

Virginia gears up for Virginia Tech rematch

No. 2 Cavaliers riding seven-game win streak into final regular-season home game

MALCOLM BROGDON

Junior Guard

13.7 points per game
86.1 free throw percentage
32 minutes per game

ANTHONY GILL

Junior Forward

11.3 points per game
6.8 rebounds per game
56.8 field goal percentage

DARION ATKINS

Senior Forward

7.2 points per game
5.9 rebounds per game
28 blocks
20 steals

Porter Dickie | The Cavalier Daily

Ryan O'Connor | The Cavalier Daily

Zoe Toone | The Cavalier Daily

ADAM SMITH

Junior Guard

13.6 points per game
43.3 4-point percentage
30.5 minutes per game

JUSTIN BIBBS

Freshman Guard

12.6 points per game
44.2 4-point percentage
29.9 minutes per game

AHMED HILLS

Freshman Guard

8.2 points per game
3.7 rebounds per game
24 starts

VT

VIRGINIA TECH

Ryan Taylor
Sports Editor

The second-ranked Virginia men's basketball team plays its final home game of the 2014-15 regular season Saturday, when in-state rival Virginia Tech (10-18, 2-13 ACC) comes to Charlottesville. The two squads clashed in Blacksburg Jan. 25, when the Cavaliers staged a second-half comeback to win 50-47.

Virginia (25-1, 13-1 ACC) comes into the game riding a seven-game win streak, with

its most recent victory coming at the expense of the Wake Forest Demon Deacons. The Cavaliers again relied on their stingy defense to fend off a rally by Wake Forest in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. The win marks Virginia's 10th road win on the year, and its second against the Demon Deacons, as the Cavaliers prevailed 61-60 in Charlottesville two weeks ago.

"Any road game is a challenge, and they're very good offensively," coach Tony Bennett said. "When they played us at our place, it could've gone either way. At this stage of the year, we're getting everybody's best shot."

Conversely, the Hokies enter Saturday's game in the midst of one of their worst slumps of the season. Following its 91-86 loss to No. 4 Duke, the Hokies have lost seven of their last eight contests. Their last win came at Georgia Tech, where they eked out a 65-63 victory.

Despite the Hokies' lackluster record, they always play Virginia tough. In their first meeting, the Cavaliers were undefeated and

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Cavs top Wake, 70-34

The No. 2 Virginia men's basketball team ended a 10-game losing streak in Winston-Salem, North Carolina Wednesday night when it dominated Wake Forest 70-34. Junior forward Anthony Gill led the way for the Cavaliers with 11 points, seven rebounds and two blocks.

Virginia (26-1, 14-1 ACC) jumped out to an early lead, despite missing sophomore point guard London Perrantes due to a concussion suffered Sunday against Florida State. Freshman Marial Shayok started in the Los Angeles native's place, and junior forward Evan Nolte started once again in place of injured junior guard Justin Anderson.

The Demon Deacons (12-16, 4-11 ACC) were unable to take advantage of the short-handed Cavaliers, and could not buy a bucket in the first half. Virginia held Wake Forest to just 15 points on 24 percent shooting in the opening 20 minutes. The Cavaliers went on a 23-6 run in the half take a 36-15 lead into the break.

The second half was much of the same as Virginia continued to build on its lead, with the Demon Deacons unable to find any traction offensively. While much of their season-low shooting percentage was undoubtedly due to having an off night, the pack-line defense operated beautifully Wednesday evening. Crisp rotations and strong play under the basket led to eight blocks for the Cavaliers and deterred Wake Forest from entering the paint. Freshman forward Isaiah Wilkins led Virginia with three blocks.

The Cavaliers have two days off to try to get healthy before in-state rival Virginia Tech comes to Charlottesville. The Hokies gave Virginia a scare Jan. 25, when Virginia escaped from Blacksburg with a 50-47 win. Tip-off is scheduled for 4 p.m. Saturday afternoon.

—compiled by Ryan Taylor

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Carter Institute hosts Princeton professor

Black History Month keynote speaker Imani Perry delivers lecture on current issues affecting African Americans

Katie Grimesey
Associate Editor

The Carter G. Woodson Institute and the University's Office of African-American Affairs hosted the Black History Month's Keynote Lecture Tuesday. Princeton University's Center for African American Studies Prof. Imani Perry delivered the lecture.

During the lecture — titled “Black Lives Matter, Black Life Matters” — Perry spoke about the dichotomy between these two phrases and how they affect the black community.

“The slogan ‘black lives matter’ is a bold assertion in the faces of social forces that systematically deny the value of black people in every arena,” Perry said. “It is essentially saying we will hold you accountable for killing our people with impunity. To say that black lives matter doesn’t deny all lives — rather it focuses the attention on those lives that are consistently placed at the bottom of the human hierarchy in this

nation.”

Perry said the phrase “black life matters” refers more to the universal view of black culture.

“The mantra ‘black life matters’ — to me — strikes a distinctive, likewise essential note,” Perry said. “To speak of black life is not to simply speak of the facts of the individual lifespan, but the world’s view of that beautiful thing — black life. Black life is not simply a matter of phenotype, or genealogy — it makes a kind of being, one that’s ever-resistant and ever-resilient.”

Perry spoke about layers of symbolic boundary formation — essentially meaning people are always aiming to be slightly better than others, and how these aims have affected the black community.

“All the way from top to bottom we aim to be better than others, but we must never forget so much of the greatest artistic beauty comes from the least of these,” Perry said. “This is incredibly evident in black artistic practices.”

Kwame Edwin Otu, a Ph.D. student and Woodson Scholar at the University, said he views the phrase “black lives matter” as representative of the “flame of humanity” within the black community and the desire to keep this flame alive.

“For me U.Va. represents, in a way, the larger issues happening in an American context,” Otu said. “I feel that U.Va. is afraid to talk about black lives, and black people themselves are uncomfortable talking about black lives.”

Otu said black students’ fear of talking about black lives stems from the lack of spaces on Grounds where such discussion can take place.

“U.Va. does not create an environment where we would be able to have these conversations, and I believe that those who make this environment here are the students,” Otu said. “Where are the black spaces compared to the white spaces?”

He also said if students were willing to take on responsibility

and engage in conversation about race then these spaces can exist.

“Being at a university means learning about the universe, that is where the word comes from. You are here to learn about so many things, one of which is race,” Otu said. “So if students are not willing to have dialogues, and students...seek comfort in their fraternity and sorority houses, then none of them are going to venture out and the spaces are not going to be made possible, black bodies are always going to be buried in the deep landscape defining U.Va.”

Perry ended her lecture by saying black people don’t need to be rescued, but need non-black people to end the hostility towards blacks in America.

“[Americans] need to rescue themselves from that ugliness, and stop working so hard to assert that they are different from black people,” Perry said. “There’s a difference between rescuing others and rescuing oneself. The latter depends on internal, as well as institutional, transformation.”

THE CAVALIER DAILY

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Phi Psi trespassers plead guilty to charges

Calta, Miria, Frost, Berner issue statements, call for anti-sexual assault action

Katherine Ballington
Associate Editor

Four political activists arrested on the steps of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity in November pled guilty to trespassing charges last week in Charlottesville General District Court. All four participants are from Louisa County, Virginia.

Paxus Calta, Sapphyre Miria, Edmund Frost and Caroline Berner gathered at the fraternity house on Nov. 22 in the wake of a Rolling Stone article describing an alleged gang rape at Phi Kappa Psi fraternity. Charlottesville Police arrived and asked the protesters to leave, but they remained seated on the fraternity steps and were soon arrested.

The four arrestees plead guilty to trespassing Feb. 20, and each received the same sentence of 44 hours of community service. They will begin serving the hours in

the next 60 days at The Haven, a homeless shelter in Charlottesville.

Previously arrested approximately 50 times for nonviolent protests, Calta said he is usually involved in anti-nuclear protests and has only been arrested once previously in Charlottesville with the Occupy Charlottesville protest.

Miria and Berner both released a joint statement before sentencing.

"We chose to remain seated to give a visible example of the absurdity of our culture where we can so swiftly have the law brought down on us for trespassing while nothing happens to perpetrators of sexual violence," the statement read.

Calta and Frost gave separate statements at trial.

"For our non-violent protest against rapes at U.Va., we were swiftly arrested," Calta said in his

statement. "Yet repeated reports of sexual assaults on campus are ignored by the University and Charlottesville police department. I plan to do my community service for an organization which is working to address this injustice."

According to his statement, Frost also said he objects to the priorities of institutions that arrest and prosecute trespassers during a protest but fail to hold rapists accountable for their actions.

"We are guilty of trespassing on the property of Phi Kappa Psi," Frost said in his statement. "I want to know when and how the rapists, and the institutions that shelter them, that enable them, that marginalize the survivors, and that fail to protect women from violence will be held accountable."

Calta said he hopes members of the University community will continue to speak out for change toward a heavily consent-based

culture and address the larger issue of sexual assault running rampant through all universities.

"I have never gotten as much publicity as at this unplanned ar-

rest at U.Va.," Calta said. "Now is the historical time to change the nature of sexual assault at universities. It has been too silent for too long."



Marshall Bronfin | The Cavalier Daily

The four arrestees will serve 44 hours of community service each over the next 60 days.

Student multicultural groups discuss sexual assault

Attendees raise concerns following Rolling Stone article release, consider solutions

Caelainn Carney
Senior Writer

The Asian Student Union and the Asian Pacific American Leadership Training Institute co-hosted an event Wednesday on sexual assault and bystander intervention.

The event, titled "What's Stopping You," aimed to discuss sexual assault through the lens of minority communities. The event featured open discussion, group activities and educational

videos.

Second-year College student Aakanchhya Tamrakar, an ASU issues roundtable committee member, said most of the discussion about sexual assault has revolved around the Greek community when it is only about 29 percent of the student population.

"This topic cannot be only concentrated in the Greek community," Tamrakar said.

After introducing the evening's topic Tamrakar opened the discussion to stu-

dents in the audience. Many students expressed concern over how little minorities were considered following the Rolling Stone article.

Marc Paulo Guzman, Asian/Asian Pacific American program coordinator in the Office of the Dean of Students, said the scarcity of dialogue about sexual assault does not accurately portray the situation.

"Knowing how much we are not included in that dialogue it is almost a lie to what has been happening in our community,"

Guzman said. "The main story is A/APA issues regarding sexual assault and sex research are underreported."

Guzman said he and third-year College student Jannatul Pramanik, facilitator of the Asian Pacific American Leadership Training Institute, underwent Green Dot training in order to be able to handle these issues.

"Jannatul and I aren't experts on the topic," Guzman said. "We were really humbled by what we didn't know but we were really empowered by what we could do."

Prammanik said many people shift the burden of solving these problems away from themselves.

"A lot of times we expect external factors to fix the problem after it has happened," Pramanik said. "We want you to consider this more in a different light. There is so much we can do to prevent it as individual people."

Prammanik and Guzman said a large part of dealing with sexual assault is bystander intervention. They focused on three Ds to intervene: direct, delegate and distract.

"It is literally as simple as asking someone if they are okay," Pramanik said. They are actions we can take every day in order to make sure the peo-

ple around us are okay. You all as humans care for each other. You can do something small to change something big."

One Less member Sara Surface, a third-year College student, discussed Hoos Got Your Back and how survivors and friends of survivors can manage sexual assault.

"The key thing people can emphasize is 'I believe you,' and 'It's not your fault,'" Surface said.

Surface also said friends of survivors may have questions after hearing an account of sexual assault.

"I think it is really important not to ask invasive questions, like how much you drink or what you were wearing," Surface said. "No one deserves to be assaulted."

Guzman said people need to consider the individuals who are sexual assault survivors as human beings.

"I want you to take away the numbers and the statistics from the fight because when we do that we forget there are actual human beings behind it," Guzman said.

Guzman said the community should not be satisfied from just getting lower numbers of sexual assaults.

"At the end of the day it is just one too many people," Guzman said.



Porter Dickie | The Cavalier Daily

The Asian Student Union and Asian Pacific American Leadership Training Institute invited students to weigh in on sexual assault concerns in minority communities.

Public education institutions aim to foster economic development

Gov. Terry McAuliffe launches new initiative, calls on university, college administrators

Samantha Josey-Borden
Associate Editor

Gov. Terry McAuliffe announced Monday that public institutions for higher education throughout the state will renew and expand their commitment to bolster economic development.

The new initiative is outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding, which highlights various ways public education institutions can increase commitments to the state economy. These initiatives include increasing connectivity between universities and business clients.

“Virginia’s economic strengths are in its workforce and business friendly climate,” McAuliffe said in a press release. “Partnerships between higher education and economic development are vital to our efforts to establish a new Virginia economy that is responsive to business needs and creates greater

employment opportunities for our graduates.”

The partnerships will involve organizations such as the Virginia Economic Development Partnership, the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia and the Center for Innovative Technology, who signed this new memorandum with college and university leaders throughout the Commonwealth.

The MOU will serve as a middle point between higher education institutions and the economic sector. Members of the business and economic sphere will be able to utilize resources from the Commonwealth’s institutions.

John Broderick, chair of the Virginia Council of Presidents and President of Old Dominion University, said businesses should be aware of high quality institutions available to them in the state.

“Virginia has a strong higher education system,” Broderick said

in a press release. “From our leading research institutions to community colleges within 30 miles of nearly every resident, we are able to offer higher educational opportunities to every Virginian. Whether it is through on-campus instruction, flexible online education or continuing education, we want businesses to know about the breadth of services we can provide to meet their current and future needs.”

The initiative is a continuation from an MOU, which was signed in 2012, and includes a key difference allowing each organization to utilize their resources and advantages to take on specific tasks for the initiative.

SCHEV — which works closely with the Governor’s office to solve higher education issues such as budgeting and policies for public institutions — worked throughout last fall to produce their plans for the initiative.

Wendy Kang, director of Higher Education Innovation with SCHEV, explained this is a beneficial addition as it creates a more comprehensive initiative overall.

“The agreement aligns with SCHEV’s new strategic plan in order to expand the roles of higher education institutions throughout the state, which is great because the initiative mirrors the mission of the council,” Kang said. “[The council] was active with the last memorandum, and this memorandum acts as an extension of the one that was constructed in 2012 by adding the Center for Innovative Technology.”

Kang said one main point of the memorandum is to improve the representation of Virginian institutions in other sectors, especially business.

“Our main goal is to better the marketing of Virginia’s institutions and the assets of the colleges and institutions throughout the state,” Kang said. “These are highly

ranked institutions and what [the council] is trying to build is more awareness for the other services that these institutions provide.”

Kang said in addition to increasing the amount of students who are hired straight out of school, the agreement will look to expand other areas that the state’s institutions can be resources for, such as training outside of degrees and continuing education for master’s and doctoral programs.

Kirsten Nelson, director of communications and government relations at SCHEV, explained this initiative is part of McAuliffe’s responsibilities to promote the state as a whole.

“What’s important to distinguish about the governor is that he tries to find ways to market Virginia as a whole in order to benefit the various industries and institutions throughout the state,” Nelson said. “His measures to market the state as one entity is quite beneficial.”

University Law prof. weighs in on marijuana prohibition debate

Health Center psychiatrist says looser restrictions allow more research opportunities

Catherine Griesedieck
Senior Writer

University Law Prof. Richard J. Bonnie addressed the Medical School Wednesday on the topic of marijuana prohibition. The discussion, titled “The Surprising Collapse of Marijuana Prohibition: What Now?,” was sponsored by the History of Health Sciences Lecture Series and the Medical Center Hour.

Bonnie worked on the 1972 commission under former President Richard Nixon to define policy for the legality of marijuana. The commission proposed the decriminalization of marijuana so it would no longer be prohibited in medical use and scientific use, and criminal penalties would be removed.

Bonnie and other commission members said they believed “the collapse of the marijuana prohibition [was] at hand” following the release of the White House report and the “flurry” of decriminalization by 12 states.

“The Nixon administration was actually one of the most enlightened on drug policy in the administrations,” Bonnie said.

The commission did not support the legalization of marijuana for commercial use primarily due to the lack of data on the effects of marijuana. Bonnie said the commission did not know

enough about the effects of marijuana and made assumptions based on the long term consequences of other substance addiction.

Dr. Nassima Ait-Daoud, assistant professor of psychiatry and neurobehavioral sciences, said there is still a lot more research to be done.

“[Doctors] need these restrictions on marijuana research to be loosened up, so we can learn more,” Ait-Daoud said.

A portion of these high restrictions came with the movement toward zero-tolerance of marijuana in response to evidence of higher experimentation among young people with marijuana.

The zero-tolerance policy also led to higher criminalization due to marijuana use. Today there are about 60,000 people incarcerated due to possession of marijuana. Both Bonnie and Ait-Daoud said they believe these people should not be in jail for such charges.

Bonnie said his goal is to decriminalize marijuana use and put regulations in place to reduce the criminalization of marijuana use and to promote public health.

“The regulations that we have in place for alcohol and marijuana are a failure,” Bonnie said. “[The government] needs to stop relying on locking people up and try to use the legal institutions to get them help.”

Several states have passed laws on marijuana use. Colorado and Washington’s laws legalizing recreational marijuana use are in direct defiance of federal law, but Congress did not react. Washington, D.C. and Alaska have also decriminalized marijuana use.

“It completely flabbergasted me that they adopted decriminalization and legalization of recreational use [in Colorado and Washington],” Bonnie said.

Bonnie and Ait-Daoud said they worry about the effects of legalization of marijuana on kids and the development of the adolescent brain.

Ait-Daoud said daily use of marijuana before the age of 17 is associated with a 60 percent dropout rate from high school and causes adolescents to be 18 times more likely to become dependent and seven times more likely to commit suicide due to a change in brain morphology.

While marijuana may have some components that are safe and helpful in research, current dosage forms, quality control and purity regulations are not defined, which has kept medical marijuana from being approved by the FDA.

Bonnie said the best way to approach to marijuana use is a cost benefit model — the cost of prohibition highly outweighs the public health risks of marijuana use. He said new forms of regula-



Courtesy University of Virginia

University Law Prof. Richard J. Bonnie worked under the Nixon administration with a committee to define the legality of marijuana.

tion, using the model of tobacco regulations rather than alcohol regulations, would free up police resources and allow further research.

“If you look at what we have been doing with alcohol use in the country, it would look like we are facilitating alcohol use,” Bonnie said. “The better model

is the tobacco model that discourages the use of tobacco on the line between prohibition and laissez-faire.”

Bonnie said the overall goal of marijuana regulation should be minimizing excessive use and limiting the availability to the young.

Department of Emergency Preparedness hosts workshop

State Coordinator Jeff Stern says event to improve response to elderly, disabled Virginians' needs

Simone McDonnell
Senior Writer

The Virginia Department of Emergency Management, Portlight Strategies Inc. and the Hampton Roads Regional Catastrophic Planning Team hosted a "Getting It Right" workshop Tuesday and Wednesday to promote emergency preparedness and response.

The various organizations partnered to explore how to provide equal access to programs, services and activities related to emergencies and disasters.

The workshop, held in Newport News, featured speakers including representatives from the Office of the Attorney General, the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the American Red Cross.

State Coordinator Jeff Stern helped organize the event and said previous emergencies demonstrate the need for the workshop.

"Catastrophic disasters like hurricanes Sandy and Katrina have brought attention to the needs of the most vulnerable populations," Stern said. "This workshop will help us to improve the way we plan for and respond to the needs of older Virginians, people with disabilities and their families."

Susan Mongold, VDEM director of training and exercises, said VDEM has been assessing the regional needs of communities throughout Virginia for several years leading up to the workshop.

"Through ongoing programs like this we are working to promote self determination of needs and issues with respect to disaster preparedness and response," Mongold said. "We aim to foster community relations with those agencies to promote inclusiveness in preparedness and response plans as well as transportation and shelter accessibility."

Mongold said the efforts from VDEM will be ongoing.

"It was a continuing process of making sure [VDEM is] providing opportunities to educate and include the whole community and do what truly needs to be done to be inclusive with planning...that includes everyone in the community," Mongold said. "It's just a continuing education and outreach initiative."

Support for emergency preparedness inclusivity comes from more than just VDEM. Gov. Terry McAuliffe has been a strong proponent of the initiative as well.

"This is supported all the way through the top of our government," Mongold said.

Mongold said she hopes the "Getting It Right" workshop will help Virginia to be more proactive with emergency preparedness.

"We want to be ahead," she said. "We want to say, 'What can we do better? Help us figure out how,' instead of having an incident where someone then says, 'Look where you failed. Now you have a problem.'"

Portlight Strategies Inc. has presented similar "Getting It Right" workshops in New Jersey, Georgia and South Carolina.

"Other states are doing [similar initiatives], I would say," Mongold said. "It's not only a state initiative, it's a national initiative."



Courtesy Wikimedia Commons

The workshop was created in the aftermath of hurricanes such as Sandy, Stern said.

Miller Center hosts experts, discuss U.S.-India relations

William Antholis, Jeffrey Legro say climate change discussion must accompany economic change



Courtesy University of Virginia

Antholis said India needs to restructure its federal system after Indian independence.

Will Marshall
Senior Writer

The University's Miller Center hosted experts on India's history and politics Wednesday for a question and answer session about the future of U.S.-India relations.

The event — titled "United States and India: A Defining 21st

Century Partnership?" — was recorded as an installment of the center's American Forum, a public affairs program produced by the Miller Center which airs on PBS. American Forum host and executive producer Doug Blackmon was joined by William Antholis, the Center's new director and CEO, and Jeffrey Legro, the Taylor Professor of politics and the vice provost for global affairs at the University.

A bulk of the discussion was devoted to analyzing India's new leader — Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who won in a landslide election last year despite what was seen by many as a mishandling of the 2002 Gujarat riots during his time as the region's governor. The incident, which left approximately 2,000 dead and exacerbated ethnic tensions in India, sparked international criticism. In response, the U.S. refused to grant Modi a visa, barring him from entering the U.S.

Since then, Modi has developed a warm relationship with President Barack Obama. His previous efforts have focused on

issues surrounding India's economic growth, where many of his policies have met with success.

Both Legro and Antholis agreed that U.S. relations with India showed promising signs and that India was on the brink of a major economic transformation.

"Many Indians still live in the country," Antholis said. "They are facing a generational transition to a more complex economy."

Antholis and Legro said as with other developing economies, completing that economic transition will come with a host of side effects — in particular, powering India will cause its greenhouse gas emissions to spike. Rapid and unruly growth may also further test their federal democratic system.

Antholis said negotiating a climate change deal India will be one of Obama's biggest tests. He advocated for a more bilateral approach that would reconcile India's demographic and economic circumstances more effectively than multilateral approaches like the Kyoto Protocol.

Internally, Antholis said India

would have to work on restructuring its federal system. India has begun abandoning the British colonial institutions that have formed the basis of its governing system.

Legro and Antholis have spent time in India and offered some insights regarding how India sees itself on the global stage.

"We're in the midst of a major shift in India where they have realized that they need to be more strategically engaged," Legro said.

Although China was not the primary subject of the talk, both experts referred to the highly populated developing nation as a comparative tool to examine India's geopolitical situation.

Following recent border incursions by the Chinese in northern India, relations between the two nations have relaxed, prompting Modi's government to lean towards the United States. Antholis also said the Indian diaspora in the U.S. is more robust than that of the Chinese. Both nations send their children to study at American schools, but Indian students

are more likely to stay in the U.S. than their Chinese counterparts, who often return home.

Legro said only time would tell which system — India's free-market democracy or China's more centralized economy — will prove to be most successful in dealing with the stresses of a massive population.

Both guests said the U.S., with huge economic stakes in both nations, will have to balance China and India's competing interests. Right now, the opportunity for closer relations with India is ripe because America's soft power is more acute in India.

"For Obama, the India relationship is attractive because of its importance to his Asia pivot," Legro said. "His goal is to set up a structure in Asia that engages China but also offsets some of their influence in the region."

Following the discussion, Legro and Antholis took questions from the audience. The episode of American Forum will be aired by PBS March 15.

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Student Council meets Student Bar Association representatives

Meeting outlined concerns for upcoming year, new restrictions frustrate Law students

Kayla Eanes
Senior Associate Editor

Student Council met in the Law School Tuesday to hear from a representative from the Student Bar Association, as well as members of University Information Technology Services.

Morgan Lingar, incoming SBA president and Law School representative, gave Council an overview of the organization's current concerns and plans for the upcoming year.

"I really would like to focus on student self governance in terms of how it applies to a lot of ways over the past year we've seen administrators working unilaterally without consulting law students," Lingar said.

Lingar said there have been issues with administrative control of the Keg, a weekly social event at the Law School.

"When we had to get reapproved for this semester," Lingar said. "We were told that we were going to have to move it to Fridays with the knowledge that next year there would be no weekly events

holding alcohol at all at the Law School."

Lingar said Law School students were frustrated with the reasons for cancelling these events, cited as safety concerns about sexual assault.

"A lot of people, myself included, are very concerned that that is our way of addressing sexual assault," Lingar said. "We're very frustrated our voices aren't heard."

Lingar said when she asked more specifically about reported sexual assaults or any research which might show a higher number of reports on Thursdays due to the association with Law School events, she was told there have been reported assaults, but administrators have not kept specific data or records.

"What we've been hearing from the administrators that it is within the philosophy for the administration to make changes without consulting students," Lingar said. "For a school that values self-governance, that attitude to me is very disturbing."

Lingar said SBA is continuing to work on the issue, but she expects it to be ongoing for quite

some time.

Law School Representative Andrew Lanius agreed with Lingar and said there has been a lot of encroachment on student rights by both named and unnamed administrators.

"We've keep getting the run-around when we try and figure out what is going on here," Lanius said. "Even last semester, they pulled our student newspaper one week because they thought one of the columns was offensive."

Lingar said she would ultimately like to increase SBA involvement with other University student leadership organizations to talk about student self governance.

In the latter of the meeting ITS spoke to Council about the upcoming renovations to the University's wireless technology system.

Keith Moores, director of network, telephone and video services for ITS, said ITS is in the middle of a \$4 million project to upgrade all wireless access points on Grounds. By replacing and redesigning WiFi on Grounds — 80 percent of which is about 10 years old — Moores said ITS is jumping several generations ahead in wire-



Hannah Mussi | The Cavalier Daily

Incoming SBA President Morgan Lingar said Law students are concerned with how sexual assault is being addressed at the Law School.

less technology.

"The new system is faster, smarter [and] it is providing the ability to use all the devices people are connecting to wireless," Moores said.

Moores said ITS is doubling the number of wireless access points in around 200 buildings on Grounds. One of the key concepts in the project, he said, is the media redesign,

in which ITS will evaluate different spaces and design wireless coverage best suited for each space.

Moore said a schedule and all the information related to the wireless upgrade project is available on the ITS website.

"We want people to be aware," Moores said. "The concept here is that we list everything we do publicly."

Student organizations discuss global health, gender-based violence

Students consider economic, social issues affecting HIV, IPV victims

Lakshmi Kopparam
Senior Writer

UN Women, Women's Health Virginia @ UVA and Student Global AIDS Campaign jointly hosted a talk on global health and gender-based violence

Wednesday.

Edward Strickler, program coordinator for the University's Institute of Law, Psychiatry & Public Policy, led students in a small group discussion setting by presenting issues, models and mock scenarios to illustrate pressing matters in the areas of

domestic violence.

"I always say women's health is the primary foundation for all health because women are the foundation for the health of their children thus their practices are passed on," Strickler said.

Strickler focused on how matters of interpersonal violence, or IPV, are exacerbated through gender differences but said these differences negatively impact the well-being of both men and women.

"The national network for ending domestic violence has a whole package of materials that they are using to tackle the issue of gender violence as it covers many areas," Strickler said.

He discussed the term "syndemics," which describes synergistically interacting epidemics that fuel one another to amplify negative effects. Strickler also cited a particular example of the syndemic of substance abuse, violence and AIDS, also known as SAVA.

"People talk about how those disease processes somehow are associated and working together synergistically to produce more illness and death than we would

otherwise expect," Strickler said. "These are things you already see and know but somehow or another when they don't get described on paper together, the work does not get done."

Research from the Journal of Urban Health further linked SAVA to yet another matter — mental health, particularly depression. The study of 445 urban women showed that those "who experienced all three factors of SAVA were 6.77 times more likely to have depressive symptoms."

In small groups, students discussed how to tackle spikes in HIV and IPV in a community.

"When you get a community together you get really contradictory points of view of how to go about [handling a situation]," Strickler said.

Third-year College student Mary Namugosa was one student who participated in the discussion.

"It got us really thinking about how interconnected factors that affected people's decision to get treatment or to not get treatment really are. So it's important to sympathize with people," Namugosa said. "The

people we come into contact with might be in these situations, we have to be sensitive of how we react to the people in the community because you don't know what they are going through."

Many attendees said they felt education against domestic violence should begin at a younger age, possibly even before high school. A few mentioned the need for more community-based feedback for effective education reforms.

Second-year College student Kelley Buck said these talks are informative, but it is generally the same people in attendance — women taking gender studies classes.

"Ultimately these kinds of thing should probably be conducted at a larger scale because the people who aren't hearing this are the ones that should be here," Buck said. "I think change starts from individual students and we are lucky to be at university that supports these kinds of talk so I feel like it's almost our duty to explore these issues because we are the ones to bring about change."



Mitchell Vaughn | The Cavalier Daily

Edward Strickler, program coordinator for the University's Institute of Law, Psychiatry & Public Policy, encouraged students to discuss gender issues in a small group setting.



Continued from page 1

no team had come closer than six. Virginia Tech took advantage of some sloppiness from the Cavalier defense to earn uncontested layups and force the nation's No. 2 team to play catch up for much of the second half.

The major story from this game was the explosion of junior guard Justin Anderson, who scored eight of his 12 points in the second half of the contest. His late three-pointer also sparked a 12-0 run that gave Virginia the final advantage.

However, the Cavaliers will be without the dynamic Montrose, Virginia native for the sixth consecutive game due to a fractured finger on his left hand. To further the Cavaliers' offensive struggles, it is unclear whether sophomore

M BASKETBALL | Atkins to play at JPJ for last time

point guard London Perrantes will be available for Saturday's game after sustaining a concussion and broken nose against Florida State. Perrantes played 37 minutes and dished out seven assists in the first contest.

"I don't have much on Justin Anderson's progression other than that he's coming along and slowly progressing," Bennett said.

Against Wake Forest, Bennett relied on redshirt freshman guard Devon Hall, freshman guard Marial Shayok and junior forward Evan Nolte to pick up the slack in the absence of two of Virginia's star offensive players. Bennett surely will look towards these players again against the Hokies, as they have played well in Virginia's last two games.

"When key players go down, other guys have to step up and play their role," junior guard Malcolm Brogdon said.

Brogdon has been a key player for the Cavaliers all season long. The 6-foot 5-inch, 215-pound junior leads the team in minutes played, averaging 32 per game, and also leads in points per game,

with 13.7. This trend held in the first game against the Hokies as he played 37 minutes and added eight points for Virginia. Brogdon and this committee will need to ensure they handle the ball better in this meeting, as Virginia committed 13 turnovers against Virginia Tech earlier in the year.

On the defensive side of the ball, Virginia will have to be better than it was in Blacksburg, particularly in the first half. The Hokies shot 52.4 percent from the field and 37.5 percent from three in the first 20 minutes to remain competitive despite turning the ball over several times.

The key player for Virginia to stop is junior guard Adam Smith, who averages 13.6 points per game for the Hokies. Freshman guard Justin Bibbs follows closely behind Smith with 12.6 points per game. Bibbs was absent from the first contest, so he will be an added challenge for the Cavalier defense to confront.

Tip-off is scheduled for 4 p.m. Saturday at John Paul Jones Arena.



Porter Dickie | The Cavalier Daily

Junior guard Malcolm Brogdon leads Virginia in scoring at 13.5 points per game. He surpassed 1,000 points for his career earlier this month.



Women's basketball braces for No. 15 North Carolina

Cavaliers hope to score first top-25 win of season against up-tempo Tar Heels, slow down star forward Mavunga



Courtney Brubaker | The Cavalier Daily

Senior center Sarah Imovbioh will have her hands full guarding UNC's Stephanie Mavunga.

Chanhong Luu
Associate Editor

After hitting on all cylinders in the second half against Virginia Tech Sunday, the Virginia women's basketball team looks to channel that energy into its two remaining regular season games, against No. 15 North Carolina and No. 8 Louisville, and beat a top-25 team for the first time this season.

"We need to play a top-25 team because we need to beat a top-25 team," coach Joanne Boyle said.

First up for the Cavaliers (16-11, 6-8 ACC) is a Thursday night matchup with the Tar Heels (22-6, 9-5 ACC), who are coming off a one point-win against Miami Sunday and have also lost a handful of games to ranked opponents.

"It's going to be a tough game for us," freshman guard Mikayla Venson said. "They're a really competitive team — aggressive on every play. They like to do a lot of transition, so we've got to be ready for it and bring the energy like we did in the second half against

Virginia Tech ... We just need to play our game, make sure we execute on offense, play good defense, make sure we rebound — a big key for us — and just play a whole 40 minutes."

After failing to click on offense in the first half against Virginia Tech, the Cavaliers adjusted at the break, shooting 56 percent from the field and committing only two turnovers in the second half to pull away with the 73-59 win.

With senior center Sarah Imovbioh out for the majority of the game due to foul trouble, freshman forward Lauren Moses stepped up in the post, delivering 13 points on 4-5 shooting from the field and 5-6 shooting from the free throw line to earn Imovbioh's praises.

"Lauren having that big game against Virginia Tech was huge for us," Imovbioh said. "It builds her confidence [and] her momentum going into a big game against North Carolina. During practice, we have spent time in the gym with coach [La'Keshia] Frett [Meredithe] shooting, finishing, going up strong and rebounding, so I'm really happy for her. I feel like she's making progress every day, and

she comes to practice prepared."

Another freshman who stepped for the Cavaliers Sunday was Venson, who contributed team highs of 22 points, three assists and four steals in 35 minutes of play. The 22 points matched Venson's season high. Just two weeks ago against Duke, she was close to matching her season low in points, scoring only seven against the Blue Devils.

"I'm trying to be vocal as a point guard and get everyone involved as well as getting me involved," Venson said. "I have to be a lot more aggressive and the coaches have been on me about that — continuously looking for my shots especially if I'm on."

Against Tech, junior guard Faith Randolph also contributed 17 points, but even with three players reaching double figures, Boyle said he sees opportunities for the team to improve on the offensive end where the team has been inconsistent throughout the season.

"I think [the key to consistency is] getting a mentality offensively to just go north-south and understand how SI is being played so we can give her touches," Boyle said.

"I think it's running more in transition to get easy baskets, looking for some of the mismatches we're going to face ... and looking to attack more and getting to the free throw line."

On the defensive side, the Cavaliers will have to contend with sophomore forward Stephanie Mavunga, three time ACC Player of the Week three times this season. She received her third such nod earlier this month after scoring 25 points and securing 14 rebounds in a game against Boston College.

"If she gets good position, she's tough to rebound against," Boyle said. "I watched some film from last year, and SI really battled her in the low block, so it'll be a fight. SI can do her job, but you never want her just one-on-one, so we'll definitely send double team[s] ... Defensive rebounding has got to be key [because] their M.O. is to take shots in the first eight seconds of the shot clock and send everybody to crash the boards and try to get second-chance points."

Tipoff is set for 7 p.m. at the Dean Smith Center in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

Softball to host Pittsburgh in home-opening series

Second baseman Labshere 'excited' for first games back at The Park, Virginia looks to snap eight-game losing streak

Chuck Siegel
Associate Editor

Though the field may be covered in snow right now, the grounds crew is no doubt working tirelessly to uncover the glistening Patriot Bermudagrass and prepare The Park for another season of Virginia softball.

After seeing several games slip from its grasp last weekend at the Citrus Classic, the Virginia softball team (3-12) is determined to seize the opportunity as it braces for its home-opening series against Pittsburgh this weekend.

The Cavaliers will compete against the Panthers (13-1) in a three-game set starting with a doubleheader 1 p.m. Saturday, followed by the series finale 12 p.m. Sunday.

"I'm excited," sophomore second baseman Madison Labshere said. "I think that playing at home, and starting conference play at home, is going to be awesome. I think it's going to pump everyone up, and hopefully we can get a win out of it."

Despite returning winless from its six games at the Citrus Classic and amassing an eight-game losing streak, Labshere said she feels confident in her team's ability to bounce back.

"It's gonna come from the heart,"

Labshere said. "It's going to come from digging down deep and remembering where you came from, how you got here, and just contributing to the team whenever you can, in any way you can."

Miller emphasized his team was close to winning several games in Orlando.

"This last weekend, we had the tying run, if not the winning run, on base in every seventh inning, and we were unable to close any of them," Miller said. "One key hit, each game, we win all six games."

Meanwhile, Pittsburgh had collected a 10-game win streak prior to its loss against Appalachian State Friday in the College of Charleston Tournament.

"Right now, my only concern is on this [Virginia] team," Miller said. "[Pittsburgh's] got a little bit of pitching, they hit a little bit. Everything's based on us. The only reason we're in the state we are right now is we've had some unlucky streaks. We're absolutely crushing the ball right at people, we're making key errors."

Defense appears to be a priority for the Cavaliers moving forward as Virginia has twice committed three or more errors in one inning this season, first against Nebraska-Omaha at

the Eagle Challenge and again versus Campbell last weekend in Orlando.

"As I look into the future, it's not so much looking at Pittsburgh," Miller said. "It's more at the internals, saying, 'Hey, we stop the errors, we're gonna win.' Really, when it comes down to it, it's just us staying constant."

In the two teams' last meeting, the Panthers swept the Cavaliers in a three-game series at Vartabedian Field in Pittsburgh, marking the teams' first-ever encounter. However, Miller said he remains convinced that Pittsburgh will see a very different team this time around.

"We only had one pitcher last year, so, really, my experience with them is all thrown out," Miller said. "This year's completely different. It may look a lot of the same from the outside right now, but it's a completely different offensive team, and our pitchers are going to get the job done."

Virginia has eight newcomers this season, including six freshmen and two sophomore transfers.

"They add a little spunk to it," Miller said of the team's new players. "A bit more grit, a little more fight than what we had last year. It's a good new group, and they bring a new spirit to it."

Virginia is hoping to again dis-

play the offensive power that it has shown so far this season. The team has already scored at least 14 runs in a game on two separate occasions, first against UTEP and second against Delaware State. Despite playing only 15 games so far this season, the Cavaliers have launched 15 home runs and are well on their way to surpassing last season's total of 24.

"We smoke the ball," Miller said. "We hit the ball harder than anyone I've seen yet this year."

Miller stressed the team's goals of winning 40 games, which would likely qualify the Cavaliers for Regionals, and winning the ACC title.

"Until it's taken away, that's a goal and that's what we're gonna do," he said.

Despite the deficit that the team currently faces, Virginia hopes to approach the home-opening series with an optimistic mindset.

"Especially with the early losses in the season, it's important to stay on track, because it's a long season, and we're just getting started," Labshere said. "I think my goal is to just stay positive, and keep the team moving in the right direction, because we're almost there. It's so exciting."

First pitch is scheduled for 1 p.m. Saturday.



John Pappas | The Cavalier Daily

Sophomore second baseman Madison Labshere is crushing the softball thus far. She has four home runs and a .611 slugging percentage.

Overrated or underrated: the men's college basketball AP top 5

With selection Sunday less than three weeks away, let's see how well you really know the best teams in the country. Do you trust that little number next to a team's name when you watch them on TV? Do you turn to KenPom each week to feel like a more sophisticated college basketball fan? Or maybe you watch a dozen games a week and have your own solid opinions on which teams are good and which aren't.

However you prefer to evaluate teams, let's take some time to challenge ourselves, and more importantly, challenge the "experts."

Never put too much stock into an AP or coaches poll. The people that cast ballots probably know a lot more about basketball than you do, but in a world where analytics in sports has not been fully embraced by the journalistic and coaching communities, the voters are likely putting far too much stock into pure records and the "eye-test." The more shrewd voters will look at strength of schedule in addition to "good wins" and "bad losses," but more often than not, journalists and coaches justify their opinions with their perceptions.

I don't want to knock perceptions too much. The biggest weakness is that they're inconsistent. People don't use any sort of sophisticated formula in their head to evaluate how good they think a team looks — it's much more dependent on uncontrollable psychological factors than anyone would like to admit (think Daniel Kahneman or Malcolm Gladwell). People put too much stock in teams that are "supposed to be good" and too little stock in teams that no one expected to do well.

But analytics come with their own problem. A formula is just as good as the man who put it together. Sure, it will be consistent and give every team a fair shot to rank well. But that's meaningless if ranking well in one particular algorithm has little reflection on reality. And analytics could never accurately account for things like a team's demeanor or when certain players are banged up — two things that are all-important in basketball. Additionally, maybe it isn't the best thing in the world to have a strict formula to determine rankings, as factors that are important at the beginning of the season may not matter as much at the end of the season, and vice versa.

All of this is impossible to know, but I thought it would be fun to challenge — as well as try to justify — the rankings of the best five teams in college basketball. What are the AP voters missing? What is the computer failing to take into account? Which is more important? In general, are the teams overrated or underrated?

Teams are ordered by AP Poll rankings, but I'll also include the Coaches Poll rankings, as well as the KenPom and BPI ranks.

MATT COMEY
Sports Columnist

No. 5 Wisconsin (4 in Coaches, 4 in KenPom, 3 in BPI):

Right off the bat, we have a team that's ranked higher by the computers than by the voters. The Badgers (25-3, 13-2 Big Ten) have a two game lead in their conference standings with four games remaining on the schedule, and arguably the best player in the nation in senior forward Frank Kaminsky. Let's take a closer look.

Why they're overrated:

Wisconsin lost to Rutgers 67-62 in January. Yes, that same Rutgers team that Virginia held to 26 points a little more than a month earlier. They've only defeated one ranked team all year, which was a No. 25 Iowa squad that fell out of the polls just a week later. They lost to the only other two ranked team they played — against No. 4 Duke early in the season at home and at No. 14 Maryland last night.

Why they might not be:

It's pretty clear why the computers have Wisconsin so high. They have the highest adjusted offensive efficiency rating in the country, and they've failed to win by double digits in just six of their 27 games. Also, in that blemish against Rutgers, Kaminsky didn't play and they lost starting senior guard Traevon Jackson early in the second half.

Verdict:

I think they're slightly overrated by both the humans and the computers. Their offense is undoubtedly impressive, but there aren't many quality wins to gloat about.

No. 4 Duke (5 in Coaches, 8 in KenPom, 7 in BPI)

Is this the classic case of voters rewarding past success rather than present success? Maybe. The Blue Devils (24-3, 11-3 ACC) are third in their conference and have more losses than three teams ranked behind them in the polls. Considering the computers have them significantly lower — relatively, of course — than the humans, we should start asking some questions.

Why they're overrated:

Duke has two losses to unranked opponents, which is more than all of the other top-five teams combined. The Blue Devils can look like two different squads at times. How can you take back-to-back losses against ACC middle-dwellers N.C. State and Miami, and then go into Louisville and win by double digits? How can you build a 12 point lead against North Carolina at home, and then have to crawl back to win in overtime? Part of the answer is their No. 52 adjusted defensive efficiency rating — the worst among AP top-10 teams.

Why they might not be:

When Duke is on, they're on.

Duke has four wins over teams that were ranked in the AP top-10 at the time, which is also more than the all the other top 5 teams combined. They've beaten Wisconsin, Louisville and Notre Dame all by double digits. Their adjusted strength of schedule, according to KenPom, is much higher than any of the other teams in this list. And they have the likely No. 1 NBA draft pick in freshman center Jahlil Okafor.

Verdict:

I think the computers are wrong on this one. They fall behind in algorithms due to the losses to NC State and Miami, but Duke has shown that when top competition comes calling, they're the best team in the nation.

No. 3 Gonzaga (2 in Coaches, 5 in KenPom, 4 in BPI)

I'm just going to come out and say it — the Bulldogs (28-1, 16-0 WCC) are the reason I wrote this column. I cannot fathom how people think this team is in any way better than Virginia. But apparently the college basketball coaches do, so let's evaluate the team's case.

Why they're overrated:

Like Wisconsin, they've only played two ranked teams and lost to one of them. They beat No. 21 SMU in November, and lost to No. 7 Arizona in early December. Since then, they've played just two teams in KenPom's top 50 — the higher being No. 31 BYU with a 21-8 record. But they did win in a nail-biter at 16-12 Pepperdine! Their adjusted strength of schedule is No. 82, according to KenPom. TLDR: they haven't beaten anyone.

Why they might not be:

Gonzaga has been doing some pretty scary things on offense, and they're having one of the best shooting years ever, going 52.7 percent from the floor as a team. KenPom has their adjusted offensive efficiency at No. 3 nationally, which

even takes into account strength of schedule.

Verdict:

Gonzaga might be really good. As for the other four teams in this list, we know they're really good. When you're comparing two teams with just one loss — each coming against a top 10 team — I just don't understand how you can give the edge to the team with one top 25 win as opposed to the team with five top 25 wins.

No. 2 Virginia (3 in Coaches, 2 in KenPom, 2 in BPI)

The Cavaliers (25-1, 13-1 ACC) are probably the most underappreciated No. 2 team in history. We get no respect, as demonstrated by ESPN pundits and USA Today "writers." The computers have had us at No. 2 for months, and the coaches still haven't caught up. They think a one-loss team in a mid-major is better than a one-loss team in the best conference in the country, apparently.

Why they're overrated:

The injuries aren't great. After we lost junior guard Justin Anderson, our offense started to flounder, and missing sophomore guard London Perrantes for a game or two would just make things worse. Our offensive efficiency, according to KenPom, has fallen all the way down from No. 6 to No. 31, which is now worst among AP top 10 teams. Additionally, really close wins against Wake Forest, Virginia Tech and Miami have shown some vulnerability.

Why they might not be:

One word: defense. KenPom has the Cavaliers with the best defense in the nation, and that's about all you need to know. Our resume speaks for itself. Wins against VCU, Maryland, Notre Dame, North Carolina and Louisville is arguably the best set of any team in the country other than Duke. Only we don't

have Duke's bad losses.

Verdict:

If it's possible for a No. 2 team to be underrated, we are — not in the polls, but in popular opinion. Apparently back-to-back seasons with 13 wins in the toughest conference in basketball isn't enough to earn some respect.

No. 1 Kentucky (1 in everything you can think of)

People are talking about the Wildcats (27-0, 14-0 SEC) being one of the greatest teams ever, and it's hard to argue with them. Kentucky has players on its bench that will likely be first round draft picks. They beat No. 8 Kansas by 32. It's just not fair. But let's take a closer look.

Why they're overrated:

The only answer I have here are the close games. Kentucky has overtime wins against Mississippi and Texas A&M, and only beat LSU by two. None of those teams are particularly good, and all of those games were truly a toss up at the end.

Why they might not be:

The Wildcats are the only team in the country that is ranked in the top ten in KenPom for both adjusted offensive and defensive efficiency. They have eight players that will likely get drafted. And most importantly, they haven't lost a game while still playing a pretty tough schedule. Also, this entire article.

Verdict:

Everyone and their mother is drooling over Kentucky, and it's with good reason. They aren't unbeatable, but they're as close to it as anyone is getting this year.

Matt Comey is a weekly Sports Columnist for The Cavalier Daily. He can be reached at m.comey@cavalierdaily.com.



Rankings compared

	AP Top 25	Coaches Poll	KenPom	BPI
Wisconsin	No. 5	No. 4	No. 4	No. 3
Duke	No. 4	No. 5	No. 8	No. 7
Gonzaga	No. 3	No. 2	No. 5	No. 4
Virginia	No. 2	No. 3	No. 2	No. 2
Kentucky	No. 1	No. 1	No. 1	No. 1



Attention Class of 2015

The University of Virginia Young Alumni Council is now accepting applications from the Class of 2015.

Learn more and apply online:
<http://tinyurl.com/UVAYAC>

Applications must be received by:
SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2015

The Young Alumni Council seeks to foster and sustain the active involvement of young alumni of the University of Virginia in support of the University and the Alumni Association. The Council shepherds the development of volunteers and future leaders in ways that deepen their commitment to the University and prepares them for active roles in alumni affairs.

In order to maintain a Council that truly represents all recent graduates and their varied interests, professions, and locations, we are considering alumni who meet the following criteria:

- Graduated from one of the University's undergraduate schools between 2004 and 2015.
- Enthusiastic about developing services and activities geared toward young alumni.
- Possess the time and dedication required for active participation on Council.

If you have questions about the selection process or duties of council members, please contact Jessica Hamilton at the Alumni Association at jesshamilton@virginia.edu or (434) 243-9046.

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Where: UVACSE offices
Albert H. Small Building, Room 112

When: Thursday, March 5,
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Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award

This award for excellence of character and service to humanity is awarded annually to one woman and one man from the graduating class (undergraduate, graduate, or professional schools) and to one member of the University community. Nominees should exemplify the ideals of the late Algernon Sydney Sullivan, a man who "reached out both hands in constant helpfulness" to others.

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The Ernest H. Ern Distinguished Student Award is presented annually by the Alumni Association to a member of the graduating class (undergraduate, graduate, or professional schools) for demonstrating outstanding academic and leadership performance and for preserving the tradition of the University.

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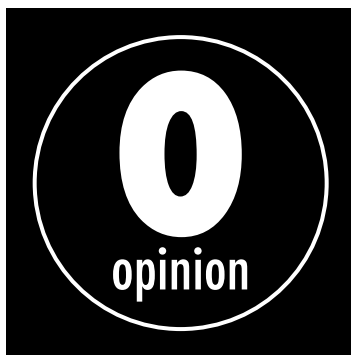
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Comment of the day

"If having a legal firearm on a college campus only gives a woman a mere 1% chance of stopping an attacker doesn't she have the right to that 1% chance of not becoming a sexual violence victim?"

"Mr. Apple" responding to the Feb. 23 lead editorial, "Guns won't stop rape on campus."

LEAD EDITORIAL

Homeless citizens are entitled to free speech

Panhandling is a legal right that should be protected for all citizens

Friday, a federal judge ruled that panhandlers can legally approach people and cars anywhere on the Downtown Mall. This ruling struck down Charlottesville's 2010 ordinance banning panhandling within 50 feet of the 2nd and 4th Street intersections of the Mall.

U.S. District Judge Norman Moon's ruling affirms that the right to free speech is not reserved for particular economic classes, but rather extends to all citizens. While the city councilors who passed the ordinance said it was in the name of safety for businesses, customers and pedestrians on the Downtown Mall, this seems unlikely. The suggestion that the presence of homeless people on a pedestrian walk-

way necessarily affects safety is, at best, a stereotype — and at worst, classist.

The rise of court fights over panhandling started in 2012, as noted by The New York Times. As one homeless man said to The Times, panhandling is his only source of income, as it is for many homeless people. Yet in response to increases in the homeless population in several cities, those cities have chosen to limit that population's rights — instead of taking proactive action to decrease the need for panhandling by improving living conditions and economic opportunities for homeless people.

Here in Charlottesville, homelessness is an obvious problem — a simple walk on the Corner demonstrates

that. But in a city where the Downtown Mall serves as one of few pedestrian areas where people are likely to gather (as opposed to driving through in a car), banning panhandling on the Mall is effectively a preliminary step to banning panhandling altogether. Moreover, as attorney Jeffrey Fogel noted in his arguments, the City Council's ordinance only banned panhandling and no other forms of solicitation, like political petitioning or charity drives — suggesting the reason for the ban was due to discomfort about the presence of a homeless population in that area. Having to face the issue of homelessness during an otherwise pleasant walk along the Mall is not exactly desirable — but neither is being homeless,

and attempting to cast homeless individuals into the shadows to enjoy ignorance of the issue is inexcusable.

At the end of the day, asking for money is, as Judge Moon ruled, a matter of free speech. Instead of seeking an appeal, the city should find concrete solutions to solve the issue of homelessness in Charlottesville. If pedestrians are uncomfortable with this presence, they should spearhead the movement to fix the larger issue — not simply push it out of sight and out of mind. But, if the city does seek an appeal, we urge the appellate court to defer to Judge Moon's ruling. Homeless or not, these individuals are citizens, and are therefore entitled to all the rights befitting that status.

No scarlet letter for sexual assault

New state legislation imperils individual rights and due process

Sexual assault has firmly grounded itself in the forefront of Virginia policy-making after the tragic murder of second-year College student Hannah Graham and the scathing remarks from the Rolling Stone article last semester. Currently, a mad scramble to pass preventative legislation has overtaken the Virginia General Assembly, with new ideas and new bills being churned out at a rapid pace. While many bills have passed both houses of the General Assembly with little contention, including mandatory reporting of sexual assault to a college's Title IX Coordinator, one bill — for good reason — has not had quite the unanimous reception.

The bill is House Bill 1888, which requires that all public and private universities in Virginia place a "prominent notation" on the transcripts of every student who "has been suspended for, has been permanently dismissed for, or withdraws from the institution while under investigation for a violation of the institution's... rules... governing student sexual misconduct." Indicated by the House's hesitation to pass it,

this bill extends far beyond the scope of prevention of sexual assault, delving into a hazy territory that — if the bill is passed — will have serious implications for college students across the state. Naturally, the intentions of this bill are good, but from the point of view of a current college student, HB 1888 is a clear and dangerous violation of personal liberty.

I would like to point to one word in HB 1888 that is particularly interesting: "investigation." Investigation implies that initiative is being taken which is grounded in the assumptions or allegations of a group of individuals. But what if these allegations are wrong?

A recent study conducted on over 100 university sexual assault cases found that anywhere from 2-10 percent of sexual assault convictions are based on false accusations. Although this study does not contain any conclusions on the number of false sexual assault accusations in general, the total percentage of wrongful allegations would naturally be much greater. Thus, at any given moment in time, a significant portion of investigations

regarding sexual assault is grounded in falsehood.

According to the University's policy, practically every faculty member on Grounds is required to report accusations of sexual assault when told by a student, and the University will subsequently conduct an investigation on said allegations. This means students have the power to easily launch sexual assault investigations on one of their peers, regardless of whether the accusations are factual.

If HB 1888 were to pass, the wrongly accused would fall victim

law, the accused would potentially be discriminated against by universities — many of which require a transcript to enroll — and by potential employers, who often look at students' transcripts to view their academic virtues. Branding these students with the "scarlet letter" of sexual assault would entrap them in the cruel vice of a corrupt and unjust system, revoking their natural right to social mobility. It is not the duty of university investigators to ruin a student's life — leave that to the courts. Across the United States, lawmakers uphold the American

tenet that the accused are innocent until proven guilty, so why should university sexual assault cases be held to a different standard?

Placing that notation on students' transcripts could potentially follow them for the rest of their lives. Every denial of a transfer request and every refusal of employment placed upon an innocent student will have a drastic impact on

his future, simultaneously tarnishing the constitutional mandate of the Virginia legislative system to uphold the "certain inherent rights" of all of its citizens.

Justice should never be grasped by the wavering hands of assumption. Those accused of sexual assault should not have to pay the consequences until they are proven guilty of the crime they may have committed; otherwise, a dangerous precedent will be set for the future of legislative policy in this nation. I refuse to live in a country where an abandonment from the legal process is observed as a reputable means of tarnishing an individual's livelihood. I refuse to stand idly by while hot-heads in positions of power advance severely impactful legislation without considering the ramifications of their actions. I refuse to forgo my human right to pursue excellence; I will not let legislators sweep the carpet of the American Dream out from under an innocent student's feet. If justice means anything to the "good people of Virginia," HB 1888 should not pass.

Ryan Gossman is a Viewpoint writer.



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Support a living wage at U.Va.

Exploring the flaws in the Living Wage campaign and how we might combat them

Walking through the most recent activities fair, you might have seen the orange and blue signs and stickers for the Living Wage Campaign. The campaign focuses on the wages and treatment of the University's hourly workers (dining hall workers, janitors, etc.). Students have been working on the campaign for many years, publishing their first documented resolution in 2006.

Their mission goes beyond their title. According to their website, the campaign has four main goals: guaranteeing a living wage (currently calculated at just under \$14 for residents of Charlottesville) for all University employees, job security for those employees, ensuring humane working conditions and the creation of a Living Wage Oversight Board.

Recently, the idea of a living wage has become a hot topic in American politics. The University has long considered itself a flagship institution, leading the way on important issues in our

country and the world. If the University continues to label itself a leader, it ought to lead by choosing to ensure a living wage for all its employees and encouraging other institutions to follow suit.

Fourth-year campaign member Caitlin Levine says one huge obstacle is that the University does not directly employ many of its hourly workers. Instead, they contract labor out through various services. "For example," Levine says, "Dining services are provided by Aramark, and nearly all dining hall employees at the University work for them." According to the Living Wage Campaign's most recent petition, these corporations are held to a lower standard than the University and their employees "can be paid as little as the federal minimum wage" (\$7.25 per hour).

Recently, campaign members were disappointed when the University renewed its contract with Aramark — a contract which called for improvements in dining facilities and custom-

er service but failed to address changes in worker treatment or wages. Levine says she and her fellow campaign members have grown frustrated because, "Administrators have told us time and time again that they do not see the practices of their con-

of pressure over the years from the campaign."

Perhaps the biggest flaw in the campaign is that its membership consists mostly of students, not the workers for whom they advocate. Levine says the campaign "collaborate[s] with just a few workers." Worker involvement is crucial in a campaign focused on worker treatment and wages. The employees deserve to speak for themselves, rather than having students speak on their behalf. Still, it makes sense that students would be more willing and

able to participate. University employees have less free time and, unlike students, could face consequences for angering their bosses.

At the end of February, the Living Wage Campaign will hold a rally outside the Rotunda — yet as of Sunday, only 177 students had signed up to attend the rally

on Facebook. Despite the many students who have devoted their time and energy to the campaign, the cause receives relatively little attention from the University as a whole. What the campaign needs most is for more people to show they care about this issue. The employees for whom the campaign advocates are the people students see every day. They are your favorite dining hall worker, the guy at Crossroads who always gives you extra fries, the janitor who comes early every morning to clean your hall's bathroom. They keep the University running, and they are a part of that community of trust we hold so dear. Any person who works hard at a full-time job deserves to make enough to support himself, as well as his family. We ought to stand up for these workers just as we would stand up for our peers or professors.

Nora Walls is a Viewpoint writer.

NORA WALLS
Viewpoint Writer



Any person who works hard at a full-time job deserves to make enough to support himself, as well as his family.

tracted companies as any of their business." Contracting labor out allows the University to turn a blind eye to the low wages and poor treatment of workers on Grounds. This is irresponsible. According to Levine, "[The University] has the right to audit its contractors. . . and [it] absolutely [refuses] to do that, despite tons

Idris Elba for Bond — with reservations

The actor would give an excellent performance, but there would be lasting implications for his career

My fellow columnist Nazar Aljassar made a compelling argument for why Idris Elba's skin color shouldn't impact the decision to cast him as James Bond. Indeed, although James Bond is traditionally Scottish, and although the last movie, "Skyfall," gave Bond a childhood home, those small inconsistencies are really nothing in the scheme of the James Bond franchise. They've "retconned"



BRENNAN EDEL
Opinion Columnist

things before. For instance, Timothy Dalton's James Bond marries in 1969's "On Her Majesty's Secret Service," a fact that's never mentioned again. In 1979's "Moonraker" Roger Moore goes to space in what is probably the most absurd plot ever. One finds it impossible to believe that Bond and the Bond of Craig's dark, brooding 2006 "Casino Royale" are the same person. The Bond universe is rife with inconsistencies, so why shouldn't Elba be Bond?

Here's a reason: because Elba is actually, and already, good — even great. His roles span from the perfectly played busi-

ness-minded Baltimore drug dealer Stringer Bell on HBO's television drama "The Wire" to a military general in Guillermo del Toro's 2013 robot-monster action flick "Pacific Rim." I can attest that, awesome as "Pacific Rim" is, the majority of the performances in the movie were so clichéd and absurd as to verge on parody. In retrospect, I actually think it was parody. But the singular Elba magnanimous-

ly reached down from his lofty height and breathed some life into the wooden script.

Casting the popular and talented Elba would actually be a monumental inconsistency. The other Bond actors were relative nobodies when they took the role or dropped out of the public eye once they left it, mostly because they weren't any good in the first place. Sean Connery's casting as the original Bond was his "big breakthrough." Daniel Craig, as the hilarious pre-"Casino Royale" website danielcraigisnotbond.com tells us, was initially viewed as "odd-looking" and "dour." Roger Moore hasn't starred in a

notable movie since his last Bond film, 1985's "A View to Kill." Pierce Brosnan, as we all know, has diminished in recent years from his height as suave "Goldeneye" Bond to single-handedly operating the late-middle aged romantic film genre. On Timothy Dalton and George Lazenby, comment is not needed.

Elba, in contrast, is in the

better-known than Connery and Craig were, and simply better than the rest. They all took the role of James Bond because, for them, it was the role of a lifetime. For Elba, I don't think it is.

I'm both a big fan of Elba and a big fan of Bond, so Elba taking the role would delight me. But, on the other hand, Bond is somewhat beneath Elba. He can do more.

His current situation reminds me of Alec Guinness, the acclaimed dramatic actor who deigned to star as Obi-Wan Kenobi but "reportedly hated [it] so much, Guinness claims that Obi-Wan's death was his idea as a means to limit his involvement in the film." His talent was wasted. He went into "Star Wars" an Oscar-winning Shakespearean actor, and came out a jedi — in league with Mark Hamill. You can't make up such tragedy.

James Bond is perhaps a more demanding role than a jedi, but the same reasoning applies. If Elba were to become the next Bond, he'd have to work extremely hard to keep himself flexible. Actors have gone on from such roles

before, and sometimes they have achieved dramatic excellence. Connery won an Oscar in 1988, but it was years after his tenure as Bond. Michael Keaton starred in the 1989's "Batman" and just this year almost won the Oscar for Best Actor for "Birdman," a movie about the phenomenon of when the actor becomes the role. It's tough, but maybe Elba could stay relevant beyond being Bond. But, then again, maybe he'll just stay James Bond.

007 is just not the role for a top-rate dramatic actor: the character development is usually stagnant, the scripts and plots are sometimes torturous, the character is sometimes used more for product placement than the exposition of acting talent, and, to crown it all off, after the role is finished, the actor is Bond forevermore. If the rumors are true about Elba getting tapped for Bond, and he accepts the role, I have no doubt he will make a fantastic 007. He might make the best one ever. But before he accepts, I would urge him to consider if he couldn't do something more.

Brennan's column runs Thursdays. He can be reached at b.edel@cavalierdaily.com.



It's tough, but maybe Elba could stay relevant beyond being Bond. But, then again, maybe he'll just stay James Bond.

prime of his movie-making career. He's 42 — perhaps a touch old for the Jason Bourne-esque James Bond of the modern age, but yet younger than Craig's 46 — and he's never been better. "Luther," Elba's fantastic British television series, is returning this year. Critics somewhat panned "Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom," but praised Elba's performance, calling it one of "extraordinary charisma." He's

Legalize sports betting

The prohibition against the practice is outdated

Sports betting is illegal in almost every state, yet each year millions of Americans funnel hundreds of billions of dollars into bookies and online betting sites in hopes of winning big. Although almost \$4 billion were illegally placed on the Super Bowl alone, the United States continues to follow an ambiguous path regarding the regulation and administration of sports gambling. Instead of allowing a 1992 act to continue to define this particular betting landscape, Congress should pass legislation legalizing gambling on professional sports. Doing so would limit corruption and open up an underground industry that generates hundreds of billions of dollars each year.

In 1999, a National Gambling Impact Study Commission Report revealed illegal sports betting in the United States may generate anywhere from "\$80 billion to \$380 billion annually, making sports betting the most widespread and popular form of gambling in America." This statistic, which comes from one of the only studies about the illegal sports betting industry, has quickly become the most referenced statistic for sports betting arguments.



JARED FOGEL
Opinion Columnist

Though critics argue sports betting can't possibly generate \$400 billion a year, they ignore that this was a 1999 report, and that there has since been an explosion in online betting, most of which is accessed through international betting websites and thus may not be considered betting in the United States.

The report, nevertheless, illustrates the thriving industry of sports gambling that could potentially be harnessed with new legislation. Besides redirecting revenue previously going to international betting websites, such legislation would combat corruption in professional sports gambling. Both college and professional sports have seen their fair share of gambling scandals, from players and coaches gambling on their own games to most recently the NBA's referee controversy in which referee Tim Donaghy from 2005-07 gave inside information to high-stakes gamblers.

Justin Wolfers, an economist at the University of Michigan, took these gambling scandals a step further and delved into the long-term effects of sports gambling on the outcome of the games themselves.

He suggests the outcome of almost 500 college basketball games over a 16-year period involved "gambling-related corruption." This shocking study proves corruption in sports is more prevalent than many people otherwise believe. Therefore, legalizing sports betting would create organizations that would work to monitor the sports betting environment and identify potential anomalies such as those Wolfers identified

betting is regulated as much as possible, as the chances of young men or women becoming problematic gamblers are two to three times higher than adults. Many of these points are highlighted in NBA Commissioner Adam Silver's op-ed in The New York Times this past November.

The issues with sports gambling are evident — it can ruin people's lives — but on the other hand, so do casinos, state lotteries and horse racing. There are significant moral qualms surrounding both sports gambling and other forms of gambling such as state lotteries; however, these moral issues are already intertwined in our society and legalizing sports betting would merely help create organization, transparency and credibility in an otherwise shady process. It is crucial to accept the effects gambling has in America and instead work to monitor and limit them rather than ignore them completely.

If the United States chooses not to legalize sports betting, then it must take measures to make the legalization process easier for individual states. For instance, in 2011, New Jersey residents overwhelming-

ly supported a referendum favoring sports betting. Furthermore, Governor Chris Christie signed a Sports Wagering Law in 2014 to repeal the state's prohibition on sports betting, yet a U.S. District Judge was quick to reject the movement. If both the state government and the state's people want to legalize sports betting, they should be able to achieve that goal. This is where Congress must step in, either by amending the 1992 Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act that limits sports betting to designated areas in Nevada, Oregon, Delaware and Montana, or by abolishing the act completely.

Either way, the federal government must take a stand on the situation or risk future conflicts such as with the current New Jersey situation, as sports betting becomes more popular than ever. States such as New Jersey, especially due to Atlantic City, stand to make billions of dollars of revenue if this industry is legalized. It is time to embrace sports gambling as not only a source of potential tax revenue but also as a method for making professional sports more credible and transparent.

Jared's column runs bi-weekly Thursdays He can be reached at j.fogel@cavalierdaily.com.



It is time to embrace sports gambling as not only a source of potential tax revenue but also as a method for making professional sports more credible and transparent.

in his study, thus reducing the risk of scandals or corruption.

Organizations such as these, if regulated by the government, could also help decrease the number of problematic sports gamblers, perhaps through efforts like daily betting caps or responsible gambling education. Moreover, legislation may also serve to legitimize "bookies" as well as ensure that under-18 sports

Feminism is more than leaning in

In the conversations about Jessica Williams, many feminists are forgetting big-picture issues

Like many others, I was devastated to hear that Jon Stewart will be stepping down as the host of The Daily Show. But I knew immediately who I wanted to replace him — the charismatic and bitingly witty Jessica R. Williams. In my eyes, there is no one more qualified and I'll admit I was very attached to the message her hire would send about the importance of different representation. My motivations for quickly and wholeheartedly supporting Williams' potential campaign were feminist in nature. She is a woman, a person of color and most importantly, she seems immensely well-suited to the position.

But then, in response to an outpouring of demands that she replace Stewart, Williams took to Twitter to announce she wasn't going to host — because she didn't want the job, nor did she feel qualified to do it. That insistence should have been the end of the story. Okay, Williams won't host, Daily Show fans and feminists alike should have said; let's look for someone new. But in the name of feminism, many people refused to quit pressuring Williams to take the

job, and this is where they failed the feminist cause as well as failing as true fans of Williams' work.

Using the neoliberal "lean-in" variety of feminism and Williams' possible "imposter syndrome" as justifications, one particularly egregious writer from The Billfold criticized Williams for refusing to consider taking Stewart's post, arguing she was displaying "a total lack of understanding of her own self-worth." Lean-in feminism has its roots in Facebook COO Sheryl Sandberg's 2013 book "Lean-In: Women, Work, and the Will to Lead." Sandberg's philosophy holds that "personal career success is not entirely reliant on waiting for the system to change [and] it empowers women to begin changing their own lives right now," according to Ms. Magazine writer Nisha Chittal. This sounds relatively innocuous, and to be sure, many modern women have found inspiration within the pages of Sandberg's book. Other notable feminists such as bell hooks, though, have criticized the concept of lean-in feminism, maintaining that "Sandberg's definition of feminism begins and

ends with the notion that it's all about gender equality within the existing social system. . . It almost seems as if Sandberg sees women's lack of perseverance as more the problem than systemic inequality."

Yes, it is important for women to recognize their own self-worth and it is critical that women be allowed to display self-confidence, ambition and strength of will without being stigmatized as "bossy" or "aggressive." But we cannot put the burden of dismantling systemic sexism and oppression on individual women, especially when doing so requires them to make choices they are uncomfortable or unwilling to make.

I have written in the past about the importance of diverse representation in both academic and professional settings and I do think it would have a tremendous influence on young girls and people of color to see someone as talented as Williams on late-night television every night. But if Williams fails to "lean in" in the way many are demanding, it does not follow that the continued oppression of women in society is her fault or the fault of women who make similar decisions.

Women should have the ability to make career moves that they want or deserve — but not the obligation to do so. The problem with accusing Williams of suffering from "imposter syndrome" is it assumes that, as a woman, Williams is simply unaware of her own talents. This kind of woman-on-woman criticism is exactly what hurts the feminist movement, rather than propelling it forward. If women cannot even remain unified, how can we expect others to stand with us and fight for our rights? True feminism means respecting the independent choices of each individual woman, whose circumstances, preferences and aspirations may be different from your own.

Lean-in feminism is not only harmful because it calls on women to gain rights, opportunities and respect unilaterally within a society that is hostile to those goals, but also because it expects women to prioritize "feminism" and the struggle of all women over their own fulfillment and happiness. To be clear, I'm not arguing women have the right to be unconcerned about the plight of their fellow women — the collective work of all women to restructure society in

a way that is amenable to their success is vital, and will only produce results if all women (and people) buy in to the cause. But when a woman explicitly states she is unprepared and unwilling to do something (as Williams did), it is in alignment with the feminist cause to take her at her word and not question her choices or the motivations for them.

Rather than asking, "Why won't Williams do this job?" we should be concerned with why we don't have more options — why are there not several more black, female or otherwise demographically underrepresented candidates we could call from the bench? Why do we always seem to select white male replacements for talk show hosts to the extent that it causes a media stir when we consider an alternative? We do need better representation on television and elsewhere — but this mission will not succeed if we ask individual women to shoulder that burden and then criticize them when they exercise free choice and refuse.

Ashley's column runs Wednesdays. She can be reached at a.spinks@cavalierdaily.com.

ASHLEY SPINKS
Opinion Columnist

Laptops in lectures

Sometimes I feel creepy scanning the sea of laptop screens in front of me during lectures. Is it weird to watch a girl browse Banana Republic's casual dresses for 30 minutes? I don't know. Part of me thinks it's an invasion of privacy and another part of me doesn't care at all. The last part of me hopes she spends a little time looking at Nordstrom's catalogue for a wider selection. In any case, she is sitting in front of sixty people and she should know she has a captive audience. What else are we supposed to look at?

If I'm starting to zone out in a big economics lecture, I have three options: I can strain my eyes to see an antiquated faculty mem-

ber write something about "value" on the board, scroll through Facebook or watch the guy in front of me scroll through Facebook. You may wonder why I don't just pay attention to the lecture. That's a fair point, but you're a nerd. You may also wonder why I would look at someone else's Facebook feed instead of my own. I don't have a good response to that. Maybe the grass is greener on the other side. Maybe I'm sick of my aunt posting pictures of her new boat.

This is my point: we all look at each other's laptop screens in lectures. Did you think nobody could see you taking BuzzFeed quizzes in astronomy? We all

know which "Friends" character matches your zodiac sign. But it's fine. We're cool with it and we thank you for wasting your tuition in a fun, entertaining way. We're all just trying to get through the next 50 minutes without falling

asleep. So don't freak out if you look over your shoulder and I'm watching you draft an email to your Politics TA, okay? Chill out. Embrace the communal nature of your classroom activities. Maybe I'll let you know if you spelled "Czechoslovakia" wrong and we can laugh about it. And maybe you shouldn't research personal medical questions in such a public arena.

If you're feeling really ambitious, use your laptop to impress the people sitting behind you. Fill out a prestigious online internship application. Browse the international

section of Le Monde and pretend to read about Egypt in French. Look at pictures of dogs. Use virtual gardening software to design your own vegetable garden. My dream date is someone doing all of these things in four different, equally important tabs.

One day I will meet the love of my life in a boring lecture. I'll lean over and say, "Hey, I couldn't help but notice you're planning on growing carrots and celery right next to each other. I would suggest moving the carrots closer to beans or squash for a more compatible root combination." Sure, it might be a little creepy, but I'm not about to let somebody ruin a vegetable garden because of a pointless rule in lecture etiquette.

NANCY-WREN BRADSHAW
Humor Columnist



Maybe you shouldn't research personal medical questions in such a public arena.

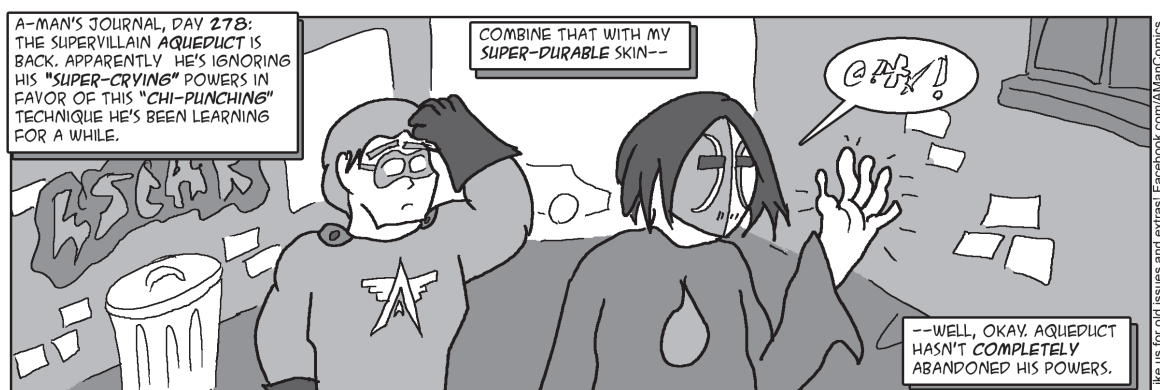
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Charles Hancock
Senior Writer

The 87th Academy Awards Sunday evening brought an end to a contentious and controversial awards season, though the telecast itself was a mixed bag.

“Birdman or (The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance)” was the big winner, with four awards: Best Picture, Directing, Cinematography and a surprise win for Original Screenplay.

Despite the surface-level advantage of being a movie about show business, “Birdman” is actually an unconventional Best Picture pick. Edgy and filled with surrealist elements and ambiguity, it is not the sort of consensus pick most would initially see as an “Oscar movie.” That said, it is refreshing to see an original, offbeat movie win against a crowd of more conventional prestige biopics.

“The Grand Budapest Hotel” also won four awards: Costume Design, Production Design, Make-up and Hairstyling and Original

Recapping the 87th Academy Awards

A less-than-exciting end to an exciting year of films

Score. “Whiplash” had a surprisingly strong showing, winning awards for Sound Mixing and Editing in addition to an expected Best Supporting Actor win for J.K. Simmons.

The rest of the night’s honors were spread out relatively evenly — the other Best Picture nominees

diocre material. His peak came early with an opening song about his love of movies, which offered him the opportunity to demonstrate his showmanship. Cameos from Anna Kendrick and Jack Black made the piece all the more successful.

Given that the most memorable Oscar moments usually come from

tions in a locked suitcase turned into a mere recap of the night. Apart from those bits, Harris mostly supplied puns which often fell flat. As the opener demonstrated, he clearly has the potential to be a great Oscar host, so maybe in the next go around he will better play to his strengths.

Pawel Pawlikowski, director of Best Foreign Language Film “Ida,” spoke over the play-off music, and Eddie Redmayne endearingly burst into pure giddiness while accepting Best Actor. Meanwhile J.K. Simmons instructed the audience to call their parents while accepting Best Supporting Actor.

While the ceremony was decent enough by recent years’ standards, the show as a whole didn’t fully deliver on paying tribute to the films that captured our imaginations last year. The Oscars are meant to honor the year in movies, so it may have been better to focus some attention away from musical performances and onto the films themselves. Perhaps the show could have taken a broader look at what 2014 actually meant for movies as a cultural and artistic force. Musical performances such as “Glory” were powerful and memorable highlights, but others didn’t rise to that level. Instead, they made the event feel bloated. While it may sound absurd to want something more out of a nearly four-hour show, a greater focus on the rich and wide range of movies that 2014 offered would have yielded the celebration of cinema the opening number promised.



Courtesy Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences

each won one award. For critical favorite and presumed frontrunner “Boyhood,” this was a softer-than-expected showing, with Patricia Arquette winning Best Supporting Actress.

As for the telecast itself, Neil Patrick Harris put forth a valiant effort in spite of having largely me-

award upsets or presenter flubs (see last year’s “Adele Dazeem”), Oscar hosts generally don’t do much after the opening other than keep things moving. Harris was no exception. At one point he seemed to be imitating Ellen DeGeneres’s “walk through the crowd” style and a running gag about Oscar predic-

Acceptance speeches were strong overall. Highlights included “Imitation Game” screenwriter Graham Moore’s touching and personal speech encouraging young people to “stay weird” and Best Original Song winners Common and John Legend’s advocacy for the continued pursuit of racial justice.

The intersection of literature and history

Author Caryl Phillips reads selection from latest novel

Dhwani Yagnaraman
Staff Writer

Last week, author Caryl Phillips read a section of his new novel “The Lost Child” to an audience on Grounds.

Phillips is known for his post-colonial style of writing — characterized by a passage of time and space as well as insight into how history dwells on names and people. Not only is he is a prolific writer, but Phillips also became the youngest English tenured professor in America when he accepted the position of visiting writer at Amherst College.

His life as a Caribbean child in a country that refused to accept his British identity shaped his writing and helped him realize “the job of a writer is to shine a flashlight into the darker corners of the human soul and illuminate the things that keep us up in the middle of the night,” he said.

Phillips began by reading a

piece about the book and his experience writing it. The passage’s opening lines revealed Phillips’ opinion that “living inside a book for so long may make one lose sight of what the book is actually about,” elaborating on his inability to give people a definite answer about the book’s nature.

His life story captivated the audience. Phillips moved to Yorkshire as a young boy and lived through two major life-changing incidents a — the Moors murders, a series of sexual assaults and murders of children, and his weeklong stint at a camp for underprivileged children in Lancashire. He shared how “The Lost Child” came into existence from these two incidences, which he summarized and saved on five post-it notes labeled “Yorkshire,” “Moor,” “Lost,” “Child” and “Literature.”

“It was time to write my own book and tell an altogether different story,” Phillips said.

Even though Phillips spoke about his own story, he empha-

sized that every story, no matter how small, is worth sharing. The presented excerpt detailed a scenario in which a young girl in college is reprimanded by her father, a universally familiar situation. Although Phillips speaks about life from his own personal perspective, he allowed the wide audience to relate to his ideas and narratives.

Phillips’ delivery was powerful and engaging. His slow and even pace highlighted the tension in the scenes, and his emotionally compelling conclusion hooked the audience.

However, the best part of the live reading was the question and answer portion.

Various queries from the crowd led Phillips to talk about his cross-genre writing. Even though he was genuinely interested in writing only prose at first, Phillips conceded to writing across other genres in order to target broader audiences and accrue more earnings.

As he said wittily, “Wanting to

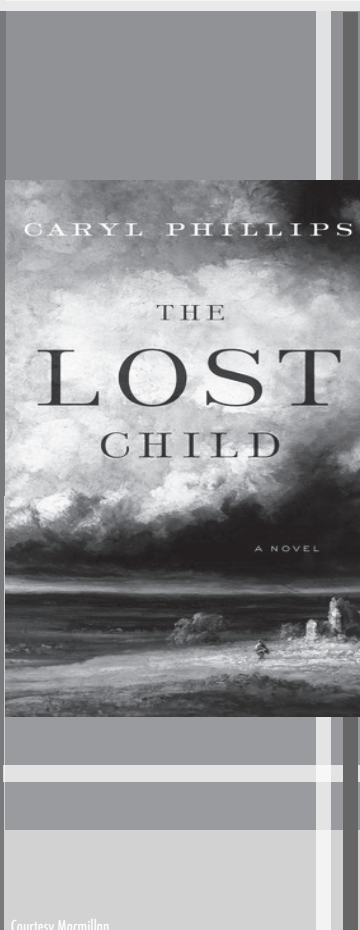
write prose and writing prose are two very different things.”

Phillips also spoke about his friend who convinced him to travel across America on a bus. He claims the experience was “the best education [he] ever had.”

This bus ride culminated in Phillips’ fascination with Richard Wright’s “Native Son,” a novel about a black youth living in poverty. In reaction to the narrative, Phillips revealed, “I had never read a book about people who looked like me.”

“I want to encourage people, show them they can [write] too. I don’t want people to think that writers are strange, cloistered human beings,” he said.

“The Lost Child” connected the audience with childhood memories and showed how these experiences have an impression on how their lives unravel. Likewise, Phillips’ reading spread the key idea that every voice deserves a place in literature and history.



Courtesy Macmillan

Nettles release sharp, story-driven LP

*University's own
share astounding
lyrical depth*

Ryan Waligora
Associate Editor

"Locust Avenue" — the first LP from Nettles — is an indie offering with built-in surprises. What first comes across as peaceful, pleasant folk — well-suited for easy listening — quickly reveals itself to be more profound than expected.

Nettles has roots at the University — songwriter Guion Pratt completed an MFA in poetry at the University. The band's instrumentalists come and go, but the current lineup also features a music composition graduate student, as well as an environmental sciences undergraduate.

Using the word "poetic" to describe "Locust Avenue" is akin to throwing around the word 'wet' when discussing the ocean. Each song is poetry set to music, and the result is an album so lyrically rich that the listener is seized by a desire to write down the words and hang them up somewhere.

In just nine tracks, the album flies through topics from ex-

ploding lanterns to impressionist paintings, but relationships are a sustained theme.

"Annuals" kicks off the album with a metaphor — love is a flower that must be replanted: "sew me each season / I will not come back on my own." The wisdom that love requires tending floats over rhythmic guitar cascades as images of dandelions growing in cracks on a blacktop are placed next to descriptions of space travel. The guitar and the refrain are constants which keep the listener anchored as the lyrics soar.

Moving towards literary inspiration, "Brando" is written from the perspective of Stanley Kowalski from "A Streetcar Named Desire." The increasingly insistent flute mirrors an escalating conflict, and the instruments hush with every respite the narrator takes from his anger. Ultimately the narrator is "thunder with no lightning / bark but no bite" as he is cast outside. The lyrics are supported perfectly by the instrumentation, with an interplay of flute and voice evoking Jethro Tull.

"Paw" moves past ideas of lov-

ers to commentate the effects of injury on friends and family. The song's subject is a lantern accident which ends in a friend being lit on fire. The listener is walked through the aftermath with imagery of hospitals and hardening skin, and one has no choice but to empathize with the singed body "wanting wholeness now departed." When a loved one is pulled away by illness, families become that burned body. This idea is emphasized by the line "half out of you and half out of us" — health is communal.

The title track returns to themes of love, but this time the metaphor lies with insects. The singer uses a collective we and addresses his friends, which are locusts. It's a short story that starts off like Kafka, but ultimately moves from weird to universal when the locusts describe love. The phrase "Join me all-consuming beast / the self discards itself for love and eats" allows the singer to pair locusts molting with the way people are transformed by relationships.

As Guion writes, "love de-

mands a form." Love shapes people and can force them to change. "Locust Avenue" features some of the most brilliant and outrageously intricate lyrics of the whole record, and the use of locusts evokes ideas of love intertwining with greed while remaining a natural process.

As lyrically-driven as the album is, "Locust Avenue" needs its instruments. The players lend a tone to the softly-spoken lyrics, carrying and supporting them while still respecting their central position. The rolling guitar picking on the later tracks amplifies their story-like sound, and the Page/Plant-esque back-and-forth of flute and vocals breathes life into the poems.

Nettles' musicians set the mood especially well with "The Quarry," picking up the pace in what starts off as a danceable tune. It begins with a sing-song recollection of time spent with a friend diving in a quarry, and the instruments narrate the scene themselves with gentle guidance from Guion's lyrics. The diversity of imagery is top notch once again, pulling listeners

from dusty quarries to "an orbit-less planet." Distinct among the tracks, "The Quarry" plays like a bard's chronicle sung in a tavern, weaving a tale of the past.

The album ends with the pensive "Pyramid of Skulls," inspired by Cezanne's oil painting of the same name. Touching on ideas of death, as the painting itself does, the song also explores writer's block and artists trapped by their own creations in endless cycles. The lamentation of one whose friend has been imprisoned by obsession is clearly expressed, as Guion croons "I've been watching him paint the same skulls every day / and I say 'Let's move on, let's talk about anything else!'" A heavy masterpiece with heavy themes, the song is like the painting in more ways than one.

Nettles' recent debut is a goldmine, and a testament to the University's ability to produce artists who are masters of their craft. While at first similar in sound to acts like Sufjan Stevens, the songs found here rise above any comparisons. Here's hoping that a second LP isn't too far away.

Courtesy Nettles

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