

THE FUTURE OF UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP

Sullivan organizes new provost search committee

Katie Grimesey
Senior Writer

University President Teresa Sullivan has organized a search committee to determine potential candidates for the University's next executive vice president and provost.

John D. Simon, the outgoing provost, will serve as the new president of Lehigh University starting July 1, 2016.

The new provost will serve as the University's chief academic officer, report to the president and serve as the University's second-in-command.

The search committee is made up of students and faculty from across the University and will work with search firm Korn

Ferry. The committee will work to consider all nominations by members of the University community.

University spokesperson Anthony de Bruyn said in an email that the new provost must have high dedication to academic and scholarly standards and the vision necessary to promote those standards effectively.

"She or he will have a commitment to enhancing the quality of student learning and the ability to identify, improve and increase opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration in research, scholarship and teaching among faculty," de Bruyn said.

De Bruyn also said the Provost will have a doctorate or equivalent terminal degree with

a record suitable for a full tenured professor.

"The successful candidate will possess significant leadership, management and financial experience in complex higher education or similar settings, as well as a dedication to creating a diverse, open and inclusive environment in all aspects of University life," de Bruyn said.

De Bruyn said it is common practice for an institution of the University's size and scope to collaborate with an executive search firm when attempting to identify the best possible candidates for a senior executive leadership position.

Both de Bruyn and Sullivan said the search committee will complete search by the end of the spring semester.

I would like to see us put even greater emphasis on civic education and participation. [...] I pledge that the Center for Politics will do its part to achieve both these goals.

—Larry Sabato
Professor of Politics and
Director of U.Va. Center for Politics

I would like University officials to be more forthcoming.

—Will Fahy
First-year College student

Discussion begins over extending Sullivan's contract

Some support University president, others seek administrative change

Jenna Dickerson
Associate Editor

The University has commenced an internal evaluation of University President Teresa Sullivan to determine whether to extend her current contract. Sullivan's contract is set to expire July 31, 2016.

Board of Visitors Rector

George Keith Martin said that while the consideration of Sullivan's contract is now in a formal evaluation stage, this is only part of a more general, constant reassessment of her tenure.

"Consistent with good board governance, the evaluation of the University president is a continuous, ongoing process," Martin said in an

email. "We are currently in the midst of the formal evaluation period."

Sullivan, who took office in 2010 as the University's eighth president, said the work and projects she has spearheaded are part of an ongoing process, and that she would like to continue working with the University community on important University opportunities.

"I look forward to continuing to work with the Board of Visitors, students, faculty, staff, parents,

alumni and supporters on the many important opportunities ahead for this great institution," Sullivan said in an email. "My goal as president has been and will continue to be working to ensure that the University of Virginia remains

one of the nation's finest institutions of higher education, and striving not only to maintain but to enhance its excellence in teaching, research, patient care and public service."

Student referendums on Sullivan's tenure have by and

see CONTRACT, page 2



CONTRACT | President's contract to end in 2016

Continued from page 1

large been a mixed bag.

Second-year College student Jackson Nell said he believes Sullivan has done her best in response to each of the challenges the University community has faced — from devoting top University resources to the search for second-year College student Hannah Graham to supporting the student body through the Rolling Stone crisis.

“I think she catalyzed a much deserved conversation about the University’s culture and the need to actively combat domestic and sexual violence,” Nell said. “I believe that her efforts to be actively present in our community through her emails and her working groups have fostered greater University attention to issues of domestic and sexual violence as well as issues regarding U.Va.’s often troubling past regarding gender, socioeconomic and racial equality.”

While the University community has faced its fair share of traumatic and unsettling challenges over the last five years, Nell said he would not expect Sullivan to face any significant challenges in extending her con-

tract.

“I think she has brought a ton of energy, increased transparency and greater administration-student dialogue to Grounds throughout her time here,” he said. “I hope that she is able to continue her efforts to make U.Va. the premier public university in this nation.”

Other students, however, feel Sullivan has not done an adequate job serving the University.

First-year College student Aethena Brooks said she does not believe Sullivan should return to the University after her contract ends.

“I think in light of recent events, the way she’s handled the things that have happened... I just don’t think she’s handled them well,” Brooks said. “I don’t feel that she’s a student advocate who supports the community.”

Parker Ramsay, a fourth-year College student, said cuts to the AccessUVa program are an important legacy of Sullivan’s tenure.

“[Sullivan] has done a marvelous job causing an uproar,” Ramsay said. “I think if she wants to keep her job, she needs to fight for AccessUVa. She needs to put a lot of work into that program, because that is

flying so low under the radar.”

Ramsay also criticized Sullivan’s administration for infringing upon student self-governance and lacking transparency.

“There are certain things that get determined without student knowledge,” he said. “Transparency with the administration, why we need so much administration staff — there are a lot of things we need to work on. It’s the decisions that are being made without student knowledge that I have a problem with — especially ones that affect students so strongly.”

Board of Visitors student representative Meg Gould, a fourth-year College student, said she has developed a good working relationship with Sullivan during her time on the board, and that Sullivan has been responsive to student concern.

“I think that she has done her best to make sure that all voices have been included in the conversation so that she is making very deliberate and comprehensive decisions,” Gould said.

“Especially seeing what she’s done with the Ad Hoc group, and more particularly the working groups. I think she has done an excellent job in making sure that she is really reaching out

to everyone — and that is more broadly than students [but includes] alumni, faculty and staff as well.”

Because of her status as a student representative to the Board of Visitors and her involvement in the Board’s review of Sullivan’s performance, Gould could not reveal whether she supports the renewal of Sullivan’s contract.

Second-year College Student Zachary Ackerman said the way the University continues to handle the sexual assault allegations made in the Rolling Stone article will shape his opinion on the effectiveness of the administration.

“Being here for two years hasn’t given me the strongest opinion either way,” Ackerman said. “I feel that as students we don’t often see what the president does until moments like [the release of the Rolling Stones article]. I think someone should look into what happened regarding the article and the claims made in them.”

Martin said he hopes to conclude the evaluation process no later than June 30, 2015.

—Chloe Heskett contributed reporting to this article.

THE CAVALIER DAILY

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Ragged Mountain Running plans year-long marathon

Event to incorporate 34 community race events supporting local non-profit organizations

Mairead Crotty
Senior Writer

Ragged Mountain Running Shop is currently organizing a marathon, dubbed the C-VILLE-athon, to take place over a year. Co-sponsored with the C-Ville Weekly, the C-VILLE-athon will consist of 34 non-profit races held around Charlottesville to benefit local causes. Events include the Fourth Year 5K and the Charlottesville Ten Miler.

Mark Lorenzoni, Ragged Mountain Running Shop co-owner, said he imagines three principal benefits of the event, including appeal to a wider audience.

"One [benefit] is that you get people who couldn't handle completing a marathon to say that they have, in a year, accomplished a marathon's worth of racing," Lorenzoni said. "This is another stepping-stone to getting to a real marathon."

Lorenzoni said the C-VILLE-athon represents a great fundraising opportunity. Estimating that the Ragged Mountain Running has raised around \$5 million through nonprofit races since its opening in 1982, he said the C-VILLE-athon is a way to build on the store's progress in fundraising.

"The purpose is to get people more involved in local causes," Lorenzoni said. "The races were carefully chosen in that they are 100 percent not for profit ... All money goes right back to the cause, and all are volunteer based."

Because the longest race is 10 miles, runners must participate in multiple races to run a full marathon and complete the 26.2 miles. In doing so, runners are exposed to more charities, likely furthering their involvement with the community.

Lorenzoni also said this would also benefit the runners, in addition to local charities and could be accomplished by runners of all

levels of expertise.

"I think it's just being a little more connected to their community, more aware of their causes and the thrill of doing a poor-man's marathon," Lorenzoni said. "Beginner runners — they can accomplish this ... It isn't about ability, it's about participation."

Lorenzoni said the C-VILLE-athon has the potential to bring the University and Charlottesville communities closer together, since some of the events are held on Grounds and organized by students.

"This would be a good way to get involved in student-run runs," Lorenzoni said.

Second-year College student Tracy Cote said the event made her more likely to participate in community races.

"It gives me more incentive to keep track of the races I've done," Cote said. "It gives you a goal to work toward. You can still feel the accomplishment of a marathon."



Akash Khungar | The Cavalier Daily

Ragged Mountain Running Shop, above, is estimated to have raised \$5 million through non-profit races since the shop opened in 1982.

House of Delegates allows Uber, Lyft DMV licensing

Legislation requires new driver screening, extensive background checks in light of recent Uber rape allegations

Samantha Josey-Borden
Associate Editor

The Virginia House of Delegates passed legislation Friday to allow Transportation Network Companies to be licensed by the Department of Motor Vehicles. Del. Tom Rust, R-Herndon, who sponsored the bill, said TNCs — which include companies such as Uber and Lyft — are highly popular among Virginians and have garnered success in other states.

Del. Tim Hugo, R-Fairfax, also expressed his support of the legislation in a press release.

"The legislation that passed today provides the perfect balance of public safety measures while fostering innovation," Hugo said. "Improving transportation for Virginians takes more than just building infrastructure; it requires us to embrace new technology to better meet citizens' transportation needs."

While the bill just passed through the state legislative body, companies like Uber have fostered their presence throughout the state for months. The UberX Charlottesville team arrived before the start of the fall semester.

"In crafting this legislation,

we sought input from all stakeholders involved, and I'm grateful for their many hours of work on it," Rust said. "When the Governor signs it into law, Virginians can take advantage of this new technology with assurance that reasonable safety and liability measures are governing its use."

The bill will require the TNCs to fulfill multiple requirements, such as screening drivers and ensuring that each driver employed by these companies is at least 21 years old and has an appropriate driver's license.

In response to recent controversy regarding Uber rape allegations in major international cities, the bill will require transportation companies to complete extensive background checks of every driver — including criminal background, driving history and history of sexual offenses.

The bill also requires all TNC partner vehicles be titled and registered personal vehicles, have insurance and have a maximum seating capacity of no more than seven passengers, excluding the driver.

House Speaker William Howell, R-Stafford, said the legislation shows a compromise in the community.

"This legislation is a true compromise, incorporating in-

put from the public, from the companies, from the DMV, from taxicab operators and many others," Howell said.

Uber has maintained a presence in Charlottesville for over a semester, but some students said the company's presence has not been as apparent on locations such as the Corner compared to competitors such as Yellow Cab

and College Cab.

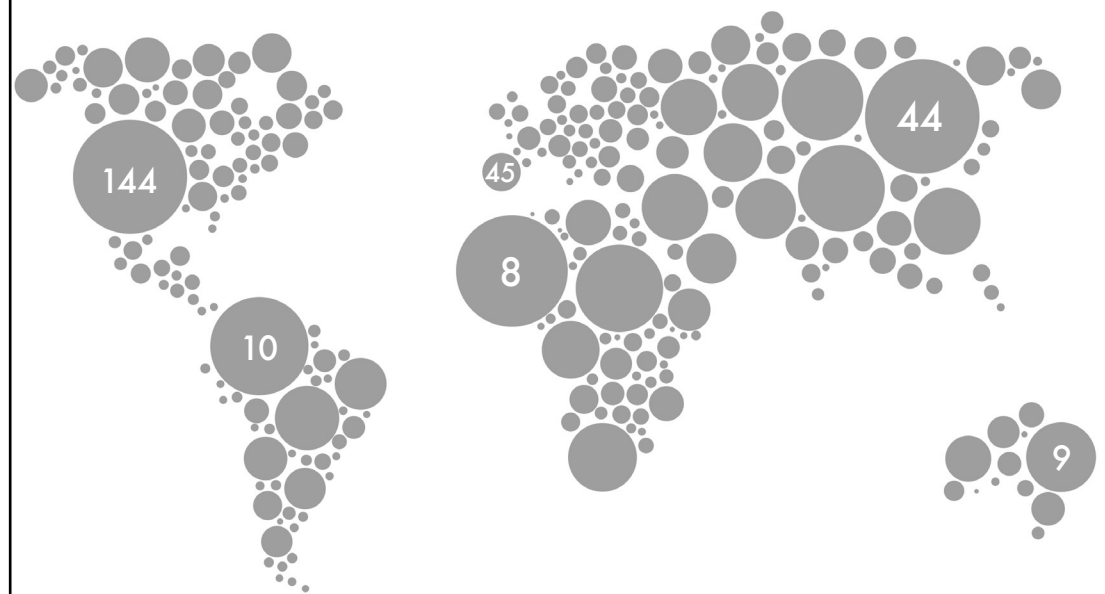
Second-year College student Lorial Yeadon said she noticed an Uber vehicle for the first time this past weekend during the Super Bowl.

"It's weird because you would think they would stand out more and have a larger presence during the weekend in order to get more popularity from students,"

Yeadon said. "When I use them at home in Seattle, they are all usually black and have a unified look."

Under the bill, the DMV will have the authority to conduct periodic reviews of TNCs in order to ensure the requirements are being fulfilled and will authorize fees for DMV to cover the costs of implementing this program.

Uber Locations Worldwide



*Numbers indicate the amount of locations per continent

Graphic by Morgan Hale | The Cavalier Daily

Citizens discuss Lee-Jackson Day

Opponents say holiday observance is shameful, offensive

Hailey Ross
Senior Writer

Charlottesville City Council met Monday night to discuss whether the city should continue to recognize a state holiday honoring Confederate State Army Generals Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson. Observed the Friday before Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Lee-Jackson Day commemorates Lee's and Jackson's birthdays.

Speakers at the meeting included residents from Richmond and Petersburg, many of whom opposed the holiday. Letters of support and opposition sent from states across the country were also read during the Council meeting.

John McAlister, a resident of Columbus, Ohio, sent a letter expressing his support for the holiday. McAlister said ceasing to

celebrate the holiday would be disrespectful to Lee and Jackson.

"The Lee-Jackson Holiday honors two American Veterans," his letter read. "To deny them the honor and remembrance they deserve is to insult and dishonor all veterans. As a person now living in Ohio, whose ancestors come from Virginia, I consider these two men great American veterans who deserve the credit and honor they have received for all these years and into the future."

Others expressed opposition to the holiday, stating that the holiday is shameful and offensive.

Charlottesville resident Diana Filipi said the holiday only served to exacerbate racial divides.

"I do not think it is appropriate to celebrate Lee-Jackson day as a holiday," Filipi said. "We want racial tensions to subside and this holiday does nothing to further

that goal."

Charlottesville City Hall closes in observance of Lee-Jackson Day, and classes are cancelled for Virginia Tech students on the holiday. Other Virginia cities, including Waynesboro, Staunton and Richmond, however, no longer observe the holiday in an official capacity.

Council member Kristin Szakos said celebrating Lee-Jackson Day is not appropriate due to the racial issues inherent to any discussion of the Civil War.

"Some people talk about how especially General Lee was an honorable man and a good guy," Szakos said. "But from my perspective ... , to be celebrating a holiday that honors people who fought for the right of white Virginians to enslave their black neighbors is not appropriate."

History Prof. Gary Gallagher, who specializes in the Civil War,



Courtesy Flickr Commons

Supporters of the holiday celebrating Generals Lee (above) and Jackson say ceasing to observe the day would show disrespect to American war veterans.

opted to remain neutral on the debate.

"My opinion is that localities should be able to decide on such questions," Gallagher said in an email. "Whatever the official decision of a locality, those who wish

to observe such holidays have the option to do so."

The City Council will reconvene Feb. 17 to decide whether Charlottesville will continue to recognize Lee-Jackson Day as a local government holiday.

University group hosts event, discusses North Korean regime

CIO Liberty in North Korea raises \$2,136 to support North Koreans who have taken refuge in China

Anna Higgins
Senior Writer

University group Liberty in North Korea hosts event against genocide

Anna Higgins, Senior Writer

University student group Liberty in North Korea hosted an event Monday titled How to Stop Genocide in North Korea. Four North Korean refugees attended the meeting and spoke about their experiences living in and escaping from North Korea, as well as how to effect change among a totalitarian regime.

LiNK works to promote awareness surrounding — and fundraising to combat — the plight of North Koreans by hosting speakers and reaching out to refugees in the Charlottesville community. The CIO has raised \$2,136, which has been used to provide for a North Korean refugee who was living in China.

LiNK President Jasmine Cha, a third-year Engineering student, said the organization also works to support refugees present in the community.

"Being able to reach out to them and help them with translation services or other things they need, we try to do that or try to meet up with them and remind them that even though their journey is over and we still care for their wellbeing," Cha said.

Cha said one of LiNK's members first approached her about a North Korean woman traveling the United States telling her story, but her manager was ultimately able to bring three additional refugees to visit the Uni-

versity to share their experiences.

Roughly 70 attendees listened to the refugees' stories, and though the speakers addressed the crowd in their native Korean, Hyun S. Song — their translator — related the stories in English. The first speaker, Hyeon aji, described the brutality of North Korean prison camps established for those who had escaped and had been repatriated.

"The women who come back to North Korea from China often come back pregnant because they are sold into human trafficking, so there are forced to have an abortion," Ji said. "I was forced to have an abortion and there was no anesthesia used on me to dull the pain."

A second speaker, Johan Kim, described his life in North Korea as a singer, as well as his conversion to Christianity once he escaped to China. After growing up in North Korea where propaganda condemned Christianity, he said he was surprised by the scenes he encountered at Christian churches.

"This man who I had never seen in my life was feeding me and clothing me," Kim said. "He was kneeling before the cross in the sanctuary, praying out loud, and that scene was very shocking to me."

Kim said the underground Church in North Korea is an old but continually growing movement, though believers painstakingly work to keep their faith underground.

"Once I returned after becoming a Christian, I was able to meet my mother and I found out that my relatives on my mother's side had been

secret Christians all along," Kim said. "Even a mother cannot reveal to her own children that she is a believer."

Kim said the North Korean government officially sanctions three religions — Confucianism, Buddhism and Christianity — but in a disingenuous and state-controlled setup.

"These three organizations are all fake and all for show," Kim said. "The chairpersons of these three organizations are basically members of the Workers' Party that show loyalty not to their respective gods or religious leaders, but to Kim Jong-un."

The four speakers also discussed the heavy propaganda the North Korean government exposes its citizens to. A third refugee, Praise Ju, said the experience of listening to radio programming not sanctioned by the North Korean government was thrilling.

"Every night my family listened to the radio secretly under the blanket," Ju said. "We were listening to South Korea's voice on the radio and it was so amazing."

However, she also said the totalitarian regime does successfully control the nation's media and has firmly established loyalty among many citizens.

"When Kim Jong-il and Kim Il-sung died, the tears shed by all the people was a genuine emotion by those people," Ji said. "The reason why I say this is because so many North Koreans have been brainwashed to have that emotional response when those two leaders died."

The three refugees who spoke to the audience discussed the impor-



Mitchell Vaughn | The Cavalier Daily

Four refugees, above, addressed students about their experiences with the totalitarian regimes of Kim Jong-il and Kim Jong-un to raise awareness of injustices in North Korea.

tance of informing themselves about the North Korean regime and spreading this knowledge to others, saying this represents a way to effect change in the country and help its people.

"We can all work together to continue to fight the regime and bring information to North Korea and find ways to really stop genocide in North Korea," Kim said.

A number of event attendees said they found the talk to be inspiring and eye-opening. First-year Engineering student Tushar Maharishi said he thought the refugees' stories were authentic and moving.

"I thought it was really amazing how honest and open they were with their stories, how they talked about what they experienced in China and going back to the prison camps," Maharishi said.

First-year Engineering student Carolina Chung thought it was im-

portant for students to understand the situation in North Korea because of the younger generation's ability to learn more and take action in the future.

"We're young enough that we have an influence," Chung said. "We're more open to taking their stories and experiences and spreading them to other people so they're aware."

Cha said she was pleased with the event's turnout and the audience reception of the speakers.

"It was great to see that all the work the officers put in and all the work the defectors and their translator put in really created an event that meant a lot to everyone," Cha said. "It was just great to hear their stories and hear what they think the next step will be."

Cha said the speakers may return to speak with students again in the future due to the success of the event.

Legislation would restructure ABC

Del. Dave Albo says changes would make ABC operations efficient, cost-effective

Hannah Mezzacappa
Senior Writer

Both houses of the Virginia state legislature are considering bills which would allow the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control to operate outside of government authority. The new organization would be called the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority.

Del. Dave Albo, R-Springfield, proposed House bill 1776 currently under consideration, which would replace ABC with the new authority.

"This bill basically does two things: transforms ABC into an authority and allows it to operate outside of government regulations," Albo said.

ABC is currently a department of the Virginia state government and controls the possession, sale, transportation and delivery of alcoholic beverages within the state. The department also establishes and operates stores for the sale of distilled spirits.

Albo said he would like to see ABC operating more like a business.

"Government agencies have to follow certain procurement rules," he said. "It's really hard to run a [shelf] business when you can't go out and buy shelves when you need them. Instead it takes six months to procure [products]."

Sen. Ryan McDougle, R-Hanover, sponsored Senate bill 1032, also currently under consideration. McDougle said the changes proposed in the bill would similarly allow ABC to operate like a business as opposed to a government agency.

"We hope to enable ABC to do things a business would do to increase profits and have better customer service," McDougle said.

"[These changes] will enable ABC to be managed and operated more like a business instead of a strictly governmental entity."

An independent authority could also more readily fire employees who are not performing up to standards, Albo said.

"Government employees have more rights than regular employees, so it takes longer to fire under-performers," he said.

McDougle said the change allows for more flexibility in employment without sacrificing the rights of employees.

"Employees [of ABC] will still be able to work and they'll still have certain rights, but [ABC] will have some flexibility in the hiring and firing process," said McDougle.

Albo also said the new system will be more cost efficient.

"ABC is going to save a lot of money on procurement services," Albo said. "They also won't have to use the state computer system. We expect ABC to be able to raise more money by operating more efficiently, and then that money goes to the General Assembly fund."

Although the ABC Authority would be independent of the state, its profits would still benefit the Virginia government. The General Assembly fund contributes to departments such as education, transportation, law enforcement and public health and safety.

If the bills pass, the state government will not require ABC to follow as many constraints as it has in the past, McDougle said.

"[These changes] will free ABC of some of the bureaucratic constraints it operates under today," McDougle said.

Currently, ABC is governed by three board members appointed

by the governor. The proposed bill would change ABC board member selection processes. For example, commissioners will now require a business degree. The Senate bill would require the same stipulations.

"There will still be a board and a director," McDougle said. "We'll stagger appointments so that there's continuity of leadership on the board [that] will expand past the governor's term of office."

If the bills pass, they are set to be implemented in 2018.

Albo said the new governor and board will help to smoothly transition into the new system.

"All the employees, rules, and regulations will transfer over," Albo said. "Not much implementand it was so amazing."

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ABC House Bill 1776 and Senate Bill 1032

If Passed:



Creates Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority



Eliminates the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board (ABC)



Appoints the Board of Directors of the Authority by the General Assembly, with the concurrence of the governor



Provides for the transfer of current ABC employees to the Authority



Continues such employees' participation in the state health plan and VRS



Sets out the powers and duties of the Authority and the Chief Executive Officer

Graphic by Anne Owen | The Cavalier Daily

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Virginia House bill caps student athletics fees

Legislation to limit tuition amount supporting university athletic departments

Lee Williams
Senior Writer

The House of Delegates passed a bill Jan. 23 which would cap the percentage of student fees supporting athletics in all Virginia higher-level-education institutions. House Bill 1897 — sponsored by Del. Kirk Cox, R-Colonial Heights — requires schools to limit student fees funding their athletic department budgets.

Cox proposed the bill Jan. 14 after reviewing a comprehensive examination of higher level education by the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission in Virginia. JLARC found that although only three per-

cent of students at Virginia institutions participate in varsity athletics, an average 69 percent of subsidies for athletic departments come from student fees.

Cox said this situation means less funding for academics because less student-generated capital is available for non-athletic department use.

"If an institution uses up what it can reasonably generate on athletic costs, it doesn't really have the ability it needs to generate non-general funds for academics," he said. "That drafts demands for increased general funds to support those academic functions."

As a result, a school in need of additional funds is likely to turn to

the Commonwealth government for help. This showcases the close relationship the public government has with higher level education institutions, Cox said. Given the legislature's connection with the policies of higher level public education financing, Cox said the bill is intended to ensure Virginia athletic departments find ways to generate revenue outside of increasing student fees.

"One of the things I've really tried to push with them is they need to get their generated revenue up," he said. "The statistics have shown that student fees have gone up a lot faster than generated revenue."

The House studied 230 NCAA Division I schools and determined

the average percentage of student subsidy for the athletic department in several different categories of schools — including Division 1A, FBS and 1AA. These percentages served as benchmark figures with which the legislature assessed Virginia institutions and set fee caps.

The University — a member of the "Power Five" Division 1A category — is allowed to allocated up to 20 percent of student tuition to its athletic department. However, the University allocates about 15 percent of student fees for athletics, so the bill does not directly impact the University's current budgeting system.

Schools currently allocating funds to athletic departments greater than

what the new bill allows have five years to transition below the threshold. The state government will require that these institutions submit five year plans outlining how the decreased student subsidy will be achieved.

All public educational institutions in the state of Virginia are divided into three tiers, which successively determine how much financial and administrative operational authority the institution has. Should a school fail to decrease the percentage of funds supporting varsity athletics after the five years, it would be dropped to a lower tier.

The University Athletic Department declined to comment.

Princeton Review ranks University 'best value' public education

Review says strong alumni network contributes to undergraduate, graduate success

Catherine Griesedieck
Senior Writer

The University was rated the best value public college by the Princeton Review in their new book released Tuesday. The University was ranked 16th in the top 50 "best value" colleges, private or public, and ranked eighth in terms of alumni network strength.

Dean of Admissions Gregory Roberts said he does not believe the new rankings will have a strong impact on the applicant pool, but recognizes that high rankings are valuable to the school.

"It's nice for the University to be recognized as a great value — especially during a time when the cost of a college education is rising and families are concerned about not only net cost of attendance but return on investment," he said.

Princeton Review has published a "Best Value Colleges" book every year from 2004-14. In 2014, the University ranked third for high value public universities. Changes in ranking criteria may have contributed to the rank improvement.

Robert Franek, Princeton Review's senior vice president of publishing, said the new book also includes ratings of the career ser-

vices provided by the universities, majors chosen by students and the salaries and jobs offered after graduation.

Many applicants and parents worry that college may not be worth the costs, so the goal of this book is to show them "why college is worth it," Franek said. The book gages future job security of institutions nationwide to provide a list of the 200 best value schools, he said.

Princeton Review sent surveys to the University alumni asking average starting salary and mid-career salary after working 10-15 years.

"[We asked if] they feel that their school contributed to where they were financially and [if they] were they happy with the jobs they ended up [in]," Franek said.

Franek said the University stood apart in the rankings in three core areas, including financial aid, merit-based scholarships and the alumni network. Currently, the University pledges to fulfill 100 percent of demonstrated need-based financial aid and offers multiple merit-based scholarships.

The University's alumni network is also one of the most active of any school surveyed, Franek said. Both undergraduates and graduates have access to this net-



Courtesy Jenna Truong

Dean of Admissions Gregory Roberts says while high rankings are considered valuable to the University, the ranking will likely not have a strong effect on future applicant pools.

work, which can help them find internship and job opportunities.

"That is an awesome thing to say that you can know that you can pull on a network of [alumni] throughout your lifetime," Franek

said.

University President Teresa Sullivan said the high ranking shows the true value of the University.

"This top ranking from Prince-

ton Review stands as further confirmation that the University of Virginia offers one of the nation's best values in higher education — an education that is both excellent and affordable," Sullivan said.

Charlottesville Police Department experiences staff shortage

City Council to discuss resulting safety concerns, potential budget redistribution

Simone McDonnell
Senior Writer

Although the Charlottesville Police Department has faced a staffing shortage for several years, Charlottesville crime rates have still declined over the past decade.

The Charlottesville Police Department plans to expand staff in order to balance the shortage, and may also hire officers for overtime shifts.

"The department currently has 119 sworn officers," Charlottesville Police spokesperson Lt. Steve Upman said. "There is a three year plan to increase our numbers by 22 officers, however, that is contingent upon City Council's approval each year and our ability to fill the positions."

The \$1.4 million employment plan includes salary and benefits for 22 additional officers. Each position will cost \$59,154 an-

nually, and equipment costs for the new officers will be approximately \$7,000.

Upman said there is no singular cause for the ongoing staffing shortage, but both the number of qualified applicants and the lengthy hiring process for police staff remain obstacles.

"Once an individual is hired, they must attend an 18-week police academy and then complete a 14-week training program at our department," he said. "The amount of time it takes to replace an officer is always a challenge."

Each fiscal year Charlottesville City Council must approve the budget for extra officers. The police department is expected to present this budget to City Council in March.

"Budget can be an issue at times, but our City Council has been supportive of our efforts to increase our staffing numbers," Upman said.

City Council Member Kristin Szakos said sufficient police staffing is a priority for the City Council. After a budget meeting Tuesday, she identified City Council's other priorities for funding.

"Funding for schools, funding for [police staff], and funding for parks and [recreation]... are the top [areas] we are looking at for funding," she said. "We've added many new parks over the past couple years [which require] additional staffing as well."

Szakos said City Council will have to consider different sources of revenue to determine how much money can be put towards the department.

"What's going to make a difference in how we approach [police staffing] is how much [money] we have, so...we have to look at increasing taxes, and what our revenue is, and how [each area] is staffed," Szakos said.

Upman said feelings of inse-



Thomas Bynum | The Cavalier Daily

The Charlottesville Police Department currently has 119 officers and hopes to add 22 new officers over the next three years.

curity in the community persist despite decreased crime.

"When there is a perception

that a particular area is not safe, it is difficult to change [the public's] perception," he said.



Robert Elder
Senior Associate Editor

Despite an 11.07 goals against average last season — good for 47th in the country — few doubted the Virginia men's lacrosse team's talent on the defensive end.

Then-senior defenseman and starter Scott McWilliams boasted multiple All-American honors. Meanwhile, then-junior defenseman Greg Danseglio and then-sophomore defenseman Tanner Scales toted all-conference honors themselves. The trio was as consistent as it gets, with each player starting all 16 games on close-defense.

In addition, seniors Chris LaPierre, Blake Riley and Bobby Hill led the Cavaliers' defensive-midfield unit in. While the natural growing pains of a freshman netminder may have hindered the group's statistics, the Virginia defense was certainly no slouch.

But come 2015, coach Dom Starsia — in his 23rd season at the helm of the program — will face the challenge of replacing almost

entirely the team's backend.

McWilliams, LaPierre, Riley and Hill graduated, while Danseglio will transfer to the University of Maryland. Last Saturday in a scrimmage against Navy, Scales injured his Achilles, effectively ending his season.

This year, No. 9 Virginia has no choice but to embrace a next-man-up mentality as it breaks at least six new players into the defensive rotation.

"I don't think we've ever been quite this new back there," Starsia said.

But while the names and numbers of the starters will be unfamiliar to the Klöckner Stadium faithful, the drop-off in physical ability will be minimal. Freshmen defensemen Scott Hooper and Logan Greco — who will likely occupy two of the starting roles — come in as the No. 3 and No. 5 rated defenders by Inside Lacrosse, respectively. Senior defenseman Davi Sacco is the favorite to land the third close-defender spot.

As for the defensive midfield, sophomore Michael Howard will assume the long-stick defenseman role. Sophomore midfielder Will McNamara — the No. 3 overall recruit two seasons ago — will be a fixture

along with fellow sophomore Carlson Milikin and freshman Jack Falk.

Starsia said he knows the new lineup will face a learning curve, and despite drastic progression from the fall, the unit will still commit mental errors. However, improved play from sophomore goalie Matt Barrett will go a long way towards assuaging early-season growing pains.

"We need Matt to play like an upperclassman," Starsia said. "He's had a really good preseason. He needs to hold down the fort for us while some kids get their feet on the ground."

Still, if the Cavalier offense is to be as effective as it was a season ago, Virginia must weather the storm in the early part of the schedule.

Despite graduating two four-year contributors in attackman Mark Cockerton — who led Virginia with 47 goals a year ago — and midfielder Rob Emery, the No. 7 scoring offense from last season should maintain its heralded firepower.

Senior attackman Owen Van Arsdale will replace Cockerton, sliding into his more natural position at left attack, while junior attackman James Pannell will look to add to his 39 goals

from last season, maintaining his spot on the right wing. Sophomore attackman Ryan Lukacovic — who unofficially scored four goals in Saturday's scrimmage against Navy — will assume the distributor role behind the net.

At midfield, senior Ryan Tucker and sophomore Zed Williams will lead the charge, while senior Tyler German and junior Greg Coholan will rotate in with the first unit.

Van Arsdale said what will make this offense special is its balance. While the attackmen still have the capability to carry the load, he said he expects the midfielders to take on a larger role.

"We're probably going to be attacking a little bit more from the midfield and taking advantage of those matchups this year as opposed to hitting the poles from the wings with our attack," he said.

The Cavaliers — in their first three-year stretch under Starsia without a Final Four appearance — will be tested immediately as they prepare to face No. 7 Loyola Saturday.

Led by senior attackman Nikko Pontrello — a second-team USILA preseason All-

American — the Greyhounds present a daunting challenge for the youthful Cavalier defense. Even with impressive showings in preseason scrimmages, few of Virginia's new faces have squared off against an attack as explosive as Loyola's, which finished sixth nationally in scoring offense last season.

"We're probably a little ahead of where I thought we might be right now, but the competition is about to get much tougher with Loyola," Starsia said. "We'll certainly find out where we are."

It would be easy for the Cavaliers to be overwhelmed given their many inexperienced players, especially coming off a 2014 late-season collapse which saw Virginia drop six of its last 10 games after climbing to No. 2 in the polls.

Starsia said he will rely upon a consistent offensive attack and senior leadership as the Cavaliers will use a game-by-game approach to climb back into the conversation of collegiate lacrosse's elite.

"There are no big games," Van Arsdale said. "The season is just a bunch of little pieces. It will all come together."

Opening faceoff is set for Saturday at 1 p.m. in Baltimore.

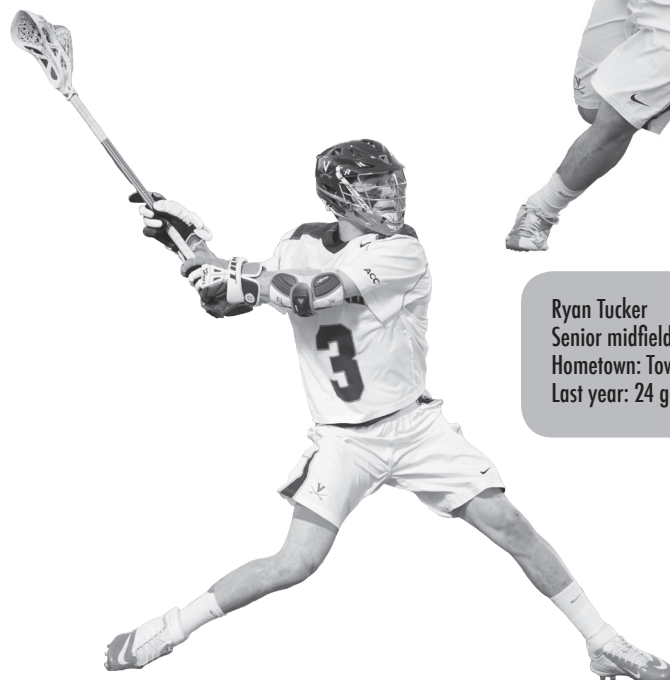
Owen Van Arsdale
Senior attackman
Hometown: Charlottesville
Last year: 11 goals, team-leading 27 assists



Matt Barrett
Sophomore goalie
Hometown: Glenmoore, Pennsylvania
Last year: 149 saves



Ryan Tucker
Senior midfielder
Hometown: Towson, Maryland
Last year: 24 goals on 59 shots, six assists



James Pannell
Junior attackman
Hometown: Smithtown, New York
Last year: 39 goals, seven assists

Men's basketball hosts Louisville

Bennett calls No. 8 Cardinals defensively "exceptional," Cardinals' Harrell "a warrior between the lines"

Matthew Morris
Sports Editor

The Virginia men's basketball team has contended with high-caliber big men all season long, particularly in the past week. Duke freshman center Jahlil Okafor routinely set up on the low block Saturday night at John Paul Jones Arena, and mobile North Carolina junior forward Brice Johnson had a go at the Cavalier defense two nights later in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

A National Player of the Year candidate and possible No. 1 pick in the 2015 NBA Draft, Okafor posted just 10 points on seven shots against No. 3 Virginia's post-trapping, pack-line defense. Meanwhile, Johnson surpassed his season scoring average with 14 points.

Virginia's next front-court challenge comes Saturday night, when defense-minded Louisville rolls into town. The No. 8 Cardinals (19-3, 7-2 ACC) feature a potent backcourt combination in guards senior Chris Jones and sophomore Terry Rozier as well as one of the best big men in college basketball, junior forward Montrezl Harrell.

Virginia coach Tony Bennett said Harrell stands out for his "length," "motor" and improving mid-range jump shot — but he emphasized the probable first-round draft pick is more than a skill set.

"When the lights turn on he is one of the fiercest competitors

that I have been around," Bennett said, who knows Harrell from USA Basketball. "He is a warrior between the lines. He's motivated by that — the bigger the game, the bigger the setting, he seems to thrive in that."

Louisville's focal point on the interior, Harrell is averaging 15.4 points, 9.2 rebounds and 1.1 blocks per game while shooting 57.3 percent from the field. He played 39 minutes Tuesday night in the Cardinal's win at Miami, tallying 18 points — a team high nine boards and two blocks.

"He's a unique talent," Bennett said. "You add that competitiveness, and that's what's as good as most in the country."

Louisville has more than Harrell up its sleeve. Rozier leads the ACC in scoring at 18.5 points per game and ranks second in steals behind teammate Jones. The duo combines for 4.3 thefts per contest, spearheading a Cardinal defense that allows 58.8 points per game.

Bennett said Louisville was "as good of a defensive team as I've seen in quite a while."

"They're exceptional defensively," Bennett said. "Their scheme is unique, [and] they mix it up. It's impressive. They win with their defense a lot, and then they have certainly some playmakers and do things offensively, but they challenge you to take care of the ball."

Bennett said the Cardinals employ a combination of press, man-to-man and match-up zone defenses. Hall of Fame coach Rick Pitino's squad often wins the

ball-security battle. The Cardinals have forced 352 turnovers this year while coughing the ball up 270 times.

"You've got to take care of the ball [against them]," Bennett said.

The Cavaliers, meanwhile, came back for a 75-64 win against the No. 12 Tar Heels Monday at the Dean E. Smith Center. Junior guards Justin Anderson and Malcolm Brogdon, sophomore point guard London Perrantes and junior forward Anthony Gill all scored in double figures as Virginia quickly recovered from its 69-63 loss to No. 5 Duke.

Anderson dished out a season-high seven assists against North Carolina, while senior forward Darion Atkins and junior center Mike Tobey contributed six and eight points, respectively.

"I think that's a real important aspect for a team to continue to play at a high level is you can't just be one-dimensional," Bennett said. "There has to be balance. You know, you looked at that stat sheet against North Carolina. It was really good in terms of assists to turnovers, the balanced scoring, the inside-outside, and that's what you aspire to."

The Cavaliers held the Tar Heels to 37.9 percent shooting in the second half after what Anderson and others characterized as a poor defensive showing against the Blue Devils — particularly on the break.

"[Duke] had a lot of transition buckets — I think eight or 10 points," Anderson said. "That was way too much."



Porter Dickie | The Cavalier Daily

Junior guard Malcolm Brogdon led Virginia with 17 points against both Duke and North Carolina. He ranks second on the team in scoring behind fellow junior guard Justin Anderson.

Though Virginia has scored efficiently this season, junior forward Evan Nolte has yet to rediscover his shooting stroke from a year ago, when he hit 17-51 3-point attempts. Nolte is just 7-35 from long range this season.

Bennett said inconsistent playing time has factored into the Milton, Georgia native's slow start.

"It's hard when you play in short stints to get a rhythm," Bennett said. "He's got to keep working at it in practice and just keep having confidence. And that's hard."

However, Bennett also high-

lighted Nolte's basketball smarts and defensive awareness as skills valuable to the team.

"Evan's much more than a shooter," Bennett said.

With his team now entering the final third of its regular season, Bennett said Virginia must continue to develop because the Cavaliers' opponents are not likely to be resting easy.

"When you get to the midway point in conference play or wherever it is, it seems like teams improve," Bennett said. "You either get left behind or you improve and you stay with it."

Hindsight bias

Tajuan "Ty" Law played in the NFL for 15 years, was a five time Pro-Bowler and won three Super Bowls with the New England Patriots. Safe to say, Law knows considerably more about football through his many years playing professionally than I do as a couch spectator. So when Law questioned Pete Carroll's play-calling on the second-and-goal play with less than a minute left Sunday night, I didn't question it.

Trailing 24-21, Carroll decided to pass the ball on the Patriots' one-yard line rather than put the ball in the hands of Seattle's workhorse, Marshawn Lynch. The pass unfortunately was intercepted and sealed the fate of the Seahawks. Law, echoing the thoughts of many who watched that fateful play, decried Carroll's decision as "[the] dumbest call I've ever seen." Law was not the

only one to rail against the decision — ESPN analyst Jemele Hill has been having a field day on Twitter mocking Carroll's call.

KRISHNA KORUPOLU
Sports Columnist

It is easy to second guess a coaching decision, especially when the decision turns out as poorly as Carroll's did. However, to criticize the in-game choices that coaches make based on the result is a cruel judgment. Outside of those on the field and those in the film room, game-planning weeks prior to kickoff, few people can truly understand the complexities of the decision-making process.

Additionally, there are two components for a play to succeed: the play-call and the execution. Carroll's decision to pass the ball was intended to give the Seahawks a wide-open slant route for the go-ahead touchdown. To that end, Carroll's play call succeeded.

Quarterback Russell Wilson had an open receiver in the slant, but unknown Patriots cornerback Malcolm Butler made a great read and got a huge jump on the ball. The game was decided on the field by an incredible play.

There is, of course, the possibility that handing the ball off to Lynch would have yielded the go-ahead touchdown. However, just as Butler made a great jump on the ball, another player on the defense could have made a timely play to stuff or cause a fumble by Lynch. Contrary to what many claim, there was no surety in running the football instead. Lynch is a great running back, but statistically he is far from a guarantee — especially on the goal line. This season, Lynch ran the ball five times from the one-yard line and only scored once.

Carroll's counterpart in the Super Bowl, Bill Belichick, faced similar backlash in 2009. In a

game against the Colts, Belichick called for the Patriots to attempt a fourth-down conversion with the lead on their own 30-yard line instead of punting the ball. The receiver, Kevin Faulk, caught the ball and fell one yard short of the first down — though many argued that Faulk had the first down based on forward progress.

The Patriots gave the ball back to the Colts on the 30-yard line, and Indianapolis used the last two minutes of the game to score a touchdown and win. Belichick was crucified for his decision. But in retrospect, based purely on statistical probability, Belichick's decision gave the Patriots a better chance of winning the game than giving the ball back to a red-hot Colts offense.

The decision-making process was not the flawed aspect of that play. The Colts defender at that time made an open-field tackle, knew where the first-down marker was and drove Faulk

back far enough for the referees to mark the Patriots short of the first down.

Fans, analysts and many sports writers love to have a scapegoat to blame and build their stories around — the narrative is much more compelling and digestible that way. Many things could have happened differently on that play — Wilson could have passed the ball into the body of the receiver rather than leading him too far, Butler could have been .01 seconds late on the jump and maybe the receiver could have been more aggressive to make the catch. Carroll's play call put the Seahawks in position to win the game, but the other side of the play — the execution — faltered.

Krishna's columns run on Tuesdays. He can be reached at k.korupolu@cavalierdaily.com.

Women's basketball visits Notre Dame

No. 4 Fighting Irish present formidable challenge for youthful Cavaliers; Venson, Moses step up as freshmen

Chanhong Luu
Associate Editor

The Virginia women's basketball team is riding a two-game winning streak into Notre Dame, Indiana, where the Cavaliers will play the No. 4 Fighting Irish Thursday night at Purcell Pavilion.

Of the Cavaliers' (15-7, 5-4 ACC) seven remaining games, five will be against ranked teams. The first ranked opponent the Cavaliers faced this season was No. 25 Syracuse Jan. 11 in New York. The Cavaliers got off to a bad start, missing 11 of their first 12 shots and eventually losing 70-58. Virginia also faced No. 8 Louisville on the road earlier this season, losing 67-55.

Virginia won its second conference road game Sunday at Clemson, 77-72, and is now 4-5 away from Charlottesville. The Cavaliers had a major lead midway through the first half as the Tigers struggled to score, but Clemson came charging back after halftime when Virginia started missing shots. Clemson took the lead 71-69 with 3:23 left in the game but only scored one more point the rest of the way.

"Anytime you can come out on their home floor and have the

lead, lose it, come back and finish strong, we'll take it," coach Joanne Boyle said. "It's not the basketball we want to be playing every night, but we've just got to learn. We know going into the road, we cannot have nights like this."

Freshman forward Lauren Moses had a crucial steal with 0:25 left in the game, putting the Cavaliers on the free throw line to add to their 73-72 lead. Moses finished the game with 15 points, 10 rebounds and two steals for her first collegiate double-double.

Freshman guard Mikayla Venson followed up her near-perfect performance against NC State with 12 points and four assists against the Tigers and was named ACC Freshman of the Week. She is the first Virginia player to receive the honor in four years.

"It's been a tremendous impact," sophomore guard Breyana Mason said of the freshmen class' play. "From the very beginning, they've had their highs. They've had some lows, but when you get this far into the season, you're not really a first year anymore. You've got to start playing like a second year, and I think they have."

The Fighting Irish (21-2, 8-1 ACC) are tied with Florida State atop the conference standings, and

their only two losses have come against defending champion No. 3 Connecticut in a rematch of the 2014 national championship game and Miami on a night when the Irish only made six first-half shots. Otherwise, Notre Dame has been efficient on the offensive end, boasting the league's best scoring offense, highest field-goal and 3-point percentages and most assists.

"They're a complete team one to five," Boyle said. "They all know their roles. They have a very systematic team; they shoot the ball well; they have a great post game; they have great passes to each other; they can share the basketball, so we're going to have a great game."

At the three position is freshman forward Brianna Turner, who already has been named ACC Freshman of the Week five times and National Freshman of the Week twice — deservedly so, as she shoots a nation-best 68 percent from the field. Turner is also fourth in the ACC in blocks.

Turner is not the best player on her team — in scoring, at least. Leading that category for the Irish is junior guard Jewell Loyd, who is averaging an ACC and personal-best 21.3 points per game. She also has career highs in assists,

steals and assist/turnover ratio and has been named ACC Player of the Week three times this season.

In the teams' first meeting as conference opponents last year, the Cavaliers almost upset the then-undefeated Irish in Charlottesville but couldn't pull through after closing within two points with 3:49 remaining the game. But this year's matchup will be on the road, where the Cava-

liers will have to keep up the energy, Venson said.

"[It's about] keeping up the energy," Venson said of the challenges of playing on the road. "Trying to continue the energy and get everyone involved and focused and bringing that grittiness. We've emphasized being a road warrior and I think we need to take that to the next level now."

Tip off is set for 7 p.m.



Marshall Bronfin | The Cavalier Daily

Freshman point guard Mikayla Venson became the first Virginia player in four years to earn ACC Freshman of the Week honors after strong performances against NC State and Clemson.

Margins of calamity

This past weekend in sports was one of the worst for me in a long time. The Virginia basketball team lost in a heartbreaker to Duke, and the New England Patriots — my least favorite team in football — won its fourth Super Bowl in 13 years.

As much as I was angered by the outcomes of these two games, the manner in which those outcomes came about made it that much worse. If you're a Patriots or a Blue Devils fan, the games probably reminded you why you love sports so much, but for me they were merely a reminder of why loving sports can sometimes be an exercise in masochism.

Both games were toss ups, and anyone who thinks otherwise is kidding himself. I'm not going to say that the Cavaliers or the Seahawks "deserved" to win, but I wouldn't go as far to say Duke or New England deserved to win either. What happened at the end of those two games comes down much more to luck than anyone would ever admit.

When two exceptional teams meet, the margin for error plummets toward zero. Players can't be perfect, so these all-important moments become nothing more

than probabilities. If a player doesn't put up that perfect shot or perfect throw when it matters most, that will cost you the game.

And when the probabilities don't come through for the team you love — or do for the team you hate — all you can think is what could have been.

For Virginia, this came by way of a sequence of lights out three-point shooting by the Blue Devils. With an eight-point Virginia lead with just under five minute remaining, Duke entered the final stretch having previously only shot 1-11 from beyond the arc. They made five of six to close out the game.

Duke is averaging 37.6 percent from three, so 1-11 is definitely not to be expected. But while I'm a firm believer in regression to the mean, it is incredibly unlikely Duke would convert five shots in a six shot sample. Even senior guard Quinn Cook, who was three for three in that six-shot stretch, averages just 40 percent from that range. Putting those numbers up against the No. 1 scoring defense in one of the most hostile environments in college basketball is highly improbable, if not nearly impos-

sible.

And where Duke got lucky with shots falling, Virginia was unlucky. In that final stretch, junior forwards Mike Tobey and Anthony Gill — two of the top three on the team in field goal percentage — went 0-4 from the field, and sophomore point-guard London Perrantes committed a rare turnover. If just two of those final 11 possessions swung in our favor, I think we would have won the game.

For the Patriots, the improbable slip happened on a Russell Wilson interception that ended up being Seattle's last play. Of the 109 NFL passes thrown from the one-yard line this season, Wilson's slant throw with 20 seconds remaining in the league's biggest game was the first to be intercepted.

I've heard a lot of criticism about the play call in the situation, but I don't mind it. With one timeout left and less than a minute on the clock, Seattle probably couldn't have run the ball three times in a row, so throwing on second down keeps the defense off its heels.

What kills me is that one short throw on the one-yard line completely changes the legacies of all those players. Had Wilson

thrown the ball slightly behind where he did, had Seattle receiver Ricardo Lockette muscled forward a little more or even just knocked the ball down, or had New England corner Malcolm Butler been half a step too late, the Seahawks would have won a championship.

Sure, the Seahawks and the Cavaliers had capitalized on plenty of their opponents' mistakes up until that point and gotten some lucky breaks of their own. But so did the Patriots and the Blue Devils. The point is, the outcomes of those games were decided by which team was unlucky enough to make just one or two extra missteps. That margin is so small and impossible to control that I call it luck.

And what's the result of those one or two unlucky missteps?

Virginia goes from likely getting a dozen or so first place votes in the AP Poll to falling below new No. 2 Gonzaga — a team whose only top-25 win came over No. 23 SMU in November. The Cavaliers had a chance to run away with the ACC regular title, but within an instant were left with almost no breathing room atop the standings.

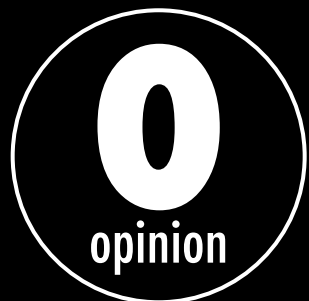
For the Seahawks, the result is much worse. Had Wilson thrown

a touchdown there instead of an interception, we would be using the word "dynasty" to talk about Seattle and Wilson would have been crowned an "elite" quarterback. Instead, Tom Brady is now being compared to Joe Montana and Terry Bradshaw, and Bill Belichick is being called by some the best coach of all time. It's amazing how much history can be changed on the heels of one play, and how Brady's legacy was sealed on possession where he wasn't even on the field.

I find solace in the fact that there's still time for these teams to do incredible things. For Virginia, the team can rally around the loss and use it as motivation to get even better. They showed what they were capable of by blowing out No. 12 North Carolina on the road Monday night. For the Seahawks, I wouldn't be surprised if they return to the Super Bowl in the next two seasons.

I just really wish I didn't have to listen to the incessant celebrating and jeering of Duke and New England fans for weeks to come.

Matt's columns run on Wednesdays. He can be reached at m.comey@cavalierdaily.com.



Comment of the day

Here is the bottom line: These studies (The “One in Four!”™ studies) notoriously suffer from self-selection, i.e., the response rate to the surveys were so low, that it is extremely likely that sexual assault victims were many times more likely to respond than others. Your inability or unwillingness to Google something such as “one in four true” makes you no better than Jackie in perpetuating this myth. Official federal government studies show an extremely low rate of sexual assault, and, yes, you are mistaken again, because sexual assault is far LESS likely on college campuses than in general. Do you really think rape is as common at UVA as it is in the Congo warzone? Where are these hundreds of rape, not just sexual assault, but flat out rape(!) victims? Not even one of them is willing to file charges with the police?

“Anon” responding to William C. Johnson’s Feb. 2 guest column, “One in five or one in 5000?”

RECYCLE



LEAD EDITORIAL

Sullivan, McDonnell and the letter of the law

Why the University president should not have written a letter on the former governor’s behalf

Last month, University President Teresa Sullivan wrote a letter on behalf of former Gov. Bob McDonnell to the judge presiding over his public corruption case. Sullivan asked for leniency, pointing to the fact that McDonnell never pressured her to help him with his highly corrupt work for Star Scientific, even during one-on-one meetings. In the letter, she emphasized she was not writing in her capacity as president of the University.

There is little logic to the claim that simply because McDonnell didn’t pursue one particular avenue of corruption, he therefore deserves leniency. Moreover, the suggestion that an individual can truly be separated from his or her title — especially if that title is as prestigious as Sullivan’s — is faulty at best.

Sullivan herself feels the letter was appropriate. “I wrote [the letter] in my personal capacity; I do not stop being a citizen just because I am a president,” she said in an interview with The Cavalier Daily, during which University spokesperson Anthony de Bruyn was present. “It was not written on University stationery, I didn’t use any staff time in writing it. I did it myself. If there are typos in it they are mine.”

But though Sullivan says her letter was not an official statement on behalf of the University, the very first line of the letter reads: “My name is Teresa A. Sullivan. I am the President of the University of Virginia, the capacity in which I came to know Governor Robert D. McDonnell.” According to Sullivan, this was necessary in order to make her point that McDonnell deserved a lesser sentence: “I gave [the judge] the context about my position because it was relevant to the comment I was going to make about not having been contacted by the governor,” she said.

But the personal capacity in which Sullivan wrote this letter — and the personal capacity in which she claims to know the governor — both derive from her professional relationship with him. Her letter only carries weight given their professional interactions and the prestige of her title as our University’s president.

With the weight of her title behind her, Sullivan chose to use her position and influence to promote her own moral judgment about someone with whom she had a positive relationship. Sullivan noted that during the trial, the media tended to group the

University of Virginia in with McDonnell’s corruption charges, and argued that, given the number of University-related individ-



We should expect and demand more from the person who represents our school.

uals subpoenaed in the case, she should have been asked about the nature of the former governor’s relationship with the University. As it stands, the jury never heard testimony of any kind or received any evidence from Sullivan. But since she was never subpoenaed, Sullivan, in writing this letter, es-

mended a sentence of at least 10 years and one month for McDonnell, with federal sentencing guidelines calling for a term between six and a half years and eight years and one month.

In Sullivan’s opinion, this punishment would simply be too burdensome for both McDonnell and the public. “If you think about what’s really punishment,

so, a government official like this who’s convicted of a felony loses his public pension, and in this case he’s a lawyer [and] he loses his law license, and then the fact that you have been convicted even if you don’t ever serve a day is tremendously shaming to somebody who holds a high po-

When asked if McDonnell’s apparent choice not to implicate the University in his activities negates his corruption, Sullivan emphasized that “they’re separate matters.” But, given this line of logic, writing a letter on the governor’s behalf would be irrelevant to the case at hand.

Sullivan was clear that she chose to write the letter without influence from the governor or other people, saying she hadn’t spoken with the governor since graduation last year. The choice to write the letter was entirely her own, because, she says, “I felt that it was something of a matter of justice.” Of all possible cases of injustice to speak out on, it is disappointing that Sullivan felt compelled by this one.

On Jan. 6, U.S. District Judge James R. Spencer sentenced McDonnell to just two years in prison. We cannot know to what extent this decision was influenced by the more than 400 letters Spencer received in support of McDonnell. Sullivan notes that beyond writing the letter, she had no contact with the judge, nor did she attempt to. But even in a mass of 400 letters, Sullivan’s would stand out due to the prestige attached to her name.

Though Sullivan counters that judges are equipped to do so, it is nearly impossible to separate Sullivan’s official self from her personal self. And though Sullivan emphasizes she was not taking a partisan stance but rather a personal one rooted in justice, McDonnell is an inherently partisan figure. It may seem unfair to refuse a high-ranking official the opportunity to make statements in an unofficial capacity — but Sullivan only had the opportunity to make such a statement precisely *because* of her official capacity. Were she not our president, she would not have interacted with McDonnell (according to her, “lots of times”); were she not our president, she would not have a basis for her judgments about whether McDonnell deserves leniency; and were she not our president, her letter would have no discernible impact.

The irony of the incident is palpable — McDonnell used his political sway to promote something outside the bounds of his office, and Sullivan, though within her legal rights, used her influence to promote something outside the bounds of hers. We should expect and demand more from the person who represents our school.

BY THE NUMBERS

- 11: Counts of corruption for which former Gov. Bob McDonnell was indicted
- \$177,000: Amount in gifts and loans McDonnell received from Jonnie R. Williams Sr.
- 443: Letters sent to U.S. District Judge James R. Spencer on McDonnell’s behalf
- 10: Years the U.S. probation office recommended for McDonnell’s sentencing
- 2: Years McDonnell was sentenced
- 2009: The year McDonnell took office
- 2010: The year Teresa Sullivan took office
- Oct. 11, 2014: The date of Sullivan’s letter to Judge Spencer

entially inserted evidence prior to sentencing without ever appearing in court — which is, at the very least, questionable.

Perhaps the worst element of this intervention is that Sullivan intervened on the wrong side of an ethical issue. McDonnell was found guilty of 11 counts of corruption and is now the first governor in Virginia history to be charged with a crime and the first to be convicted of one. The jury in his case found unanimously that he and his wife received immense financial support — \$177,000 in loans and gifts — from Jonnie R. Williams Sr. in exchange for official acts that advanced Williams’ business interests. In response to the gravity of this conviction, the U.S. probation office recom-

sition like this,” she said. “Then to have the taxpayers pay for a long imprisonment didn’t actually to me make a great deal of sense. So that’s the reason that I encouraged leniency.”

Sullivan was careful to note that she was not questioning the jury’s finding. “I’m not necessarily saying the verdict was wrong; we do have a law in this state that says you have to report gifts and public officials also have to report loans and I understand that,” she says. But, aside from the conviction of guilt, she believes personal character should have an impact on sentencing. “I think in a case like this, it depends on what the charge is. And, it seems to me corruption is a charge that does go to character.”

Go big on sanctioning reform

The proposed Honor referenda are positive but do not do enough to initiate change

The single sanction is perhaps the most controversial aspect of the University's honor system. As evidenced by Cavalier Daily articles dating back at least a decade, the debate as to whether the single sanction should remain in place has been ongoing. Some cite tradition and the high standards of the community of trust as reasons to support the single sanction. Others see the single sanction as too harsh a consequence for an honor offense.

As highlighted by The Cavalier Daily's previous Managing Board, the first two Honor referenda present a positive step towards accountability to the student body. However, the third referendum of the Honor Committee's proposal demonstrates a reluctance to fully allow the community to participate in the honor system by voting on the single sanction. It asks students

whether Honor should consider a multi-sanction system in the next year. Delaying the vote shows the Honor Committee is perhaps not fully prepared to place the future of the honor system in the community's hands by confronting the possibility that the single sanction is antithetical to the revitalization of the community of trust.

I am personally of the belief that the single sanction is simply too strong of a punishment for an honor violation, especially because expulsion from the University can have such varied effects on people in different circumstances. Even if you are fully on board with the single sanction in theory, it is pretty clear that it hinders the system from operating as intended. A recent study conducted by the Curry School of Education reported that 113 out of 115 students who witnessed an honor offense did not

report it. Thirty-five percent did not report because the consequences would be too great for the student in question.

In November of this year, Honor and Sustained Dialogue co-sponsored an open event in order to evaluate student opinion on the single sanction. The event's 58 participants were asked the ques-

tion, "Do you support the single sanction?" Twenty-two students responded "yes" and 35 students responded "no." As a moderator for this event, it seemed to me that opinion was fairly polarized, which suggests to me that it would be fairly split within the larger community as well. However, it is worth noting that the event was heavily attended by Honor support officers. The fact that a significant portion of the people most likely to be in favor of Honor's policies questioned the effectiveness of the single sanction underscores my point. If the entire student body were allowed to vote, I would imagine the results would be even more obviously in support of a multi-sanction system.

It seems the Honor Committee has not yet considered exactly what the mechanics of this implementation might be. However, it certainly makes more sense to vote on the issue and then spend the next year in preparation for its implementation rather than

attempt to push back the decision even longer.

I fail to understand the point of surveying interest in whether the Committee should vote on the single sanction. Perhaps the reason the Committee seems hesitant to implement a multi-sanction system is the fact that the single sanction is a symbol for the seriousness of the community of trust. However, a system that holds traditional severity over willing participation is at odds with the very idea of a community founded in trust and admirable values. I am excited people within the Honor Committee seem to be recognizing the need for change. However, the referenda should be edited to afford students the chance to vote on the single sanction now rather than in 2016.

Mary's columns run Thursdays. She can be reached at m.russo@cavalierdaily.com.



MARY RUSSO
Opinion Columnist



I fail to understand the point of surveying interest in whether the Committee should vote on the single sanction.

The peril and promise of fusion

While fusion technology has the potential to revolutionize energy production, pitfalls remain

Our species balloons like bacteria on a petri dish. But like any finite sugar supply, the fossil-based energy that permits our continued growth has its limits. Though with modern advances in the energy sector, it would seem that humankind has the ingenuity to engineer the cap right off of our own carrying capacity. Take a star, put it in a box and voilà, you have fusion power — the panacea to our impending global energy crisis and perhaps the only way to sustain human life at its current growth rate.

Fusion machinery is complicated but its principle science is actually quite simple. Within a fusion reaction, hydrogen isotopes are heated until they fuse to form helium gas, releasing energy that can then be harnessed and distributed (explained further here). One unit of fusion fuel taken directly from seawater yields upwards to a million times the potential energy contained within its petrochemical equivalent. The product — seemingly limitless clean energy and little radioactive waste to boot. Although human-induced climate change has become an irreversible reality, such a technology could offer a quick practical transition away from our current dirty energy reliance. With fusion, we could power the world without further disrupting atmospheric sta-

bility. For once, might we get to keep the cake and eat it too?

Like the fossil fuel industry, fusion power is a highly centralized method of energy supply. Unlike wind, solar and geothermal — which have the potential to transform U.S. cities and towns into self-supporting energy generators through local, collaborative projects — fusion would likely become another energy firehose, much like oil or coal albeit a bit cleaner. In other words, it would serve as an alternative provider

in support of an outdated energy model, in which centralized plants feed into a national grid. Remaining fettered to a 20th century vertical energy market would likely lock us into an environmentally unsustainable growth trajectory. Additionally, a shortcut to massive clean energy supply would probably not provide the same array of job opportunities that accompany green retrofitting of private and public spaces. A decentralized grid would require an infrastructural makeover and thus a mobilization of the workforce. In contrast, fusion power would simply replace its dirty predecessors, and if left to private owners, further reinforce current cultural and socio-economic disparities by placing power (quite literally) in the hands of the wealthy elite.

Fusion may seem ideal, but in-

corporating such an immensely powerful technology under runaway capitalist conditions may actually pose a greater threat to the health and security of our people and environment. As any Dane would attest, future economic stability hinges on more than just a shift to cleaner energy sources. It demands warmer and wider reception to "notions of participation, dialogue, collaboration, societal responsibility and wealth distribution (or shared value, to give it its contemporary moniker)." If social responsibility and collaboration are key components of next generation's energy economy — which has already become a burgeoning reality in countries such as Germany and Sweden — then fusion power would seem incompatible with this much needed cultural shift. Instead, fusion symbolizes a green flag for our continued celebration of excessive capital accumulation through industrialization and individualized market practice.

The fate of fusion largely hinges on the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) stationed in southern France — the most ambitious fusion project to date. But as Dino Grandoni of the Huffington Post reports, "ITER is sputtering with delayed construction and ballooning costs, and U.S.

physicists are increasingly worried that their work at home, such as the National Spherical Torus Experiment, will be sidelined to fund the international project." Even projects in the United States are generating too little return to merit increased government support. The



In the end, fusion power can either reinforce the status quo or help facilitate our necessary shift towards a more ecological and equitable way of life.

U.S. Department of Energy recently reduced domestic fusion funding to historic lows, threatening to dismantle experimental reactors at MIT, Princeton and General Atomics in San Diego. Unless ITER encounters a breakthrough in the near future, the downward spiral will likely continue.

Fusion has not yet achieved economic viability because current projected energy costs of running a single reactor would far exceed the amount of energy actually produced, yielding significant net loss. But if fusion ever becomes an operative reality, the United States should be strategic and circumspect

in its application of the technology. If poorly regulated, fusion could displace other alternatives through monopolization of the energy grid. We must not forget — our continued reliance on a centralized regime would neglect the potential societal benefits of a more distributive and collaborative energy economy.

I would more readily support fusion if industrialized nations were guaranteed to employ the technology as a quick means for eliminating current reliance on nuclear fission and fossil fuels in order to quicken our transition to solar and wind. But given that most U.S. business and political cycles rarely operate in the long-term, I have little confidence that the technology would be geared towards this goal. Any silver bullet solution risks reinforcing our "go big or go home" credo, which simply does not align with the "go small and stay local" model essential to 21st century energy security. At this point in time, the American citizenry might not be culturally equipped to handle such a technology. In the end, fusion power can either reinforce the status quo or help facilitate our necessary shift towards a more ecological and equitable way of life. As with any double-edged sword, we best carefully choose which edge to sharpen.

Will's columns run Wednesdays. He can be reached at w.evans@cavalierdaily.com.



WILL EVANS
Opinion Columnist

Engaging in politics in greater Charlottesville

The new City Council student liaison position will help students better participate in the Charlottesville community

On Jan. 20, the Charlottesville City Council unanimously approved a plan to appoint a University student liaison. The move to create this new student position was spearheaded by second-year student John Connolly, my colleague in the Opinion section who is also the co-chair of the Student Council's Community Affairs Committee. In conjunction with City Councilor Bob Fenwick, he campaigned for the position in hopes to further engage University students with local government. While the specific duties and responsibilities of this new position are still in flux, its conception signals a critical shift in the agenda of the Student Council and a noteworthy step towards further interaction with Charlottesville residents and officials.

It has always seemed strange to me that University students could claim to "live" in Charlottesville and yet do very little to earn their citizenship. The oft-heard claim that the University is a "bubble" rings true. There seems to be almost no motivation to engage with the community surrounding Grounds, save the occasional trip to the Downtown Mall or Carter's Mountain. Students do not technically need to leave Grounds for food or housing, to find a plethora

of cultural events worth attending or to feel busy and dedicated to important causes. And in many ways, this marks a strength of our University — it is relatively self-sufficient, self-governing and self-contained. It is a community unto itself, and one that is productive and fulfilling.

But on the other hand, failing to truly immerse ourselves in this city can make our University experience less meaningful and far less comprehensive. We call Charlottesville home for four years, and we should be concerned with treating it as such. This means volunteering with organizations outside of Madison House, attending events hosted by non-University groups, patronizing businesses outside of The Corner and visiting the many libraries, museums and sites of public history Charlottesville has to offer. It means understanding that most Charlottesville citizens are not having the same experience that we are having. While it can seem at times that the city is composed entirely of young, upper-middle class, predominantly white students, in fact Charlottesville is a place where nearly 30 percent of the population is non-white, and 27.5 percent is living below the poverty line. Learning to empathize with the

struggles and unique experiences of those who call Charlottesville home will not only make us more educated students; it will make us better people.

In that same vein, we must be concerned with the actions and agendas of our governing officials, and the new student liaison position gives us a means by which to do that. There is a huge disconnect between those who make the decisions in this city and those they impact. According to Councilman Bob Fenwick, "hardly anybody is paying attention" to the work of the City Council, and that is problem-

"familiarize [the Council] as to how the students interact in the community" and help them "become familiar with how the students live." Connolly believes that the new position "fundamentally... gives students a clearer voice" in the Charlottesville community. Students will be aware of (and allowed to weigh in on) future legislation or policy changes that will impact their daily lives, as well as being privy to all the other work that the City Council does, because they will have a representative within the government. The idea is that the student liaison position will be mutually beneficial: the student representative will offer Council members their perspective on issues, while the Council will act as a vehicle by which students can become more engaged with local politics.

Fenwick says that his "goal, really, is to make the City Council more accountable to the people... and I include students in there." We are part of this community. We are constituents of Fenwick and his colleagues, and the Council is ready to let us act like it. The beauty of the student liaison position is that it allows University

students to participate directly in Charlottesville politics — and by proxy, to become more informed about those politics and the city in which they operate. Fenwick sees the liaison position as functioning similarly to an internship, wherein students "would learn how much economics and politics play into the job [of being on City Council.]" And he would benefit as well — according to Fenwick, "It would be great... to have a researcher or someone to bounce ideas off of."

The possibilities for the new student liaison position are nearly limitless, and I am encouraged by both Connolly and Fenwick's enthusiasm for finding a way to integrate students into city governance. In Connolly's own words, the position represents an opportunity to "enhance cooperation and bring people together;" the type of opportunity that is rarely presented to University students. For students interested in local government, public policy, or just in becoming a true part of the greater *demos*, the liaison position is groundbreaking territory, and should be highly praised.

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The possibilities for the new student liaison position are nearly limitless.

atic. He cites the Flats construction project on West Main Street as an example. He claims very few students or Charlottesville residents knew the construction had been approved until it was already well underway.

When I spoke with Fenwick about his hopes for the future student liaison, he told me they will

Politics with the Pope

The mainstream narrative misses the point about Pope Francis and Catholic teachings

Catholics constitute a historical political swing bloc, not wholly comfortable in the confines of either American political party. Some Catholics, particularly those who attend Church more often, have traditionally aligned themselves with the socially conservative Republican Party. Others, identifying with the Church's teachings on social justice, have allied with the economically liberal Democrats, who like to claim their redistributive policies are best for the poor.

In the last several decades, Republicans have laid claim to the moral high ground of the sorts the Church unconsciously bestows on one of the two American political parties, as the 31-year reign of John Paul II and the eight-year reign of Pope Benedict XVI were marked by Papal emphasis on the sanctity of marriage and of life. The Vatican went so far as to exhort Bishops to deny Communion to pro-choice Catholic politicians. This, as you might imagine, made life difficult

for the likes of Democrats Joe Biden, John Kerry and even Ted Kennedy, Catholic senators and presidential candidates who struggled to wear their faiths on their sleeves while appealing to the ardently pro-choice Democratic base.

Today, argue many liberals, the climate is different. As a recent New Yorker article by liberal columnist Amy Davidson pointed out, Pope Francis has seemingly repudiated Republicans through his acceptance of gays

("Who am I to judge?" he famously asked in 2013), his repudiation of "trickle down-economic theories," and his planned encyclical on climate change. Davidson seems to think Pope Francis is leading a veritable revolution in Catholic political thought, in which Catholic theology will be dragged into cohesion with American liberal ideology.

But this is not what Pope Francis is doing at all. There are more than a few problems with the lazy media narrative that this Pope "gets

it" (with "it" presumably being a euphemism for "the platform of the Democratic Party").

The first problem is obvious: Pope Francis is not — nor is any pope — a tool to be utilized for the electoral whims of an American political party. When commentators such as Amy Davidson view Pope Francis merely as a political roadblock for Republicans, due to his public ministry, they forget that Pope Francis stands, first and foremost, as the leader of the Catholic Church. This is the very same Catholic Church whose teachings on gay marriage, abortion and other social issues (including, uncomfortably for some Republicans, the death penalty) have not changed under Francis's leadership. Pope Francis stands for the same Church and the same teachings the last two popes stood for. To distort the implications of his comments to reporters and thus transform Pope Francis's remarks into some cataclysmic change in Catholic teaching is dishonest.

Pope Francis' comment on homosexuals in particular has stirred the minds of Democrats. But it is worth pointing out that Pope

Francis was merely articulating the teaching that human beings are not the ultimate judges of others, and indeed it is hard (impossible, really) to equate "Who am I to judge?" with "Gay marriage should be legally equivalent to marriage between one man and one woman." Instead of reading Pope Francis' remark as a political commentary on marriage, Democrats and Republicans alike ought to find merit in his exhortation to love our gay brothers and sisters with the same love we grant all human beings.

Pope Francis' economic comments also deserve some consideration, especially given that many on the left find his criticism of trickle-down economics to be a critique of our American brand of capitalism. But there are two major problems with taking Pope Francis' remarks to mean the position of the Catholic Church is anti-capitalist. First, Pope Francis' remarks are for the whole world, not simply the United States. Perhaps countries characterized by a more vicious and lawless brand of capitalism (more than a few despotic third-world countries come to mind) should be the ones truly attuned to this

message, as opposed to the United States. Second, it is important to remember the Catholic Church has no official economic position, in the sense that, far from endorsing an official economic arrangement, the Church merely desires material dignity for all human beings. Thus, Papal statements expressing skepticism about trickle-down economics (which is, far from an ideology, a pejorative insult of capitalism) should not be taken as an overarching Catholic teaching about free markets.

American Catholics, and indeed Catholics around the world, can rejoice at Pope Francis' statements of inclusivity and love. But they should be wary of any media narrative that portrays Pope Francis in a skewed light that may be expedient for political purposes. The Pope probably cares very little for American electoral politics; his true purpose, Americans should remember, is far above that.

John's columns run Thursdays. He can be reached at j.connolly@cavalierdaily.com.



JOHN CONNOLLY
Opinion Columnist

One gay wrote an article, then everything changed

Joe Leonard
Humor Writer

When I asked Humor editor Charlotte if I could write another article for The Cavalier Daily talking about the response to my first article, I silently swore that this time I would come up with a better intro for the article. Since that very clearly did not happen, it would seem that, as a writer, I do not learn from experience. Still, you are reading this article, so it would seem you care about what I have to say. Or perhaps you were so incensed by my last article you've decided to hate-read this. Or perhaps you, like me, have grown tired of binge-watching "The Brady Bunch" movies and are ready for a change of pace. Either way, to quote "A Very Brady Sequel," "Buckle up, Carol. It's magic

time."

I very nearly didn't go to class the morning of Friday, Jan. 16, as I had been unable to sleep well the night before, haunted by my 15 minutes of fame from my previous Humor article and the delusions of grandeur that came as a result. Little did I know my 15 minutes were about to be extended into 15 and a half minutes. I ended up forcing myself to go to class — and I'm glad I did, because as I walked out of an early morning improv class into the chilly January air, I looked at my phone and saw that I had received a text at exactly 10:16 a.m. that read "Joe. Oh my God. You are on Queerty," accompanied by a photo of a news article that read "Lonely Homosexual Virgin' College Student Can Hardly Believe What Happened After He Gave Up Drinking."

The text, which came from a friend who wishes to remain anonymous, left me with two questions. Number one: why the hell would anyone care enough about what I had to say to write another article about it on this gay news website? And number two: why is my (unnamed) friend on said gay news website at 10 a.m.? I mean, I admit I too frequent this site, although my motivations are typically to scan the articles about underwear models and then eat myself into a food coma.

I immediately called my parents and told them I was famous, to which they replied, "What in the hell is Queerty?" Not to be deterred from my 15 and a half minutes, I turned to my friends for validation and a bragging audience. Their response was to ask, "How did they even find your article? Did they just search

'lonely homosexual virgin' on Google and you came up?" Still determined to milk this as long as possible, I endlessly pored over the article in the comfort of my own home, reading such comments as, "How does he know he is a virgin if he frequently had 'no memory of the night before?'" and, "Slow gay news day, I guess," and, my personal favorite, "Now this poor kid may never get laid!"

Retreating to the comfort of The Cavalier Daily, I found hope in such comments as "Why is this in the Humor section?" and "This isn't even a little funny." I was, however, pleased to see my brother's comment in support of me, "Don't take yourself so seriously brah." Although I suppose it could have been someone else posing as my brother, which leads me to wonder — how would he know I had a broth-

er, and how would he know my brother is the kind of person who would use the word "brah?"

At the end of the day, my 15 and a half minutes ended in a humbling reminder that there's always someone prettier than you, and soon, everyone will have forgotten your name. This article is simply a last-ditch effort of mine to cling to fame and glamour as long as possible. While I may hope and dream to one day be a Marcia Brady, I know in my heart that I will only ever be Jan. But that's alright — after all, Marcia's the one who got hit in the face by a football and broke her nose. Jan got to do cool stuff, like make up a fake boyfriend named George Glass and have RuPaul as a counselor. So I'm alright with being Jan at the end of the day. As long as I have my boyfriend George to come home to, that's all I need.

SNAPCHATS BY JACKSON CASADY



SOLE SURVIVOR BY MICHAEL GILBERTSON



MORE AWKWARD THAN SOME BY CHAUNCEY LEE



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Flo Overfelt
Senior Associate Editor

There's something to be said for Katy Perry's performance ability when the low point of her Super Bowl XLIX halftime show was riding into the stadium on a giant robotic lion. Her music may not be all that great — she's not as edgy as Gaga or as ridiculous as Miley Cyrus — but Perry can put on a phenomenal show. That's exactly what a Super Bowl halftime extravaganza should be.

The mechanical lion was a little gimmicky. Its rolling cadence looked dorky and prevented Perry from whipping out a great choreographed number. The animatronic animal didn't even do anything all that memorable, unless you count finishing off "Roar" with a digital screech. The lion took the

Katy Perry takes Super Bowl XLIX

Lions, sharks, stars! Oh my!

focus off Perry and threw it onto cheap technology.

Thankfully, Perry more than made up for it in her next stunt. In a Gaga-esque performance of "Dark Horse," complete with trippy disco lights and dancers in metallic costumes, Perry captured the audience with unbridled enthusiasm. All of the focus was on her, and she nailed it.

Enter guitarist Lenny Kravitz — and perhaps the most uncomfortably awkward moment of the show. Perry leapt on stage and while singing "I Kissed a Girl" and attempted to twerk into Kravitz who subtly moved away from her (remember Robin Thicke, Katy?). Fortunately the moment passed, and the rest of their surprisingly brief performance was uneventful.

What followed was perhaps the most hilarious and adorable

spectacle during a half-time show. Katy Perry whipped out a "Teenage Dream" and "California Gurls" medley while cute, costumed sharks danced alongside, dopey beach balls gazed blissfully into the crowd, and happy palm trees swayed in the background.

Missy Elliott made her surprise debut right around the halfway mark and snagged the show from Perry for a bit, though I suspect this is exactly what Perry wanted for her finale. Having never been a fan of Missy Elliot, I feel it's tough to say how she's changed in a decade-long absence from the music scene. But Elliott's fast raps "Get Ur Freak On," "Work It," and "Lose Control" contrasted magnificently with Perry's pop style and built



Courtesy Wikimedia Commons

perfectly in tempo to the spectacular finale.

Easily the most ostentatious move of the night, Perry's finale was nothing short of phenom-

enal. Fireworks exploded as Perry sped across the stadium on a giant shooting star. She finished, arms splayed, to a well-deserved roar of applause. Regardless of the score, Katy Perry won Super Bowl XLIX.

Joel Peterson's memoir: a journey with adoption

Virginia alumnus' novel tells lessons from his life story

Mary Donnelly
Senior Writer

Equally tragic and triumphant, the soon to be published novel "Dreams of My Mothers: A Story of Love Transcendent" describes the journey of an adopted Korean-American boy and his relationship with both his birth mother and his

adopted mother. The novel — to be published in March — is based on the true story of author and University alumnus Joel L. A. Peterson.

The story begins in 1963 post-civil war Korea, where a young and destitute Korean woman gives birth to an illegitimate son, for which she is marginalized. When her son is disfigured in a sudden accident, t h e moth-

er realizes she will never be able to provide the life she wants for him and she decides on adoption. Halfway across the world, an American mother struggles with the premature birth of her child, and ultimately answers an appeal for adoptive parents in her church magazine.

"Dreams of My Mothers" recalls the true story of two mothers' extraordinary love for the young boy who united them. These two women prove motherly love can truly transcend any type of distance — physical or cultural. A story of bravery, sacrifice, hardship and hope, this novel is sure to captivate readers, particularly those who have had experience with adoption.

In an interview with The Cavalier Daily, author Joel Peterson described his own life experiences, which directly translate into the novel. Peterson said he found his experience with the "small niche" of international adoption was one major reason he wrote the novel.

"Within that small niche, you have the strongest and closely and most powerfully held human themes and emotions ... identity, family, culture, motherhood, loss and gaining of chil-

dren," he said. "It really captures all the most strong themes of human existence."

Peterson credits his mothers — especially his adopted mother — with teaching him the important life lessons which allowed him to make the most out of his life.

"The key thing [my adopted mother] drilled into me is that, you are what you do," Peterson said. "To everyone else, the only thing that exists about other people is we see. What you were in the past, you can't change. You have no ability to actually influence what you are going to do in the future. So if you are what you do, then you have to do it — now."

Despite his mother's positive influence, Peterson said he experienced problems as a multiracial child growing up in a predominantly white, rural Minnesota neighborhood. Even as a student at the University, Peterson felt caught between groups; he was not an international student, yet he did not feel completely American. However, he said he believes the situation has improved since college.

"America's not a melting pot — that's the wrong analogy,"

he said. "We're really more of a tossed salad — where we do have this unifying American dressing, that gives us a unifying element, but you really do need tomatoes and bell peppers and mushrooms, and you wouldn't expect one to meld into the other. Most of us don't want just a puree, we like the distinctive flavors."

Peterson recognized the University as a part of his success story.

"I am testimony that having the fortune and opportunity to attend an institution like U.Va. ... opened doors to other places," he said.

Peterson now runs a merger and acquisition advising firm after having worked for several flagship U.S. corporations. Recently, he started an educational support service company to create true growth and systemic change within the American education system, especially among disadvantaged students.

Peterson's story provides a strong foundation for his gripping novel. He said he hopes his book will resonate with all readers who can find solace from their own personal obstacles in the incredible and singular power of "love transcendent."



Courtesy Huff Publishing Associates

'Project Almanac' is time-waster

Time jumping does little to spice up uneventful teen flick

Christian Salcedo
Staff Writer

With better time-jumping movie "Predestination" now available in stores, there is no pressing reason anymore to go see "Project Almanac." However, if one is dying to revisit the halls of high school in a new light, "Project Almanac" may have something to offer moviegoers.

David Raskin (Johnny West-on) is a loveable nerd whose acceptance to MIT is marred by his inability to secure a full scholarship. In an effort to impress the board and secure the grant, David searches through the belongings of his deceased father — an inventor who died in a tragic car accident — for ideas. David sees the image of his current self in a mirror within the footage of his father's video recording of

his seventh birthday. In order to explain the occurrence, David searches further and comes across the instructions to assemble a time machine. He recruits his best friends, Quinn (Sam Lerner) and Adam (Allen Evangelista), to aid him in the assembly. His sister, Christina (Virginia Gardner), tags along to document the proceedings. Jessie (Sofia Black D'Elia) joins the squad a little later as David's love interest.

The extended exposition in "Project Almanac" prevents the plot from really getting going until the time machine is finally built. With it, David and his posse fulfill all their desires — they win the lottery, buy expensive cars, get back at a bully and visit Lollapalooza. The many scenes in which they play around with their new machine are inventive and, most importantly, fun to

watch.

However, what starts off as an intriguing exploration into dream fulfillment devolves into an incredibly weak love story. With nowhere to go, the writers force David to make an unbelievable decision — something he would never do — to correct a mistake he was fully equipped to address. David's decision is so outside of his character, it breaks the film's realism.

After this jarring moment, the film struggles to find its rhythm. What follows are the disastrous results of playing with time. Of course, messing with the proper flow of time will have unintended consequences — and if this plot development was tackled as well as "Back to the Future," it can result in an engaging and rewarding film. "Project Almanac" attempts to follow in the latter film's footsteps but does not suc-

ceed. Sadly, with the reality of the film broken, little is gained by this plot development, which ultimately leads to an unsatisfying climax.

"Project Almanac" is weighed down by its poorly realized story and flimsy characters. The time machine mechanic can only engage so much, and the movie is not produced well enough to demand extraordinary praise. With the additional languid



Courtesy Paramount Pictures

'La nona': Professor Operé's passion project

Upcoming Spanish Theatre Group presents interesting look into human condition

Kyle Canady
Staff Writer

Spanish Prof. Fernando Operé, director of the Spanish Theatre Group, is nothing if not passionate about what he does for cultural drama. After 34 years, there is still a clear fire in his heart for his craft.

Operé's most recent production, Roberto Cossa's "La nona," presents an interesting combination of comedy and tragedy through character personalities in an almost Shakespearean way. The Spanish Theatre Group looks forward to delivering the story of "La nona" to the community. In anticipation for this upcoming production, Arts & Entertainment was offered an opportunity to ask the director a few questions before the play's release this weekend.

Arts & Entertainment: Why did you want this particular production to be put together?

Fernando Operé: Well, I've been doing theater at the University of Virginia in Spanish for 34 years. We provide cultural immersions in Spanish culture not just through classes, but also through theater. I feel that we serve the University community but also the local community [with this]. So in this case, [we serve the community with] a play — and it is very difficult for me to figure out what the right play [for this] is because it needs many ingredients. I'm always interested in a play that says something or has

some social contents ... we chose ["La nona"] because it has some of the ingredients we are looking for.

A&E: Do you think the audience will be able to relate to the characters even though there is going to be a difference in social standing between the audience members and the actual characters in the play?

FO: Yeah, I think that in this play [there are] many elements of the human condition ... that can be appealed to everybody. Basically, this [play] is symbolically [portraying] a family in which the grandmother eats ... until she devours the whole family, so this is more of a metaphor for elements of society.

A&E: Did you have any particular issues that are currently going on in society you were trying to address or tackle with this production?

FO: Not necessarily, I think there are many elements like the selfishness, the lack of energy, the lack of initiative, consumerism and many other things that apply to our society today, but I don't choose a play necessarily because of the message of the play. There are many other elements, [the] artistic [aspects of the production], so on and so forth. In the case of our students who are studying the [Spanish] language, it is very important to see some aspects of the culture.

A&E: Do you have any particular part of the play that you feel the strongest about or that was your

absolute favorite?

FO: I think the main character of the play, which is this old lady named La nona... is a very interesting character — she can be very funny and very tragic. This combination makes the character a very special character. It is a very difficult character to portray in theater because the lady is 100 [years old] so the actor is wearing a prosthesis on the face, but [La nona] can be the key [to the performance]. If that character works, I think the play works.

A&E: Ultimately, why do you feel people should come see the play?

FO: Theater is magic. We are used to all the culture [being] through the Internet. There is no paper, there [are] no books, everything is the Internet, [but] you cannot replace theater. Theater is life — it's right in front of your nose. I don't see any other media that has the impact that theater has when it's well done. This is why I'm still doing theater after so many years of my life.

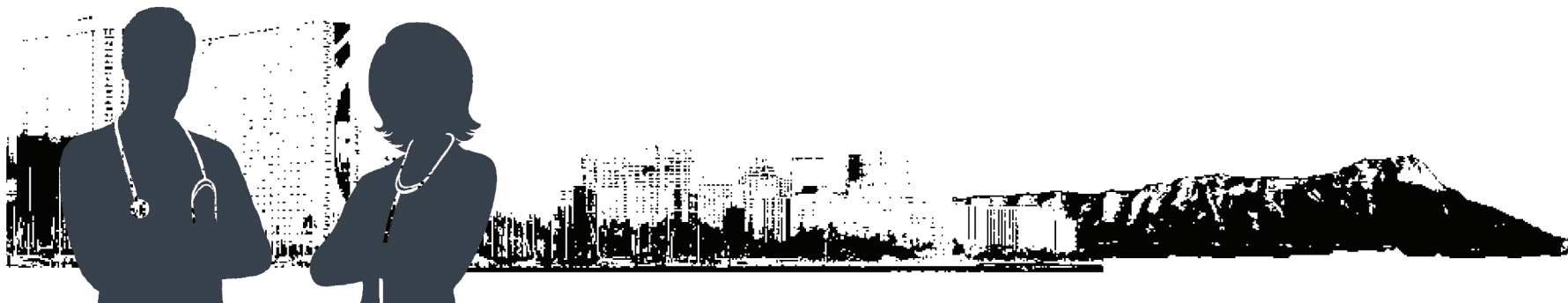
A&E: What do you want for the audience to take away from the experience of going to see this play, if anything?

FO: Bertolt Brecht was a German author who used to say that a play has to entertain, so besides [having] messages on messages, [an audience member] need[s] to finish [watching it] and say, "Oh, that was great, I had great time. This is fun. This is good. I want to be a part of it next year." So that will be my goal.

The Spanish Theatre Group will be performing "La nona" Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 2 and 8 p.m., and Sunday at 2 p.m., in the Helms Theatre located on the University Arts Grounds. All tickets are general admission and cost \$12 for the general public and \$7 for students.



Courtesy UVA Drama



Aloha from Hawaii

*An open letter from
Hawaii healthcare workers*

Aloha UVA students, faculty and administrators,

What would you do if a multi-billion dollar non-profit healthcare company tried to cut your parents' guaranteed retirement benefits?

We and our co-workers at Kaiser Permanente have been struggling to stop Kaiser from cutting the modest guaranteed retirement benefits we have fought for years to achieve and maintain. Dr. Richard Shannon is UVA's executive vice president of Health Affairs and he sits on the board of directors at Kaiser. Kaiser is one of the nation's largest HMOs with 500,000 health insurance customers and 6,000 employees in the Virginia/Maryland/D.C. region alone.

We want to retire with the benefits we earned through years of hard work. We take care of Kaiser's patients - Kaiser should take care of us.

Kaiser is a profitable non-profit organization. Here are some facts:

- Kaiser made \$2.7 billion in net income in 2013, and \$3.1 billion in net income in just the first nine months of 2014.
- In 2012, the average pay of the top 20 highest-paid Kaiser executives was over \$2 million - the CEO earned \$10 million.
- The company has over \$25 billion in net worth.
- Still, Kaiser wants to hurt us, its own workers, by taking away guaranteed retirement benefits.

We reached out to Dr. Shannon but he never even gave us the courtesy of a response. So far, he has ignored us, but he might listen to you.

Please take sixty seconds and add your voice to ours. Go to www.DrRichardShannonWatch.org right now to fill out our online petition and to learn more about Dr. Shannon and Kaiser.

Mahalo for your time, attention and support,
Kaiser Permanente Healthcare Workers
Organizing Committee - Hawaii Region

Susan Lee Gina Allen On Hoz
 Carol Lopez Wailani Ahuna ~~Sh~~
 Meola Ryan Yfingyi CJ
 Dan Lee Wendy Re Kristina Chen
 Inbar Sante Lynn Pogoda Jessica Evans
 Bob Amy Ho AJF
 Ken H Duke Paul
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 J. Sun ~~h~~