



Ripples of Ferguson reach Charlottesville

University, Charlottesville communities react to fatal Missouri shooting, open broader racial tensions dialogue

Sara Rourke
Associate News Editor

The fatal police shooting of 18-year-old Michael Brown, a reportedly unarmed, African-American citizen of Ferguson, Missouri, has brought law enforcement and police brutality to the forefront of national interest.

The Aug. 9 shooting sparked outcry not only in Ferguson, where tensions are high due to a history of police distrust and racial prejudice, but nationwide.

Members of the University and greater Charlottesville community have been vocal in protests of police actions in Ferguson

and prejudice in law enforcement across the country.

Details of the shooting are murky and highly disputed. Some reports state Brown surrendered peacefully with his hands in the air when he was shot by the white police officer. Others claim he responded aggressively to St. Louis County Police Officer Darren Wilson's request to stop walking in the middle of the road.

A History of Racial Tensions

According to a recent survey conducted by John Logan and Brian Stults at Brown University and Florida State University respectively, St. Louis is the ninth most racially segregated city in

America.

Charlottesville was not included in the study — its scope was restricted to the top 50 metropolitan regions with the largest black populations. But two other Virginia regions, Norfolk and Richmond, were listed as the 39th and 44th, respectively.

Charlene Green, community outreach specialist in the Charlottesville Office of Human Rights, said certain moments in Charlottesville's past are indicative of racial tension.

"You can point to things that have occurred in the history in Charlottesville that have led to inequities; some sanctioned by local governments and some be-

cause of social norms that have emerged in this country," Green said.

Green cited the 1960s destruction of the predominantly black neighborhood of Vinegar Hill as evidence of this discrimination. In 1964, city voters approved the leveling of the area "for the financial benefit of the city," she said.

Upwards of 500 Charlottesville citizens and about 40 businesses were displaced by the Vinegar Hill demolition.

"It doesn't create the kind of welcoming atmosphere in a community that people should feel no

see FERGUSON, page 5

University commits to Aramark

Living Wage Campaign expresses concern about contract employee wages

**Katherine Wilkin &
Maddy Weingast**
Associate News Editors

The University announced Thursday it will renew its dining contract with Aramark, the dining service provider which manages the University's residential and retail dining centers, catering and vending services, and athletics-related concessions. The contract is set for 20 years and includes a financial incentive for the University to honor it for the full term.

The University has held contracts with Aramark for the past 25 years — with an initial 10-year contract with three five-year renewals. Pat Hogan, the University's executive vice president and chief operating officer, said the extended partnership was an important part of the agreements made in the new contract.

"Our interest and Aramark's interest was to have a long-term relationship," Hogan said. "A commitment to a long-term contract is why we were able to get [other provisions] from Aramark."

Those provisions include a commitment to invest \$20 million in improvements and renovations for dining facilities and a \$70 million escrow fund from which interest will be pulled to fund University initiatives.

Mark Nelson, president of Aramark's Higher Education business, also expressed the importance of a long-term partnership in a University press release.

"Aramark is extremely proud

see DINING, page 2

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news

DINING | Contract includes \$70 million escrow fund

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to extend our long-standing partnership with one of the nation's best universities," Nelson said. "We look forward to continuing to serve the U.Va. community through innovative dining, catering, vending and concessions services."

The contract focuses heavily on the sustainability and nutritional value of foods offered in dining halls. Aramark will be making an effort to include more local, organic and fair-trade ingredients, as well as increasing its recycling program.

"Aramark will ... upgrade residential, retail and athletic dining facilities and provide more variety, featuring additional locally grown or produced products and more healthy choices, as well as a mix of national and local options," Aramark said of the improvements in the press release.

The renewed contract also emphasized the availability of nutritional information. Aramark is required to display a full nutritional analysis of its food. Full recipes and nutritional information will also be made available online.

Customer satisfaction remains a key aspect of the contract. Aramark will remain responsible for determining levels of customer satisfaction periodically, but the University retains the right to conduct an independent customer satisfaction survey regarding the University's Dining Program, the results of which would be provided to Aramark.

vided to Aramark.

"Quality of the dining for students and staff is a top priority," Hogan said. "Aramark is going to continue to solicit input from students and staff regarding dining offerings. We believe there's a high level of satisfaction and we'll continue to make improvements and improve variety."

The contract also stipulates that Aramark will invest \$70 million with the University to be held in an escrow fund through the course of the contract. If the University leaves the contract early, the amount it is ultimately paid out would decrease.

"I envision this being put in a quasi endowment," Hogan said. "U.Va. will have control of the money, and if we did invest it, we'd do it through the University or [the University of Virginia Investment Management Company]. It would be nice to figure out how to earn 5 percent a year, which would be around \$3.5 million."

Any revenue earned from the investment of the escrow fund will be used "for strategic initiatives approved by the Board of Visitors," according to the press release. Hogan said he hoped the money would be used to fund measures to make the University more affordable.

According to Hogan, the total value of the contract for Aramark is variable.

"A lot of that will depend on the number of students at the University, attendance at football games and sporting events and number of students that elect to use dining

options as opposed to eating off-Grounds," Hogan said. The

ough Aramark provides dining services to more than 400 colleges and universities, some institutions have recently decided to move their contracts elsewhere.

In February, the College of William & Mary announced its decision to sign with Sodexo after a competitive bidding war. As part of the deal, Sodexo will be providing the College with \$5 million in improvements to dining areas throughout campus including enhancements to residential and retail dining as well as catering services to the campus.

Closer to home, some in the University community have questioned Aramark's wages for its workers. The U.Va. Living Wage Campaign aims to call attention to the fact the University does not ensure Aramark offers all of its employees a living wage.

Representatives from the campaign said contract employees offer the same work as direct employees but can be paid as little as the federal minimum wage — \$7.25 an hour — and are not eligible for benefits.

"It would cost someone who is part of a two parent house with two kids to make at least \$13 per hour plus benefits in Charlottesville," said Living Wage Campaign spokesperson Laura Goldblatt. She added that since it has been some years since the study, at this point that wage may even be higher.

"Aramark base wage is the same as the University's, which

I believe right now is \$11.35 per hour," said Goldblatt. "Two dollars might not sound like much, but I think when you are living paycheck to paycheck an extra two dollars an hour makes a difference."

Hogan said the University and Aramark are both aware of concerns from the Living Wage Campaign, but there are limitations to what stipulations the University can impose.

"As a state agency, we cannot dictate to a contractor what they pay their employees," Hogan said. "Aramark is well aware of sensitively around this. But as a state agency we're not allowed to dictate wage rates."

Goldblatt also pointed out that most food service workers are laid off during the summer because students are not around to eat. The living wage figure of \$13 an hour assumes people are working full time, so in order for Aramark to have a sustainable operation they would need to pay something closer to \$18 per hour for people to be able to not work over the summer, Goldblatt said.

"The University is the largest employer in central Virginia and they have a responsibility to the population to perform essential tasks," Goldblatt said. "People who are providing all these services are working really hard. ... They are what makes the University of Virginia the University of Virginia, anyone who is providing ... should be compensated as such."

THE CAVALIER DAILY

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Internal study identifies University gender pay gap

All things equal, Profs. Sarah Turner, Kerry Abrams find male faculty earn more than female colleagues, Provost Simon calls for 'fair and equitable review'

**Rachel Goretsky and
Henry Pflager**
News Writers

A recent internal study showed female professors at the University are paid \$3,638 less than their male colleagues on average.

Education and Economics Prof. Sarah Turner, one of the two University officials who spearheaded the report along with Law Prof. Kerry Abrams, vice provost for faculty affairs, said it is premature to draw any conclusions about the University's institutional treatment of female employees.

"[This study is] significant in the statistical sense that there is a residual difference in the salaries of male and female faculty members that is not explained by field, rank and experience," Turner said in an email. "As noted in the report, the quantitative analysis is insufficient to determine the cause of any observed salary disparities between demographic groups."

Correlational studies, such as the ones provided in the report, can only provide evidence linking two separate variables, or trends. Such studies cannot provide causal analysis or explain why those trends are linked. For example, this

report simply states gender differences and discrepancy in pay exist. This does not mean sexism is causing the correlation between these two variables. Rather, this correlation could be the result of a host of other variables, Turner said.

"Salary disparities [between genders] can result from various causes, including differential institutional practices in salary setting, differential opportunities or work assignments, variations in faculty productivity or some combination of these factors," Turner said.

Turner said more analysis needs to be done to determine causality. The Provost office would com-

plete the analysis and investigate the causes of the salary difference across demographic groups, a job Turner said it is taking seriously.

Executive Vice-President and Provost John Simon said the Provost's office is working to fix the problem now and emphasized students should push University dialogue on the matter.

"You could fix it with money, but that's just a Band-Aid if you don't know why," Simon said.

Though the University is certainly not an outlier in the gender pay gap, that does not necessarily mean this recent study's findings are good, Simon said. In a letter to

faculty, Simon said some salary adjustments would be likely.

"Even though the task force was unable to reach conclusions about disparities based on race or citizenship, we will be closely scrutinizing individual cases to ensure that any appropriate salary adjustments are made," Simon said. "Although the report's findings would suggest that women's salaries are more likely to require adjustment, this process will include both men and women to ensure that all faculty members whose salaries were found to exhibit a statistical parity difference receive fair and equitable review."

SALC hosts sexual misconduct summit

Student leaders advocate for increased peer education around Grounds, more inclusive training processes

Samantha Josey-Borden
Associate Editor

The Sexual Assault Leadership Council hosted a summit Sunday, congregating student leaders and a community stakeholders to discuss sexual assault prevention at the University and how peer educators can address the student body more broadly.

Organizations represented included the Honor Committee, One in Four, One Less, the Inter-Sorority Council, the Inter-Fraternity Council, the Women's Center, the Black Student Alliance and Student Council.

Sara Surface, a third-year College student and external chair of the SALC, said the summit was aimed at expanding and improving communication around sexual misconduct between organizations and students.

To effectively prevent sexual misconduct and educate students about the issue, attendees of the summit said it is vital to get students to talk openly about the role sexual misconduct plays in University culture in addition to expanding student training in bystander intervention.

Surface said that it was important for student organiza-

tions to address the issue head on, touting the potential of the newly launched "Hoos Got Your Back" campaign, designed to get students "excited about [preventing sexual misconduct] and acknowledge their commitment and responsibility to this issue."

Some representatives at the summit were concerned about the majority of conversations surrounding sexual misconduct and bystander prevention being concentrated in the Greek community.

Participants sought to find ways to increase the accessibility of resources about sexual misconduct for students who are not in fraternities or sororities, or in various advocacy organizations.

"I think that it will be im-



Marshall Bronfin | The Cavalier Daily

Representatives from various student groups met Sunday afternoon to discuss challenges the University community faces in preventing sexual misconduct.

cil] aren't tailored to how black students are affected by sexual misconduct."

One in Four and One Less have large presences within certain organizations such as the IFC and the ISC. SALC representatives said these student-run organizations need to construct a central body that increases communication between all groups of students.

"One of our huge initiatives this year is to build outreach to all student groups, to make sure we're not hitting the same old groups," Surface said. "Of course sororities and fraternities have a big stake in this issue, but so do many other CIOs around Grounds and we need to start a conversation to work together."

A majority of the advocacy-group representatives agreed that though the formal presentations some organizations use to communicate with students are effective in raising awareness, making presentations more informal may create a more open dialogue.

Several participants praised University President Teresa Sullivan's recent email to students and faculty in which she introduced the "Not On Our Grounds" campaign.

"Not On Our Grounds" encourages zero tolerance for sexual violence and assault. It has gained popularity through social media and was included in first-year discussions during Welcome Week.



Marshall Bronfin | The Cavalier Daily

portant to create a conversation about this between the CIOs and the minority-run student organizations around Grounds," said BSA Vice President Shanice Hardy, a fourth-year Batten student. "A lot of the times the presentations that are shown to [the fraternities and sororities of the National Panhellenic Coun-

Uber brings cab service to Charlottesville

City welcomes up-and-coming rideshare service following company's legal battle with Virginia DMV

Thrisha Potluri
Senior Writer

Popular ride-sharing program Uber pulled into Charlottesville last week. On Thursday, Uber launched services in 24 new cities across the U.S., most of which are college towns.

"Part of our effort is to bring reliable and safe transportation to everyone, everywhere," Uber spokesperson Taylor Bennett said. "College towns are a great place to do that. With school starting back and football season kicking in, we figured no better time to do that than now."

Uber runs through a mobile application that easily connects riders with drivers. After setting up an account, users enter their pickup location and select a car type to request a ride. The app finds and sends the nearest available driver to the location.

Users are given estimates for fare and arrival times after entering their desired destination. Users can also request rides for friends or clients. A ride costs a \$3.75 base fare — including a line item \$1 fee to fund safety initiatives — with an additional \$0.25 per minute and \$1.50 per mile. The minimum fare is \$5.

"With the push of a button, [you] have access to on-demand

transportation," Bennett said. "It's all cashless, so there's no need to have the right amount of change or worry about having cash."

Uber primarily differs from a taxi service in that it doesn't hire drivers — rather, it partners with independent contractors who set their own schedules.

"We've created a mobile marketplace that connects riders with drivers who are independent contractors," Bennett said. "These are folks who are just like you and I. They're very much their own small business owners."

Drivers are allowed access to the Uber platform to connect with riders only after passing stringent background checks. They must also fit other requirements such as having a valid driver's license and a personal car with proper insurance.

Uber utilizes a system of real-time feedback and ratings. At the end of every ride, riders and drivers are asked to rate each other on a scale of one to 10 and provide comments.

"We take immediate action if we come across any issues, concerns or complaints that may arise," Bennett said. "There's a real level of transparency built into the app itself."

Earlier in June, the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles



Marshall Bronfin | The Cavalier Daily

Uber will seek to compete with traditional taxi services (above) in courting University students and community members for transit services.

issued cease and desist letters to Uber and Lyft, another ride-sharing service, for operating without proper permits. The two companies were also fined more than \$35,000 in civil penalties.

"Virginia law requires for-hire passenger carriers to have proper operating authority," according to a letter sent to Uber by DMV commissioner Richard D. Holcomb. "Though certain types of passenger carrier arrangements are excluded from this requirement, none of those exclusions applies to Uber's operations [...] because Uber receives compensation for its services."

After the letters were issued, Attorney General Mark Herring's office reached out to the two companies, the DMV and Governor Terry McAuliffe's admin-

istration to discuss how to bring the companies into compliance and institute safety measures for passengers, said Michael Kelly, spokesman for the Attorney General's office. Uber and Lyft were eventually granted temporary operating authority on Aug. 6.

"These companies have been issued broker's licenses and temporary operating authority by the DMV as long as they comply with a broad range of important safety and transparency measures as outlined in the news release," Kelly said. "These include strong background checks and insurance requirements for operators."

The DMV is currently leading a study on Virginia's passenger carrier laws and transportation network companies such as Uber to determine a permanent regula-

tory solution in time for the 2015 legislative session, and has invited Uber and other stakeholders to participate in the study.

"The agreement that brought them into compliance can certainly serve as a framework for a permanent solution and the DMV will also have several months of data to evaluate in determining the best course forward," Kelly said.

With Thursday's launch, Uber is now available in 205 cities across 45 countries worldwide.

"With yesterday's push, 55 percent of the U.S. now has access to Uber," Bennett said. "That was just one more notch in the progress we're making. We're going to continue to enter college towns across the U.S. and new markets across the world."

On-Grounds interviewing makes job-seeking fast, convenient

200 prospective employers to visit University later this month, 800 students expected to participate

Samantha Josey-Borden and Kayla Eanes
Associate Editors

University Career Services will host On-Grounds Interviewing at Bryant Hall beginning Sept. 22. On-Grounds Interviewing, or OGI, occurs both in the fall and the spring, and the program invites an array of employers who look for students to fill full-time and part-time positions.

Everette Fortner, associate vice president of career and professional development at UCS, said this year will see an increase in the number of employers available at OGI.

"At the moment 200 compa-

nies have scheduled to participate in OGI, which is slightly above the number [of companies] from last year," Fortner said.

Interviews are mainly populated by fourth years, but Fortner said some of the 800 students who will participate this fall will also be third years.

A majority of the businesses which partner with UCS for OGI are engineering, manufacturing, management, government, business and sales firms. Still, Fortner said College students should participate as well — as the companies "are recruiting students based on their skill set rather than their declared major."

Of the College's 2013 graduates, 29 percent of the graduates' current job was directly related

to their academic major. On the other hand, 29 percent of graduates reported their current job was barely or not related to their major.

Both Denise Egan, assistant commerce dean for career services, and Mary Riner, Commerce School director of employer relations, said OGI is an effective process, especially for Commerce Students.

"I think it's a process that's working very well for all students," Egan said. "It's a very positive experience for our employers, for those of us in career services, and for McIntire students."

Egan said OGI is the primary resource for recruiting for Commerce students and counselors in

the school encourage students to use the program to look for jobs.

Riner said data from UCS showed that in the 2013-14 recruiting season nearly half of all interviews featured Commerce students, both graduate and undergraduate.

Seventy-six percent of 2013 graduates indicated using UCS during their time at the University, according to the College's second annual "First Destinations Report". The Engineering School notes in its 2013 Career Development Report that OGI directly provided 10 percent of initial employment offers that were accepted by engineering students.

In order to register for OGI, students must provide personal information and complete an ap-

plication on UCS's CavLink website.

"Once students are approved for OGI, they can apply for specific positions in CavLink," said David Lapinski, the UCS Director of Employer Relations. "After applying, employers review the résumés of the applicants and select candidates they would like to interview. The students usually receive a notification they've been 'preselected' a week before the interviews, then they begin signing-up for time slots on a specific day."

The spring OGI program caters more toward internships, Fortner said, since it is recommended fourth-year students earlier in the year.

FERGUSON Solidarity march, vigil held on Downtown Mall

Continued from page 1

matter who you are," Green said.

More recently, racial slurs have been spray-painted in Charlottesville and even on Grounds — including on Beta Bridge. Green also said various fraternities have been known to exploit certain ethnicities with party themes.

Could Ferguson happen in Charlottesville?

Police in Ferguson met protesters with extreme tactics, such as the use of tear gas and rubber bullets. These extreme measures were used both in periods of rioting and peaceful protest.

Last Wednesday, Charlottesville Police Chief Timothy Longo spoke at a forum titled, "Can Ferguson Happen Here?" at the Ebenezer Baptist Church off West Main Street.

Longo did not disclose the specific equipment in use by the Charlottesville police force, but maintained the need for transparency when he and his staff use these tactics.

"This is an evil world, and evil things happen — and when they do, I need to call upon certain equipment and resources to keep us safe," Longo said. "But when it's used, ask why."

Longo said that the Charlottesville community has, in his experience, handled disagreements — even passionate ones — with a sense of civility.

Even during times of discourse where sincere, intelligent, and passionate voices disagree, this community seems to handle such discourse with passion, grace, calm, and peace," Longo said in an email. "I hope that will always be the case."

But other members of the Charlottesville community are not quite as confident.

Audience members at the forum were encouraged to participate in a survey, which asked participants to respond to a series of 10 yes-or-no statements such as, "I have been a victim of police misconduct or blatant disrespect," "I have been a victim of racial profiling" and "I believe that the events in Ferguson, Missouri can happen here."

According to the survey, 41 percent of the audience has been a victim of police misconduct and blatant disrespect; 30 percent has been a victim of racial profiling; and 82 percent of the audience believe the events in Ferguson, Missouri could happen in Charlottesville.

The 2010 U.S. Census Bureau found that approximately two-thirds of Ferguson residents are African-American. Only three members of the city's police force are African-American.

Longo estimates that approximately 12 percent of the Charlottesville police force is comprised of non-white members; however, he said there is a need to increase the minority presence in local law



Certainly it could happen here in Charlottesville, what's to preclude Charlottesville from that?"

- Vendarryl Jenkins, president of the University NAACP chapter

enforcement.

"We commit to a more diverse police department, and I'm saying to each one of you that I need your help," Longo said at the forum. "Not just men and women of color, but other minorities. Encourage them to become part of an organization that respects the role of law."

Second-year College student Vendarryl Jenkins and fourth-year Engineering student Mustapha Allanah, president and vice-president of the University's chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, respectively, said they feel that Charlottesville's culture is just as susceptible to racial profiling and police violence as Ferguson.

"Certainly it could happen here in Charlottesville, what's to preclude Charlottesville from that?" Jenkins said. "There's nothing about the culture here that would say this cannot happen. For me, I think it's a question of being proactive versus reactive. I think that's what we're trying to do now — to say that we have a voice and we will stand against this now. Not when it happens, not when someone strikes again, but now."

Green said it is important to discuss what types of initiatives are in place to prevent something like "a Ferguson" happening here. She noted Charlottesville's establishment of government initiatives such as the the Office of Human Rights, the Dialogue on Race, and City of Promise, all of which are permanent programs sponsored by the city.

She said she is optimistic such programs ensure the African-American community has better representation in Charlottesville than the community in the St. Louis area.

"The issues that erupted in Ferguson were not just an overnight thing," Green said. "It wasn't just due to the tragic death of Mike Brown — it was something that had been building up over time. I don't see those types of things [in

Charlottesville] that had been happening there in terms of lack of presence and lack of voice."

Student Response

Several CIOs, including the University's NAACP chapter and the Black Student Alliance have engaged in varied initiatives to respond to the Ferguson controversy.

Friday at The Source, an activities fair organized by the BSA, the Black Presidents Council and the NAACP staged a "Hands Up, Don't Shoot" photo. The photo is part of a national initiative sponsored by the National Chapter of the NAACP.

In the photo, students posed with their hands in the air, as Brown allegedly did before the shooting.

"Every one of us here at U.Va. has the responsibility, as educated sisters and brothers of this great country of ours, to step forward and address these situations when they take place," Allanah said.

On Saturday, Aug. 23 Charlottesville citizens participated in a candlelight vigil and solidarity march on the Downtown Mall. Second-year College student Aryn Frazier, Political Action Chair of BSA, helped organize the event.

"The real goal is for people to realize that Ferguson isn't an isolated event. Police brutality and stereotyping African Americans takes place all across the country — even in Charlottesville," Frazier said. "We are not responding to Ferguson in and of itself, but to the repeated incidents of police brutality."

Fourth-year Batten student Shanice Hardy attended the solidarity march.

"The general atmosphere was empowering for me to feel like I'm doing something and standing in solidarity with those in Ferguson," Hardy said.

Moving Forward

Though there may not be a cut-and-dry method to avoid another eruption reminiscent of the events in Ferguson, local parties seem to agree some changes are needed.

On Aug. 27, Longo released a "Our Statement of Commitment" to the public.

"I cannot go back and fix all the things we've done wrong," he said. "All I can say is that we have to recommit to certain things; we have to recommit to certain values."

The statement re-defines the role of a law-enforcement in society. It says a police officer is "critical in protecting the constitutional rights of all citizens, ensuring the safety and well-being of the community, preserving peace, and exemplifying civic leadership." The statement says police officers must be held accountable "for the critical tasks that they are entrusted to perform."

In an email, Longo said the most important steps in ensuring

the Charlottesville community and its law enforcement officials maintain a healthy relationship are "bold leadership, cultural wisdom, communication, and transparency."

Allanah and Jenkins said creating a dialogue at the University community is an integral aspect of allowing the African-American community to be heard.

"Our responsibility as black men of this University is [to] open up this dialogue and get people more engaged in this conversation," Jenkins said. "It's definitely one that needs to be had."

In a letter about the events in Ferguson, the NAACP called for a national proactive approach to address these problems.

"Do not wait until the problem knocks on the front door of your local area or neighborhood; this is a burden we all must carry," the letter reads. "It is not a distant problem a few hundred miles away; it is our problem here and now, and we will respond."

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Matthew Morris
Senior Associate Editor

Before Saturday afternoon's 28-20 defeat against UCLA, Virginia football coach Mike London had never lost a season opener in six years at the helm of both the Cavaliers and the Richmond Spiders. Even in 2013 — a down year for Virginia — London guided his team to a rain-soaked season-opening 19-16 victory against Brigham Young.

His record sullied, London sent a clear post-game message: He was proud of his players' performance against the seventh-ranked Bruins and star redshirt junior quarterback Brett Hundley, whom Virginia held to 214 all-purpose yards.

"A tremendous effort," London said. "As I told them in the locker room, [if] you can go toe-to-toe and play a good football team like that, then there's nothing to hold your head down about."

In a game defined by staunch defenses, the first-half benching of sophomore quarterback Greyson Lambert and the emergence of sophomore backup Matt Johns, Virginia showed it can play with the country's best

Cavs fall short against No. 7 UCLA, 28-20

Johns replaces Lambert, defense shines, but early turnovers prove costly against talented Bruins

teams — but cannot beat them with a sloppy offense.

The Cavaliers surrendered three touchdowns off a fumble and two Lambert interceptions, taking some of the shine off a strong defensive display.

"You take away those errors and you have a very competitive game," London said.

The Bruins started fast in their first-ever trip to Scott Stadium, as Hundley connected with redshirt freshman receiver Eldridge Massington for a 48-yard reception on the first snap of the game.

Virginia quickly bounced back behind senior middle linebacker Henry Coley and junior defensive tackle David Dean, who respectively stuffed a first-down rush by senior running back Jordon James and blocked Hundley's third-down pass attempt.

The Cavaliers' resolve proved consequential when Bruin junior place kicker Ka'imi Fairbairn missed a field goal from 44 yards out.

The Virginia stand set the tone for the first quarter, when the teams combined for seven first downs and zero points.

The Bruins struck less than two minutes into the second quarter, though, when Lambert looked to pick up some passing yards with his team at its own 20.

Senior defensive lineman



Emily Gorham | The Cavalier Daily

Senior middle linebacker Henry Coley (44) led a tenacious defensive effort against the No. 7 Bruins, recording 14 tackles, sacking UCLA junior quarterback Brett Hundley twice and forcing a fumble.

Owamagbe Odighizuwa closed in on Lambert from behind, tipping the ball high into the air as the quarterback attempted to throw. The ball settled in the arms of junior cornerback Ishmael Adams, who sprinted into the end zone for the first points of the game.

The Cavaliers responded with a nine-play, 53-yard drive to the UCLA 18-yard line that produced a 35-yard field goal by junior place kicker Ian Frye. Lambert found redshirt fresh-

man receiver Andre Levrone for a 27-yard gain on third-and-six early in Virginia's march downfield.

UCLA then dealt Virginia two quick and powerful blows as the first half neared conclusion.

First, senior linebacker Eric Kendricks forced a fumble by Cavalier sophomore receiver Kyle Dockins at the UCLA 25. Junior defensive back Randall Goforth scooped the ball up and made for the end zone, widening the Bruin lead from 4 points to

11 with 2:55 to play.

Kendricks picked off Lambert 95 seconds later at the Virginia 37 and crossed the goal line with UCLA's third defensive touchdown of the quarter.

Sophomore outside linebacker Max Valles, who sacked Hundley twice, said the team needs to stick together even if one unit struggles.

see FOOTBALL, page 8

Stop the ride

On a day that was supposed to be a starting point in the Heisman campaign for UCLA junior quarterback Brett Hundley, the real story was shaped by a player no one expected: Matt Johns.

Though Hundley undoubtedly played well, it was the Cavalier sophomore who stole the show Saturday, giving 44,000 people in Scott Stadium a glimmer of hope for the 2014 season.

Most of Virginia's issues in the recent past have stemmed from inconsistencies at the quarterback position. Performances by Cavalier gunslingers been less than impressive, and they've proven consistently unable to maintain the starting job.

In the past three seasons, five different quarterbacks have come and gone in the Cavalier's starting lineup. Two years ago was an absolute circus, with Phillip Sims and

Michael Rocco trading off not just starts but series and even plays. This quarterback carousel has made it nearly impossible for the offense to find any sort of rhythm — and Virginia's 2012 record reflected it.



RYAN TAYLOR
Senior Associate Editor

That disappointing 4-8 season left the Cavalier coaching staff choosing between two options, neither desirable. Both players underperformed, especially the highly-touted Sims who failed to ever fully grasp the squad's playbook.

The situation was handled poorly, and ultimately contributed to Rocco's departure from the program. After announcing his decision to leave, the current Richmond Spiders quarterback — who left Virginia ranked 8th all-time in passing yards — said it was "hard to feel confident" with the system that was in place.

A year later, Virginia gave the

starting job to David Watford. But despite a promising start with a win against a tough Brigham Young team, the Cavaliers offense again sputtered, averaging less than 20 points per game in a disastrous 2-10 season.

Again Virginia suffered from an identity crisis, as the coaching staff increasingly opted to rotate Watford and newcomer Greyson Lambert. Production proved an issue once again, and rotating quarterbacks only compounded the offensive woes that plagued the Cavaliers.

As Rocco said, it's hard to build confidence when you feel your job is constantly being threatened, even during games.

When spring ball came around, it was Lambert who had been tapped to be the man in charge of Virginia's offense — less than surprising, given Watford's performance last year. But much to the dismay of many Cavalier fans, there was still talk of packages specifically for the senior, hinting that this season would be more of the

same.

Saturday, there was no rotation of quarterbacks, though two men did take the field. This time however, things seemed to be different. After an error-ridden start by Lambert — spotlighted by two pick-sixes — London shocked Scott Stadium by sending in Johns, the 6-foot-5, 210-pound sophomore from Chalfont, Pennsylvania.

In the Spring Game, Johns was the third-string quarterback behind both Lambert and Watford. He went 6-of-19 for just 43 yards, but threw no interceptions — in contrast to the two thrown by both Lambert and Watford. The performance certainly did not give any indication he would be playing against the No. 7 team in the nation.

But when his number was called, the sophomore made the most of the opportunity. He immediately sparked the stagnant Cavalier offense with two deep passes — producing Virginia's first touchdown of the new season.

Johns looked confident both in

the pocket and on the move Saturday and appeared cool under pressure. What's more, he was able to throw the ball down the field and even completed a pair of deep fourth-down conversions to keep the Cavaliers' comeback hopes alive.

Whether offensive coordinator Steve Fairchild decided to open up the playbook for him, or Johns just had the confidence to make the throws that Lambert did not, is unclear. Regardless, the results were undoubtedly encouraging for Cavalier fans.

Though this game could be nothing but an anomaly for the season, it seems to me Virginia has found its man for 2014. Johns has never played a collegiate snap behind center, yet he was thrown into a defensive slugfest against a top-10 defense and performed incredibly well.

Only time will tell what the Cavaliers have in the sophomore, but it looks like this three-year carousel ride may finally be coming to an end.



Ryan O'Connor | The Cavalier Daily

Senior forward Ryan Zinkhan (21) celebrates his game-winning goal against No. 25 Old Dominion along with senior midfielder Eric Bird (11), who assisted on the play.

No. 3 Men's soccer wins season-opener in extra time

Bird assists Zinkhan golden goal, Cavaliers topple No. 25 Old Dominion

Robert Elder
Associate Editor

The Virginia men's soccer team started the 2013 season by losing three of its first four matches. So when they took the field Friday night, they were determined to start this season off with a win against visiting Old Dominion.

But a victory for the third-ranked Cavaliers would not come as easily as hoped. After dominating the game and taking 19 shots to the Monarchs' nine in regulation, Virginia had yet to put one in the net after 90 minutes. Still, the veteran squad remained focused for the golden goal overtime period.

"The coaches told us to be patient — that was the biggest thing," senior forward Ryan Zinkhan said. "We didn't want to force it."

Less than two minutes into overtime, Virginia's patience finally paid off.

Zinkhan took a pass from se-

nior midfielder Eric Bird and ripped a laser that blew past Old Dominion sophomore goalkeeper Alex Tiesenhausen in the bottom left corner of the goal to give Virginia (1-0-0) the 1-0 victory against No. 25 Old Dominion (0-1-1).

"Bird did all the hard work," Zinkhan said. "I just had to put it away."

Even though it took 92 minutes for the Cavaliers to secure their season opening win, the squad controlled the majority of the contest.

Virginia held possession for almost all of the first five minutes, as junior midfielder Scott Thomsen and sophomore forward Riggs Lennon ripped shots that were saved by Old Dominion.

But the Monarchs regained their composure and briefly took control after the early Cavalier run. Old Dominion's first shot of the game went wide in the 12th minute, but they continued to press. Old Dominion took three

corners between the 12th and 15th minutes, but the Cavaliers were able to thwart each try.

From there, the in-state rivals traded blows. The Cavaliers had their chances to score, including a free kick from just outside the box by Thomsen that was saved in the 27th minute.

Virginia made its strongest push for a goal in the final 12 minutes of the half, when Bird's wide shot set up back-to-back corners for the Cavaliers — their only two of the first half. But the Monarchs withstood redshirt freshman midfielder Pablo Aguilar's kicks to keep the game scoreless at the half.

The Cavaliers came out firing on all cylinders to start the second half of play. Senior forward Bryan Lima and sophomore forward Lennon took two quick shots for Virginia — both saved in the opening minutes.

Virginia continued to press,

see M SOCCER, page 8

No. 3 Women's soccer wins weekend pair

Virginia bests in-state Richmond, 4-0, Villanova, 5-0, team remains undefeated through three games

Jacob Hochberger
Associate Editor

The third-ranked Virginia women's soccer team is a team seemingly on a mission, easily dispensing of opponents and controlling play as they remained undefeated over the weekend with a 4-0 win Friday night against in-state rival Richmond and a 5-0 romp Sunday afternoon against Villanova.

Directly following kickoff Friday, the Cavaliers (2-0) came out firing. Following a steal in the midfield, junior forward Brittany Ratcliffe dribbled her way through the Spiders (1-2) defense, and nearly put Virginia on the board in the first minute. This play set the tone for the Cavaliers, who looked to be in total control from the onset.

"I think we had great energy right from the start," senior forward Danielle Colaprico said,

"Once we get into ACC schedule we're going to have to come out strong from the start because once we play tougher teams you can't only play a half, you have to play the full 90 minutes."

In the twentieth minute, Colaprico's cross off of a corner was batted away by Richmond's junior goalkeeper Emily Kelly, leaving the goal empty. The rebound fell to junior midfielder Alexis Shaffer at the top of the box, who cleanly struck a volley into the right side of the net, not only giving Virginia a 1-0 first half lead but also settling some early-game nerves.

"It made us calm down a little bit, we weren't expecting them to come out so physical," sophomore defender Kristen McNabb said, "I think once we got the goal we settled down, played our game, and hit it around a little bit more."

As the half continued, Richmond's counter attack became more organized and stronger, forcing sophomore goalkeeper



Marshall Bronfin | The Cavalier Daily

Junior forward Makenzy Doniak notched an assist against Richmond and two goals and an assist against Villanova during the weekend. Doniak, along with junior forward Brittany Ratcliffe, leads Virginia with eight points on three goals and two assists each.

Morgan Stearns into making two difficult saves as well as putting the Cavaliers' defense into many awkward situations, a problem exacerbated by issues with the team's communication.

"I think that's something we're working on at every practice," Colaprico said, "Steve stresses all the time that if we don't communicate we don't win soccer games but I think it's going to get better throughout the season."

Just as a large crowd of students departed the stands in anticipation of free halftime Domino's pizza, Virginia delivered what could be called Friday night's dagger.

On the Cavaliers' seventh and final corner kick of the first half, 36th minute substitute and sophomore transfer Meghan Cox connected on a forceful header to put the Cavaliers ahead 2-0 with just 10 seconds left in the half. Not only did Cox's first career Cavalier goal double the lead, it also swung the momentum towards the Cavaliers going into the second half.

"Getting that goal and going in at halftime up 2-0 is a different mindset," coach Steve Swanson said, "I think that was a big goal for us. She [Meghan Cox] gets locked in and she gives us another weapon offensively, especially

on restarts. I think she's scored a couple of goals on restarts for us already."

The Cavaliers came out in the second half just as strong if not stronger than they did in the first half. A beautiful passing play in the 64th minute from Colaprico and senior forward Morgan Brian set up Ratcliffe at the top of the six-yard box for an easy goal past Kelly, giving Virginia a commanding, 3-0 lead.

"After I missed the first wide open net, I thought to myself, do I remember how to score a goal?"

see W SOCCER, page 8

FOOTBALL | Quarterback situation remains unclear for Saturday

Continued from page 6

“We’re all a family,” Valles said. “We can’t get down on our offense if they give up points. ... We just have to go out there and play for them and make plays.”

Johns entered under center as the Cavaliers started their next offensive series. He immediately orchestrated a five-play, 75-yard drive, pulling the Cavaliers to the end zone in just 28 seconds. Levrone hauled in the scoring reception on a ball Johns lofted

29 yards down the right sideline.

Johns returned after the break, connecting with senior receiver Darius Jennings for a 23-yard touchdown that cut the UCLA lead to 21-17 with 7:33 left in the third quarter.

Hundley soon asserted himself, taking the Bruins 66 yards downfield in less than three minutes. He completed passes of 15 and 25 yards to get the Bruins into the redzone and, on third and goal, got past freshman strong safety Quin Blanding for a six-yard touchdown run.

Coley, who led the Cavaliers

with 14 tackles — two of them sacks — said he sensed Hundley’s frustration at times, as the two engaged in a standoff by making repeated eye contact and “toying with each other” while calling plays.

“I could just tell he was getting flustered a little bit because he never knew where I was coming from,” Coley said. “But he stepped up in the pocket and he delivered certain passes that he needed to to have his team win today.”

Frye banged home another field goal to make it 28-20 with

6:47 to play, and three minutes later, the Cavaliers were knocking on the door again. But at third and 10 on the UCLA 19, Johns misinterpreted the playcall, handing the ball off to sophomore running back Taquan Mizzell when London wanted him to pass.

The Cavaliers then failed to convert on fourth-and-eight. UCLA played out the final 3:20 of the game-clock, slamming the door shut on Virginia with Hundley’s 35-yard pass to junior receiver Jordan Payton.

Miscommunication aside,

London praised Johns after the game — though he couldn’t yet say what his strong play means for next Saturday, when the Cavaliers host Richmond.

Johns said the team exhibited strong character in rising to the occasion against a top-10 team.

“Last night in our pregame talk, coach London said, ‘You know, some of you guys are going to need to step up,’” Johns said. “And he was right. ... A lot of guys stepped up today, and I was happy with our effort and passion.”

M SOCCER | Cavalier defense stifles Monarchs, Caldwell saves two

Continued from page 7

missing several close shots — including a diving header by Thomson — setting up corner kicks. In the first 12 minutes of the second half, the Cavaliers took five shots — matching their total from the first 45 minutes of play.

As the Virginia offense took shot after shot, the Cavalier defense continued to hold its ground. The Monarchs struggled to find many legitimate scoring opportunities throughout the match.

Freshman goalkeeper Jeff Caldwell was only forced to save

two shots in his first career start.

“I thought he did well,” coach George Gelnovatch said. “For a freshman goalkeeper, that’s not an easy thing to do. He didn’t have a lot to do, but the little things he did right. I thought it was a very good debut for him.”

Caldwell was largely assisted by his three defenders — senior Kyler Sullivan, and redshirt freshmen Wesley Suggs and Sheldon Sullivan. The trio anchored the back line of the defense, never allowing an Old Dominion attacker to gain a clean look at the goal.

“We’ve been working defensive movements, and I think we

did that really well,” Zinkhan said. “The back three were just so tight and it was hard for [Old Dominion] to break us down. We knew if we didn’t give up a goal, we were going to get one.”

Though Virginia’s defense was stout in its debut with the 3-5-2 formation, Gelnovatch still felt something to be desired on offense. Virginia controlled the ball for much of the second half, wearing down a thin Old Dominion defense.

Even with such dominant ball possession, it was not until Virginia’s 20th shot — following seven second-half corner kicks —

that they finally scored. Though Gelnovatch said he believes the additions of currently injured starters such as junior forward Darius Madison to the lineup will help those statistics, one win did not sell him completely on the new formation.

“Last year we changed formations after the fourth game, so I think we need to get through a few more games and see where we are and get some people back,” Gelnovatch said.

But the Cavaliers are still confident after defeating a ranked team without a significant chunk of their starting lineup. When Vir-

ginia does regain its starting 11 — which the team hopes to do by its ACC opener against Virginia Tech in two weeks — it is ready to take its place once again as a national contender.

“I think we’re a lot more prepared in the beginning of the season than we were last year,” Zinkhan said. “Last year it took us a couple of games to get really fit and organized. Now we’re already starting on our front foot to start the season.”

Virginia’s next match will come against Tulsa Friday at 8:30 p.m. in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

W SOCCER | Virginia dominates Villanova, outshoots Wildcats 27-0

Continued from page 7

Ratcliffe said. “But then after Dani got me the ball and I had a wide open net and it went in, I probably screamed at the top of my lungs and tackled Dani. It was an awesome feeling, I was really happy.”

Just two minutes later, with the Cavaliers seemingly in total control, Brian found junior forward Makenzy Doniak on the right flank with a beautiful lead pass.

Doniak beat her marker to the inside, and fired a blistering shot on goal. Kelly saved it, but the rebound came out right in front, and Ratcliffe was there to clean it up, calmly slotting the ball in the back of the net for her second goal of the game, and all but closing the door on the Spiders.

“Nice to see Brittany get on the board tonight, they were set up really well, I think she’s one of those players that if we can get her going, she can catch fire and put several in quick,” Swanson said.

“Today she kept battling and she’s one of our hardest workers, a real competitor, I think some of that paid off for that second goal.”

While Virginia dominated most of the play, and improved upon many facets of the game that Swanson felt were lacking, the team still has a long way to go before it gets into midseason form.

“I think we’re a work in progress and I think we have a long way to go yet but we’re moving in the right direction,” Swanson said, “I thought we did some things

better on both sides of the ball, so I think there was some progress made from last week. I also feel we can get a whole lot better, that’s our number one objective going forward.”

The Cavaliers then had a quick turnaround, taking on Villanova Sunday at 2 p.m. to conclude their season-opening three-game homestand.

Up 2-0 at halftime, Virginia pulled away in the second half with a pair of goals by Doniak, with Ratcliffe assisting on both.

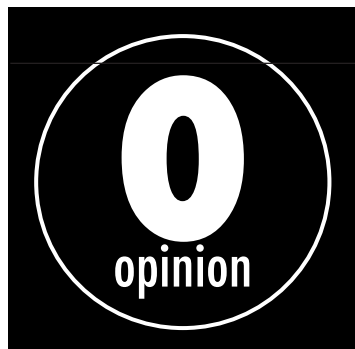
Doniak then repaid the favor, assisting on Ratcliffe’s goal in the 63rd minute. The pair leads the team in points this season with eight apiece, each notching three goals and two assists.

Virginia dominated the Wildcats, outshooting them 27-0, and the team has still not yielded a single goal through three games.

The Cavaliers now hit the road, traveling to Tuscaloosa, Ala. where they will face Alabama Friday at 8 p.m.

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Comment of the day

“How did you feel working in such a homogeneous environment at the Kluge-Ruhe Aboriginal Art Museum? Do you think a male intern would have felt as comfortable as you?”

“‘Nick’ responding to Ashley Spinks’ August 22 column ‘Better representation.’”

LEAD EDITORIAL

The affirmative effect

California’s bill to require affirmative consent is a positive step in combatting sexual assault

The state of California is poised to make “yes means yes” the standard of consent for all its private and public universities. Senate Bill 967, if signed by Governor Jerry Brown, would require universities to determine whether a complainant said yes, instead of whether she said no when investigating sexual assault cases.

We have already argued in favor of an “ask first” consent policy, but given the passage of this California bill, which has the potential to set a precedent and make this proposal into a legal reality, we will take this opportunity to renew our support, address some additional counter-arguments and lay out the measures we believe are necessary to implement an affirmative consent policy.

Some opponents of the bill argue it is too intrusive. The Los Angeles Times, for example, published an editorial arguing the bill is “extraordinarily intrusive” because it attempts to “micromanage sex.” Indeed, sex

is a personal and private issue. But this bill is not about government or university officials attempting to meddle in people’s bedrooms. The bill is about changing the way university officials conduct sexual misconduct investigations and adjudications. Perpetrators should not be able to use “I didn’t know” as a defense against their charges. Survivors should not feel afraid to file complaints because they are worried they might face questions like, “why didn’t you fight harder?”

Another critique of the bill is that it would lead to “too many punitive situations” for men, as a spokesman for the San Diego-based National Coalition for Men said. But such an argument holds on to the misconception that anti-rape activists are somehow out to get men, which simply is not true. The bill is not about creating more opportunities for women to trap men into a situation in which they cannot defend their innocence. That is why extensive education must

accompany a formal change of policy like this — to make sure students know how to follow it.

Education should ideally begin even before students get to college. A Think Progress article by Tara Culp-Ressler suggests comprehensive sex education in schools, starting at kindergarten and going all the way to 12th grade, can teach young people “that they have ownership over their body” and make them “more likely to speak up when they feel that consent has been violated — and perhaps less likely to violate someone else’s consent.” Much of the contention around sex education involves what methods of birth control should be taught, but sex education should not just be about how to avoid pregnancy and STDs. It should also be about how to avoid sexual violence. In some places in America, there is still an intense taboo attached to sex ed, and too many euphemisms are used to talk about it, which could lead young people to believe asking

questions about sex is wrong or embarrassing.

Education at all levels about sex and consent will hopefully break down that barrier and make it easier for people to practice affirmative consent. Of course, universities should also continue such education, perhaps by using resident advisors to explain consent policies in small groups in order to ensure every student is aware of the standards.

Sexual assault on college campuses is a big issue, but solving it will require a multi-faceted approach that extends into the world outside higher education. State governments are effective actors in dealing with this issue, because they can not only set requirements for their universities’ policies, but also influence the curricula of their public school systems. This can serve as a powerful combination for combatting sexual assault, and we hope to see it utilized in the future.

Welcome back

Public Editor Christopher Broom outlines his wish list for The Cavalier Daily’s coverage this year

Christopher Broom
Public Editor

Hello and welcome to the fall semester of 2014 at the University of Virginia. I am Chris Broom, Public Editor for the Cavalier Daily, the oldest collegiate daily in the Commonwealth. I act as the voice of the reader of the paper as well as the website along with the mobile apps. I also hope to engage with other readers to learn what you think about the coverage in The Cavalier Daily, what you’d like to see done differently and what you think is missing.

The Cavalier Daily occupies an interesting and important place in the University community. It is both editorially and financially independent from the University. In recent years papers at other colleges and Universities have had run-ins with administrations unhappy with coverage. Students who work for papers funded through their schools may have an inherent conflict of interest to overcome

in their reporting and their editorial writing. Hopefully, this allows the staff of The Cavalier Daily to report on and write about the University more comprehensively and, where necessary, critically.

My role in the paper’s structure is similar to the paper’s role in the



My role in the paper’s structure is similar to the paper’s role in the University community — an independent voice to take stock of what’s going on, look at what may be missing and highlight what can be improved upon.

University community — an independent voice to take stock of what’s going on, look at what may be missing and highlight what can be improved upon. I invite

all readers to help me in an effort to hold the staff of the paper accountable for what they write and don’t write and help identify areas for improvement.

In the coming semester, I hope to see much more about the new dining contract the University just completed with Aramark. The new contract is for 20 years and the details of the contract will matter a lot for students, staff and faculty over that time. I also hope the focus on the Board of Visitors that was evident in the academic year following President Sullivan’s ouster and reinstatement

will continue and strengthen. I believe that anyone who was paying attention learned how directly the BOV’s actions affect students immediately and in the future. We

also saw how many alumni, staff and faculty care about the BOV’s actions and processes. Across the whole of the readership of The Cavalier Daily, there is interest in University governance.

I think it would also be helpful to explore the many schools and institutes of the University and how they work together. The Batten School has made a name for itself but is still only seven years old. A Law School/Medical School joint degree is the newest of fourteen joint degrees the law school offers. The University has experts across a wide range of fields and there are dozens of ways they are connected via joint degree programs along with institutes and research centers. Something of a map of the University’s programs would be interesting while also being helpful for current and future students.

I hope to see a continuation of very good digital coverage from the Sports writers. Especially on social media (and most especially live tweeting events) the Sports

writers set themselves apart in my mind last year offering a mix of reports of the action, observations of the crowd and just enough humor to keep things from getting boring.

Lastly, though most importantly, I hope to see more careful reporting that includes more than one perspective on a topic or issue. Too often articles have quotations from one person. While I do not want reporters to seek out opposing views for the sake of some preconceived notion of balance, I would like to see, for example, what someone other than the Chair of the Honor Committee thinks about a new proposal before that committee.

Christopher Broom’s columns run Mondays. He can be reached at publiceditor@cavalierdaily.com or on Twitter at @CDpubliceditor.

Doesn't add up

Teachers should not be expected to spend money on their own classroom supplies

Public school funding is consistently a hot topic in election seasons and during budget talks, as it should be. But while we endlessly debate the best ways to apportion funding and incentivize better results in schools, according to a 2013 survey conducted by the Horace Mann Educator Advisory Panel, dedicated teachers across the country have been paying as much as \$600 out of their own wages to get necessary supplies for their students.

These supplies range from the less essential, such as classroom snacks (though for some students who are struggling financially, these are essential), to the most basic supplies, including pens, pencils, and math and science tools — items that are obviously necessary for a functional classroom. Of course, this problem is not new: a survey conducted by

the National School Supply and Equipment Association (NSSEA) found that teachers spent an average of \$448 out-of-pocket on school supplies for the 1998 -1999 year. But given how long we have been confronted with this problem, it is remarkable how little has been done to remedy it.

The Horace Mann survey offers helpful details about why budgets in particular schools may have suffered, the most common being increased

class sizes (60 percent of participants noted an increase in class sizes at their schools). Such an issue can and should be addressed by states when reconfiguring the logistics of their schools, but it is not necessarily the only or even primary factor leading to teachers paying out-of-pocket, since this problem precedes the latest increases in class sizes.

Rather, states clearly do not

either apportion enough money for public schools, or they do not apportion the money they give to schools well, or both. This realization is not revolutionary in and of itself, but there are glaringly

obvious solutions to improving budgeting — and the first one is to bring the talks to the teachers themselves.

By using surveys such as that of the Horace Mann Educator Advisory Panel, as well as other studies, individual states should investigate how much their teachers pay out of their wages to support their students, and incorporate these findings into upcoming budgets. This does not necessarily mean increasing budgets (although in some states, that may very well be necessary); it means allocating money in a way that ensures students have a proper quantity and

quality of necessary supplies.

It is a detriment to students and teachers alike that teachers are so desperate to help their students that they have to purchase supplies themselves. First, it is not



It is a detriment to students and teachers alike that teachers are so desperate to help their students that they have to purchase supplies themselves.

generally not expected in other professions that an employee pay for his or her job; this contradicts the point of being employed. And second, if students do not have teachers who are willing to donate their wages to the resources students need, the students become further disadvantaged.

With proper supplies and tools, other issues we debate

about schools may come closer to resolution, for obvious reasons. How can we focus on incentivizing good academic results in schools when students aren't equipped with the proper supplies to achieve those results? Improving access to supplies could have a domino effect and probably lead to better test scores and graduation rates. It is amazing that there are teachers who are so dedicated to their students that they will forego their own, hard-earned pay. But this should never come with the territory of teaching. By simply incorporating these teachers into the discussion and learning from them where in the classroom we should be focusing our subsidies, we could come much closer to solving this problem.

Dani Bernstein's columns run Mondays. She can be reached at d.bernstein@cavalierdaily.com.



DANI BERNSTEIN
Senior Associate Editor

STEM-ming from sexism

Women are less likely to pursue careers in STEM fields because they face a hostile work environment

Back in June, Google released its workforce diversity numbers, which showed that only 30 percent of Google employees worldwide are women and only 17 percent of technical staffers are female. These numbers are common among companies like Google, and I acknowledge that the pipeline problem exists: women hold fewer positions because they are statistically less likely to apply for technical jobs. But what about the women who quit after they have already accepted the job?

Not very many women pursue careers in technological fields to begin with. Females earn roughly 18 percent of all computer science degrees in the United States. An article from Forbes blames that on that fact that “many girls don't really know what computer science is.” Perhaps educating young girls about how to code is one way to increase their entry into the profession, but that will not solve the other problem we are facing: women are leaving the profession even after they have been properly educated and hired, which The

Harvard Business Review and other sources attribute to various forms of sexism.

The Harvard Business Review in 2008 wrote, “Between the ages 25 and 30, 41% of the young talent with credentials in those subject matters are female... [but] 52% of this talent drops out...the most important antigen is the machismo that continues to permeate these work environments...63% of women in science, engineering and technology have experienced sexual harassment.”

A friend of mine in the University's Engineering School recently told me that a man she worked with this summer asked her who she had slept with in order for her to obtain her high-level internship position. Off-hand remarks such as this are not uncommon in STEM jobs, as evidenced by the many recent headlines describing the sexist and uncomfortable environment that exists.

One of the headlines I recall was the Wolfe scandal back in July. Whitney Wolfe, a co-founder of the dating app Tinder, filed

a lawsuit against Tinder and its parent company, IAC, Inc. on the grounds of gender discrimination and sexual harassment, naming Chief Marketing Officer Justin Mateen as the abuser. Mateen and Wolfe had a relationship after he became her immediate supervisor. Wolfe says that Mateen became controlling and abusive and when she broke it off, he called her “disgusting,” a “desperate loser,” a “sl*t” and a “whore” in private and in front of others at the company.

Wolfe's lawsuit notes that her experience represents “the worst of the misogynist, alpha-male stereotype too often associated with technology startups,” a stereotype that is brought to life by the “brogrammer,” a frat-like evolution from a nerd mindset to one of machismo in STEM jobs.

Dan Shapiro, who sold his comparison-shopping startup Sparkbuy to Google in 2011, explained that the brogrammer concept only overshadows the more subtle problem: “The everyday sexism in the tech industry...

[is] made of inappropriate comments [and] assumptions that put people in certain buckets.” It is not just what we see that is harming women in these fields.

Situations such as Wolfe's are not uncommon, and circumstances such as the aforementioned are causing women to drop out of the technology field and others like it. It is disappointing to notice a trend of mistreatment of women in generally male-dominated pro-

grammer frat-boy humor and other forms of sexism. If you are a female here at the University, or at any university for that matter, do not lose sight of your goal. If a STEM job is your passion, then do not let these headlines, or even experienced sexism, deter you from pursuing that. Rather, prove that women, just as men, have the potential to be successful in any field and that our gender should never define our ability. Though it is true that harassment exists in the tech field, it is reported by the media as being found in almost every field. Though we can't immediately change the mindset of every man in the workforce, what we can do is combat denigrating treatment by following Wolfe's and other women's examples of exposing those who harass us. We can pave the way for future women interested in STEM and other jobs. Our future is bleak if women have no say or control in STEM fields, so all you women, especially first years who are considering STEM fields, don't give up.

Meredith Berger's columns run Mondays. She can be reached at m.berger@cavalierdaily.com.



MEREDITH BERGER
Opinion Columnist



If a STEM job is your passion, then do not let these headlines, or even experienced sexism, deter you from pursuing that.

fessions. Women are choosing to seek out tech jobs less and less often, which can only be seen as a departure due to the uncomfortable atmosphere that women have been subjected to.

As fewer women continue to enter STEM jobs, the field becomes more and more male dominated, thus perpetuating a system that allows for the bro-

Size does matter

The University should not increase class size

This week the University welcomed its largest class of first-years in history, a trend that has remained rather consistent over the last 25 years. While it is exciting to know that there will be more Wahoos on Grounds than ever before, red flags rise as the University moves farther away from its reputation as a medium-sized school. This reputation, which implies that the University has the perks of both a larger and smaller school, may be tarnished if there aren't future limits on enrollment.

The University has been relatively successful thus far at maintaining its classification as a "medium-sized" school. The advantages of such include having the research opportunities, class selections and distinguished faculty that come with a larger school while also maintaining some of the intimacy that comes with a smaller school. Intimacy applies to many different components of the University experience. Smaller colleges will have professors instead of teaching assistants instructing almost all their classes, smaller class sizes for more interactions with professors, and a stronger sense of

community.

Medium-sized schools find the balance between large and small. It is through this balance that the University maintains some of its more significant features, such as the Community of Trust perpetuated by the Honor Code. In the past decade, the University has seen significant growth, reaching nearly 22,000 undergraduate and graduate students last year. It is not unreasonable to assume that our enrollment could rival that of Virginia Tech's 29,000 in the coming years. Such a size would likely result in a loss of a sense of community.

The Honor Code will likely become less effective as the number of students at the University rises. Not only does a large school make it more difficult to form interpersonal connections with people, but also it makes it tougher to educate students about how the Honor Code works. Such a system could not function at a larger school like Michigan, in which each student connects with only a tiny fraction of the nearly 44,000 students.

Transitioning to a larger school has other disadvantages. As of now,

in the Politics department, every class below the 5000-level has a waitlist in Comparative Politics and International Relations, not to mention every class below the 4000 level having a waitlist for American Politics and Political Thought. Other popular departments such as Media Studies and Economics have only one or two classes open for enrollment. As it is, this is a dilemma for upperclassmen and other students who have declared majors in these departments who cannot enroll in classes they may need to graduate.

This situation would only worsen with a larger student body. If the University does not have the resources for the number of classes to keep up with the increases in students, then the University may encounter some serious class enrollment problems. More incoming first-years, athletes, Jefferson Scholars and Echols Scholars with better enrollment times would take even more spots away from other students, causing classes in other departments to face similar waitlist issues. There will simply be more students in certain subjects than the

departments can accommodate.

One possible counterargument is that the number of applications is rising at such a high rate that enrollment is bound to increase. Yet, while application numbers rose by 7,000 applicants from 2003 to 2010, first year enrollment only rose by 165 students. This change in enrollment is almost equal to the rise in enrollment of 150 students from 2013 to 2014. The period from 2003 to 2010 in which enrollment was regulated proves that it is possible for the University to maintain a steady number of students. Thus, the University can

explained that these changes had two underlying political catalysts. Firstly, the governor wished to "increase the number of Virginians with baccalaureate degrees," and secondly, Northern Virginia legislators wanted "more places for their constituents at U.Va." While the Board of Visitors always act in the best interests of the University, it is crucial that another plan such as this is not passed.

Both of these political pressures were very noble pursuits to better educate the Virginian youth. Nevertheless, if first-year classes continue to climb in sizes over 4,000 and beyond, such increases will detract from the exclusive feeling of being an University student. This University prides itself in its uniqueness, both in tradition and experience, and remaining this current size will be crucial in the coming years to maintain a reputation as a school that truly can bridge the gap between small and large, allowing for easier class access and a more interpersonal community.



JARED FOGEL
Opinion Columnist



[I]f first-year classes continue to climb in sizes over 4,000 and beyond, such increases will detract from the exclusive feeling of being a University student.

remain at its current, optimal size.

Four years ago, the Board of Visitors approved a plan to increase enrollment an additional 1,500 students over the next five years. In an interview, President Sullivan

Jared Fogel's columns run Fridays. He can be reached at j.fogel@cavalierdaily.com.

The merits of GMOs

Genetically modified foods should not require distinguishing labels

A new brand of Luddism has erupted in America. In spite of ample scientific evidence that corroborates the biosafety of genetic modification of crops, over half of Americans believe genetically modified foods are unsafe, with 93 percent in favor of mandatory labels on genetically modified food.

Part of the objection to genetically modified crops stems from a belief that "natural" foods are superior to "unnatural" foods — a naturalistic fallacy. Nothing is intrinsically virtuous about consuming food crops that are grown "naturally." Unfortunately, appeals to nature and tradition have hijacked the discourse surrounding genetic modification.

It's important to note that all agriculture is unnatural. Any claim about the extent to which food crops are natural is meaningless. Agriculture is the largest and most enduring human intervention into the natural world. Through selective breeding, farmers have artificially created several crops for

human consumption. Kale and kohlrabi were developed from wild mustard after decades of careful heredity manipulation. Artificial selection has given rise to high-quality strains of soybeans, wheat and corn, all of which have been a boon to civilization. Artificial selection and artificial mutation through genetic engineering both alter food crops on the same microbiological level. The primary distinction is that the latter method can be used to obtain desired traits with greater speed and efficiency.

Genetic modification of organisms is not a novel concept. We have been doing it for thousands of years. Genetic modification through DNA extraction, gene cloning, gene design, transformation and backcross breeding is simply a faster, better way to achieve the results sought through traditional artificial selection.

Despite left-wing insistence that the right wing is anti-science, some of the most strident opposition to genetic modification of food crops

comes from progressives. Although liberals are often stalwart supporters of clean energy laws and evolution education, many are fervently in favor of mandating labels on genetically modified foods. Vermont became the first state to enact such legislation, and pressure currently mounts for similar laws in liberal states such as New York, California, Oregon and Massachusetts.

Vermont Governor Peter Shumlin defended his state's GMO labeling law, maintaining that "consumers have the right to know what they buy." The problem with this line of thought lies in the fact that it suggests dangers immanent in genetically modified food. The scientific consensus, according to the American Association for the Advancement of Science, is that "crop improvement by the modern molecular techniques of biotechnology is safe." After allocating over €300 million to research, the European Union revealed in a report its findings on the safety of genetically modified crops: "the main conclusion to be drawn from

the efforts of more than 130 research projects...is that biotechnology, and in particular GMOs, are not per se more risky than e.g. conventional plant breeding technologies." Among other organizations that have affirmed the biosafety of genetically modified crops are the World Health Organization, the American Medical Association, the U.S. National Academy of Sciences and the British Royal Society.

For liberal legislators to yield to the public's fears about genetic

of genetic modification. Economically, introducing genetically modified food to market demands significant time and cost, endangering smaller farms that cannot afford to compete with large agricultural biotechnology companies. Genetic modification also presents a few environmental risks such as reduced biodiversity through genetic homogeneity and resulting from extensive monoculture crop production.

But we shouldn't ignore its efficiency because of these few flaws. Like any scientific advancement, genetic modification will continue to improve with research for which public and political support is crucial. In the face of concerns about genetic modification, we should not jettison the benefits of genetic modification of crops, nor should we propagate the falsehoods that infect scientific discussion by encouraging labels that imply biohazards associated with genetic modification.



Appeals to nature and tradition have hijacked the discourse surrounding genetic modification.

modification only advances scientific misinformation about an agricultural innovation that provides plants resistant to infectious disease, superior foods with longer shelf lives and large crop yields to permit more efficient land use.

There are legitimate criticisms

Nazar Aljassar's columns run Fridays. He can be reached at n.aljassar@cavalierdaily.com.



NAZAR ALJASSAR
Opinion Columnist



Meg Thornberry
Health & Science Editor

Next to the University Hospital, the Elson Student Health Center looks small and inconspicuous. But the brick building located at 400 Brandon Avenue is home to a wealth of resources and departments aimed to meet student needs. One of these is Counseling and Psychological Services, which offers students a wide variety of free mental health resources.

"Definitely, the most frequent clinical service students take advantage of is individual psychotherapy," CAPS Director Dr. Tim Davis said.

He said he would like to see more students take advantage of group therapy and couple's counseling because "anything that improves healthy relationships is one of the most beneficial things for good mental health."

CAPS offers consultations and mental health screenings, crisis response and specialist

referrals, as well as online resources for students who may not be comfortable coming in or may not be sure if they need the help CAPS offers.

Davis emphasized that CAPS is not just for students in dire need.

"The students who are going to be the best and the brightest, they need help," he said. "There are going to be people who are already achievers, but want to achieve more, who want to be happier, students who want [to] have a better committed relationship. We want to be there for them just as much as for students who come in and say 'I have depression and can't get out of bed in the morning.'"

CAPS recently started a new initiative to increase community outreach, hiring Dr. Andrea Iglesias as assistant director of outreach and liaison programming. Davis said the goal of the outreach initiative is in part to help students develop skills to maintain good mental health without having to even come into CAPS.

"We can reach people who are on the edge of developing something or don't really need clinical help, but could just

benefit from some of our services," Davis said.

The program also aims to make a trip to CAPS as innocuous as a regular trip to the doctor, rather than one marred by social stigma.

CAPS operates under a strict code of confidentiality. The only instances in which information about a CAPS visit would be revealed would be at the request of the patient or if a life was in danger. If a student reveals a situation in which they or another person, such as a younger sibling, are experiencing serious abuse, mental health professionals have an ethical obligation to notify authorities.

"This is my sixth counseling center [that] I've worked at and I've never seen a better group of clinicians," Davis said. "They're incredibly smart, very well-trained and very focused on giving good clinical help to students."

To speak to a CAPS clinician, call (434) 243-5150. Phone numbers and emails for more specific services can be found at their website.

A Student's Guide to CAPS

Taking advantage of the University's mental health services

Top 10 Tips for Mental Health

1. Aerobic exercise has been shown to improve mood regulation. Test your body out and be proud of what you can do, no matter what it looks like.

2. Eat well. Making good choices can improve self-esteem and a healthy diet is almost as important to mental as to physical health.

3. Sleep! Getting enough sleep is important, but even more important is sticking to a schedule.

4. Challenge yourself. Stepping out of your comfort zone on a regular basis can slowly but surely expand your comfort zone. Discovering new skills can give you a confidence boost, and taking time to work on things that you're not naturally good at can stave off boredom while providing a sense of achievement and purpose.

5. Confide in people. Finding someone you trust enough to share important news or secrets with can strengthen your relationships and provide a deep sense of satisfaction.

6. Talk it out. Keeping things bottled up can cause you to stress about them and second guess

yourself. Talking about something that worries you gives you a chance to hear your thoughts aloud, get a second opinion and discover that you're not the only one going through it.

7. Don't compare yourself. Everyone is trying to put their best personas forward, especially on social media. You can't expect your behind-the-scenes to look like someone else's highlight reel.

8. Don't be afraid to ask for help. Whether it's from CAPS, a professor, a parent or a friend, get what you need before your problems have a chance to build.

9. Take breaks. Your mind needs time to process and relax. "Three times a week, do something fun, something that expands you and doesn't involve substances or class," Davis said.

10. Breathe. Nothing lasts forever. Every situation can benefit from taking a step back to look at the bigger picture, taking a new approach or even going for a snack break and coming back refreshed.

This list is not intended to replace medical advice — please refer to CAPS with any questions or medical concerns.



WORLD-CHANGERS WANTED.

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- Alumni Hall

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Danaite Soquar
Feature Writer

Last Friday, first years dispersed to sites around Charlottesville to participate in Project SERVE, a once-yearly event in the University's Orientation and New Students Program.

The community service projects are launchpads for first years to become involved at the University, giving them the opportunity to familiarize themselves with service agencies in the community. The group organized 25 service projects this year, covering everything from making hospital cards for children, cleaning trails in nearby parks and collecting food for food drives.

Fourth-year College student Jane Richards, one of the group's chairs, said the service event can

First years volunteer through Project SERVE

Event showcases Charlottesville service community service organizations

ease the transition into life at the University.

"I hope that Project SERVE acts as a bridge between high school volunteering and involvement in service organizations at U.Va.," Richards said. "This event is another fun way to welcome the first-year class to our wonderful community here and hopefully the friendships they make and their desire to participate in service organizations will last far beyond the day of Project SERVE."

Chairs and vice-chairs plan for Project SERVE year-round, cultivating relationships with community partners, selecting dates and finalizing projects. By Winter Break, members release and review site leader applications to select students to facilitate events.

New initiatives this year included a re-vamped survey and



Lianne Provenzano | The Cavalier Daily

refined training for site leaders.

"I love that Project SERVE facilitates friendships in the most simple of ways," said fourth-

year Education student Katherine McCole, another chair for the organization. "My first year as a participant, I spent my



Lianne Provenzano | The Cavalier Daily

Project SERVE is a launchpad for first years to become involved at the University.

morning with Project SERVE sorting cans at a Kroger food drive with a girl who is now a great friend of mine. The site

leaders often serve as mentors and older friends to the participants well beyond the day of the event."

Old Cabell Sing

*Rotunda renovations
move classic event to
new ground*

Emily Hauben
Feature Writer

Concerns about the forced relocation of Rotunda Sing due to construction were quelled with melodious tunes Wednesday night, as a capella groups serenaded the audience on the South Lawn.

Third-year College student Lindsey Rosenthal, director of the University Programs Council's arts and enrichment committee, said the new space, though unconventional, came with numerous the technical advantages.

"The south end of the Lawn is wider, [so] the sound traveled a lot better and didn't get caught in the colonnades," Rosenthal said. "Also, with the stage the soloists were more visible because at the Rotunda the soloists are at the front [of their groups] on lower steps."

Rosenthal worked with Jerry Mallory, the sound and lighting director for the event, as well as Facilities Management to set up the stage. Third-year Commerce student Alex Spears, president of the Hullabahoos, said the new stage added a unique perspective.

"It was cool to have people sitting on the tiers of the Lawn, because they could look down [at the stage] and have a better view," Spears said.

The relocation did little to detract from the University's long-standing a cappella tradi-

tion — an affinity upheld by the broad spectrum of a cappella groups, said third-year College student Natalie Wyman, president of the Virginia Belles.

"You have groups like the Hullabahoos being featured on the Office or being on Pitch Perfect, and you have AVP who throw their shirts off and do crazy things, and the VGs are 'U.Va. in a group,'" Wyman said. "It's the same with the girls and mixed groups. We're all different and I think everyone can relate to each group and their unique personality."

Rotunda Sing is an important recruiting tool for the groups, Spears said.

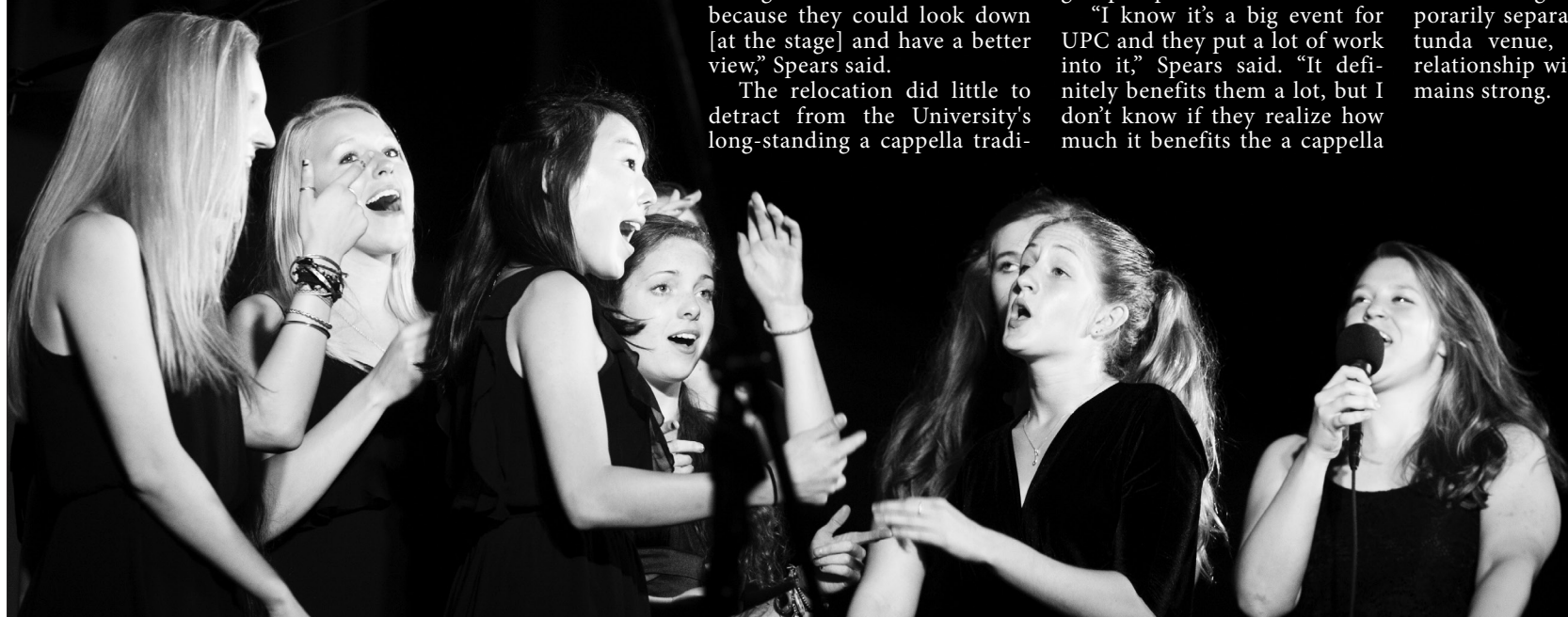
"I know it's a big event for UPC and they put a lot of work into it," Spears said. "It definitely benefits them a lot, but I don't know if they realize how much it benefits the a cappella

groups — it really is the best form of advertisement."

When groups select members, Spears said personality and character play a large part in their final decisions.

"We're looking for guys that we feel will be our new best friends, honestly," Spears said. "That's what I've been telling the guys this year as we head into auditions. It's who you want to be spending hours on end with, who you want to drive cross-country in an RV with over and beyond just singing ability."

This Welcome Week highlight is a favorite of first years and returning students alike — and though the event is temporarily separated from its Rotunda venue, the University's relationship with a cappella remains strong.



Marshall Bronfin | The Cavalier Daily

LOVE CONNECTION: First years, first dates and Mellow pizza

First-year twins make new friends on blind date

WILL

Year: First
Major: Undecided
Hometown: Cincinnati, Ohio
Hobbies: Running, camping
Have you ever streaked the Lawn? No
What makes you a good catch? I finished seventh in the national championships for rowing.
Describe yourself in one sentence: I am a nice, caring guy who focuses on academics but also likes to have a good time on weekends.



Courtesy Will

JACKSON

Year: First
Major: Public Policy
U.Va. Involvement: Navy ROTC, climbing team, sailing club
Hobbies: Climbing, sailing, shooting
Have you ever streaked the Lawn? No
What makes you a good catch? I'm tall, so I have that going for me.
Describe yourself in one sentence: Pretty chill and pretty tall.



Courtesy Jackson

Allie Griswold Love Guru

Will and Jackson met Annie and Phoebe at the Rotunda. The group went to Mellow Mushroom on the Corner.

Will: I did Love Connection because I just wanted to meet someone new. I've met my floormates, but I haven't met anyone else and I thought it would be a good way to meet people.

Annie: There are like 30 people from my school here, so I was trying to meet people I didn't already know.

Phoebe: I'm out-of-state, so I wanted to meet someone that wasn't on Dabney third floor left. Even if I didn't like the person, it would be a good chance to meet someone new.

Annie: Going on a blind date was totally out of my comfort zone. I was like, why are we doing this?

Phoebe: To be honest, I haven't been on a date before so I had no idea how it works — regular or blind.

Jackson: We had fears that they would be weird or they would think we were weird.

Annie: When we got to the Rotunda they were sitting on a bench just the two of them, but we weren't sure if [they were] our dates so we sat on another bench.

Will: We saw them but didn't know they were our dates. After a little while, we realized who they were and approached them.

Annie: They shook our hands, which was nice. I didn't realize they were twins at that point. I just thought they looked kind of similar.

Phoebe: I thought they were cute. Jackson was way taller.

Will: I thought they seemed pretty normal for a blind date.

Jackson: They were definitely my type.

Annie: After we met, we just kind of stood around and looked at each other for a while trying to figure out where to go for dinner.

Jackson: No one wanted to decide where to go and the only places I know on the Corner are Basil and Mellow Mushroom.

Will: We eventually decided we wanted pizza and walked over to Mellow.

Phoebe: During dinner we talked about everything. The conversation was easy — it never felt forced.

Will: We talked about what we did in high school — our activities and interests.

Jackson: We had the standard first-year conversation — where you're from, what's your major.

Will: The conversation flowed really well. Everyone had lots of

things to say, which also might have been because it was a double date. It was [mostly a] non-stop conversation.

Will: It took about 20 minutes into the date before they realized we were twins. I think it sounded really weird because we were from the same state and had gone [on] all the same vacations.

Phoebe: I have no idea if any flirting was going on. I wouldn't even know how to tell.

Jackson: There was definitely some flirting going on with both girls.

Will: Maybe there was flirting and I was completely oblivious to it.

Phoebe: After dinner, we headed over to Arch's.

Annie: Afterwards they walked us home, but Will had to charge his phone before he went off to Rugby so we walked Jack home to Gooch and then took a bus back.

ANNIE

Year: First
Major: Undecided
Hometown: Reston, Virginia
U.Va. Involvement: I'm just trying to live through the week
Hobbies: Reading, singing, HBOgo
Have you ever streaked the Lawn? No(t yet)
Describe yourself in one sentence: For someone who can't stand herself, I sure do love myself.



Courtesy Annie

PHOEBE

Year: First
Major: Very undecided
Hometown: Wellesley, Massachusetts
Hobbies: Reading, writing, photography, working out, gardening, Shark Week, staying up-to-date in the country music world, making new friends
Have you ever streaked the Lawn? No, but I studied Homer, so I've already kissed his ass.
Describe yourself in one sentence: Only "War and Peace" would be long enough to contain my awesomeness.
Twins



Courtesy Phoebe

Phoebe: We didn't get home until [around] midnight. The date was really long — four and a half hours.

Will: I would rate the date an 8 because it was fun and I think everyone had a good time. The best part was the gooey brownie. Do they not even cook it?

Phoebe: I would give it a 10 for fun-ness, but I don't know how to qualify it for date-ness because I've never been on a date before.

Annie: It was really fun; it just flowed really well.

Jackson: I would give it a solid 8. They were cool and it was fun.

Phoebe: I friended both of the guys on Facebook and then ran into them at Runk later.

Annie: I could see us hanging out again. We exchanged numbers during the date.

Shooting Star Foundation works to spread party drug awareness

Following student's death, group aims to open dialogue

Joslyn Chesson
Feature Writer

The Shooting Star Foundation is working to shine a light within the University community this school year, aiming to raise awareness about the consequences of various party drugs through a series of events. The organization was founded following the passing of Shelley Goldsmith, a second-year College student whose death last year was linked to the use of the popular drug MDMA, or "Molly".

"The first thing is to facilitate dialogues within U.Va. on the dangers associated with party drug use and, in a larger sense, any risky behavior," said third-year Commerce student Elyse Eilerman, president of Shooting Star. "Also, we're trying to honor and commemorate

anyone within the U.Va. community that's been impacted by these issues."

The co-founders' personal connections to the cause has encouraged the group to develop a dedicated set of individuals who care deeply about the issue.

"The girls are really connected to the cause and their passion for it really inspired me to join it," second-year College student Alison Snow said. "The group of girls that I am working with [is] just really awesome, which made the organization more fun to be a part of."

The group aims to raise awareness broadly about drug use at the University, and create a platform for discussion about its impact.

"People deserve to know more about MDMA and the effects that it can have," Eilerman said. "We can give [students] an opportunity to think about what



Marshall Bronfin | The Cavalier Daily

On Sunday, the Shooting Star Foundation held its first major event of the year, an educational and commemorative event with the Delta Gamma sorority.

they're doing and not just make decisions without fully considering the consequences."

Sunday, the group held its first major event of the year, an educational and commemorative event with the sorority Delta Gamma.

"[The event] encompasses everything that we're trying to do," Eilerman said. "It's a holistic event and then beyond that, we'd love to partner with other organizations like Sustained

Dialogue just to get people thinking about this and also to remember everyone within the U.Va. community [who] has been impacted."

The event featured various speakers from the student body who discussed how they were impacted by drug use.

"This [event] entails the initial steps in creating a community that can freely engage in dialogue revolving around drug use without fear of judgment,"

said Shooting Star Vice President Nadine Hussein, a third-year Commerce student. "With it, we hope to highlight the need for an extensive discussion that will hopefully become an inherent one on Grounds for years to come."

The organization plans to host a Battle of the Bands and several poetry slams in the coming months to encourage different forms of discussion on the issue of party drugs.

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