

The Cavalier Daily

WEEKEND EDITION

Thursday, October 18, 2012

Fall gets furry



Students gathered on the Lawn Wednesday for the annual Pumpkins and Puppies event, hosted by the University Programs Council. See video footage of the event at www.cavalierdaily.com/multimedia/1703.

NEWS

IN BRIEF

System hacked, law center says

The Southern Environmental Law Center said Tuesday its computer system was hacked. “Highly confidential information” was taken without consent or authorization, center spokesperson Kathleen Sullivan said in a statement. The center has reported the security breach to the FBI and plans to take “any action necessary to address the breach and the unauthorized release of confidential information,” according to the statement. The center is a regional non-profit based in Charlottesville that attempts to protect the health and environment of

states in the southeast United States, including Virginia, Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama and the Carolinas. Founded in 1986, the center also represents partner groups related to issues such as climate change and energy, air and water quality, transportation and land use. Sullivan did not go into further detail about the nature of the stolen information but urged anyone who receives an email referencing an SELC security failure to leave it unopened and to delete it immediately. —compiled by Erik Payne

Foundation studies loans

Delisle, Holt say federal program changes will benefit high-debt, high-income students

By Grace Hollis and Andrew D’Amato
Cavalier Daily Associate Editor and Senior Writer

Changes to federal student loan repayment plans could lead to an increase in student loan forgiveness, according to a study published Tuesday by the New America Foundation, a nonpartisan Washington think tank. Under current rules borrowers must pay 15 percent of their discretionary income toward their loans, and the

Please see **Loans**, Page A3

Tech-Connect talks Coursera

Technology specialists discuss massive open online courses, recognize administrative hurdles

By Kaelyn Quinn
Cavalier Daily Senior Writer

The University’s Tech-Connect Community hosted a panel Wednesday to discuss the future of online education at the University. The University next semester will offer massive open online courses, known as MOOCs, through Coursera, an online-learning company. Jim McCormick, a programmer analyst for Information Technology Services, said the Tech-Connect Community is an informal, collaborative group mostly comprised of University technology and library professionals. “[The] goal is to try to bring the University community closer to

new technology,” McCormick said. Tech-Connect hosts events each semester focused on current topics in technology, according to its website. The types of online courses the University will offer next semester may be able to surmount geographical and socio-economic barriers to education, said Valerie Larsen, director of the Arts & Sciences Center for Instructional Technology. Expanded access to education is central to Coursera’s mission, according to the organization’s website. To Larsen MOOCs are the next

Please see **Coursera**, Page A3



Thomas Bynum | Cavalier Daily

Officials from the Law School, above, say changes to federal student loan programs will not significantly impact recruitment.

Charlottesville considers new bus routes

NEWS

IN BRIEF



Thomas Bynum | Cavalier Daily

Charlottesville residents Tuesday night expressed mixed feelings about Charlottesville Area Transit’s proposals to modify city trolley and bus routes. City Council ultimately will decide whether to approve proposed route changes.

Charlottesville Area Transit held an open meeting Tuesday evening to present proposed changes to the free trolley and CAT bus routes. The major changes would attempt to make routes more direct. Charlottesville Area Transit Manager Lance Stewart said the current route system has changed little since the 1980s, and Charlottesville City Council recently recommended reviewing the routes. “These proposals served as a broad look at how to efficiently operate this system,” Stewart said. The proposal considers two main options for route changes. The first would maintain a system focused on the downtown area and the second system would be geared toward Jefferson Park Avenue residents. Both routes would have the buses operate on a more direct path and focus routes around landmarks where larger groups of people have access to them. The effects of route changes on

University students and faculty will be minimal, Stewart said. The proposal also considered an on-demand system for buses that would allow riders to call in and request buses to come to them, as the proposed route changes would concentrate buses in high-transportation areas. “It’s a new idea for neighborhoods that are not as densely productive,” Stewart said. Residents voiced mixed feelings about the transit plan at Tuesday’s meeting because they had gotten used to the current bus schedule, Stewart said. The University Transit Service could not be reached for comment about how their routes could change in response to developments in local transportation. Stewart said the consultants working on the proposal will gather feedback until December and should have a final plan in place by spring. City Council will have the final say about changes to the City’s bus routes. —compiled by Racine Fraser

RestoreUVa aims to raise Rotunda repair funds

After generating \$10K last semester selling University-related items, Hunter, others launch online auction to aid \$51M restoration project

By Monika Fallon
Cavalier Daily Senior Writer

Restoreuva.com, an online auction raising money for Rotunda repairs, went live Saturday morning with 42 University and Charlottesville-related

items available for bidding. Items range from dinner for four at a local vineyard to a set of Rotunda china to a day of golf with Dean Groves. All proceeds go to Rotunda restoration efforts, except for processing and web maintenance fees.

This is the second online auction to raise funds to repair the Rotunda, fourth-year College student Whit Hunter said. The first was last semester’s Restoration Auction, which collected online bids for University antiques from February to mid-

March. “Last year’s auction was version one, so to speak,” Hunter said. “Once that concluded, we made some changes and brainstormed [RestoreUVa]. It was really a communal effort.” Anyone can donate items to this

semester’s auction. Last semester’s efforts raised about \$10,000, Hunter said in an email. The total cost of the Rotunda restoration is estimated at about

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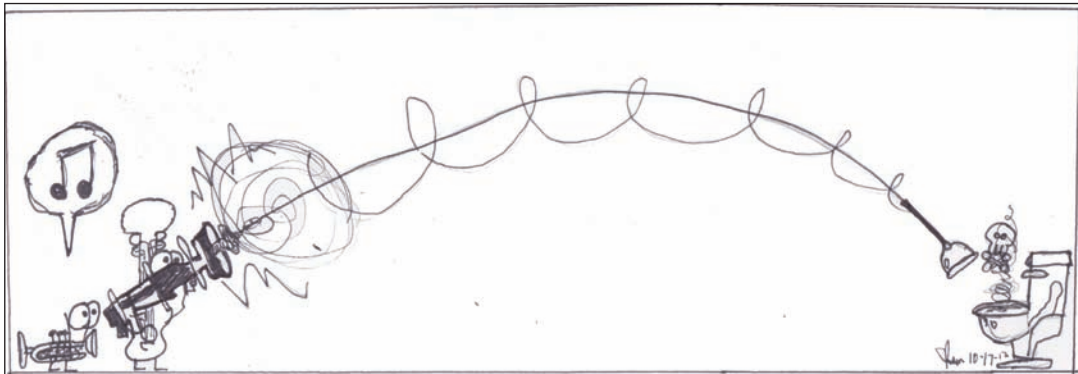
additional contact information may be found online at www.cavalierdaily.com

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Comics

Thursday, October 18, 2012

DJANGEO BY STEPHEN ROWE



GREEK LIFE BY MATT HENSELL



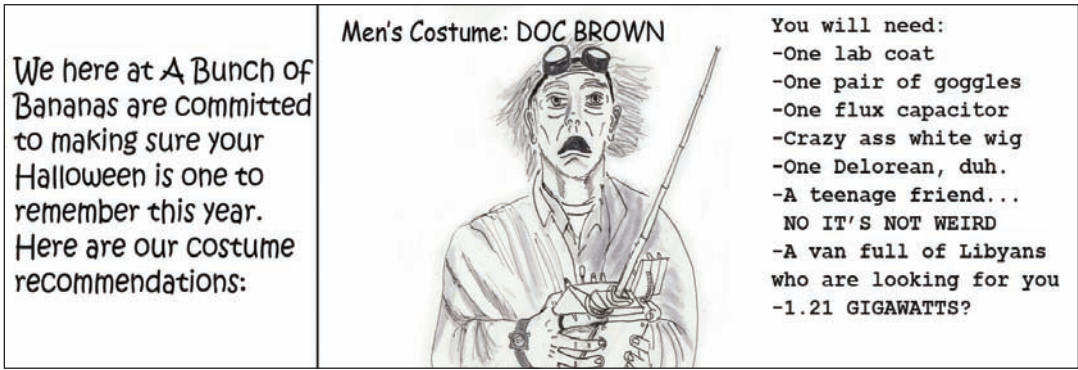
THE ADVENTURES OF THE AMAZING <THE> A-MAN BY EMILIO ESTEBAN



RENAISSANCING BY TIM PRICE



A BUNCH OF BANANAS BY GARRETT MAJDIC & JACK WINTHROP



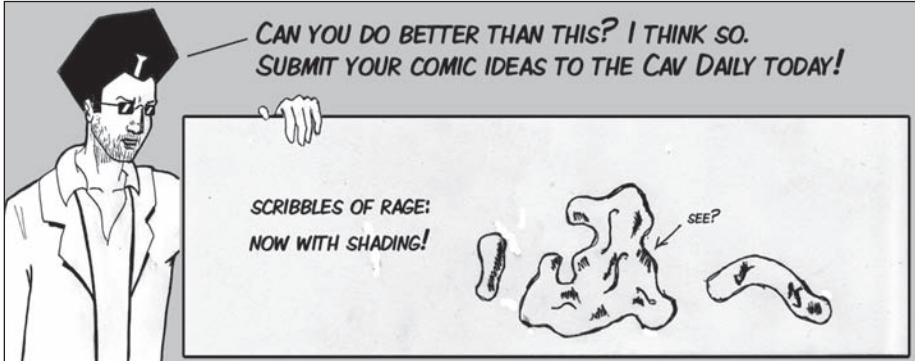
(NO SUBJECT) BY JANE MATTIMOE



BEAR NECESSITIES BY MAXIMILIAN MEESE & ALEX STOTT



HEY ROMNEY, WE HAVE BINDERS FULL OF COMICS, WANNA TRADE?



HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Life is filled with contradictions. Instead of expecting people to be one way, you leave mental room for the possibilities. You'll react to how things are instead of trying to force your reality onto them.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You'll be doing the upkeep necessary to keep life rolling smoothly along: the car needs an oil change, the air filters need replacing, etc. Handling it all in a timely manner boosts your confidence.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The health of a partnership depends on your ability to deal with problems together. Don't leave an issue unresolved today, or resentments will form. Get everything out on the table.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You'll lead with a generous spirit and treat your loved ones the way you know they would like to be treated, even when it may not be deserved. Eventually, everything evens out.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). A problem will alert you that your feelings are flowing in an unhelpful direction. Once you get that message, you no longer need to pay attention to the problem. Change the way you project emotions, and the issue will go away.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Strangers sense that you're someone to know. Stay modest. The fact that you don't feel the need to talk about your accomplishments says that you've accomplished quite a lot.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Look through old pictures, notes and souvenirs from your past. It will invigorate your current scene to remember who you've been at different times in your life. Those people are still inside of you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Spiritual work is all about clearing the obstacles to free-flowing energy and increasing your awareness. You will do both today and make progress along your spiritual path.

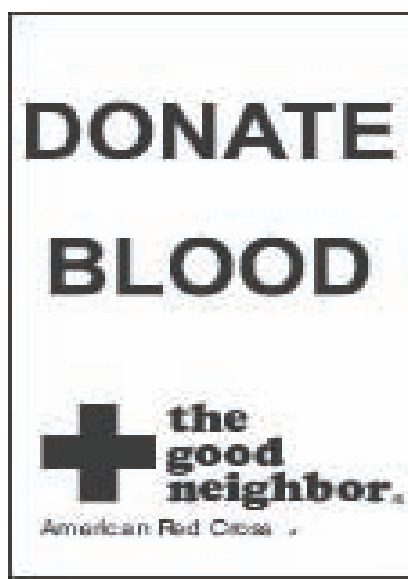
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Someone will come to you for help, but you may not see a clear way to give this person what he or she wants. Just being available to listen may be enough.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The masters suggest that true self-esteem doesn't depend on anything outside of you. But how can humans be expected to find self-worth in oppressive environments? You'll rectify a situation that's clearly wrong.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your day is filled with love, fun and friendship. What makes this possible is the work you did earlier in the week. So enjoy without guilt, knowing that you deserve the happiness you experience.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). There are too many people who postpone or give up their dreams in order to take care of others. Unearth your buried passion because your turn is coming.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Oct. 18). It's a year of expansion, and you'll become known for something new. The fresh faces in your life will bring out a different side of you. December features aggressive action on the career front. January is for sorting out financial details and healing family drama, too. February and May will be exquisitely romantic. Aries and Gemini people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 40, 6, 2, 14 and 9.



			9	8	3						
	3			6						2	
		5						4			
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2				5		8					
			8	3	1						

HARD #7

su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9.

LAST SOLUTION:

3	7	1	4	5	9	2	8	6
9	6	4	2	8	3	1	5	7
5	2	8	7	6	1	3	9	4
2	9	6	5	4	8	7	1	3
7	8	5	1	3	2	6	4	9
4	1	3	6	9	7	8	2	5
1	3	2	9	7	5	4	6	8
8	4	9	3	1	6	5	7	2
6	5	7	8	2	4	9	3	1

Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

The New York Times Crossword

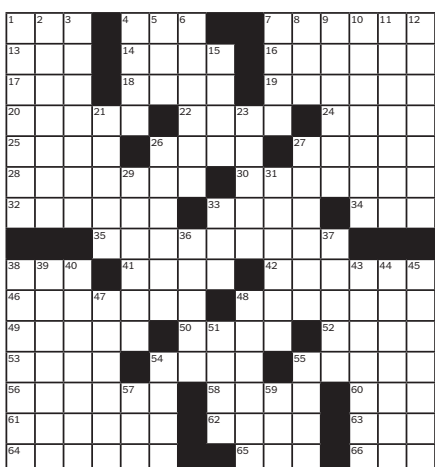
- Across**
- Blather
 - Q1
 - Ignores the teleprompter
 - Q2
 - 109 acres, for Vatican City
 - Lords ... or subjects
 - Over there
 - Musical interlude
 - Q3
 - Fancy basketball scores
 - Florida city, informally
 - Fighter of pirates, in brief
 - British interjection
 - "My Big Fat Greek Wedding" libation
 - Awaited someone's arrival before going to bed
 - Get back on the horse
 - Only Semitic language that's an official language of the European Union
 - Trypanosomiasis transmitter
 - Member of the singing Winans family
 - Blood-___
 - Q4
 - Corrode
 - Currency exchange premium
 - Fits
 - Accuse formally
 - Reliable profit center
 - Q5
 - Early wielder of a bow and arrow
 - One of the Nereids in Greek myth
 - Trouble's partner
 - Carrie Underwood or Taylor Hicks
 - Uganda's second P.M.
 - 56 A, AA and AAA
 - Exude
 - Too smooth
 - Franklin with a cameo role in "The Blues Brothers"
 - Lady of the Haus
 - Kind of stroke
 - "Battleship" co-star, 2012
 - Lotion abbr.
 - Fox hole, e.g.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

LIAR	STASH	JETE
ONME	ALITO	AYER
THUMB	SCREW	LIMA
OLIOS	BELS	LPS
DUETO	RAP	CRETE
EST	BUGSPRAY	ER
NESSMAN	ROVER	
TOKE	PELE	
MEADE	SOLDOUT	
GINGERS	NAP	RTE
ENDER	AIT	SADIE
NEO	NITE	CRUEL
ERRS	COMIC	STRIP
VASE	BRAUN	OUZO
ALEX	MINDY	SPED

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0913








- Down**
- Good thing to hit
 - Gets going
 - Dr. Seuss, e.g.
 - Does battle
 - Charlemagne's domain: Abbr.
 - Excuse maker's lead-in
 - 7 Romeo's precursor?
 - See 33-Down: Abbr.
 - Examine like a wolf
 - Flint, e.g.
 - A1
 - Curvy, in a way
 - The whole kit and caboodle
 - Protocol (1997 agreement)
 - "Deep Impact" menace
 - Linda who married Paul McCartney
 - 39 Bedroom piece
 - 40 Company newbie
 - 43 Beat, journalistically
 - 44 Visual olio
 - 45 Smitten with
 - 47 Rations
 - 51 Overhead expense?
 - 54 A3
 - 55 A4
 - 57 Secondary character in Aristophanes?
 - 59 Nuke

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Three-Day Weather Forecast

Provided by the Cavalier Weather Service

 TODAY High of 68 °	 TONIGHT Low of 47 °	 TOMORROW High of 69 °	 TOMORROW NIGHT Low of 44 °	 SATURDAY High of 65 °
Chance of showers with isolated thunderstorms, mainly during the afternoon through the evening.	A chance for passing showers. Otherwise, cloudy skies with temperatures dropping.	Partly cloudy skies with temperatures reaching the upper 60s.	Mostly clear conditions with temperatures dropping to the lower to middle 40s.	Sunny skies with temperatures reaching the mid 60s.
As an upper level low strengthens in the northern plains, it will push a cold front through central VA today into early tomorrow. This front, unlike the ones we saw last week, will bring a chance of showers along with it. High pressure will build in behind it for another beautiful weekend.				To receive Cavalier Weather Service forecasts via email, contact weather@virginia.edu

Coursera | Technology, honor code present concerns

Continued from page A1

step in the evolution of distance learning, which began with correspondence courses and radio. “If you think of this long history of the world and man as the last second, that’s kind of where MOOCs are in online learning,” Larsen said.

With the progression of online courses there also comes problems, panelists discussed Wednesday. Academic integrity has become a hot-button issue in this debate, as online-learning critics often contend it is easier for a student to cheat if he is enrolled in a MOOC. Coursera has its own honor code students must follow, according to its website.

The University’s new direction also requires institutional support, which Larson said is lacking in some universities, making it difficult for faculty and students to test the new medium. Technological support is also a major factor, as online students are reliant on smoothly functioning systems. “You need to have technology working to make [learning] happen,” Larsen said — a fact made clear after a malfunctioning projector nearly delayed Tech-Connect’s presentation.

Though their content is free, MOOCs have production expenses, and the University will not earn any revenue from online courses.

Larsen said the University was in the process of determining how much its MOOCs would cost to develop.

The University is interested in developing online rare languages classes such as Urdu and Farsi to allow these subjects to be taught at many universities despite their low enrollment, Larsen said.

Loans | Repayment plan may not benefit everyone, Holt says

Continued from page A1

government forgives the remaining balance after 25 years of payments. The Obama administration approved changes in 2010 that would cap payments at 10 percent of discretionary income and forgive debts after 20 years of payments.

Jason Delisle and Alex Holt of the foundation initially intended to analyze how changes to the student loan program could hurt students. Their study focused on graduate and professional schools.

“Originally Jason and I were actually thinking that this new program would lead to amortization, because you’re not paying off the accrued interest each month,” Holt said. “So I built the calculator to try to prove that point.”

They ended up discovering something quite different: High-debt, high-income borrowers would benefit from the changes, since they could borrow sizeable amounts that would ultimately be forgiven.

“The point here is that if you’re paying out of pocket for grad school, this new plan might make more sense for you to borrow as much money as possible and then enroll in [the government’s repayment plan] because you’ll get a lot of it forgiven,” Holt said.

Susan Loduha, director of financial aid at the Darden School, does not believe the changes to the program will help recruitment at Darden. “The majority of students graduating from Darden will not qualify for this loan option due to their income,” she said in an email.

Another consequence of the program’s changes is that graduate schools will have little incentive to keep costs low, Holt said. “They’ll say ‘borrow the max and you’ll have to pay only a percent,’” he said. “This is not good for overall ecosystem, but as far as borrowers go, it doesn’t hurt anyone.”

Jennifer Hulvey, director of financial aid at the Law School, said the new policy change won’t affect the school’s financial aid process. “When we award a loan ... it is based off of a federal formula from the Department of Education,” Hulvey said. “[The government’s repayment plan] does not impact the rewarding of the loans.”

But students may begin to pay for loans differently as a result of the changes, Hulvey said.

“What I see different is how we counsel students on how to repay loans after they leave school,” Hulvey said. “When this comes into effect, it will replace one of the repayment options.”

Though Holt explained the program is good for students who have just graduated and cannot find work, he warned the program might not benefit all borrowers. Government loan forgiveness is considered taxable income, so students might end up paying more in taxes if more debt is forgiven.

“The Obama administration says that after 20 years if you get \$20,000 in loan forgiveness, that year your income will jump \$20,000,” Holt said. “So if you’re making \$80,000 then, you’re paying taxes on \$100,000.”

The new terms of the government’s repayment plan, initially slated to take effect in 2014, may be available to borrowers by the end of this year, since the Obama administration is using its executive authority to hasten implementation of the changes. Holt is hoping the study’s results will lead lawmakers to think critically about student loan programs.

“I think we need to ask the question: Is it the best use of resources for the government to appropriate funds for loan interest for high-income learners?” Holt said.

Rotunda | Group continues community, University outreach

Continued from page A1

\$51 million. The University hopes to get about half that amount from the state and will rely on private donations, such as those funneled through restoreuva.com, for the remaining funds. The restoration project began in May and is expected to last several years. The website’s creators hope their efforts will speed the process.

The group is looking to take this year’s auction to the next level, expanding its reach within the University and Charlottesville communities, first-year College student Reid Morin said.

“Basically the objective is to get as many people interested as possible,” Morin said. “We’re incentivizing charitable giving in a way that could interest a wide variety of people, so it’s important to get the word out.”

After bidding closes Nov. 25 for this phase of the auction, 42 new items will become available for purchase online.

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The Cavalier Daily

"For here we are not afraid to follow truth wherever it may lead, nor to tolerate any error so long as reason is left free to combat it."
—Thomas Jefferson

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Weird fishes

Swim tests are an inappropriate requirement of university students

Among the last groups against which there is prejudice in this country is the unhealthy, the so-called “unfit” who are not up to physical standards. This stigma manifests itself in higher education in the form of physical fitness tests mandated at some universities. Specifically, several Ivy League schools and colleges along the East Coast require swim tests, an antiquated practice largely implemented in the early 20th century. The University of Chicago announced this month that it would drop this test, in addition to its entire physical education requirement. We believe other schools should follow Chicago by taking the evolutionary step out of the water and abandoning tests in the pool.

Non-military institutions still requiring a swim test include Washington and Lee University, Notre Dame, MIT, Swarthmore College, and the Ivies Columbia, Cornell and Dartmouth. The swim tests vary by the time at which they are taken. At some schools, students are forced to swim at enrollment; at others, just some time before graduating. Tests can range in difficulty and be timed or untimed. Students who don't pass must often take courses in swimming instead.

The justification for these tests is predominantly historical and based on precedent. Zach Glubiak, a history major at Columbia wrote last year in the Columbia Spectator — the university's student newspaper — that “the swim test's origins are actually not known precisely” at his institution. Glubiak also pointed out some of the quirks that exist at Columbia. Engineers, for instance, are exempt from the test

because engineers once convinced administrators that their ingenuity to build bridges and ships would prevent them from ever needing to learn to how to swim. This is apparently a story still told by Columbia tour guides while their non-engineering peers are flailing around in the pool.

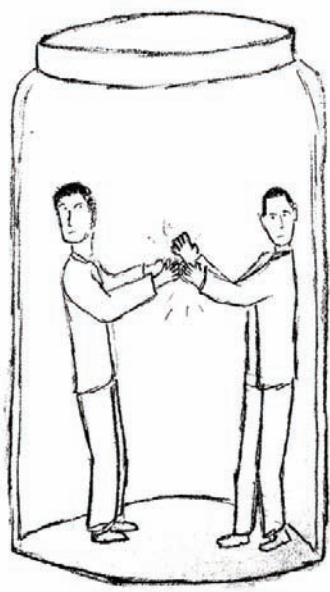
The only other reason these institutions cite for why they require swim tests is that swimming is a skill necessary to learn to avoid drowning — as if the non-swimmers among us face the immediate danger of drowning.


What these schools neglect is that many students are simply unable to swim. Although the disabled are exempt from the test, but out-of-shape students are not. More seriously, the co-ed nature of many of these tests can offend religious students. Moreover, studies have found disparities in swimming ability based on class and race. In fact, in 1973 one minority student at Amherst College drowned in the pool during testing.

The mistaken belief of these swimming tests — or the courses taken by those who have failed them — is that making people swim could be a helpful method of teaching. But forcing someone who cannot swim into the pool will bring resentment more than instruction. Those who want to learn how to swim should be able to do so on their own terms and not in a public display of embarrassment. For the sake of individual discretion, contemporary standards and physical inequality, those universities still asking their students to take some laps in the pool should drop such an inappropriate practice.

Editorial Cartoon by Peter Simonsen

For the third debate, the candidates will be trapped in a jar and shaken until we can see 'em fight.





Romney has to face a binder, but can Obama defend his nonexistent goals?

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Featured online reader comment

"This is a pretty good article and it raises some good issues. However, I think the author confuses looking at a situation realistically with apathy. Making the choice not to participate is not the same as apathy. I won't go vote because it is truly a waste of time. The same person will win the election whether I go vote or not, so why waste my time? (This is called the Paradox of Voting). Similarly, whether I participate in the electoral process or not (like by watching the debate), I can't change the BS. I guess I feel in some sense this article is promoting behavior that is inherently irrational, even when that person is aware of that behavior's inherent irrationality."

"rob," responding to Denise Taylor's Oct. 17 column, "The War against Facebook"

Letters to the editor

Simulators for success

As a double 'Hoo I want to thank you for shining light on the outdated and heinous practice of live animal intubation as training in the University's Pediatric residency program. ("Cruel to be kind? Student questions use of cats for endotracheal intubation practice," 10/10/2012). Kudos to the first-year Pediatrics residents who refused to use cats this year in their training, and instead opted to be trained by simulators. Ninety-eight percent of medical schools train their housestaff with simulators, including most of the top Pediatrics residency programs in the country.

I am disappointed that the

Medical School administration was/remains unwilling to end the use of animals in its training programs since the simulators already available at the Medical School could sufficiently meet the needs for training in endotracheal intubation for pediatric and premature infant patients. I am proud of this class of Pediatrics residents who stood up for what they believed, refusing the moral and ethical burden of needlessly harming animals. I learned much from my teachers at the University; it's time for the Medical School administration to learn from its interns.

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Submit to editor@cavallierdaily.com, <http://www.cavallierdaily.com/>, or P.O. Box 400703, Charlottesville, VA 22904-4703.

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The ombudsman is available at ombud@cavallierdaily.com.

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Moving through the ranks

Rankings are useful to attract good students, but universities should not be overly concerned with them

THE UNIVERSITY has recently been abuzz about a number of different rankings that have come out: first, the much-discussed No. 1 spot we snagged on Playboy’s list of the best “Party Schools” in the US; and, more recently, the Darden School’s No. 3 spot in the much more reputable rankings of the world’s best graduate business schools by The Economist.

Most members of the community celebrate these top-five finishes, although some students and many teachers decry the image that a first place finish in Playboy’s party school rankings gives our academic institution. Yet there has been comparatively little discussion about the value of rankings in themselves, especially when it comes to difficult-to-measure goods like education. People tend to accept at face value the legitimacy of the rankings; or, if they don’t, they tend to reject ranking systems altogether. A much healthier way to look at

RUSSELL BOGUE
VIEWPOINT WRITER

academic rankings is to view them holistically — as an appropriate way to identity excellent schools, but with major flaws that should influence our conclusions.

It is necessary first to recognize the value of rankings. In a competitive higher education environment, both undergraduate and graduate schools need a way to advertise themselves to potential students. Schools need to be able to compare themselves to other schools in a standardized way that allows school shoppers to weigh their options. Many different publications and organizations conduct independent rankings of schools, so that task is fortunately left out of administrators’ hands. Potential students can use these rankings to guide their decisions. Which schools consistently land high on the list? Which schools seem strong across a wide range of criteria? Rankings allow schools to stand out from their thousands of peers, and this is inevitably beneficial for academic pow-

erhouses like our University. When a student can quickly see that the University was deemed the second best public university in the country, we receive more applicants, our admissions process becomes more competitive, and our student body is filled with higher quality students.

The difficulty of ranking schools, however, must give us pause. While there are certainly statistics that give clear indication of quality of education — student to teacher ratios, for example — many of the other criteria vary across methodologies and can be misleading or unduly influenced. For example, some school ranking systems use the number of professors who hold advanced degrees as a criterion, such as the recent business school ranking by The Economist. This may be indicative of quality teach-

ing, but not always; schools may seek to increase their standing in the rankings by hiring more PhD.s., giving little thought to the teaching abilities of their candidates.

A brilliant man with three different degrees may be incapable of effectively cultivating such knowledge in his students. Likewise, factoring in student ratings of

the quality of their education is suspect, as oftentimes students have little else with which to compare their own educational experiences.

What this means is that we should encourage ranking systems — and care about where we generally fall — but the exact spot on the list should concern us less. Rather, we should focus on landing high on the list, such as in the top ten or twenty-five schools. Worrying about jumping from seventh

to sixth, or even third to first, is wasted effort. Criteria shift; methodologies can be disparate and flawed; and the distinctions between the top ten schools, and to a lesser extent the top twenty-five, are often over-exaggerated, especially in terms of the quality of education students receive. We should treat rankings as guidelines and broad goals — hoping to land high on the list, but beyond that giving little thought or credence to distinctions.

Focusing simply on providing the best education possible will always serve the University well, and if we continue to strive toward Jefferson’s goals — namely, sound and honest scholarship — then we will always be at the top of the list. Where exactly we fall will change from year to year; but our reputation and our commitment to excellence won’t, and we can trust that this will shine through. That’s all the University should care about in the long run.

Russell Bogue is a Viewpoint writer.

A crime against criminals

Felons who have served their sentences should be given the right to vote, in order to preserve the essence of democracy

THE RIGHT to vote has been a fundamental part of the American cultural and political system. Voting is a defining characteristics of a democratic society. Yet, throughout American history, we have failed to provide the right to vote to every individual. African-Americans fought for the right, as did women. Now, former felons too must fight for the right to vote. In fact, felon disenfranchisement reflects the government’s failure again to ensure that the basic rights of its constituents are protected.

Currently, 5.85 million people are disenfranchised because of felony convictions. In Virginia specifically, there are approximately 350,000 felons disenfranchised. The particular laws regarding felony disenfranchisement vary state by state. Some states such as Virginia have lifelong disenfranchisement while states

FARIHA KABIR
OPINION COLUMNIST

such as Vermont never disenfranchise felons, even while imprisoned. Furthermore, in some states felons can regain their right to vote by appealing to the Governor (Virginia), while in other states felons regain their voting rights after serving their time.

While it is understandable to take away a felon’s voting right while he is imprisoned, it makes less sense for him to not regain his right to vote after he has served time. Disenfranchisement becomes a constant reminder for felons of their past deeds, and prevents them from moving on with their lives. It also prevents those individuals from fully reintegrating into a democratic society, for a democratic society is characterized by the right to vote. This isolation becomes an additional burden for felons who are already stigmatized by society for their crimes.

Furthermore, less than 20 percent of felony convictions are violent. Most felony convictions are actually due to property and drug offenses. This is not to say that crimes like burglary should be condoned. And I am under no circumstances justifying the behavior of felons, but for them to be disenfranchised after they have paid for their crimes is unjustified.

Disenfranchisement can have political consequences as well. In some states like Florida, over a million ex-felons are disenfranchised as of 2010, which is significant enough to skew the results of a national election. As a result, one must question the validity and accuracy of an election where a significant part of the population is under-

represented.

Moreover, regardless of a felon’s past, he still has to reside under the authority of the same government as everyone else after serving his prison term. Therefore, he still deserves the right to have a voice in electing government officials.

In states such as Virginia, felons can apply for clemency. Yet when there are 350,000 felons in Virginia, restoring the rights of approximately 4,000 is practically insignificant. “I believe the commission of a crime must have a tough and just consequence,” Gov. Bob McDonnell said. “I also believe that once an offender has paid his debt to society, he deserves a second chance. It’s good government to restore ex-offend-

“While it is understandable to take away a felon’s voting right while he is imprisoned, it makes less sense for him to not regain his right to vote after he has served time.”

ers to society and encourage them to become law-abiding members of society again.” I find it interesting, however, that if it is “good government” to enfranchise felons, why have not all felons simply been franchised by law rather than on a case by case basis?

Instead of returning an ex-felon’s voting rights after a certain amount of time has elapsed, or offering clemency, the best action would be to ensure simply that felons regain their right to vote immediately after they have completed their prison sentence. As a nation, we preach democratic ideals both within the nation and abroad, yet sadly, in reality we fail to live up to what we preach. Ex-felons are still a part of society, and it is time we treat them as such.

Fariha Kabir’s column appears Wednesdays in The Cavalier Daily. She can be reached at f.kabir@cavalierdaily.com.

A very strong engagement

The government should eliminate the term “marriage” in order to achieve civic equality for all couples

FOR A SHORT time this spring, after President Obama announced his support for gay marriage, it looked like the issue could become very significant to the election. But because the economy, jobs, and health care have dominated most of the candidates’ time, this issue — while still highly controversial— has not been at the forefront of either campaign. As a strong supporter of marriage equality, I find that disappointing — although several state campaigns for changes to existing marriage law in places like Minnesota and Maryland have made some headlines. But I also think that supporters of gay rights should consider an alternative to demanding that the government recognize the marriages of both gay and straight couples: avoid the culturally loaded word “marriage” and seek equality by demanding the government not recognize “marriage” at all.

This sounds extreme, but I don’t think it is if you look at it closely. There obviously

FORREST BROWN
VIEWPOINT WRITER

needs to be a system in place where couples can have their relationship acknowledged by the government, for tax purposes, for raising children in co-guardianship, for hospital visitation rights, and all of the other reasons that people choose to get married. But for the purposes of the government, the word “marriage” does not need to be included.

“Marriage” is a primarily cultural word, rooted in religion and society but not necessarily the state. For many — while certainly not all — opponents of gay marriage, this is the main issue, as religious belief and cultural tradition are often inflexible to social change. “Marriage” means a lot more in this context than the rights listed above, and people don’t want an institution so wrapped up in their cultural and religious heritage to change in a significant way.

Personally, I don’t think this is a legitimate reason to deny a loving couple the right to say they’re married, but the point is this is not an argument that

even needs to be discussed. Allow each couple, gay and straight, to get a civil union from the state, and then decide what church or synagogue or mosque or cultural center to get “married” in. Each institution is not forced to perform a ceremony it doesn’t agree with, no one is robbed of the right to all the legal benefits marriage currently provides, and all couples have opportunities to get “married” in a community that chooses to welcome them.

People on both sides of the issue will probably have problems with this proposal. I’m sure some people agree with me that a civil union can provide the same legal rights to couples as marriage does presently, and would suggest merely granting them to gay couples without changing the system for traditional marriage. But there is a troubling philosophy behind this suggestion: that two co-existing and separate institutions can provide the same service

equally to different people divided by some superficial characteristic. “Separate but equal” sounds great but simply doesn’t work, and it leads to discrimination and lack of understanding.”

“‘Separate but equal’ sounds great but simply doesn’t work, and it leads to discrimination and lack of understanding.”

and straight unions, they will be used to suppress the rights of same-sex couples.

Coming at this from another perspective, I’m sure people think this proposal misses the point of the gay rights movement. If people are not accepting of the equality and legitimacy of gay couples, then discrimination will occur, regardless of any changes to governmental language. And I would agree, to a point. There will probably always be those who are prejudiced and homophobic, just as there will always be racists and sexists and people who refuse to acknowledge the humanity and dignity of their fellow human beings. But

I think many current opponents of same-sex marriage are not so much prejudiced as ignorant. By allowing them to define within their cultural and religious groups what the word “marriage” means without interference from the government, while still providing equality to all couples in the eyes of the state, they might feel less threatened and more open to learning and even changing their views over time, without forcing gay partnerships to be second-class in the meantime. This change is already happening, it is just occurring slowly. So why attempt to override these people, and push them to defensively entrench themselves in misguided perceptions when there is a possibility to address this disparity without the government proclaiming a new definition of “marriage”? The fight against homophobia and discrimination can continue while avoiding an unnecessary conflict over the use of a single word by the government.

Forrest Brown is a Viewpoint writer.

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FOOTBALL



Sophomore Jake McGee celebrates after a touchdown last Saturday against Maryland. McGee has been a pleasant surprise in a season rife with disappointment, snagging 19 catches for 263 yards and four touchdowns thus far.

Chris McDonald | Cavalier Daily

Cavaliers aim to halt slide

Coaches say improved passing game, takeaways needed to earn pivotal victory against Wake Forest

By Matthew Wurzburger
Cavalier Daily Senior Writer

The Virginia football team welcomes Wake Forest to Scott Stadium Saturday for a third straight ACC matchup. The Cavaliers (2-5, 0-3 ACC) looks to put an end to a five-game skid that has seen them plummet to the basement of the Coastal Division. Following Saturday's game against the Demon Deacons (3-3, 1-3 ACC), Virginia will benefit from a bye week as the squad tries to salvage the second half of its season.

A victory against Wake Forest would be Virginia's first win against an ACC opponent. Only the Cavaliers and Boston College remain winless in conference play.

Last Saturday's 27-20 loss to Maryland proved the Cavaliers still have multiple issues to sort out if they want to reverse their fortunes. Among the struggling players was sophomore quarterback Phillip Sims, who connected on just 13-of-28 passes for one touchdown and one interception in his second straight erratic

performance since taking over as starter against Duke.

For the team's final two drives, coach Mike London pulled Sims in favor of junior quarterback Michael Rocco, who promptly marched the Cavaliers down the field for the touchdown that pulled them within seven. But Rocco could not complete the comeback as the ensuing Virginia possession fizzled out.

Rocco's efforts against Maryland highlighted his desire to reclaim the starting spot, but for now coach London's trust resides with Sims — in spite of the Alabama transfer's clear unease in his first two starts.

"I know Phillip is a great player, but that was his second game starting as a quarterback," London said. "He understands there are some things he's got to work on better."

Sims does understand he has not performed at maximum capacity in the last two games.

"I know what I'm capable of doing," he said. "The last

Please see Football, Page B2

MEN'S SOCCER

Team hosts home finale

No. 13 RPI ranking boosts young roster bracing for rival Virginia Tech

By Ben Baskin
Cavalier Daily Associate Editor

The Virginia men's soccer team looks to put the finishing touches on an encouraging week when it faces off against Virginia Tech at Klöckner Stadium Friday evening in the squad's final home contest of the regular season.

The Cavaliers (7-6-1, 1-4 ACC) come off a 3-2 win against Wright State Tuesday that served as an important rebound from an embarrassing 4-1 loss to Wake Forest at home late last week.

Virginia opened the game on form and came out aggressive, scoring all three of their goals in the first half. Although the Cavaliers were unable to increase their lead in the second, they managed to hold on for the crucial win.

"There were a lot of positives in that game, especially in the first half," coach George Gelnovatch said. "We found a way to make sure that in the second half — even though we didn't get a fourth goal — we were able to manage it and still get the win."

Virginia received even better news at the beginning of the week when the season's inaugural RPI rankings pegged the team at No. 13. This designation came as a surprise after the squad had not received any votes at any point this year in the weekly NSCAA Coaches Poll.

Though the Cavaliers are 1-4 in conference, they are the No. 2 ranked ACC team, according to the RPI. Maryland, which

Please see M Soccer, Page B2



Devin Willey | Cavalier Daily

Sophomore midfielder Eric Bird scored his first goal of the season and just the second of his career Tuesday night against Wright State.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

No. 14 women face Hokies

Squad hopes frustrating loss to Florida State will spark late-season push



Jenna Truong | Cavalier Daily

Senior forward Erica Hollenberg rounds the corner against a defender earlier this season. Hollenberg is second on the team with four assists.

By Michael Eilbacher
Cavalier Daily Associate Editor

Following a stinging loss last weekend, the No. 14 Virginia women's soccer team heads on the road to take on rival No. 25 Virginia Tech Sunday evening. With just two games left in the regular season, the Cavaliers are looking to build momentum for the ACC tournament and beyond.

Virginia (11-4-1, 4-3-1 ACC) endured one of its toughest games of the season Sunday against top-ranked Florida State in Tallahassee, losing 1-0 on a penalty kick in overtime.

"I thought it was a very competitive game," coach Steve Swanson said. "You've got to put it in the past, and take what we can from the game. We have to take responsibility

Please see W Soccer, Page B2

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Coaches, media rank Virginia 7th

Polls by both ACC coaches and media members released this week predicted the Virginia men's basketball team to finish seventh in the ACC for the 2012-2013 campaign. Neither poll named any Cavalier players to the preseason All-ACC squad.

Forecasting the order of finish and individual honors for the first time, the coaches anointed N.C. State and its star forward C.J. Leslie as the predicted ACC Champion and Preseason Player of the Year. The Wolfpack, which reached the Sweet 16 in 2012, received eight-of-12 first-place votes and 139 points overall to edge Duke (three first-place votes, 130 points) and North Carolina (one first-place vote, 124 points).

Miami, Florida State and Maryland followed, with Virginia nabbing the seventh slot a year after

finishing fourth and enjoying its finest season under now fourth-year coach Tony Bennett.

Leslie was joined on the coaches' All-ACC squad by Wolfpack teammate Lorenzo Brown, Duke's Mason Plumlee, North Carolina's James Michael McAdoo and Florida State's Michael Snaer. N.C. State freshman Rodney Purvis earned Preseason ACC Rookie of the Year honors.

The media poll offered few differences, also ranking N.C. State, Duke and North Carolina as the conference's preeminent forces and naming Leslie the preseason player of the year. The media picked an identical All-ACC squad and tapped Purvis to shine in his first year with the Wolfpack.

Virginia returns three starters from last year's 22-10 NCAA Tournament squad.

—compiled by Fritz Metzinger

What to Watch for this Weekend

Home:

Thursday-Monday, all day, Men's Tennis in ITA Atlantic Regional
Friday, 6:30 p.m., Men's Soccer vs. Virginia Tech
Friday, 7 p.m., Volleyball vs. Duke
Saturday, 12:30 p.m., Football vs. Wake Forest
Saturday, 1 p.m., Field Hockey vs. Wake Forest
Saturday, 7 p.m., Volleyball vs. Wake Forest

Away:

Friday-Monday, all day, Women's Tennis at ITA Atlantic Regional in Blacksburg, Va.
Friday-Sunday, all day, Men's Golf at U.S. Collegiate in Atlanta
Sunday, all day, Women's Rowing at Head of the Charles in Boston
Sunday, 5 p.m., Women's Soccer at Virginia Tech

Football | London highlights McGee’s deadly red-zone play

Continued from page B1

couple of weeks are not me.”

Sims could benefit from targeting sophomore tight end Jake McGee. The 6-foot-5-inch former high school quarterback already has a string of highlight reel quality catches this year, and his athleticism makes him deadly in the red zone, as evidenced by his impressive 24-yard touchdown snag from Rocco in the fourth quarter against the Terrapins. Against Maryland, Sims completed no passes to McGee and targeted the tight end only twice.

“He’s definitely an option because of his height, because of his athleticism,” London

said. “Throw the ball up in the red zone, just like back in his high school going for a rebound.”

Saturday could be the best chance the Virginia coaching staff has to try a more aggressive passing game. The Demon Deacons allow opposing quarterbacks to complete more than 60 percent of their passes and will be without redshirt junior safety Duran Lowe, who is currently suspended following his arrest last week for marijuana possession with intent to distribute.

On one of the few bright notes from the Maryland contest, the Cavalier defense forced a rare turnover when senior defen-

sive tackle Will Hill recovered Perry Hills’ fumble in the third quarter. Defensive coordinator Jim Reid hopes his young players can continue to create turnovers against Wake Forest as the unit obtains invaluable experience with every passing week.

“We’re starting four sophomores in the secondary,” Reid said. “We’re getting our hands on a couple of balls, we’re getting a little closer, but what you have to continue to focus on is how to keep these young guys up.”

The Cavaliers also hope to improve upon the poor special teams play that doomed them last week. Maryland’s Stefan

Diggs returned the opening kickoff 100 yards giving the Terrapins the early lead before junior placekicker Drew Jarrett’s 31-yard field goal attempt was blocked. Redshirt freshman Ian Frye, who has served as the team’s kickoff specialist all season, replaced Jarrett as the field goal kicker for the remainder of the game and went 2-for-2.

London blamed the special teams’ struggles on execution rather than strategy. “Schemes and things like that are not as much the issue as the people that are executing them,” London said. “You got to make better decisions, because if not, as you see, the first [kickoff

return] led to a touchdown.”

After the week off, Virginia will travel to N.C. State. The squad will then face Miami Nov. 10 and North Carolina Nov. 15 at home. The Cavaliers finish the season with the annual Commonwealth Cup tussle against Virginia Tech.

Despite the daunting schedule, McGee and his teammates sense a drastic turnaround on the horizon.

“We haven’t been playing as well as we should have,” McGee said. “But I still feel it’s close to us turning it around and making something out of this season.”

Kickoff is scheduled for 12:30 p.m. Saturday.

M Soccer | Arduous schedule benefits Cavs, Gelnovatch says

Continued from page B1

defeated Virginia 1-0 in College Park Oct. 5, is the nation’s top team. North Carolina is directly behind Virginia at No. 14 despite beating the Cavaliers 1-0 in a hotly contested match in Chapel Hill Sept. 21.

The Cavaliers’ six losses mark the most of any team in the RPI Top 25. Their high ranking is a reflection of their arduous schedule, widely regarded as the most difficult in the country. Of Virginia’s 14 opponents, 10 have been ranked at some point this season, including four — George-

town, UCLA, North Carolina, and Maryland — currently among the nation’s top 10 teams.

The team’s trying schedule resulted from a calculated maneuver by Gelnovatch, now in his 17th year leading the program. Gelnovatch wanted to test what he has dubbed his “youngest team ever.”

“The whole idea behind this schedule was to play good games and play them early so that we can benefit from them at the end,” Gelnovatch said.

The victory against Wright State Tuesday put the Cavaliers back above .500 on the season, a

key designation that both Gelnovatch and the players often mention as one of the team’s prime aims going forward.

“We need to finish .500 and this was just one of the four wins we need to do that,” freshman midfielder Marcus Salandy-Defour said after scoring his first collegiate goal in the win.

Friday’s contest against Virginia Tech (5-6-3, 0-4-1 ACC), the 84th ranked team according to the RPI, represents the first of three ACC clashes that will close out Virginia’s season, with trips to Boston College and N.C. State looming.

The Hokies’ flimsy defense should allow the Cavaliers an abundance of chances to score, as they have given up an astonishing 13.8 shots and 1.38 goals per game to opponents this season.

Virginia must capitalize on those chances, however, as Virginia Tech goalkeeper Kyle Renfro has corralled the interminable barrage of shots he’s faced this season. Renfro, who has a .759 save percentage, currently leads the ACC with 60 saves and a 4.54 saves per game total.

Cavalier senior forward Will Bates will pose the greatest

threat to Renfro in goal, as Virginia’s tri-captain leads the ACC with nine goals despite consistently drawing aggressive attention from opposing defenses.

And now, with the ACC and NCAA Tournaments drawing near, the Cavaliers believe they are in prime position to reap the benefits from their demanding schedule.

“I think our schedule is starting to pay dividends,” Gelnovatch said. “We have three games left, and have a better feel for how this prepares us for down the road and hopefully the postseason.”

W Soccer | Defense boosts team’s confidence; season nears end

Continued from page B1

for the game.”

Against Florida State, Virginia was held to just 12 shots, fewer than in any other game this season and well below its average of nearly 18 shots per game, good for third in the ACC. The Cavaliers know they must focus on ball possession and open play, which allow them to move the ball and create scoring opportunities.

“I think we’ve shown that we

can finish consistently throughout the season,” Swanson said. “I think what we need to do against quality teams is possess the ball enough and build it up enough to get quality chances in the game.”

A bright spot for the team Sunday was the defense, which kept a strong Seminole team in check for the entire game until the penalty kick. Despite two losses in the last four games, Virginia has not given up a goal in open play in as many matchups, with both losses coming as a

result of set pieces. The Cavaliers are confident that if they can limit chances on free kicks, their defense will continue to stifle opponents.

“Our team defense was good [against Florida State],” Swanson said. “Our shape was a lot better than it had been even two weeks ago. We’re getting consistent performances defensively, which is great.”

The team now shifts its focus to this Sunday’s matchup against another tough ACC team. The

Hokies (11-4-1, 2-4-1 ACC) got off to a blistering start this season, winning their first nine games of the season and at one point climbing to a No. 8 ranking. But ACC losses to powers North Carolina, Duke, Boston College and Florida State have Virginia Tech now sitting in the bottom half of the conference.

Leading Virginia Tech on offense with seven goals is red-shirt junior forward Shannon Mayrose, who will try to spark a stagnant attack that has mus-

tered just one goal in the last three games.

As the season nears its end, the Virginia players aim to rebound from Sunday and put on a strong performance against their in-state rival.

“I think we’re confident,” senior forward Erica Hollenberg said. “Obviously, you need to be confident going into games. Regardless of the results that come, as long as we play well going into the ACC tournament, I think we’ll be in a good position.”

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THE MAN, THE MYTH, THE LEGEND: SETH AVETT GIVES BACK

music *Folk favorite chats with A&E about The Avett Brothers' huge benefit concert at nTelos Pavilion*

We now know Playboy considers the University the nation's number-one party school, but here's a question just as debatable: Is Charlottesville a Southern city? Your Jersey friends will undoubtedly give a resounding "yes," whereas the Northern Virginia contingent may jump to deny any Dixie leanings. Regardless of your opinion about where Charlottesville falls on the map (for the record, it's below the Mason-Dixon line), the City has an undeniable charm, in equal parts due to its eclectic urbanity and its — dare I say — Southern hospitality.

So when two distinctly Southern brands decided to team up for an epic benefit concert, it's no surprise they chose Charlottesville as the ideal location. Famous folk trio The Avett Brothers and everyone's favorite Carolina soda, Cheerwine, are taking over the nTelos Wireless Pavilion Oct. 19 for the first annual Legendary Giveback. Benefiting Homeland, Big Brothers, Big Sisters and the University's Children's Hospital, the concert will also be streamed live online for anyone who pledges time to the charity of his choice. Arts & Entertainment got in touch with Seth Avett, one of the band's founding members, via email to get his thoughts on the epic event.

A & E: How did the idea for the Legendary Giveback concert come about?

Seth Avett: Scott (my brother) did a voice-over segment for Cheerwine's 'Legendary Tales' series. He enjoyed the experience and got along with everyone involved in the project, so our relationship with the company started there. Of course, being from North Carolina, our actual relationship with the soda itself began a few decades back.

A & E: Which of the event's charities do you connect with most personally, and why?

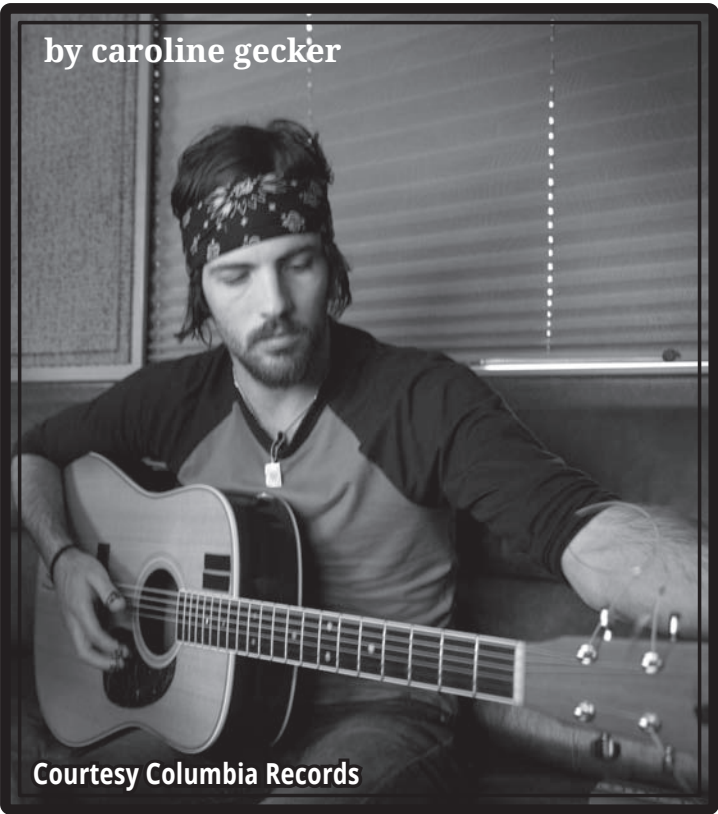
Avett: We see and believe in the value of each charity linked to the event, though we probably connect most personally with the University of Virginia Children's hospital. Bob Crawford, our bassist and a core member of the band, has recently experienced the challenge of caring for, and seeking care for, his own young daughter. Hallie, almost 3 years of age, has spent the last 14 months battling brain cancer. It has been a learning experience for the Crawford family and all those connected to them. For this reason, we understand in a complete way the need for compassion and a medical focus for children with needs of any sort.

A & E: As seasoned live musicians, do you think there will be a difference in the atmosphere of a live benefit concert like this versus a regular tour date?

Avett: Well, the buildup for this performance is formidable to say the least. It's been sold out for a while and the buzz surrounding it is growing daily. I can certainly feel the excitement from the fans. I know a lot of folks are making significant road trips to be there. I think it will be amplified by the overwhelming enthusiasm people are showing for supporting something good and for a chance to contribute. It's gonna [sic] be a major celebration.

A & E: What about the nTelos Wireless Pavilion makes it an ideal location for the concert?

Avett: There's a great community vibe to this venue. We've performed here a few times, and it always feels very open and friendly.



by caroline gecker

Courtesy Columbia Records

A & E: What aspects of your music, and folk music in general, resonate with the concert's cause?

Avett: I'd like to think that there's something in our music that promotes goodwill among folks; maybe some hope here and there. In any event, we as people, our band and crew, are overjoyed to be a part of it. There isn't one of us involved that don't fully believe in the power of helping whenever possible.

A & E: The concert has a very down home, Southern vibe, and you guys are of course from NC — what is your favorite aspect of the South?

Avett: The best barbecue on the planet. (Let the battle continue!)

A & E: You released a new album in September — should fans expect to hear a lot of material off *The Carpenter* at the concert?

Avett: Absolutely. But we'll also be playing songs from throughout the span of our career for sure. For folks that have been with us as long as the people in Virginia have, we gotta [sic] get some earlier stuff in there, too.

For great music for a great cause, tune in this Friday at 7 p.m. Tickets are sold out, but Cheerwine will be live-streaming the concert from Ern Commons, complete with refreshments for all attendees. You can find out more at cheerwine.com/giveback.

arts & entertainment

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ONLINE

<http://www.cavalierrdaily.com/section/ae>

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NEXT WEEK

A&E goes Trick-or-Treating!

Strange and spooky TV: 'The Walking Dead' '666 Park Avenue'

Music: Freelance Whores

music

Courtesy Glassnote



The British are coming: Muse lays down 'law'

by andrew shachat

Album Highlights

- "Madness"
- "Follow Me"
- "Animals"
- "Supremacy"

English rock band Muse is back with its new album *The 2nd Law*. The record marks the group's return to the studio after its successful *Resistance* tour, which passed through Charlottesville in 2010. *The 2nd Law* is bold and futuristic, experimental and traditional, showcasing the band's iconic musicality while at the same time testing out new waters. Muse proves on *The 2nd Law* that it is capable of branching off into new territory while still delivering its characteristic and enjoyable sound.

Don't worry, Muse fans: From Matt Bellamy's falsetto to epic power guitar solos and virtuosic synthesizers, that unmistakable Muse sound is still here. Songs such as "Madness" echo the romantic tenderness of older songs such as "Starlight," while tracks such as "Animals"

evoke the arpeggio-filled days of *Origin of Symmetry* (2001). Album track "Survival" even became one of the official songs of the Summer Olympics.

And yet something seems awfully awry. At times, you will undoubtedly ask: "Is this really Muse?" To understand why, we must ask again — what is "The 2nd Law?" Look no further than the last two tracks of the album, where the vocals not only explicitly state the Second Law of Thermodynamics but also demonstrate the law musically. "The 2nd Law: Unsustainable," the penultimate track, breaks down from a barrage of strings and choir of "ahhs" into a down-tempo dubstep beat. "The 2nd Law: Isolated System," the album's final song, takes off from a quiet, consistent piano rhythm

into a cacophony of sound, before finally dissipating into nothingness. Both songs illustrate entropy, albeit crudely. In an endeavor to push the record's theme of descending into disorder, Muse ends up delving deep into new territory.

Should we be happy that Muse is making dubstep? Initially the correct response seems clear — no, we absolutely shouldn't. Muse isn't a dubstep band, it never has been, and there's no reason to start now, other than the fact that nowadays dubstep sells. Muse doesn't do dubstep much justice, evident from "Follow Me" and the aforementioned "The 2nd Law: Unsustainable," where Muse appears to have tried to mimic Skrillex but was too afraid to go all out in true dubstep fashion.

And yet, for all the mockery

Muse's dubstep makes of the genre, it works. Between the thematic elements of chaos, the heavy use of synthesizers, quality lyrics and the band's throwback to its old rock sound, the dubstep proves another layer in the band's sonic arrangements. The increased use of electronica and dubstep isn't in your face as much as it sounds like it's floating around the track.

Muse proves with *The 2nd Law* that it's ready for the next decade. By channeling its reliable rock charm and also diving into a more experimental sound, Muse makes the grade on its latest effort. I have no idea where Muse will go next, but with *The 2nd Law*, it's earned my confidence to experiment as much as it pleases.



poor



average



good



excellent



classic

the beat for the week

music

under the radar



Album Highlights

“All In”
“Heave(n)”
“The Nightcaller”

CourtesyWarp

by will keel

Stephen Ellison, a hip-hop producer, abstract sound auteur and explorer of altered states, is not known for being the most down-to-earth kind of guy. The man known as Flying Lotus has been putting out releases since 2006, each one featuring off-kilter drum beats and undulating electronica to create a mind-altering, kaleidoscopic daze. Ellison's October release, *Until the Quiet Comes*, doesn't deviate from his quest for psychedelic enlightenment but takes on a new and exciting aesthetic in doing so.

Ellison has previously listed seminal hip-hop producers such as J Dilla as influences, but his most recent album relies less and less on earthly beats. He instead synthesizes sounds only hinted at in his previous work, exploring a more experimental orchestration of instruments and vocal samples. "All In" makes for an elegant entrance, with delicate chimes, karmic harp samples, light-footed drums and wonky electric pianos. Other times he leaves the drums entirely out of the picture, as on "Until The Color Came," a drippy collage of arpeggiated blips; and

"Hunger," a dark mesh of distorted string samples breezily accompanied by haunting female vocals.

As evidenced by the celestial and lyrically straightforward "DMT song," it is no secret where Ellison derives much of his inspiration from. The downside is that while Lotus is tripping out to "a world where you can spread your wings and fly away," listeners are sometimes left stranded in the real world and the transmissions he sends back can be a little far out. "Sultan's Request" gets painfully noisy — unlistenable even — and "See Thru to U" is dense and cryptic, an abstract racket with few grounded elements to which fans can cling. Although he attempts throughout the album to convey his auditory hallucinations faithfully, they are often too esoteric for earthly — or sober — minds to comprehend.

The airy vibe of this month's record, however, makes it Ellison's most accessible yet. Just when we start to get lost in the maze of wobbly synths or erratic beats on "Getting There," angelic voices descend to rescue us amid a cloudy mass of woozy

harmonies. The jazz-tinged samples that frequently surface are also refreshing additions; slithering electric bass weaves its way through Ellison's dream-world, and hazy jazz chord progressions materialize and disappear.

As Ellison is first and foremost a beat-maker, his previous releases have been perfect for obnoxiously blasting out your car windows while cruising through the neighborhood. They were more like mix-tapes than albums, compilations of disjointed instrumental hip-hop tracks with no sense of flow from one song to another. *Until The Quiet Comes* is a cohesive and mature work, representing the journey Ellison always wanted to take us on but never could. It lures you in with sweet melodies, lays you back upon soft clouds of ambience and pulls you through the rabbit hole and into the surreal universe of Flying Lotus.



television

‘Gossip’ still worth talking about

by stephanie dodge

Whether it's Blair and Serena's friendship, the on-and-off romance between Chuck and Blair, Nate's ridiculous good looks, Lonely Boy's musing or just the amazing fashion and NYC scenery, there are millions of reasons to tune in weekly for the latest scoop from our beloved *Gossip Girl*. But after five years of high fashion and higher drama, it looks like we're all going to have to say goodbye; at the end of season six, which premiered last Monday, the show that has brought the lives of a group of Upper East Side socialites to homes across the world will come to an end.

Looking back on the journey we've taken with our Upper East Side family, it's amazing where our favorite cast of characters has ended up. Thankfully, it looks like budding billionaire playboy Chuck Bass (Ed Westwick) and brainy trendsetter Blair Waldorf (Leighton Meester) may actually wed and put hopeless romantics like me out of our collective misery. Yet former "Lonely Boy" and hipster Dan Humphrey (Penn Badgley) is still set on his path to win Blair's heart. His decision to pursue the Upper East Side princess and put aside his former feelings for the stylish Serena van der Woodsen (Blake Lively) was arguably the biggest twist in the show's history. We can only hope all will right itself in the end, but if more plot turns like this one shake up the scene, we may be in for a bumpy ride.

Meanwhile, Serena seems set on her continued path of destruction and rebirth and is now seeing a man who somehow believed she was Sabrina from Wisconsin until her friends told him otherwise in one of the show's more ridiculous moments. Can anyone imagine Serena milking a cow? She prefers her cows in the form of leather belts, boots and jackets. Forced to come clean to her new mystery man, 'S' is prepared to introduce him to the battleground that is Manhattan — after all, S and B's recent war will inevitably result in some casualties, and what better way to kick off a new season on the Upper East Side?

As for our favorite beautiful laxer/stoner/journalist, Nate Archibald is running the NYC media scene while continuing to line up and knock down some of the city's most eligible bachelorettes. While the adults of the show catalyze the dramas, the writers have always managed to keep millions fascinated with these fabulous five masters of manipulation and drama. And if the season six premiere is any indication of things to come, we're in for another season of tumultuous fights, friendships and unforgettable romance.


The last episode focused on establishing fresh new conflicts and pouring salt on old wounds to keep things interesting and set up new stakes, but I can only hope that, as the season proceeds, the writers will finally answer some of our long-standing questions and tie up some of the more excruciating loose ends. I'm sure we won't be allowed to get there painlessly. Like GG herself said at the end of the premiere, "You may think my best days are behind me, but this old girl still has some new tricks. Stay tuned. Xoxo, Gossip Girl."

★★★★



CourtesyThe CW

music



Courtesy Interscope

Album Highlights

“Thoughts Remix”
“High Life”

This ‘Spirit’ proves destructible

by catherine jessie

Nelly Furtado is one of pop's more prolific artists: she has released an album every three years since 2000. After scoring several radio hits off 2006's *Loose*, she self-produced the album *Mi Plan* entirely in Spanish in 2009. The Canadian singer/songwriter/actress/producer has a lot to offer: a distinct voice, a nice face and an incredible ear for spinning together melodies and infectious beats. All this and more is on display in her latest album, *The Spirit Indestructible*. This ambitious 18-track album is more experimental than anything she has ever done, even the Spanish-language *Mi Plan*.

The album begins with the title track and with one modest minute of light treble: melodic keyboard and Nelly's voice alone. This minute — the first 60 seconds of the entire album — is unfortunately the least interesting and most annoying portion of the release. But to our relief, Furtado drops the beat, and every other dance-y sound she can think of, at the one-minute mark.

From there the song takes several turns. First, Furtado incorporates a beat reminiscent of "Promiscuous" (and how could anyone forget "Promiscuous"?), an electronic snare drum sound reminiscent of most mediocre hip-hop songs, some tribal beats and finally some voice-mixing. Perhaps the strangest shift in sound is when an electric

guitar bassline emerges out of nowhere, almost perfectly capturing the atmospheric sound of London's indie-pop band The xx.

Furtado's featured artists always seem to ground her in some way. Timbaland was half the fun in "Promiscuous." It's a treat when Nas contributes to "Something," the fifth track of the album, as he easily outperforms Furtado, who could probably be outperformed by anyone with lines such as "Can't have a drink without a well / Can't fall asleep without a spell / Can't feel the wind without a kite." Still, "Something" is one of the better-developed songs on the album. Though lyrically weak, she at least seems less genre-confused.

Furtado tries to get poetic and political with "Believers (Arab Spring)," but the song sounds more like a failed pop anthem when she wails à la Demi Lovato ("Knock you down / You get back up again, again / And when they run after you / You just run from them"). Furtado is better when she doesn't try as hard. The best piece of the album, "Thoughts," featuring the Kenyan Boys Choir, is simple and lovely. Even if it takes her an album of mostly poor songs to get out tracks like this (and at least one fun dance hit), then her return is, if not exactly triumphant, at least worthwhile.

★ poor

★★ average

★★★ good

★★★★ excellent

★★★★★ classic

C M Y K

Cyan Magenta Yellow Black

A&E goes to THE movies

Scientology film hypnotizes audience

by James Hassett

Although Tom Cruise may not agree with the way *The Master* portrays Scientology, he would have to concede it is an eerily captivating masterpiece. Philip Seymour Hoffman and Joaquin Phoenix deliver absorbing, Oscar-worthy performances. The film provides a chilling look at the origins of the controversial religion of Scientology and its charismatic founder, L. Ron Hubbard.

The movie centers on Freddie Quell (Phoenix), a World War II veteran who suffers from anxiety, alcoholism and violent episodes, struggling to survive in society. Phoenix perfectly captures

Freddie's strange and irrational behavior. It is a fitting role for the actor who filmed and starred in the disturbing *I'm Still Here*. After roaming the country escaping his problems, Freddie stows away on a ship carrying the group of Scientologists and meets Lancaster Dodd, aka L. Ron Hubbard, aka "The Master."

Dodd sees Freddie as a lost soul his teachings can help and enjoys Quell's stomach-wrenching alcohol concoctions that include ingredients ranging from siphoned torpedo fuel to paint thinner. It is Hoffman's portrayal of Dodd that makes this movie

so amazing. His powerful performance shows how one man's charisma and energy could captivate so many people and — don't hunt me down for this, Scientologists — draw followers into a cult-like organization.

Dodd takes Quell into his community and introduces him to the strange beliefs and practices of Scientology. For example, Dodd performs hypnosis on his followers to expose their past lives and unlock their secrets. Critics of the practices are angrily mocked and refuted, even as it becomes clear Dodd is

simply making them up as he goes along. Quell struggles to accept Dodd's bizarre teachings and to break the persuasive force of the leader.

The Master is an enthralling account of Scientology's beginnings, with spectacular performances that drive home the compelling force one man can have not only on a large group of followers but also on a confused man searching for answers. The film will leave you captivated and will also remind you not to drink the punch just because the leader tells you to.

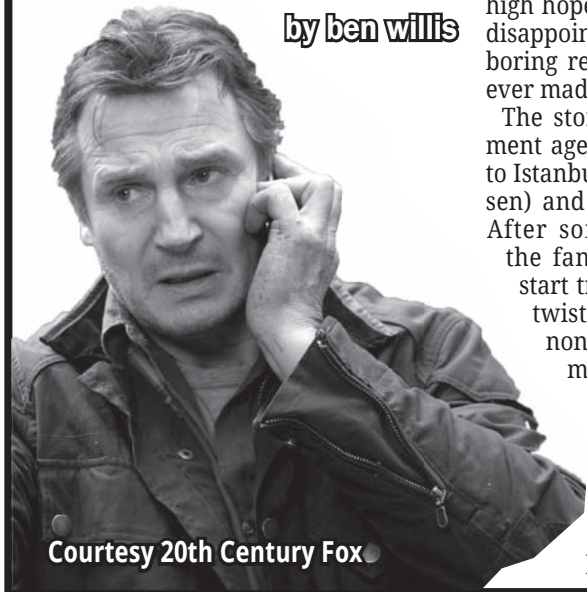
★★★★



Courtesy The Weinstein Company

Not so 'Taken' with Neeson sequel

by Ben Willis



Courtesy 20th Century Fox

Let's be honest: The first *Taken* was awesome. It had everything an action fan could want: kinetic thrills, brutal fights and Liam Neeson being a badass. I had high hopes for the sequel, but boy was I disappointed. *Taken 2* is an uneven and boring rehash of every silly action film ever made.

The story is nothing new. Ex-government agent Brian Mills (Neeson) travels to Istanbul with his ex-wife (Famke Janssen) and his daughter (Maggie Grace). After some relaxation, the crap hits the fan, and swarthy Albanian men start trying to kill them. But there's a twist. These faceless criminals are none other than the family of the men Brian killed in the previous movie. The originality is breathtaking.

There is a lot wrong with this film, so I'll try to narrow my tirade to a few key points. First, the script is ridiculously bad. Every line feels forced,

and nobody is given anything remotely insightful to say. Neeson is stranded in a sea of painfully clichéd lines such as "I need you to focus!" and "I'm so tired of it all." He also spends much of the film yelling at his daughter as she suddenly becomes an action hero under his watchful eye. The actors who play the villainous Albanians get the short end of the stick. Their lines are so poor that at no point was I worried about them doing any damage at all. They just seemed like a bunch of incompetent, third-rate criminals.

I wish I could say it was only the writers' faults, but the actors have to take some of the blame. Neeson is on autopilot. All of his actions seem much slower than the first film, and there is no sense of urgency. He has none of the charisma that has made him one of the greatest actors of our time. Grace and Janssen largely just cower and sob, though I have to give credit to Grace for pulling off some sweet moves in the car chase. These poor

performances could be forgiven, but it is the Albanian crime lord that really puts the nail in the coffin. Rade Serbedzija is a widely respected Croatian actor, but he makes zero effort here. He is atrocious, spouting off one banal line after another. Every time he was on screen I was looking at my watch wondering when the ordeal would end.

At least the action is engaging, right? Wrong. Director Olivier Megaton edits every scene so choppy that it is nearly impossible to tell what is going on. Many of the cuts were just unnecessary. While showing a truck moving down a road he cut to about 30 different angles in the span of 30 seconds. Every scene felt rushed, and I was robbed of the joy of seeing Neeson crack some skulls.

I went to *Taken 2* despite the negative reviews in hopes of some dumb fun, but unfortunately, the fun was late to the party. Don't waste your time.

★★

Almost 'Perfect' Musical comedy hits some high notes, falters with crowded story

by Jamie Shalvey

Capitalizing on the popularity of a cappella groups and glee clubs, *Pitch Perfect* has a familiar plot: Beca (Anna Kendrick) has just started her freshman year at Barden University, even though her dream is to move to Los Angeles and become a DJ.

Fitting in is

harder than she expected. At Barden, a cappella groups such as the all-male Treble Makers and the all-female Barden Bellas rule the school.

After Beca refuses to try out for the Bellas, the group's co-captain Chloe (Brittney Snow), in a very *Glee*-like fashion, finds

out Beca has a decent voice. After a series of hilarious and ridiculous auditions, the Bellas end up with less than they had hoped. But with weeks of training and a few mishaps along the way, the Bellas become the group they once were, perfectly harmonized yet boring to watch. Beca's difficult task is to use her DJ and music-mixing skills to create exciting mashups for the group to sing in a campus competition against its male archenemy.

The film features one of the University's own a cappella groups, the Hullabahoos, singing "The Final Countdown" at the national competition in the movie. They were even announced by name by the commentator in the film (Elizabeth Banks). *Entertainment Weekly* magazine recently did an interview with third-year member Drew O'Shanick about the film and how real university a cappella groups function.

Although many expected a sort of *Glee* parody, *Pitch Perfect* builds its own story with hilarious moments, a range of characters and fun musical

numbers. Like *Glee*, the music is exciting and fun to watch. Numbers include pop songs such as "Since U Been Gone," "Don't Stop the Music" and mashups featuring as many as six different songs.

Kendrick, who has shined in supporting roles in *50/50* and *Up In the Air*, was decent, but her character — a cynical, couldn't-care-less type of girl — did not fit her signature, wry girl-next-door persona. She hits her stride toward the end, however, when she becomes the heroic savior of the Bellas' career.

The real shining star in *Pitch Perfect* is Rebel Wilson. The *Bridesmaids* actress attacks the role of Fat Amy with hilarious wit and perfect timing, an Australian accent and no boundaries. Her one-liners make the movie funny.

Overall, the film is slightly disappointing. Some scenes are laugh-out-loud funny, but others didn't raise a chuckle from the crowd. I expected Kendrick to be her brilliant, ironic self, but her character did not suit her.

The romance between Beca and Jesse (Skylar Austin), a member of the Treble Makers, was almost too much for the film's already packed plot line. The movie should have been crafted as an underdog story, focusing on the Bellas' rise to success. Although it would be a fun movie to rent or watch with a group of friends, *Pitch Perfect* compares poorly to other recent films.

★★★



Courtesy Universal



Courtesy Universal

Gere vehicle disappoints

Crime thriller's plot holes undermine solid performances

by Emily Benedict

Arbitrage, the latest film from director Nicholas Jarecki, commits a series of cinematic crimes almost as dastardly as the federal offenses it depicts. Poorly plotted and unsuccessfully developed, this Richard Gere vehicle belongs in movie jail.

The film tells the story of Robert Miller (Gere), a Wall Street billionaire reaching retirement age and facing the repercussions of an extramarital affair, among a number of other illicit activities. Miller, the owner of a huge trading company, will stop at nothing to protect his fortune and reputation. He confronts a string of mistakes, which ultimately leads to both a messy attempt to cover up his fraud and a sudden end to his romance with French art dealer Julie Cote (Laetitia Casta).

Attempting to conceal his fraudulent behavior, Miller desperately tries to sell his

business to a major bank, paying off whoever he can in the process. But deep into negotiation, the deal becomes shaky, and so does Miller's character. After a visit to his mistress' art gallery — one of his many investments — he makes a grave mistake that causes him to become a part of an unexpected cover-up with a man from his past: Jimmy Grant (Nate Parker, a native of my Norfolk hometown). Their vaguely defined relationship makes it difficult to believe Grant would stick his neck out so far for Miller, especially in light of what Grant thinks Miller has done. Every aspect of Miller's life seems to be falling apart. Even working with his daughter begins to put a strain on their relationship. Miller has fallen in too deep and appears to be drowning as his family life and business become too much to handle.

In cahoots with what seems to be everyone in town, Miller continues to pursue a profitable buyout from a major bank. His frequent struggles to seal the deal and protect his image make for some tense suspense, which unfortunately often gives way to confusion and muddled plot points.

Though Gere and Parker raise the stakes somewhat with top-notch performances, the storyline constantly works against them. Underdeveloped characters, such as Miller's wife Ellen (Susan Sarandon), whose role remains unexplored, contribute to the film's downfall. Unexplained injuries and connections make for more than a few plot holes. And even when lines are delivered perfectly, their context tends to feel unclear or awkward. While watching the film, I constantly found myself reaching for an invisible remote so that I could pause,

rewind and consider the implications of each shaky scene.

Riddled with narrative inconsistencies and many unanswered questions, the film sinks still lower into the depths of cinematic purgatory when its unsatisfying ending arrives. What was intended as a clever and provocative cliffhanger conclusion left me shaking my head in disappointment. Too many loose ends were left undone.

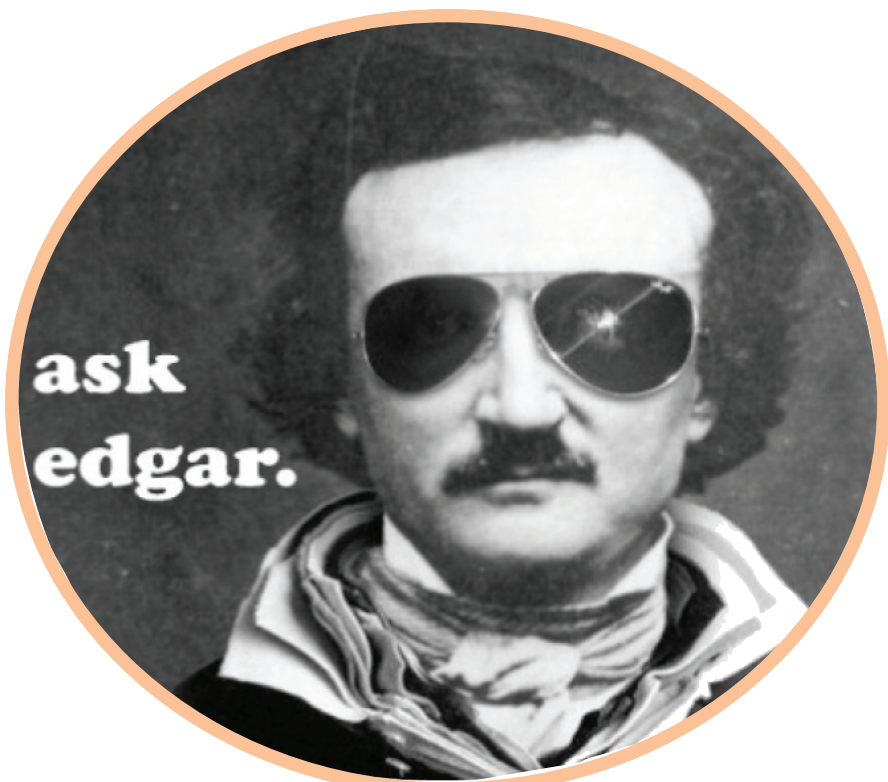
Despite some highs, including superior acting and watching a Norfolk native, the lackluster plot made my movie-watching experience a waste of time and money. Director Jarecki and his crew might not have engaged in high crimes or embezzlement, but I still left the theater feeling cheated.

★★



Courtesy Lionsgate

★ poor ★★ average ★★★ good ★★★★ excellent ★★★★★ classic



Dear Mr. Poe,

I'm a first year adjusting well to University life, but I'm really confused by one thing. Why does everyone here love football so much? I just don't get it. Girls seem to love it just as much as boys, but none of my friends who are girls even know what's going on. Plus, it's not like we're having a great season. Can you explain why everyone is so into football?

Thanks,
Fumbling Firstie

Dear Fumbling Firstie,
The most important thing to realize about University football is that a number of students place little importance on the actual football involved in football games. They need to find the perfect sundress to match their pearls while incorporating the appropriate amount of navy and orange into their outfit. They are far more concerned about maintaining a base level of preppiness while trying not to fall down the hill. The team's success is very weakly correlated with the fans' enthusiasm, which is definitely a good thing because after years of mediocrity we would have no fans left otherwise. So don't worry about understanding the game. Just break out your cutest sundress or your preppiest bow tie, find shoes with as much traction as possible to brave the hill and get ready to sing the Good Ol' Song until your lungs hurt — or more likely just twice.
Game on,
Edgar

Dear Edgar,

Since Halloween is on a Wednesday this year, I imagine I'll have to have four different outfits for each night I go out. I can't decide how to dress: Should I go sexy, funny, ironic, scary? I definitely do not want to end up like Cady Heron in her embarrassing vampire bride costume at that Halloween party. I want something a little more — say, "clutch." Which outfits seem to be most popular here? Where do I find them?

Thanks,
Trick-or-Treat?

Dear Trick-or-Treat?

Halloween is a magical and frightening time of year where almost any conceivable costume can be made into a revealing, promiscuous and often generally questionable version of that disguise, a time when dressing up really means dressing down. Child-friendly rabbits turn into Playboy bunnies, any imaginable profession can become instantly X-rated with a dress short enough it couldn't even pass for a shirt any other night, and there is an inverse relationship between the amount of clothes worn and the costume's appeal. I would say that about 80 percent of the costumes worn here don't make sense and 100 percent of the people are too drunk to recognize your costume anyway. Group costumes are always fun as long as you can stay with your group — no one wants to be the lone Spice Girl wandering around a party looking for the Posh, Baby, Scary, and Sporty to her Ginger. If you run out of ideas, in the words of Karen Smith you can always be a mouse ... duh.

Happy hauntings,
Edgar

Dear Edgar,

I'm coughing and sneezing while writing this. Yep, you guessed it. I caught that "bug" going around Grounds. It came during the worst time, too: midterms. Believe me, the bed rest and NyQuil-induced dream sessions are great, but I need to get over this illness. What can I do to recover and prevent myself from getting sick in the future?

Thanks,
Feeling the flu

Dear Feeling the flu,

If you're as gross as you sound, I suggest getting professional help, for everyone else's sake as much as your own. Make an appointment at Student Health (924-5362) to see if it's really just that bug or something way nastier. While you're there, see about getting the flu vaccine; you just missed the Immunization Clinic at Newcomb, but if you make an appointment Student Health will still have all the proper vaccinations to make sure that once you're back on your feet, you stay there.

Stop your sniffing,
Edgar

Top 10 U.Va. Fall Activities

1

Visit Carter Mountain Orchard

There is nothing more reminiscent of fall than apple picking and hayrides. Carter Mountain Orchard offers both. Situated in Charlottesville, the orchard is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. for apple picking and dining until November. Be on the lookout for their famous apple cider donuts.

2

Pumpkin cookies at Kroger

Maybe one of the world's best-kept secrets, the pumpkin cookies at Kroger should top your fall must-eat list. They are right up there with eating 300 pounds of candy corn. Don't pretend you don't do it. Skip the baked goods at Little John's and make the trip to Kroger instead — it's worth it.

3

Go to a wine tasting

For those 21 and older, check out Charlottesville's many vineyards and breweries. Relax and sip wine while admiring beautiful views of Virginia's rolling hills and colorful leaves. While you're at it, take a trip down the Brew Ridge Trail (Blue Ridge's alcoholic counterpart), a selection of breweries in Albemarle County.

4

Pumpkins at the Bookstore

Rumor has it, everyone's favorite glowing vegetable is on sale at the University Bookstore. Gather some friends and carve a masterpiece to light up Grounds. Whether you're an artist and can make a real, scary jack-o'-lantern or an amateur who's just trying to put the eyes in the right place, pumpkins are necessary preparation for Halloween.

5

Trick-or-treating on the Lawn

This adorable University tradition gives local kids and families a chance to dress up in their best costumes and trick or treat at each Lawn room. Lawn residents and University organizations help run the event and donate candy and treats for attendees. Pumpkin decorating and face painting are additional attractions of the event. Is this cuter than Puppies and Pumpkins? You decide.

6

Hike Humpback

A local hike offering breathtaking views of the Charlottesville scenery, this is another must-do on your fall list. The actual trip is only about 30 minutes in length, perfect for people like me who are only going to take sweat-free pictures at the top so I can say "Look at me! I'm athletic!" Bring a dog, bring some friends, bring a picnic and settle down on top of Humpback Rock for a memorable time.

7

Visit Monticello

Odds are, if you go to the University or know someone who does, you can't get enough of Thomas Jefferson. So why not take the opportunity to tour his home and plantation? Take a variety of tours, from a house tour to a garden tour, a slavery-in-Monticello tour to a tour "behind the scenes." Impress your friends and professors with even more TJ facts because — let's be real — what else do we learn here?

8

Go to football games

The end of the football season is upon us, and our floral dresses are quickly turning into sweater dresses. Our U.Va. orange blends in with the leaves on the trees, and it's sunny enough to wear sunglasses but cold enough to make Scott Stadium bearable. Show your football spirit, or love for tailgates, and come out to support the Hoos for the last few games. Wahoowa!

9

Brown's Hauntings

Another University Halloween tradition is Brown College's haunted house. An annual event, all proceeds go to a charity chosen by the Brown residents. Not for the faint of heart, it might be a good idea to bring your favorite teddy bear, some tissues or a friend trustworthy enough to never tell anyone how much you screamed.

10

University Guide Service ghost tours

The University Guide Service offers ghost tours every October around Halloween time. A favorite of Guides and students alike, these tours expose you to the legends around Grounds. Did you know the ghosts of soldiers who died at the University during the Civil War still wander around at night? Or that Edgar Allan Poe and Thomas Jefferson are actually still here? To hear more and be really spooked out, take one of these tours. You'll never be able to streak the Lawn the same way again.

—compiled by Annie Mester