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FRATERNITIES SIGN REVISED FOA



Kappa Alpha Order, Alpha Tau Omega 'reluctantly' agree to new stipulations

Andrew Elliott
Managing Editor

All organizations in the four Greek councils signed on to a revised Fraternal Organization Agreement, the University announced Friday afternoon. This in the state of the stat nounced Friday afternoon. This includes two organizations in the Inter-Fraternity Council, Kappa Alpha Order and Alpha Tau Omega, which said earlier this week they would not sign the addendum, which establishes a host of new obligations for fraternities when hosting parties when hosting parties.
"These student-driven,

"These student-driven, thoughtful agreements have now been signed by all of the fraternities and sororities as part of their FOAs with the University," according to a University press release. "We are grateful for the leadership shown by our students in achieving this result."

In a letter released jointly by the national organizations for Kappa Alpha Order and Alpha Tau Omega, the organizations said they "reluctantly" agreed to sign the new addendum when the University declined to offer an extension on the suspension beyond the Jan. 16 deadline.

"As we have said from the be-

ginning, the fraternity men and sorority women at the University of Virginia were harmed by the suspension in December and deserve to regain their rightful standing as leadership organizations on campus," the organizations wrote in the letter. "It is extraordinarily disappointing to see a university of this caliber sacrifice the ideals of freedom of association and due process on the altar of public opinion."

The revised agreement comes at the start of the start of the IFC rush process — which began Thursday. The national organizations said they wanted to sign the agreement so chapter members could return to "normal operations."

"The fact that our chapters are signing the FOA does not alleviate the coercion, duress or other wrongdoing of the University through this entire process," the letter read. "Given the University's poor handling of this matter, we are now exploring the right to

we are now exploring the right to pursue any legal remedies."

In the letter released Tuesday announcing their intention to reject the addendum, the fraternities' national organizations said they feared the revised agreement would pose liabilities on the chap-

ters which more fairly belonged to the University, and that criteria imposed by the national organiza-tion were more severe than those in the addendum. They also said the original suspension of frater the original suspension of frater-nity social activities was unfair and a violation of the pre-existing

"Together, these circumstances set a dangerous precedent of an erosion of student and organiza-tional rights," the original letter

Friday, the organizations called upon state and national legislators to develop laws which would help protect students and student groups "from this sort of unprecedented action against our students and organizations"

dented action against our students and organizations."

"The principled stand of our student members spotlighted the University's ham-handed approach to this issue," the letter said. "ATO and KA national organizations stand behind our chapters and recognize their leadership in doing their best to resist the coercion of the administration."

The new FOA agreements are

The new FOA agreements are set to expire May 15, according to the letter. The organizations said they "anticipate more equitable treatment by the University in any possible future agreement."



Ella Shoup and Sara Rourke **News Writers**

Eileen Filler-Corn, D-Fairfax, proposed House Bill 1343 on Dec. 1 which, if passed, would require university campus police or local law enforcement to report sexual assault cases to their local commonwealth attorneys within 48 hours notice of the incident.

The delegate's office said the primary purpose of the bill is to involve more parties in the sexual assault reporting process in hopes of creating more transparency within the process. The commonwealth attorney would oversee the subsequent investi-

Filler-Corn held a press conference Tuesday to discuss the

"Sexual assault — whether its between strangers, people dating, on private property or on school campuses — requires a serious response from the police and the prosecutors," Filler-Corn said. "I think what this bill does is provide victims the opportunity to have confidential conversations with adults and move forward."

Filler-Corn said the bill has received support from sexual assault victims, law enforcement, several commonwealth attorneys

Delegate proposes sexual assault reporting bill

Del. Eileen Filler-Corn introduces legislation requiring campus police to relay cases to local commonwealth attorney

and advocacy groups. The families of past sexual assault victims Morgan Harrington and Alexis Murphy were also present at the the press conference Tuesday in support of the bill.

This legislation is geared toward restoring victim's faith in the system," Filler-Corn said. "By getting the commonwealth attorney involved, we can ensure the investigation is promptly pursued, and the victims are given the resources they need."

Rebecca Weybright, executive director of the Charlottesville Sexual Assault Resource Agency, said the bill may negatively impact sexual assault victims.

"It might do nothing, because the commonwealth attorney might not be interested in prosecuting," Weybright said. "But if they are interested in prosecuting, it might take the control of that away from the survivor and into the hands of the attorney."

Weybright said she would caution legislators to be mindful of the well-being of the survivors involved in these cases.

"I come very strongly from a victim or survivor advocate point of view," Weybright said, 'So what I would want to make sure [is] that any legislative action is potentially better for the survivor in that situation."

Weybright suggested including an educational element in the bill to help safeguard against any further trauma for the sexual assault victim. She suggested such a program for commonwealth attorneys to ensure they are prepared for involvement in such cases.

"What I would want overall is to make sure that these bills might provide education for the criminal justice system to ensure that they are equipped to handle these situations," Weybright said. "I don't want to see survivors retraumatized or revictimized."

Weybright said she is particularly concerned that the bill may dissuade victims from reporting sexual assault to both campus police members and university faculty out of fear their case will be prosecuted.

'That's why I think that it's important that there's education provided," Weybright said. "I don't want survivors to feel like they can't tell campus personnel or the police."

Despite her concerns, Weybright said law enforcement could play a valuable role in the sexual assault reporting process.

"My hope is that as these bills go forward, there is discussion and consideration of how these things will play out," Weybright said. "The law enforcement can definitely work to support survivors and I think there needs to be a comprehensive look at how this could impact the whole sys-

Filler-Corn said the bill is garnering bipartisan support, most notably from Del. David Albo, R-Springfield, chairman of the Courts of Justice Committee and now co-patron of the bill.

"When it comes to solving serious problems for Virginia citizens, delegate Eileen Filler-Corn - a Democrat, and I, a Republican — don't care about politics or party affiliation," Albo said.

Albo said regardless of the circumstances and situation, sexual assault is a pressing issue that the state must confront.

"Delegate Filler-Corn's bill ensures that allegations of sexual assaults on college campuses will receive the same level of attention by police and prosecutors that off-campus sexual assaults receive," he said.

Filler-Corn is confident the bill will pass due to the new heightened level of awareness surrounding sexual assault. She pushed for a similar bill in 2012, but was unsuccessful.

"[The] timing of this bill is right," Filler-Corn said. "We shouldn't be afraid to share information. We all want the same



Del. Filler-Corn, D-Fairfax, introduced House Bill 1343, which would require local law enforcement to report cases of sexual assault to their local commonwealth attorneys.

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To better serve readers, The Cavalier Daily has a public editor to respond to questions and concerns regarding its practices. The public editor writes a column published every week on the opinion pages based on reader feedback and his independent observations. He also welcomes queries pertaining to journalism and the newspaper industry in general. The public editor is available at publiceditor@cavalierdaily.com.

NEWS
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University funds additional Women's Center position

Search underway to hire new Gender Violence and Social Change program coordinator to expand outreach, introduce new directives



Marshall Bronfin | The Cavalier Daily

The Women's Center is looking to expand outreach and education efforts to promote solutions for aender-based violence on Grounds.

Elizabeth O'Roarke

The University is hiring a new outreach coordinator position in the Women's Center Gender Violence and Social Change program to work on public relations and education efforts in an effort to promote solutions against gender-based violence on Grounds.

GVSC Director Claire Kaplan said the coordinator will contribute to existing programs but also work to establish new programs.

"She or he will have two primary responsibilities," Kaplan said in an email. "Running the Men's Leadership Project, which is a mentoring program for college men and middle school boys with a prevention and positive masculinity focus, [and co-leading] Survivor Support Network trainings, which offer in-depth workshops

for faculty, staff and students on the dynamics of gender based violence, the impact of trauma, and how to refer survivors to appropriate resources."

The Women's Center is conducting a national search for qualified candidates to fill the position. Women's Center Director Leigh Anne Carver said in an email that the Center is looking for a someone with experience in the fields of gender violence prevention and college student interactions, with a focus on college men.

"We are looking for someone with experience working on issues of gender-based violence in a college setting [and] experience in working on diversity and intersecting issues of gender/race/class/sexuality; an understanding of masculinity theory and psychology of men, college student development, and engaging college men in leadership and mentoring,"

Carver said.

The Center has pushed for the addition of an outreach coordinator for years, and they are excited to have more permanent funding now, Kaplan said.

"A grant funded this position for one and a half years, but when the funding ran out, the position was eliminated due to lack of any other funding," she said.

Both the Women's Leadership Council and University administrators helped the Center to secure the funding, Kaplan said.

Kaplan said that the Center hopes adding more positions and initiating more programs which advocate against gender-based violence will better enable the Center to help University students and community members.

"The more staff we have who are dedicated to creating change at U.Va., the more successful we will be," she said.

Parrish appointed interim vice president for research

Current Assoc. VPR to start Feb. 1 when Thomas Skalak steps down, search committee to convene soon

Thrisha Potluri

The University announced the appointment of Phillip Parrish as the interim vice president for research Jan. 14. Parrish, the current associate vice president for research, will assume the position Feb. 1, when current Vice President for Research Thomas Skalak steps down.

"We are pleased that Phil has agreed to accept this important leadership role at the University," University President Teresa Sullivan said in a press release. "His extensive knowledge of our research portfolio and his relationships with industry partners will serve the institution well as we continue to develop our research and economic development efforts at the University."

The Office of the Vice President for Research is responsible for the integration and enhancement of research activities across the University's 11 schools and multiple research centers.

As interim VPR, Parrish will be responsible for continuing the growth of the University's broad research portfolio, supporting innovation activities and providing services to University researchers. Parrish, who also works as a principal scientist in the Engineering School's Department of Material Sciences and Engineering, said he looks forward to his new role.

"I look forward to working in conjunction with schools and faculty from across Grounds and the outstanding staff in VPR to achieve new interdisciplinary, multi-school research initiatives, which distinguish U.Va.," he said.

Since entering the role in 2002, Parrish has been involved

in a number of University initiatives, including the development of the Center for Automata Processing, according to a University press release.

Sullivan said the University is developing its plan to conduct a national search for a permanent vice president for research.

Parrish said he has not yet considered whether he will apply for the position permanently.

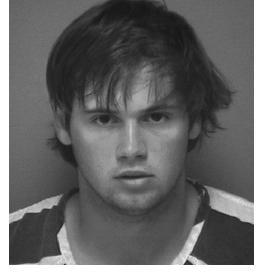
"I have not yet thought about whether I will apply," Parrish said. "I am pleased to serve as interim VPR for now."



Courtesy of the University of Virgini

Phillip Parrish (above) will serve as interim vice president for research until a successor is named.

George Huguely (right), a former University student and varsity lacrosse player, was denied a rehearing of his appeal by the Virginia Supreme Court.



Huguely rehearing request rejected

The Virginia Supreme Court announced Thursday it will not rehear the appeal of former University student and lacrosse player George Huguely, convicted of killing his ex-girlfriend Yeardley Love — also a University student — in 2012.

Paul Clement, one of Huguely's attorneys, argued in October that his client's Sixth Amendment rights had been violated due to the fact that one of Huguely's attorneys fell ill during trial but court proceedings continued in his absence.

On Nov. 19, a panel of judges denied Huguely's appeal. Huguely then filed a petition in December to rehear the appeal of his second-degree murder conviction, which was denied last week. The judges did not state a reason for their decision.

In May 2012, Huguely was sentenced to 23 years in prison for fatally beating Love, also a University student and member of the women's lacrosse team. Huguely is

currently serving his sentence at River North Correctional center in Independence.

Because his petition was denied, Huguely's only remaining option is to bring the case to the United States Supreme Court. Charlottesville defense attorney Scott Goodman, who is not involved in the case, said that is unlikely to happen without any far-reaching constitutional issues at stake.

— compiled by Kathleen Smith

Courtesy Creative Commons

Virginia Policy Review hosts National Journal Conference

Student-run Batten academic journal welcomes four distinguished guest speakers, representatives from several public policy graduate schools

Kayla Eanes and Urvi Singhania News Writers

The Batten School's student-run academic journal the Virginia Policy Review hosted the 2015 National Journal Conference for Schools of Public Policy and Affairs this past weekend, featuring several guest speakers and attendees from policy schools around the country.

VPR, which publishes papers, opinion pieces, interviews and book reviews surrounding policy debates, started the conference three years ago, said Editor-in-Chief Frank Bontempo, a Batten graduate student.

"The purpose [of the conference] was to try to bring together a bunch of journals from all over the country to talk about the best practices in policy journalism," he said. "It's a great opportunity to talk to a bunch of other review staffs."

VPR aims to publish work produced by graduate students at the Batten School alongside professionals and policymakers.

The conference featured four expert speakers who discussed their experiences with policy journalism and management — among them Jeffrey Bergner, former assistant secretary of

state for legislative affairs, and Anita Kumar, White House correspondent for McClatchy Newspapers.

"We invite speakers from across the country to talk about their experience with publishing or journalism as broad as possible," Bontempo said. "Our speakers were all very great this year."

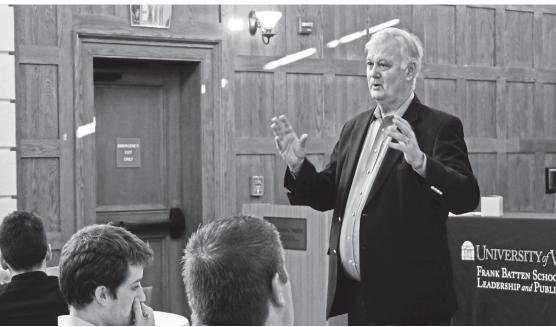
The conference also featured several policy journal workshops led by Georgetown University, the University of Chicago, American University and the College of William & Mary. Topics included how to recruit staff and how to motivate policy students to take part in policy journalism.

"We've been getting more schools across the country to come and share their experiences," he said. "It's been a really great event for everyone involved."

Kumar tailored her speech to the similarities and differences between covering policy and politics

"Between politics and policy I would say covering policy is definitely harder," she said. "Policy is understanding something that can really capitulate people. ... I think it's probably more important."

Kumar also commented on broader challenges in journalism, including making material acces-



Courtesy Virginia Policy Review

Former Assistant Secretary of State Jeffrey Bergner (above) spoke to policy journal representatives about the intersection of policy theory and practice.

sible and attracting new readers.

"It's really hard ... to not change the words to make it something readable," Kumar said. "So you really have to understand what you are writing about. Try to write professionally in a more conversational way."

She said many policy issues can be of great interest to readers, but that reporters must find the ways in which they are important. "Verifying how [policy] affects people is actually talking to some of those people," she said. "To me that's really important. ... Sometimes its really easy, sometimes it's much harder."

Bergner spoke about the intersection of theory and practice — the world of theory that is often presented in academic journals and the world of practice that exists in government.

"The rules of theory in social

science are one thing, and they might not be that closely related to their world of practice," he said. "The purest form of theory doesn't really have anything to do with practice.

Like Kumar, Bergner also offered advice to attendees on writing content for public policy academic journals.

"Do stuff that that has consequences," he said. "It's got to be practical. It's got to be relevant."

University Health System launches Bon Secours partnership

Collaboration to facilitate improved health services in interventional neuroradiology, pediatric infectious diseases, genetics

Samantha Josey-Borden
Associate Editor

The University's Health System reached an agreement with Bon Secours Health System last week to expand its clinical programs and add new health services in the Richmond and Charlottesville areas.

The collaboration seeks to provide services for interventional neuroradiology, pediatric infectious diseases, pediatric genetics and heart care.

Bon Secours and the University have partnered in the past to provide top health care services.

"Our existing partnerships were designed to expand access to high-quality specialty care," Medical Center spokesperson Eric Swensen said. "The agreement signed this week looks to build on the success of those partnerships to enhance care for patients throughout Virginia."

Since the agreement is non-exclusive, both health systems are allowed to pursue additional partnerships with other healthcare providers.

"Both U.Va. and Bon Secours saw an opportunity to collaborate to expand access to high-quality, specialized care for patients across Virginia as well as share best practices in patient safety and care coordination," Swensen said.

The partnership will also allow for the health systems to launch initiatives that will improve "heart care, cancer care and clinical trials, patient safety,

enhancing the physician recruitment pipeline and population health," according to a University press release.

Additionally, the partnership will add to the Medical School's academic affiliation with Bon Secours, which allows medical students to complete clinical rotations in Bon Secours health facilities in the area.

"This expanded relationship with U.Va. will help us identify additional opportunities for collaboration to better serve our patients and our community," said Peter J. Bernard, CEO of Bon Secours Virginia Health System, in the press release. "This agreement will help increase coordination and enhance transitions of care between Bon Secours and UVA care providers."



Marshall Bronfin | The Cavalier Daily

The University Health System (above) will add to the Medical School's academic affiliation with Bon Secours.

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NEWS
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U.Va. leaders travel to Richmond to protest student debt

Virginia Student Day of Action Against Student Debt draws crowd at state capitol, legislators advance new bills in House

Maddy Weingast
Associate Editor

College students from around the state gathered in Richmond Monday for the Virginia Student Day of Action against Student Debt at the General Assembly. The Virginia Student Power Network — a grassroots network of student activists from universities across Virginia advocating for education reform — organized the event in response to an alleged absence of student debt hearings at the General Assembly.

The University sent several representatives to the event through the student group U.Va.

Students United, including fourth-year College student Greg Lewis, second-year College student Ibby Han, University alumna Claire Wyatt and second-year College student Nqobile Mthethwa.

wa.

"The Day of Action is an opportunity for students across Virginia to come together and demand an end to the crushing student debt that many of us are forced to carry in order to graduate college," Mthethwa said in an email.

The organization has been active on Grounds in pushing for a student voice and is a leader within the Virginia Student Power Network. In Richmond, members

participated in a public student hearing on debt, rallied in front of the Capitol and lobbied representatives for action on the issue.

The students cited a statistic from the Project on Student Debt, which finds 60 percent of Virginia students graduate with college debt.

"Many legislators in Richmond and across the country don't see student debt as a crisis," Mthethwa said. "But collectively, students owe over \$1.2 trillion in student loans. In Virginia, where the cost of public higher education is the fifth highest in the nation, college costs continue to rise rapidly. We hope to put the student debt crisis on the public agenda as a matter

of urgent concern."

The group also showed support for two bills in the Virginia General Assembly: a bill to cap student athletic fees and one to remove coal tax credits and use the resulting money for scholarships for Virginia students.

Two related bills passed out of the Virginia House Appropriations Committee Monday, including the above mentioned bill to cap student athletic fees. The second bill aims to cut back on regulations to give schools "greater administrative and financial autonomy," according to a press release

"Virginia has some of the best institutions of higher education in

the world, but the costs are simply growing too fast," House Speaker William J. Howell, R-Stafford, said in a press release. "Virginia students are borrowing over \$1 billion per year to pay for college, and that's going to hurt their long-term prosperity. These are good bills to help make college more affordable for families and students. I look forward to their final passage later this week."

U.Va. Students United previously hosted forums, teach-ins and actions on topics like the privatization of higher education and racism on Grounds, as well as launched a campaign to create a public comment period for Board of Visitors meetings.

Joe Morrissey sworn in amid misdemeanor conviction

Following conviction, Independent candidate Morrissey wins Henrico county seat

Caitlyn Seed Senior Writer

Del. Joe Morrissey, D-Henrico, won re-election in the Virginia House of Delegates Tuesday after resigning his position last month upon being convicted of a misdemeanor following claims of sexual impropriety with a 17-year-old female who worked for him.

This month, the 57-year-old, 1979 CLAS graduate was charged and convicted of contributing to the delinquency of a minor — a misdemeanor for which he was sentenced six months in jail. Morrissey still denies the charges levied against him, but entered an Alford Plea in court, asserting his innocence but admitting the evidence against him would likely lead to a guilty verdict at trial. This plea reduced what would have been a felony charge to a misdemeanor.

The original charges against Morrissey included indecent liberties, possession of child pornography, distribution of child pornography, contributing to the delinquency of a minor and electronic solicitation of a minor. The minimum sentence for distribution of child pornography alone is five years in federal prison.

Morrissey's plea, however, allowed him to pursue his renewed campaign in the special election through a work-release agreement that has reduced his total sentence down to 90 days. The agreement allows Morrissey to leave the jail for up to 12 hours during the day and return at night. He must wear an ankle monitor, and his car is tracked with GPS.

In his most recent campaign, Morrissey ran as an Independent and defeated both Democrat Kevin Sullivan and Republican Matt Walton. He garnered 42 percent of the total votes, while Sullivan and Walton totaled 33 percent and 24 percent of the total votes, respectively.

Although re-elected by Virginia citizens, Morrissey has not received the same support from other members in the House of Delegates. In a joint public statement, Minority Leader David Toscano, D-Charlottesville, and Democratic Caucus Chair Scott Surovell denied affiliation with the recently re-elected delegate.

"Joe Morrissey chose to run as an Independent; he is not a member of the Democratic Party, nor is he a member of the House Democratic Caucus," Toscano and Surovell said. "His conviction and actions over the past two months were reprehensible, and we will be exploring every avenue in regard to his status as a member of the House of Delegates."

Both Republican and Democrat representatives have made efforts to censure Morrissey.

"Mr. Morrissey's election tonight does not change the fact that his actions fall grievously short of the standards of a public servant in the House of Delegates," Republican Speaker of the House William Howell said in a statement Tuesday. "It is said quite often — public service is a privilege. None of us are entitled to the seats we hold in this body."

House legislators could expel Morrissey completely or censure him. The process to either expel or censure Morrissey could be initiated by filing a resolution through a special committee that then reaches the legislative body as a whole after hearings. To expel Morrissey would require a two-thirds vote, and to censure him would require a simple majority.

"Expulsion would be more than a possibility," Surovell said. "It would be a probability."



Courtesy Wikimedia Comm

Del. Joe Morrissey (D-Henrico) won re-election despite a misdemeanor conviction.

TREAT YOURSELF.

Take a walk. Eat a cookie. Watch that show.

sports

The Virginia men's basketball team defeated Boston College, 66-51, Saturday afternoon at Conte Forum in Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts, overcoming junior guard Justin Anderson's rare poor shooting display on the strength of balanced offense and a decisive push late in the second half.

Led by junior guard Malcolm Brogdon — who scored a teamhigh 20 points and grabbed five rebounds — the No. 2 Cavaliers (17-0, 5-0 ACC) extended the program's best start since 1980-81 while improving to 6-0 in true road games on the season.

Neither team led by more than five points in the first half, but Virginia entered the break up 27-24 after freshman guard Marial Shayok's 3-pointer broke a 22-22 tie

Undefeated Cavs clip Eagles, 66-51

with 3:35 to play. Junior forward Anthony Gill closed the first-half scoring with two free throws after Eagles junior guard Olivier Hanlan hit two at the line 31 seconds before the horn.

The game remained up for grabs in the opening minutes of the second half, when Boston College (8-8, 0-4 ACC) reclaimed the lead and pushed it to five points at 38-33 with 14:30 to play after back-toback layups by Hanlan and senior guard Patrick Heckmann.

Virginia freshman forward Isaiah Wilkins pushed back with a mid-range jump shot from the right wing, igniting a 10-0 Cavalier run capped by senior forward Darion Atkins' inside bucket with 8:34

Hanlan knocked down two free throws to cut the Eagle deficit to five, but sophomore point guard London Perrantes answered with a 3-pointer off Brogdon's set-up for his first basket of the game.

The Virginia lead hung between

five and seven points until Perrantes scored five unanswered to spot the Cavaliers a 58-48 edge with 4:07 to play. Virginia held on from there, scoring eight of the game's last 11 points.

Gill collected an 11-point, 10-rebound double-double, and Perrantes scored eight points and dished out six assists. Anderson finished 0-8 from the field with no rebounds, contributing most noticeably on the defensive end and at the foul line, where he shot 8-9.

Seven Cavaliers scored five points or more as Virginia made 18-21 free throws to compensate for a 21-49 performance from the

Hanlan paced Boston College with 18 points and six assists, as Heckmann scored 15 on 6-11 shooting.

Virginia hosts Georgia Tech this Thursday at John Paul Jones Arena. Tip-off is scheduled for 8 p.m.

—compiled by Matthew Morris



The Virginia bench celebrates Saturday afternoon at Conte Forum in the team's win against Boston College. Coach Tony Bennett's squad improved to 17-0 (5-0 ACC) in 2014-15.

Swim & Dive impresses against Virginia Tech

No. 5 women win 16 of 19 events in 243-110 victory at Aquatic and Fitness Center, No. 21 men show improvement in year's fourth loss



Junior Becca Corbett broke teammate junior Katie Warburg's program record in the 3-meter diving competition with a score of 325.50.

Robert Elder Associate Editor

From the first day he stepped foot in his office at the Aquatic and Fitness Center, coach Augie Busch emphasized that while dual-meet wins are great, his ultimate goal is to focus on championship competitions.

So after a break that included heavy lower-body workouts to improve his swimmers' kicks followed by a week of training in Florida, Busch did not expect to see any personal bests in the upcoming conference meets. His staff was thinking long term.

Still, Busch demands his swimmers give their best race every time out — something that at this point in the season is much easier said than done.

"With this sport, you know the reality that hard training puts you in, and I'm seeing a lot of tired people," Busch said. "The challenge is to detach that reality that is just a part of our sport and not let that become an excuse for not racing."

The Virginia swimming and diving teams persevered through the pain in an impressive performance against Virginia Tech Friday and Saturday. While the No. 21 Virginia men (1-4, 0-1 ACC) dropped their meet against the No. 12 Hokies (7-1, 4-1 ACC) by a score of 218-135, the No. 5 women (3-1, 1-0 ACC) dom-

inated their in-state rivals (7-3, 3-2 ACC) by claiming 16 of 19 events in a 243-110 victory.

After last weekend, the Cavalier women clearly have separated themselves from the rest of the ACC. Virginia Tech — one of the conference's best teams had no answer for the depth of Virginia's roster.

'It was a good statement," sophomore Laura Simon said. In just the second event of the meet, junior Becca Corbett broke teammate junior Katie Warburg's school record in the 3-meter diving competition with a score of 325.50, setting the tone for Virginia.

The Cavalier women also had help from the usual stars. Junior Courtney Bartholomew claimed three event wins, taking the 200-yard individual medley and the 100-yard backstroke in addition to breaking the pool record with a time of 1:54.30 in the 200-yard backstroke.

Sophomore Leah Smith took home the 500 and 1,000-yard freestyle, while Simon earned victories in the 100 and 200yard breaststroke. Sophomore Kaitlyn Jones captured the 400yard IM and sophomore Ellen Thomas impressed for the Virginia sprinters, winning the 50 and 100-yard freestyle.

Busch was most pleased by the depth Virginia showcased. The Cavaliers won the 200yard freestyle and the 200-yard medley relays, in addition to securing the top two spots in the 400-yard medley and 400-yard freestyle relays.

But Even though Busch cautioned against comparing this women's team with some of the best he coached while an assistant at Arizona, he said that with the number of swimmers returning next season, greatness is not far away.

'With the way we're recruiting right now on the women's side, the future is really bright," Busch said.

And despite a paltry dual-meet record, Busch continues to rave about his men's team, and deservedly so. With just three healthy senior swimmers, the underclassmen have had to grow up much faster than expected. The team showed significant signs of progress Friday and Saturday.

Four of the men's six event wins came from junior Yannick Kaeser and senior JB Kolod in the 100 and 200-yard breaststroke and 1 and 3-meter diving, respectively.

Others shared the spotlight, though. Sophomore Matt Lockman won the 100-yard freestyle Friday night, placed third in the 50-yard freestyle Saturday and was also part of four separate second-place relay teams.

see SWIM & DIVE, page 8

SPORTS
Tuesday, January 20, 2015 | 7

ORGINA A2

Senior center Sarah Imovbioh has been a double-double machine this year. After an 11-point, 12-rebound performance against the Cardinals, she is averaging 14.4 points and 11.4 rebounds.

Women's hoops visit Miami

Virginia falls Sunday at No. 4 Louisville, Boyle says team must be 'road warriors'

Chanhong Luu Associate Editor

The Virginia women's basketball team continues its two-game road trip Wednesday at Miami, after playing No. 4 Louisville on the road this past Sunday.

The Cavaliers (13-5, 3-2 ACC) are coming off a 67-55 loss to the Cardinals and are now 3-4 away from home.

Louisville senior forward Sara Hammond scored 16 of her team's first 20 points in the first 11 minutes to put Virginia down early at KFC Yum! Center. The Cavaliers got within two with 2:17 remaining in the half after holding Louisville scoreless for almost four minutes, but the Cardinals closed out the half on a 5-2 run to lead 32-27 at the break.

In the second half, the Cavaliers pulled within five with 11:16 remaining but did not score for almost five minutes as Louisville cruised to its ninth straight victory.

After draining 13 3-pointers against Boston College, the Cava-

liers only made one of 11 attempts Sunday. Louisville, last in the ACC in 3-point field goals made, did not make any from beyond the arc, but for the second game in a row, the Cavaliers were outscored in the paint by a large margin, 52-24.

Hammond only scored four more points in the second half, but Virginia could not stop Louisville freshman forward Myisha Hines-Allen, who scored her team's first nine points after the break. She finished with 17 points in the game to Hammond's 20.

Junior guard Faith Randolph led the Cavaliers with 24 points for her third straight 20-point game. Senior center Sarah Imovbioh added another double-double on the season, contributing 11 points and 12 rebounds for the Cavaliers.

"There were some times we just didn't execute," Virginia coach Joanne Boyle said. "But I am proud of the team. We just need to regroup. Conference doesn't get any easier. This is a great prep game for Miami. Miami is a very athletic team. We need to clean up some of the things from this game."

Louisville and Miami were tied

atop the ACC with no conference losses before Sunday, but with a Miami loss that day, the Cardinals are now the sole leader in the standings.

Miami (14-4, 4-1 ACC) has one of the best defenses in the league — the Hurricanes are first in the conference in scoring defense, allowing just 54.5 points per game, and second in steals with 11.4 per game.

In Sunday's loss against No. 16 Duke, Miami allowed the Blue Devils to score 68 points and had only seven steals.

Last season, the Hurricanes finished with a 16-15 (8-8 ACC) record, losing out in the first round of the WNIT to Stetson, but this season the Hurricanes have shown they can win against good teams. Earlier this year, they beat then-No. 4 Notre Dame, 78-63, which had not lost an ACC game since becoming a member of the conference in 2013. The Irish had also won 30 straight road games. Miami sophomore guard Adrienne Motley had 32 points in the game, prompting EspnW to name her the national player of the week Jan. 8.

As a freshman, Motley led her

team with 11.1 points per game, but this year she has stepped it up and now averages 16.9, which is top five in the conference. Senior forward Jassany Williams is top five in the conference in blocks with 2.47 per game.

Like Virginia, Miami has only one home loss, making Wednesday's game a highly anticipated challenge. Four of the Cavaliers' five losses have come on the road, prompting Boyle to stress the importance of both protecting the home court and winning away from home before the team's two-game road trip.

"Two things we always say: protect your home floor and be road warriors," Boyle said. "I think we have done a fairly good job at home — not perfect, but we are learning more and more what it means to protect your home floor and how to do that. We really have to emphasize and get better at being road warriors. Having a grind to us for 40 minutes, guarding people, and taking care of the ball are huge to execute on the road."

Tip-off is set for 7 p.m. in Coral Gables, Florida.

Women's tennis rams VCU in season opener

No. 6 Cavaliers dominate doubles in 6-1 victory, UCLA transfer Morton shines in first dual match at Boar's Head Sports Club

Nikolas Samaras Associate Editor

Preseason No. 6 Virginia women's tennis began its dual-match season with a dominant performance Sunday, posting a 6-1 victory against in-state opponent Virginia Commonwealth. Playing at home on the Boar's Head Sports Club indoor courts, Virginia recorded its first point on three successive 6-1 doubles victories and never looked back.

The No. 22 partnership of juniors Julia Elbaba and Stephanie Nauta dropped the first game of their doubles matchup with junior Salome Kvitashvili and sophomore Olga Barscheuskaya but bounced back by taking the next six games for Virginia's first doubles victory.

The newly minted No. 11 pairing of freshman Cassie Mercer and UCLA-transfer junior Skylar Morton then ensured Virginia's first point of the day with an identical scoreline. Sophomore Marie Faure and junior Maci Epstein followed suit on court three, cementing the perfect 6-1 sweep.

Though both are new to a program returning five starters from its 2014 ACC Championship team,

the Mercer-Morton pairing is poised to make a meaningful impact on Virginia's success this year. Coach Mark Guilbeau said he was particularly pleased with their rapid cohesion.

"To be honest, that wasn't an expected pairing right at the beginning," Guilbeau said. "We always have some adjusting as we go, but they took control of that match right from the beginning. They've done a great job throughout the fall of valuing every single match."

Morton was equally enthusiastic about her positive early results with Mercer.

"We haven't played a match since the fall," Morton said. "It was really good that we did well coming back into [the spring season]. We didn't even practice [together] a lot, so it was really good."

The reigning USTA/ITA National Indoor Intercollegiate singles champion, No. 1 Elbaba made quick work of VCU's Kvitashvili to notch Virginia's first singles point of the day, riding a strong overall performance to a 6-0, 6-1 victory. Mercer followed with a 6-3, 6-2 victory on court five before her doubles partner, Morton, clinched the Cavalier win in cruising to a 6-2, 6-2 win on court three.

Faure rounded out the Cava-

liers' straight-set match wins with a comfortable 6-2, 6-4 performance on court six.

Morton credited the encouraging environment of the Boar's Head for the team's strong start.

"We just like coming out here," Morton said. "It's a good atmosphere — we've got a lot of fans and support — so it's easy to come out and be strong in doubles and singles."

Speaking about Morton's singles performance, Guilbeau was quick to praise something other than the home crowd.

"[I was] very happy to put her at the three-spot — she held her own and I knew she could do it," Guilbeau said. "[I was] really impressed over the last 10 days with her focus in practice, day in and day out, and I think that's making it very realistic for her."

VCU's only point of the day materialized after Rams junior Cindy Chala took No. 16 Nauta — who posted a team-best 15-4 fall record — to three sets on court two. After losing the first set 6-3, Nauta won a hotly contested second set 4-6 before falling 10-6 in the third-set tiebreak.

Guilbeau said he was impressed with Chala's response to Nauta's comeback attempt.



Kelsey Grant | The Cavalier Daily

Junior Skylar Morton clinched the win with a 6-2, 6-2 victory at No. 3 singles. She also teamed with freshman Cassie Mercer for a 6-1 decision at No. 1 doubles.

"She's been out of their lineup for a little while, so for her to come back after such a long period is really impressive," Guilbeau said. "Steph tried to do the right things, but Chala didn't let that happen."

While Nauta fell short in her third set, Epstein prevailed, ending Virginia's day with a spirited 6-7 (1-7), 7-5, 6-0 display on court four. Guilbeau said his approach during Epstein's comeback was much less strategic.

"To be honest [Epstein's] court was really about resiliency, almost

see W TENNIS, page 8

8 | The Cavalier Daily

Wrestling routs Duke in Friday night clash, 30-9

No. 14 Cavaliers post 31st consecutive dual win inside Memorial Gymnasium, defeat Blue Devils for 10th time in last 10 meetings

Matthew Wurzburger
Associate Editor

No. 14 Virginia wrestling downed Duke, 30-9, Friday night in an energetic Memorial Gymnasium. The Cavaliers war machine ran at full efficiency, winning seven of the evening's 10 contests against the Blue Devils and picking up bonus points in five matches.

In the 125-pound bout, junior Nick Herrmann set an example the rest of the Cavalier team (9-3, 1-0 ACC) would follow. Herrmann was aggressive and controlled the flow of the match, riding out Blue Devil (5-4, 1-2 ACC) freshman Thayer Atkins for the last 40 seconds to secure the 13-5 major-decision victory.

Virginia coach Steve Garland urged his team to be the drivers of the action Friday.

"We talk about going out and taking the match to the other guy and scoring in our best positions immediately," Garland said. "Every single guy, even those that lost, did that tonight."

No. 13 sophomore George DiCamillo continued the surge at 133 pounds. Once again, DiCamillo was the aggressor and scored seemingly at will. DiCamillo nearly pinned freshman Mitch Finesilver in the first period but settled for a 19-4 technical fall in the third.

Virginia lost its first match at 141 pounds. Junior Justin Van Hoose, filling in for injured No. 15 senior Joe Spisak, battled sophomore Evan Botwin the full seven minutes but lost, 9-8. Van Hoose was fighting for a match-winning takedown as the clock expired. Garland challenged the call, but it was too close to overturn.

Redshirt freshman standout Andrew Atkinson returned the Cavaliers to their winning ways in his 157-pound showdown with senior Immanuel Kerr-Brown. Atkinson led Kerr-Brown 3-2 after two closely contested periods. The down man in the third, Kerr-Brown tied the match 3-3 with a late escape, but Atkinson's riding-time advantage gave him the 4-3 decision victory.

"I do my best when I'm relaxed," Atkinson said. "When I'm relaxed I can get to my spots, get my shots, and winning every position — top, bottom and neutral. My success is both mental and physical. I have to tie the two together and get to my offense."

Atkinson is now 7-4 for Virginia in dual meets this season, and twice fell to nationally ranked opponents. He has won three of his last four and was vital to the Cavaliers' success at the Virginia Duals.

Virginia scored 11 team points in the next two matches. It was more of the same from second-ranked senior Nick Sulzer. He dominated redshirt freshman Jake Faust en route to a 24-7 technical fall. The victory was the 110th in Sulzer's illustrious career and is the fifth most in program history — one behind Rocco Caponi.

No. 5 junior Blaise Butler supplied the fireworks in a thrilling victory. Butler threw junior Trey Adamson to the ground in one lightning-quick, vicious motion, then drained Adamson's will to fight with a vice-like head and arm, which ultimately led to

a pinfall with a minute remaining in the first.

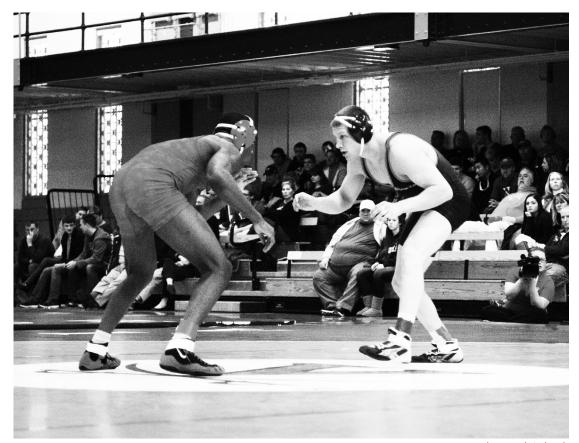
The Cavaliers had already sealed the victory, but the Blue Devils refused to go quietly. Duke sophomore Jacob Kasper rallied from a deficit to defeat redshirt freshman Tyler Askey, 3-2. Two ranked wrestlers clashed at 197 pounds. No. 20 Virginia junior Zach Nye held the lead into the third period, but No. 7 junior Conner Hartmann scored two points on a heel trip in the final minute to win, 5-3.

But Virginia was able to end the night on a high note. Junior Patrick Gillen scored four points in the third period and collected more than two minutes of riding time to pull away and defeat junior Brendan Walsh, 6-1. Friday's victory marked the Cavaliers' 10th consecutive win against Duke and 31st straight dual victory inside Memorial Gymnasium.

Ninth-ranked Pittsburgh looks to end that streak Sunday. Garland wants his wrestlers to continue the aggression and intensity that has been on display since the Virginia Duals.

"We can't make the mistake of thinking we're good and then taking our foot off the gas," Garland said. "We need to worry about how we're competing and how we're fighting, and the wins will happen. We can't think that we deserve anything on the mat. We have to battle for everything."

Virginia and Pittsburgh get going at 1 p.m.



Vartika Kapooir | The Cavalier Dail

No. 2 senior Nick Sulzer won for the 110th time in a Virginia uniform Friday night. He currently has the fifth most victories in program history.

SWIM & DIVE Team now to face longtime rival North Carolina

Continued from page 6

Freshman Brendan Casey drew the loudest applause of the meet after nosing out Virginia Tech sophomore Zach Switzer in the 400-yard IM. Casey also placed second in the 1,000-yard freestyle. ophomore Austin Quinn — who finished second in the 200 and 500-yard freestyle — and freshman Henrik Pohlmann — who placed third in the 200-yard IM and 100-yard backstroke — provided inspiring performances for the young Cavaliers.

"Opportunities are opportunities, and they can come at any

time," Busch said. "It's on the athletes to step up and to seize that, and obviously it's on the younger people to step up and seize any sort of void left from the upperclassmen. They're doing a great job of it."

Next up for Virginia will be the program's longtime rival, North Carolina. Last season the meet provided late drama rarely found in the pool. Tied with just two events remaining, the Virginia women pushed past the Tar Heels, but the men — tied going into the final event — came up just short.

This time around, with a surge of momentum and the comfort of the home arena,

Busch said he knows the Cavaliers will bring their best shots, and that his athletes certainly will be ready.

"This is the most fun dual meet we're going to have," Simon said

The North Carolina meet will begin Saturday at noon at the Aquatic and Fitness Center.

W TENNIS | Elbaba starts spring strong after ITA Indoor championship

Continued from page 7

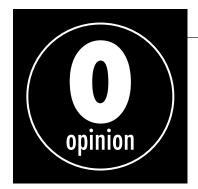
kind of simplifying," Guilbeau said. "If we can get Maci using her

weapons, specifically with more attention to strengths and weaknesses, I think she's going to get that much better."

Looking to improve upon the

team's previous season — which saw the Cavaliers advance to the NCAA Quarterfinals — Morton was encouraged by Virginia's performance

"Some people had some tough matches— it was a great start," Morton said. "I think we came out with some great energy and I think we can build from here." Virginia now sets its sights on another non-conference tuneup. The Cavaliers face Utah this Thursday at 4 p.m. at the Boar's Head.



LEAD EDITORIAL

Accessible admissions

In order to ensure transparency in the college admissions process, students should request their admissions files under FERPA

Comment of the day

"How do you propose that such a system [an off-Grounds RA system] be paid for? Another increase in tuition is hardly what UVA students need. Or do you expect people to simply volunteer to be off-grounds RAs?"

"Frankbellamy" responding to Mary Russo's Jan. 15 column, "Advice and counsel."

Accessible admissions

An anonymous newsletter at Stanford University called the Fountain Hopper recently uncovered a process through which college students can gain access to the comments written on their applications. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, a 1974 federal law, requires schools to show enrolled students their educational records. Under FERPA, the Fountain Hopper has encouraged Stanford students to request their admission records by sending the school a legalese-filled FERPA request. Schools have within 45 days to respond to students' requests, or face legal consequences - including, according to the Fountain Hopper, a loss in federal funding.

The anonymous students behind this movement at Stanford have pioneered a process that college students everywhere should undertake. The limit of this option is that rejected applications will not be accessible. But, by compiling, analyzing and publishing the records students send them, the Fountain Hopper will make more transparent a process that for far too long has been relatively opaque on an individual level. Uncovering admitted students' files, including comments from admissions

officers — should comments prove substantive — could potentially shed light on the selection criteria of schools, demonstrating to what degree these processes may be superficial, and to what degree factors such as legacy status or affirmative action policies impact admissions decisions.

More transparency in the college admissions process could reveal inherent problems, such as too high an emphasis on criteria such as SAT or ACT scores, which have proven to be skewed toward high-income applicants. And if selection criteria turn out to be problematic, colleges will be motivated to alter their processes given new national attention. But transparency may also benefit students who are typically disadvantaged in the college application process meaning low-income students or those whose schools do not provide adequate college counseling.

Information about the college application process is ubiquitous, and access to admissions officers' comments will not alleviate the myriad obstacles facing low-income students. But seeing these comments may help otherwise disadvantaged students understand the intricacies of the process, possibly encouraging them to apply to

schools where they have a better chance of gaining admission, or demonstrating the best way to organize their applications so they can better compete with well-connected applicants.

While students who are already at a distinct advantage in this process may gain a further advantage by having this information, so long as groups like the Fountain Hopper compile and analyze these files, disadvantaged students will have electronic access to the same information. This information will by no means bridge the gap between privileged and non-privileged applicants, but it certainly may help.

Of course, a key reason admissions files stay confidential is so admissions officers have the freedom to be candid in their assessments of students. Should a significant portion of the student body at a given school request these files, officers may be inclined to be less candid when commenting on future applications. But even if officers become less candid on paper, this will not inhibit them from being candid about applicants with their fellow officers. Typically, admissions officers overseeing particular regions will automatically reject students who do not meet particular criteria, and those who are not

rejected will make it to the admissions committee. Once in committee, admissions officers openly discuss applicants, and when deliberating in person these officers will have no reason to fear candor.

There is a possibility that upon reading these files students will be encouraged to write applications that mirror accepted students, rather than applications that reflect their true high school experiences. But this kind of artificiality is already rampant in the college admissions process. Students across the board seek to fulfill the archetype colleges look for, whether they have knowledge of the accepted students' application details. There is no reason to believe releasing these comments would necessarily amplify this issue.

While uncovering files via FER-PA may not solve all the problems with college admissions, added transparency has, at the very least, the potential to improve them. Though this should not preclude us from seeking other, more pragmatic solutions, the Fountain Hopper's discovery is a good start to a much-needed discussion about the overall need for transparency to ensure fairness and equal oppor-

Declining digitization

The Cavalier Daily should redouble its efforts to update its website

Christopher Broom Public Editor

It would be easy for The Cavalier Daily to be consumed entirely by the aftermath of the Rolling Stone article. Certainly that's the only thing anyone from outside the University has asked me about in the last couple of weeks. It's a multifaceted story that could expand to take up the entire paper if the staff let it. It is not, though, the only thing going on. Fortunately, the paper has continued to cover a good breadth of subjects.

Internationally, the Charlie Hebdo story resonates especially here where free speech and religious freedom have been so important to our history. Alison Phanthavong wrote a news piece with interesting comments from members of the French Department here at the University. I'd have liked to see more varied perspectives, including from someone who might be able to speak more to the effect of the attack on Muslims in France and elsewhere.

The Cavalier Daily also offered good coverage of some important things happening around the state, including bills introduced in the Virginia General Assembly, and has followed the astonishing story of Delegate Ioe Morrissev

winning re-election after resigning his seat amid controversy. Beyond these stories readers were also offered good information about the current raging flu season, the activities of various faculty members and, of course, the incredible performance of the men's basketball team.

maintaining good Despite breadth of news coverage, some



I urge the staff to redouble their efforts to clean up the website and get all of it up to date so that the good coverage I wrote about above is accessible to everyone who is looking for it.

> of the digital maintenance of The Cavalier Daily seems to have fallen off a bit. Trying to navigate my way around the site to catch up on everything from between semesters has been a challenge. The

only way to see the print edition online now seems to be through a link stuck all the way on the bottom of each page disguised as a PDF download. New dropdown links under the "News" heading offer results of varied usefulness. "Grounds" and "Local" appear up to date but "State & National" and "Higher Education" are blank and two years out of date, respectively. The links for "Student Council" and "Honor Committee" are also well out of date.

I think it's really important the website issues get smoothed out. Not being able to navigate or read back on a topic cripples the ability of The Cavalier Daily to be an ongoing good source of information. It becomes very much like a static print issue. While that is something that can be useful, it falls far short of the promise of the full Cavalier Daily digital platform. I think The Cavalier Daily can be more dynamic than it is. We've seen from the enormous number of comments on the Rolling Stone-related pieces that people will find the paper for a story that is big or consequential or popular enough. There is good work happening at The Cavalier Daily on a regular basis and the platform should be up to the challenge of presenting the work in its best light. I urge the staff to redouble their efforts to clean up the website and get all of it up to date so that the good coverage I wrote about above is accessible to everyone who is looking for it.

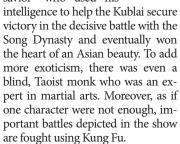
Christopher Broom is The Cavalier Daily's public editor. He can be reached at publiceditor@cavalierdaily.com or on Twitter at @cdpub10 | The Cavalier Daily

A second chance for "Marco Polo"

Despite the show's shortcomings, a new season may prove culturally influential

Over winter break I discovered the Netflix series "Marco Polo." A bit surprised by the Chinese and Mongolian setting, which is uncom-

mon in American popular dramas, I finished all the episodes within two days. Initially I assumed the show would end up being just another expensive demonstration of the Orientalism rooted in American media. Therefore, I was not surprised to see unnecessary scenes of Asian female nudity and the typical plot of a "white savior" who used his



SASHA WAN

Opinion Columnist

The show scores only 27 percent on Rotten Tomatoes, and it has received criticism from multiple commentators. An article in Foreign Policy commented, "It's the predictable depiction of Marco Polo as a 'white savior,' whose bravery

and intelligence saves the Khan and his court, among other wild historical inaccuracies, that has made the film such a celebrated bore." Contrary to Netflix's expectation, the show also failed to appeal to the international audience. The show only scores 5.8 out of 10 on Douban, a Chinese movie review website.



itable in cinema, such as in "Braveheart" and "300," in which historical accuracy was sacrificed for the sake of improved artistic and dramatic effect. Despite many reviews criticizing the show as boring and sleep-inducing, there are quite a lot of impressive parts in the story. Each of the three main female characters, for example, has distinguished charac-

Despite many reviews criticizing the show as boring and sleep-inducing, there are quite a lot of impressive parts in the story.

teristics and a background story that break from the old "dragon lady" and "Madame Butterfly" archetypes of Asian women. The complicated character of Kublai, who is the autocratic ruler of the Mongolian empire, a brave warrior and an ordinary human being, is masterfully depicted.

The cast diligently strived to

preserve the epicness of the series. The costumes were designed by the Oscar-winning Timmy Yip who thoroughly researched to represent the authentic styles in 13th century Venice and China. The picturesque landscape, the exquisite Chinese garden and the grand-scale war scenes are outstanding relative to other works. The music, composed

by Daniele Luppi, Peter Nashel and Eric V. Hachikian, features both Mongolian and Chinese styles and is nothing like the stereotypical "Asian riff" in earlier "east-meetswest" movies.

These exceptional qualities make Marco Polo a remarkable breakthrough for

Hollywood. Although the ancient dynasties of China have often been the settings of many popular Chinese history shows, they are rarely favored by American media. Even among the many dynasties of China, the Mongolian-ruled Yuan Dynasty was still underrepresented. Chinese entertainment media has given

much more preference to the Song, Ming and Qing Dynasties. While the Yuan Dynasty connects the Song and the Ming chronologically, and Kublai is a highly regarded historical figure by both Mongolians and Chinese, this period is still overlooked by most producers. This might be due to the complicated feelings that some Chinese audiences have about the Yuan's destruction of the culturally flourishing Song Dynasty, which was ruled by the Han Chinese, the largest ethnic group in China. The Mongolian entertainment industry, on the other hand, does not possess the cultural influence that American and Chinese industry have. As a result, the expansive Mongolian empire is regrettably neglected. Putting a spotlight on the Yuan Dynasty by depicting the warfare and plots in its history through the eyes of a Western outsider is an intriguing yet challenging idea with great potential. As Netflix has renewed the show, it might prove itself to be a masterwork.

Sasha's columns run bi-weekly Fridays. She can be reached at s.wan@cavalierdaily.com.

Don't read the review

The accessibility of reviews and ratings hinders our ability to discover new media

've just finished Stanley Kubrick's "2001: A Space Odyssey" and my brain is torn. On the one hand, IMDB is telling me the

movie got an 8.3 out of 10 and, according to a commenter, is "one of the best science-fiction films made to date." On the other hand, I realize that despite its grandiose themes and symbolic motifs, the movie was pretty soulless, its characters emotionally dead and unappealing. I'm torn, then, on whether to like this movie — on whether

to acknowledge its presumed artistic greatness, or admit my personal view of its underwhelming emptiness

HASAN KHAN

Opinion Columnist

While the information age has greatly expanded our access to all types of media, it has also in a sense limited our ability to genuinely discover new media. Netflix suggests to us what shows to start, IMDB rankings indirectly dictate our movie choices and Pandora charts out the future of our musical tastes. Obviously, these sites rely heavily on individual user feedback and reviews, which is primarily the reason why they are so automagically good at finding stuff we like.

Without a doubt, the merits of these new methods of media discovery are endless — I would never have found half the music in my favorites

playlist had I never used Pandora. But like a mom spoiling her kid, our personally tailored algorithms feed us with media we already love, and not necessarily media that might change our view of the world or jarr us into some new realization. Our computers will never provide for us a chance to jump genres, to try something completely

different or truly expand our tastes. They can't recommend to us bizarre things that we might possibly like, if only we knew.

Media conformity is another newer and sometimes disturbing phenomenon of the information age. I can all too easily surf Amazon and read official reviews of books telling me how amazing the work is, and why I must purchase it. "The work of our century." "A must read." Seeing the five yellow stars next to a book I'm about to buy gives me a strange sense of comfort on its own, as if I'm fulfilling my duty to society by reading the brand new Pynchon novel that has everyone talking.

Reading reviews in and of themselves almost becomes enjoyable, providing me with a contentedness in knowing that I have purchased something meaningful with my money. One might argue that one can simply choose not to read reviews, and this is certainly true. But the fact of the matter is that reviews and ratings are so easily accessible that it has become almost impossible to experience anything without knowing something about its popularity or the general public's opinion of it. Of course, movie and book

Netflix suggests to us what shows to start, IMDB rankings indirectly dictate our movie choices and Pandora charts out the future of our musical tastes.

reviews themselves have existed for decades. But until the rise of the Internet, these reviews were always confined to magazines or newspapers, and weren't readily accessible like they are today. Any nine-year-old of our generation can lookup

the rating

What has been lost in our age, then, is the delicate balance of individuality and patience that accompanies the genuine discovery of media. I remember fondly the hours I spent in my musty old hometown library, scanning the small summaries adorning the backs of books and choosing which ones I would take back home. The risk on which books I picked was high — I could only pick a few (my mother's strict rule), so I had to choose wisely. It was this risk that made the selecting

so fun, and when I finally found an interesting book or series I liked, it was like discovering a sliver of gold amidst piles of rock. As we grow older, some of us lose this magic of discovery, and the media we choose to enjoy become more dictated by an out-of-five rating than by our own gut instincts.

Review reading has become routine for me in

recent years, almost to the point of comfortable habit. I rarely watch a movie without looking at its IMDB reviews anymore, or buy a game before looking up its Metacritic rating. When I do read, I tend to actively look for themes or even quickly

sparknote the book I'm reading to get the "accepted" view of the underlying patterns. Having the desire to find meaning and symbolism in media is perfectly okay — it's only when we are compelled to do so just for the sake of adopting how the "experts" view the work that we lose our own interpretations. And while peering at media through an experienced reviewer's eyes can at times be illuminating, it can simultaneously severely limit the types of media we choose to consume and how we view them.

A few years ago, I took the risk of investing my time into Jostein Gaarder's "Sophie's World." I had found the book gathering dust at the bottom of the family bookshelf, and without reading the back or looking it up online, I decided to take the plunge and invest some time into the book. This winter break, I finally finished Gaarder's bizarre masterpiece, and I'm happy to say it has been one of the most eye-opening and philosophical novels I have ever read. Sometimes, it is best to unsubscribe from the critics and simply plunge in.

Hasan's columns run Fridays. He can be reached at h.khan@cavalier-daily.com.

OPINION Tuesday, January 20, 2015

A moral minimum in Manhattan

Traditional religious practices should be treated as subsidiary to existing legal standards

suspect most of us at the University pursue routine medical procedures without much thought. In my household, vaccines have

always been an expectation. But in our secular society, there are times when medicinal practices and religious values conflict. These moments are rare and often extreme, but they present difficult questions.

In New York City there is a long-running controversy surrounding a religiously mandated practice in a

small sect of ultra-Orthodox Jews. During the circumcision ritual, mohels (the men who perform the circumcisions) perform what's called metzitzah b'peh(MBP), a practice in which they use their mouths to suction blood out of the infant's wound. Aside from the cringe-worthy nature of this activity, it has had seriously damaging consequences: in a city where 75 percent of adults have oral herpes, these babies contract the disease easily. According to the Jewish Daily Forward, between 2000 and 2011 in New York 11 infants contracted herpes from this practice, two of whom died and two

of whom suffered brain damage. In 2014 alone there have been four reported cases of infant herpes due to this ritual.

> This is not the only questionable medically-related religious practice we see in our country today, though it is certainly notable. . Witnesses, Jehovah's for example, refuse blood transfusions, as they are prohibited by their religion. While I personally contend that anyone should be able to make medical decisions for him- or herself

(so long as such decisions will not be threatening to others' health), the prevailing question is what to do if a Jehovah's Witness' child needs a blood transfusion — do we deem the child's parent competent to make that medical decision?

DANI BERNSTEIN

Senior Associate Editor

In New York, the city now requires mohels to give parents a consent form that explains the risk of their child contracting herpes (which many mohels refuse to do regardless). But this again ignores the broader question: at what point do we overrule parents' decisions in favor of a child's health?

This is exceedingly difficult to

answer. There have been instances in general in which the federal government and states have placed secular rule over religious rule. When it comes to children, our history is messy. It is legal for parents, for example, to refuse vaccines for their children, though children may be required to get certain vaccines when entering school. It is illegal for parents, despite an extremist Mormon custom, to marry their children into polygamy, which would be unarguably damaging to their children mentally and physically. It is also illegal for parents to allow or perform female genital mutilation (FGM), though some schools of Islam consider it obligatory.

It is easy to support the current laws regarding the above three examples, because the former seems reasonable, and the latter two are such extreme scenarios that it is easy to deem them unacceptable. But where would blood transfusions and MBP fall? These practices may seem disagreeable, but they are not as extreme as something like FGM, and they are not necessarily life-threatening, depending on the circumstances. Where do we draw the line when it comes to these situations of medical care — meaning, at what point do we accuse these parents of negligence or child abuse? To me, risking the exposure of your child to herpes — sometimes a lethal disease for infants — is not a far cry from either accusation.

I understand that it is all too easy for me to condemn these practices when I have no personal connection to any of them. It may seem arrogant to suggest that my secular values should supplant someone's religious ones. But the issue here is not what a religious individual chooses to do independently; it is how that person's religion affects others. I would never suggest that a parent should not raise his child in his faith. But if that faith includes physically dangerous behaviors, we must create limits to protect the health of the child. In many cases we have placed law above religion; in no situation is this more necessary than when it pertains to the safety of children.

The virtue of non-religious, democratically derived laws is that they create, to borrow a business ethics term, a moral minimum: while laws may appear to have their own arbitrariness, they create a standard of living and treatment among individuals who have myriad moral codes. Given a societal standard that we not harm the health and safety of others, the least chaotic way to adhere to such a standard is to treat religious practices that risk harming children

even if the religion dictates that these practices aid entry to Heaven as subordinate to our existing legal standards. Otherwise, what prevents individuals from seeking justification for any dangerous activity by simply reinterpreting an existing religious text? Though determining what constitutes "harm" to a child may require subjectivity — especially since, for example, we permit parents to refuse vaccinations for their children — determining whether or not a practice is life-threatening can, at times, be simple. The staggering number of herpes contractions definitively makes, in my opinion, MBP life-threatening — though a functional policy could be to allow only mohels who test negative for herpes to practice this ritual. Likewise, perhaps doctors should be given license, in a life-or-death situation, to overrule a parent's desires and give a child a blood transfusion. It seems reasonable to draw the line between religious values and what we permit in our country at activities that potentially endanger chil-

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

A contemporary Gilded Age

Qatar's abusive labor practices should prevent it from hosting the 2022 World Cup

he last two decades have seen the small Arab Gulf states rise from dust to decadence. Among them are the United Arab Emirates

(UAE), Qatar and Bahrain, all of which boast high per capita gross domestic products and international cities of opulence such as Dubai and Doha. Their rulers have succeeded in branding the gulf states to the rest of the world by creating tax havens for wealthy British expatriates and erecting impressive structures such as Burj

Al Arab. Projects slated for the future include Qatar's plans to host the 2022 FIFA World Cup, the first to be held in the Middle East. Qatar has allocated part of their £65 billion towards innovative stadiums equipped with air conditioning and artificial clouds. Additionally, Qatari authorities have consulted a Finnish architecture firm in order to develop ritzy villas and floating hotels to accommodate the influx of tourists. But beneath the veneer of glitz and glamour is the ill-treatment of more than a million South Asian migrant workers on whose shoulders rest the demands

of infrastructure building in poor living conditions. In the interest of humane labor practices, Qatar must lose its rights to host the 2022 World Cup.

In December, The Guardian reported that Nepalese migrant workers died at a rate of one every two days last year during construction of Qatar's World Cup infrastructure. This statistic does not account for Indian, Sri Lankan and Bangladeshi fatalities over the

same period. Per the Nepalese foreign employment promotion board, the majority of Nepalese workplace deaths in Qatar last year resulted from sudden cardiac arrest and workplace accidents, with a few deaths due to heart attacks.

NAZAR ALJASSAR

Opinion Columnist

Other cases of labor abuses brought to light include denial of free drinking water to workers, employer confiscation of Nepalese passports and living conditions in which workers share rooms with 11 others. Migrant workers who constructed luxury offices for Qatar's World Cup organizers reported last summer that their employers withheld their wages

for over a year. Qatar spent £2.5 million on the offices and their expensive etched glass, handmade Italian furniture and — as if the other features were not excessive enough — a heated executive toilet.

Qatar's labor abuses are even

But beneath the veneer of glitz and glamour is the ill-treatment of more than a million South Asian migrant workers on whose shoulders rest the demands of infrastructure building in poor living conditions.

more appalling when one considers that the end result of this recent development will be a sporting event. Pete Pattisson of The Guardian writes: "The overall picture is of one of the richest nations exploiting one of the poorest to get ready for the world's most popular sporting tournament." Moreover, inaction on the part of corporate World Cup sponsors and world leaders suggests a tacit

acceptance of de facto slavery. Are we living in the age of gladiator games where common decency and human dignity are peripheral to entertainment and sport?

If Qatar is to take steps towards fair labor standards, then its leaders

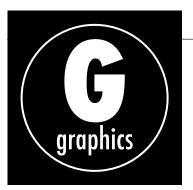
must begin with reform of the kafala system, a policy that requires migrant laborers to be sponsored by an employer responsible for their visa and legal status. Under this system, employers effectively control an individual's right to work and legal presence, creating an inequality of bargaining power that makes migrant workers easy targets for exploitation. Domestic competition for

migrant workers in Qatar essentially does not exist because workers are tied to the employers who sponsored their visas. Qatar pledged to reform its kafala system following a comprehensive review of migrant working conditions by international law firm DLA Piper last May. But Qatar continues to drag its feet as problems of worker abuse persist. Amnesty International has warned that Qatar's progress is "woefully inadequate."

Unfortunately, rumors that Qatari officials bribed FIFA Executive Committee members during the World Cup bidding process have overshadowed the plight of Qatar's migrant workers. Last November, German judge Hans-Joachim Eckert, who headed the adjudicatory unit of the FIFA ethics committee, concluded in his summary of the confidential Garcia Report — an investigation into the corruption allegations — that Qatar did not commit any violations during the bidding process. Critics have decried the Eckert summary as incomplete and careless. In response, FIFA has agreed to publish the entire 430-page dossier as the next step of this ongoing controversy.

Whether or not the bribing allegations against Qatari officials are true, one thing is certain: Qatar's abuse of migrant workers cannot continue. If Qatar is to continue to turn a blind eye to the issue, then its right to host the 2022 World Cup must be stripped.

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



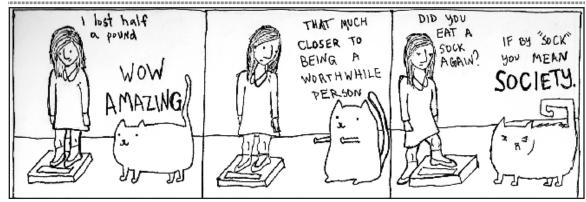
MOSTLY HARMLESS BY PETER SIMONSEN



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



NO PUN INTENDED BY CHARLOTTE RASKOVICH



MORE AWKWARD THAN SOME BY CHANCE LEE





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2.4.15 Open House 4-7 p.m. NEWCOMB THEATER



Emily Dinning Associate Editor

The University Medical Center was recently named one of the top 100 hospitals for women's health programs by Becker's Hospital Review.

The award is based on the facility's ability to "offer outstanding health services geared toward women, such as gynecology, obstetrics, women-focused heart care and women-focused cancer care, among other women's health needs," according to the maga-

Becker's Hospital Review, a

UHS recognized for top women's programs

Becker's Hospital Review names University Medical Center among top hospitals for female health care

nationally recognized health care trade publication, develops its list of top programs based on recognition from organizations in the

"This honor from Becker's Hospital Review highlights the high-quality care provided by our Women's Services and Children's Hospital teams across U.Va. Medical Center," said Dr. Jef Ferguson, chair of the obstetrics and gynecology department.

Becker's Hospital Review also ranked the University Medical Center in the 95th percentile in a survey of 2,666 hospitals for breastfeeding care by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Dec. 2014.

'The hospital facilities are unique and afford patients access to the most sophisticated technology available, which [focuses on] compassionate and individualized care," Ferguson said.

The University has partnered with neonatologists and other medical professionals from the Children's Hospital, as well as with many regional physicians, to ensure patients can deliver children comfortably and with immediate access to care, Ferguson said.

"We are fortunate to have an excellent reputation and to have been recognized by many state and national groups," Ferguson said. "We have marquee programs and services, and a team of physicians, mid-level providers and staff who truly care and are passionate about providing the best care possible to women of all



UHS was recognized by Becker's Hospital Review for outstanding care in areas ranging from obstetrics and gynecology to heart health and cancer care.

Documenting the stars

University researchers, astronomers to create public database offering massive interstellar data

Megan Talei Staff Writer

Researchers of the Sloan Digital Sky Survey released data from the third phase of a six-year astronomical survey of the Milky Way to the public on Jan. 7. Sloan Digital Sky Survey III, or SDSS III, was the result of a joint effort of 51 institutions, including the University.

The more than 100 terabytes of data gathered includes material on about half a billion stars and galaxies and will provide astronomers with groundbreaking data.

In 1998, the SDSS team began gathering data on outer space, using the 2.5-meter wide Sloan Foundation Telescope at

the Apache Point Observatory in New Mexico. The \$45 million SDSS III program started in 2008, and included four projects focusing on exploring the Milky Way and other galaxies, titled "BOSS" (Baryon Oscillation Spectroscopic Survey), "SEGUE" (Sloan Extension of Galactic Understanding and Exploration), "APOGEE" (the Apache Point Observatory Galactic Evolution Experiment) and "MARVELS" (Multi-object APO Radial Velocity Exoplanet Large-area Survey).

University researcher and Astronomy Prof. Michael Skrutskie led the team which designed the infrared-sensitive spectrograph, used by SDSS III scientists in deciphering the atomic makeup of more than stars throughout the

"U.Va. led the APOGEE survey, which has measured the light from many of the brightest stars in the Milky Way," said Craig Sarazin, an astronomer involved with SDSS III, in an email. "The object is to understand how the Milky Way formed. In the past, it was thought that our galaxy formed all at once by collapse due to gravity. Recently, it has become clear that the Milky Way is continually forming as small galaxies are pulled into it. The stars from each of these galaxies follow similar orbits in our galaxy, and they share a similar chemical make-up."

University researchers collaborated with other astronomers to compose a database of information gathered via observations of light passing through galaxies and individual stars to help scientists dig deeper into the history of the Milky Way and examine stars for possible surrounding

"Mapping out the elements in a star is like reading its DNA," APOGEE head researcher Steve Majewski said in a press release. "We're using those DNA readings to decode the history of the Milky Way from the stars that we can observe today."

Sarazin said the data collected through the four projects will benefit the international community in numerous ways - including findings on hypervelocity stars, which may shed light on obscure topics such as dark

"[Hypervelocity stars] are stars which are moving so fast they will escape the gravity of our galaxy and fly off into intergalactic space," Sarazin said.

"The idea is that they picked up .. these high speeds due to interacting with the super-massive black hole at the center of the Milky Way. This black hole has swallowed the equivalent of 4 million stars like [our] Sun."

SDSS III also explored several other projects, including investigating orbiting planets of nearby stars and creating advanced, three-dimensional maps of the

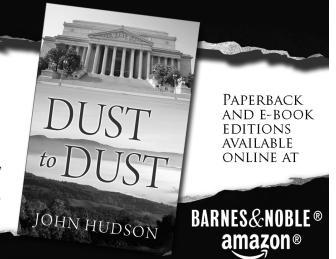
"The object of making all of the data public as quickly as possible is to harness the full imagination and creativity of the entire scientific world, which is bound to maximize the scientific impact of the surveys," Sarazin said.

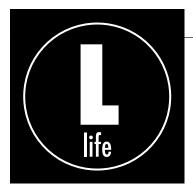
THE DEBUT NOVEL FROM JOHN HUDSON

The year is 1826 and Thomas Jefferson has just died. His beloved Monticello bustles with activity as funeral plans are swiftly organized for his burial in the family cemetery.

Fast forward to 2026. A group of researchers specializing in regeneration technology have found success after years of work and significant investment. Dr. Pat Alexander, head researcher at BioGen, announces to the assembled group of board members/investors that the regeneration of a circus chimpanzee, which died in a runaway circus wagon accident in 1926, has met with success: the animal is alive and well. Discussion turns to the final step in the researchers' plan - to bring back a human being - and after careful elimination, the candidates are whittled down to one name: Thomas Jefferson.

So begins this powerful debut novel—a book that examines human ambition gone wrong and chronicles the miraculous "rebirth" of the nation's third president, his struggles to assimilate, and the world's collective amazement at the science behind this feat. The American government swiftly becomes part of the oversight of the technology, and the 48th president personally introduces Jefferson to the 21st century. But with a lethal flaw in the researchers' technology, the world's unbridled excitement quickly erodes, leading to a destructive conclusion for all involved. Fortunes evaporate, beliefs are challenged, careers are ruined, and lives are lost in Dust to Dust.





Margaret Mason Feature Writer

Fourth-year College student Dyanna Jaye has traveled the country on behalf of Invisible Children, biked halfway across Canada, and participated as a student delegate in the United Nations Lima Climate Change Conference.

After her first year in the Engineering School, Jaye was unsure of her direction at the University. She took a gap year in 2012 to work as a roadie for the Invisible Children, an organization centered on bringing awareness to the Lord's Resistance Army and child soldiers of Central Africa. For 11 weeks, Jaye coordinated presentations on these issues across the United States.

"I think taking a year off from school is one of the best things people can do," Jaye said. "I came back knowing what I wanted to do [and] knowing the value of school a lot more. I switched my major and just fell in love with everything I was involved in."

After returning to Charlottesville, Jaye became involved in numerous environmental organizations on Grounds — eventually deciding to co-found her own. She established the Climate Action Society in 2013 and later became

Sustainability across the globe

Student leader takes reins on environmental activism

chair of the Virginia Student Environmental Coalition — an effort to increase coordination among student advocacy groups across the state.

"That has been what I love the most of the work that I do," she said. "It's really cool to be connected to campuses across Virginia."

After engaging with environmental work at the University. state and national level, Jaye took

As long as I'm young, I just want to help other

people realize their power as young people to

effect change. We are really powerful."

her ideas to the international

stage. She worked to amplify the

voices of young activists with a

group called SustainUS. The or-

ganization sends young people to

various United Nations confer-

ences — an effort to build a pow-

unique issue in that most of the

decisions being made affect youth

strongly," Jaye said. "The decisions

being made by people now will

affect us more than it will affect

Jaye traveled to Lima, Peru for

"[Climate change is] a really

erful presence of young ideas.

five weeks with Sustain US this past Winter Break. The trip consisted of a half-week student conference and two weeks at a United Nations Climate Change Conference.

"As a student it was really invigorating to participate in that because I have been studying it so much and it's invigorating to see knowledge applied," Jaye said. "It's not just like I'm sitting in a classroom studying policy, but I'm

> actually seeing those things play out in front of me."

> Jaye said the conference made her more cognizant of the challenges climate change presents and the role youth movements can play in finding solutions.

"[The UN Conference is a place of progress but it's not the answer,

and I definitely saw that," she said. "It made me realize how much more room there is for people, power and movements. The response to climate change is not going to come from a top-down policy decision on climate change. It involves people and it involves building things from the ground

By working with grassroots movements, attending lobby meetings and coordinating wider efforts, Jaye said she hopes to assist youth movements in holding



student Dyanna Jaye works on environmental issues at the University, state and internationa levels. This past Winter Break, Jaye attended the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Lima. Peru as an activist with SustainUS.

Fourth-year College

Xiaoqi Li | The Cavalier Daily

local, state, national and international leaders accountable.

Climate Action Co-Founder Lia Cattaneo, a thirdyear College student, said Jaye is fundamentally "a people person."

"She believes in the power of people and the power of people to change the world," Cattaneo said. "She sees grassroots movements and people coming together as a force for change."

Jaye will graduate from the

University this May with a Bachelor of Science in environmental science and a Bachelor of Arts in Global Developmental Studies. She intends to continue coordinating environmental movements and mobilizing youth after gradu-

"As long as I'm young, I just want to help other people realize their power as young people to effect change," she said. "We are really powerful."

University students launch 'Pear' matchmaking app

New program pairs users based on mutual Facebook friends

Danaite Soquar Feature Writer

After finding limited success with popular dating apps like Tinder, second-year College student Joshua Choi took matters into his own hands — developing the mobile app Pear, which launches in Apple and Android stores this week. The app, Choi said, relies on users' natural inclination to play matchmaker with their friends.

"I found that a lot of relationships start through friends of friends," Choi said. "We wanted to capture the matchmaker aspect in real life, where it's casual, and put that into the app."

The free app asks individuals to suggest pairs among their Facebook friends. It then asks other users who are mutual friends with the suggested pair to vote "yes" or "no" on the potential match.

If enough friends vote "yes," the matchmaker can encourage the two to message one another otherwise, the two cannot directly interact on the app.

"A user could add a crush to his or her wishlist, secretly, and have feedback from hundreds of friends as to whether they think they'd be right for each other," second-year Engineering student Alexander Ramey said. "This sort of crowdsourcing [applied to relationships] is a new and exciting

The app also uses factors like location, school and graduation year when pairing individuals. Users are intended to range from high school students to young

"I hope that [the app] gets some traction and entertains a lot of people," Ramey said. "Hopefully, it will be a catalyst for some people to meet that special some-

Choi, who oversees web development, business and legal matters, collaborated with fourthyear College student William Schneider and Ramey on the technical aspects of Pear. Schneider is the Android version developer, and Ramey manages the iOS model of the app.

"I'd say the professionalism of the group I'm working with really pushes me to keep up with a little friendly competition as we develop our separate platform versions," Schneider said.

The group plans to launch a second version of the app in the future, which will expand factors for matching to include similar interests listed on Facebook. The team also hopes to release Pear globally, with versions in other languages.

"I want Pear to make an impact and hold the attention of a lot of users, because we have plenty more planned for future features

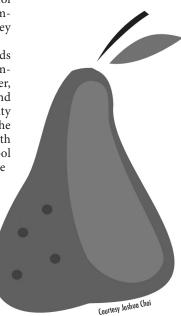
and updates," Schneider said.

The Pear team uses server and user feedback tests to determine the app's effectiveness, and Choi recruited testers during the summer to get an idea of what they liked about the app.

Pear received financial awards from the Engineering School Entrepreneurship Cup in November, which his team used for legal and server costs. In addition, faculty members David Touve from the Commerce School and Elizabeth Pyle from the Engineering School mentored Choi throughout the development process.

Choi said the app development and launch process thus far has proved a rewarding experience.

"Seeing other people use the application and realizing how long people are using and enjoying [it] has been my favorite part," Choi said.



LOVE CONNECTION:

OSCAR & A



Year: Fourth
Major: Economics
Hometown: Richmond

Ideal Date Personality: The effervescence of Jennifer Lawrence after acquiring Emma Watson's wit and Amy Poehler's humor.

Ideal Date Activity: One-on-one basketball, followed by 18 holes of golf, followed by dinner and a movie. *Deal breakers?* Unappreciative, full of complaints, a

Chelsea fan.

Hobbies: Camping, building things, investing, making

Hobbies: Camping, building things, investing, making music, gaming.

What makes you a good catch? One word: synergy. What's your favorite pick-up line? When your legs don't work like they used to before, and I can't sweep you off of your feet, will your eyes still smile from your cheeks? Describe yourself in one sentence: I like to keep things simple, yet pay acute attention to the details.

OSCAR

Courtesy Osca

Blind date turned high school reunion

Alex Stock

Oscar and Hoa met at Old Cabell at 3 p.m. and went to Mellow Mushroom on the Corner.

Hoa: The Love Connection articles are always so funny to read, so I signed up because it would be hilarious to see how the experience turned out.

Oscar: [I signed up for Love Connection because] I'm a fourth year in my graduating semester, and honestly, have been starting to see the horizon lately.

Hoa: I was surprised [when I got picked] since I sent in the survey last semester. The first people I told were my residents. They were the ones who filled out the survey for me.

Oscar: I was ecstatic and jumpy [when I found out]. I would liken the feeling to winning the lottery or opening a med school acceptance letter. Okay, a bit of hyperbole — but while I do hate surprises and having to form expectations [based] off of virtually nothing, I was looking forward to it.

Hoa: I've never been on a blind date and really had no expectations coming in.

Oscar: This was my first time on a blind date. My expectations were neutral — just to meet someone new and get to know them a little bit. I will say, though, that once these things get into motion, it's not as simple as a finger gesture on your smartphone to [get] rid of them.

Hoa: I was running a little late by the time I got there. With Old Cabell under construction, I couldn't tell if anyone was there at first.

Oscar: I was waiting under the scaffolding — which, by the way, is probably one of the least romantic meeting places around — and then I see Hoa coming towards me. My heart started pounding intensely. You see, Hoa and I went to high school together.

Hoa: I immediately laughed at the whole situation. Oscar is someone I have known since high school, so it definitely wasn't a

Year: Fourth
Major: Biomedical Engineering
U.Va. Involvement: Resident Advisor, Alpha Omega Epsilon, Orientation Leader, Engineering Student Council.

Hometown: Richmond

Ideal Date: Tall, fit, nice hair with good flow.

Ideal Date Personality: Good sense of humor, smart, doesn't take themselves too seriously.

Ideal Date Activity: Dinner or drinks at a venue with live music. Deal breakers? Closed-minded, arrogant, cigarette smokers. He must like Taylor Swift.

Hobbies: Catching up with friends, being outside, going to art galleries.

What makes you a good catch? I'm used to coverage, so I can stay up all night.

What makes you a less-than-perfect catch? I'm used to coverage, so I can watch you all night while you sleep. What's your favorite pick-up line? You must be my MCAT score

because I'm smart enough to do better, but too tired to try.

Describe yourself in one sentence: I'm Hoa — like

wahoowa.

H0/



Courtesy Hoa

blind date. We had actually planned on getting brunch over break, but I wasn't able to make it

Oscar: I've actually had a crush on her for six, nay, nearly eight years, but after being [put] into separate castes by the E-School and the College, it's been difficult to initiate things. I know I sound like a hopeless romantic, but I had been yearning for the moment when Hoa and I would go out on a date for a long time.

Hoa: 3 p.m. is an awkward time to grab food, but we both had the same idea of going somewhere to watch the basketball game. We ended up going to Mellow.

Oscar: The conversation throughout was like water on a river flowing downstream — hit a few bumps and bends along the way, but ultimately gravity, or talking about interesting topics and life, prevailed.

Hoa: It was a pretty easy conversation,

since we've both known each other for a while now. We talked a good amount about how it was going to be weird graduating and our upcoming rushes next week.

Oscar: I would gaze into her deep, brown eyes which led me to feel a connection that I haven't ever felt before on a first date. The chemistry between us was as real as the barbeque chicken pizza brought out to us and the phenomenal record of the men's basketball team. She knew I would like barbeque pizza before opening the menu. It was an amazing feeling.

Hoa: [We're] definitely friends. It was nice catching up with him.

Oscar: We have some mutual friends and we're planning on doing a high school reunion with the other people who go here, so we'll probably hang out again.

Hoa: [After the date] we were heading in the same direction back to dorms. I wanted

to see if one of our RA friends was home. I insisted on splitting the bill, but he paid for it.

Oscar: Relationships and intimacy don't happen overnight. There will be a future between us whether we remain friends or something more. My date was a beautiful, charming and down-to-earth woman.

Hoa: [I'm] not sure if you can really call it a date, since it was just two old friends hanging out. I [would rate it] a 6 or 7. The highlight was our boys winning against Boston College and still being undefeated. I'd give a 10 for that.

Oscar: [I'd rate it an] 8 out of 10. It was an enjoyable and memorable date. Not like anything I expected, since the blind date became something short of a dream come true.

Want to be featured on the Love Connection? Now is the best time to apply! Click here to fill out our survey and send it in.

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CREW CREW

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Marshall Bronfin | The Cavalier Dai

The University's student cheer section, Hoo Crew, aims to create an atmosphere of camaraderie and positivity at sports games.

Hollering for the Hoos

Student cheer section expands beyond basketball team, fosters community spirit

Brittany Hsieh Feature Writer

The University's student cheer section — Hoo Crew — has supported the men's basketball team in victory after victory this season as the undefeated squad defends its No. 2 slot in college hoops.

As its orange-clad members help to fill the stands and enliven the crowd at John Paul Jones Arena, Hoo Crew is sticking true to its roots — supporting Virginia's basketball team was the original task of the student group when it launched in 2005. In the years since its creation, however, Hoo Crew has expanded to fill the student sections for nearly all University teams.

"[We wanted to] make it so that every student at the University of Virginia can be a part of Hoo Crew," said Hoo Crew Vice President Dylan Fogarty, a fourth-year College student.

Hoo Crew members created a system called the Orange Passport program — which incentivizes members to attend a diverse range of games across the University's athletics program.

"We provide pizza and T-shirts [and] keep track of people's points by scanning their passports," said Orange Passport Chair Robert Petri, a fourth-year College student. "This helps students get points, and essentially increases [their] chance of getting tickets come basketball season."

Even at games not part of the Orange Passport schedule, Hoo Crew members can always be spotted cheering on their fellow Wahoos at University sporting events.

"[The athletes] put so much work and time into practicing, playing the games, and traveling that they should have the support of the student body all the time," said Director of Internal Operations Logan Dickinson, a third-year Education student. "I definitely think they appreciate us coming out and doing our best to promote people to come out to the games."

At games, members of Hoo Crew work to create an air of positivity and camaraderie among attendees — rather than slandering opposing teams.

"This is my first year on the

committee so I've never been a part of the selection process, but everyone that has been selected to be on the committee are respectable enough to not say comments that put other people down," second-year College student Jake Gore said.

As the 2014 winner of the Naismith Student Section of the Year, the Hoo Crew-led University fans hope to help watch coach Tony Bennett and his squad through a successful conference schedule this winter, while also coming out in support of a host of other University teams. Next up for the Orange Passport program is a swimming and diving matchup against North Carolina next Saturday.

Though Hoo Crew committee members go through a selection process before joining, Dickinson said the aim of the group is to be as inclusive as possible.

"We consider every member of U.Va. a member of Hoo Crew regardless of if you are on the committee," Dickinson said. "We see our purpose as supporting U.Va., and we want to focus on U.Va. players and staying positive."

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