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LUCAS HALSE | THE CAVALIER DAILY

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Selective majors release admissions data

Acceptances for Global Studies, politics-related majors show consistency with previous years

KATE BELLOWS | ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Several selective majors within the College of Arts and Sciences had similar application and acceptance numbers this spring in comparison to previous years, according to admissions data obtained by The Cavalier Daily.

The Political Philosophy, Policy and Law program was the most competitive, accepting about a third of its applicants.

PPL, an interdisciplinary major in the College, received more than 70 applications, accepted around 23 applicants and waitlisted about six, PPL Director and Politics Prof. Colin Bird said.

“We aim to recruit about 25 students a year, and it’s been plus or minus in different years,” Bird said. “Over my time as director of PPL, I would say our average number of applicants is around 80.”

Global Studies, a four-concentration interdisciplinary major in the College, received a total of 307 applications. Ninety-four people applied to Global Development Studies, 103 to Global Public Health, 62 to Security and Justice and 48 to Environments and Sustainability, Anthropology Prof. and Global Studies Director Richard Handler said in an email to The Cavalier Daily.

Handler said he could not yet provide the number of acceptances, but he said the number of acceptances is similar to 2016, in which 332 applications yielded 143 acceptances.

Political and Social Thought, an interdisciplinary major in the College, received 52 applications and admitted 23 students, Politics Prof. Michael Smith, the director of PST, said in an email statement. Smith said there has been a “slight upward trend” in applicant numbers since 2012.

“We have no plans for expansion, though the pool of qualified applicants regularly exceeds our capabilities,” Smith said. “As one committee member this year put it — we could probably fill two classes of 20 with well-qualified students.”

The Politics Honors Program admitted seven applicants out of a pool of 13, program director and Politics Prof. Gerard Alexander said. One additional student was an alternate.

“Even though the number of applications was about half of what we’re used to, it still contained a number of very strong students, enough to [create] a very strong class,” Alexander said. “So I’m not sure what happened there.”



COURTESY UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

Of the admissions data obtained by The Cavalier Daily, the Political Philosophy, Policy and Law Program is the most selective with a 32.8 percent acceptance rate.

Alexander said part of the reason that Politics Honors is kept so small is because it allows for plenty of student interaction.

“In a two and a half hour seminar, six or seven students get to

really have an active conversation with each other and with a faculty member, in a way that gets a lot harder even when a seminar

might be only 15,” Alexander said. “Secondly, that small number of students permits a ton of faculty feedback, a lot of writing and a lot of feedback on the writing. You’ll have assignments due every week or virtually every week, and you’ll get substantial feedback every single week.”

Alexander said because the program tends to attract students with GPAs of 3.7 and higher, some students assume they would not be strong enough candidates.

“Periodically I find myself encouraging students who might not have that high of a GPA to apply, but they sometimes don’t,” Alexander said. “They don’t talk to me about it. I don’t even know who they are. There’s a lot of self-selection that goes into it.”

Bird expressed a similar sentiment about applicants to PPL.

Bird said he believes the average GPA of students is increasing, which could be affecting the number of applicants.

“If the numbers [of applicants] go down, it’s hard to know whether that’s because the thing is less popular, or whether it’s because more students are saying, ‘well, there’s no point because I’m not going to be competitive,’” Bird said. “It’s difficult to judge that.”

First-year dorm associations change for renovations

Kent-Dabney, Bonnycastle to temporarily close in 2017-18 academic year

ANKITA SATPATHY | ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Renovations starting this summer will cause first-year dorms Kent-Dabney and Bonnycastle to be closed in the upcoming academic year. Additionally, Malone — formerly upperclassmen and transfer student housing — will be a first-year dorm.

As a result, Hancock dorm — which has been part of an association with Bonnycastle — will operate as a sole association. Malone will continue to operate within the Johnson-Malone-Weedon association.

Residence associations are designed to facilitate community within housing and residence life in regards to events and staffing. Students also elect representatives to association councils, which organize programming for the dorms.

The three first-year dorms closing mark the start of a series of renovations coming to dorms located along McCormick Road.

Jackson Nell, for Housing and



COURTESY UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

McCormick Road dorms Bonnycastle, Kent and Dabney will be closed for renovations during the 2017-18 academic year.

Residence Life and a fourth-year College student, said the renovations will be extensive.

“[The changes include] the addition of air condition[ing], the expansion of lounge and study space, renovated bathrooms, updated lighting, new flooring and modern furniture,” Nell said in an email to The Cavalier Daily.

First-year dorms Page, Emmet, Echols and Humphrey will be closed for renovation during the 2018-19 academic year, and Lefevre, Metcalf and Hancock will be renovated in the 2019-20 academic year.

According to the HRL renovation project website, the project’s goal is to align the comfort and facilities of the McCormick Road dorms to those located on Alderman Road.

In addition to Hancock becoming its own association, Courtenay, Dungleison and Fitzhugh — currently an association of suite-style residences on Alderman Road — will move to two separate associa-

tions of Courtenay-Dungleison and Fitzhugh-Gibbons.

“As CDF will be fully staffed this coming year, we have decided to place the staff in Fitzhugh under the jurisdiction of the Gibbons [Senior Resident],” Nell said. “This is to ensure equitable staff sizes and resident populations across the Program.”

Dillard will also be reopening next academic year, having been renovated this past year, which will help accommodate the incoming first-year class in addition to Malone.

“These minor changes continue to ensure that Resident Staff is effectively serving our residential communities,” Nell said. “We consistently make sure all of our communities have the necessary staff and supervisory structures to support our residents and to foster inclusive, engaging and safe environments.”

Sen. Bernie Sanders endorses Tom Perriello for governor

Vermont Senator, Former Fifth District Congressman share several progressive goals

MAGGIE SNOW | STAFF WRITER

Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) announced Tuesday his endorsement for Democratic gubernatorial candidate Tom Perriello. Perriello previously served as a representative for the Fifth Congressional District and is running against Lt. Gov. Ralph Northam for the Democratic nomination.

Sanders announced his endorsement in a press release Tuesday.

"We need to elect progressives at every level of government if we are going to beat back the dangerous agenda of the Trump administration and its Republican allies," Sanders said. "Now more than ever we need people in elected office who will fight for middle-income and working families. That's why I am so pleased today to endorse Tom Perriello for governor of Virginia."

Sanders also said he supports Perriello's plans to raise the minimum wage to \$15 and work toward sustainable energy in the state.

In the same release, Perriello said he plans to tackle unifying the Democratic Party throughout his campaign.

"Bernie Sanders has spent his career fighting for working families

against a rigged system," Perriello said. "Bernie has electrified a movement of Americans ready to take on our biggest challenges, including inequality and corruption, and I'm proud to have his support in my campaign."

Sanders is a major endorsement for Perriello, as Northam has received endorsements from several prominent Virginia Democrats, including both Sen. Tim Kaine (D) and Sen. Mark Warner (D), as well as Virginia Attorney General Mark Herring (D) and Gov. Terry McAuliffe (D).

Like Sanders during the 2016 presidential election, Perriello has recently focused on accessible education. One of his goals if elected governor would be to offer two free years of community college to Virginia residents. His campaign website states he supports "common-sense gun safety reforms." He is pro-choice and says he will work to decrease the pay gap between men and women.

According to poll results by released by Christopher Newport University's Wason Center for Public Policy on March 28, Perriello is tied with Northam at 26 percent of their party's support, with the remaining



COURTESY WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Sanders (left) announced his support for Perriello (right) on Tuesday. Sanders competed in the 2016 Democratic presidential primary.

two-thirds being undecided.

At the University level, the University Democrats remain neutral on the race because it is still early in the election season.

"We don't endorse candidates before primaries, so we have nothing to say for or against Perriello," Virginia Chambers, a first-year College stu-

dent and communications coordinator for the University Democrats, said in an email to The Cavalier Daily. "We are, however, always excited to see Virginia's gubernatorial race getting attention from outside the Commonwealth."

Both the Democratic and Republican primaries will be held June 13.

Former Republican National Committee Chairman Ed Gillespie, Prince William County Board of Supervisors Chairman Corey Stewart and State Sen. Frank Wagner (R-Virginia Beach) are seeking their party's nomination in the Republican primary.

U.Va. Law students launch legal education initiative

Program to help recently incarcerated males at Piedmont House

BRIDGET STARRS | STAFF WRITER

University Law students, with the help of local attorneys, are launching an education initiative this month for local individuals convicted of nonviolent crimes.

The initiative will take place at Piedmont House, a transitional facility for recently incarcerated males, and will aim to educate residents about their rights and provide legal assistance by offering a variety of educational programs. The program will officially launch April 11 with a legal information session on suspended licenses.

The Law students launching the program are members of the Virginia Law in Prison Project, which aims to integrate Law students into the Charlottesville community and promote legal advocacy related to prisons. The students from the organization have been planning the Piedmont House education initiative for the past year.

Tex Pasley, a third-year Law student, helped create the Virginia Law in Prison Project as a first-year Law student, and is now co-president of the organization alongside second-year Law student Maggie Birkel. Both students have been working on

the education initiative this year.

"As a group, we wanted to get involved with the local community in some way where we could use legal skills to help people who were incarcerated or who were recently incarcerated," Pasley said. "It's a really great opportunity for Law students to get hands on experience working with clients and with legal issues that

matter to people."

Second-year Law student Nicole Lawler had the idea for the project while she was living near Piedmont House last year. She frequently saw the sign for the house, and decided to research the organization's mission.

"I thought it would be a great way for Law students to connect more with the local community in Char-

lottesville," Lawler said. "Because I feel like a lot of times, we just tend to stay at the Law School and don't really get involved with the greater community."

This semester, the education program will consist of informational sessions and clinics led by attorneys from both the Legal Justice Aid Center and the Central Virginia Legal Aid Society, as well as presentations from the Law students.

"I think it's something that a lot of students would be interested in, and would be a great way to get 1Ls and 2Ls some legal experience in the field and engaging with the community," Lawler said.

This semester, the program will kickstart with Law students being able to build connections with the men at Piedmont House, Lawler said. In the future, she hopes to see the program grow into a more sustainable hands-on legal assistance organization.

"Ideally, we would like to see it transcend into a more robust legal assistance program, where we'd be able to go and give the men advice on specific issues that they're having

reengaging with the community," Lawler said. "But at this point, it was hard to find a supervising attorney that would be willing to come on a regular basis to be able to set that up."

Palma Pustilnik, senior staff attorney and director of the Central Virginia Legal Aid Society in Charlottesville, will lead a clinic about family law April 26. She will be speaking to residents primarily about custody, visitation and child support.

"The faster, more thoroughly and more appropriately we reintegrate those released from incarceration back into their communities, the more ownership and responsibility they feel in their communities, and the less likely there is to be recidivism," Pustilnik said.

Pasley also said he hopes for the continued support of local attorneys in the education initiative.

"My hope for it is that this can be a regular thing where we can have a group of local attorneys who are willing to help us out and sponsor students," Pasley said.



COURTESY WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

The Virginia Law in Prison Project aims to integrate Law students into the Charlottesville community.



It's a Tuesday morning and first-year College students Celia Gieser and Julianna LaRose have just left their 9:30 a.m. class in New Cabell Hall. The class is SOC 2559 or "New Course in Sociology," with the subtitle "Microsociology."

Gieser and LaRose were aware the class was new when they enrolled. There were no reviews of the class on Course Forum or opinions of the professor on Rate My Professor. Both had to go off of reviews from students at JMU, where the professor teaches a few courses.

LaRose admitted she was slightly nervous about taking a new class, but found the lack of information online allowed her to go in with an open mind.

"It's interesting because you don't go in with all these preconceptions," LaRose said. "I really did not know what to expect from this class."

Negative reviews of classes or professors online can often deter students from taking those classes, something LaRose said she has experienced. Even though there weren't any reviews for SOC 2559 on Course Forum, neither Gieser or LaRose were dissuaded from trying the class.

Now both are looking at other new courses to enroll in for next semester.

About those 559 classes

Courses in the College labeled "New Course" on the Student Information System are either one-time courses professors can teach to test a topic for a potential permanent course, or courses taught by visiting faculty members that won't be offered again.

In SIS, one can search for course numbers containing 559. This produces a list of all test or one-time courses offered each semester entitled "New Course in" followed by the department name. Each department may offer a number of New Course sections and each section has its own subtitle indicating the topic of the course. This spring, 125 new course class sections were offered and 76 are currently being offered next fall, according to SIS.

The titles are fascinating and even creative, often reflecting more specific areas of interest. Some classes offered this semester included Native American Pop Culture, Alien Worlds and Selves, Selfies and Society, to name a few.

"Another thing I like with the way it's listed on Lou's List and SIS is the titles," Gieser said. "They're really interesting titles compared to the main, generic class titles because they are more focused topics than some of the intro level classes, so that's something that always grabs my attention."

LaRose said she's looking at taking another new class next semester, the title of which played a role in her decision to take it.

"It's a religion class ... and it's called 'A Life Worth Living,'" LaRose said. "So titles like that kind of catch

are tagged with a 559 course number.

New courses are often inspired by current events or the professor's own research.

Assoc. Environmental Science Prof. Stephan De Wekker described the process of creating a new class as

"I thought it would be good on one hand to share my experience with using drones and what it all takes to use drones for research, and then on the other hand to see it as an opportunity for myself, to broaden my knowledge about drones in re-

"There's quite some effort in going through the preparations the first time around. I spent a lot of time reading up on papers and trying to find background information," De Wekker said. "You invest a lot of time in this course and then it's nice if you can reuse the material."

Making new classes permanent

If a faculty member is happy with the outcome of their test "New Course," they may pursue making it a permanent class and adding it to the official SIS course catalog under a course number no longer ending in 559.

The process of making a class permanent is a lot more intensive, however, involving more paperwork and rounds of approval.

Assoc. Religious Studies Prof. and Asst. Dean Mark Hadley said the process begins when faculty members submit course ideas to their department or program for approval.

The department then submits the syllabus and official University Registrar course creation form to the College's Committee on Educational Policy and Curriculum, Hadley said.

"The CEPC periodically reviews new course proposals, and sends their recommendations to the College of Arts and Sciences Faculty, which the College Faculty vote on at their period[ic] meetings," Hadley said in an email to The Cavalier Daily.

When a course is approved and added to the course catalog as a permanent offering at the University, it will not necessarily be taught every year. Professors can decide when they would like to teach a permanent course again.

"Typically I would want to make [a new course] a more permanent course," De Wekker said. "Not a course that I would necessarily teach every year but maybe every other year or every few years or so. At least it's in the books then and it has a number."

The process of creating a new, permanent course may be tedious and time-consuming for faculty, but the additions help keep University classes relevant.

"It's a topic that is very actual at the moment, there are a lot of things going on on drones," De Wekker said. "I think it will be interesting to watch this again in a year or two or so, so I think to have it as a permanent course would be good."

Menaker also noted the strong potential of new courses, especially when inspired by recent events or modern ideas.

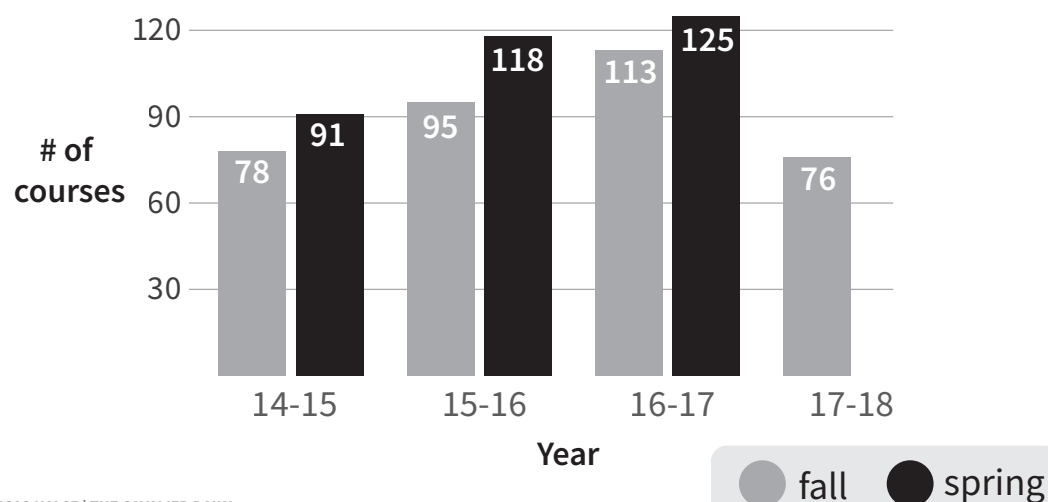
"It increases the relevance of courses if they are designed to fit in in some way with what's going on in the world," Menaker said.

What's behind that 559 College course?

Looking into the process of creating new classes

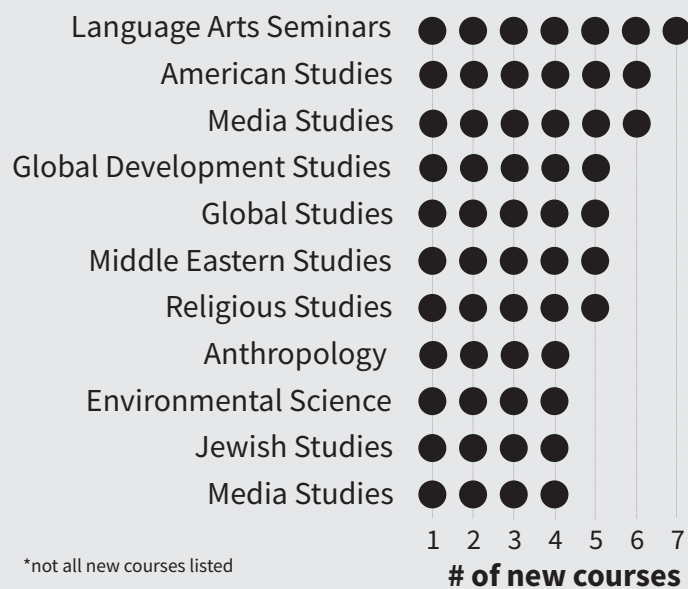
MAGGIE SERVAIS | STAFF WRITER

New College 559 Courses By Semester



LUCAS HALSE | THE CAVALIER DAILY

Spring 2017 New Courses*



*not all new courses listed

LUCAS HALSE | THE CAVALIER DAILY

my attention and make me want to see what it's about."

New courses are one-time classes often with captivating titles. The distinct names are a reflection of how these classes typically come about — a professor is inspired.

Testing a new class idea

Professors who have an idea for a class and would like to test the topic out before going through the process of making it a permanent class, can fill out the necessary paperwork to propose a new course and submit their proposal to faculty within their department. The proposal then undergoes an expedited approval process. New courses that are approved

complex and personal. This semester he is teaching EVSC 4559 — "Drones in Research and Society." "There's a lot of different things that go into deciding what new course to teach, but I think I've been using drones for my research for a couple of years now, and I thought it would be interesting to share some of that knowledge with students and also for me to learn more about drones," De Wekker said.

De Wekker envisioned his new class as having a symbiotic purpose — to share his knowledge about drones with his students and to expand upon his own knowledge as a researcher in the process.

search and society and more general terms," De Wekker said.

Biology Prof. Michael Menaker similarly developed the idea for his current new course entitled "Darwinian Medicine" from personal research and interests. He was inspired by two books he read entitled 'Why We Get Sick' and 'Genes, Blood, and Courage: A Boy Called Immortal Sword.' The former introduced the idea of a connection between evolution, natural selection and disease in humans while the latter was a case study on a boy diagnosed with the inherited blood disease thalassemia.

"Reading those two books made me think that this would be an interesting subject," De Wekker said. "Essentially [I] was looking to teach a class for first-year students and I thought this would engage people's interests and students could learn some science from taking that course even though they might not be science majors."

Both Menaker and De Wekker intend on making their course a permanent offering in the College.

Menaker pointed toward feedback from his students as a factor he considers when deciding whether to make a class permanent. For his current class, the responses seem generally positive.

"I'd be really interested to see what the students say when they do evaluations, but they seem to be enjoying it and we have very lively discussions," Menaker said.

De Wekker said the preparation and research that goes into proposing the idea for a new class is a strong incentive to make it permanent.



No. 18 baseball dominant in midweek wins

Junior Pavin Smith knocked in 10 runs between two games

ALEC DOUGHERTY | SENIOR ASSOCIATE

Looking to avenge a heartbreaking loss in the final game of its last series, the No. 18 Virginia baseball team came into a midweek season with a chip on its shoulder. The Cavaliers (23-8, 5-7 ACC) came out bats-blazing this week, picking up two double-digit victories against each Old Dominion (22-7, 7-2 C-USA) and George Washington (13-16, 2-3 Atlantic 10) at Davenport Field.

In the first game, Virginia wasted no time jumping on the Old Dominion pitching staff as the Cavaliers delivered their most dominant offensive performance of the season. The Monarchs would get on the board with a homer in the top of the first, but the Cavaliers quickly answered in the bottom half of the inning with two RBI singles to take the lead. After Old Dominion tied the game in the second, the floodgates opened for Virginia. The Cavaliers scored four runs in the bottom of the frame, highlighted by a two-run homer off the bat of junior outfielder Adam Haseley, his ninth of the season.

From the third inning on, it was the Pavin Smith show. The junior outfielder blasted a grand slam in the third inning — his second in three games — to put the Cavaliers up nine runs. Smith then homered again in

the bottom of the fifth inning — a two-run shot — to put Virginia up 16-3. The homer gave Smith seven RBIs on the day — a career high — and his second homer put him at a team-leading 10 for the year. The seven RBIs were also the most by a Virginia player in a game since Kenny Towns had eight in a game in 2013.

The Cavaliers capped off its offensive outburst when sophomore outfielder Cameron Simmons hit a pinch-hit, two-run blast — Virginia's fifth homer of the game. In total, Virginia scored 18 runs on 18 hits against the Monarchs, with seven different Cavaliers batting in runs. The offensive clinic put on by Virginia was more than the team could have hoped for after it struggled in the final game against Louisville Sunday.

"It's a really big win for us, coming off a difficult loss on Sunday," Coach Brian O'Connor said. "We certainly didn't expect that. Old Dominion has 22 wins and has been playing very good baseball. I thought our guys came out locked in offensively.

Virginia's pitching staff held the fort down as the offense went to work. The best performance on the mound came from junior reliever Riley Wilson, who fired 3.2 inning of one-run relief while striking out six batters. Old Dominion never had

a shot at coming back after the first two innings, as Virginia picked up and impressive 18-5 victory.

Virginia's bats did not cool off in the Cavaliers' second game of the week against George Washington. Smith got his team going with a two-run single in the first inning as part of a three-run first frame. Virginia would score at least one run in each of the first four innings, including a sac fly by Smith in the fourth — his 10th RBI in the two game set. Junior shortstop Ernie Clement would add a two-run homer in the seventh inning, his second of the season. Virginia tallied 15 hits in the game, three of which came off the bat of sophomore second baseman Andy Weber.

On the mound, meanwhile, starter Daniel Lynch was lights out. The sophomore pitched six shutout innings, striking out two and walking none en route to his fifth win of the season. Sophomore Evan Sperling relieved Lynch out of the bullpen, striking out the side in the seventh inning. The back end of the bullpen allowed only one run, locking up an 11-1 win for Virginia and a sweep of the midweek series.

Virginia dominated both sides of the ball in two blowout wins this week, outscoring its opponents 29-6 on the strength of 33 hits. Many dif-



CHELSEA BENGSON | THE CAVALIER DAILY

Junior outfielder Pavin Smith tallied 10 RBIs to lead Virginia to wins in two games against Old Dominion and George Washington.

ferent Cavaliers got involved in the offensive outburst, while the bullpen stayed consistent as it has been all season. Lynch twirled a gem after struggling in his last few starts to help his case in keeping a rotation spot.

The Cavaliers will continue their long home stand with another ACC

series when Pittsburgh comes to Davenport Field this weekend. The first game between the Cavaliers and Panthers is set for Friday at 6 p.m.

Women's lacrosse falls short against No. 1 Maryland

Late run by Terrapins puts a Cavalier win out of reach

JOHN GARZA | STAFF WRITER

The Virginia women's lacrosse team was unable to come out on top against a very talented Maryland squad, falling, 16-11, Wednesday at Klöckner Stadium.

Virginia (7-6, 2-3 ACC) got off to an early start in the first half, finding two scoring opportunities early on that allowed the Cavaliers to lead 2-0 for the first eight minutes of the half. Virginia and Maryland (12-0, 2-0 Big Ten) exchanged goals for most of the half, but a hat trick by sophomore attacker Caroline Steele and a goal by junior attacker Megan Whittle left Virginia trailing by one point.

"I was excited that we kept in close and at times we were winning," Coach Julie Myers said. "In such a tight game, every mistake made by the Virginia defense mattered. I saw us break a little bit ... Little mistakes here and there in transition, ground balls and missed slides. Our girls put their heads down."

Maryland — an offensively

capable team — still found themselves struggling at times to convert against a resilient Virginia defense.

Maryland shot just under 50 percent from the field, due in large part to the defensive efforts of junior goalkeeper Rachel Vander Kolk. Vander Kolk, who tied her season-high 12 saves, displayed strong leadership in helping the Virginia defense anticipate slides and prevent shots.

"We heard [Vander Kolk] talking and I saw the team respond," Myers said. "She's a really important part of that defensive unit that did a great job protecting her ... And helped her make some great saves."

A late 6-0 run by Maryland left the Virginia defense unable to find a way to respond, propelling Maryland to a 16-10 lead.

"[Maryland] is a very experienced team, and they were able to pull away with a couple goals that we weren't able to finish on the

other side" Vander Kolk said. "They were able to find our weakness, and we got a little tired towards the end and need to get better at putting a complete game together."

The Maryland offense was led by Steele, who was able to score five goals. Steele, who found early success in getting around the Virginia defense, was key in contributing to their devastating 6-0 run.

The late defensive and offensive lapse were not viewed as major losses, but rather opportunities to grow and learn from a top-ranked team.

"Coming and playing against a number one team is exciting, and we were really pumped and prepared a lot for today," sophomore midfielder Jackson said. "Coming this close just really speaks to how much potential we have for the future and for our upcoming games."

Virginia faces yet another tough opponent this weekend as it travels to State College, Pa. to face No. 6 Penn State.



CHELSEA BENGSON | THE CAVALIER DAILY

Junior Kasey Behr led Virginia's offense with three goals. Behr also recorded six draw controls against No. 1 Maryland.

Virginia prepares for quad meet this weekend

Cavaliers host three schools in first outdoor quad meet of year

RYAN COYNE | STAFF WRITER



COURTESY VIRGINIA ATHLETICS

At the Texas Relays last week, freshman Jordan Scott finished third in the men's triple jump with a 16.34m leap. Scott hopes to make a mark in the outdoor season.

The Virginia track and field team will host Maryland, Pennsylvania and Columbia Saturday for its first outdoor quad meet of the season. After a slew of invitationals and relays for both the men's and women's teams, it will be a change of pace.

Previously, the team competed kicked off the outdoor season in the Raleigh Relays and Hurricane Twilight Invitational, with the team splitting up for those events. The team also competed last week in the Texas Relays.

At the Texas Relays, sophomore Oghenakpobo Efekoro placed first in the men's shot put with a final throw of 19.63m. Freshman Jordan Scott also highlighted the meet, as he finished third in the men's triple jump with a 16.34m leap. It was another solid finish for Scott, who is making a mark in his first collegiate season.

"We saw after the indoor season how close we were to winning an ACC title," Scott said. "It would be really nice to come in as a freshman and help the team make that happen."

Although the women's team is ranked outside the Top 25, the men are posted at No. 9 with a total of 194.73 points. Both teams have massive potential to earn points this weekend with the quad meet. With fewer teams to compete with, it is just as important as a big invitational meet, with many contending schools to earn qualifying points for the team.

Although there are fewer teams to focus on, the preparation is similar to that of other meets.

"We treat every meet like it's a very important meet," Scott said. "We don't want to differentiate between invitational meets and quad meets because at the end of the day we still need to earn qualifying standards for the team."

Coach Bryan Fetzter reiterated this point to the team leading up to this weekend. Although Scott said the team will take this weekend to focus on weaker events — he will only be competing in long jump — it is essential for the team not to over-

look the quad meet.

"The marks you get from this meet helps you qualify to NCAAs and because it is a scored meet, a team will come out of the weekend in first place," Scott said. "Just because it is a four team meet does not mean you shouldn't try your best."

The men's throw team has had immense success throughout this season and is a group to watch out for this Saturday. Along with Efekoro, senior Jordan Young is also a leader for the throwers and previously had a successful finish to his indoor season at nationals.

On the women's side, sophomores Mia Barron and Kelly McKee will compete in jumps this weekend, looking to add points for the women's side and work their way up the rankings. In addition, senior Chimere Ezumah is coming off an impressive indoor season, and this quad meet has potential to be another solid performance for her.

The meet will begin at 2 p.m. Saturday in Charlottesville.

Men's lacrosse looks to snap losing streak against UNC

Coming off of a dominating 20-7 win over Cleveland State in a midweek matchup, the No. 12 Virginia men's lacrosse team will continue its homestand this weekend with a Sunday night showdown against ACC rival No. 19 North Carolina.

The Cavaliers (7-4, 0-2 ACC) have now won two games in a row and will be looking to extend their winning streak to three games as well as pick up their first ACC victory of the season. The Tar Heels (5-5, 0-1 ACC) have lost four of their last five games and will be looking to put together a win in order to build some momentum as the regular season comes to a close.

The Cavaliers will also be looking to end their regular season ACC losing streak which currently sits at 14 games. The last time Virginia won a regular season confer-

ence match was during the 2014 season when it beat Syracuse 17-12 at Klöckner Stadium.

Though Virginia is ranked higher than North Carolina at the moment, the match will be a huge test for the team. In addition to taking on an ACC foe, the Cavaliers will get an opportunity to take on the defending national champions. With only three games left in the regular season, the Cavaliers will try to use the momentum they've gained within the last week to help propel them towards a strong end to the season after a potential win Sunday.

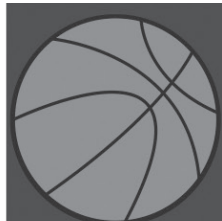
Sunday's match is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. at Klöckner Stadium. Virginia will then have a quick turnaround with its home finale against Robert Morris next Tuesday.

— compiled by Rahul Shah



CALLIE COLLINS | THE CAVALIER DAILY

Freshman attackman Michael Kraus scored three goals in Virginia's blowout victory over Cleveland State Tuesday night.



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CORRECTIONS

In the April 3 edition of The Cavalier Daily, in the lead editorial “U.Va. admission should be based on merit, not money,” the lead editorial misstated that the documents show nine years of admission officials monitoring admissions bids. They showed nine years of advancement officials.

LEAD EDITORIAL

First step in Virginia marijuana reform

Virginia State Crime Commission study signals progress toward decriminalization

A group of state lawmakers held a closed meeting yesterday in which they decided the Virginia State Crime Commission will study marijuana decriminalization. While a state-sponsored study does not guarantee the decriminalization of marijuana, it will serve as a strong foundation upon which state legislators can discuss a potential policy change.

After years of not even considering marijuana policy change, state legislators in recent months have begun pushing for reform. On Feb. 13, Lt. Gov. Ralph Northam (D) called for the decriminalization of small amounts of marijuana, saying enforcement of laws against the substance is expensive and disproportionately convicts black Virginians. Charlottesville Commonwealth's Attorney candidate Jeff Fogel also spoke out against current marijuana laws, saying he would not prosecute small possession charges of marijuana if

elected. The changing sentiment among legislators and aspiring public officials reflects a widespread change of attitude towards marijuana laws among Virginians.

According to a Virginia Commonwealth University poll, Virginians strongly support the legalisation of marijuana. Almost eight out of 10 respondents were in favor of reducing the penalty for possessing small amounts of marijuana from a misdemeanor conviction to a \$100 fine, while 62 percent strongly or somewhat agreed that recreational marijuana use should be legalized. Currently, any person convicted of possessing less than half an ounce of marijuana would face up to 30 days imprisonment for a first offense, and up to one year for subsequent convictions — a disproportionate punishment for minor possession.

Lawmakers should also consider the disparate treatment of minorities under current marijuana laws. Past studies have

shown that marijuana use rates are roughly equal among black and white Americans. However, arrests for marijuana possession went up by 1,987 in Virginia from 2011 to 2013, with black Virginians accounting for 82 percent of this increase. Moreover, black Virginians accounted for almost 40 percent of the possession arrests in 2013, despite the fact they accounted for only about 20 percent of the state's population.

Virginia's current marijuana policies have a disparate effect on minorities, and the costs of convicting Virginians for marijuana outweigh the harm of minor possession. Given these negative effects and the increasing favorability toward decriminalized marijuana use among Virginians, a study by the Virginia State Crime Commission will serve as an important step towards changing the Commonwealth's current marijuana laws.

THE CAVALIER DAILY

THE CAVALIER DAILY

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REPARATIONS REQUIRE UNDERSTANDING BEFORE AGREEMENT

The first step to addressing America's founding sin is education, mobilization

The Jefferson-Madison Regional Library hosted a discussion last week on reparations to the black community hosted by the Charlottesville Showing Up for Racial Justice chapter. The Cavalier Daily reported on the event, and its coverage received a lot of attention. This may well be because of the, as Ta-Nehisi Coates wrote in his landmark article “The Case for Reparations,” “popular mocking of reparations as a harebrained scheme authored by wild-eyed lefties.” Talk of reparations, the common dismissal goes, is ludicrous on its face, a product of white guilt and a symptom of the pathological liberalism flaring in college campuses across the country. This is an intellectually dishonest treatment of an important idea. The policy specifics reparations may be politically unfeasible, but the underlying intellectual foundation is solid. Communicating that message to the American people has the best chance of succeeding if we eschew ideology, orthodoxy and zealotry in an effort to appeal to the country's bedrock sense of justice.

The most persuasive argument to be made in favor of reparations can be drawn from a dive into the history and current state of black America. The historical record makes abundantly clear the ex-

tent of slavery's malignant reach into the present. After the end of Reconstruction in 1877, African Americans in the South suffered a

theft and generational poverty left untackled. The “redlining” practices born after World War II which declared swaths of African

economic legacy of slavery with morbid eloquence: “there is a strange and powerful belief that if you stab a black person 10 times, the bleeding stops and the healing begins the moment the assailant drops the knife.”

Given the monumental, systematic suffering unique to the African American experience, the theoretical and moral basis for reparations is unassailable. Trickier, however is the implementation of reparations as policy, and whether such an effort is politically feasible. Black Lives Matter provides a plethora of suggestions on its website, and they are each worth considering. One critical recommendation is the immediate passage of HR40, or the “Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African-Americans Act.” The hope is that a comprehensive Congressional report will at least provide a sense of urgency and clarity on this issue.

Perhaps more important than considering what policies should be implemented is the educational process necessary for mobilizing support in a democracy as messy as ours. The case for reparations lies on a mountain of historical evidence, data or personal experience that the majority of Americans must be receptive to absorbing. Recognizing systems

of oppression and their daily operation can incite an ideological orthodoxy and zealotry in activists intolerant of differing opinions. Loose accusations of bigotry hurled against those who disagree for whatever reason only do the cause of racial justice harm.

The flaws in American society are a product of entrenched interests as well as defects in the human capacity to empathize or consider new ideas. The more we manage to treat the dissenting party as the enemy, the less we can tap into our basic sense of decency and fairness. To engage with each other in good faith rather than mistrust, in affirmation rather than hostility, is how we erode the barriers we build along tribal lines which make fellow human beings into the “other.” This is the path to real, sustainable progress. Once we have achieved a unity of purpose, the policy will come.

“Loose accusations of bigotry hurled against those who disagree for whatever reason only do the cause of racial justice harm.”

century of state-sanctioned terror and second-class citizenship. In the North, they were relegated to a permanent position at the bottom of the social pecking order. Lynched, silenced, brutalized, robbed and disrespected on a systematic basis, African Americans had to fight through a decades-long struggle in civil disobedience and peaceful protest to reach a state of political equality. American society, politics and culture evolved to incorporate and accept the contributions of black Americans on a far wider basis, and the United States finally elected its first black president, Barack Obama.

Despite this progress, the work of the Civil Rights Movement remains unfinished, the stubborn legacy of economic

American-owned property “uninsurable” doomed nascent black communities to declining real estate value and a cycle of poverty — creating the segregated and dilapidated inner cities in Chicago, Baltimore and others, which white America often shakes its head at, clueless to its true history. As a result, many police departments are trained to treat black neighborhoods like occupied foreign soil or sources of municipal revenue.

Today, if black America were its own country, it would be 46th in the world in terms of GDP per capita, barely ahead of Russia. The median black household has one-thirteenth the wealth of the median white household. Coates captures the obliviousness of white America to the pernicious

IN DEFENSE OF U.VA. ADMISSIONS

Policy of considering past and future contributions is not as simple as ‘pay-to-play’

Nearly every elite college in the country prioritizes legacy applicants in their decisions as a way to please those who are more likely to donate to the school. While it may not be publicized, it would be naive to assume that our admissions decisions had been without any considerations for our endowment. Nonetheless, the mere notion of admissions making decisions based on something other than merit seems to have the University community reeling. The recent uncovering of admissions documents by author Jeff Thomas was featured on the front page of Monday's edition of The Cavalier Daily, while their lead editorial concludes that “the University should support equal educational opportunity for academically qualified students regardless of family donations and ties to the school.” This assertion is sensible, and actually seems rather obvious in the interest of fairness. However, such a plan is unrealistic in that it fails to consider the reality of the University's situation.

In one example cited by the earlier articles, one applicant has “\$500K” written on their file. If this is in fact referencing a donor's gift which is contingent upon an applicant's acceptance, there arises an ultimatum: should the University's admission office be expected to cut off half a million dollars of potential donor revenue — resources which could be used to enhance the experience of several students — for the sake of maintaining the misguided ideal of perfect admissions integrity towards a single applicant?

For those who will inevitably answer yes, I urge them to remember another “special case” admissions situation: talented athletes are regularly given enormous preference in admissions decisions, with academic qualification as a secondary concern. One might call attention to the spaces that these students take from other, perhaps more qualified, applicants as well. This, too, is nothing unique to the University. Most collegiate athletic programs will lower ad-

missions standards for talented athletes in the same way legacy applicants are given priority.

Even with this reality, the admission office still does everything it can to focus on merit. The “pay-for-play” concept coined by Monday's edition is understandably an unpopular one for any student who doesn't have the means to buy into it. But the uncovered documents show very clearly that such a term is hyperbolic in defining the University's admissions policies. Even the student apparently linked to “\$500K” in donor

cant “really needs good grades” for any action to be taken. The basis of merit, of which the recent articles claim to be absent in the admission office, is still clearly visible, showing that these are simply applications given another look due to the University's best financial interests, not widespread bidding wars which usher in wealth while barring low-income students.

As an out-of-state student, I know firsthand the challenges of gaining acceptance to the University, and I am certainly

resources which the University is able to offer to its students. Despite continually decreasing state funding, it is the support of our donors which allows the University to stand as one of two need-blind public schools in the nation and to meet 100 percent of demonstrated need.

To criticize admissions or the University for occasionally factoring donor relations into their decisions is unreasonable. No, the system is not perfect, but it is often successful in maintaining valuable relationships which help it thrive. It is important to ultimately remember that without the University's crucial resources, received largely from its donors, there would be no admissions scarcity to fight for in the first place.

“To criticize admissions or the University for occasionally factoring donor relations into their decisions is unreasonable.”

revenue is given only a waitlist position. Another excerpt from the documents shows that a presumably well-connected appli-

familiar with the frustration of those who do not. But I am also a recipient of a University scholarship, living proof of the

LIAM FLAHERTY is a first-year College student.

Delta Dogs, 12-3:30pm, Tri Delta

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*THE NEXT CROSSWORD PUZZLE CAN BE FOUND IN MONDAY'S ISSUE

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We almost made it a whole semester without a scandal. We were so close. We made it all the way to April. We Hillaried it. We had it until the last possible minute, and then someone in Washington screwed us. Someone found out that the children of wealthy parents were flagged for preferential treatment and possible acceptance if they did not get in on merit alone.

You can just tell students are shocked by the revelations in the Washington Post piece. My weird friend in Brown College, who claims to possess psychic powers a la “That’s So Raven,” was just blindsided when they heard the news. Rich people got preference in their college applications, just like in the rest of their lives! Who could have possibly predicted that an administration currently in the

midst of fellating the ego of every doctor, lawyer and businessman in the hemisphere for a multibillion-dollar pledge drive would have possibly remotely considered a giving preferential treatment to rich applicants? It’s unheard of. Unfathomable. Unthinkable. Unbearable.

I’m honestly tired of our administration screwing up or, at the very least, getting caught screwing up. I get it, humans make mistakes, and that’s okay. Administrators are human and humans aren’t perfect, we aren’t dogs or Joe Biden. Imperfection is acceptable but please at least try to cultivate an air of secrecy when you’re doing something you know is wrong. Be more like the hundreds of students committing honor offenses and have the decency to bury evidence of your crimes, don’t let them end up in a newspaper. It just leads to a harder job hunt for every third- and fourth-year desperately clawing around the Mad Max-esque post-payment employment landscape.

This whole episode is just bor-

ing. At the very least, the scandal could have been sexier, but even expecting a better scandal is too much for this school. This was as tedious and dull as the “slush fund” story. Why couldn’t the revelations have been something truly shocking? I would have taken an expose revealing a secret nuclear missile silo beneath the Rotunda over another financial scandal any day of the week. Maybe the Sevens all have tattoos of each other’s faces on their butts. Maybe T-Sully has a secret life as a polyamorous cannibal. Maybe there’s a secret Ghostbusters CIO that chases Jefferson’s ghost around grounds. Maybe the IMPs actually worship Satan. We will never know because these papers keep reporting on the boring crap and not even bothering to investigate all of the insane secret stuff that could be happening beneath our noses.

The student response to this has been comically predictable. Every Facebook post author loudly and proudly stating that college admissions should be based upon merit not money, what do you think

you’re accomplishing? I mean, you could similarly ask me what I hope to accomplish writing a piece about you writing pieces, but I’m a clown who doesn’t take himself seriously and you all think you’re actually impacting this nihilistically immutable school, so who’s the real winner?

Anyway, back to your content: say something new. The New York Times opinion section isn’t arguing controversial claims like “poor people should be made less poor,” or “people should stop killing one another” or “the KFC Double Down tastes really good if you have consumed enough alcohol.” Scientists don’t publish studies confirming that the sky is, in fact, blue and my ex-girlfriends don’t publish academic papers confirming that I, in fact, am not always the best boyfriend. A pastor shouting a sermon through a megaphone in a church filled with evangelical gospel singers would be preaching to the choir less than you are.

Now I’m going to beg. I’m proud of it, but it needs to happen and I’m the only one with low

enough self esteem.

To The Washington Post, Rolling Stone and any other national publication, please stop writing about my school. Please? Pretty please? I know this is kind of the equivalent of praying to an unmerciful and unfeeling god, as you all will likely continue to write any and all news, no matter how unfavorable and regardless of how much I plead, but come on. Throw me a bone here. Even Moses got out of the desert eventually. We already have to deal with all the bad stuff you’re reporting about. Rape culture, the preferential treatment of the wealthy, underage alcoholism and administrative incompetence are all our lived in realities. Cut us some slack and go report on another school. I would suggest Virginia Tech, I’m sure their agricultural program has at least one aspiring pot farmer.

CONNOR MCLEAN is a Humor writer for *The Cavalier Daily*. He can be reached at humor@cavalierdaily.com.

COMPLAINER-IN-CHIEF

I never used to want to be president. It always seemed like a lot of work. My work ethic makes me more suited for a job like reality show host or being super rich. Lately, though, I’ve had to rethink things. You know what I think would be awesome about being president? Getting to complain about stuff all the time. This is, of course, a perk that presidents (George Washington through Barack Obama) totally failed to cash in on. Sad! But this latest guy? Man, he knows how to do it. He complains like it’s his job! Like, you might start to wonder if he actually believes it is his official position — complainer-in-chief. Now that’s a title I’d like to have.

I’ve never been a big fan of our current president, but maybe we have more in common than I first thought. What I really admire about him is how he doesn’t limit himself to focusing on politics or foreign affairs or any of the other boring stuff you might expect from an elected official. Quite the contrary, he loves to complain about things you’d never expect!

All this time you probably thought the commander-in-chief would be too busy to offer his opinions on television shows or Snoop Dogg — think again, kids. The president has no limit on what he’ll whine about, and neither do I.

My father once told me: “Dress for the job you want, not the job you have.” I was 16 and did not want a job, so I walked around naked for a good three or four months. But recently I think I get what my dad was trying to say: if there’s a career you’re passionate about, you have to show people you’ve got what it takes. So why have I been wasting my time telling people that I’m good at complaining? It’s time to prove myself. Here’s some stuff that really pisses me off.

Phones

Phones, particularly of the cellular variety, stress me out. If my phone doesn’t ring, that means nobody wants to talk to me and I have no friends. If it does ring, that means I have to talk to someone. Either way, it’s a lose-lose situation. Nowadays, most people com-

municate via text, so if you get a phone call, it can only mean one of two things: you’re about to get bad news or it’s a telemarketer. If it’s bad news, buckle up. People only call if it’s something really awful. If your dog died, expect a text. House burned down? That one’s easy to Snapchat. But if you’re getting a phone call, it’s probably your great-uncle or something, the one you thought was dead, but actually he was just in Bermuda with his shuffleboard team, and now he’s calling because he’s pretty angry you thought he was dead and he’s writing you out of his will. You can kiss that antique shuffleboard goodbye, and you know who’s to blame? Phones. You might as well throw yours out anyway since nowadays we can all just listen to each other’s conversations through our microwaves.

Raccoons

Lately people seem to think it’s okay to post “cute” videos of raccoons on Facebook. Calling a raccoon cute is like calling me ugly — it’s just never been true. A raccoon is evil incarnate. There’s not a

single raccoon on this planet that doesn’t have rabies and that’s a fact. You know those people who will notice your haircut and ask “did you get a haircut?” but then when you say yes they don’t even say it looks good? Those people will be reincarnated as raccoons.

WWE

Yes, I mean the professional wrestling one. But to be clear, I don’t hate it for all the usual reasons. People are always complaining about how it’s overdramatic and the fights aren’t even real. Did you see my whole thing about raccoons? I love overdramatic. What really bothers me about WWE, though, is the lack of creativity. Guess what will happen next time you tune into WWE. A strong person will fight another strong person and the slightly stronger person will win — gee, what a thrill. How about something fresh and exciting? I want to see somebody’s mom fight the woman from her book club she’s always complaining about. Or what if a grizzly bear fights another grizzly bear and the annoying woman from the book

club is also somehow peripherally involved? Or maybe just have the bears fight but then afterwards we can pull the woman from the book club up onstage and tell her that interpretations of last week’s novel were just completely missing the mark. You know what else pisses me off? That woman from the book club.

I also hate cucumbers, close-toed shoes, the size of beverages on airplanes, this guy named David, scantrons and potlucks without sign-up sheets to ensure a diverse array of dishes. Anyway, I’m starting to see the issue with my complaints: they’re just too long. To be complainer-in-chief you’ve got to be succinct, to the point. I guess I’m not ready for the job yet. And who would run for president when they’re totally unqualified for the position, right? For now, I’ll have to keep honing my skills. Sad!

NORA WALLS is a Humor writer for *The Cavalier Daily*. She can be reached at humor@cavalierdaily.com.

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‘13 Reasons Why’ is provocative, relevant series

New Netflix drama expands on best-selling novel

ABBY CLUKEY | STAFF WRITER

Netflix released its new drama “13 Reasons Why” March 31, offering a raw, addicting view of the darker aspects of high school life. Based on Jay Asher’s 2007 novel, the show addresses and expands on the same bleak themes, with a cast of characters even more complicated and enigmatic than their written counterparts.

The story centers on a high school reeling from the suicide of student Hannah Baker (Katherine Langford). However, not everyone is grieving for the same reasons. There are rumors circulating about what caused Baker to end her life so abruptly, and people are either searching for the root of the mystery or attempting to conceal the truth.

Clay Jensen (Dylan Minnette) — a shy outsider who harbored a crush on Baker for years — arrives home one afternoon a few weeks after the tragedy to find a package containing seven meticulously labeled cassette tapes on his doorstep. After hearing Baker’s own voice ringing through his headphones, Jensen realizes he has been listed as one of the 13 reasons Hannah decided to



COURTESY WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Based on the Young Adult novel of the same name, “13 Reasons Why” tackles serious issues in a mature and watchable manner.

end her life, and these tapes explain the tragedy.

The instructions are clear — listen to both sides of every tape, and when finished, pass them onto the next person on the list. Failure to comply will result in the public release of a second set of these tapes, bringing the characters’ damning secrets to light.

Despite the highly dramatic and disturbing content, the series has a genuine feel. The characters talk like teens, with realistic dialogue highlighting their

insecurities, immaturity and self-centeredness interspersed with outbursts of casual profanity. The daily trials of high school are given weight, illustrated in the way a rumor can spread like wildfire regardless of its accuracy, or how one insensitive comment can have a lasting impact.

The characters are also refreshingly multi-faceted and more developed than they appear in the original book. The 13 hour-long episodes are prone to lagging as Jensen listens to the

tapes at an agonizingly slow pace, but the episode length allows for new content to further flesh out the characters and the details of their lives. They are intriguingly elusive and yet entirely recognizable, simultaneously breaking stereotypes and evoking a sense of familiarity.

“13 Reasons Why” notably confronts several taboo issues — suicide, depression and sexual assault — with a clarity and frankness not usually seen in network dramas. Its mature rating

and status as a Netflix original series gives it freedom to delve into these extremely sensitive yet relevant themes through shockingly graphic depictions — several of the episodes even come with viewer discretion warnings.

These terrifying portrayals are difficult to witness, but their profound effect forces the viewer to contemplate the significance of issues which are so frequently pushed aside. “13 Reasons Why” does not hesitate to tackle the heavy subject matter with bold candor, and this approach sets it apart from other programs of its genre.

“13 Reasons Why” is admittedly hard to watch at times. The sheer cruelty, violence and grief are brutally and heartbreakingly represented, and though it was created to be standard Netflix fare — a binge-worthy weekend distraction — the subject matter is a lot to handle. However, the series unflinchingly sheds light on pertinent themes, and the sharply realistic characters and thought-provoking topics will remain in the audience’s minds long after the final episode ends.

‘The History of Hip-Hop’ explores genealogy of music

Producer 9th Wonder’s lecture discusses music’s complex DNA

ARABA DENNIS | SENIOR WRITER

Producer and artist-in-residence 9th Wonder gave a lecture March 31 in the Rotunda titled “The History of Hip-Hop.” The presentation ranged from the producer’s personal history with the genre to its overarching themes, and classic hip-hop samples provided enhancement throughout.

As the light from the Rotunda’s dome shone onto his glistening turntables, 9th Wonder began his musical journey with the smooth sound of Sam Cooke’s crooning.

“This was my mother’s pop music,” 9th Wonder said.

Growing up, 9th Wonder considered himself to be a “clarinet-playing band geek.” His eventual conversion to hip-hop began by listening to the will-not-be-silenced, fiercely passionate rap of Public Enemy and the body-rocking mood channeled by foundational group Africa Bambaata in “Planet Rock.”

Heads bopped as the producer spun “The Payback” by James Brown, which was surely no accident — the syncopated banks and unshakeable statement of “I’m



COURTESY WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Producer and artist-in-residence 9th Wonder gave an in-depth lecture at the Rotunda.

mad!” guided the audience smoothly to an understanding of why modern influences, like Kendrick Lamar’s “To Pimp a Butterfly,” made such an impression on 9th Wonder.

The discussion took a personal turn as he began discussing the evolution of music in his own life.

“Lineage matters,” 9th Wonder said as he projected an image of

his family on-screen to help his audience understand the roots of his own musical tastes.

Having grown up in North Carolina in the prime of black music in the 70s, 9th Wonder’s preferences were shaped from all sides. One of the largest influences was his family — from his parents, who were groomed by Shirley Caesar types

of gospel to his older brother, who introduced him to the magic of the Motown-era. He also benefited from the fortune that came with growing up during the heyday of the black music central to modern-day hip-hop.

9th Wonder also explained the more technical side of his music and how it progressed over time. This included the move from “crate digging” to DJs selecting songs off of a Spotify playlist; the move from recording over his mother’s Shirley Caesar cassette tapes to downloading a song off of iTunes; and the changes in the vinyl material that helps a record scratch.

The songs 9th Wonder chose to play for his audience throughout the lecture, and the order in which he did so, were clearly intentional. Black music has consistently existed dialogically. There is no “Illmatic” without Michael Jackson’s “Thriller,” just as there is no “The Blueprint” without The Jackson Five’s “Going Back to Indiana.”

9th Wonder exposed his listeners

to that exact concept — genealogy. During the question and answer portion of the lecture, an audience member asked the producer about the direction in which he believed hip-hop was going.

“I hope it keeps building on itself,” 9th Wonder said, returning to the pictures of the “family trees” that created the aforementioned albums.

The evolution of black music — one that cannot exist without a combination of gospel, soul, funk and even the forgotten roots of rock ‘n’ roll — has been intellectualized by 9th Wonder’s work as a Harvard student. At the University, students are rediscovering the abandoned practice of “crate digging,” constructing albums’ family trees and giving a voice to those artists in the ‘70s and ‘80s who came from low-budget production companies.

9th Wonder importantly showed that the intricately-woven DNA of hip-hop does for black genius what is always done for white genius — intellectualizes, academizes and ultimately reveres.



Trump likely to reduce sex education funding

Administration predicted to favor abstinence education

EMMA WILLIAMS | STAFF WRITER

Sex education policies under the Trump administration may revert back to abstinence-only programs due to a loss of funding for comprehensive sexual health resources. Currently, a debate is occurring in the federal government on the cause of the recent decrease in teen pregnancy rates.

Sex education programs in middle and high schools have seen a large increase in funds available from the federal government in recent years. \$176 million were appropriated to comprehensive sexual health promotion programs in Fiscal Year 2016. These funds — appropriated by the Obama administration — have made resources available to those schools that wish to make their sex education programs more comprehensive. On the other hand, for abstinence education, the Obama administration allocated \$85 million.

The Social Security Admin-

istration operates a program for abstinence education as well, allotting money to states applying for and meeting standards set by Title V Maternal and Child Health Services block grant from 2010-15.

"The term 'abstinence education' means an educational or motivational program which teaches that a mutually faithful monogamous relationship in context of marriage is the expected standard of human sexual activity," Title V states. "Sexual activity outside of the context of marriage is likely to have harmful psychological and physical effects."

Carolyn Engelhard, the director of the Health Policy program in the Department of Public Health Science at the University's School of Medicine, says decentralization of sex education is likely under Trump's administration. This means that funding for sex education might fade out altogether, rather than changing the focus of funds back to abstinence.

"I think you'll see [compre-

hensive sex education] funding go away," Engelhard said. "I think you're going to see a retrenchment when it comes to all things having to do with any sort of federal oversight with regard to standardization of sex education programs."

A main goal of sex education is to prevent unwanted teenage pregnancy, Engelhard said. According to the National Institutes of Health, the U.S. has the highest rate of teenage pregnancy of all the developed nations. Babies of teen mothers often have more health complications.

"We know that teen moms often don't finish high school, and if they don't finish high school they tend to live in poverty," Engelhard said. "Very few teen moms' partners pay child support. So I would think as a societal issue we would all want to pay attention to that and decrease teen pregnancy. And it's gone down, a lot."

In recent years, Congress has debated the cause for this decreased teen pregnancy rate, with

conservatives arguing that restricting access to abortion and teaching abstinence-only caused the decreased rate.

"[When] people feel like they have less access to abortion service[s], then they consider those consequences before engaging in unprotected sex," Engelhard said.

Liberals, however, assert the Affordable Care Act and comprehensive sex education have decreased the teen pregnancy rate.

"For the last several years, all contraceptives have been available without cost-sharing," Engelhard said. "So there's some belief that that contributed to fewer teen pregnancies, particularly since there's a push now more towards longer-acting contraceptives like IUDs."

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, though most teenagers in the U.S. do receive some sort of sex education in high school, the education that students receive is extremely variable in its focus. Dr. Christine

Peterson, the director of the Gynecology Clinic at the Department of Student Health, pointed out that many students actually go into college with no formal sex education.

"Maybe [they didn't receive a sex education] because they were home-schooled, or maybe because they're from a different country or in a school system that just did not have a sex education program," Peterson said. "So even though many, many students did get a comprehensive sex education in high school, there are a lot of students who didn't."

Even those who did get a formal education may not be as heavily impacted until college, though sex education in college is more voluntary.

"It's true with most knowledge that if you don't apply it, it doesn't stick with you," Peterson said. "We at Student Health, through both medical clinics and the Office of Health Promotion in particular, do a lot of on-Grounds education about healthy sexuality."

Is 'Li-Fi' set to replace Wi-Fi?

VLNComm looks to LED technology to provide better network

NISHA DABHI | STAFF WRITER

University Engineering Prof. Maite Brandt-Pearce and her former graduate student, Mohammad Noshad, have found a new alternative to wireless networks like Wi-Fi which uses radio waves. Their new technology "Li-Fi" instead uses LED lights to provide network connectivity.

In wireless networks like Wi-Fi, a wireless adapter converts data into radio signals and transmits it using an antenna. A wireless router then receives and decodes the signal, sending the information to the internet with a physical, wired connection.

Getting consistent coverage with Wi-Fi can often be frustrating and difficult, since these networks are interrupted by black spots where no signal is available. Wireless transmissions also can be slower than wired connections, especially when many people are trying to access the same network at the same place. There are also safety concerns with Wi-Fi, as Wi-Fi signaling can be harmful in the long run due its reliance on electromagnetic radiation.

"There are so many spaces where Wi-Fi is not allowed and having friends that work in that space ... It's very frustrating to always be hard wired," Brandt-Pearce said.

Brandt-Pearce and Noshad's LED

approach to wireless networking — called Li-Fi — may be on its way to solving these existing problems. Li-Fi is high-speed and fully-networked wireless communication technology that utilizes UV visible light, infrared or near-ultraviolet communication to transmit data.

"You will receive data from special lights that VLNComm is building," Noshad said. "It will look like the same lights that you currently have in your house but they have another feature added that basically provides internet connection."

Brandt-Pearce, Noshad and entrepreneur Fraidoon Hovaizi have created VLNComm LLC, which aims to make an alternative or supplement to Wi-Fi that increases the availability of communication and information transfer. The company develops new signal processing and coding for LED Li-Fi systems and eventually plans to manufacture many different Li-Fi products within five years.

"There was just an empty space that was ready for somebody to add something to that space," Brandt-Pearce said.

VLNComm advocates for a number of advantages to this Li-Fi approach. For one, Li-Fi offers higher security than Wi-Fi. While Wi-Fi

signals can easily pass through walls, Li-Fi is secured as long as the LED lights used for wireless connectivity do not leave a room.

"Li-Fi doesn't go through your walls or your skin," Hovaizi said.

Li-Fi can also increase the speed of internet connection due to the broad bandwidth of the visible light wavelength, which stretches from 780nm to 375nm. It can also support more people using a network signal. While WiFi only works properly in areas that have at least one router, Li-Fi allows many people to connect wherever there are specialized LED lights.

Li-Fi is eco-friendly as well. Lighting and Wi-Fi both consume energy, but Li-Fi only requires the energy generated from the lighting.

"It's a dual purpose," Noshad said. "The same energy used for illumination and lighting can be used for communication as well."

The eco-friendly nature of Li-Fi has attracted global organizations and government agencies such as the Department of Energy to fund VLNComm's projects and research.

"The green aspect of that has triggered many interests in this system," Hovaizi said.

Even though network connec-



COURTESY UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

Engineering Prof.'s Maite Brandt-Pearce's "Li-Fi" technology could become a better alternative to Wi-Fi networks.

tivity using Li-Fi requires light, VLNComm is also exploring ways to connect to networks without LED lighting.

"Eventually, we might embed from infrared transmitters so that even when you have the visible light off to watch a movie in the dark, you can dim the LED or embed another wavelength like an infrared that, to us, will look dark," Pearce said.

VLNComm is also looking into Li-Fi applications beyond network connectivity. For instance, indoor positioning is not very accurate using the GPS signal that Wi-Fi provides.

With the LED technology, the relative distances of different lights in a room can provide more accurate indoor locations. Advanced indoor positioning can be used in manufacturing sectors in which the exact location of machinery and robots is needed to increase efficiency of production.

"The robots need to move around and need to know their exact location," Noshad said. "For those applications, Li-Fi can provide very accurate — about [one centimeter] — positioning," Noshad said.