforce relationships of mutual respect that ground constructive debate as well as rally against speech that violates the norms of our community.”

speech,” Feldman contends that in order for publics “to function as universities, they need to create an environment of communal commitment to exploring the truth... it does not include threats or harassment. And it does not allow for gross violations of civility.” In Feldman's view, public universities can and should define their property as a uniquely tailored public square that supports their established values and norms. Universities must continue to offer public

forums for robust, messy debate — nevertheless, that commitment does not obligate them to entertain all public provocations, ipso facto.

Moreover, our University and our nation must take violations of civility, such as incidents of hate speech, more seriously. If we only consider the offense of hate speech

to constitute a mere message of subordination, we are limited in our ability to engender equal respect for all people under the law. By centering concern around physical harm, violence and disrespect, scholars, legislators and jurors alike have relegated hate speech to a regrettable but unavoidable cost that some individuals must pay for the paramount societal value of freedom. I contend that incidents of hate speech do constitute substantial aggression. Affronts to a

person and/or a community's societal status violate one's dignity and impede one's ability to live a free and happy life.

Such violations are dramatically increasing in number, too, according to Emma Kerr's citation of a new study released by the Anti-Defamation League on Feb. 1. In her article, titled “White Supremacists Are Targeting College Campuses Like Never Before,” she cites that “white-supremacist propaganda at colleges increased by 258 percent from the fall of 2016 to the fall of 2017, affecting 216 campuses across the nation.” Alongside this deeply troubling trend, we are reaching what Pearce Godwin, columnist and CEO of Listen First Project, calls a crisis in civility. In his piece in *The Hill* titled “When it comes to politics, listen first in 2018,” Godwin reveals that not only do “75 percent of Americans now believe the lack of civility has reached a crisis level,” but that “56 percent expect civility to get worse in the next few years,” according to Civility in America's latest survey. What can we do as students to engage with one another in productive and dignified ways as these trends threaten to tear our community apart?

I am advocating for a more

thoughtful and serious consideration of the harm that hate speech causes to our University's academic mission and to our democracy more broadly. As students, we must not only fight repugnant speech with louder speech, but we must enforce relationships of mutual respect that ground constructive debate as well as rally against speech that violates the norms of our community. As students, we may not possess the tools to amend the parameters that define protected political speech. Perhaps a solution to these salient concerns over speech don't lie with more regulations — maybe our answer stems from a renewed commitment to what dignified treatment of difference looks like in our pluralistic society. If that's the case, what better place to tend to such a commitment than the nurturing space of a university, where we're tied together by a pursuit of knowledge that will help us create a more equitable and just world for everyone.

SARAH KENNY is a fourth-year College student and serves as Student Council president.



SPORTS! We are Americans and we like sports! We like to watch the sports on our televisions, and we like to do it with our friends. Sometimes, we go to the sports and watch them with other people who we don't know, and we watch sports in buildings called stadiums. Sports are exciting because they are played between two groups of people that are called teams. And nobody knows who will win the sports until they are over. And no sports are as important to us as THE BIG GAME. The Big Game is so im-

portant that it only happens one time every year. And it is a game of sports.

By Men fight each other all year just to have a chance to play sports on the night of The Big Game. That is how important The Big Game is. Every Sunday night before The Big Game, we gather around the television to watch the fighting, and when it happens we yell at the sports men through the television. Even though they cannot hear us, we yell — for such is the power of the sports. During the sports, the sports men fight over the game ball, and sometimes throw it to each other. We are very happy when the throwing happens.

To make it to The Big Game, the same team of sports men must be victorious in many fights. The sports

are fought on a large green rectangle called a field, and the people who keep track of the victories are called "refs" and wear stripes. This is the way the sports work: the teams run from one side of the field to the other, and when they get there, the refs put a number seven next to their name. When we watch the sports on television, we are very happy when the number seven is next to our favorite team's name. Sometimes, the men fight so hard that the running changes directions before the other team has made it to the other side of the field. We are sometimes very angry when this happens. And we are sometimes very happy. It is all for the love of the sports.

Whenever the refs decide that the fighting is over, the team with the most points by their names is declared

victorious. We are very happy when our favorite team wins a fight because it means they are closer than the other teams to playing in The Big Game. Finally, after months and months of fighting, only two teams are chosen to go to The Big Game, and there are many celebrations.

But The Big Game is not simply about the sports. There are also funny videos that play when the fighting is not happening. These are called "commercials," and they bring us great amusement. If the commercials are very funny, we spend money on items that the commercial tells us to. We also like to get together with many friends on the day of The Big Game and eat large amounts of food and discuss who we would like to be victorious in the sports. Sometimes we disagree with

people on who should win the sports and these are people we do not like. Luckily, the sports men get tired very easily, and The Big Game lasts a very long time —which means more time to enjoy the sports, friends and commercial amusements!

At the end of The Big Game, one team is declared victorious, and if it is our favorite team we are very, very happy. Some people get so happy that they wear the same costumes as the sports men and yell. But at the end of the day, victory or defeat, we are all there for the love of the sports. And The Big Game will happen again next year.

JESS MILLER is a humor columnist. He can be reached at humor@cavalierdaily.com

The Mystery of the Newcomb Stairs

The Taj Mahal. The Eiffel Tower. The Great Pyramids of Giza. All of these architectural feats evoke images of greatness, power and human triumph in the minds of whoever thinks of them. Now, it seems as if a new legend of construction greatness is about to arise: the Stairs by Newcomb Dining Hall.

You heard me right. These stairs have been under construction for so long that there is no possible way that the University could be building the eighth modern Wonder of the World. The stairs were

due to be finished in the first week of December, but clearly that is not the case. The stairs initially were closed down due to water leaks. A University spokesperson claimed that all that had to be done to the stairs was "to strip them all off, re-waterproof them and put them all back to make sure everywhere is dry and safe for students."

Although this is just speculation, I believe there are three possible explanations for these long-delayed renovation plans. The first is that in an increasing-

ly-competitive college landscape, University President Teresa Sullivan has decided that a new way to both woo students to join these hallowed Grounds and to lead tourists to visit is to build the greatest and most expensive staircase of all time. Maybe the stairs will be made of solid gold. Maybe the stairs are really an escalator. Regardless of the details, there is no doubt that the University front office believes that these stairs are the final key needed to push past those California schools into first

place on the U.S. News and World Report public college rankings.

The second explanation is that the stairs are really a front for a secret underground lair. The real mystery lies in who will reside in the lair. Maybe it is a lounge for Tony Bennett. Maybe it is where they keep all the extra U-Guides sweatshirts. Maybe it is an enclosure to hold in the ghost of Thomas Jefferson. All three ideas are incredibly probable.

The final explanation is that the stairs are really just being renovat-

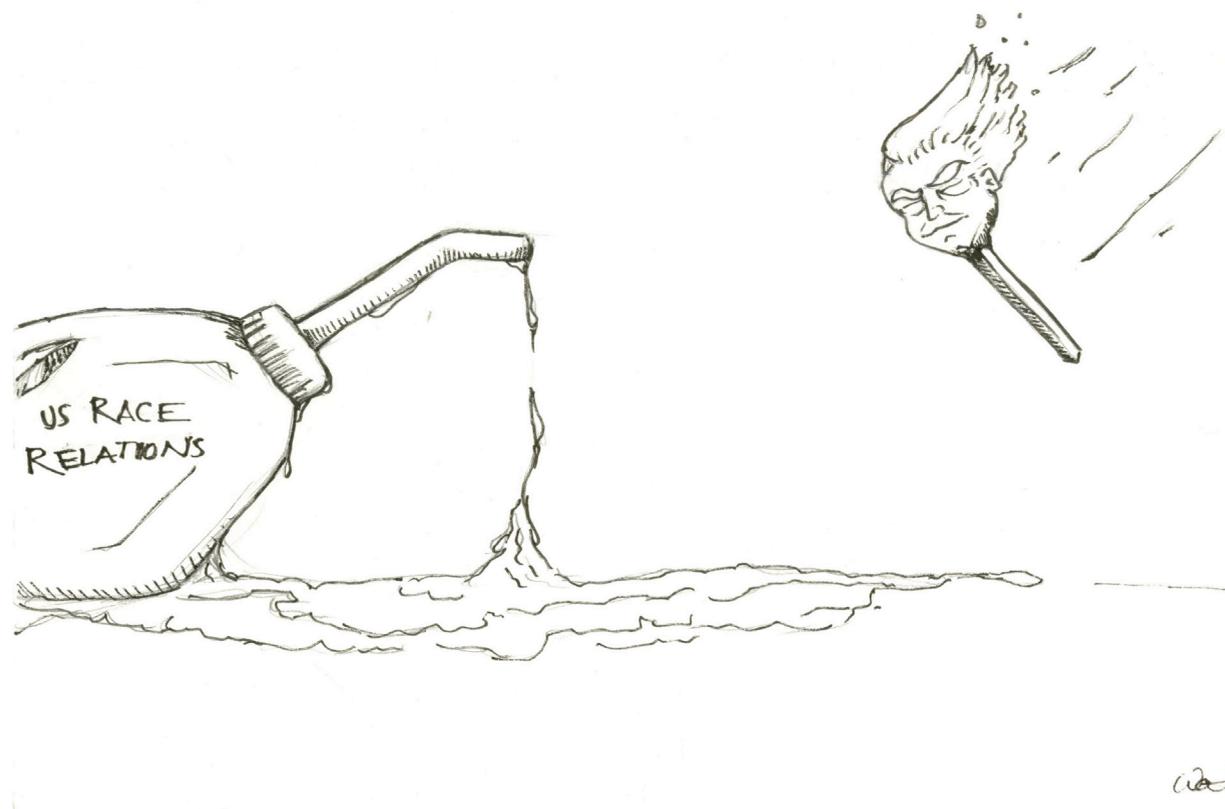
ed, and it is taking longer due to inclement weather and a miscalculation of how long the project originally would take. However, this is a terrible explanation and undoubtedly the least likely of the three. Therefore, keep your eyes open for the new Newcomb stairs: due the first week of December 2021.

BENJAMIN MILLER is a Humor columnist. He may be reached at humor@cavalierdaily.com



Fire and Fury

BY WALTER SHARON





EVENTS

Thursday 2/8

Cap and Gown week 10 am to 4 pm at University Bookstore

Shrugs at Coupes 11 pm to 1:30 am

Student Council and UVA Career Center: 2018

Start-Up Fair 6 pm to 8 pm at Newcomb Hall

Friday 2/9

UPC: Love to Craft 9 pm to 12 am at Newcomb

UPC: Winter Movies 9 pm to 12 am

Maarten & the Saints 10:30 pm to 1:30 pm at

Crozet Buddhist Biker Bar

Saturday 2/10

Men's Basketball vs. Virginia Tech 6 pm at JPJ

Gameday recycling challenge?

IX Art Park Winter Famer's Market 9 am to 1 pm

Men's Lacrosse vs. Loyola 1 pm to 4 pm at Klockner Stadium

U.Va. Jazz Ensemble 8 pm to 10 pm at Old Cabell Hall

Sunday 2/11

Men's Tennis vs. Monmouth, 12 pm, Boar's Head

Wrestling vs. Virginia Tech, 1 pm, Memorial Gym

Men's Tennis vs. Liberty, 5 pm, Boar's Head

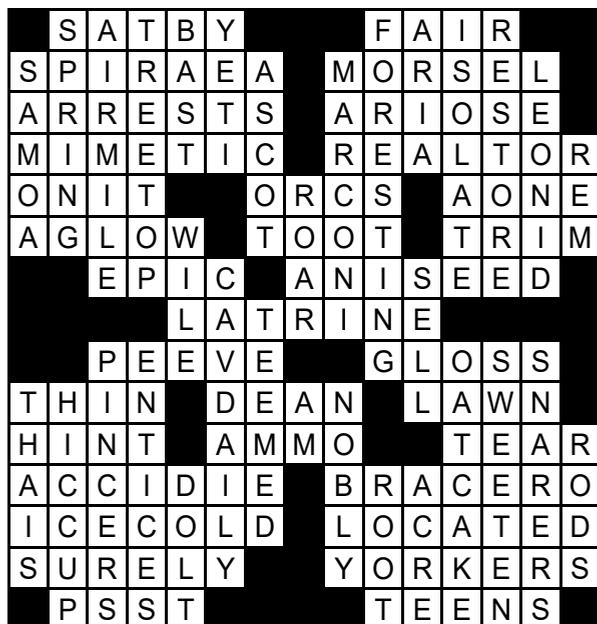
Monday 2/12

Screening & Panel on In Defense of Food in Newcomb Theater 5 pm to 8 pm

Tuesday 2/13

Class of 2018 Cap & Gown Week, 10am-4 pm, UVA Bookstores

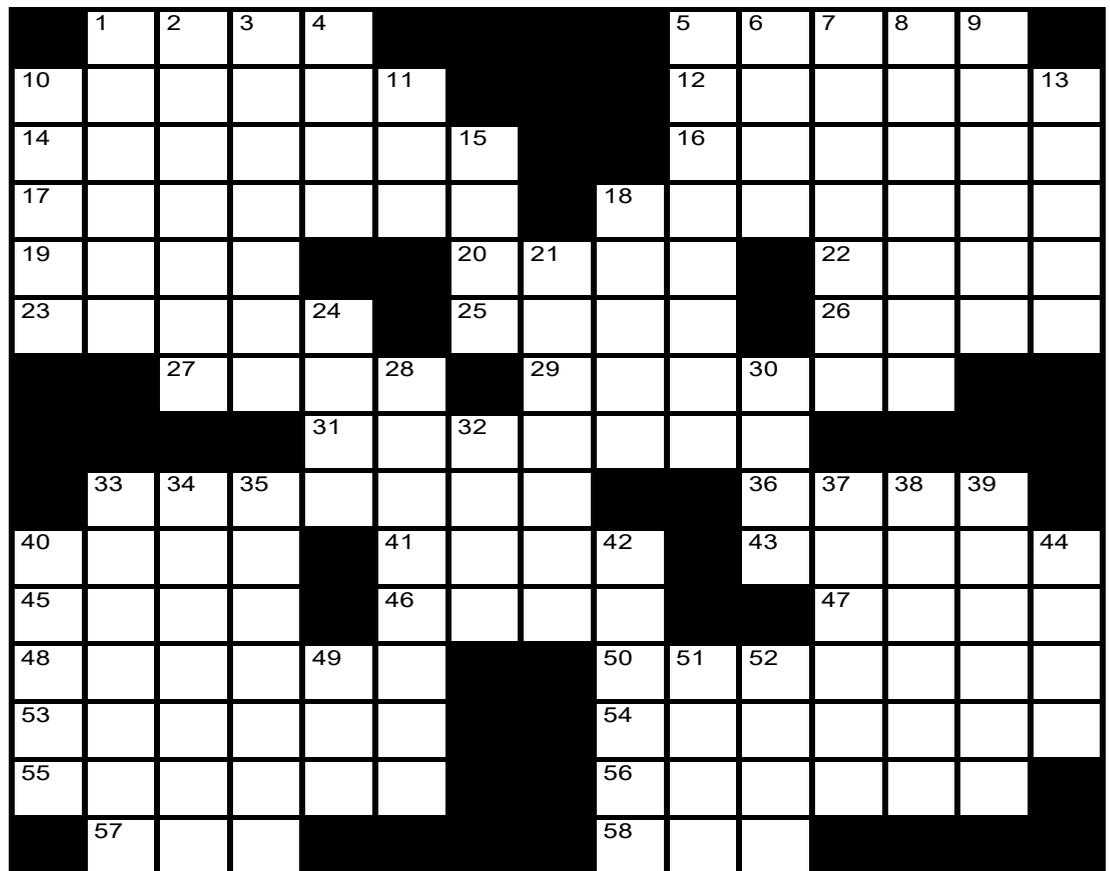
*THIS IS THE SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE



WEEKLY CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Dan Goff | Arts and Entertainment Editor

*THE SOLUTION TO THIS PUZZLE CAN BE FOUND IN NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE



Across

1. Tall grass or, with a possessive, popular chicken chain
5. With "line," UTS route that passes Runk
10. Dung-based fertilizer
12. Dramatic singing performances
14. Attribution of souls to plants, inanimate objects
16. Local inhabitant
17. Plural form of a word denoting motion
18. HBO comedy "___ Valley"
19. Dwight from "The Office" likes this animal, along with beets and Battlestar Galactica
20. Processions around a track, maybe
22. Enormous, mythical birds
23. Make up on the spot — two words
25. Spike and Robert E. are both ___
26. Scottish or Irish Gaelic language
27. Protective growth over a wound
29. Sandwich with corned beef, sauerkraut
31. Change something's form or structure
33. 11th letter of Greek alphabet — plural
36. Spherical bodies, often emanating light
40. Concluding piece
41. High school dance — there was a "queer" one last Friday
43. Popular breath mint
45. Yeses
46. Ceramic jar used for cooking soups
47. UTS has Outer and Inner ones of this
48. Five-line Japanese poems
50. "Formuoli" pasta from "Spongebob"
53. Person using the services of a company
54. Prediction-making diagram in sports
55. Winkler, Kissinger, Ford are all ___
56. Roxette track "___ to Your Heart"
57. "In media ___"
58. Consume

Down

1. Traveled in a type of skinny boat
2. Lions and tigers and bears are all examples
3. Relating to 1, 2, 3, etc.
4. Famously untrained legal clerk ___ Brockovich
5. Something of little or no importance
6. One of Oct.'s birthstones
7. Someone who no longer works, by choice
8. Popular hat in the 18th century
9. Lays waste to, devastates
10. Large, venomous African snake
11. Our time zone — abbreviated
13. Humans have five
15. Popular trolley location Downtown ___
18. "I feel the need — the need for ___"
21. Substance often compressed in cans
24. Red-headed, much-loved "Stranger Things" character
28. The four supports that hold up a mattress
30. "___ Party" — band known for "Helicopter" and "Banquet"
32. Sedimentary rock consisting of clay and lime
33. More dependable
34. Compound that is a base of nucleic acids
35. Attendees of a masquerade, maybe
37. Something existing from a previous time — another spelling drops the "t"
38. Actress ___ Lyons who played Peach in "2 Broke Girls"
39. Taken without permission
40. Classic Heller novel "___-22"
42. Metamorphic rock often made into columns
44. Saliva
49. "___ day now" — sometime soon
51. Long, solo song
52. Enormous



From putas to protagonistas

Theatrical interpretation of prostitutional activism aligns itself with modern feminist movement

Caroline Hockenbury | Senior Writer

“The event of the Putas is only at the end of the book in a small chapter. It’s almost insignificant.”

Spanish Prof. and Theater Director Fernando Operé — curling over the edge of his wooden desk — pinched a chunk of pages between forefinger and thumb to emphasize the segment’s brevity. “But [the story] becomes more prevalent because it’s a personal act. These women decide, ‘We don’t serve criminals.’”

On Feb. 17, 1922, five Argentinian prostitutes made the personal political when they refused to offer up their bodies to soldiers at a Patagonia-based brothel. The nation’s army had orchestrated a roughly 1,500-person massacre in response to a two-year rural worker’s strike. (Operé explained how soldiers lined workers neatly along walls, then — imitating gun blasts with his lips — supplied the unutterable conclusion).

In celebration of their plunder, the men sought sexual gratification; however, their violent assertions of militaristic power were not enough to deter the prostitutes from rejecting their advances. The putas, banding together, swapped passivity for imprisonment.

On Feb. 9, 2018, the University Spanish Theater group will take to Helms Theatre to open a week-end-long run of the production “Las putas de San Julián,” a work which celebrates the power inversion encapsulated by this female transition from prostitution to protagonism. Coming up on the 96-year anniversary of the women’s protest, the content of the play remains as politically pertinent as ever. Through its narrative, the show underscores the valor in resisting injustice in a perilously sexist and classist society — a reality with which many nations continue to grapple today.

“Las putas,” as the show is often abbreviated, was developed as an intertextual response to “Patagonia Rebelde,” a historical text written by researcher and Argentina native Osvaldo Bayer. Operé praised Bayer for his drive to intensely study the distant and tortuous history of his homeland — a past few people were willing to revisit, much less dissect. Playwright Rubén Mosquera then extrapolated upon the small sliver of text which detailed the prostitutes’ activism, resuscitating a story which could have easily wilted under the weight of generations-worth of oppression narratives.

“This is not something new that has happened in Latin America,” Operé said in an interview Monday. “This is the typical fight between oligarchies and poverty.”

“Things happen, but nobody

remembers,” he added, casting his head down toward his hands folded in front of him. When it comes to historical dark patches, people — especially residents of regions altered by tragedy — tend toward repression. This mental burial process directly contributes to the spread of what Operé calls “alternative facts,” or softened reimaginings of past brutalities.

As evidenced by Operé’s 38 years of directing experience in the University’s Spanish department, the professor and director of the Latin American Studies program considers himself “one of those guys who believes in the power of theater.” Although he gestured to the cultural influences of Hollywood film and streaming powerhouses like Netflix in the entertainment sphere, he maintained the stance that plays are the most valuable form of artistic expression. After all, they hinge on tangible representations of life. In his eyes, it is this palpability — and its correlated intimacy — which renders theater the ultimate learning tool for students and non-students alike.

Operé, who studied theatrical expression in Spain before pursuing his doctorate degree in the United States, values drama as an opportunity for purposeful scrutiny and revisitation. In observing the materialization of past transgressions — whether real or imagined through a certain cultural and temporal lens — viewers reserve the chance to transcend realities through the process of sensory immersion.

The show, which is an annual event for the department, features participants from multiple facets of the University. Undergraduate and graduate students, lecturers and faculty members alike collaborate to piece together the production. Although familiar faces return to the cast each year, Operé enthusiastically welcomes new auditionees by hosting regular try-outs. Inclusion is so central to the theater group’s model that he seeks to ensure every auditionee earns an assigned part, even if this necessitates drawing up a slew of entirely new roles for a production.

“Over the years, [our group] has been growing,” he said, describing internal developments which have accompanied that expansion. “Over the years, some of the actresses in the play have said, ‘We want plays with more women ... Most of the plays are written for men.’”

The actresses’ decision to speak out, much akin to vocalicity of the prostitutes they would come to portray onstage, is what led Operé to find and settle upon this specific script — one which situates a band

UVA SPANISH THEATER GROUP
PRESENTS:
LAS PUTAS
DE SAN JULIÁN
A play by Rubén Mosquera. Directed by Fernando Operé
Helms Theater
(UVA DRAMA DEPARTMENT)
February 9 - 8:00 pm
February 10 - 2 & 8 pm
February 11 - 2:00 pm

COURTESY UVA DRAMA DEPARTMENT

“Las putas de San Julián” is an upcoming feminist production from the University Spanish Theater group. Director Fernando Operé sheds some light on the play’s origin and significance.

of women within the central locus of power.

“I am totally confident that this is the women year for real. It’s the #MeToo year,” Operé said, nodding, before excitedly describing scenes from the 200,000-female-packed D.C. Women’s March he attended the weekend before.

He recognized the rise of feminist sentiment as one of his primary motivators in this particular directing cycle; however, he also acknowledged the delicacy and responsibility associated with reconstructing scenes of abuse on stage. He hinted at technical creativity as a means of cloaking physical violence through symbolic representations.

Not only does Operé recommend the show because it offers a meaningful lens through which people may consider current socio-political movements in the United States and beyond, but he regards an individual’s first experience

encountering art in a different language — as is often the case for many students attending the department shows — as a quasi-magical event. There is much to be learned from an interacting with an artform which expands beyond a person’s native country, culture and tongue.

Additionally, this particular production is linked to two prominent special guest appearances. Mercedes Herrero, a former student, professional actress and “House of Cards” veteran, has returned to Charlottesville and will appear as the show’s lead. The Argentinian playwright Mosquera will also be on Grounds for the event, even offering an open discussion to community members at 3 p.m. in Minor Hall 125 on opening day.

As Operé recounted his experience at the Women’s March, he shared a related statistic which

proved particularly resonant.

“I read that 22,000 women are running for office this year,” Operé said. “22,000 women in this country say, ‘That’s it! We have to run for office.’”

Whether in groups of five or 22,000 or 200,000, women who declare, “That’s it!” create an indisputably powerful force. In learning about sacrifices made by trailblazing females in the pursuit of equality, individuals worldwide may become inspired to display the same fortitude in their personal lives. Then, and only then, may we confront and dismantle the intersectional frameworks of systematic injustice.

Shows will take place on Feb. 9, 10 and 11 in Helms Theatre on Arts Grounds. General admission tickets are \$5 for students and \$15 for non-students.

‘Winchester’ takes a shot in the dark, misses completely

The movie leaves more questions than answers — and not in a thoughtful, deeply resonant way

Kate Granruth | Staff Writer

Helen Mirren has proved that she has major acting chops time and time again. Her illustrious 50-year career has earned her much more than four Academy Award nominations — and one win, which came in 2006 for her portrayal of Queen Elizabeth II in the film “The Queen.” She was made a Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire in 2003, and thus carries a regal reputation that commands respect.

It comes as a surprise, then, that her most recent role has her leading the cast of “Winchester,” the newest cliché horror flick to grace the big screen.

The movie revolves around the fascinating life and home of Sarah Winchester (Mirren), heiress to the lucrative firearms empire that was the Winchester Repeating Arms Company. Despite her massive wealth and role as owner and leader of the company, Winchester is best remembered for her house, which she kept under constant renovation. The mansion — known today as the Winchester Mystery House — is a 160 room, 24,000 square foot house that stands in modern day San Jose, California.

The Winchester Mystery House earned its name for a multitude of

reasons. The layout is best described as maze-like, boasting everything from staircases that lead to nowhere to doors that masquerade as wardrobes. Adding to the allure of the mansion is Sarah Winchester’s eccentric spiritualism. Believing she was cursed, many claim that Winchester started constructing the mansion as an attempt to satiate the spirits of those killed by Winchester-branded rifles.

“Winchester” could not have been any more set up for success. The undeniable truth of the existence of Sarah Winchester and her crazy home combined with the recognizable reputation of Helen Mirren should have been enough to provide audiences with a memorable horror movie experience. Instead, directors Peter and Michael Spierig put forth a script so corny not even Mirren’s expertise could save it.

The movie is laughably cliché. The first shot of the movie is of a young boy sleeping peacefully in his bed in a room lit by rosy candlelight — that is, until a mysterious gust of wind blows out the candles. This is probably the single most cliché horror movie beginning in all of history. In the year 2018, no audience classifies a gust of wind in a room with no open windows or doors to be even particularly revolu-

tionary.

The script only devolves from there. In the next scene, psychologist and drug abuser Dr. Eric Price (Jason Clarke) is called upon by the lawyers of the Winchester Repeating Arms Company to evaluate the mental fitness of Sarah Winchester. The scene is excruciatingly expository. Audiences are forced to watch head lawyer Arthur Gates (Tyler Coppin) literally reveal the entire plot in his dialogue. One wonders if the directors have ever heard of the most important rule of storytelling — show, don’t tell. There is so much exposition in this movie — particularly during the scenes in which Mirren’s character is one-on-one with Dr. Price during psychological evaluations — that viewers could easily leave to get a popcorn refill and miss none of the actual plot.

Speaking of plot, this one is more riddled with holes than the ghostly victims of the Winchester rifle. Firstly, Dr. Price was supposedly shot in the chest by his mentally ill wife — who used a Winchester, of course — died for three full minutes, and then woke up completely unharmed with no lasting repercussions. He was shot in his greenhouse, in the privacy of his own home, died, and then came back

to life. In 1906? The first defibrillator was invented around the 1920s, and mouth-to-mouth resuscitation wasn’t perfected until the 1960s.

These discrepancies plague the main plot of the film as well. The Winchester House falls victim to a deadly spirit named Ben Block attempting to avenge his brothers, who died of bullet wounds from Winchester guns. While this may make sense on the surface, comprehension becomes lost when it is revealed that his brothers were Confederate soldiers who died in battle. Why, then, is Ben’s anger directed at the Winchester family? Because, as Mirren says in a dramatically delivered line, “Confederate arms were no match for the Winchester rifles of the Union Army.” So if the guns were any other brand, this entire movie wouldn’t exist.

Additionally, Ben’s character is crafted in a highly predictable form. He seems to be a butler under the employment of Mrs. Winchester, but towards the end — spoiler alert — he is revealed to have been dead the whole time! No one could have possibly guessed that from the fact only Dr. Price, who has an intimate understanding of death, talks to him for the entire movie.

The storyline as a whole has faint anti-gun violence leanings, which Mirren says was the intention. In an interview with Germain Lussier of i09, “There was a line [...] relating to ‘It’s evil to profit from the sale of armaments and arms,’” Mirren said. “I felt that had such resonance.”

But the fact that Block’s brothers were killed while fighting in a war they volunteered to fight in doesn’t fit this “innocent victims of gun violence” narrative. If his brothers had been killed by someone wielding a large stick, would Block declare war on the forest? If they had been starved to death, would he haunt a grocery store?

Although the film attempts to mask the gaping plot holes with jumpscare, the movie leaves more questions than answers — and not in a thoughtful, deeply resonant way. Audiences will likely leave the theater more confused than scared. Overall, “Winchester” is unsurprising, annoying and just plain silly. The true mystery of this thriller lies in who edited this script and let it go into production at all.

Zoom in: How ‘Mosaic’ gets on-screen texting right

Taking a closer look at what makes text messaging work in television

Ben Hitchcock | Senior Associate

Television shows have never been good with texting. It’s the 21st century — any attempt to depict real life is woefully inadequate without also depicting phones and their centrality in modern communication. Yet despite this necessity, even the most skilled directors have long struggled to produce anything resembling real texting on television.

Steven Soderbergh’s HBO miniseries “Mosaic,” released over the course of past few weeks, provides an exceptionally elegant solution. “Mosaic” is notable for its creative use of technology in general — it garnered attention for releasing a choose-your-own-adventure style application to accompany the traditional viewing experience — but the show particularly excels at solving the historically tricky problem of depicting on-screen text messages. It’s worth taking a look at what “Mosaic” does that works so well.

BBC’s popular series “Sherlock” was one of the earliest prestige television shows to make a serious foray into on-screen texting. “Sherlock” is meticulously crafted and creatively

executed from a filmmaking perspective, and it’s notable for its creative use of technology and text. Even so, the show never managed to create text messages that felt natural on the screen.

Late in the show’s first episode, Dr. Watson (Martin Freeman) receives a message from his enigmatic friend Sherlock Holmes (Benedict Cumberbatch). As Watson pulls his phone out of his pocket, the message appears on the screen in clean, simple, white typeface. The message reads, “If inconvenient, come anyway. SH.”

There’s something undoubtedly off about the way this message appears. Sherlock does a better job handling the text message than some other shows — Sherlock never actually shows the phone screen on camera, like some shows do — but their solution is far from perfect, and the problems, though subtle, have unfortunate consequences for the success of the scene. In this case, the incongruities in the on-screen message undermine the delicate and complex characterizations of Sherlock and Watson. The greatest detective in the

world doesn’t know that signing his initials in a text message is redundant? Most grandmothers don’t even do that anymore.

Or, even worse — Watson and Sherlock don’t have each others’ numbers saved in their phones? They’re roommates, and the first thing roommates do is exchange numbers. Why is “it’s” excluded from the sentence? No one types out the whole word “inconvenient” but doesn’t bother to put the “it’s.” That syntax is a lazy caricature of digital communication. The incorrect grammar makes the message read like an old-school telegraph — not a text message. The bad texting shatters the viewer’s perception of the characters. Modern audiences are so intensely familiar with the details of digital communication that anything less than perfect is noticeable instantly.

“Mosaic” provides a much more elegant solution. One of the show’s very first scenes features a text conversation between wealthy writer Olivia Lake (Sharon Stone) and her assistant JC Schiffer (Paul Reubens). Comparing the texting scenes in

“Mosaic” with “Sherlock” underscores how important details are.

In “Mosaic,” messages appear on the screen letter by letter in a clean, bold, white type. The font is distinctly different from any font that actually appears in a messaging app, which counterintuitively serves to make the messages more realistic. Sherlock’s Helvetica is similar enough to what phones actually use that its slight non-reality is emphasized. The bold-face that “Mosaic” uses avoids entering this “uncanny valley” of text message lettering.

When texts are sent in “Mosaic,” the sound isn’t a random series of beeps like in Sherlock. The texts in “Mosaic” are accompanied by the instantly recognizable iPhone messaging swoosh. Olivia Lake is a glamorous socialite. She often wears a white fur coat. She lives in Summit, Utah. Of course, she has an iPhone. Anything else would be unrealistic. If her texts were accompanied by any other sound, the viewer would instantly feel that something was wrong.

Additionally, the syntax of the messages is spot-on. Olivia uses no

periods, but she does use question marks. She spells words fully. The first letter of the message is capitalized and the apostrophe is included in “wasn’t.” Olivia is typing on an iPhone, and that’s how iPhone messages look. When Soderbergh needs to clarify which character is sending a message, the name is noted before the message appears, rather than having the character sign the name within the message itself. This avoids the problem presented by Sherlock’s cutesy little “SH” signature. The name isn’t noted in front of every message — only when it’s absolutely necessary.

These differences may seem subtle, but they matter for the viewer’s experience. Texting is such a central part of modern communication that on-screen text messaging has become just as important as spoken dialogue. When it’s wrong, the effect is equally jarring. Olivia wouldn’t say “y’all,” and she wouldn’t type “ttyl!” “Mosaic” deserves praise for its attention to detail. The show provides a commendable solution to a problem that has proven vexing for even the most accomplished directors.



What you should know about the H₃N₂ flu

U.Va. health officials and immunologists discuss H₃N₂ strain, student wellbeing

Mahima Reddy | Senior Writer

A harsh subtype of the influenza — H₃N₂ — has been associated with 53 pediatric deaths this season and has even pushed one state to declare a public health emergency. As the weekly flu update from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention predicted that flu activity will continue to remain high, Elson Student Health Center directors described how students can protect themselves amid the outbreak.

Jessica Simmons, associate director of General Medicine at Student Health, explained that some students are unable to differentiate between the signs of the flu and those of an upper respiratory infection, or the common cold. Both the flu and the common cold share symptoms like congestion, a persistent cough and runny nose. However, unlike the common cold, the flu is accompanied by a fever and severe body aches.

“A lot of times, the flu will hit very suddenly, so you’ll be feeling well and go to class without any problem,” Simmons said. “Then in the afternoon you’ll start to feel a little bit achy and by that evening, you’ll have a fever and the respiratory symptoms will start.”

The onset of a fever makes students highly contagious. Jamie Leonard, director of the Office of Health Promotion at Student Health, said in an email that students should not attend class, go to work or participate in clubs until they have been fever-free without medication for 24 hours. Instead, students should rest and maintain a high fluid intake, taking ibuprofen or Tylenol as directed for fever and body aches.

Simmons strongly encourages students to call Student Health and ask to speak with a triage nurse. The triage nurse will schedule a clinic appointment, suggest procedures for supportive care and prescribe Tamiflu, an antiviral drug, if necessary.

“For Tamiflu to be effective, a patient should be seen and treated within the first 48 hours of illness,” Leonard said. “Tamiflu decreases duration of flu symptoms by about a day.”

Physicians may diagnose sick students who are generally healthy with the flu clinically, based on present symptoms and without the formal flu test — in which nasal mucus samples are collected with a Q-tip for a polymerase chain reaction test to detect viral genetic material. But despite this highly accurate test and the diverse treatment options available, Simmons and Asst. Biology Prof. David Kittlesen agreed that pre-

vention is more valuable than a cure in the context of the flu.

In addition to keeping a healthy diet, exercise and sleep schedule, Leonard and Simmons urged students to frequently wash their hands with soap and warm water and avoid interacting with others who are sick. Students who are in high-density environments can help prevent the spread of the flu by covering coughs and sneezes, avoiding touching their eyes, nose and mouth and refraining from sharing utensils and drinks.

The flu vaccine — a killed virus that cannot give people the flu — is another important preventative measure, said Simmons and Kittlesen. Once a flu shot has been administered, it takes about two weeks for it to be effective. During this time, the body has no protection against the flu. Even though some studies have projected the flu vaccine to be less than 20 percent effective this year, Simmons noted that contracting the flu without being vaccinated is the worst-case possibility.

“[The vaccine] gives you some level of protection, so something is better than nothing,” Simmons said. “If you get a trivalent flu shot

or a quadrivalent flu shot, it will protect you against three of four different types of flu.”

Following these preventative guidelines may be especially valuable given the relative severity of the flu in the past five years at the University.

“So far this academic year, we are at levels higher than two other years and about to surpass a third,” Simmons said. “And experts speculate we are about halfway through the flu season.”

Kittlesen explained that a mix of factors contribute to H₃N₂’s fatality. A non-living pathogen or disease-causing agent, such as influenza, is more likely to be successful if it does not kill its host right away — a live host will help the virus spread more rapidly.

Furthermore, influenza is an RNA virus, meaning that its genome is replicated by enzymes called RNA polymerases. RNA polymerases’ lack of proofreading mechanisms enable the virus to mutate more extensively. This high rate of mutation may explain the low efficacy of the flu vaccine, since a mutant strain of H₃N₂ may evade the body’s immune system that could be more accustomed to

detect to an older, “outdated” — or unmutated — strain of virus in the vaccine.

It is also not entirely a coincidence that peak flu activity occurs during the colder months of winter.

“The traditional view is that congregating in winter to stay warm helps the virus spread faster,” Kittlesen said. “But there is also evidence that the virus is more stable in the cold and that because humidity is lower in the winter — meaning the air is dryer — the virus stays aerosolized longer.”

The letters “H” and “N” in H₃N₂ refer to components of the virus — hemagglutinin, a glycoprotein that helps the virus adhere to host cells, and neuraminidase, an enzyme that enables replicated viral molecules to exit host cells, respectively. Current vaccines for the flu focus on presenting hemagglutinin and neuraminidase as targets for the body’s immune system.

Frederick Hayden, professor emeritus at the School of Medicine, said research is starting to favor how the immune system can detect other parts of the virus —

such as reserved epitopes, sites on the virus that antibodies detect that do not change as frequently with evolutionary selection. Combination therapies consisting of a cocktail of different drugs are also becoming popular.

“The hope is that if polymerase inhibitors that target different parts of the virus reproductive scheme are used together with current agents, they’ll produce greater protection against the flu,” Hayden said.

There are also efforts towards developing a universal vaccine that may eradicate the need to be immunized annually against the flu. Student Health also noted that future additions to the University may better help to provide for students.

“We are space limited currently and are thankful to the Board of Visitors and the administration for their support and planned construction of a new Student Health & Wellness Building so we can fully support our over 22,000 students during such outbreaks,” Simmons said.



COURTESY SARAH LINDAMOOD

Students can receive information and treatment for the flu at Elson Student Health Center.

Facebook's new News Feed may build social community

Changes to the News Feed seek to promote meaningful social interactions

Stella Sotos | Senior Writer

In January, Facebook co-founder and CEO Mark Zuckerberg announced in a Facebook post that there will be changes to the News Feed in 2018. The changes are expected to be implemented over the course of several months.

The Facebook News Feed is a constantly refreshing feed of content shared by the user's friends and the pages the user follows. Computer Science Prof. Gabriel Robins said the News Feed algorithm initially focused on maximizing the time users spent on Facebook, without any regard to how the content impacted the user.

"They would show things that would upset people, that would offend people, that would enrage people just to get them to stay on the page and to click on the next link to see something similar," Robins said. "The algorithm doesn't care if you're getting depressed reading these things — it's not programmed into it."

However, the proposed changes to Facebook are beginning to take user well-being into account by focusing on connecting people to those they care about. Intending to promote "meaningful social interactions," the News Feed will be shifting away from public content by companies and media and instead will prioritize posts by family and friends, Zuckerberg wrote. With this change, there is an anticipated decrease in time spent on Facebook.

Asst. Media Studies Prof.

Kevin Driscoll said the proposed changes to the News Feed are in response to an increase of media content on Facebook. In recent years, many social media platforms — such as Twitter, YouTube and Snapchat — have undergone similar transitions to expand media coverage, leading to subsequent mission statement redefinition, said Driscoll.

"Facebook never promised to be a portal for news but it certainly didn't shy away from it," Driscoll said. "Eventually turning to embrace the spread of news and trying to bring news onto the platform. It's something that was added to the system later. They certainly didn't think that news was going to be a central part of the platform."

Robins said that the spread of media content on Facebook has caused the site to deviate from their goal of connecting people; the influx of outside material has distracted and disconnected them instead. In turn, Zuckerberg and other executives began to rethink the mechanisms behind their algorithms.

"There's a complicated algorithmic formula that takes into account their browsing history," Robins said. "Their interests, their likes and dislikes, even how long they stay on every particular page. It takes all that into account and tries to predict what they would be interested in watching or reading or seeing and then it just feeds it to them."

Robins said the proposed

changes will give higher priority to family and friends in a more user-centric approach. Although the algorithm itself is intrinsically indifferent, the News Feed's reprioritization will likely be programmed in consideration of the content's impact on the user.

There is a level of manipulation involved when the programmer of the News Feed algorithm decides which posts deserve higher priority, said Robins. Before changes to the News Feed were proposed, manipulation may have entailed prioritization of content pushing a political agenda or selling products if page owners paid to promote their post. The remedy to this manipulation is ensuring that the algorithm works altruistically, in a way that does not operate with a focus on receiving financial profit.

Rick Reifenstein, director of Technology and Innovation for the Office of the Dean of Students, said this user-centric shift will cause social media to grow at the University, especially in the creation of an online community for the University.

"With Facebook's recent changes they're getting back to their roots of creating a sense of community and allowing people to create their own sense of community, not somebody who's paying a lot of money to be part of the group," Reifenstein said.

Reifenstein said ODOS uses social media to inform the University community by sharing

events and information pertinent to the students. Since the social media activity of ODOS is determined by which platforms the students are using, an increase of students on Facebook may mean more ODOS activity on the site.

Like Reifenstein, Driscoll said social media plays a sizeable role in community-building on Grounds, forming a central part of the "informal education" here. Driscoll said that he has observed this "informal education" through the use of social media in communicating for group projects and the circulation of information relevant to the University.

Second-year College student Olivia Descanville said that Facebook has helped her navigate through new communities since starting at the University.

"Facebook has given me a platform to better organize my social life," Descanville said. "Being in a sorority, a small community, means you meet a lot of people, so you have to keep track of them all. Facebook has given me a platform to keep track of all of these people [and] make plans with all of these people."

Others, like second-year College students Emma Steinson and Avni Malik, use Facebook for entertainment purposes.

"I like the U.Va. Class of 2020 group because I see all of these people desperately looking for roommates and I'm like, 'Thank God I have all of my roommates and the dank memes too,'" Stein-

son said, in reference the students-only Facebook group for the Class of 2020.

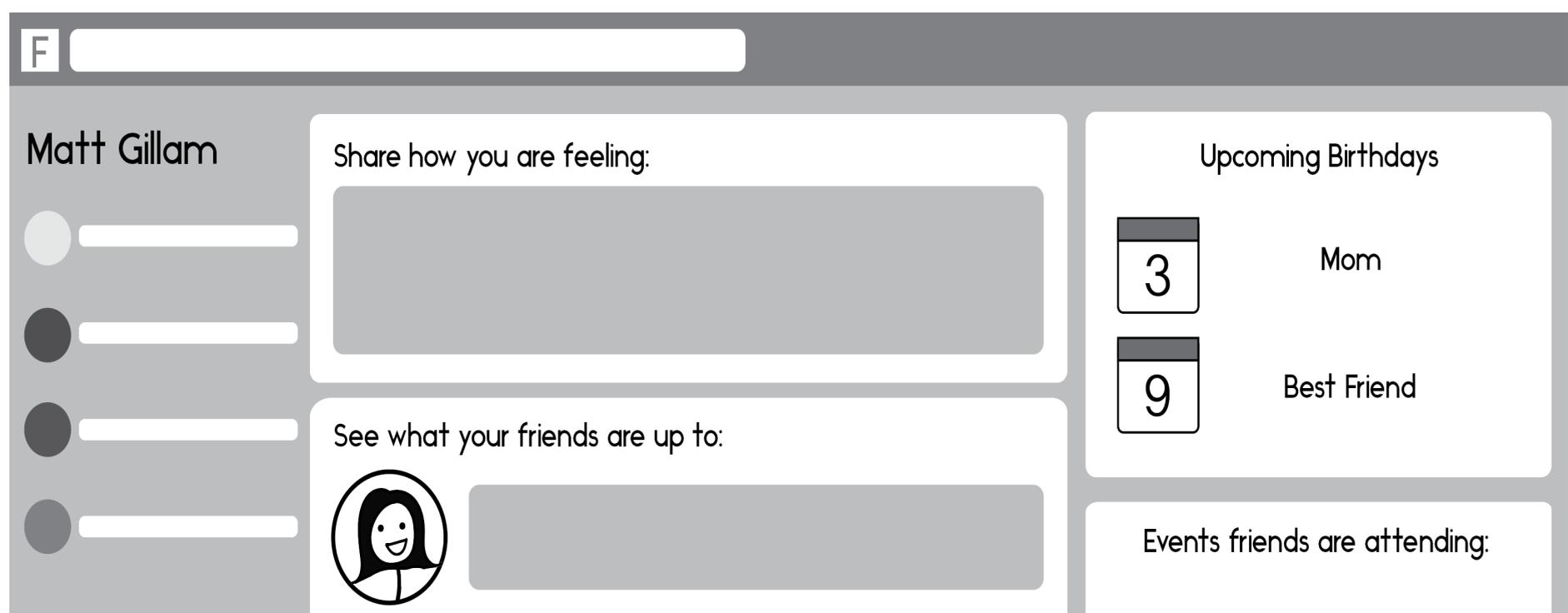
The use of Facebook as a platform for memes was echoed by Malik, highlighting their stress relieving benefits as well.

"Memes just make my day better," Malik said. "I wake up every morning and check what memes I've been tagged in, it really helps me get my day started on the right foot."

Given the varied uses of Facebook by students and the diverse population on Grounds, the University is a prime community to observe the effects of social media, said Driscoll.

"The University is a good place to look at social media because it's such a big dynamic community with people with lots of different backgrounds and interests who moved here all at once," Driscoll said. "How are they are going to get in touch with each other? It's an interesting place to see it happen."

As Facebook begins to implement the updated News Feed algorithm, the impact of these changes could become evident. According to Zuckerberg's predictions, this change has the potential make the time users spend on Facebook more valuable and benefit communities over the long term; the University is one community that may exhibit these effects.



U.Va. alumnus's startup reveals new hospital gown design

Chaitenya Razdan of Care+Wear creates accessible gown to enhance patient care

Divya Viswanathan | Senior Writer

Founded in 2014 by McIntire School of Commerce alumnus Chaitenya Razdan, Care+Wear is a company that strives to create healthwear that is both comfortable and accessible. The startup has since successfully created peripherally inserted central catheter line covers and chest access shirts for patients who regularly receive chemotherapy or transfusions.

Razdan was inspired to construct new garments for patients after seeing his loved ones wear tube socks to cover their PICC line, a semi-permanent tube that is inserted into a vein to deliver medication. After initially working with clinicians and patients to create PICC line covers, Razdan expanded his interests into improving other forms of patient wear, such as the hospital gown.

"While we were primarily focused on fixing the exposed backside that's an issue with most gowns, our biggest concern was how can we create a product that improves the overall patient experience," Razdan said in an email to *The Cavalier Daily*.

With help from the Parsons School of Design in New York City, Care+Wear designed hospital gowns with a closed backside. These gowns

were then tested by patients and clinicians, who gave feedback on the various design options.

"Clinicians emphasized the importance of chest access, which is why our design is made like a robe, with the internal panel piece tied back far enough that you aren't exposed if you open up half the gown," Razdan said.

The gown includes several features such as a telemetry pocket that allows wires to pass through a hole in the pocket, snaps on the sleeves to aid patients who have IV lines and gives access to the back for patients who are bedridden. Usually, patients would need multiple gowns to accommodate all of these needs.

The University Health System currently has various types of gowns for unique purposes.

"We have several different gowns at the U.Va. Health System to accommodate several different patient needs," Michelle Longley, a geriatric nurse practitioner in the Health System, said in an email. Longley said there are different gowns for patients who need MRI compatibility and varied colors to differentiate suicide and high fall-risk patients.

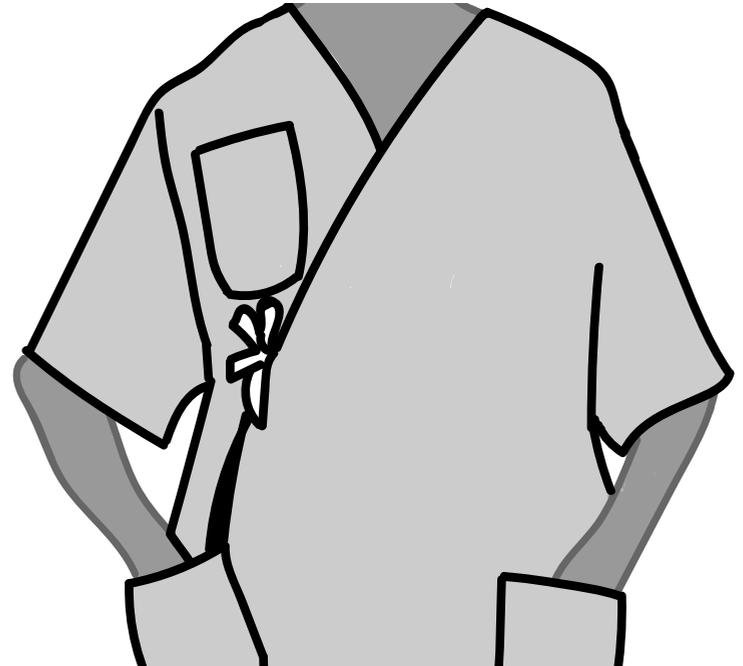
The University Health System pro-

vides gowns that have front pockets, telemetry devices and drains, as well as front slits for drains and lines. However, some gowns do not hold all of these features simultaneously — a circumstance that Razdan hopes to change.

Longley also said that the Health System prioritizes the fit and pattern of the gowns, such as being able to tell difference in the size of standard gowns and bariatric gowns, which are for overweight patients. In addition, clinicians look for non-transparency, pockets, slits, ties, snaps and proper fabric weight — qualities that Razdan has included in his new Care+Wear gown.

MedStar Health, the largest healthcare provider in Maryland and the Washington, D.C. area, is testing Care+Wear's gown for qualities such as ease of use, clinician access as well as patient comfort, experience and modesty. The gowns will begin to be distributed to MedStar Montgomery Medical Center after assessing effectiveness of the gown. Some of Razdan's future plans include launching mobility gloves for people in wheelchairs or with crutches to continue to improve patient healthwear.

"Our ultimate goal as a company



COURTESY AISHA SINGH | THE CAVALIER DAILY

Chaitenya Razdan was inspired to construct new garments for patients after seeing his loved ones wear tube socks to cover their PICC line.

is to help all patients with all conditions," Razdan said. "Whether you're suffering from cancer or tennis elbow, we want to have a solution for you."

Medical Center collecting data on mother-baby health

Obstetric and Neonatal Outcomes Study gather tissue samples from pregnant women for use in future research

Cecily Wolfe | Staff Writer

The University's Medical Center is in the process of collecting data for the Obstetric and Neonatal Outcomes Study (ONOS) cohort, a repository of blood, urine, stool and tissue samples from women during and following pregnancy.

With the women's permission, doctors gather the additional samples during regular checkups. The specimens are then transported to a freezer in the West Complex of the University's Medical Center and stored for future use.

Dr. Donald Dudley, the William T. Moore professor and director in the Division of Maternal-Fetal Medicine, instituted the cohort a little over a year ago and continues to oversee the collection of specimen from over 200 voluntary participants.

"It's going to be a resource for us in order to do different kinds of studies to look at pregnancy outcomes and different ways to predict and hopefully prevent adverse pregnancy outcomes," Dudley said. "The whole idea behind this is not only can we do discovery science but we can do validation science. That is, we can discover new things but then also take

other discoveries and then validate them in our own population."

Anna Maria Siega-Riz, a professor of nursing and associate dean for research in the School of Nursing, is a co-leader with Dudley of the cohort. Siega-Riz stressed the importance of having data available for researchers.

"The main goal is to increase our research capacity and answer questions related to improving prenatal care and the lives of women and children," Siega-Riz said. "Otherwise, you would have to start over every time somebody had a question ... Instead of having to have these cycles of data collection and have multiple people doing that, we have one cohort that serves multiple purposes."

The cohort offers a wealth of clinical information for research ranging from the interplay between the diet of mothers-to-be and early development to potential markers for preterm delivery. While one of Siega-Riz aims is to examine the effects patients' nutritional status has on their pregnancies, Dudley's interest lies in identifying new signals for complications during pregnancy and birth.

"I'm more interested in more bio-

logical problems, such as immunologic problems that could contribute to adverse pregnancy outcomes," Dudley said. "If we can come up with new ways to predict these and potentially prevent problems, then we can improve pregnancy outcomes."

Research opportunities also extend beyond care during pregnancy and delivery. For example, Caitlin Dreisbach, a doctoral student and registered nurse clinician in pediatrics, plans to follow up with the patients to determine the influence the microbiome — the internal environment of the gut — has on mothers' mental health and the neurological development of their babies.

"We're looking at the mother's microbiome and the infant microbiome as well as the maternal well-being aspect of infant development in the first year of life," Dreisbach said. "There's a concept called the gut-brain access, and it's a scientific premise about how the microbiome and the intestinal tract are linked to the brain ... A lot of the research is really new, and I think that's what makes our project so interesting."

Dreisbach, along with Caroline

Kelsey, a psychology doctoral student, received the Presidential Fellowship through the University's Data Science Institute for their research proposal. The two will begin their work with 100 women and their children in the cohort, analyzing stool samples and assessing patients' levels of stress and anxiety and overall psychological state.

In fact, the success of the cohort depends on patients' contributions. Participation is voluntary, and the additional commitment minimal. The women are only required to allow doctors to collect additional specimens for the cohort during routine procedures and checkups. No additional appointments or paperwork is necessary.

"One of the things we're very mindful of is to keep the study burden as low as possible so that we really don't burden the patients with a lot of forms or interviews or a lot of extra blood draws or anything like that," Dudley said. "Once you start putting on too much study burden on patients, it becomes less likely that they're going to continue."

Currently, the cohort includes

samples from more than 220 women, with an estimated 60 percent participation rate. Siega-Riz expressed gratitude for the women who offered to allow doctors to collect additional samples, saying the cohort has made every effort to gain the women's trust and honor the women's willingness to help further doctors' understanding of pregnancy.

"Research really hangs on people's ability to be able to trust us and appreciate the fact that they are contributing their biological specimens, their health information, in order to improve the lives of future generations," Siega-Riz said. "We value that trust, and we wouldn't do anything to break that trust."

Siega-Riz said every few weeks brings several new women who agree to donate samples for research. As the cohort grows at a steady rate, the potential for new discoveries that aid pregnant women continues to increase.

"There are tremendous opportunities with a cohort like this," Dudley said. "The hope is that we would be able to expand our knowledge base and improve outcomes."

HIGH INTENSITY FOCUSED ULTRASOUND (HIFU) CLINICAL TRIAL

The UVA Department of Surgery seeks women ages 18 or older with a breast lump that is a fibroadenoma for a research study involving an investigational nonsurgical treatment.

The purpose of the study is to test an investigational device to treat breast fibroadenomas in women. Fibroadenomas are benign (noncancerous) tumors of the breast. The investigational device, using high intensity focused ultrasound (HIFU), aims to destroy tumor cells. The procedure is done on an outpatient basis and does not require general anesthesia. This study will require six study visits over 12 months. The HIFU study procedure will last four to six hours; each follow-up visit is expected to take about an hour.

Study related procedures will be provided at no cost:

- Mammogram if you are 35 years old or older (if not done as a part of your routine care)
- Ultrasound (if not done as a part of your routine care)

- Core needle tissue biopsy (if not done as a part of your routine care)
- HIFU procedure
- Follow-up clinic visits at two or three days, one week, six months, and one year
- Follow-up ultrasounds at two or three days, one week, six months, and one year

COMPENSATION:

- You may be compensated up to \$400 for finishing this study (\$100 after each of the four required follow-up visits after your HIFU procedure).

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