

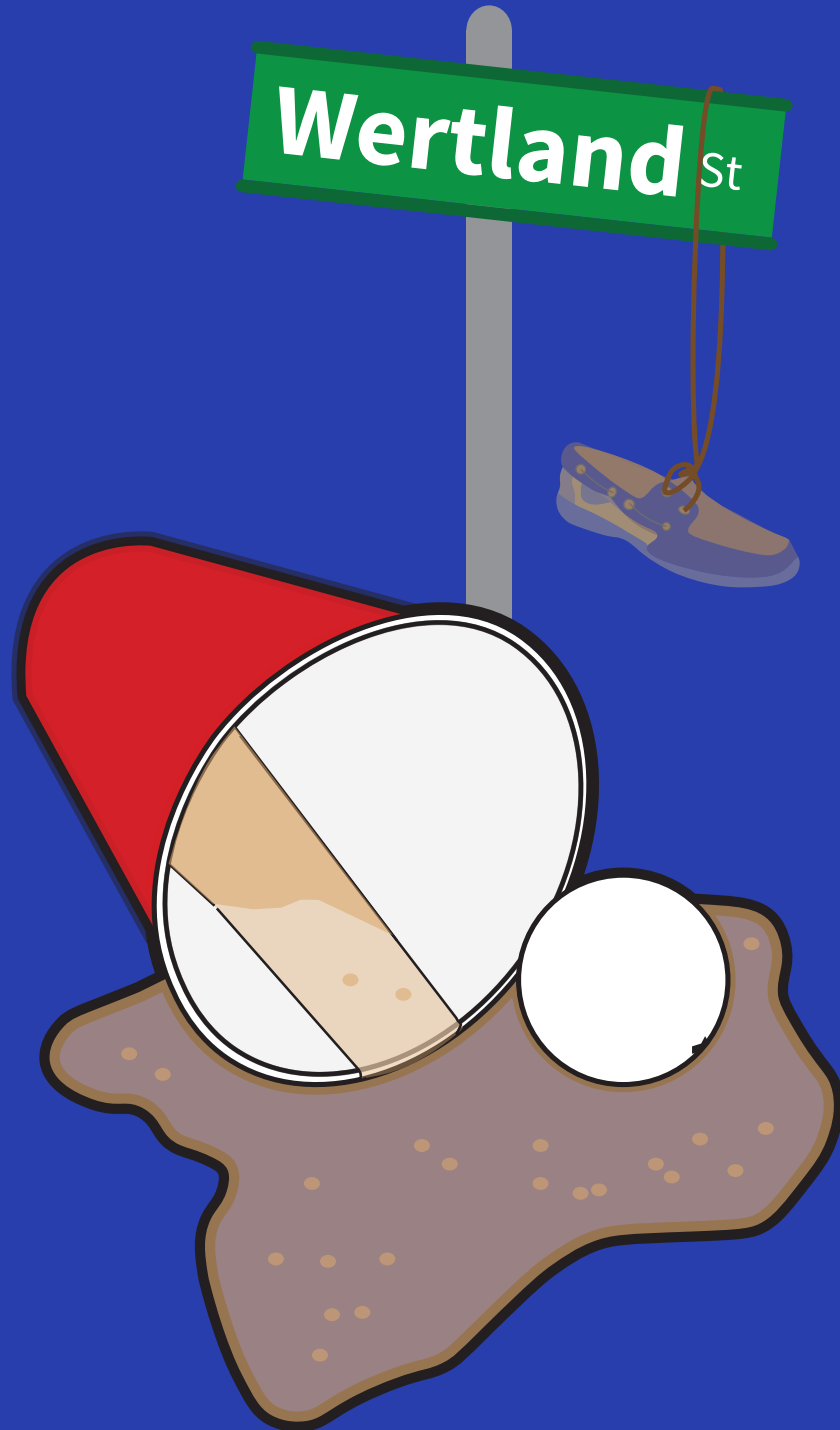
The Cavalier Daily

BACK-TO-SCHOOL
ISSUE

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TUESDAY, AUGUST 23, 2016



BLOCK PARTY IN DECLINE

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JASMINE OO | THE CAVALIER DAILY

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Block Party draws smaller crowd

U.Va. sponsored events encourage alternatives to 'hazardous' party

ALEXIS GRAVELY | ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Block Party attendance has gone down from last year — and the behavior of attendees has generally improved, although the number of summonses increased from the 2015 Block Party, according to the Charlottesville Police Department.

The event — which takes place on Wertland Street and is not sanctioned by the University — has been held annually on move-in weekend.

According to a press release from the Charlottesville police, two custodial arrests were made for underage possession, using a fake ID and obstruction.

Police say 19 summonses were issued for offenses such as underage possession, open container, littering and urinating in public. Officers also gave eight warnings for open container and urinating in public, and two rescue assist calls were made.

The number of warnings decreased from last year's 24, and fewer rescue assist calls were made compared to the 13 calls in 2015.

The number of summonses increased this year, however. Last year, only two summons were issued.

Charlottesville Police Lt. Steve Upman attributed the increase in number summonses to increased enforcement efforts by patrol officers.

"Our enforcement efforts were increased to ensure that those attending were safe and did not make poor decisions that could hurt them in their future endeavors," Upman said. "Problems were addressed early on to ensure the event went smoothly and safely for all."

The University Police Department issued seven summonses, all for underage possession of alcohol, according to Captain Don McGee. All were released after the summonses were issued.

In addition to the fewer warnings and rescue assist calls, the Charlottesville Police Department noticed an overall improvement in crowd behavior at this year's party.

Attendees of the party "stayed inside property lines and did not cause congestion in the sidewalk and street areas," according to the press release.

This year's Block Party had an increased police presence, with approximately 40 total officers patrolling from both the Charlottesville Police Department and the University Police

Department, Upman said. Only 13 officers were present last year.

The University made several efforts to deter students from attending Block Party.

At the peak of the party, the estimated number of people in attendance was approximately 4,000, a decrease from last year's 6,000.

Several emails and messages were sent to students and parents in the weeks leading up to the event from University President Teresa Sullivan, Dean of Students Allen Groves and Athletic Director Craig Littlepage to discourage students from attending Block Party and opting for events on Grounds instead.

"This environment can be hazardous for students, especially for those who are new to

sive drinking and drug use.

Littlepage encouraged student-athletes not to attend the event, reminding them to put themselves and their teammates in a position to be at their best every day.

"Student-athletes stand out in social settings," Littlepage wrote. "It's easy for you to be noticed and even targeted at times."

These messages came following a Washington Post article that detailed an alleged sexual assault at Block Party in 2015.

The article shared the story of third-year College student and volleyball player Haley Lind, who said she was assaulted by a male athlete at a stranger's house. Both Lind and the alleged assaulter were drunk at the time of the alleged assault.

John Paul Jones Arena with famous rapper J. Cole headlining. IM-Rec Sports and U.Va. Dining also sponsored "After-Hours at the AFC" which featured free pizza and inflatables.

Chi Alpha, an on-Grounds Christian organization, hosted its annual "Something in a Mug Party" on Saturday. This event has been held for over a decade to provide students with an alternate social opportunity on the Saturday of move-in weekend.

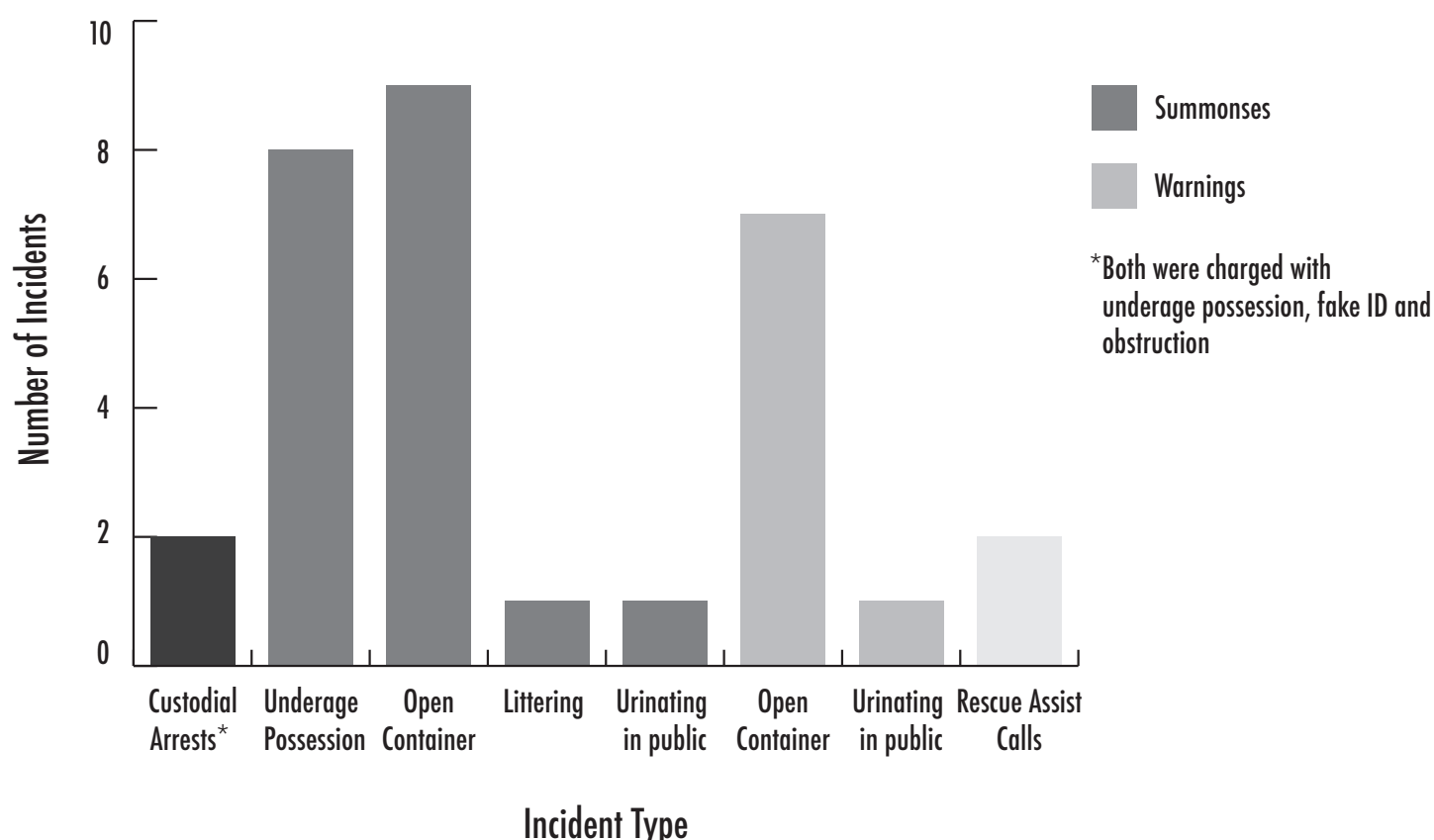
"If students think the Block Party is their only opportunity to socialize and experience college life on their first night, then that's where they will go," Josh Fairchild, a Chi Alpha staff member, said. "Our goal with the mug party is simply to give students a safe alternative that

safe and fun environment for students to meet one another on their first night on Grounds."

Groves expressed his pleasure and gratitude for the alternative programming that occurred on Saturday night in an email statement to The Cavalier Daily.

"The University is pleased with the student attendance at the alternative programming events scheduled on Saturday evening," Groves said. "There was very strong student attendance at the J Cole concert in JPJ Arena, and the other events at Lambeth, AFC and the Chi Alpha sponsored-event on Stadium Road were also well attended. Our student leaders coordinated these events, and we are very grateful for their efforts in organizing these alternatives for our student body."

2016 Block Party Arrests and Incidents



CINDY GUO | THE CAVALIER DAILY

The Charlottesville Police Department issued 19 summonses for a variety of offenses. Last year, Charlottesville police only issued two summonses.

U.Va. and new to college," Sullivan wrote to the parents of first-year students.

Sullivan noted some of the unsafe behaviors that occur at Block Party in her email to the parents of second-year students, citing underage drinking, exces-

An investigation ultimately concluded there was insufficient evidence to determine that the athlete had assaulted Lind.

In order to provide an alternative event for students to attend, University Programs Council sponsored a concert at

they will enjoy."

Approximately 1050-1200 students attended this year's mug party, Fairchild said.

Fairchild said he believes the event helped deter people from attending Block Party, and that Chi Alpha is glad to "provide a

Rotunda classroom spaces open Tuesday

Renovations nearly complete

HANNAH HALL | NEWS EDITOR



LAUREN HORNSBY | THE CAVALIER DAILY

The Rotunda will not be fully open to the public until Sept. 26. An open house for the community will occur Sept. 24-25.

After four years of construction, the Rotunda renovation is coming to a close in time for the start of classes Tuesday.

“The goal [of the renovations] was to integrate the building into the life of the University, it was a goal for both the interior and the exterior,” Brian Hogg, senior historic preservation planner, said.

Offices inside the Rotunda have been turned into classrooms which Hogg said can be booked for seminars and COLA classes. However, the classroom space doesn’t belong to any particular school. The spaces are intended for use by all the schools

for a wide range of classes.

Study spots and collaborative areas balance the classroom space. The southwest wing now houses a multipurpose room that is available for everyone in the University community to use, Hogg said.

The dome room will have tables and chairs for students, as will the upper west oval room, which was previously a museum space. The first balcony will be open to the public for the first time as a study space.

In the evening, the lower west oval room classroom space will also be available to students as a study location.

The building will be open and unlocked from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. — and the Rotunda will be open until 10 p.m. for extended study hours Sunday through Tuesday, Hogg added. The doors will be locked, but a student ID will be able to access the building.

On Wednesdays, space will be available for dorm dinners. Thursday and Friday will be reserved for events that were previously regular in the Rotunda, such as lectures and banquets. September’s Board of Visitors meeting will be the first event held in the Rotunda.

The exterior of the Rotunda

has also seen changes: both the east and west courtyards will have benches. The west courtyard will also have moveable furniture.

Hogg said a lot of work was done on the north courtyard. Additional paving was added to either side of the Jefferson statue, and benches will also be added around the courtyard. The areas are intended to be an outdoor gathering space for students to study and to socialize.

Now that the Rotunda renovation is nearly complete, Hogg said those in the Office of the Architect are looking into new renovation projects around the

University.

None of the projects will be to the same scale as the Rotunda renovation, but Hogg said the final decision will depend on available funds. Funding for renovation projects usually comes from private donations.

While the Rotunda is opening for classes on Tuesday, it will not be fully open to the public until Sept. 26. An open house for the community will take place Sept. 24-25.

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Second Year Council selects Galen Green as vice president

Floyd Black assumes presidency in Shawwal's absence

TIM DODSON | NEWS EDITOR

The Second Year Council confirmed Galen Green as vice president at its general body meeting Sunday.

"She has the institutional knowledge, she's confident, she has the respect of people on SYC and people in our class as a whole," said SYC president Floyd Black, who assumed the presidency of the Class of 2019 following the recent announcement that former SYC President Ahmad Shawwal would be taking the fall semester off from the University.

Shawwal cited personal circumstances for taking time off from the University.

Green, a second-year College student, has previously served as co-chair of the First Year Council and SYC outreach committees. She also ran for SYC president in one of the most contested students elections in the spring, although Shawwal ultimately won the election.

"Vice president is a supportive role as in you're supporting the president, you're supporting each committee," Green said. "My main focus is just to make sure we're all working as a group and to basically support every member."

Green received a majority of

votes from the general body of the council to become vice president.

She said one of her goals is provide more support for transfer students and students seeking a greater sense of community at the University.

"It's really tough sometimes to come in when everyone else already has their friend groups, and I really want that to be a main focus this year — trying to include everyone," Green said. "And not just transfer students, but anyone who feels like they don't belong at U.Va."

Black also shares this goal.

"My biggest goal is outreach — reaching out to people who might feel out of place at U.Va.," Black said. "Galen was the outreach chair before she assumed the vice presidency, so it works perfectly."

The Second Year Council has worked to attract and serve diverse membership.

"Our council is composed of individuals from many different social backgrounds and cultures and is quite representative of our class as a whole," Black said in an introductory email to the Class of 2019 on Aug. 19. "We are structured in a way that will allow us to maximize our potential to connect

with our diverse class."

In a previous interview with The Cavalier Daily, Shawwal noted that the nearly 60-member council has members from a variety of backgrounds.

"If you look at our Second Year Council, we have so many different countries represented, we have people from all across the world," Shawwal said. "Their expertise and vision brings a lot to [the] council."

Black said he would like SYC to organize events that bring people together and noted the upcoming Welcome Back Bash on the evening of Aug. 26, an event he said is expected to draw hundreds of students.

"We're mostly focused on events that help bring our class closer together," Black said. "Those are the sort of events I'm looking forward to ... events where people in our class can just come, hang out, feel comfortable, meet people and chill."

Black also said he would like to see more outreach to African-American and other minority students.

Green said a main difference between first and second year is that students live in various on-Grounds and off-Grounds



LAUREN HORNSBY | THE CAVALIER DAILY

Green previously served as co-chair of the First Year Council and SYC outreach committees.

locations, which can present a challenge can be bringing people together.

"It's the first time we're experi-

encing that," she said. "I don't want to lose that sense of togetherness that you get when you live here on Grounds."

Phoebe Willis outlines goals for BOV term

Student member wants to look at mental health, collaboration with U.Va. at Wise

MAIREAD CROTTY | SENIOR WRITER



TIM DODSON | THE CAVALIER DAILY

Willis at the Board of Visitors retreat in August at the Boar's Head Inn.

Since joining the Board of Visitors on June 1, third-year Law student Phoebe Willis says she is working to increase communication between the BOV and the stu-

dent body.

As a nonvoting member, she is tasked with representing the wide range of opinions held by University students to the BOV.

"Over the summer, I have had the opportunity to meet with a lot of students to hear about what they love about U.Va. and the things they would like to see improved," Willis said in an email statement. "From those discussions, I began working on a few initiatives."

Willis is currently developing a campaign to provide a place for students to discuss how mental health has impacted their life or the life of a loved one.

"The goal is that by having a diverse group of students share their stories of dealing with mental health issues in a public forum, other students will feel comforted and empowered to seek help," Willis said. "With the recent expansion of [Counseling and Psychological Services], U.Va. is more equipped than ever to help students dealing with mental health issues."

CAPS visits have increased from 7,000 to 9,000 since 2005, and the BOV is expecting up to 11,480 visits this year. It is ex-

panding its outreach programs to schools, departments and residence halls in order to best serve the student body.

Willis is also working with Emily Lodge, Student Council president and fourth-year College student, to develop a Student Council committee to increase collaboration between University and U.Va.-Wise students. This committee would allow the two schools to share resources easily.

To increase communication between the BOV and University students, Willis said she hopes to organize future events modeled on a session held by the BOV during its retreat on Aug. 14-15.

During the retreat, Willis, the entire board and about 90 faculty members discussed possible solutions to challenges the University is likely to face in the next 20 years for three hours. Willis said the session was successful, and hopes to organize a similar event between the BOV and University students.

"The BOV members are the visionaries for the future of the University, and the students are currently living the U.Va. experience, so increasing collaboration between the two will only result in better outcomes for future students," Willis said. "I want to establish events that will be easily replicable for future student members to continue the interactions between students and BOV members."

This year the BOV is considering expanding second-year housing options close to Grounds, Willis said.

As recent or current residents of on-Grounds housing, students have a unique view on possible new sites for upperclassmen housing, she said.

"The more student input that goes into this process, the better," Willis said.



The University's Strategic Investment Fund

Concerns sparked by the fund, University's response

HAILEY ROSS | NEWS ASSOCIATE

In July, former Board of Visitors rector Helen Dragas wrote a Washington Post editorial which revealed that the University has \$2.2 billion stashed away in a so-called "Strategic Investment Fund."

The money is "20 percent more than the market value" of all of the University's "200-year buildup of educational and general program buildings and facilities," according to the editorial. The accumulated sum could also pay the tuition bills for 44,000 Virginia students. Meanwhile, since 2009, the board has voted to raise in-state tuition an average of 5.3 percent per year and out-of-state tuition by an average of 5.45 percent per year.

Dragas characterized the fund as a "slush fund," a pejorative term for money allocated for dishonest uses.

The fund is projected to generate roughly \$100 million a year for projects that faculty and advisory committees will vet and that are subject to approval from the BOV.

Reasons for the fund

University Deputy Spokesperson Matthew Charles said the fund created in February 2016 will finance future strategic investments that promote the highest levels of excellence in the University's academic, research and healthcare missions while making educational opportunities more affordable and accessible.

"The fund exists for a different purpose and will not be used for normal ongoing operating costs," Charles said in an email statement. "Proceeds from the fund will advance excellence and enhance the educational experience without passing along the costs of these investments in the form of tuition increases."

Charles also said none of the money in the fund has been spent, and the board has yet to discuss how the funds will be used.

"With the board's authorization, and in accordance with sound fiscal practice, the principal of the Strategic Investment Fund will continue to be held as reserve funds within the long term pool," Charles said. "When the fund is used, investments of fund earnings will align with strategic priorities of the Academic Division's Cornerstone Plan and the Medical Center Strategic Plan."

Phoebe Willis, the University's BOV student member and third-year Law student, said she thinks the fund is a forward-thinking

solution by the BOV to ensure that the University maintains affordable excellence in the face of an overall historical decline in state support.

"The board is faced with the difficult task of balancing current student costs and the costs for future students," Willis said in an email statement. "The push for strategic investment in the University today will help keep costs low for the students of tomorrow."

Current Rector William Goodwin released an editorial in UVA Today defending the fund, saying the spirit behind the fund is in the best interest of future generations.

"So how did we get to a place where the University felt confident enough to pool resources for such a fund?" Goodwin wrote. "I can tell you it was not through hiding balances on the books or by having administrators who operated independently of our governing board."

The fund was made possible only because of the sound stewardship at the University for more than 25 years, Goodwin said.

Concerns about the fund

On August 12, the Freedom of Information Advisory Council issued a 5,000-word opinion in response to a letter sent by attorney Kevin Martingayle on Dragas' behalf. The letter suggested the BOV may have violated public meetings law when it met during a closed session to discuss the fund.

Martingayle claimed the only personnel discussed during the closed meeting were two former employees who were "cited for having done a good job of accumulating and managing such a large sum of funds over time."

In the letter, Martingayle also said correspondence between members prior to meeting indicated that the fund and spending plans were going to be topics of discussion during the closed session. Additionally, he accused the board of asking members to refrain from discussing the fund with legislators and the media.

The advisory council opinion primarily covered what the proper proceedings for a public board should look like and was solely based on the facts supplied by Martingayle. While the opinion does not come with a penalty, a finding against a public body could result in legal action being taken by a third party.

In addition to the FOIAC opinion, five state senators and six delegates sent a letter to President Teresa Sullivan and Good-

win requesting all existing information regarding the money in the strategic investment fund by August 12. This request was not a Freedom of Information Act request, but rather a legislative request in accordance with the Code of Virginia, which states that the board is at all times subject to the control of the General Assembly.

The letter expressed confusion over why the Senate's questions regarding tuition hikes and excessive aid to out-of-state students went unanswered.

"We are also puzzled as to why ... there were no public discussions about using the new 'strategic funds' to offset or hold the line on in-state student costs or immediately increase the number of in-state slots for Virginia students," the letter said.

The University's response

The University responded by saying that what has been characterized as "out-of-control tuition hikes and excessive aid to out-of-state students" is received and viewed differently by the public. The letter then referenced MONEY magazine's July 2016 ranking of the University as a top-three Best Value College among the nation's public universities.

"The University is not immune from pressures to increase tuition, nor is it insensitive to its obligation to minimize such increases when they are neces-

sary," the response read. "When tuition has been increased, the University has consistently and accurately reported that fact publicly. Respectfully, we do not see any disparity between the University's press releases and tuition decisions."

The response also addressed legislators' concerns over the discussion which took place during the closed June session as well as accusations of discussion about the Strategic Investment Fund taking place before the meeting.

"In advance of the June board meeting, the board's Secretary circulated a set of materials concerning the Strategic Investment Fund. This was done to ensure that the board members had easy access to background information about the Fund and to facilitate confidential discussion of personnel issues," the response said. "The documents were not, however, the intended subject of discussion in the closed meeting. Moreover, none of these documents was confidential, and all have been publicly disclosed and are being included in our response."

The response also recognized that some board members had asked questions about the fund that deviated from the designated personnel topic.

"It was entirely appropriate then, that once questions were asked which seemed to stray from

the topic identified in the motion for closed session, the University Counsel called the deviation to the Rector's attention," the response read. "The Rector ended the discussion and moved on to another personnel matter without any Fund-related decisions being proposed, made or voted upon."

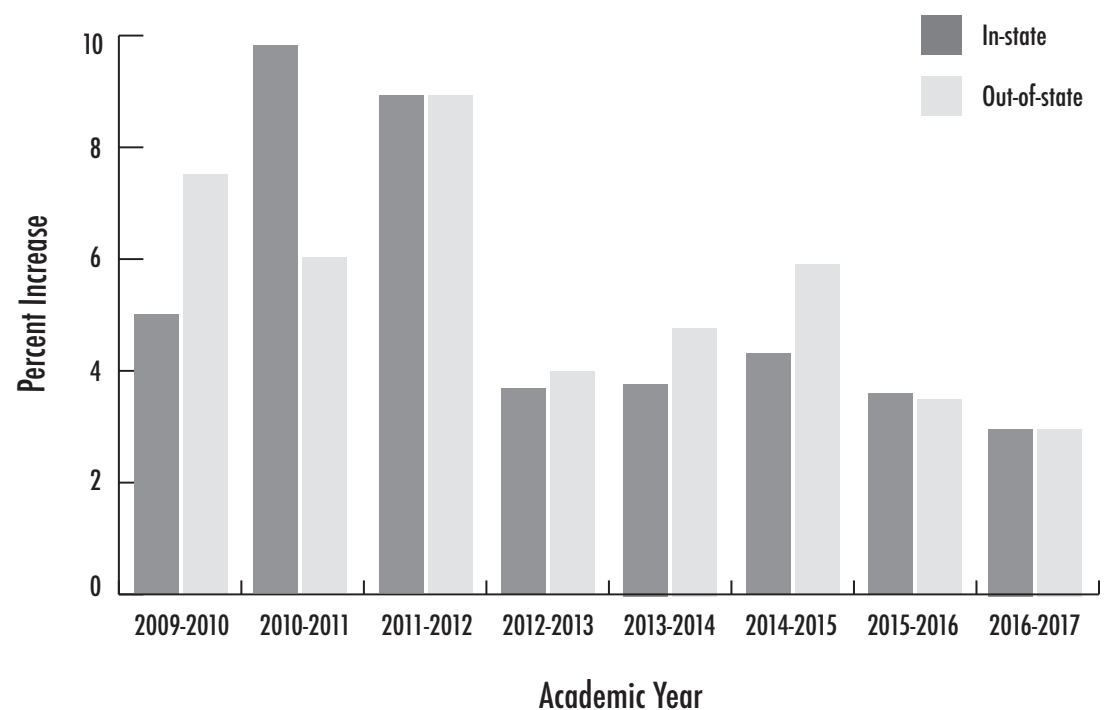
The future of the fund

On Aug. 14 and 15, the BOV held a meeting and selected a committee to review how the fund was handled. The Strategic Investment Evaluation Committee, composed of five faculty members, will make recommendations to an advisory committee, which consists of the rector, vice rector, president, executive vice president and chief operating officer, executive vice president and provost, executive vice president for health affairs and two board-appointed representatives.

"The advisory committee will make recommendations to the full board, which will select and approve the investments to be made," Charles said. "No funds can be spent without board approval."

The Strategic Investment Fund will have its first legislative hearing on Aug. 26, when the joint subcommittee on the future of higher education is scheduled to meet.

Tuition Increases for In-state and Out-of-state Students from 2009-2016



CINDY GUO | THE CAVALIER DAILY

The University has raised tuition by an average of 5.3 percent per year for in-state students and 5.45 percent for out-of-state students.

Football closes out fall camp

Virginia looks to find success in first game of season against Richmond

GRANT GOSSAGE | SENIOR ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The start of classes Tuesday signals an end to fall camp and two-a-days for the Virginia football team, and a transition to morning practice outside the McCue Center. Only two Saturdays away from hosting Richmond in their first game of the season, the Cavaliers are under the clock, with head coach Bronco Mendenhall acting as precise timekeeper and assessor.

“We are racing the clock with the execution, and rightly so,” Mendenhall said. “But in terms of the willingness, and the work ethic and the desire, as long as that remains, which I think it will, we’ll get the other part right.”

Missing that “other part” — which Mendenhall later drilled down upon as consistency of execution — is what frustrated Virginia fans throughout the London era, as poor clock management, silly penalties, untimely turnovers, blown coverages, missed tackles and overthrown and underthrown passes, among other miscues, often abetted the Cavaliers in somehow snatching defeat from the jaws of victory. Similar to a perceptive businessperson focused on how to increase profit margins, Mendenhall obsesses over the ways in which those factors determine outcome.

“Having the capability is one thing, but doing it over and over and over again, regardless of circumstance, that reflects maturity,” Mendenhall said. “The best teams and the best programs are consistent.”

Offensive continuity begins and ends with the signal caller, his leadership, decision-making and abilities on the field. Finding a reliable, polished quarterback has proven difficult for Virginia the past decade: since 2006, 11 different Cavaliers have started at the position.

Word on the street is Mendenhall and staff will make it 12 as early as Wednesday, opting for the gunslinger Kurt Benkert — the transfer from ECU whose arm strength and toughness as a scrambler have made an impression during camp — over senior leader and previous starter Matt Johns, and fifth-year journeyman Connor Brewer.

Assistant head coach Ruffin McNeill, while serving as head coach at ECU in 2015, named Benkert his starting quarterback following fall camp. But a right knee injury this time last year sidelined the Baltimore,



COURTESY BYU

Head coach Bronco Mendenhall has been drilling consistency of execution upon his players as the Cavaliers approach their season opener.

Md. native for the entire season. McNeill expressed his disappointment for Benkert, though trusting then that the player he’d met at the age of 16 would seize another opportunity.

That opportunity has surfaced in Charlottesville, with a fresh program bent on rising to new heights, yet with that familiar face from ECU who still believes in him.

“Coach [Robert] Anae and I come from the same offensive background about accuracy of the quarterback, being able to distribute the football, and being mobile,” McNeill said. “Kurt earned that spot for us down there [at ECU] during fall camp

and had become a great leader for us. And he’s doing a great job of blending in now with his Virginia Cavalier team.”

By all accounts, Benkert — with his dual-threat skill — has most likely claimed the starting spot for the opener against Richmond, but that doesn’t mean the end of competition. Mendenhall recognizes positional depth is most beneficial to a team when those taking fewer snaps are hungry for more and press the starter in practice to prove his superiority on a daily basis.

Depth shouldn’t be confused as one of those hesitant in-game rotations of Rocco and Sims, Watford and Lambert, or Lam-

bert and Johns. Ideally, there emerges in practice the same top dog.

“[Everyone is] still pushing,” Mendenhall said. “And I think that will happen the entire year, and I think it elevates each player and the entire position group... It’s one of the only positions we have where we have that kind of depth and competition. That’s why I think the position is playing well.”

Elsewhere, where in-game depth perhaps becomes more critical to fill entire defensive and offensive lines, a special teams group, linebacking core and secondary, Mendenhall readily admits his Virginia team

lacks numbers. So even standouts like junior linebacker Micah Kiser and free safety Quin Blanding will be expected to fill voids in other areas. The same can be said for Cavalier fixtures on the other side of the ball.

“We won’t allow a player to start offensively or defensively unless they start on a special team,” Mendenhall said. “So our best players, and we’re not a program that has great depth right now, but our best players will have to be in phenomenal shape, because they’ll be starting on up to two other units per man.”

Kiser, Blanding and other stalwarts of the Virginia defense will have to be mentally engaged also, as their unit up front adjusts from the traditional 4-3 — four down linemen and three linebackers — to a 3-4 this season.

An extra linebacker will allow the Cavaliers to disguise pressure or to take away short passing routes in the middle of the field, while the three down linemen — senior Donte Wilkins, redshirt freshman Eli Hanback and junior Andrew Brown — will need to be more fleet of foot to get to the quarterback and to control gaps. Front and center will be the 6-1 300 lb. nose tackle Wilkins blowing up the opposing line and driving as many of their men backwards.

“Donte is playing with great explosion,” McNeill said. “He’s one of the quarterbacks of the defense... He understands the front decorations. He understands the technique, responsibility, the what, whys and hows of our defense. Really a leader for our team, and I go by the mantra for him, ‘Well done is better than well said.’ He does it, not just talk about it.”

Wilkins could have moped about the coaching change that saw the well-respected London part ways with Virginia after six seasons. He could have transferred to a comfortable fit. But instead, Wilkins has bought into the Mendenhall way and become the rock that his new coaches cannot stop raving about. Meanwhile, more and more of his teammates answer the call.

“Our players are handling it well,” Mendenhall said. “We don’t make them do anything, but we’re asking a lot. They’re responding... Lots of work to go, but man I like their attitude.”

THE MENDENHALL MAGIC

As a D.C. native, rooting for a losing team is something I'm used to. Since I really started following Washington sports in middle school, the Redskins have lost five out of their last seven seasons; the Wizards have only had two seasons with winning percentages above .500; and the Nationals and Capitals both consistently fail to perform during the post-season despite stellar regular season play year after year.

Moral of the story: rooting for a losing team is a norm for me. For Virginia football head coach Bronco Mendenhall, it's not.

In Mendenhall's 11 seasons as head coach at Brigham Young University, not once did the Cougars have a losing season. In fact, their worst season was a 6-6 split leaving them sitting right at .500. 10 impressive winning seasons and two conference championships later, Mendenhall now faces a season with a team that has lost seven of their last eight seasons.

Rooting for a losing team is not easy. But coaching one? That's a whole different ball game.

As the Cavaliers draw closer to their season opener, I cannot help but wonder how a team accustomed to losing will play for a coach who's accustomed to winning — and vice versa. How will a winning coach react to a losing team?

Pre-season predictions have Virginia struggling to score a win in the ACC and falling 95th over-

all in the rankings. While conference losses are not new for most of the players on the Cavaliers' 2016 team, Mendenhall himself has yet to experience a season without a conference win.

Of course Mendenhall must know what he is getting into. He committed to coach a team that was struggling to sustain a successful program when he signed on in December, but actually coping with those struggles when the losses might start to come starting in September is easier said than done.

The results Mendenhall wants may not come this year or even next. To be completely honest, it may take even longer than that. Rebuilding a football program takes time and reshaping a program requires patience — the fans know that, the team knows that, the coaches know that, the University knows that — but how much patience the team and Mendenhall have will be the true testament to the success of this season. Thankfully, Mendenhall has repeatedly emphasized a football program focused on rewarding hard work rather than praising results. This Mendenhall culture might be exactly what the Cavaliers need to get through this transition period.

"To go from losing to winning close games is a ton of work, not a little work, and that's what we've taken on," Mendenhall said.

I want our Cavaliers to do well

this season — don't get me wrong. Mendenhall was an excellent choice as London's replacement, but I am wary of Mendenhall's ability to motivate a team that is so starkly dissimilar to Brigham Young. Even though he acknowledges the challenges that Virginia faces in trying to win tough games, it is not a challenge he faced at BYU. He has never had to cope with a losing season, never had to reshape a team in such dire shape. For Mendenhall, these are all uncharted waters.

"Eventually we'll play good football. But we work on toughness and effort [first]," Mendenhall said.

So here's my preseason prediction: this season will not be about the wins. This season will be about a Cavalier football culture change — a focus on progress and productivity; a discipline and determination; a value shift. The wins will come, but for now Mendenhall will work magic on Virginia morale as long as he can keep his own up when the going gets tough.

EMILY CARON is a Sports columnist for the Cavalier Daily.



MARSHALL BRONFIN | THE CAVALIER DAILY

Head coach Bronco Mendenhall has emphasized hard work versus praising results.

Women's soccer tallies two shutouts

Stearns sets school record for wins in second game

HUNTER OSTAD | ASSOCIATE EDITOR



HANNAH MUSSI | THE CAVALIER DAILY

Goalie Morgan Stearns sets a school record with 56 wins.

The No. 4 Virginia (2-0-0) opened up the season with a bang this weekend, as the Cavaliers collected two comfortable victories.

On Friday, the women took on Liberty (0-2-0) with Virginia head coach Steve Swanson allowing his

youth players to take on a large role. The youth answered the call and walloped Liberty with a score of 4-0.

With plenty of goals to go around, the Cavaliers saw four separate players on the score sheet with goals from sophomore midfielder

Betsy Brandon, freshman forwards Meghan McCool and Taylor Ziemer, as well as senior defender Meghan Cox all getting in on the action. Virginia outshot Liberty 21-to-5 and got the win to allow senior goalkeeper Morgan Stearns to tie the school record for wins at 55.

On Sunday's home opener, Virginia had yet another shutout, handling George Mason (1-1-0) with a final score of 2-0.

The victory allowed senior goalkeeper Morgan Stearns to set the school record for wins by reaching the magic number of 56.

"We're proud of Morgan, but it's hard to believe she's a fourth-year already," Swanson said. "That's a tough record to break, so credit to her. We've been pleased with her performance. Last year she was coming off that hip injury and this year she is in a much different place. Hopefully that bodes well for her."

Despite the score, the Cavaliers should have won a little more

comfortably than they did. Virginia outshot George Mason 23-to-4 and were plagued by a lack of finishing all match. This lack caused the Cavaliers to struggle in adding to the two goals they scored in the first half.

"We were taking some shots today, but we weren't finishing," Swanson said. "That's a credit to their keeper for getting her hand and feet on some things. We've left a lot of goals out there, so that's something we have to work on. We did too much shooting and not enough finishing."

It looked as though the goals would be flowing from the outset of the game when junior Veronica Latsko found the back of the net in just the second minute of play and senior Alexis Shaffer followed up with a goal of her own in the 30th minute, but the shots just weren't falling thereafter for the Cavaliers.

Despite the mild frustration with not scoring as often as they would have liked, the Cavaliers were proud

to record their second shutout in as many games and begin their season looking strong.

However, Swanson is still looking at his options when it comes to the starting lineup. With so many good players on the team, Swanson needs to make some tough decisions.

"We got a lot of players minutes this weekend, which is good, but we have to make some decisions now," Swanson said. "We're trying to open it up a little and get players minutes where we can."

Looking forward, Virginia will return to Klöckner Stadium Thursday to host Michigan State at 7 p.m. in a game that should represent a good test of ability for the Cavaliers.

As the season begins to move into full swing, coach Swanson needs to solidify the starting 11 to allow his players to solidify their chemistry.

"We have depth, but we have to see what positions people are suited for," Swanson said.



COMMENT OF THE DAY

“There are a few problems with the BLM movement. One is that they are very reactionary... One example in particular is what happened in Milwaukee, the person who was shot fled from the police and was visibly armed in this situation the officer more than likely acted appropriately. Another problem is that they do not have leadership...”

“Alex N” responding to the Brandon Brooks’ Aug. 16 article, “Black Lives Matter’s mistake”

LEAD EDITORIAL

Debate over “Slush Fund” distracts from the real issue

While it raises important questions, continuing inequality at the University matters more

As her tenure on the Board of Visitors came to a close, Helen Dragas penned an op-ed in The Washington Post this July detailing what she called a “\$2.3 billion slush fund.” Accusing administrators of “hoarding” money for “pet projects,” the former rector suggested the money in what is formally known as the Strategic Investment Fund would be better put to use reducing (or perhaps eliminating altogether) tuition for financially squeezed students.

The administration, unsurprisingly, sees the fund differently. In UVA Today, Rector William H. Goodwin argued the fund’s investments will “align with the [University’s] strategic plan and will be consistent with our long-term financial plan and Affordable Excellence

initiative,” and could go toward initiatives like specialized equipment, research labs or seed money for scholarships. While conceding that “Virginians who are striving to put their children through college have a fair question of why these funds aren’t being used in the moment to provide additional tuition assistance,” Goodwin ultimately affirms the fund’s role in ensuring the University’s long term vitality.

There are shades of truth in both accounts. But the board’s in-fighting only serves to distract from the issue of how the University can improve access to resources, financial and otherwise, for students in need. Dragas is correct that the recent Affordable Excellence tuition plan is hardly sufficient to address the higher ed-

ucation cost crisis. The University possesses one of the wealthiest student bodies in the nation, with only 13 percent of students receiving Pell Grants compared to 35 percent at the University of California-Berkeley or 22 percent at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. State legislators have actively contributed to this problem by allowing the University’s share of state funding to fall well below its peer institutions. This lack of socioeconomic diversity is also inextricably linked with the University’s precipitous decline in African-Americans as a percentage of the student body. All of this is to say that there is no universe in which the Board of Visitors should be satisfied with having solved the University’s ongoing access struggles.

At the same time, Goodwin is correct that Dragas is among the University’s “critics with personal agendas.” Though she admirably launched a multi-year rebranding campaign centered on her professed advocacy for low-income students, the fact remains that Dragas was the epicenter of one of the nation’s highest profile struggles over higher ed privatization in 2012 and has an axe to grind with Sullivan and other Board members. Goodwin is also right to note that ensuring the long term financial health of the University is a worthwhile goal in and of itself. Whether students like it or not, the reality is much of the University’s national status comes from the size of its endowment and its AAA bond rating.

That said, the Board of Visitors has its work cut out for it if it is to rebut the legitimate criticisms Dragas raises. It must focus more of its donor outreach on securing financial aid funding, work toward a long-term goal of meeting 100 percent of financial need without the use of loans and otherwise be more transparent with the public in its investments. State legislators criticizing the University for the fund may share blame for reducing state support for higher education, but this alone is no excuse the current state of affairs. With or without support from the Commonwealth, the University has to do better.

THE CAVALIER DAILY

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TAKE BACK THE NIGHT AGAINST SEXUAL VIOLENCE

A high level of activism is necessary for students to reduce sexual violence

A high level of activism is necessary for students to reduce sexual violence

Mid-September of my first year in 2014, I attended a rally against gender-based violence. It was only a couple of days after Hannah Graham went missing, and I counted fewer than 10 people in attendance. When I attended the Take Back The Night Vigil in April, there were over a hundred people present. In order to combat sexual violence, our community needs to respond with this level of activism.

TBTN is an annual series of events that “hopes to end the silence of dating sexual violence and aid in eliminating sexual violence in our community.” This week-long event features panels regarding how to support a survivor, an Open Mic Night for survivors to share their stories, a Day of Healing and more. Though a mere week of programming cannot do justice to the gravity of sexual assault, the events help raise awareness and support for survivors. This year’s week of events has ended, but TBTN is held annually, and it is never too late to become an advocate for survivors.

Per the University’s policy on sexual and gender-based harassment, “sexual assault consists of sexual

contact and/or sexual intercourse that occurs without affirmative consent.” Essentially, sexual assault is any unwanted, non-consensual sexual contact. Though this definition

and 6 percent of undergraduate men have experienced sexual assault since enrolling in college. Statistically speaking, one of your best friends has experienced sexual assault. Your

“We have an obligation to end sexual violence, for our friends, family, ourselves and future generations.”

is simplistic in nature, the issue of sexual assault is anything but. Sexual assault is a pervasive, systemic issue that plagues all types of people. Sexual violence is perpetuated in our prisons, military and even in Congress. We have an obligation to end sexual violence, for our friends, family, ourselves and future generations.

Sexual violence happens far more frequently than one might think, especially on a college campus. In Sept. 2015, the Association of American Universities conducted a campus climate survey on sexual assault and misconduct. Their research revealed approximately 23 percent of undergraduate women

classmates, your friends and your family are survivors of sexual violence. Though your relationship to a survivor is not what should matter, understanding how many people sexual violence affects is essential.

Upon hearing the news in early June that an unnamed woman was raped by a Stanford student, my heart became heavy knowing that another woman is now a survivor of sexual violence. I know the statistics. I know that one out of four of my friends (and women across the country) are survivors of sexual assault. But that doesn’t make these events any easier. My heart still breaks for this woman, and read-

ing the devastating letter from the woman at Stanford was even more difficult than I anticipated it to be. Eloquent and emotional, she tears down every victim-blaming excuse so many people throw at survivors of sexual violence.

I am grateful that there are people in the world like the two men who stopped this atrocity from further continuing. Their courage and bravery might have saved this young woman’s life. Active bystander intervention is paramount for this reason. The University’s Green Dot program functions based off of this notion of prevention. If you see something — anything — that does not seem right, do something. Say something if you see even the slightest occurrence that makes you feel uncomfortable.

Further, I am incredibly enraged by the failures of our criminal justice system. To anyone who ever questioned why survivors of sexual violence might not step forward, this is why. Numerous media outlets lamented the now-destroyed swim career of the rapist, and his mug shot was not released to the public for months, leaving his graduation photo circulating online. Even with two eyewitnesses, physical evidence and a powerful testimony from the

survivor, Brock Turner will likely only spend three months in county jail (I do not doubt his white privilege and socioeconomic class have a large part to play in this, as discussed here). As devastating and disappointing that is, he will serve more time than 97 percent of rapists ever will. Most sexual assailants will never face any repercussions for their atrocious actions, and that has to stop. The amazingly overwhelming support of the survivor has illuminated the injustice in sexual violence court cases, and I hope that people will continue to fight for justice.

If no one has asked you to take a firm stand against sexual violence yet, consider this a formal request. Be an active bystander and intervene if you see an unsafe situation. Become an advocate for survivors so that more people might feel comfortable sharing their stories. It is never too late to enact change, so from now on, commit to being an agent for change.

MEGHAN GRUMBLING is an Opinion columnist for *The Cavalier Daily*. She can be reached at m.grumbling@cavalierdaily.com

THE DANGERS OF DISENGAGEMENT

The United States should not reflexively shirk from military engagements in the Middle East

Last month, my colleague Sawan Patel called on the United States to cease intervening militarily in the Arab world, arguing its current foreign policy denotes “a fundamental misunderstanding of... the nature of the conflicts occurring in Syria and Iraq” and strengthens extremist ideologies. I applaud Patel for taking the time to consider the ramifications of unchecked aggression in the Middle East, something Sen. Tom Cotton (R-AR) must not have contemplated before suggesting the United States bomb Iran’s nuclear program back to “day zero.” However, Patel’s argument is overly idealistic and does not acknowledge the political realities that influence U.S. foreign policy towards the Near East. In a region where autocrats’ intransigence has neglected the need to combat transnational terrorism, continued U.S. military intervention is necessary to defeat the Islamic State and other Salafist jihadist organizations such as Al-Qaeda.

Patel argues that U.S. military interventions create “negative feedback mechanisms” that promote public support for extremist ideologies. While they certainly increase anti-American sentiment, the rise of groups such as ISIS is primarily attributable to sectarian tensions, regional power rivalries and ineffective governance. This is especially evident

in Iraq, where ISIS exploited Sunni contempt of former Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, who attempted to arrest his political rivals; violently suppressed political demonstrations; and undermined amnesty programs

“U.S. military intervention is needed to combat the greatest threat to peace and global security, Al-Qaeda and the Islamic State.”

that sought to incorporate former rival Sunni and Shia factions into the government. As long as Middle Eastern leaders continue to repress religious and ethnic minorities, extremist organizations will retain a fervent support base.

Second, Patel questions why U.S. policymakers should expect our Middle Eastern allies to lead the fight against Salafist jihadist organizations. This expectation is practical because both groups seek to overthrow the region’s existing national governments in order to create a modern Islamic caliphate. ISIS and Al-Qaeda’s commitment to achieving this goal is evident in the ongoing insurgencies in

Egypt, Iraq, Syria and Yemen. While the attacks in Paris and Brussels were devastating, ISIS poses a greater threat to peace and security in the Middle East, where many countries already possess the socioeconomic

conditions necessary to sustain it.

Unfortunately, many Middle Eastern states lack the capacity or resolve to combat extremist organizations. In Yemen the national government has proven incapable of defeating domestic insurgents without foreign military assistance, which has prioritized combating an Iranian backed rebel group known as the Houthis instead of Al-Qaeda. Both King Salman of Saudi Arabia and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan have utilized jihadist organizations such as Jabhat al-Nusra (an Al-Qaeda affiliate) to aid in the overthrow of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, an ally to the Islamic Republic of Iran. Other ac-

tors have engaged in similarly reprehensible behavior. While officials in Moscow allege the Russian military is intervening in Syria to support the “Syrian armed forces in their fight against ISIL,” this claim appears disingenuous. Most Russian air strikes have occurred in western Syria, away from ISIS-controlled areas, suggesting that Moscow may be intervening for ulterior motives — perhaps to ensure the political survival of the Assad regime and preserve access to their naval base in Tartus.

These sorts of challenges require sustained U.S. military engagement in the Middle East. Indeed, a cessation of such action would empower extremist organizations. Countries such as Iraq, which rely on the United States for tactical and logistical support in counter-terrorism operations, would be deprived of the resources necessary to retake territory from ISIS and its affiliates. Meanwhile, terrorist leaders may interpret a cessation of U.S. military intervention in the region as a sign of weakness, proving that the latter lacks the resolve to fight prolonged insurgencies and increase attacks against the West and its allies. The United States must reconcile its desire to avoid these scenarios while distancing itself from issues that could further entrench it in the region’s intractable political dis-

putes, such as enforcing a no-fly zone over Syria. Instead, the U.S. should continue to target ISIS controlled oil refineries, jam its communication devices and target its central leadership to undermine the latter’s ability to finance itself, communicate and execute attacks on foreign soil.

This is not to say that U.S.-Near East foreign policy should lack humanitarian ideals. The United States should make the continuation of foreign aid conditional upon the incorporation of ethnic and religious minorities into the political decision-making process and publicly encourage its allies to respect the rights of these groups. In the long term, such a policy could build inclusive political institutions that reduce public support for jihadist organizations and end an incessant cycle of suffering and warfare. However, in the short term, U.S. military intervention is needed to combat the greatest threat to peace and global security, Al-Qaeda and the Islamic State.

BRANDON BROOKS is an Opinion columnist for *The Cavalier Daily*. He can be reached at b.brooks@cavalierdaily.com



WEEKLY CROSSWORD

SAM EZERSKY | PUZZLE MASTER

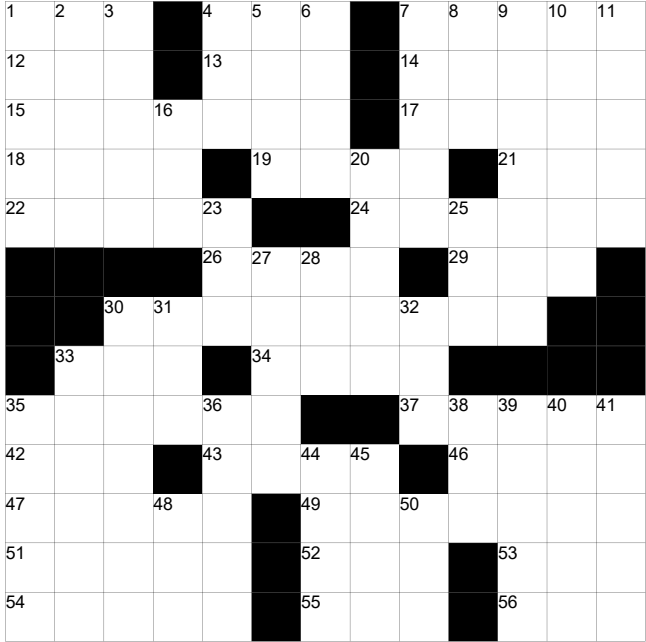
The Cavalier Daily Crossword Puzzle by Sam Ezersky, Class of 2017

ACROSS

- 1. High-level deg. earned by some at UVA
- 4. Cry loudly
- 7. Helps during a crime
- 12. Honest ____ (presidential nickname)
- 13. Lyrical poem
- 14. Like a manly man
- 15. Building featured in many a photograph of UVA
- 17. Sound that prompts a "Bless you!"
- 18. Problems for Kanye West and Donald Trump, say
- 19. "____ Wars: The Force Awakens"
- 21. Ambulance staffer, briefly
- 22. Harmfully extracts private info over the Internet
- 24. Lose track of
- 26. Bouncy type of stick
- 29. Negative answers
- 30. See 10-Down
- 33. Alternative to an Uber car
- 34. "30 Rock" actor Baldwin
- 35. "Stealth" aircraft
- 37. Apple releases of 2010
- 42. Notable period in history
- 43. Secretly includes in an email, for short
- 46. "Let me get some ____ for that burn!" (goofy retort to a lame dis)
- 47. Bernardo's girlfriend in "West Side Story"
- 49. Grassy expanse featured in many a photograph of UVA
- 51. Military surveillance mission, informally
- 52. 18-wheeler
- 53. Month, in Mexico
- 54. Consumed, as a beverage
- 55. Videogamer's annoyance
- 56. Cheer at a soccer match

DOWN

- 1. Peeled with a knife



© August 23, 2016

- 2. Service used for streaming episodes of "True Detective"
- 3. Rehab regimen
- 4. Daughter's counterpart
- 5. "What are the ____?"
- 6. Whipped
- 7. Oakland Raiders wide receiver Cooper
- 8. What breathalyzers measure: Abbr.
- 9. Level of authority
- 10. With 30-Across, UVA's founder
- 11. Like a dirty chimney
- 16. Manipulate
- 20. "When the moon hits your eye like a big pizza pie, that's ____" (song lyric)
- 23. Sunscreen bottle initials
- 25. ____-Balls (Hostess treat)
- 27. French heroine Joan ____
- 28. Goop at a hair salon
- 30. Island whose capital is Kingston
- 31. Recede, as the tide
- 32. Poly ____ (UVA major, informally)
- 33. UVA area with many bars and restaurants, with "The"
- 35. Santa Claus feature
- 36. Online place to make a deposit
- 38. Chum
- 39. Texas battle site of 1836
- 40. Wooden pin in carpentry
- 41. Taste, sight, or smell
- 44. ____-Alt-Del
- 45. "Transformers" actor LaBoeuf
- 48. 2000 pounds
- 50. "Which came first, the chicken or the ____?"

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

SEMEN DONORS NEEDED

The UVA Dept. of Cell Biology is looking for healthy men from 18-55 years of age to provide semen samples that will be used for Quality Control in the manufacture of SpermCheck® home use diagnostic test kits.

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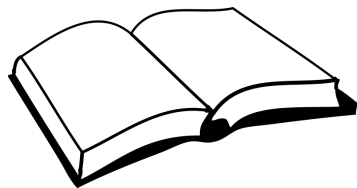


Top 10 mistakes to make your first week

From forced conversations to blowing off readings

BRANDON KIM | LIFE COLUMNIST

1. Sticking with that back-up class you don't want to take



I remember attempting to get into a fiction writing class my first semester at U.Va., but because I scheduled my classes incorrectly and couldn't get off the waitlist for any sections, I ended up sticking with a poetry class I didn't really want to take. It turned out that I was in a 15-person class with football and basketball stars, made some great friends in the class, discovered I really enjoy poetry and bonded with my advisor because she's a poet. All of this happened because I stuck with a class I never wanted in the first place.

2. Getting lost

I think a lot of great times I had my first year were getting lost going to parties with friends. Anything past the Corner was undiscovered territory, and until we understood the difference between 15th street and Grady Avenue, we would just stroll aimlessly laughing and attempting to return home. It's

okay to be lost as long as you have friends who are there with you.

3. Making horrible and forced conversations

The first week is hectic and new, no matter what class you're in. Old faces you're used to are gone and graduated, and several thousand fresh new faces have replaced them. I recall so many awkward moments of everyone trying to remember each other's names, because everyone — especially first years — is trying to take advantage of the welcoming atmosphere that lingers for a few weeks. I highly suggest forcing weird conversations — to some extent — when talking to new people, because it's so much easier the first week, as it becomes exponentially harder throughout the semester when classes get harder and people solidify their groups of friends.



4. Pissing off your roommate

Disclaimer: Don't actually piss

off your roommate. The first week is when you and your roommate are nicer and more respectful to each other. You want to find out early what makes your roommate annoyed or mad before you're halfway into the semester and stressed with work when all of the built-up frustration explodes. My roommate and I got along really well, but I have some friends who settled all their disputes in one culminating night that led to tears, screams in the hall and the slamming of doors. Although it was amusing to watch and eat imaginary popcorn with the people in your dorm, you don't want to be the one in that situation.

5. Trying out for something on a whim

The first week of the fall semester is when almost every group on Grounds tries to find new members to replace their graduates. I remember trying out for the University Guide Service because I heard it was a fun group. I signed up randomly one day and barely made it to my trial tour. I had started planning 30 minutes beforehand by walking around the Lawn and trying to spew poorly memorized facts. It ended up being a horribly embarrassing six minutes, but I gained experience for the next semester for when I wanted to take my tour more seriously.

6. Going to a random party

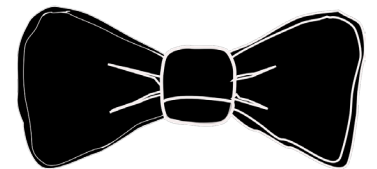
There are a ton of parties the first few weekends of school, because organizations want to attract new members and because new members get initiated. It's really fun to go to these parties before they dwindle away slowly throughout the semester. The party atmosphere at U.Va. is definitely the biggest and most open during the beginning of the semester, so take advantage of that and have fun!

7. Not doing any school-related work

The first week is the easiest because there isn't much work and professors are waiting for their classes to finalize. Take advantage of the lingering summer vibes, and experience as many things as possible before buckling down on schoolwork.

8. Contracting mononucleosis

You can only get it once! If you make the mistake of contracting mono, you'd rather have it at the beginning of the school year and get over it than struggle with it halfway through the semester or during finals week. Mono is like the bubonic plague of first-year dorms, and if you're hit with it during the week of midterms or finals, there's no guarantee you're going to survive.



Think of contracting mono the first week as a vaccine so you can share drinks and kiss people as much as you want for the rest of your college experience.

9. Dressing up

The first week is blistering hot. Sweat will ooze out of your pores and soak your clothes, but it's a mistake you want to make because first impressions are everything! There's no other time besides the first few days or week when you will find the motivation to continue looking your best, so make the most of it when you have the strength to do so.

10. Streaking the Lawn

For some people, it's a nerve-racking, impulsive idea encouraged by inebriated friends, and can even be painful. For example, I have friends who have broken their ankles falling down the hills on the Lawn, but they never regret their mistakes. Streaking the Lawn is a must-do U.Va. ritual, and with the construction on the Rotunda finally over, this is one of the best mistakes you can make your first week.

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Hoos in the summer

U.Va. students share favorite summer stories

JULIE BOND | FEATURE WRITER

While some students take the summer as a chance to relax, many University students have been volunteering and working across the globe. A few students shared their summer experiences, both abroad and home in the states. Gabby Busche and Tyler Burd

On the day of the semi-finals of the EuroCup, more than just professional soccer was being played. Over in Düsseldorf, Germany, third-year Commerce student Gabby Busche and third-year Engineering student Tyler Burd jointly organized a soccer clinic

aimed at integrating refugees in the community with local German children. Puma sponsored the camp, donating soccer balls and cleats.

"Based on the refugee situation in Germany, the German government is trying really hard to integrate [refugees]," Busche said. "So they don't allow for the refugees to be separated or isolated."

One of Busche's favorite moments was when one of the children at the camp kept pointing to her ring finger. Eventually, a translator came over and explained the boy was asking if she was married. The clinic included around 25 of these refugee children, their families and about 30 local Germans. Busche and Burd said they chose soccer because of the universality of the sport.

"The goal was to have [the refugees] be able to integrate into the local culture," Burd said. "The day ended in scrimmages. The kids would be walking off the field having their arms around [each other's] shoulders or talking with one another."

Michael Rueda

Fourth-year Commerce student Michael Rueda interned with the Roush Fenway racing NASCAR team, rotating between work in marketing, business development, communications and social media promotion. His jobs included many different assignments, such as finding potential sponsors for the Roush Fenway in locations the team would be racing in.

"I've always been a really big sports fan and I looked into a bunch of sports to see if there were any internships available in sports marketing," Rueda said. "Working in sports is definitely not always glamorous. When you're behind the scenes it's tough work but I enjoyed it and confirmed that [sports marketing] would be something I'd want to get a job in."

Sarah Brotman

Third-year Batten student Sarah Brotman first fell in love with Israel while there on Birthright,

which spurred her desire to return this summer through a program called Onward Israel. The program placed Brotman in a position where she shadowed and assisted the CEO of the non-profit organization Alternative Actions, helping to plan weekly talks and debates between Israelis and Palestinians.

"[He was] one of the few people who would actually acknowledge that the things that happened to them are unfair. [It was about] getting Palestinians to accept that Israelis aren't monsters and Israelis to accept that Palestinians aren't monsters," said Brotman. "It taught me a lot about myself."

Brotman said even if she does not figure out exactly what she wants to do after college, she now knows she wants to incorporate her work in Israel in some way.

"The older you get the easier it is to make excuses about why you shouldn't do something," Brotman said. "I'm not exaggerating when I say it was the best two months of my life."



COURTESY GABBY BUSCHE

Busche worked in Germany to help integrate refugee children with local German children through a soccer camp.

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Sasheer Zamata graces familiar stage

SNL cast member, U.Va. alumna talks voice and truth

ADAM BEDDAWI | SENIOR WRITER

Sasheer Zamata is a 2008 graduate of the University's Drama department. Since graduating, Zamata joined Saturday Night Live as a cast member in 2014. She has performed stand-up comedy throughout the country and has appeared in a variety of sketches with Upright Citizens Brigade Theater and College Humor, among other outlets.

Zamata returned to her "old stomping grounds" Aug. 22 for a set at the Jefferson Theater. Arts & Entertainment spoke with her about her career and her performance.

Arts & Entertainment: How does it feel to come back and perform in the city where you went to college now that you are such an established success?

Sasheer Zamata: It feels really cool. I love Charlottesville so much and I really enjoy when I get to come back. It's a bit weird to come back as an adult versus when I was in school, because I just see everything a little bit differently. But I am so excited to go back and actually see my old stomping grounds.

A&E: How do you look back on your time here in relation to the rest of your career arc?

SZ: I feel like U.Va. did a really good job of creating an environment where students felt like they could create the environment. It felt really self-run: if you saw a void you could fill it, which I loved. That's why I created an improv group and a theater group and was able to do so many things that were my choice. I feel like that carried on into my career.

A&E: While at the University, you auditioned for a previously-established improv group, only to not make it. You responded by co-founding an improv group of your own, Amuse Bouche. Did going through that instill something in you?

SZ: Definitely. Most of the stuff that I have really gone for was based out of rejection. I'm kind of used to rejection. But that's okay, in this business you have to be. Once I got a "no," I was just like, "Okay I'll just do my own thing," and my own thing turned out to be a really great thing that other people

really enjoy, too. I don't mind hearing the "no" because at least it gave me an opportunity to try to do it on my own.

A&E: In recent years you have let your voice be heard on social issues: you are the American Civil Liberties Union's ambassador for women's rights, starring in a pretty hilarious YouTube video on the subject, and earlier this year you wrote a Lenny Letter titled "On Fixing Hollywood's Diversity Problem." To what do you attribute your voice on these issues?

SZ: I just see that as things that I like to talk about. These are things I question and think about and want to discuss with other people and get them thinking too. I feel like I can't help but have that be conveyed in my work and have it come out because I naturally am intrigued by these topics, so how could I not talk about it?

A&E: You were hired by SNL after a months-long search for the show's first black female comic in what was then over five years. At the same time, you are just a comedian, writer and ac-

tress trying to make a career for yourself. Do you feel any added pressure to be, or represent, anything else?

SZ: I don't feel any pressure to represent anyone. If people feel like they can relate to me, that is so great. But I don't feel like there is any community that is relying on me to be a representative. Or maybe there are, but I don't feel like I have to make sure that I am the spokesperson for a certain group of people. I am my own person and everyone else is their own person and there is no way to lump us all together and be like, "Well, she's the voice of all black women." That would be horrible, because I am not, I am the voice of me and there are probably a ton of black women who don't feel the same way. I just try to think about myself and what I like to do or say, and represent my truth.

A&E: What kind of material do you have in your set right now?

SZ: My material is based on stuff that has happened in my life: stuff about my family, in-

teractions I've had, stuff about race, relationships, things that I notice in society. A lot. It all comes from a truthful place.

A&E: What message do you have for students at U.Va. hoping to monetize a passion in the arts?

SZ: I would say just follow the fun. If you do something that you're passionate about, that is fun to you, keep going. If it starts to not be fun, and it is more of a stress, then maybe consider how to change that or do something else. Everything I did to get to where I am now was so fun to me. I feel lucky that I kind of fell into a situation where the things that I enjoy are the things that are paying me. It took me years to get to that point but I could not imagine myself doing anything else. If you can imagine yourself doing anything else, then do it. But, if you can't, then just keep going for that goal no matter how long it takes.

J. Cole brings together U.Va. first-years

Long-awaited performance from rapper was worth the wait

PAUL ROHRBACH | SENIOR WRITER

When the lights first dimmed at J. Cole's show Saturday evening, John Paul Jones Arena was packed with first-years. After the obligatory dorm room string-lighting were hung, collages compiled and unnecessary furniture assembled, whole halls successively made their entrances into the stadium, often in chains of 20 or 30.

The crowd was treated to a few hefty opening acts. Dj Nitrane tantalized them for an hour by intermittently asking, "Are you ready for J. Cole?" and then proceeding to spin another hit track. Nitrane's set, which included tracks such as Kanye West's controversial "Famous," offset the feminism J. Cole's lyrics often professed.

Following Dj Nitrane came Bas, a Queens-based rapper. Bas's set was promising though uneven. Bas moved between catchy anti-drug anthems such as "Methylone" and songs with no clear meaning such as "Mook



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J. Cole performed at John Paul Jones Arena to help students celebrate the new semester.

in New Mexico," which shifted focus between self-aggrandizement, the definition of art and the Iraq War. Even Bas admitted about one of his song lyrics: "That line probably only makes sense to me."

After Bas and a half-hour more of Nitrane came J. Cole, who greeted the audience with a rousing rendition of "Tale of 2 Citiez." Most of Cole's show came from his most recent album, "2014 Forest Hills Drive."

Cole acknowledged the acclaim his album had received, calling it "aight." In between songs, Cole, seated on a chair occupying a white spotlight, would reminisce about his origins and days in college. The back-up band, though obscured by the lighting and a heavy mist, kept Cole's show fresh by changing the accompaniments from Cole's albums. "Hello," for instance, was played with a reggae beat, and many of Cole's monologues were accompanied by jazz improvisation.

A clearly literate rapper, Cole's wordplay was hit and miss with lyrics such as, "Hey Cole heatin' up like that left-over lasagna," but for first-time listeners, the live setting obscured most of Cole's lyricism. The crowd still frenziedly rushed the floor when given the chance, even after Cole announced the floor was "cut the f—k off." Perhaps this was for the best, as the meaning of many of Cole's

catchier songs would kill their mood. The thrill of the chorus to "No Role Modelz," "she don't wanna be saved, don't save her," for instance, is diluted when one considers the song's chilling description of urban poverty. The graphic detail of "Wet Dreamz," too, was worthy of oversight for those of a delicate temperament.

If the intent of inviting Cole to the University was to give vulnerable first years an alternative to block party, then the event was a success. If the audience looked past the grit of his language, endemic to most rap music, Cole's underlying messages offered much to take to heart with themes of the importance of community, responsibility and respect for women. All in all, the artist brought the Class of 2020 together on the floor with a dynamic performance and a thoroughly "aight" show.

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Back-to-school health hints

Starting healthy habits at the beginning of the year helps prevent future problems

MEG THORNBERRY | HEALTH AND SCIENCE EDITOR



CINDY GUO | THE CAVALIER DAILY

The start of a new school year is exciting, but can also lead to an increase in stress. Whether they're worried about the so-called freshman 15 or developing senioritis, college students should be aware that developing good habits at the start of the year can save them headaches down the line.

"There will be many new experiences, but trying to stay centered and aware of your mental health as well as your physical health from the beginning will keep you from being blindsided later in the year," third-year college student Maura Zurfluh said.

Sleep — Falling behind on sleep

can be like falling into debt. You should try to avoid it, and if you do accumulate some, you should try to repay it as quickly as possible, because it can really add up over time. Some studies suggest you can never truly catch up on sleep. Others suggest you can, but you'll have to make up for your missed sleep plus interest. Also, it's not well known why we need the amount of sleep that we do, so different people may find themselves needing different amounts of sleep. However, constantly feeling tired or lethargic may be a sign of a more serious problem.

Stress — In small amounts, stress can be a positive motivating force,

but it can become debilitating if not properly dealt with. Stress, like sleep deficit, can be felt acutely, or can build up over time. Also like sleep deficit, it can be dealt with more easily if caught early. Establishing a routine, rewarding yourself for accomplishments and maintaining an emotional support network are all effective methods of dealing with stress. But, if stress is constant, reoccurring or too much to deal with on one's own, professional psychological help may be needed. And, like sleep deficit, different people may be able to handle more or less stress than others.

"Don't be afraid to prioritize your health (physical and mental) when picking a major or area to study," fourth-year College student Katie Lang said. "It's not weak to choose something that allows you to take care of yourself and not burn out, it's smart."

Homesickness and struggling to fit in — Moving into a new dorm, a new apartment or a new social circle can make people feel disoriented or out of place, whether they're first years or grad students. Someone who feels out of place may be experiencing homesickness, feeling they would rather be somewhere else or they may be experiencing imposter syndrome — feeling they don't belong because they're not good enough, that they

were admitted by mistake. Both of these situations can be trying — especially when isolation is added to the mix.

"I think students have to realize they're all feeling pretty similar in that aspect," Holstege said. "It's great to be able to talk with other student about it, or an RA."

Talking to others can help normalize what students are going through, but it can also help distinguish issues that have become more serious.

"With any thoughts of self-harm, any similar concerns, then there's a question of talking with a counselor," Holstege said. "This goes for any thoughts of harming one's self [physically], but also I'm just not being able to get the work, because I'm really depressed and really lonely."

Diet — It's important not to overeat, but it's also crucial to recognize that dieting is not the same as maintaining a healthy diet. The key is to look for balance — eating a mixture of food groups and looking out for nutrients.

"It's a balance," Student Health Executive Director Christopher P. Holstege said. "And you have to be careful of the bad diets that are out there too, that aren't necessarily healthy."

In other words, it's okay to count your calories, but it's better to make

your calories count.

"I loaded up on fruit to keep in my dorm every time I went to the dining halls, so I was snacking fairly healthily," Zurfluh said.

Exercise — Exercise doesn't necessarily only mean working out at the gym, but can also include walking counts, dancing, swimming or running outside. The National Institutes of Health reports that exercise can regulate the hormones that cause changes in mood and sleep patterns in much the same way that it regulates metabolism.

"It depends on you as a person and what type of exercise that is, but certainly getting out, getting daily exercise is great for your mental health as well as your physical health," Holstege said.

Allergies / Air quality — People with allergies, asthma or other lung problems may want to check out the Air Quality Index, which looks at the temperature, humidity and level of air pollution to rank each day's air quality. Seasonal allergy sufferers should be aware that over-the-counter allergy medicines usually contain antihistamines, which can interact negatively with a lot of other drugs, and can cause drowsiness and lack of concentration. It's always best to talk to your doctor, but you can also see a list of interactions and side effects on

New vulnerability found for virulent cancer

U.Va. researchers target the genes of small, quickly spread lung cancers

JESSICA CHANDRASEKHAR | SENIOR WRITER

More than 224,000 new lung cancer cases were opened in the United States in 2016 alone, and over 158,000 individuals died from lung cancer, according to the American Cancer Society website. Small cell lung cancer comprises 10 to 15 percent of all lung cancers.

Dr. Christopher Moskaluk, Department of Pathology chairman, said small cell cancers are characterized by small cell sizes and poor differentiation features.

"What a cell looks like and what functions it carries out is termed 'differentiation,'" Moskaluk said in an email statement. "Most other lung cancers have larger cell bodies and show better differentiation features under the microscope."

SCLC tends to grow and metastasize, or spread, faster than non-small cell lung cancer. Treatment regimens, chemotherapy and antibody treatments among them, vary compared to those designed for NSCLC.

Kwon-Sik Park, assistant professor of microbiology, immunology and cancer biology, is focusing on tumor-specific gene alterations as a potential opportunity for therapeutic targets.

"Treatments for SCLC have not significantly improved over the last four decades, and there are no currently approved targeted therapies," Park said in an email statement. "It is therefore essential that the biology of major genes that drive SCLC be linked to novel therapeutic approaches."

His lab's research is funded by federal and foundational grants such as the National Institute of Health, the Department of Defense, the American Cancer Society and the Lung Cancer Foundation. Dong-Wook Kim and Kee-Beom Kim, post-doctoral students in his lab, and Colin Dunn and Ann Lee, undergraduate research assistants, researched and authored the lab's most recent paper, published in the

June 2016 edition of "Genes and Development," "Genetic requirement for Myc1 and efficacy of RNA Pol I inhibition in mouse models of small cell lung cancer."

The paper describes a role for L-Myc, a gene whose mutation has been found to lead to SCLC, in tumorigenesis and proposes that CX-5461, a drug causing RNA polymerase I inhibition, has the potential to attack the tumor and cause tumor inhibition. RNA polymerase I acts during transcription, which allows for gene expression via protein production.

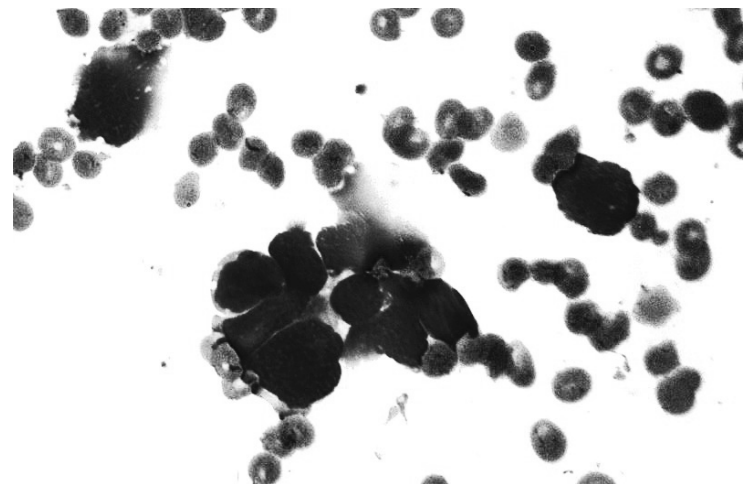
This new vulnerability could lead to a potentially novel treatment for SCLC or, at the very least, lead to further investigation with similar therapeutic and research approaches.

The study, however, is still in its early stages and still has a way to go before becoming available as a potential treatment for the general SCLC populace in the United

States.

"Our research provides a concept of targeting the oncogene-driven [caused by a person's own genes] molecular changes for tumor intervention particularly

when the oncogene itself is undruggable," Park said. "More research needs to be done before applying this concept to treatment of lung cancer patients."



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Kwon-Sik Park, assistant professor of microbiology, immunology and cancer biology, is focusing on tumor-specific gene alterations for potential therapeutic targets.

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