



Morgan Hale and Zi Yang | The Cavalier Daily

Students, senators deliberate debt

Warner, Kaine hold roundtable with college representatives to offer perspectives

Caitlyn Seed
Associate Editor

U.S. Senators Mark R. Warner (D-VA) and Tim Kaine (D-VA) hosted a roundtable discussion Wednesday with student representatives from 18 Virginia universities and colleges to discuss the topic of student loan

debt.

Warner has proposed two bills aimed at reducing the financial burden of higher education student loans. The first of the two bills, the Dynamic Student Loan Repayment Act, would simplify the enrollment process for repaying loans based on income levels after graduation, as well as streamline repayment plans.

The second bill — the Employer Participation in Repayment Act — would allow employers to contribute up to \$5,550 before-tax to their employees' federal or private student loans as a tool to recruit

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STUDENT DEBT

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and retain highly qualified employees.

Student Council President Abraham Axler represented the University at the roundtable and said Warner's recent bills were discussed at the event, as

well as personal student experiences and general proposals.

"I think it was a very good opportunity for student body representatives across Virginia to share their experiences about college affordability," Axler, a third-year College student, said.

Altogether, 18 student leaders from 18 colleges attended the roundtable, including representatives from James Madison University, the College of William and Mary and George Mason University, among others.

The purpose of hosting the roundtable was to hear directly from student leaders about college affordability, Kaine said in an email statement.

Kaine has introduced several

bills to increase dual enrollment options for high school students and tools to aid families calculating college costs.

"I'm focused on college affordability because students should be able to afford a higher education and have a successful start to their careers without being weighed down by unsurmountable [sic] debt," Kaine said.

One of the major dilemmas surrounding student debt is the difficulty of accurately portraying the cost of college to high school graduates, who may be confused by high sticker-prices and complicated loan programs, Axler said.

Ryan Windels, who attend-

ed the roundtable as a student representative for James Madison University, said he felt the discussion was a well-executed event which allowed students to provide different perspectives on the issues of student debt.

"First and foremost I think restructuring the loans is the most important," Windels. "A lot of students I talk to aren't sure when they have to start paying their loans, or how much, how often."

Although Axler said he supports the call for an income-based loan repayment plan as well as improved efforts to make costs transparent, he also said the financial situation of college graduates needs to be

examined from a less narrow perspective.

"One thing we forget in this student debt crisis situation is how [we got] to this point," Axler said. "We have to look at the rising cost of a college education and look at the declining state funding that impacts that, but also look at the costs of being a young adult right after college."

Young adults can face several overwhelming financial burdens as they transition from college into the workforce, including determining health care costs and housing, Axler said.

"Student debt is still a big problem, but it's not the only problem," he said.

Jackie ordered to turn over documents

Judge asks for communications relevant to Eramo's defamation suit, corroboration of accounts

Thrisha Potluri
Senior Associate Editor

A federal judge has officially ordered Jackie — the primary source in Sabrina Rubin Erdely's Rolling Stone later-retracted November 2014 article — to produce documents relating to Assoc. Dean of Students Nicole Eramo's pending defamation lawsuit.

Eramo filed a lawsuit against Rolling Stone May 12, after the magazine retracted the article, which detailed an alleged violent gang rape and depicted the University's involvement in the case after Jackie reported it to the Office of the Dean of Students.

After multiple unsuccessful attempts to obtain Jackie's communications related to her alleged sexual assault, Eramo filed a motion Nov. 13 asking the court to compel Jackie to cooperate.

U.S. District Court Chief Judge Glen E. Conrad officially granted the motion in part Monday, ruling for Jackie to turn over all documents relating to her communications between herself, Erdely, Rolling Stone and Eramo, as well as her communications with the University. He further specified all communications to be marked as confidential and treated as such.

Jackie's lawyers argued the motion to compel should be denied on grounds of the requests being "irrelevant and burdensome," the scope of discovery speaking to the "victim's sexual predisposition," and the privileged nature of Jackie's

communications with Eramo and the University, according to the Conrad's memorandum opinion.

In his writings, Conrad disagreed with the aforementioned reasons, stating Jackie's communications were very much relevant to Eramo's defamation suit and Eramo was entitled to corroborate her communications and Rolling Stone's with those of Jackie's.

Law Prof. Robert Turner said he strongly agrees with Conrad's decision and that Jackie's allegations harmed the reputation of the University, the Phi Psi fraternity and its members and Eramo.

"To deny her victims the information necessary to present their cases to seek satisfaction in the courts would be a tragic injustice," he said in an email statement. "I think 'Jackie' owes an apology to U.Va., its alumni and students, Dean Eramo and the fraternity."

Conrad also said in his opinion that the federal rule protecting alleged victims of sexual assault from turning over evidence is inapplicable in "defamation action involving statements concerning sexual misconduct," especially if the evidence speaks to the veracity of the alleged offense.

"If her case was made in good faith she will have an opportunity to present a defense and the documents sought will presumably support her case," Turner said. "If the requested communications reveal that she fabricated false charges, she should be held accountable for her wrongdoing."

According to Conrad's writings, Jackie is also compelled

to turn over communications between "Haven Monahan" and fourth-year Engineering student Ryan Duffin, as well as communications between Monahan and other individuals whose names had already been previously provided to Rolling Stone.

Duffin was a friend of Jackie's at the time of the alleged assault.

According to court documents, Eramo's lawyers have said Jackie's account was fabricated and that Haven Monahan was a fictitious moniker used to in an attempt to "catfish" Duffin, whom Jackie was romantically interested in during her first year at the University.

However, Conrad limited the communications to be turned over to those not containing details of Jackie's assault and which were initiated by Jackie on or before Dec. 5, 2014, the date Rolling Stone issued a statement refuting the veracity of its story.

Duffin said he thought the decision made sense, even though Jackie and her lawyers have been fighting the motion to protect her privacy.

"This really might be... the only opportunity left to definitely prove what did and did not happen, depending on what's in [the documents]," Duffin said. "I'm curious to see what kind of insights it offers."

Duffin was subpoenaed Nov. 24, 2015 to turn over documents relating to his communications. He said he believes the communications Jackie is compelled to turn over will corroborate those he was required to submit under the subpoena.

"At this point, I'm expecting



Marshall Bronfin | The Cavalier Daily

After multiple unsuccessful attempts to obtain Jackie's communications related to her alleged sexual assault, Assoc. Dean of Students Nicole Eramo filed a motion Nov. 13 to compel Jackie to cooperate.

I will probably get a subpoena to offer some sort of testimony when they actually run the trial," he said.

Attorneys for Jackie, Eramo and Rolling Stone could not be reached for comment.

Virginia population growth slows, still exceeds national rate

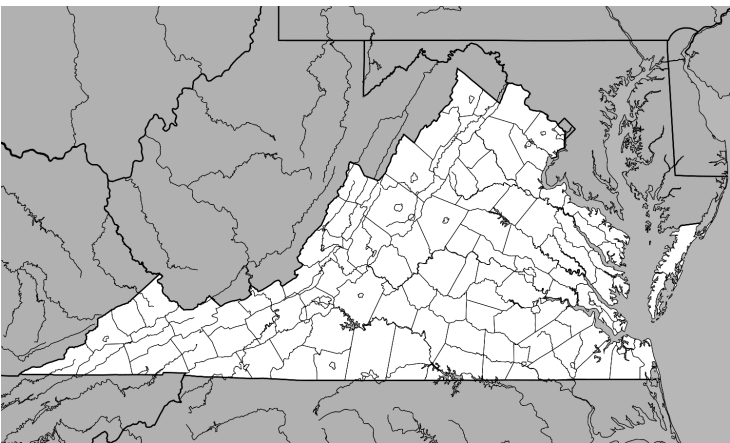
Charlottesville one of state's fastest growing cities

Kathleen Watson
Associate Editor

A new report on Virginia population growth from the Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service has found that, although the state's rate of growth has declined in recent years, it is outpacing the national growth rate. In the past, Virginia's growth rate was substantially higher than the national average, partly because so many individuals were moving to northern Virginia, Cooper Center Research Specialist Hamilton Lombard said. Since 2010, Virginia's population has grown by 4.8 percent — a rate higher than the national average of 4.1 percent. However, the rate may have started to slow down in part due to cuts in federal spending, Lombard

said. "[The decline in growth] started up right about the same time you had the federal budget sequestration, which has definitely affected the economy of Northern Virginia and Hampton Roads where you have a lot of federal money floating around," Lombard said. The declining economy has played a major role in Virginia's slow growth, Lombard said. "Immigration in the country isn't what it was in the 1990s and early 2000s and that again kind of goes back to the economy," Lombard said. "If there isn't the money, people don't necessarily move in." One of the other major factors contributing to Virginia's slowing growth rate is the balance between the number of births and deaths, Lombard said.

"There's two ways the population grows. One is people moving in and out and the other is your births [and] deaths balance," Lombard said. "A lot of retirees love moving out to rural areas in the state, but they have to have enough people moving in just to make up for that population loss, more births than deaths... and that often doesn't happen." Lombard said this decline in growth will be an issue for rural areas of the state. "It is a challenge, though, in rural areas because the first place you start feeling that slow down of growths since it's driven by births is going to be your schools," Lombard said. "And that's a huge part of local government expenditure. It's hard to run the schools efficiently when they're way under capacity." Unlike the rest of the state, Char-



Courtesy Wikimedia Commons
Since 2010, Virginia's population has grown by 4.8 percent — a rate higher than the national average of 4.1 percent.

lottesville has experienced massive growth in recent years. Between 2010 and 2015, Charlottesville's population grew by 10.9 percent according to the Cooper Center's statistics. Albemarle County also saw 6.1 percent population increase since 2010. "[Charlottesville's] population was not growing very much for several decades, but it's really accelerated, and it's one of the fastest growing cities in the state," Lombard said. Lee Catlin, Albemarle County assistant executive for Community Relations, said the county's growing population is not "overwhelming," but it could lead to more traffic and higher school enrollment. Lombard said he is hopeful the rest of the state will catch up in the future. "I think we'll recover. I think you probably will see maybe in another five years, or by the end of the decade, you may see growth rate statewide go back up," Lombard said. "We don't know that for certain, but given how much this is a departure from historical trends I would expect a little bit of correction at some point."

Population in Albemarle County and Charlottesville City, Virginia			
Albemarle County		Charlottesville City	
April 1, 2010 Census	98,970	April 1, 2010 Census	43,475
July 1, 2015 Estimate	105,051	July 1, 2015 Estimate	48,210
Percent Change	6.1%	Percent Change	10.9%

Cindy Guo | Cavalier Daily

*Data taken from Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service

Student social center coming to Corner

University plans to create recreational space to connect Lloyd Building to Grounds

Thomas Roades and Elizabeth Parker
Staff Writers

coming to CornerPlanning is underway for the acquired Lloyd Building on the Corner, according to a Campus Climate and Culture report released by University President Teresa Sullivan earlier this month. Titled "Status Report to the Ad-Hoc Group on University Culture and Climate," the report — published Jan. 12 — announces new University measures to combat issues with sexual assault, including a developing project in the Lloyd Building. The University acquired the building in the summer of 2015 and plans to use the space as a center for student activities and social events, particularly in the evenings when other University facilities may be unavailable. University Deputy Spokesperson Matt Charles said the University is leasing the building, located at 1515 University Ave., to serve as a recreational space for students. "The University of Virginia is leasing the building... to provide

students with a recreational location near the Grounds that will include a possible lounge area, limited food service and meeting rooms, in addition to performance and rehearsal space," Charles said in an email statement. Christina Morell, associate vice president for student affairs, said the Lloyd Building will be used to promote healthy community connections and help students pursue opportunities that interest them. The building will also serve as a connection between Grounds and the Corner. "This is an opportunity for the University to have a presence on The Corner to support community-gathering that is inclusive for all students, and to support the student experience," Morell said in an email statement. The project is a collaboration between the inaugural class of students from the Meriwether Lewis Institute for Citizen Leadership — a student fellowship program — and representatives from Student Affairs, the Provost's Office, Office of the Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, the Office of the Architect

and Facilities Management. Lewis Fellow and third-year College student Mediha Salkic is one of five fellows chosen to work comprehensively on the project through the school year. "We expect the Lloyd Building to serve a multipurpose function towards the enrichment of student lives in keeping with the student body's core values and the University's mission," Salkic said in an email statement. Salkic said she envisions the building as meeting student needs in creative and unprecedented ways. "We hope that this will truly be a unique student space on The Corner, one that is easily accessible, adaptable, and modern in design alongside meeting the needs of the [student] body," she said. Salkic said proposals for the space's use originally came from five project groups during the Meriwether Lewis Institute's summer program. Five fellows — one from each of the five groups — were selected to further work on the Lloyd Building. "I represent a group which proposed the idea of comprehensive student wellness as a central theme



Lauren Hornsby | The Cavalier Daily

Associate Vice President for Student Affairs Christina Morell said the Lloyd Building will be used to promote healthy community connections and help students pursue opportunities that interest them.

for the building," Salkic said. "While ideas from various constituents have been integrated in the building's plan, I have worked towards ensuring the element of diversity in particular is incorporated in the way the building is designed and operates." Third-year Engineering student and Lewis Fellow Harry Elkins also said the space will accommodate a diversity of student activities. "The Lloyd Building will have a variety of uses possibly including but not limited to... social space, performance space, cafe, mindfulness space, practice space (for acapella groups and things like that), study space, career services and potentially others," Elkins said in an email statement. The space is expected to open in time for the fall semester, Charles said.



Matt Wurzburger
Sports Editor

Virginia Coach Tony Bennett was jubilant as he fielded questions from the media in Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum. And he had all the reason in the world to be. Mere minutes earlier, his 11th-ranked Cavaliers (16-4, 5-3 ACC) shocked Wake Forest with a frantic comeback that culminated in a game-winning, buzzer-beating, bank-shot three ball by sophomore guard Darius Thompson.

For all of his praise for the fight exhibited by his team, there was a major qualification.

"We're struggling a little bit," Bennett said. "I thought we played good basketball the last two games, and I didn't think we played real solid."

To say Virginia struggled against the Demon Deacons (10-10, 1-7 ACC) might be an understatement. In fact, had Thompson's prayer of a shot not been answered, Tuesday night's game in Winston-Salem may have represented the team hitting rock bottom.

But the shot did go in, and the Cavaliers broke the seal, so to speak, with their first conference victory away from John Paul Jones Arena. They'll have the opportunity to double that total Saturday afternoon against No. 16 Louisville.

The Cardinals (16-3, 5-1 ACC) represent, thus far, the most stern ACC foe Virginia has faced on the road.

While the ACC continues to devour itself, Louisville has risen above the ruckus and sits only 1.5 games behind second-ranked North Carolina in the conference table, which is a surprise to many as the ACC media picked the Cardinals to finish seventh at the beginning of the season.

Projecting a mediocre finish by Louisville was not a vote of no confidence in hall of fame Coach Rick Pitino, but rather an

acknowledgement that the Cardinals lost so much production from a team that reached the Elite Eight in 2015.

The graduation of Wayne Blackshear, as well as the early departure of Montrezl Harrell and Terry Rozier, depleted the team. In fact, Louisville lost 83 percent of their scoring production.

However, that has mattered little for the Cardinals. The addition of graduate transfer guards Damion Lee and Trey Lewis, coupled with the emergence of sophomore center Chinanu Onuaku, has Louisville maintaining a level of winning expected of the program.

To the casual observer, Onuaku is known for shooting free throws underhanded — like NBA Hall of Famer Rick Barry — but the Lanham, Md. native is much more than his free throw mechanics, which bring jeers from opposing fans.

Onuaku has filled the void left by Harrell in the low post. At 6'10", Onuaku is averaging 10.6 points, 9.2 rebounds and two blocks per game while shooting 61 percent from the field. The raw numbers do not entirely convey his proficiency on the glass. This season, Onuaku is rebounding 17 percent of his own team's misses, which is the ninth-best rate in the nation. Onuaku is also securing 25.4 percent of opponent's misses.

Led by Onuaku's production, the Cardinals are second in the nation in offensive rebounding rate at 43 percent — mere percentage points behind top-ranked SMU. Offensive rebounding has given the Cavaliers fits at times this year, so Virginia must make a concerted effort on the defensive glass.

"[Defensive rebounding is] a means of survival for us," Bennett said. "That kills our defense when people are getting a lot of second chance points."

Much like Virginia, Louisville's defense has been its calling card under Pitino, whose trademark matchup zone defense and full-court pressure has led the Cardinals to the third-best defensive efficiency in the

Road-weary Cavaliers take on Louisville

No. 11 Virginia looks to carry momentum from improbable comeback



Marshall Bronfin | The Cavalier Daily

Sophomore forward Isaiah Wilkins savors his role as high-post playmaker.

nations at 88.9 points per 100 possessions.

The Cavaliers handled Syracuse's 2-3 zone very well at times with crisp ball movement, but Louisville's zone is an entirely different beast due to its ability to morph into straight man-to-man defense.

Sophomore forward Isaiah Wilkins will have another opportunity to showcase his passing skills once again Saturday. Against the Orange, Wilkins recorded three assists with two coming in the closing minutes of the game.

"I really focus on that a lot in practice when we do zone things," Wilkins said.

But cracking Louisville's defense is not the number one concern for Virginia — fixing

their own defense is. Wake Forest shot over 53 percent against the Cavaliers with the defensive implosion came in the second half, where the Demon Deacons converted 57 percent of their shots, including a six-of-nine effort from behind the arc. The defensive breakdowns were so severe that Bennett opted to go zone down the stretch.

"Shows you how desperate we were and how poor our defense was, but actually help us in just a few possessions," Bennett said.

Continual progression has been to refrain for many games this season — games when Virginia's defense was not up to par, but improvement was noticeable. After taking a giant leap in the wrong direction against Wake Forest, the Cavaliers face

the daunting task of shoring up a defense once known for its machine-like efficiency, and doing so in the midst of a hyper-competitive ACC.

"It's different for us," senior guard Malcolm Brogdon said. "I've never been on a Virginia team where we struggled to get stops and our defense is questioned. ... We, as Coach Bennett says, put the blinders on — just focus on what we have to do and the goal ahead."

Matt Wurzburger is a Sports editor for The Cavalier Daily. He can be reached at m.wurzburger@cavalierdaily.com or on Twitter at @wurzburgerm.

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Women's basketball drops contest to N.C. State



Sophomore guard Mikayla Venson scored 14 points in a losing effort to N.C. State.

Paul Burke | The Cavalier Daily

What figured to be a shooter's gym Wednesday night for both teams as Virginia squared off against N.C. State at Broughton High School in Raleigh, N.C., did not lend itself to a higher scoring affair.

Virginia (13-9, 3-5 ACC) shot 37.7 percent from the floor in a 63-52 loss. The Wolfpack (14-6, 5-2 ACC) tacked onto its lead late at the free-throw line, finishing slightly below a season average of 69 points per game, while the Cavaliers barely escaped the 40s, thanks to a hurried Breyana Mason three-pointer with 23 seconds remaining.

Believing, like her colleague Tony Bennett had the night before, that no lead was ever out of reach, coach Joanne Boyle quickly called timeout. Her team faced even slighter odds, though, down nine. After an ensuing foul, N.C. State junior guard Miah Spencer drained both attempts from the line. Then, Virginia's 17th turnover allowed the Wolfpack to run out the clock.

Spencer and redshirt-junior guard Dominique Wilson did a lot of damage Wednesday night.

The duo combined for 42 points on 30 shots, in addition to six assists and five steals. Senior center Carlee Schuhmacher and junior guard Ashley Williams chipped in eight and seven a piece.

The Cavaliers again relied on their pair of guards, sophomore Mikayla Venson and junior Breyana Mason, to produce nearly half of its total points. Venson wasn't particularly efficient Wednesday night, tallying 14 points on 4-11 shooting. Mason finished with 11 points on 5-8 and six rebounds.

Virginia did receive an offensive boost from two of its sophomores. Forward Lauren Moses, a former ESPNW top-100 recruit, contributed 10 points while limited by foul trouble. Moses managed only three boards, however, and N.C. State outrebounded the Cavaliers 34-31. Guard J'Kyra Brown added nine points on three trifectas.

Virginia will return home to Charlottesville before heading south for another road game, this one at Duke.

—compiled by Grant Gossage

No. 18 wrestling welcomes top-10 Virginia Tech

The Commonwealth's rivalry is bound to become even more interesting this weekend as the No. 10 Virginia Tech wrestling team visits No. 18 Virginia.

The match between the two nationally-ranked teams will mark the first home ACC dual match of the season for the Cavaliers (5-3, 0-1 ACC). Virginia is looking for its first conference victory, as it started out with a road loss to No. 3 NC State.

On the other hand, the Hokies (9-2, 1-0 ACC) were victorious in their first ACC match last week with a win over No. 14 North Carolina.

The Virginia Tech squad features a talented roster, as it currently has eight wrestlers ranked nationally in their weight classes. Junior Joey Dance, who is ranked No. 3 in the 125-pound weight class, is still undefeated

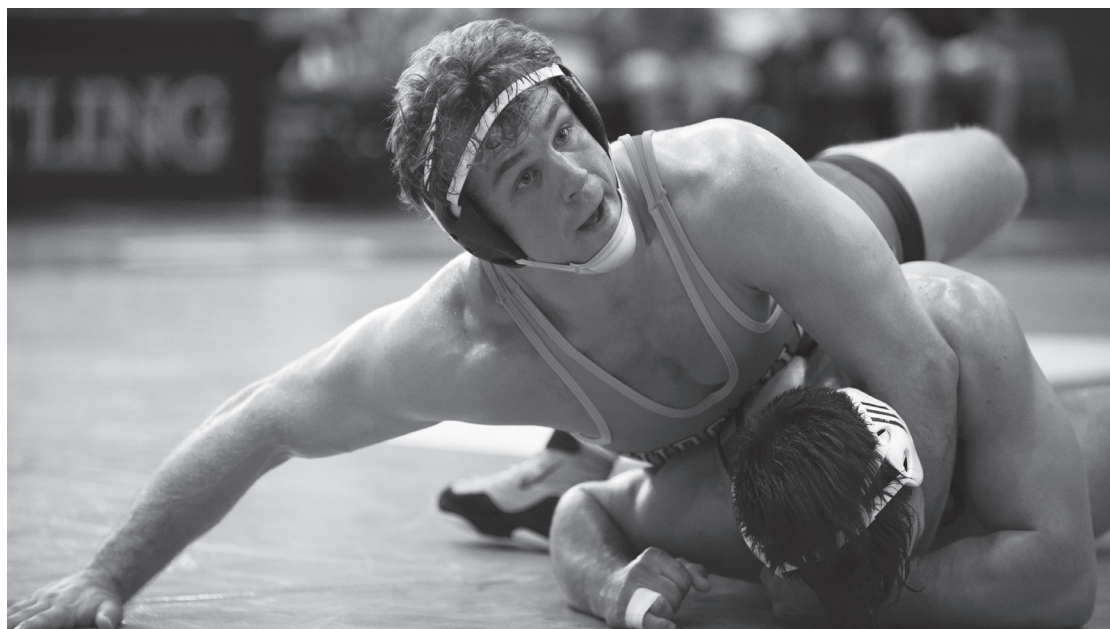
(5-0) in dual matches.

One key match will come in the 197-pound weight class, as Virginia Tech sophomore Jared Haught, ranked No. 8, faces senior Zach Nye for the Cavaliers, who is currently ranked No. 10 in the weight class.

With the weekend's competition, Virginia has the opportunity to get a leg up in the competitive ACC field and make a notch in the rivalry's series record, which the Hokies lead 39-27.

The Cavaliers have their work cut out for them Sunday, but they will surely be looking to avenge last year's meeting with Virginia Tech, when they lost a close one in Blacksburg, 18-16.

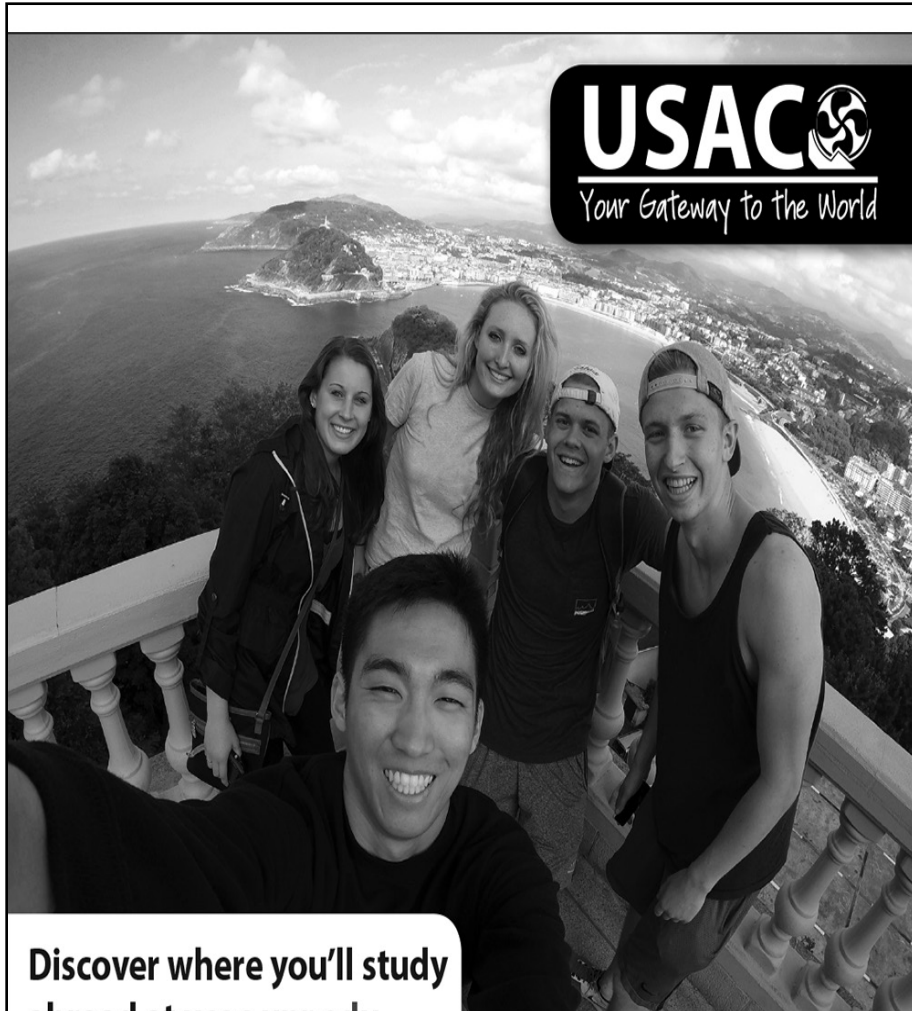
—compiled by Mariel Messier



Alicia Wang | The Cavalier Daily






No. 10 senior Zach Nye leads Virginia into a weekend clash against Virginia Tech.

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The Virginia Alcohol and Trauma (VAT) Laboratory at the University of Virginia seeks young adults ages 18-25 to complete questionnaires and tasks assessing responses to stressful life events and alcohol cues as part of a research study.

The purpose of this study is to investigate links between memories of very stressful or traumatic interpersonal events and responses to alcohol in the laboratory.

Participation includes 2 visits to the laboratory. During the first session, you will complete questionnaires, provide a salivary DNA sample, and describe a stressful interpersonal event you have experienced. During the second session, you will listen to an audio narrative of a stressful life event you have experienced and a neutral event. You will also view and smell an alcoholic beverage and water. You will complete questionnaires based on how you are feeling during this exercise, and we will measure your salivation level.

Eligibility:

- Men and women ages 18-25
- Having experienced or witnessed one or more interpersonally stressful or traumatic life events
- Recent alcohol use



Time Required: Two sessions lasting a total of 4 hours

Payment: Up to \$75

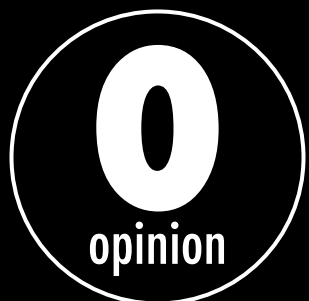
Contact Information:

For more information, please contact:

- Salpi Kevorkian, Virginia Alcohol and Trauma (VAT) Lab Coordinator
 - **Phone:** 434-297-7609
 - **Email:** VATlab@hscmail.mcc.virginia.edu
 - <http://research.med.virginia.edu/chrc/clinical-research/vat-lab/>
 - IRB HSR # 18120

Principal Investigator: Erin Berenz, Ph.D.





Comment of the day

“Do you realize that the same attitude was adopted toward Al-Qaeda during the [1990s]?”

“Jak Dodson” in response to Sawan Patel’s Jan. 25 article, “Stop exaggerating the threat of ISIS.”

LEAD EDITORIAL

Improve birth control access in Virginia

The legislature should make McAuliffe’s proposal a priority

Earlier this month Lt. Gov. Ralph Northam announced Gov. Terry McAuliffe’s proposed program to provide women who have little or no health insurance with free, long-lasting birth control. Under the proposal, a \$9 million federal grant would cover intrauterine devices, or IUDs, and skin implants.

Preventing teen pregnancy should be an apolitical issue: the fewer teenagers become pregnant, the fewer abortions become necessary — a goal pro-life and pro-choice advocates likely share. Access to birth control can lower the rates of unplanned pregnancies, thereby lowering abortion rates. A 2009 privately funded program in Colorado similar to McAuliffe’s proposal led to a 40 percent decline in the birthrate among teens in just four years, and, according to the Colorado governor’s office, saved the state

\$42.5 million in health care expenditures associated with teens giving birth. Alongside this, in the past six years, Colorado saw a 42 percent decline in teen abortions.

Long-lasting birth control such as IUDs and implants can last up to 10 years and, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, are the most effective forms of birth control, with fewer than 1 pregnancy per 100 women in a year. Such forms of birth control can also be more cost-effective due to their longevity.

For women either without health insurance or whose health insurance does not cover every type of contraceptive due to loopholes in the Affordable Care Act, the cost of long-acting, reversible contraceptives is roughly \$800. Since an estimated 14.3 percent of Virginians — totaling 995,000 people — under

the age of 65 lacked health insurance in 2012, this is likely a problem for many Virginia women.

The proposal follows former Gov. Robert F. McDonnell’s decision to cut funding for teen pregnancy prevention programs in 2011. Though well-intended, the programs only served less than 5,000 Virginians in 2010. McAuliffe’s proposal has the potential to help many more people.

Thus, this proposal is a step in the right direction in ensuring access to birth control for women who need it. It is also of no cost to the state, as the program relies on federal funds — though the legislature will, of course, have to approve the program in this year’s legislative session. Approving it should be a no-brainer — combating teen pregnancy is something we can all support.

THE CAVALIER DAILY

The Cavalier Daily

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Unfocused, uneasy and coming undone

The distractions of modern life are eroding our relationships with one another

We are changing. Over and above the gradual changes caused by evolution, people's very nature has been drastically altering over the past ten years marked by substantive changes to our overall society. Just recently, I watched a movie with a friend and distinctly remember him texting constantly throughout. Yet, thinking back over this moment of frustration at my friend's continuous phone buzzing, I realized that I too had been doing the exact same thing, albeit with my phone on silence. On the heels of a report by Microsoft which concluded that the average transient human attention span had fallen from 12 seconds in 2000 to 8 seconds in 2013, it's becoming increasingly evident in modern society how a technological revolution has created a vastly different world shifting from the in-depth and explanatory to the quick and astonishing.

In the public arena, news stories are increasingly dominated

by rapid-fire headlines. Many students at the University, for example, use theSkimm, a news oriented email tool that condenses the most important news stories of the day into a short, concise paragraph. While I prefer Google News as my resource, I too find myself briskly reading the headlines while failing to read any of the actual written substance or facts in the article. As news articles become shorter and shorter, increasingly, many are not even written by humans anymore. It's estimated that by 2030, 90% of news articles will be written by computers. Remember that article you read about GDP figures in the economy? It was probably written by a computer.

Our continuously shortening attention spans have drastically altered what is considered entertainment and the ways in which we interact with it. Short clips and videos rack up millions of views. Vine, the social network which restricts videos to 6-seconds, has soared in popularity.

Looking for a quick laugh, I oftentimes find myself rewatching vines I've seen endless times but, hey, it's only six seconds. What's the harm? Satya Nadella, Microsoft's CEO, recently declared that "the true scarce commodity" of the future will be "human attention."

The social network example extends to Snapchat, too. Snapchat stories offer quick blurbs into our friends lives yet fail to yield the same genuine connection that a human conversation

whether they have a significant other or not, but when I really think about it, I don't know anything about them. Not how their day was nor how their family is doing. While the information age has granted us the incredible ability to maintain relationships with people across thousands of miles, I and I think many other people as well, have adapted to this short-attention-spanned world by turning to a system of "fronting" in lieu of real human connections with others. I find myself retweeting Elon Musk to appear intelligent, making a Snapchat story at a party to appear well-liked and sharing a definitely useless Facebook page to appear entertaining.

On Grounds and among college students across the country, the continued shortening of our attention span to effectively less than that of a goldfish has led to a

growing sense of isolation within our own personal bubbles. At bus stops, almost every student bides their time on their phones. Even when I eat at a dining hall I find myself refreshing apps or reading rankings instead of engaging fully in the company of a friend. It's certainly easy to be seduced by the thrilling wonders of endless Wikipedia pages and puppy videos. However, as for potential solutions I truly don't know. There isn't necessarily a straightforward path that could easily solve this problem. Nonetheless, the explosion of technology in the past few decades has undoubtedly improved the quality of life for many people. Yet, one thing remains absolutely clear. It's a grave new world out there.

Ben's columns run Thursdays. He can be reached at b.yahnian@cavalierdaily.com.

BEN YAHNIAN
Opinion Columnist



...Humanity's very nature has drastically altered over the past 10 years...

does. I could tell you all about the lives of my Snapchat friends like the places they've traveled,

Naiveté and college costs

The Democratic presidential candidates aren't dealing with the root causes of student debt

Keeping up with the costs of a college education has become an increasingly difficult task for millions of Americans across the nation. Countless young adults are being forced to move back in with their parents as they try to escape their repayment bills. And with over \$1.2 trillion in student loan debt and about 40 million borrowers, this crisis only worsens. Last August, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton proposed a plan that would ease the process of paying tuition at public colleges through major government spending. Although a laudable initiative and contribution, Clinton's proposal seems to be missing the entire point of the discussion: making college more affordable.

Under the plan about \$175 billion would go to the states which guarantee that "students would not have to take out a loan to cover tuition at four-year public colleges and universities." In return for the money, states would have to increase their budget spending over time for higher education. Although Clinton's plan is one of the best proposals yet presented

by the left, and does not go as far as Sen. Bernie Sanders' promise to abolish public tuition altogether, it does involve an increase in spending of over \$750 billion over 10 years. With college costs only rising, this proposal would impact — and might even exacerbate — the problem. This proposal, then, becomes a somewhat unrealistic solution to a very real problem.

Offering free tuition doesn't actually make college free — it only shifts the costs from students to taxpayers. College spending, then, is at the mercy of whatever the public is willing to invest, while the institution's cost per student remains untouched. What happens, then, when the taxpayer money doesn't keep up with rising costs and demand? The result is an inability to serve more students without lowering the quality of education.

A recent example that illustrates this phenomenon are California's community colleges, the most affordable in the nation. When the recession hit, enrollment at these colleges skyrocketed while the state's budget for education was cut by \$1.5 billion due to

lower tax revenue. This resulted in an increase in tuition and led the colleges to turn away over 600,000 students. Many argue federal policy could force policymakers to increase funding, but that would only mean tying their hands during rough times.

Although one cannot deny that tuition is the largest cost of attending college, and doing away with it would dramatically help a lot of students, it wouldn't be true to say it is the only cost college

see Promise program, one aimed at providing last-dollar scholarships that cover tuition and fees, is another example of why efforts to make college more affordable to students should not be solely aimed at lowering or eliminating tuition.

Debbie Cochrane, the research director at The Institute for College Access and Success, claims, "What you see is a lot of students enrolling who might not otherwise enroll. But you see really low success rates, and things like students going part-time because they can't afford the books." Despite almost free tuition at many community colleges across the nation, only one third of students from the bottom income quartile who began

their community college careers in 2003 finished a degree by 2009. This brings up the question of whether programs like Tennessee Promise can help students struggling to pay for books to graduate.

My objective in using the case of Tennessee Promise is to reveal

that making college an affordable option for the American people involves and reflects deeper issues than tuition costs. It is evident that eliminating tuition at some colleges would drastically help and improve the affordability problem that higher education is facing, but as Tennessee Promise shows us, getting students at the front gate of a college education doesn't guarantee them a completely affordable path to a degree.

People should be incentivized — not discouraged — to receive a higher education. One of the most important things to realize about this problem is that offering government-financed free-tuition isn't the ultimate remedy. Instead of spreading taxpayer money throughout all students, policies addressing this crisis should be centered on aiming those resources towards those who actually need them the most and give them the power to choose the educational option, either public or private, that is best for them.

Carlos' columns run Thursdays. He can be reached at c.lopez@cavalierdaily.com.

CARLOS LOPEZ
Opinion Columnist



Offering free tuition doesn't actually make college free — it only shifts the costs from students to taxpayers.

students face. This brings up another problem, as it leads many students to still take on part-time jobs in order to cover additional expenses such as books and housing. Covering tuition, then, is not going to make the student loan debt crisis disappear. The Tennes-

Being queer in a new year

University students should not only tolerate but celebrate the school's gay members

To me, being queer means the ability to question the conventions society has placed on me. It means an openness to struggle, to the culture and stories of different humans, and to the challenge of resilience. But to many of the people I meet, this defining identity of mine is reduced to the experimental nature of liberal girlhood: sexualized, fetishized, another win for the patriarchy. Because why would any woman choose not to be with a man? In "The Pervasive Heterosexualizing of American Youth," activist Michael Carosone writes, "In a heteronormative capitalistic society, sexually deviant persons are not allowed to exist, because reproduction is paramount for the creation of more workers and consumers." I would like to think college students have a greater capacity to envision life beyond the sole purpose of their contributions to the capitalist machine.

LITAL FIRESTONE
Guest Writer

As the millennial generation — where over 40 percent of us are non-white and homosexuality is no longer taboo — we are perceived as more accepting of differences than our elders were. But we have become complacent in our presumed tolerance. My first year, I did not rush because I did not want to make other girls uncomfortable (little did I know, the president of the sorority I'd join the next year is a lesbian). My second year, I wanted to come out but was advised by a 'friend' not to mix my personal life with student government, since I was running for an elected position.

I do not feel oppressed by the societal limitations on my lifestyle. But there are so many other people in the queer community who do — people who are silenced and made to feel ashamed for the very freedom that brings us joy. I cannot even fully describe this discrimination without mentioning the intersection of race and gender

with sexuality, but my space is limited.

You might be thinking right now, "This article doesn't apply to me. I love gay people!" However, while it is fun to dress up in all rainbow and get drunk for your local pride festival, that's not enough to call yourself an ally. I urge you to learn how to advocate for inclusion actively. I have seen and experienced so many microaggressions: lesbians being ridiculed for not wanting to have a threesome; my

man-hater. These unintentionally negative messages perpetuate the cycle of exclusion of the queer community.

Just like most of America and the world, the University is entrenched in heteronormativity, or the belief that people should maintain explicit gender identities and that heterosexuality is the only norm. Consider our institution's same-sex halls in dorms and its tradition of "guys in ties and girls in pearls." Beyond that, students exhibit

their closed-mindedness every day with phrases and exclamations such as "no homo," "lesbian lovers" and "not gay!" When so much of our lust-filled youthful conversation has to do with sex, love and relationships, there is ample opportunity to rub it into the face of LG-BTQ friends that the way they love is not normal.

I don't want you just to tolerate my gayness. I want you to make yourself a little uncomfortable and ask me questions (and not about whether lesbian sex can actually be legitimate given the lack of a phallic object). Rather, push yourself to understand the possibility of a spectrum of sexual orientation. When you meet new people, assume they could have any range of sexualities, and ask what pronouns they use. Distancing yourself from me does not make you any more straight, and listening to me talk about my girlfriend will not turn you gay.

Let us be the generation that celebrates diversity of people for all their unique colors and textures. Heteronormativity is out. Acceptance is in.



Just like most of America and the world, the University is entrenched in heteronormativity.

butch friend being asked why she doesn't want to be pretty; and people insisting that I am a

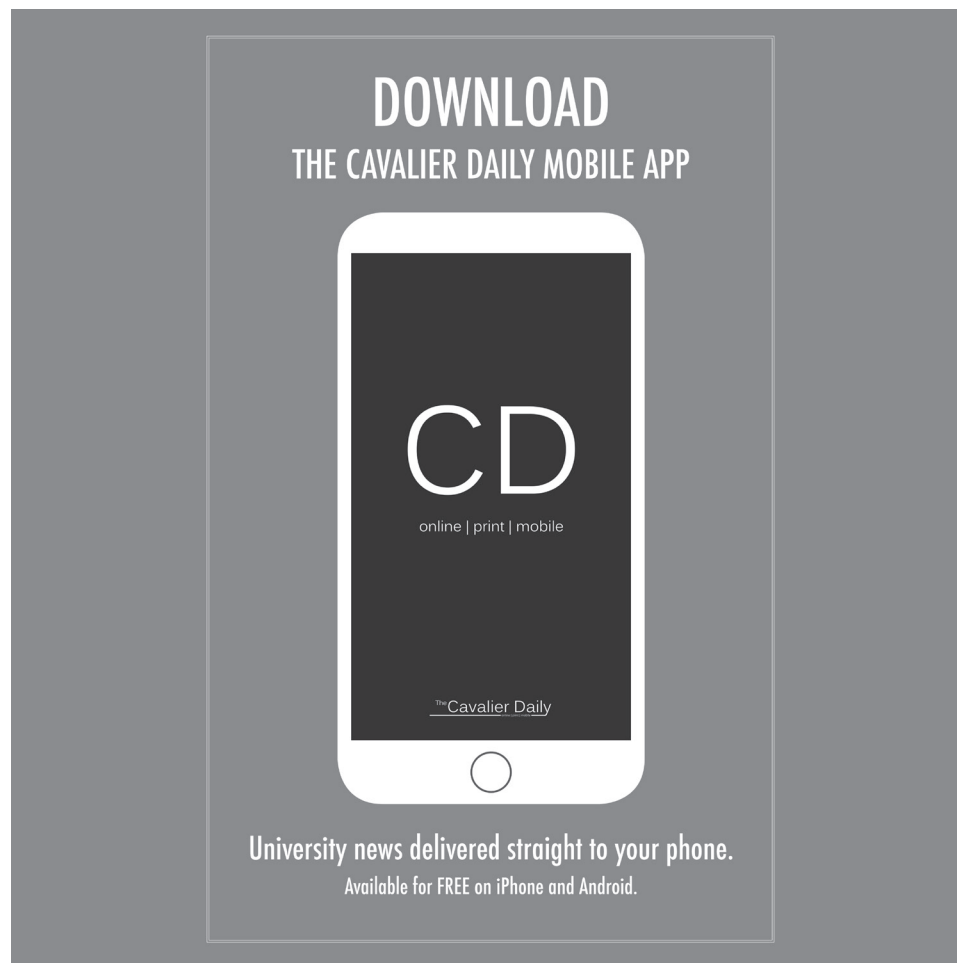
ty to rub it into the face of LG-BTQ friends that the way they love is not normal.

Lital Firestone is a third-year College student.

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Getting to know your new editors

Hey! It's Nancy-Wren and Patrick. Patrick and Nancy-Wren. Us. Together. The old team back at it again. We're here to bring you outstanding, eminent, exceptionally good comedy at the University of Virginia. As new editors of the Humor section, we assume you know nothing about us, and we would like to change that. Imagine us as your new step-parents, not wanting you to call us mom or dad, but letting you know that we're here for you. Having trouble at school? We'll help you out with your algebra. Can't seem to learn your lines for the big play? Well consider us your new scene partner. Wanna learn more about sex? You can go ask your real parents. Anyway, we did a little Q&A so you can get to know us better. I know what you're thinking. Who asked the questions? We did. To ourselves. The whole thing was contrived and silly. But we wrote it all down, and learned a little more about ourselves along the way.

NANCY-WREN BRADSHAW
PATRICK THEDINGA
Staff Writers

What is your worst fear?
NWB: The deep ocean. I get scared when I use satellite mode on Google Maps, and I hover over the ocean because it is, frankly, too much water.
PT: That a group of tall athletic dudes

will invite me into their pickup basketball game.

What is your most embarrassing moment?
NWB: One time I accidentally rode my bike into a pond.
PT: When I gradually and systematically peed my pants through an entire 30 minute guitar lesson because I didn't want to ask where the bathroom was.

Whom do you love most?
NWB: Me.
PT: My maternal grandmother, in order to spite my paternal grandmother.

What, in your opinion, is art?
NWB: Any of Van Gogh's stuff.
PT: Any of Van Morrison's stuff.

What's on the agenda for this semester?
NWB: One-liners, zingers, elaborate set-ups, and an all-around good time.

If you could have dinner with one person, dead or alive, would you?
PT: No.

What's your greatest weakness?
NWB: My inability to spell "necessary."
PT: MY ARMS.

What do you hate most about yourself?
PT: MY ARMS.
NWB: Patrick's arms.

Favorite type of fish?
NWB: Phish.
PT: Clownfish (hey, cuz I'm a jokester).

What does the word "salsa" mean to you?
NWB: (Esp. in Latin American cooking) a spicy tomato sauce.
PT: The popular form of social dance that originated in New York City with strong influences from Latin America, particularly

Puerto Rico, Cuba and Colombia.

What's the emotion you feel most often?
NWB: As a woman... disgust.
PT: As a man... fear.

What is your favorite fabric?
NWB: Silk.
PT: Cashmere.

Is magic real?
NWB: No.
PT: Close-up magic is real, all other magic is too far away to tell.

Is good customer service important?
NWB: Nothing is important.
PT: Yes.

If you were walking down the street and you found a wallet containing \$40 and an ID, would you try to return it?
NWB: Yes, absolutely. I would never lie, cheat or steal.
PT: I would take the money, wipe down the wallet of my fingerprints and leave it where I found it.

How many fingers am I holding up?
NWB: Two.
PT: Eleven (but it's just one from each hand to look like 11).

Is this your card?
NWB: Yes, thank you. I'll take that back now.
PT: Magic is real.

What's your deal?
PT: I guess I'm like Joseph Gordon-Levitt if he got facial reconstruction surgery and also changed everything about himself.
NWB: I'm a ghost.

Patrick Thedinga is a Humor editor and Nancy-Wren Bradshaw is a Senior Associate editor. They can be reached at p.thedinga@cavalierdaily.com and n.bradshaw@cavalierdaily.com, respectively.

The future

Whatever happened last year, it's in the past now. It's a new year and a new semester, which means you have a fresh crop of professors to whom you should apologize. An honest email would read as follows: "My mind is a garbage bag full of loose soup" and "every day it's a scavenger hunt of what I apparently should have known about," rounded out with "heeeeelp," but don't bother. We have to think big picture. We are so young. The future isn't about getting into a prestigious academic program. Besides the strong chance that these programs may very well be subterfuge to cover the fact that we're all getting BAs, the college bubble will inevita-

CHARLOTTE RASKOVICH
Humor Writer

bly burst. We only have a vague idea of what a bubble is in this context. The future isn't about that. Believe me, 20 years from now you won't even remember your overdue essay because you'll still be reeling from your husband's affair with a 3D printed vulva. How can you worry about a group project when, in your lifetime, you'll be eating lab grown meat with blood in it? Not that there would be a beating heart in the meat. Probably more of a scattered network of rudimentary capillaries. After all, if we create borderline sentient meat units, we must accept the think pieces we bring upon ourselves. On the topic of engineered

meat, uteruses for men is probably still a ways away. I know, I want to be a reverse-dad too,



So, yes, this semester I'll think about if I should finally get my life together but not as much as I'll think about if I should copyright my nudes in the cloud.

but I think we can settle for little incubators kept in gender neutral backpacks. That seems reasonable. They'll be transparent of course, so you can take it out and show everyone your devel-

oping tank child at parties.

Speaking of gender neutral, once Bernie Sanders is elected and everyone is dripping with healthcare bitcoins, the teens will start dallying in hormone experimentation. Swaying like fronds in the wind between two ends of a spectrum, they'll tell me that it's really more of a cloud.

Interior design involving magnets will become a trend but only for little things like plants. Neo riot grrls will use the technology just to float their discarded clothes and food wrappers in their carefully craft-

ed rooms. They'll make music on tiny, tiny keyboards about walking through their trash galaxy. Hopefully by then menstruation art will be over.

There will be a new type of Facebook update for some unexplored nuance of relationships. Or I'll force my friends into adopting a pager system, so when they develop crushes I can immediately writhe with jealousy.

So, yes, this semester I'll think about if I should finally get my life together but not as much as I'll think about if I should copyright my nudes in the cloud.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday 1/28
WXTJ Presents: Elvis Depressedly, Ricky Eat Acid, Cende, 7 p.m., University Chapel
UPC and University Salsa Club Present: Salsa!, 8-11 p.m., Student Activities Building
Job and Internship Fair, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Newcomb Hall
HackCville Presents: Entrepreneurship 101, 5-7 p.m., RRH 123
UPC Presents: Open Mic Night, 10 p.m., OpenGrounds

Friday 1/29
Women's Tennis vs. South Carolina, 4 p.m., Sheridan Snyder Tennis Center
McIntire Department of Music Presents: JACK String Quartet, 8-10 p.m., Old Cabell Hall
The Fralin Museum of Art Presents: Final Fridays, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Fralin Museum of Art
Flash Seminars and Department of Economics Present: Fed Liftoff, 2-3:30 p.m., Monroe 130
UPC Presents: Bridge of Spies Screening, 7 p.m., Newcomb Theater
UPC Presents: Go For The Gold, 10 p.m. - 2 a.m., Newcomb Gameroom

Saturday 1/30
University Programs Council Presents: Spring Swing, 9-11 p.m., Newcomb Gallery and Newcomb Main Lounge

Sunday 1/31
Men's Tennis vs. Kentucky, 12 p.m., Boar's Head Sports Club
Wrestling vs. Virginia Tech, 2 p.m., Memorial Gymnasium
Men's Tennis vs. Eastern Kentucky, 5 p.m., Boar's Head Sports Club
Trustees Present: Dress for Success, 7-9 p.m., Banana Republic

Monday 2/1
Challah for Hunger Interest Meeting, 5-6 p.m., Newcomb 376
Alpha Kappa Psi Co-Ed Professional Business Fraternity Information Session, 7 p.m. RRH 256

Tuesday 2/2
UVa Career Center Presents: Startup Fair, 6-8 p.m., Newcomb Hall
UPC Presents: Fireside Chat with Tom Breihan, 7:30-9 p.m., OpenGrounds

Wednesday 2/3
Men's Basketball vs. Boston College, 7 p.m., John Paul Jones Arena
Alpha Kappa Psi Co-Ed Professional Business Fraternity Information Session, 6 p.m. RRH 116
Students for Individual Liberty Presents: The Modern Progressive Movement, 7-8 p.m., 332 New Cabell

UPC Presents: Bridge of Spies Screening, 10 p.m., Newcomb Theater

WEEKLY CROSSWORD SOLUTION

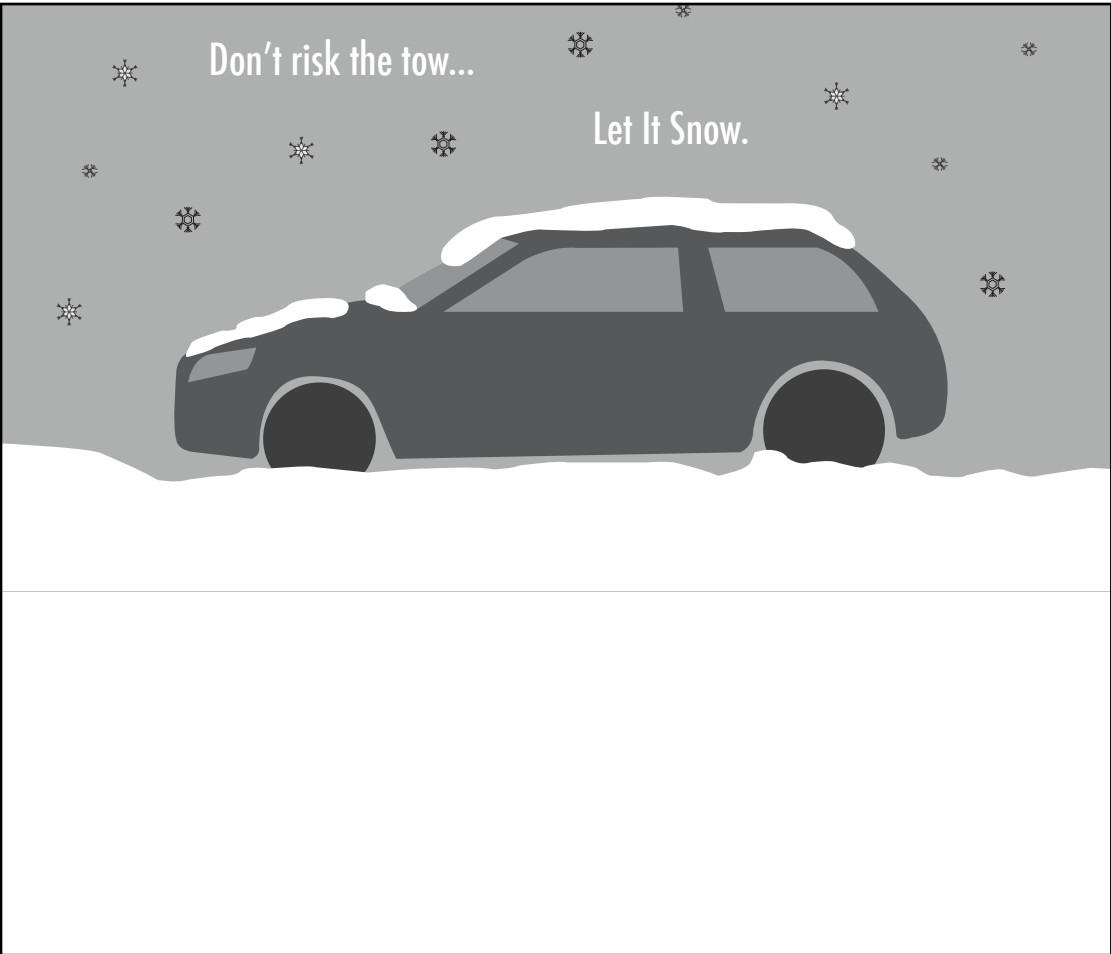
By Sam Ezersky

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*NEXT WEEK'S PUZZLE CAN BE FOUND IN MONDAY'S ISSUE

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Carson Newman
Senior Writer

A recently-published review of “The Revenant” by Cavalier Daily writer Ben Hitchcock claims the film provides very little substance besides wearying amounts of violence and bloodshed. While gore certainly plays a large role in the movie, Hitchcock’s dismissal of the rest of the movie misses out on some truly beautiful moments.

The relationship between Hugh Glass (Leonardo DiCaprio) and his half-Native American son Hawk (Forrest Goodluck) is tragic even before Hawk is murdered. Through a series of flashbacks, viewers see snip-

pets of Glass’s life before his involvement in the trading company — he had happiness with his wife and a twinkle in his eye with young Hawk. Then, the film shows an attack on his family’s tribe — and the first bitter separation of Glass and Hawk.

Outside of these flashbacks, the father-son relationship shows up in the context of the fur company. In one scene, Glass scolds Hawk for talking back to Fitzgerald (Tom Hardy) after the latter makes racist comments. Glass, explaining to his darker-skinned son how the other men only see Hawk’s skin color, has the heart-wrenching expression of a father’s pain. DiCaprio wears this character well, delivering a stellar performance of a man struggling to do right by his family.

The film also presents a refreshing narrative with its portrayal of Native American tribes. At different

points throughout the movie, the Native peoples are portrayed as feared warriors and raiders, skilled traders, respected negotiators and compassionate cohabitants. This three-dimensional characterization should be commended and has been overlooked in general critical treatment of the film so far.

The film’s camerawork and presentation of the Dakota wilderness should also be applauded. In a film about one man’s struggle against nature, it’s important to accurately depict the strength of the wilderness. From tracking shots weaving through pine forests to high-angle shots showing the vast landscapes Glass traverses, the cinematography establishes the fierceness of nature in relation to this narrative.

The Cavalier Daily’s earlier review lauded Hardy’s performance as Fitzgerald, the distrusting trapper.

Iñárritu delivers stunning tale of survival

But this praise is perhaps overstated. Just as nature’s almighty force must be shown to support the story, Fitzgerald must be portrayed as the ultimate pragmatist with a touch of crazy — the solid enemy. Hardy’s performance makes Fitzgerald easy to hate, but at the same time makes audiences wonder whether Fitzgerald did in fact make the right decision, given the circumstances.

It’s impossible to predict wheth-

er DiCaprio will win the Oscar for Best Actor. Many other great performances were nominated this year, and it won’t be the biggest scandal if another actor takes the prize — the Academy has plenty of other questions to answer right now.

Ultimately, it doesn’t matter if DiCaprio wins or not. “The Revenant” won’t be any less beautiful or emotionally stirring without this accolade.

Courtesy of Century Fox

‘Things I Learned’ infiltrates Ivies

New book gives detailed look at Ivy League experience

Thomas Roades
Staff Writer

In his new book, “The Things I Learned in College,” author Sean-Michael Green reveals a fascinating inside look at life in the elite institutions known as the Ivy League. Plenty of students have preconceived notions of what it would be like to attend an Ivy — indeed, the eight east coast schools have impressive, intimidating reputations.

Notions of rich, preppy students, beautiful old campuses and cutthroat academic competition permeate the cultural imagination. Green, who plans to release his book this May, examines just how much weight these preconceptions carry.

Over the course of a year, Green spent approximately 30 days at each Ivy League campus — sitting in on classes, interviewing students, attending parties and participating in other extracurricular activities. The result is a book filled with funny anecdotes and surprising observations that detail each school’s distinct characteristics and personality.

The book, a light read, is sprinkled with plenty of humor to keep it interesting, and although Green’s writing style is relatively simplistic, he gets his point across.

For example, Green devotes approximately one chapter to each school, prefacing with a witty “How many Cornell students does it take to

screw in a lightbulb?” joke modified to fit the relevant stereotypes.

His account, based on quite specific personal experiences, makes the work subjective at times, but he tries to give a fair depiction of the schools despite any biases. The true value of the book is in the personal nature of Green’s storytelling. Rather than spewing facts, Green gives readers a remarkable sense of the intangibles involved in Ivy League life.

For instance, it’s not hard to find information on Dartmouth’s geographic isolation — i.e., in the middle of a forest — but Green shows how this plays a role in the social lives of students at the college. Certain aspects of a college cannot be found out from Googling it, and Green does an impressive job of relaying such crucial details.

As a self-professed college fanatic, Green finds the merits of each school along the journey. While he never claims outright to prefer one college over another, he explores what students like and dislike about each one, allowing the reader to decide which ones sound more or less appealing.

“The Things I Learned In College” provides a unique look at the most high-profile schools in the country. Green’s dedication to discovering the realities of day-to-day life at the Ivies, relayed in telling anecdotes, makes this an excellent resource for any reader curious about these institutions.

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