

SPECIAL ISSUE

The Cavalier Daily

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SEMESTER IN REVIEW



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SEMESTER IN REVIEW

SEPT. 15 - JESSE MATTHEW CASE

Henry Pflager, Senior Writer



Jesse Matthew was sentenced to three life sentences Oct. 2 after pleading guilty in June to attempted capital murder, abduction with intent to defile and sexual assault of a Fairfax woman in 2005.

Matthew has also been indicted in Charlottesville for the murders of Virginia Tech student Morgan Harrington and University student Hannah Graham. Harrington Matthew is charged with capital murder in the Graham case and first degree murder in the case. The two cases will be tried separately in Charlottesville, though Matthew will use the same defense counsel in each trial.

Matthew's trial in the Graham case is scheduled to begin in late June 2016, and the Harrington case will be tried in Oct. 2016.

SEPTEMBER

SEPT. 21 - CAMPUS CLIMATE SURVEY RESULTS

David Schutte, Associate Editor

The Association of American Universities "Campus Climate Survey," released at the end of September, found that nearly 24 percent of female University undergraduates experienced sexual assault or misconduct since enrolling, compared to the survey-wide average of 24.2 percent.

The survey was distributed to all undergraduate and graduate students, and more than one quarter of the University student body responded, a slightly higher response rate than the survey average.

Based on the survey, only 42 percent of students believed it was very likely that a fair investigation would occur in a sexual assault case. Only 28 percent believed that it was very or extremely likely that University officials would take action against an offender in a case of sexual assault.

SEPT. 21- OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLIANCE

David Schutte, Associate Editor

The U.S. Office for Civil Rights found that University Sexual Assault policies are now in compliance with Title IX requirements, ending a four year investigation. The report also found that the University did not meet regulations from 2008 to 2009 and 2011 to 2012.

President Teresa Sullivan signed a resolution agreement with OCR following the report, disclosing the findings to the University. The resolution did not represent an endorsement of the OCR's findings, but suggested a commitment to further following Title IX regulations.

University groups One Less and One in Four released a statement which said that, despite previous shortcomings, the University was making progress.

The University's revised sexual misconduct policy went into effect July 1 and is the first policy to be found compliant by OCR since their 2014 guidance.



OCTOBER

OCT. 1 - STUDENT COUNCIL SHUTDOWN

Thomas Roades, Senior Writer



For four days over fall break this semester, Student Council was forced to shut down due to an oversight of their Constitutional by-laws regarding the Rules and Ethics Board. Student Council bylaws dictate that the Council must appoint a Rules and Ethics Board in its first meeting of the fall semester. The Council failed to do so, and shut down until a special session was called to appoint the board.

The new board had to attend an orientation session and take a quiz before becoming officially appointed, and these steps were not taken by the deadlines set in the bylaws.

Student Council reconvened after the special session was held to change the bylaws and allow to normally operations to resume.

Student Council President Abraham Axler, a third-year College student, said that the special session and the changes made during it were conducted while respecting the integrity of the bylaws.

OCT. 7 - BSA PUBLIC LETTER

Katie Grimesey, Associate Editor

In early October Black Student Alliance President Aryn Frazier released an open letter criticizing the University Office of African-American Affairs for their policy approach toward the supervision of black student organizations at the University.

Maurice Apprey, dean of the Office of African-American Affairs, said Frazier misunderstood the point and intentions of the policy. He said the goal was to give students more control and autonomy over dispersal of funds and spheres of influence.

Frazier, a third-year College student, disagreed with Apprey's response, in which the dean said he believed Frazier was trying to make BSA the overarching organization that speaks to black issues.

"I think OAAA in their response implied that in some ways BSA is 'colonizing' other organizations and somehow silences their voices," Frazier said. "Ironically, he was the largest silencer of all."

Members of six other minority groups on Grounds had signed the open letter to OAAA, but said they did not know the mode of the letter's delivery would make it public to the greater University community.

NOV. 9 - PHI PSI SUES ROLLING STONE FOR \$25 MILLION

By Henry Pflager, Senior Writer

The University chapter of Phi Kappa Psi filed a \$25 million lawsuit against Rolling Stone magazine Nov. 9 in response to their now-retracted article, "A Rape on Campus."

Written by Sabrina Rubin Erdely and published in Rolling Stone magazine Nov. 19, 2014, the article depicted a brutal, ritualized gang rape of a then-first-year University student, known as "Jackie," by seven Phi Psi brothers.

The lawsuit alleges that the article resulted in a heavy-handed backlash against the fraternity, including online threats, vandalism to their house, taunts in the classroom and diminished rush participants in the spring.

Rolling Stone also faces a \$7.5 million defamation lawsuit from University Association Dean Nicole Eramo, who assists students with reporting sexual assaults.

NOV. 1 - ASU LEADERSHIP TURBULENCE

Katie Grimesey, Associate Editor

Kevin Cao, University Asian Student Union president, took a month long leave of absence from the organization after the circulation of a letter written by members of the ASU executive board expressing a lack of confidence in his leadership.

In the letter, board members discussed frustration surrounding a lack of transparency, accountability and communication within the organization.

In a statement, the authors of the letter said their goal was to constructively address issues facing the board.

ASU Advisor Gloria Roh said there has not yet been any reconstructing of the ASU executive board.

OCT. 12 - ROTUNDA HIDDEN CHEMISTRY LAB

Thomas Roades, Senior Writer

Earlier this semester, University architects found a chemistry lab hidden behind a lower level wall within the Rotunda. The lab, built during Thomas Jefferson's time at the University, included a brick hearth and ventilation systems for heating and cooling.

The University was already aware of the lab's existence thanks to letters between Thomas Jefferson and the University's first rector, Arthur S. Brockenbrough. However, it was believed to have been lost during the 1895 fire which destroyed much of the Rotunda's original structure.

Brian Hogg, senior historic preservation planner at the University Office of the Architect, said the discovery of the lab is important for the University's modern conception of the Rotunda's original purpose.

NOVEMBER



Honor Committee concludes Fall 2015 semester

Committee prepares for spring multis sanction ballot

Hannah Hall
Associate Editor

The Honor Committee's main goal this semester has been to work toward creating a proposal to make possible a student vote on a multiple sanction system. The two proposed constitutional amendments that the Committee has drafted will be on the ballot in February.

The first proposal would create the opportunity for the committee to adopt a multiple sanction system, if desired by the student body.

The second proposal would permit the committee to ask questions using the ballot, such that if a question is answered affirmatively by a majority of voters, the Committee will enact a response within a year.

The proposals were drafted based on feedback from Honor Committee events including the popular assembly held in October. The assembly was a chance for students to meet in small groups with honor representatives and discuss their opinions about a multiple sanction system.

In addition to working on proposals for a multiple sanction system, the committee also worked to increase diversity and engagement in the honor system throughout the semester. Through events organized by Outreach Vice Chair VJ Jenkins, a third-year College student, the diversity in the new class of sup-

port officers was increased.

Honor Committee Chair Faith Lyons, a fourth-year Commerce student, said that of the 38 new support officers, half are male and half are female. The students come from a variety of ethnic backgrounds, and identify as Asian, Middle Eastern, African-American and Latino.

Students also came from a variety of schools, with eight support officers enrolled in the Engineering School and one student each from the Law School and the Architecture School.

This semester the committee also introduced an essay contest in conjunction with the Black Student Alliance, Latino Student Alliance and Asian Student Union for minority students to submit a 750-word opinion essay on the topic of honor and student culture at the University.

The six winners selected will receive \$500 and the opportunity to serve as a liaison between the committee and their communities as a way to better integrate honor into the University community.

The Committee also launched the "dorm rep" program this year, which provides students with the opportunity to be more engaged with the honor system without going through support officer training.

"It's a way to push back against the idea that honor is exclusive, and offering more opportunities for people to be involved," Lyons said.



Marshall Bronfin | The Cavalier Daily

The Honor Committee launched the dorm rep program this year, which provides students with the opportunity to be more engaged with the honor system.

University hosts panel addressing fate of journalism

Jill Abramson, Franklin Foer discuss technology's impact on newsroom

Anna Higgins
Associate Editor

The Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture and the Media Studies Department hosted a panel discussion on Thursday on "The Fate of Journalism in the New Media Era."

The event brought Jill Abramson, former executive editor of The New York Times, and Franklin Foer, the former editor of The New Republic to Grounds.

The panelists have experienced firsthand how technology

can drastically change a newsroom, Chad Wellmon, an associate professor of German and faculty fellow at the institute, said.

"Both of them lost their jobs amidst big debates about the effects of digital media on journalism and the future of journalism," Wellmon said. "Their critics at least saw them as not leading The Times or The New Republic in the direction that best accorded with the demands of the digital age."

A major point of the panel discussion was the gradually blurring line between the literary and business sides of a news

publication. Editors have also become in charge of finances and revenue in recent years, Abramson said.

"The tradition I had always worked in is that there would be a firm separation between the news side and business side," she said. "My job turned from my love — working with reporters, working on stories — into much more of a pressured search for new products and commercial vehicles."

Another topic was the integrity of journalism in an age of "clickbait" articles designed to increase readership but not

necessarily well-crafted editorials and investigations. Foer said there are dangers to quantifying article popularity.

"The dangerous thing is that once, no matter how high-minded you are...once you realize you can engineer an article's popularity, that becomes the value that you just can't escape," Foer said.

Discussing how technology has changed journalism and blurred the lines between journalism and media is important to understanding how journalism affects democracy, Media Studies Prof. Hector Amaya said.

"When the economic transformation and the new technologies came about at the beginning of the turn of the millennium... we had mostly a journalism that was based on advertising," Amaya said.

Wellmon said he hoped the audience got a deeper understanding of how technology changes journalism and media and therefore, how consumers understand the world.

"I hope they get a broader sense...of the cultural and political significance and value of a robust journalistic enterprise and institution," he said.

Cavalier Daily elects staff for 127th term

Dani Bernstein, third-year College student, elected editor-in-chief

Ella Shoup
Senior Associate Editor

The Cavalier Daily held elections for its 127th term on Saturday. Four of the five managing board positions were filled by students who had previously served on either the paper's managing or junior board.

Third-year College student Dani Bernstein was elected editor-in-chief in a contested election. She has served as executive editor over the last year and was a senior associate in the Opinion section before that. Bernstein said she envisions a two-part strategy going forward.

"Over the next year we really need to focus on internal improvements and increasing staff ownership over the paper, as well as external expansion that can keep us relevant to the student body and keep us financially stable," Bernstein said. "I'm looking forward to the next year and seeing the ideas our staff has to offer."

Third-year College student Kayla Eanes, who has served as senior associate news editor for the past year, was elected managing editor in an uncontested election. As managing editor, she will oversee all of the paper's non-opinion literary content, as well as social media and video.

Eanes said she hopes to revamp literary content, emphasizing a more analytic style while maintaining objectivity in articles. She said she would also like to strengthen the paper's place as an expression of the student body.

"As a student newspaper, we are here to cover the stories students themselves are interested in," Eanes said. "We also have a unique position to provide a voice and perspective on issues that are directly affecting us."

Opinion writer and third-year College student Nazar Aljassar was elected executive editor and will oversee the paper's opinion content. He will also lead

the newly-introduced editorial board, a group that will produce a lead editorial three times weekly. Previously, the managing board was responsible for the lead editorials of the paper.

Aljassar said he hopes to continue with many of the changes Bernstein introduced over the last year during her time as executive editor.

"One of the big things I am working to implement is the editorial board to further distinguish the paper's objective coverage and subjective content," Aljassar said. "I hope to continue Dani's work and keep reaching out to other voices in the University community."

Third-year Batten student Lianne Provenzano will serve her third term on the paper's managing board as the new chief financial officer. She has served as operations manager for two terms, since January 2014. As CFO, Provenzano will manage the Cavalier Daily's financial and marketing sections.

In addition to improving the paper's financial security, Provenzano said she would like to cultivate closer staff dynamics.

"I think the first step should be working on a positive organizational culture," Provenzano said. "We can't be as good as we can be without a staff who feels passionate about the process."

Jasmine Oo, a third-year Architecture student, will serve as the new operations manager. Oo previously served as one of three Production editors. As operations manager, Oo will be responsible for the paper's design, photo and online operations.

"I see more potential in print production and I'm really excited to design the reader experience," Oo said.

Editor-in-Chief Julia Horowitz, a College fourth-year, said she is extremely confident in the newly elected managing and junior boards.

"The past year has been one of immeasurable growth for this paper," Horowitz said. "We're no



Marshall Bronfin | The Cavalier Daily

From left to right: Jasmine Oo was elected as operations manager, Nazar Aljassar as executive editor, Dani Bernstein as editor-in-chief, Lianne Provenzano as chief financial officer and Kayla Eanes as managing editor.

longer thinking five minutes but five years ahead, and the new board has a vision for that future."

Elections for the paper's junior board were mostly uncontested, with many senior staff members stepping into editing positions.

Second-year College students and copy associate editors Mike Reingold and Jane Diamond were elected assistant managing editors.

Second-year College student Hannah Hall and first-year College student Tim Dodson were elected News editors. Hall was previously an associate editor in the News section and Dodson was a senior writer.

Second-year College student Hasan Khan will join incumbent third-year College student Gray Whisnant as Opinion editor.

Third-year College student Allie Jensen, who was previously a Life editor for two terms, was elected Focus editor.

Second-year College student Kristin Murtha and third-year College student Margaret Mason were elected Life editors. Third-year College student Candace Carter and second-year College student Noah Zeidman were elected as Arts and Entertainment editors.

Fourth-year College student Matt Wurzbarger, third-year Commerce student Robert Elder and third-year College student Jacob Hochberger were elected as Sports editors.

Second-year College students Danielle Dacanay and Charlotte Bemiss and second-year Engineering student Sean Cassar were elected Production editors.

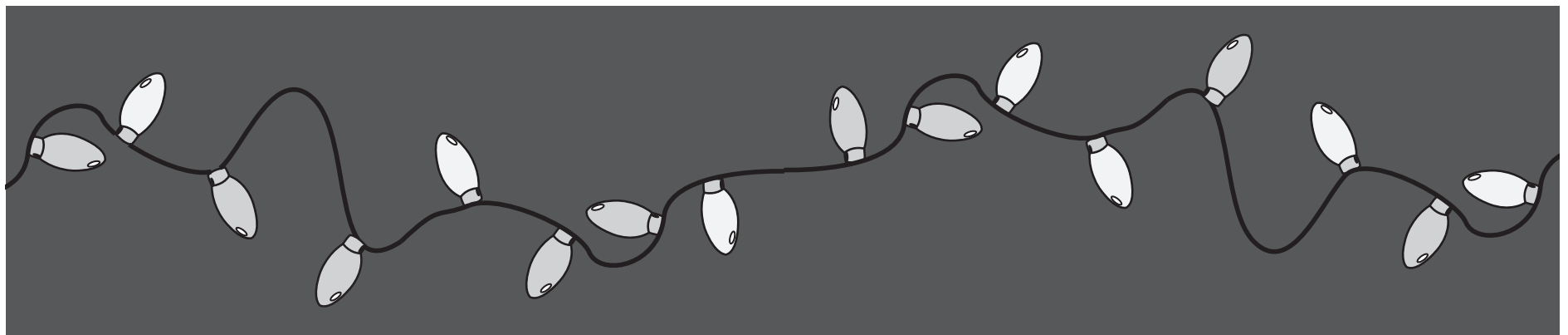
Second-year College student

Celina Hu and second-year Engineering student Lauren Hornsby were elected Photo editors and second-year College student Courtney Stith was elected Video editor.

Third-year College student Patrick Thedinga was elected Humor editor and third-year College student Meg Thornberry was re-elected for a third term as Health and Science Editor.

Cindy Guo, second-year College student, Kriti Sehgal and Kate Motsko were elected Graphics editors. Third-year College students Malory Smith and Miska Chehata were elected Social Media managers.

Grant Parker and Andrew Lee were elected Marketing and Business managers, and Leo Dominguez will manage the Online section.



Sullivan, Katsouleas respond to slur at Lighting of the Lawn

Joint statement condemns chant targeting LGBTQ community as “flatly unacceptable”

Owen Robinson
News Editor

University President Teresa Sullivan and Provost Thomas Katsouleas released a statement on Friday in response to a slur directed against the LGBTQ community at Thursday's Lighting of the Lawn.

Voiced by a group of college-aged males, the “derogatory slur” was targeted at a couple in their immediate vicinity during the singing of the Good Old Song, according to the statement.

Though Sullivan and Katsouleas did not specify what the particular slur was, the University has long fought to stop students from chanting “not gay” after the line “where all is bright and gay” in the second verse of the Good Old Song.

Sullivan and Katsouleas condemned the act and said such behavior had no place in the University community.

“This type of behavior is flatly unacceptable in a community of trust and is contrary to the values of the University of Virginia,” the statement read. “The singing of the Good Old Song is a wonderful tradition of our University community, done at times when we come together to celebrate our fondness for this special place.”

One of the individuals targeted was a University employee, LGBTQ Center Program Coordinator Scott Rheinheimer.

In a post on Facebook Thursday evening, Rheinheimer said he and his boyfriend left the event because they did not feel safe.

“The group behind us grabbed our shoulders and shook us while screaming the chant,” Rheinheimer said on social media. “I have never felt so hated by my own school before.”

After Sullivan and Katsouleas released their statement, Rheinheimer posted again, saying he felt supported by the community

as a whole.

“Within 24 hours, I went from feeling so alone to knowing there is a vast UVA community that is stronger than any terrible chant,” Rheinheimer said on Friday.

He has not yet responded to a request for comment by The Cavalier Daily.

University spokesperson Anthony de Bruyn said that an incident report was filed and the University anticipates “further discussion on elevating the need to further eradicate the refrain.”

Sullivan and Katsouleas urged members of the community to stop the use of offensive language during renditions of the Good Old Song, and to make the University community a warmer environment for everyone.

“Please join with us in urging a return to the singing of the Good Old Song the right way, and help to make this community an inclusive and welcoming place for all Hoos and their guests,” the statement read.



Celina Hu | The Cavalier Daily

A group of college-aged males voiced a slur directed at the LGBTQ community during Thursday's rendition of the “Good Old Song” at Lighting of the Lawn.

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Black community demands since 1987

Sullivan, Apprey comment on 'An Audacious Faith', 'Audacious Faith II', 'Towards a Better University'

Alison Phanthavong
Associate News Editor

TIMELINE: integration and on

- 1950** Gregory Swanson is admitted to the University school of Law as the first African-American student at the University.
- 1954** *Brown v. Board of Education* unanimously determines that segregated public schools are inherently unequal and unconstitutional.
- 1955** Robert Bland, Theodore Thomas, and George Harris are first black undergraduates to enroll at the University.
- 1959** Bland is the first African-American man to graduate from the University.
- 1961** Leroy Willis is the first African-American to live on the Lawn.
- 1967** Nathan Johnson is hired as the first black faculty member at the University.

Black students, faculty and alumni at the University have released several documents over the years outlining a series of objectives and recommendations intended to achieve a higher degree of racial diversity at the University.

These documents include "An Audacious Faith" released in June 1987, "Audacious Faith II," released in 2007, and "Towards a Better University," released in April 2015.

A long history of recommendations and demands

"An Audacious Faith: Report on the Task-Force on Afro-American Affairs" is the first document to comprehensively outline strategic objectives and recommendations intended to increase the degree of diversity and inclusion at the University. The report was conducted under former University President Robert O'Neil and published in June 1987.

"An Audacious Faith" primarily targeted the recruitment and retention of black faculty and students as well as the expansion of academic services offered to minority students. It also addressed raising communication and consciousness in the University community, and includes more than 60 pages of exhibits and appendices on which the requests were founded.

"An Audacious Faith" was followed by "Audacious Faith II," written by a group of black University students in 2007.

"Audacious Faith II" presented four main goals for a more inclusive University. These goals included elevating the Carter G. Woodson Institute for African-American and African Studies to departmental status, which would allow for full funding and an expanded faculty; increasing the number of black faculty and graduate students; providing appropriate funding and support of the Office of African American Affairs; and enhancing the University's commitment to public service to the city of Charlottesville. The last goal primarily sought benefits for employees of the University and mentorship and education programs for the black youth of Charlottesville.

In response to College stu-

dent Martese Johnson's arrest in March 2015, members of the Black Student Alliance released a document titled "Towards a Better University" in April 2015.

BSA President Aryn Frazier, a third-year College student, said "Towards a Better University" was intended to incorporate requests for increasing the black faculty and student yield as well as to propose the creation a "Culture of Truth," a play on the University's "Community of Trust."

"You have to start being honest about U.Va's history, U.Va's present, and you also have to be honest about the world in which we live," Frazier said. "You can't purport to create world-class global citizens who don't know anything about the black, brown and tan peoples of the world who make up the majority of it."

Frazier said "Towards a Better University" was intended to target the disproportionate representation of black students and faculty at the University. Although Virginia's African-American population is 19.7 percent, African-American students comprise only 6.1 percent of the University population. The number of African-American faculty members is even lower, with black faculty members accounting for only 4.05 percent of University faculty.

The University has said that the low number can be partially attributed to how it collects demographic information. In 2009, new federal guidelines allowed students to select more than one race on forms. The University now categorizes students who do so as "Multi-Racial American."

Frazier said that to recruit more black students, the University must make institutional adjustments, such as hiring a more diverse faculty and making diversity a part of the University curriculum.

"If you bring more black students to Grounds, but they don't have any spaces to call their own and they don't have any professors in their fields who look like them or come from a similar background, if they don't have the classes available to them outside of African-American Studies, or that major, then you're not fixing the problem. You're just making more black students feel like they don't belong at U.Va.," Frazier said.

What is the University doing now?

Maurice Apprey, dean of the Office of African-American Affairs, said the demands in "An Audacious Faith" were answered with the creation of the Office of Diversity and Equity as well as the office of graduate diversity programs, which commits itself to "the identification, retention, mentoring, and graduation of a highly talented and diverse graduate student population."

Apprey calls the University "head and shoulders above its peer institutions" when it comes to graduation rates for black students, graduating 86 percent of its black students, according to data from August 2015.

University President Teresa Sullivan told The Cavalier Daily about two new approaches to hiring faculty that will further enhance the diversity of the University's faculty. One strategy is "cluster hiring," in which a group of faculty members with overlapping work is sought out, rather than just an individual faculty member.

Sullivan referred to cluster hires "as one opportunity for bringing people here who might not otherwise be able to work together and who, we hope, would work in areas that would help us diversify the curriculum and diversify the faculty."

The other are called target of opportunity hires, a strategy deans can employ if they have a particular faculty member that they'd like to bring to the University for a particular reason.

"We all see diversifying the faculty as something important we want to do, now we have money that we can put behind it and some new strategies we haven't been able to use before, and we think that's a prerequisite," Sullivan said. "We're more likely to diversify the student body as well as the faculty if we start with the faculty piece."

Sullivan said one of the most significant challenges the University faces in diversifying its student population is that far less African American students enroll in the University than are admitted.

"We have more African-American applicants than any other university in the top 25, and we admit more than any other school in the top 25,"

see BLACK COMMUNITY, page 9

- 1976** Office of African-American Affairs is established.
- 1987** "An Audacious Faith" is released.
- 1990** African-American students represent 12 percent of the University student population*
- 2007** "An Audacious Faith II" is released.
- 2015** African-American students represent 6.1 percent of the University student population**
- Mar. 2015** Martese Johnson is arrested by the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control.
- Apr. 2015** Towards a Better University is released by members of the Black Student Alliance in response to concerns regarding Martese Johnson's arrest.

*According to University Prof. Claudrena Harold's multimedia project, "Black Fire"

**Current University enrollment statistics

BLACK COMMUNITY
Continued from page 6

Sullivan said. “Our problem is, how do we get more of them to accept their offer of admission here.”

Sullivan said legal limitations play a significant role in the initiatives the University is able to implement towards increasing diversity, namely within the processes of admissions, administering financial aid and awarding scholarships.

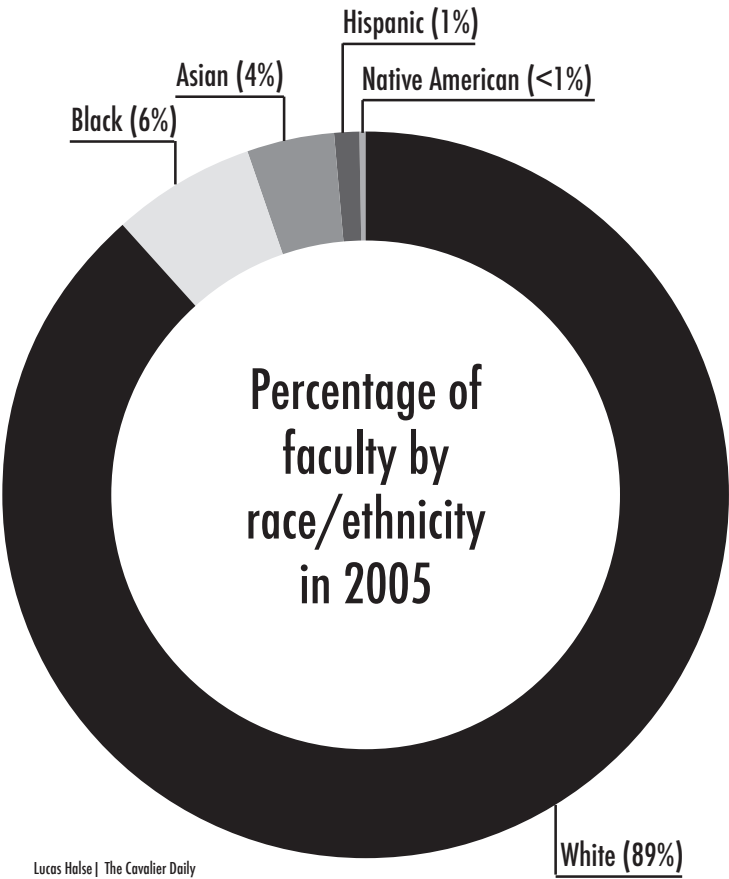
One limitation is that the University cannot offer race-based scholarship programs due to a forced circuit judicial court opinion eliminating scholarships offered to students exclusively based on race, Sullivan said.

“It’s not a level playing field, so we have a harder time competing,” Sullivan said. “We know we lose students who don’t need need-based financial aid, but who would like to have [an academic] scholarship.”

The University offers \$55 million in need-based aid out of the operating budget, Sullivan said. Sullivan has allocated \$100,000 for the “Virginia 80 program” for the next two years, which seeks to target 80 Virginia high schools with the highest percentage of students qualified for free or reduced-price lunches in order to try to increase the number of low-income Virginia applicants.

“That’s the biggest chunk of our undergraduates, and is the most logical place to start,” Sullivan said.

Apprey cited difficulties in communicating between the various black student CIOs and their resource offices.



Lucas Halse | The Cavalier Daily

“Leadership has to be distributed. It cannot be at the hands of one CIO,” Apprey said. “What is needed is a heterogeneity of all voices, rather than homogeneity. We will all profit from more voices.”

Apprey said the formation of the Black Presidents’ Council, a council that includes black leaders from a range of different CIOs in a single forum to discuss issues, will play an important role in eliminating these communication difficulties.

“We need more conversation,” Apprey said. “It will be the solution to the dispersal of

spheres of influence among student leaders.”

The road ahead

Frazier said outcomes reflect the University’s priorities, and some results may take longer than others.

“I think in March, or April, we might have a better view of if some of these [objectives], for example faculty recruitment, have been successful. I think some things are a longer timeline,” Frazier said. “I think others, there is just not much political will and there’s always an excuse that can be found and to

6%

U.Va.
African-American
student population

20%

Virginia
African-American
population

13%

U.S.
African-American
population

me that translates into a lack of desire to really change it.”

Noting that University administration reports to the Board of Visitors on a regular basis concerning issues of diversity, and plans to submit a report in February, Sullivan said there is not a lack of desire to change University demographics and culture.

Sullivan also said the Provost has told all the deans that they are responsible for producing a diversity plan for their school by the end of the upcoming spring 2016 semester.

“I don’t think it’s a lack of

will, and I don’t think it’s a lack of accountability,” Sullivan said.

Sullivan said diversity is an important aspect of the education that takes place at the University.

“Nobody wants to go to an employer and say, ‘Hire me, I went to a completely homogeneous college.’ No employer is going to think that’s a good thing,” Sullivan said. “It doesn’t prepare you to live in 21st century America, either. Appreciating and understanding diversity right now is probably as important as it’s ever been.”





Cavaliers hire Bronco Mendenhall

sionally and personally, I seek to embrace the highest standards in college sports, on and off the field, and I love the high standards both academically and athletically at Virginia.”

Mendenhall spent the previous 11 seasons at BYU and has compiled a 99-42 record in that time. Those 99 victories count as the 12th most among FBS coaches during that span.

“Bronco Mendenhall’s teams have consistently won at a high level, and he’s demonstrated the ability to create a strategic vision to build a program and then implement his plan to be successful,” Littlepage said.

Mendenhall inherited a BYU team that had posted a 14-21 record in the three years prior to

his hire. The Cougars have made a bowl game in each of the 11 seasons under Mendenhall and have six bowl victories. Only Florida State, with seven, has more bowl wins during that time.

BYU has matched players’ on-field success in the classroom. The Cougars have the seventh-most Academic All-American selections in the past decade and lead the nation in National Football Foundation Hampshire Honor Society selections. The Society recognizes players who make significant contributions on the field while completing their eligibility with a 3.2 GPA or higher.

“His emphasis on the overall development of student athletes and a commitment to academic

achievement is in line with our goals of Uncompromised Excellence. We’re excited to begin a new era of Virginia football and support Bronco and his staff,” Littlepage said.

BYU has already accepted an invitation to the Las Vegas Bowl late December. Mendenhall will be on the sidelines for the Cougars.

“I am excited to not only help provide the continual growth and development of the student athletes academically but also re-establish Virginia as a consistent winner with a fiercely competitive and winning product on the football field,” Mendenhall said.

—compiled by Matthew Wurzbarger



Courtesy Ari Davis

Bronco Mendenhall compiled a record of 99-42 in 11 seasons as head coach at BYU.

Virginia capitalizes on turnovers, William & Mary

Thompson sparks Virginia with 12 points, four steals

Robert Elder
Senior Associate Editor

Although the Virginia men’s basketball team ranked No. 11 nationally in scoring defense entering Saturday’s contest against William & Mary, the No. 10 Cavaliers have been winning differently. Hindered by new rule changes, Virginia (7-1, 0-0 ACC) has garnered more attention for its offensive rather than defensive efficiency.

Until Saturday, that is. Virginia never trailed in its 67-52 against the Tribe (5-3, 0-0 CAA). The Cavaliers certainly weren’t bad offensively, but the half court offense left something to be desired.

“We wanted to go inside — we wanted to make a point of it,” coach Tony Bennett said. “We thought we had an advantage, but we were out of sync with our timing.”

But what Virginia lacked in the half court, it more than made up for in transition. The Cavaliers snagged 15 steals, converting those into 20 points off turnovers, including 12 fast break points. Sophomore guard Darius Thompson and sophomore forward Isaiah Wilkins led the charge with four steals apiece.

And none were more electric than Thompson’s down the stretch. The Tennessee transfer plucked the ball from the op-

ponent, and after a pass from senior guard Malcolm Brogdon, slammed down a one-handed finish with a foul, erupting the 14,015-strong John Paul Jones Arena crowd with 3:54 to play.

“That’s the craziest dunk in person I’ve seen in a long time,” senior forward Anthony Gill said.

The dunk extended the Virginia lead to 59-44, giving the Cavaliers a comfortable lead and the momentum, which Virginia struggled at times to maintain throughout the contest.

Brogdon started out of the gate right where he left off against Ohio State Tuesday. The Georgia native, who hit six triples against the Buckeyes, hit two threes on his first two attempts en route to scoring Virginia’s first eight points.

But Brogdon, who had 10 points after the 13:18 mark in the first half, was less of a factor as the game went on. Still, his silence meant more opportunities for his teammates, Gill said.

“They really started keying in on Malcolm, which made it a lot easier for everybody else,” Gill said. “He’s such a great player and he draws so much attention. It makes it a lot easier for everybody else to get their shots.”

Behind two consecutive fast break layups from Thompson — who again started in place of injured point guard London Perrantes after the junior underwent an appendectomy last

Sunday — Virginia doubled up the Tribe, 16-8, at the under-12 media timeout.

The Cavaliers pushed out to a 22-8 lead with an 8-0 run before William & Mary responded with an 8-0 run of its own to cut the Virginia lead to 22-16. However, even as the Tribe began to hit their jumpers, the Cavaliers stayed strong.

Wilkins and Gill added five first-half points apiece. Thompson and sophomore guard Devon Hall energized JPJ with 1:44 to play when Thompson broke the Tribe zone with lob dunk to Hall, stretching the Cavalier lead to 32-22 at the half.

“Coach Bennett has really pushed us to get out in transition and get the easy buckets and not try to play as far into the shot clock and make it easier for ourselves on offense,” Brogdon said. “Darius has been a huge key.”

Despite adding three more steals in the first three minutes — two from Thompson — the Tribe continued to claw their way back into the game. Junior guard Daniel Dixon converted a three and a layup while sophomore guard Greg Malinowski added three free throws to bring William & Mary to within 42-36 before Bennett called timeout with 12:09 to play.

The Tribe kept fighting, but the Cavaliers slowly began to pull away. Senior forward Evan Nolte added five second half

points, and Wilkins and Hall hit jumpers. But no Virginia player had a highlight more electric than Thompson’s one handed jam with contact.

“We work on that everyday in practice — getting out in transition and making smart plays,” Thompson said. “We’re doing a good job of it in the game.”

Virginia’s lead grew to 18 points before it cleared the bench with under a minute remaining.

Brogdon and Gill led Virginia with 16 points each in 37 and 30 minutes, respectively. Thompson added 12 points, two assists and four steals.

Senior center Mike Tobey started for the first time in three

games for freshman center Jack Salt, who did not play due to William & Mary’s quickness and small size.

Bennett was pleased with the win, especially considering Virginia’s 15 steals were its most since it had 16 against NC State in 2008, but he still sees room to improve going forward.

“I’m just interested in us becoming sounder defensively and better in the half court offensively from this game,” he said. “We will find some things to work on from the tape.”

Virginia will next face No. 20 West Virginia Tuesday at 7 p.m. in Madison Square Garden. Perrantes’ status is still to be determined.



Lauren Hornsby | The Cavalier Daily

Sophomore guard Darius Thompson provided an offensive spark for the Cavaliers, racking up 12 points against the Tribe.

The ‘Fire Bronco Mendenhall’ campaign

After years of pleading, the “Fire Mike London” campaign finally fulfilled its mission last Sunday. The movement started quietly after a 4-8 2012 season and steadily garnered a larger and larger following — myself included — after the three losing seasons that followed. It culminated last weekend in London’s sixth loss to archrival Virginia Tech in as many attempts.

The University athletics department announced Friday that BYU head coach Bronco Mendenhall will take over London’s job after 11 seasons with the Cougars. Mendenhall has found plenty of success in Provo, taking the team to a bowl in each of his seasons and winning a pair of conference championships back when BYU was still affiliated with the Mountain West. But when Bronco — and his equally-awesome named children — come to Charlottesville in 2016, he’ll be escaping his own “Fire Coach X” campaign.

MATT COMEY
Sports Columnist

It’s hard to gauge the size of the “Fire Bronco” crowd, but it was big enough to warrant several articles on the topic in 2014, including this, this and this. To be clear, in 11 years with the team, Mendenhall never had a losing season, averaging nine wins a year. He’s gone 6-4 in bowl games and finished in the Coaches Poll top 25 six times. He is a practicing Mormon that held prayer sessions before every home game. I literally cannot realistically imagine a better fit for BYU football.

Yes, there were some legitimate downsides to the Mendenhall tenure at BYU. He went 3-6 against rival Utah in the once annual “Holy War,” and he oversaw a team that got in an ugly on-field brawl against Memphis last season.

But not competing for a national championship on an annual basis is not a reason for BYU to fire its coach, and that’s the crux

of the argument in all the writing that called for Mendenhall’s removal.

The fact that BYU isn’t making the the College Football Playoff isn’t a function of Mendenhall’s coaching. It has to do with BYU’s status as a former mid-major and current independent, its location and its commitment to Mormon values.

Even if BYU went undefeated this season, it would be tough to make the argument that it belongs in the Playoff, considering the toughest team and only currently ranked team on its schedule was currently ranked-No. 14 Michigan. According to Jeff Sagarin ratings, BYU played the 68th toughest schedule this season, worse than every CFP top 25 team other than Houston, Navy and Temple. Notre Dame makes conference independence work by scheduling Stanford, USC and several ACC teams every year, and not a single cupcake. BYU, on the other hand, played a five-game stretch this

season against Connecticut, East Carolina, Cincinnati, Wagner and San Jose State.

But even if the BYU athletics department could make its schedule more competitive, BYU will always have a hard time convincing top recruits to come. Elite academics and an honor code that prohibits sex, alcohol, coffee and tea, among other things, make BYU a very tough sell — though you can grow a beard if you get a doctor’s note! And even without a strict honor code, I imagine it would be hard to convince a non-Mormon high school kid from outside Utah to come to the state at all.

The recruiting argument isn’t just theoretical either. According to the 247Sports composite national recruiting class rankings, BYU hasn’t had a top 50 recruiting class since 2010 and none higher than No. 30 since 247Sports started the ranking back in 2002.

And maybe the best argument for why BYU should never be ex-

pected to compete for national championships is that it’s losing Mendenhall on the coach’s own terms. National championship caliber programs do see their coaches leave willingly unless it’s for medical reasons or to move up to the NFL.

So to me, averaging nine wins a year and never missing a bowl game seems to be the ceiling for BYU, and an extremely respectable ceiling at that.

That should be great news for Virginia fans. I expect with the fertile recruiting bases of Northern Virginia and the 757, the marketing advantages of the ACC and an annual schedule that is of the right quality for the Playoff selection committee, Mendenhall should push that ceiling higher here in Charlottesville. Best of luck, Coach.

Matt Comey is a weekly Sports Columnist for The Cavalier Daily. He can be reached at m.comey@cavalierdaily.com. Follow him on Twitter @matthewcomey.

Cavaliers respond, beat NJIT 81-54

Women’s basketball dominates defensively, down low to dominate Highlanders

Grant Gossage
Associate Editor

Virginia women’s basketball snapped a three-game skid Saturday night with an 81-54 victory over New Jersey Institute of Technology (2-5, 0-0 Atlantic Sun) inside John Paul Jones Arena.

Clad in all-orange uniforms, the Cavaliers employed a three-quarter-court press from the tip. Their active hands forced 14 Highlander turnovers by the break, but a hesitant Virginia five failed to take full advantage on the other end.

“I think when plays broke down we didn’t know what to do, so we started thinking, ‘Just get it to someone so they can shoot,’” sophomore forward Lauren Moses said. “We just weren’t as aggressive and turned the ball over because we were being lackadaisical.”

Junior forward Sidney Umeri’s free throw extended the Cavalier lead to 37-24 with a minute remaining in the second quarter, but eight seconds later NJIT freshman guard Kelly Guarino drained her third of seven three-pointers in the game. The Highlanders entered the break trailing by 10.

In the locker room, Virginia coach Joanne Boyle and her staff pointed out two weak spots that had allowed a slighter opponent like

NJIT to hang around.

“We needed to work on rebounding,” Boyle said. “We were only plus-one on the boards after the first half. NJIT’s shooter, Kelly Guarino — we knew she was a shooter, and she got loose a couple of times. We were trying to press, but I don’t think we did a good job taking care of her.”

After junior guard Breyana Mason knocked down a jumper at the start of the third quarter, Virginia again scrambled into its 1-2-2 press. The Cavaliers were more poised and aggressive this time around.

“Honestly, I think [the run] started on our press,” sophomore guard Aliyah Huland El said. “We really upped the tempo, and whenever we do well in the press, it kind of raises the camaraderie. When that is working, obviously we get good shots.”

Moses continued to call for the basketball in the post, shot-fake and go up strong, while senior forward Faith Randolph and Huland El extended the Highlander defense with perimeter jump shots. All three contributed to a 12-2 Virginia run.

Having scored just four points on two of five shooting in the 85-73 loss Wednesday to No. 24 Iowa, Huland El gave Virginia a huge boost off the bench Saturday. She finished with a team-high 17 points on seven of 10 shooting and added six re-

bounds and four assists.

“Scoring is really not my main priority — winning is,” Huland El said. “And I think that’s why I was playing at a different level. We were so used to getting beat I think that kind of lowered our ante. I think it’s really important we keep sharing the ball and playing good defense and getting these wins.”

Coach Boyle had to be pleased with how the team responded to her message at halftime. Over the final two quarters, the Cavaliers scored 22 points in the paint, received 26 points off the bench, dished another nine assists, and held a plus-nine rebounding margin.

“The things we talk about the rebounding, the assists, sharing the basketball, all of those things make us a better team,” Boyle said. “It’s not something we can pick and choose to do. We have to do it every game. We as coaches just have to be in the mindset throughout the game is that happening or is that not happening.”

In practices leading up to an 11 a.m. home game Tuesday against Bowling Green, Boyle will prepare her group for what should be the rowdiest crowd of the 2015-2016 season. Yellow buses will unload thousands of school-age children outside the arena, and admirable chaperones will attempt to keep the flocks under control inside.

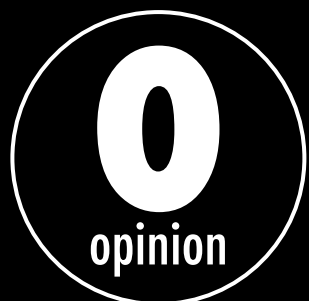
“We are going to have to go in with a game plan, because I don’t know how much they are going to be able to hear me in the game,” Boyle said. “But again, a great at-

mosphere for our girls to play in, a great atmosphere for the kids to be involved in on a school day like that. ... They’ll definitely be a sixth man for us.”



Sophomore guard Aliyah Huland El came off the bench to lead Virginia in scoring with 17 points on 7-10 from the field.

Kiley Lovelace |
The Cavalier Daily



Comment of the day

“The other question that should be asked is why students who protest the thoughts and actions of men who lived in the 1700s and 1800s (and attended or founded the mentioned institutions of higher learning) would continue to matriculate at an institution they so abhor...”

“Octavius Caesar” in response to Julia Fisher’s Dec. 4 article, “Is Jefferson next?”

LEAD EDITORIAL

Don’t rely on student fees to cover athletics deficit

Student fees should only fund the athletics department within reason

The Washington Post recently revealed that the University’s athletics department is operating at a loss. The department receives funding from the University operating budget, including mandatory student fees that add to \$657 per student per year.

There is no inherent issue with students subsidizing athletic programs; student fees cover a wide array of University resources, including services such as student health and University transit, as well as funding for Contracted Independent Organizations. But, given that the athletics department is currently operating at a loss, an issue may arise if the department begins increasing its use of student fees to cover deficits — something that could easily occur.

In 2014, the athletic department brought in \$17 million less than it spent, according to The Washington Post. Since 2004 spending has outpaced earning, and student fees have also increased. In just 10 years, the student fee for athletics went up from \$388 to \$657. To be fair,

the percentage increase isn’t all that dramatic when compared with other schools. At Auburn University, administrators raised the student fee more than 400 percent just in 2006 — but the original fee was \$36 per year, and the new fee was \$192, which is roughly 29 percent of what University students currently pay.

Increasing student fees has real effects for University students. For a student working making the state’s minimum wage, the cost of athletic fees would be the equivalent of roughly 90 hours of work. These fees are not insignificant.

The upshot to this for students is that we don’t have to pay to attend athletic games — and the cost of attending games would likely be significantly higher for fans than the cost of student fees. At the University of Michigan, a student season football ticket package costs \$295, according to Time. This cost covers just six home games for one sport — though admittedly the school’s program is a pow-

erhouse. University students, by comparison, can attend every home game for every sport for free — a perk we don’t want to lose. The athletics department itself doesn’t have much of an incentive to charge students for games, since game attendance — at least for football — remains a concern.

The value of paying these student fees does differ for each student, depending on an individual’s interest in University athletics. But this is also true of student fees for other resources — the fees that fund various CIOs or resources like Safe Ride will be more relevant for some students than others. The issue, then, is whether the fees are being allocated responsibly, not whether they should be allocated at all.

Increasing student fees is inevitable over time, especially with inflation. But the degree of increase is concerning. As the athletics department works to lower its deficit, it should look for revenue-building solutions that don’t rely on student fees.

THE CAVALIER DAILY

The Cavalier Daily

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Sing it right

Why does the debate over the “not gay” chant persist?

It is not worth my time to write anything substantial about the “not gay” chant that continues to follow the Good Old Song. But I feel compelled to at least express my sadness, fear and disgust at what I heard on Thursday night at Lighting of the Lawn, and throughout my four years here.

It is not worth my time, though, because you can read about it in articles from as long ago as 1999, courtesy of The Cavalier Daily. Or you can read about it in articles from outside sources. It is even mentioned on the Good Old Song’s Wikipedia page. And, most recently, we received a statement from University President Teresa Sullivan and our provost, Thomas Katsouleas.

This is, frankly, disgraceful. The fact that after so much conversation, years of action and an uphill battle to make the LGBTQ community feel comfortable at the

University, our president has to release a statement on “not gay” after Lighting of the Lawn in 2015 is incomprehensible.

THOMAS PILNIK
Guest Viewpoint

So, why is it that since the conversation began in 1999 (and possibly earlier), we are unable to move away from one of our most horrendous traditions?

What do the select people who choose to alienate the LGBTQ community have to gain by claiming the University is “not gay?” (Something that is entirely untrue.)

And, most importantly, how can you justify making me — making us — feel like we do not belong here, that this is not our University, especially at an event that is supposed to bring the whole school together?

The only argument that seems to support the chant is freedom of speech. And freedom of speech is a beautiful, powerful and rare right, so who am I to take that away from

you; but what value does it have if you waste it on offending so many people with something as trivial as “not gay?”

In the New Yorker’s “Race and the Free-Speech Diversion,” Jelani Cobb states: “The freedom to offend the powerful is not equivalent to the freedom to bully the relatively disempowered. The

at which it begins to impose upon the liberty of another.”

“Not gay” is an attempt — though weak and childish — to bully the marginalized, and assert dominance over a community. It also begins to encroach on the freedom and safety of those who identify as LGBTQ. It seems as if the “free speech” argument is an admission that the only good thing you can find about something is that it is not illegal. Given that exceptionally low bar, think of being asked to do away with “not gay” not as an infringement of your First Amendment rights, but as a request to exercise basic respect and common decency.

During the great “not gay” debate of 2007 (a year when Student Council had a Good Old Song ad-

hoc committee), Alex Cortes was the only student to pen an article that supported the chant. If this article were to be released today, the reaction would be immediate and harsh. Even then, Cortes issued an apology although he upheld his views against homosexuality. That is fine — that is why we have opinions, and free speech and free press — but he also recognized that the chant is not courageous, funny or cool.

To echo the 1999 article by Rob Walker, it is not okay to say “not gay.” A rhyme that simple is easy to remember, so please — for my sake, the sake of the LGBTQ community, and so that The Cavalier Daily never has to run another article about the Good Old Song — sing it right.

Thomas Pilnik is a fourth-year in the College.



‘Not gay’ is an attempt — though weak and childish — to bully the marginalized, and assert dominance over a community.”

enlightenment principles that undergird free speech also prescribed that the natural limits of one’s liberty lie at the precise point

American terrorists

Mass shootings should often be labelled terrorist attacks

In 1939, six months before the start of WWII, Raul de Roussy de Sales wrote, in an attempt to define American nationalism, “America is a permanent protest against the rest of the world.” Over half a century later, I would argue America is actually in a permanent protest against itself.

On Nov. 27 a man named Robert Lewis Dear opened fire next to a Planned Parenthood clinic in Colorado Springs, killing two civilians and a volunteer police officer. The following day, President Barack Obama issued a statement saying, “Enough is enough...We can’t let [gun violence] become normal.” Unfortunately, it very much has: as of Oct. 1, there were 274 days in 2015, and 294 mass shootings. Obama has told Americans that “innocent people were killed in part because someone... had no trouble getting their hands on a gun.”

I have written about the pandemic of gun violence, and the fact that we live in an anomalous nation that is nominally first-world yet tolerates and perpetuates violent tendencies characteristic of the poorest, most politically unstable countries on earth (in 2013, for example, New Orleans had the same rate of gun

violence as Honduras).

But the discourse on firearms in the United States has taken a turn from debate to debacle, and the argument for better gun laws is so straightforward it does not merit

delving into. After the shooting at Umpqua Community College in October, a beleaguered Obama, chagrined at his own powerlessness, claimed the American people had become “numb” to gun violence.

Obama is right. Entreaties to mitigate “gun violence” have become stale: we need to shift the rhetoric and refer to shooters more accurately as terrorists.

The word “terrorism” holds a rhetorical weight in current discourse that “mass shooting” or “gun violence” seems to lack, perhaps because of how weapons and violence are normalized in American culture, or due to the simple fact that they happen all the time.

In an effort to highlight the prevalence of gun violence, various news sources have juxtaposed the number of gun homicide deaths in the United States with the number of U.S. citizens killed by “terrorism,” interpreted as attacks by foreigners on U.S. citizens on national territory. But no such binary inherently exists: according to the FBI,

terrorism is “the unlawful use of force or violence against persons or property to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political or social objectives.”

The almost exclusive denotation of terrorists as foreigners has fed an endemic American xenophobia (particularly Islamophobia), but the terrorism plaguing this country most acutely is all too familiar and wholly American.



The word ‘terrorism’ holds a rhetorical weight in current discourse that ‘mass shooting’ or ‘gun violence’ seems to lack...”

Mass shootings — mostly perpetrated by white male loners — are often dismissed as manifestations of mental instability, due to a public reluctance to accept the reality that, if you look at precedent, every young to middle-aged white man with a gun is a potential terrorist. Yet mental instability does not exculpate the shooters, who at core had some guiding fanaticism

that led to the attacks and decided the setting and the victims.

Dear’s actions were those of a political terrorist: he targeted a Planned Parenthood clinic because “he was generally conservative... [and] believed that abortion was wrong.” Combined with a propensity toward anger and violence and exacerbated by years of self-imposed alienation, Dear likely became indignant at the notion that Planned Parenthood — which has seen an “incredible escalation of harass-

ment and intimidation” by conservatives over the past few years according to NPR, as well as been the victim of a persistent and ridiculous propaganda campaign that claims it profits from the sale of fetal tissue — was operating close by. So Dear took one of the guns in his collection, traipsed over to the strip mall where the clinic was located, and opened fire.

Dear’s was but another in a long line of terrorist acts on Planned Parenthood clinics, which were set on fire in California, Washington and Illinois over the course of a few months in the summer and fall and continue to be threatened by insane

right-wing groups. The shooting of Sen. Gabrielle Giffords (D-AZ) in Tucson in 2011 was also an act of terrorism, motivated by political dissatisfaction and, possibly, Republican encouragement to pursue “Second Amendment remedies” to perceived partisan problems. The Kansas City shooting of two people outside a synagogue and Jewish community center was a blatant terror attack, as was the killing of nine people in a historic black church in Charleston. These should be considered not mere crimes, or even hate crimes, but acts of domestic terrorism that target specific groups or individuals in order to make a statement about the social or political status quo.

Hours upon hours of analysis are devoted to answering the question of why Middle Eastern terror cells hate the United States; more time should be directed toward discussing and resolving the matter of why Americans hate each other, so much that we regularly kill each other, and fail to recognize it for what it is: terrorism.

Tamar’s columns run Tuesdays. She can be reached at t.ziff@cavalierdaily.com.

TAMAR ZIFF
Opinion Columnist

Is Jefferson next?

Amid protests about racist leaders being commemorated at universities across the country, Jefferson's legacy may come under fire

I'm a graduate student in the English department, which means I have a somewhat odd window onto undergraduate life at U.Va., not least because I get to hear the thoughts of my fellow graduate students. One of the chief fixations of the graduate students is the undergrads' love of Thomas Jefferson.

JULIA FISHER
Public Editor

When I visited Charlottesville last year to decide whether to enroll, I asked an English Ph.D. student about the undergrads. They're very smart, he told me, "but they're so stuck in their neoliberal ways. They just love Thomas Jefferson."

I was supposed to chuckle along in condescension, laughing at the poor kids who weren't awake to the fact that Jefferson was a bad, racist oppressor. Instead, I smiled and nodded and decided I would probably rather like U.Va. undergraduates.

Students at universities across the country are turning against figures whose names are campus fixtures. Slavery proponent and U.S. Sen. John C. Calhoun is on

trial at Yale, his alma mater, where a residential college is named after him. At Amherst, Jeffrey Amherst, who thought it was a good idea to give Native Americans blankets infected with smallpox, may be fired

from his role as the school's unofficial mascot. The case where the questioned figure is most central to his university's identity is at Princeton, where the jury is still out on Woodrow Wilson, a pretty racist guy who was also a president of that university and of the United States, a champion of liberal government and an intellectual titan.

And at the College of William and Mary and the University of Missouri at Columbia, our man Thomas Jefferson is under fire. At William and Mary, Jefferson is an alumnus, whereas in Columbia he is merely a statue students walk past daily. Still, at neither school does he hold the revered status he does in Charlottesville, at the University whose creation he considered his proudest achievement.

Inside Higher Ed published

a piece last week about the latest movements against Jefferson; it mentioned his far greater role at U.Va. and noted that, so far, at least, there has been no movement to banish Mr. Jefferson from his own Grounds.

While U.Va. received only a brief mention, the piece raises a few questions: What distinguishes U.Va. from those other schools? Is it only a matter of time before

— even if it comes in the form of passing speculation — is of interest to readers on Grounds. And The Cavalier Daily ran an editorial last week discussing the relevance of name changes to U.Va. and Jefferson; while more reported stories might have offered readers a clearer and deeper assessment of the issue, the editorial broached the right questions.

Jefferson's best hope at U.Va. may be that he isn't an abstraction here. At Yale, Calhoun is regarded first as a name and, until recent debates pushed the issue to the fore, the residential college's namesake often slid into anonymity. At U.Va., on the other hand, Jefferson is celebrated for his

thinking and his accomplishments — it is the man, not just the name, who is remembered. And when a university embraces a person, it is bound to grapple with his whole character, including his bad aspects. (Monticello, that other great

Jeffersonian celebration, offers a whole tour about the slaves Jefferson owned.) U.Va.'s love of Jefferson is not blind.

It might, then, be premature to assume Jefferson will be next on the chopping block. But The Cavalier Daily should keep asking why parallel protests have not developed at U.Va. What is it about this University and Jefferson's role here that has thus far spared him from protesters' demands? Whence the deep allegiance to the University's founder?

And while those questions matter now, U.Va. students and faculty should also wonder whether they will become moot. Wilson, perhaps the figure who comes closest to Jefferson's level of influence at his university, is under attack; who's to say Jefferson won't be next?

Julia Fisher is the Public Editor for the Cavalier Daily. She can be reached at publiceditor@cavalierdaily.com or on Twitter at @CD-PublicEditor.



Is it only a matter of time before activists call for Jefferson's throat here, too?"

activists call for Jefferson's throat here, too? And should The Cavalier Daily be covering student protests against tainted names with a particular eye to the legacy of Jefferson at U.Va.?

National attention on U.Va.

Drawing strength from tragedy

How the University community has excelled in working through an arduous cycle of difficulties

There have been too many tragedies lately. The Paris attacks, the Planned Parenthood shootings and the recent San Bernardino shooting are just a few examples from the past few weeks. It's very easy to become cynical and jaded when the string of bad stories never seems to end. People go through the motions of a tragedy, vow to create change — and then nothing seems to happen.

BOBBY DOYLE
Opinion Columnist

Students at the University have even more of an excuse to be cynical. Last year we experienced the death of Hannah Graham, the publication of a now-retracted article about the University by Rolling Stone and the violent arrest of Martese Johnson. More than many groups, University students should be beaten down by all the misfortune. But there has been quite an opposite reaction: the student body remains unjaded. We are able to keep a positive attitude because of an active administration, strong student organizations and a hopeful student body.

It is very clear from looking around the University community that students are far from jaded. Each new tragedy doesn't elicit a

frustrated silence — it produces gestures of solidarity and events advocating change. In the wake of the Paris attacks two separate vigils were held, one hosted by the French House and one by Student Council. Students gathered in a show of support for the activists at the University of Missouri and Yale.

How has the University remained resistant to being cynical? There seem to be a few key reasons. One of the big reasons is that the administration and professors are willing to work with students to create change. The protests at the University of Missouri show how key it is to have a college administration that is actively involved in student issues. University President Teresa Sullivan has done a good job of projecting a strong and responsive attitude toward problems around the University. Take, for example, the University's non-compliance with Title IX from 2008 to 2012. Sullivan has hired a University Title IX Coordinator and sent multiple emails to students making clear what changes are being made and how these would affect them. As for educators, every year professors

show a commitment to student issues through events like "Look Hoos Talking." More informally, professors frequently address relevant topics in class and are willing to talk to students about issues during office hours. Professors and administrators could always do more, but as of now they are doing a great deal to create an environment where real change is possible.

Student organizations are the driving force against complacency at the University. The Black



How has the University remained resistant to being cynical?"

Student Alliance, Queer Student Union, Asian Student Union and many others play a vital role in creating change in the University community. These groups are crucial in putting on events like Black Monologues which raise aware-

ness for issues while also giving people a platform to discuss them. Students might care about issues, but it is easy to let school and life distract from them. Student organizations should be encouraged to put on more events to give people a chance to become educated and address issues at the University.

The students themselves stand as the final reason the University community has avoided becoming jaded. Our generation genuinely believes we can enact change. Madison House alone has 3,000 volunteers, and many students find some form of charity to be involved in. This is partially because of a growing emphasis on community service for college applications. This creates an environment in which students see problems not as inevitable but

something they can personally address. Admissions officers should continue to emphasize volunteering on college applications to grow this culture at the University, only making exceptions for applicants who come from a poorer socioeco-

nomic background.

Overall, the University community has been fairly successful at keeping students engaged and interested in relevant issues despite the seemingly never-ending flood of disasters that may confront us. Students should take pride in the fact that activism has remained so healthy after the last few years of disappointments. However, it is dangerous to get too complacent. Just because we have a culture of activism at the University now doesn't guarantee it will be there next year. This could lead to issues going unresolved until they explode into disruptive protests, like we are seeing around the country at this moment. Students need to keep the administration honest, push student organizations to take up issues and keep each other engaged in the midst of tragedies. Just because tragedies happen doesn't mean that we have to accept them as inevitable. University students have proven that, and I hope they'll prove it for years to come.

Bobby's columns run Mondays. He can be reached at b.doyle@cavalierdaily.com.



LOVE CONNECTION:

BEN & STORY



BEN

Courtesy Ben

Year: Fourth
Major: Civil Engineering
U.Va. Involvement: Air Force ROTC, Chi Alpha, Orientation Leader, Alumni Hall
Hometown: Berryville, Virginia
Ideal Date: [Someone with] a beautiful heart.
Ideal Date Activity: Getting to know her beautiful heart.
Deal breakers? Not having a beautiful heart.
Hobbies: Rick & Morty, Subway sandwiches, Shark Tank
What makes you a good catch? My beautiful heart.
What makes you a less-than-perfect catch? I like talking about feelings.
What's your favorite pick-up line? Oh my god, did you just fart? Because you just blew me away.

Wine, cheese and a trip down memory lane

Alex Stock
 Love Guru

Ben and Story met at 8 p.m. at the Rotunda.

Story: I have been on a blind date before. The first blind date I went on was a double date, so I had a friend there to buffer the situation. I felt more apprehensive about [this one].

Ben: I was expecting to enjoy an evening of fun and stimulating conversation while getting to know a beautiful girl better.

Story: When I first got to the Rotunda, it was really dark out. I thought I saw a shadow of a person, but it turned out to just be a shadow, so I sat in a rocking chair and waited.

Ben: My first impression was that she was a very pretty girl and that she was not awkward at all.

Story: It was really dark so I couldn't see what he looked like. I was kind of flustered when we first introduced ourselves, and then I realized I had forgotten his name five minutes later.

Ben: She used the "How much does a polar bear weigh? Enough to break the ice!" pick up line on me, which amused me.

Story: We then walked across the Lawn into the light and I got a better look at him. I thought "Oh! He's cute!" Then I asked if he had any plans for us. We walked back to his swag red Jeep.

Ben: We were going to go to the Corner, but decided to take a trip down memory lane and spend a romantic evening drinking wine and eating cheese in my Jeep next to old dorms.

Ben: The conversation was very balanced. She was very easy to talk to and seemed genuinely interested in hearing about my strange life. She had a very unique perspective on the world and interesting experiences.

Story: At first, I thought he had read my application because he wanted to go for a ride, so I was skeptical of his motives. But then, he told me he had been an RA,

Year: Fourth
Major: History (Bioethics minor)
U.Va. Involvement: Social chair for club field hockey, Kappa Alpha Theta, undergraduate researcher for AITH, bartender at Coupes
Hometown: Chester, New Jersey
Ideal Date: Athletic, not opposed to someone shortish but at least 5'6", blonde/brunette, green eyes is a plus, into tasteful tattoo sleeves.
Ideal Date Activity: Dinner, maybe a concert. Going for a drive is always fun.
Deal breakers? Doesn't understand sarcasm
Hobbies: Snapchat art, running, thinking of haikus.
What makes you a good catch? I am a member at Costco, so I'll be a great mom in my minivan one day.
What makes you a less-than-perfect catch? I don't like to talk about feelings.
What's your favorite pick-up line? Is your name Ariel? Because I think we were mermaid for each other.



STORY

Courtesy Story

so we decided to take a trip down memory lane and check out old dorms.

Ben: We both like riding in cars, and we're both looking for spouses.

Story: The conversation was very natural and friendly. We started off talking about our families, and then he told me he had been homeschooled, which, at first, I thought was really weird until I remembered I had also been homeschooled.

Ben: She spilled Ritz crackers all over my car. It was cute.

Story: At one point, he said he felt [like] he was saying too much about himself and wanted to hear what I had to say,

which I thought was very considerate and observant.

Ben: I could see myself going out with her again as a friend. I don't think there was a romantic connection.

Story: There were mostly friendly vibes. We had a lot in common, though. We were both homeschooled and love to read and enjoy white wine.

Ben: [At the end of the date] I drove her home and dropped her off. I paid for the wine and cheese, but brought home the leftover food.

Story: [I would rate the date an] 8.9.

Ben: [I would rate the date an] 8.

LGBTQ Center collaborates for World AIDS Day

Student groups, health organizations provide free HIV testing, support fight against HIV, AIDS epidemic

Brianna Hamblin
Feature Writer

Last week, the LGBTQ Center recognized World AIDS Day by hosting free HIV testing clinic. World AIDS Day, started by the World Health Organization in 1988, gives people the opportunity to learn more about HIV and AIDS and fosters support for the fight against these illnesses. According to worldaidsday.org, there are an estimated 34 million people currently living with the virus and over 35 million people have died of HIV or AIDS since 1984.

Other organizations involved in fighting against HIV and AIDS joined the LGBTQ Center for the event. These groups included the Virginia Department of Health, Student Council, Black Student Alliance, Student Global AIDS Campaign, University Peer Health Educators and the Zeta Eta Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma fraternity.

Second-year College student Sindhura Elagandhala, health intern at the LGBTQ Center, said the Center had other organizations join because all of the groups share a common goal.

"We really wanted to acknowledge the plurality of populations and demographics that are affected by this," Elagandhala said. "And also,

we wanted to acknowledge the intersectionality."

Fourth-year College student Darius Weaver, vice president of the Zeta Eta Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma fraternity, said his fraternity became involved with the event to spread awareness about how the virus affects the black community.

"Our involvement with [the event was] mostly because it affects black communities and it's something that a lot of people don't pay attention to like they should," Weaver said. "So we just want to bring that awareness out to the community and also give a free testing clinic so that they have the opportunity to know their status, because that's the next step to ending the epidemic."

The Student Global AIDS Campaign had a table at the event where students could write down and share what made them decide to get tested. Third-year Nursing student Ashley Belfort, president of the campaign, took pictures of students who wrote down their reasons for getting tested.

"I think it's really important for people to know whether or not they have an STD just so that they don't infect other people, for one, and so they can seek treatment themselves," Belfort said. "With HIV, the symptoms are not really noticeable. You don't really know until the disease has progressed to a stage that [is] really difficult to treat. It's already diffi-

cult to treat, so if you know early on you have a better chance of survival."

Fourth-year College student Connor Roessler, a LGBTQ programs intern and Peer Health Educator, explained why this event was a great resource for college students.

"I think a lot of college students find this weird transitional period where they might start wanting to get tested, like they're starting to be sexually active away from home and they're not really sure how insurance works, how Student Health works," Roessler said. "Providing some free testing is a really good opportunity for them to kind of learn about those resources and learn good information about safe sex because they're not necessarily getting that at a lot of other places."

The HIV and AIDS epidemic has a troubling history, especially within the LGBTQ community. The virus used to be referred to as "gay cancer" and was ignored by several presidential administrations, making it an important issue for the LGBTQ community. Elagandhala shared ways to have safe, protective sex at the event and described this troubling history.

"The AIDS crisis was a big thing in the LGBTQ population and community," Elagandhala said. "And there's still people alive today that lived through it. So people above 50, for example, if you have a conversation with them and you talk to them



Anna Hoover | The Cavalier Daily

The LGBTQ Center partnered with several other groups to offer a free HIV testing clinic and speak to students about the epidemic's history.

and you ask them about AIDS and the AIDS crisis, they often get this glazed look over their face. A lot of people don't like talking about it because it's a memory of basically all of their friends dying."

Even though there is still a long way to go, the fight has seen significant improvements, Elagandhala said.

"It's just, for us to be putting this on, it was really important that we show [people] this was really historically based," Elagandhala said. "It made a huge dent in this population. But there is a lot of things that are changing and there's a lot of hope. This isn't necessarily a death sentence."

The free testing event helped

increase conversation about the virus among University students and made it possible for students to get tested in a comfortable setting. Weaver gave advice for students who were worried about getting tested.

"I would recommend bringing in a friend or telling your family that you're doing this or telling a friend that you need support because it just eases the anxiety of it, and, you know, [if] you both get tested, you both know and that way you have someone to lean on if it is something that's a problem," Weaver said. "Either way, whether you don't know or you do know is going to affect you and the community that you're in as well as your friends and family, so just do it together."

Favorite C'Ville eats

Fellow Hoos weigh in on best dishes on, around Grounds

Drew Friedman
Feature Writer

Lou Bloomfield is the associate chair of the Physics department and a Physics professor. Along with being the professor of the well-loved class, "How Things Work," and compiling the handy class catalogue, "Lou's List," Bloomfield frequents local restaurants in the area. He has had more than 30 years of experience with Charlottesville's broad selection of tasty meals. Bloomfield gave his top recommendations for the best of Charlottesville eats to *The Cavalier Daily*.

Tavola

At Italian restaurant Tavola, near the Downtown Mall, it's a tie between Melanzane alla Parmigiana and Garganelli con Verdure di Primavera.

"The atmosphere is very nice — very comfortable. The food is just very satisfying. As an appetizer, they have Burrata cheese, which is really

excellent," Bloomfield said. "[My wife and I have] always liked visiting Italy, staying in little towns and just hanging out. This reminds us of doing that. It's like going on a brief vacation to Italy."

Bodo's Bagels

From Charlottesville favorite Bodo's Bagels, Bloomfield's order is a sesame bagel with pastrami, lettuce, tomato and spicy mustard.

"I remember when Bodo's first appeared — the one up on 29," Bloomfield recalled. "It said bagels were coming, and for several years we were waiting for that to turn into bagels. It had been a Roy Rogers. We were waiting, and we got really skeptical, but eventually it appeared... They were surprisingly good outside of places like New York. Actually, I think they're better than most New York bagels...I'm not sure I could name any New York bagels that I like better."

Faith Lyons is a fourth-year Commerce student, a fourth-year Trustee

and chair of the Honor Committee. Lyons has enjoyed dining at places like Lemongrass and The Pigeon Hole on the Corner since her first year at the University.

Bluegrass Grill

For a brunch with a great atmosphere Lyon's recommends Bluegrass Grill's omelets.

"It's super hard to get a table because it's so good, but I think that's probably my favorite place downtown. I love going there for brunch on the weekends," Lyons said. "I try a different omelet pretty much every time I go there, [but] they have one that is...spinach and feta cheese. I think probably my favorite food they have is their biscuits; they're delicious...The reason I like eating there and why it's my favorite is just the atmosphere. The people who run it are really awesome."

Himalayan Fusion

"It's really good. I went with friends earlier this year. One of my best friends at U.Va. coined this

term 'adventure dining,' where she just picks a random restaurant in Charlottesville, and we'll just go with friends and try it," Lyons said. "So we all went adventure dining to this

restaurant. It was a really cool atmosphere and the people were really nice. It was a super cool place to try on a random Friday."



Courtesy University of Virginia

Physics Professor Lou Bloomfield enjoys eating at Tavola, an Italian restaurant, with his wife and said his order at Bodo's is better than most of the bagels he has tried in New York City.

Minority Rights Coalition hosts dialogue on privilege

MRC co-hosts event with Sustained Dialogue to explore different University experiences with focus on privilege

Julie Bond
Feature Writer

As students across the country continue to probe minority rights on college campuses, many University students have come to recognize the importance of understanding peers' varying perspectives through dialogue.

During its event Wednesday night, the Minority Rights Coalition partnered with Sustained Dialogue to allow students to discuss and compare their versions of the "U.Va. Experience."

"It's really important to get out of your comfort zone, especially at U.Va. and especially if you're white here," said MRC Vice-President of Outreach Emily McDuff, a second-year Engineering student. "It's very easy to get in your groove. You need to shake things up and remind

yourself that there's so many other people to learn from at U.Va."

The event saw attendance from roughly 200 students and faculty members. As participants walked through the door, they were given a nametag with a random table number on it to sit at. This way, students who came in groups were split up and every table presented a range of ages and identities. In addition, each table had a member of Sustained Dialogue or MRC as a moderator.

Sustained Dialogue members were trained to effectively lead the various events they help put on each month, said third-year College student Macy Early, Sustained Dialogue vice chair of external relations.

"[Sustained Dialogue] is actually internationally affiliated, so we have yearly training where people come down from the

Sustained Dialogue Institute in Washington, D.C. and do training with us about facilitating conversations, being fluent in inclusivity and diversity issues, [and] ways to ask probing questions and ground conversations in personal experience," Early said.

To start, first-year College student and MRC member Joan Lee read a number of statements such as, "I have felt unsafe walking home at night," and, "I have been uncomfortable expressing PDA with my significant other before," and asked everyone in attendance to stand or raise their hand for each statement they felt applied to them. Following this, six speakers, one of whom was anonymous, spoke about different aspects of their identity and how actions of members of the community caused them to feel. Tables then began dialogues, beginning with an introduction and what drew them into the event.

The conversation was governed by a number of ground rules, including that participants should use "I" instead of "we" statements and should "assume best intent" of those who share.

"The truth is Sustained Dialogue doesn't want to create a safe, as in a comfortable, environment," Early said. "We want to create safe challenging environment. So something that allows people to understand that their experiences are going to be validated."

Confrontation and controversy are part of the dialogue and key to making progress, she said.

"[Individuals are] going to be considered experts in their own opinions and their own ex-



Khoa Nguyen | The Cavalier Daily

The Minority Rights Coalition partnered with Sustained Dialogue to lead small-group discussions.

periences but they're not going to automatically be considered right. They're going to experience push back and there will be confrontation and controversy," Early said. "If we walk around without confronting all of the nasty offensiveness of the culture we live in, then we aren't going to progress as a society."

One of the policies listed on the table handout mentioned that "stories can leave" the room, "but names stay." The MRC provided flashcards on which attendees wrote statements they heard or lessons they learned, which they planned to share with someone else.

"The reason we put on this event is so people can learn and

have their perspectives opened and then take that knowledge outside of here and shape U.Va. at large and remind people to check their privilege and that they can use the privilege that they do have, even if it isn't as much as others, to affect change in the community," McDuff said.

MRC had already started working with the University's office of diversity and equity and others to develop a program for the spring semester called UP. The program will emulate multi-cultural sensitivity training and is meant to bring issues of privilege and understanding alternate perspectives to those who do not usually attend this kind of event.



Khoa Nguyen | The Cavalier Daily

Around 200 students and faculty members attended the event, and participants were put in random groups for discussion.



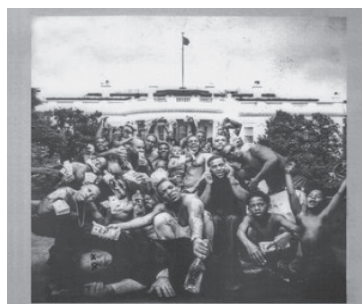


Best albums of 2015

A&E looks at top 10 releases of the year

Noah Zeidman
Senior Associate Editor

With the semester winding to a close and the holidays rapidly approaching, it's time to look back on a bountiful year of music. With so many outstanding releases it's hard to pick a true top ten. While they didn't quite make the cut, honorable mentions include Titus Andronicus' "The Most Lamentable Tragedy," Earl Sweatshirt's "I Don't Like S**t, I Don't Go Outside," Lana Del Rey's "Honeymoon," Joey Bada\$\$'s "B4.Da.\$\$," Kamasi Washington's "The Epic" and CHVRCHES' "Every Open Eye." Without further ado, here are the top ten albums of 2015.



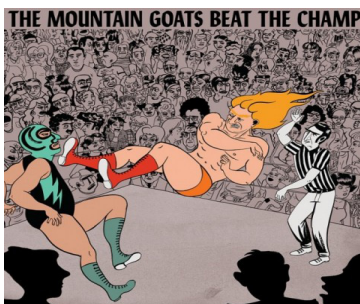
Courtesy Interscope

1. Kendrick Lamar, "To Pimp a Butterfly"

A genre-bending masterpiece bursting with jazz, funk and literary influences, this album encapsulates the tense social climate of modern America. Musically astounding and packed with thoughtful, provocative lyrics, "To Pimp a Butterfly" easily takes the title of Best Album of 2015.

2. The Mountain Goats, "Beat the Champ"

With this loose-concept album about wrestling, John Darnielle managed to create stunningly realistic depictions of complex emotion on every single track. With masterful storytelling and endlessly catchy melodies, this is one of the Mountain Goats' finest efforts to date, and that's saying something.



Courtesy Merge Records

6. Waxahatchee, "Ivy Tripp"

A step forward from the excellent "Cerulean Salt" in terms of songwriting and complexity of arrangements, "Ivy Tripp" marks a further refinement of Waxahatchee's gritty take on pop music. This record rocks, meditates on self-worth and covers the messiest range of ambiguous emotions.

7. Sleater-Kinney, "No Cities to Love"

A roaring return after ten years of inactivity, "No Cities to Love" sees seminal hard-rockers Sleater-Kinney in finer form than ever. Short and sweet, this record is a gift to everyone who wishes grunge never ended.



Courtesy Startime International

3. Natalie Prass, "Natalie Prass"

What Natalie Prass lacks in vocal bombast, she more than makes up for with unstoppable intensity, gorgeously clear tones and beautifully crafted lyrics. Enriched with lush, classic-sounding string and woodwind arrangements, "Natalie Prass" is one of the year's loveliest and most unique releases.

8. Drake, "If You're Reading This It's Too Late"

This sparse album, dropped out of nowhere, shows a new level of artistic capablwity for the Canadian actor-turned-rapper/pop star. The only bad thing about this album is that "Hotline Bling" isn't on it.

4. Father John Misty, "I Love You, Honeybear"

Not since the Magnetic Fields' "69 Love Songs" has an album so vividly and humorously presented the many facets of love. Misty careens through drug- and anxiety-fueled tales of romance, at once self-mockingly introspective and reflective of the listener's own complex feelings of desire.



Courtesy Sub Pop

5. Sufjan Stevens, "Carrie & Lowell"

Surprisingly minimal but still packed with Stevens' high-minded lyrics, this album is downright devastating. "Carrie & Lowell" may not be the year's most important release, but it is certainly one of the most hauntingly beautiful.

Courtesy Asthmatic Kitty

10. Beach House, "Depression Cherry"

Like a melancholy electronic slow-dance, this album simmers and shimmers around Victoria Legrand's ethereal vocals. Both intricate and delicate, "Depression Cherry" is a gem.

9. Panda Bear, "Panda Bear Meets the Grim Reaper"

Sounding like a post-modern electronic reimagining of the Beach Boys, Panda Bear will always be a pretty niche artist. Nevertheless, his latest surreal odyssey soars and grinds through all manner of oft-incomprehensible subject matter and ends with one of the year's best and weirdest feel-good jams, "Acid Wash."

Top hip-hop records of 2015

A&E highlights best in rap this year with focus on socially-conscious rhymes

Adam Beddawl
Staff Writer

2015 was a resurgent year for hip-hop. If the 1990's were the "gangster rap" era, the 2000's the rise and fall of the "bling-bling" era, then the 2010's should be categorized by the rising tide of socially conscious hip-hop.

Watching young rappers like Vince Staples, Joey Bada\$\$, Earl Sweatshirt and Milo navigate their place in this new, reticent space in competition with rap's household names is a delight to experience. The struggle, though, is in codifying the relationship between potent poetry and deft production. The following list is how the past year in hip-hop shook out.

9. Kendrick Lamar - "To Pimp A Butterfly"

This will go down as one of the

great albums of the decade. With lyrics that read more like a dissertation than a hip-hop album, a cavalcade of sounds and Kendrick at his most combative enable "To Pimp A Butterfly" to captivate as a challenging, kaleidoscopic listen.

8. Lupe Fiasco - "Tetsuo & Youth"

After almost a decade since his last critically-acclaimed album, Lupe warded off whispers of his decline with "Tetsuo & Youth." On the album's second song, "Mural," Lupe fits an album's worth of rhymes into nine minutes and doesn't slow down from there.

7. Freddie Gibbs - "Shadow of a Doubt"

After having the second best album of 2014 with "Pinata," the Gary, Indiana native did not disappoint those who have come to expect his dominance. "Shadow of a Doubt" is as angry and concerted as its

predecessor, with just a touch more sonic appeal.

6. Ceschi - "Broken Bone Ballads"

"Broken Bone Ballads" proved to be a celebration party for the Connecticut native. At almost breathless pace, Ceschi (also known as Juan Ramos) delivers dizzying wordplay and introspective storytelling. This album is a lot more sonically accessible than those of rappers who typically occupy Ceschi's spot in hip-hop's underground.

5. ASAP Rocky - "At.Long.Last.A\$AP"

Inspired by the death of friend and interlocutor, A\$AP Yams, "At.Long.Last.A\$AP" is as hypnotizing in its melodies as it is pointed in its delivery. Where in albums prior, Rocky had a tendency to devolve into hip-hop cliches, he's as personal as ever on this album.

4. Busdriver - "Thumbs"

"Thumbs" was the perfect successor to Busdriver's "Perfect Hair," which debuted just last year. The album explores the depths of Busdriver's introspective outlook on the world surrounding him with as much poignancy as aggression.

3. Jay Rock - "90059"

After almost a decade in the hip-hop circuit, and four years since his last album, Jay Rock's second studio album, "90059," proved to be worth the wait in. With a variety of sounds, and great contributions from frequent co-conspirators Kendrick Lamar, Schoolboy Q and Isaiah Rashad, "90059" is a great addition to the already sterling discographies of the Black Hippy collective.

2. Travis Scott - "Rodeo"

With clear Kanye West influences, the sonic consistency of "Rodeo"

is as jarring as its appeal. On this project, Scott is finally able to balance his ability as a producer with his performance as an emcee. Milo - "So The Flies Don't Come"

Milo's quirky personality and abstract song concepts have often been hit-or-miss on his previous projects. Whether he's making direct reference to the work of Friedrich Nietzsche or threatening to "decapitate a metacritic," Milo will always be interesting and he will always be combative.

1. Vince Staples - "Summertime '06"

Technically a double album, "Summertime '06" is the rapper's debut into the hip-hop consciousness. Staples proves that it doesn't take dense lyrics to be deep, taking on challenging song concepts with relative ease.