

The Cavalier Daily

Thursday, November 8, 2012

Partly Sunny. High 55, Low 32 See A3 www.cavalierdaily.com Volume 123, No. 39 Distribution 10,000



Helen Dragas, above, and other members of the Board of Visitors met at the Miller Center Wednesday to discuss coming changes for Alderman Road dorms.

Will Brumas | Cavalier Daily

BOV discusses improvements

Building and Grounds Committee hears plans for new Alderman dorms, approves air conditioning upgrades

By Andrew D'Amato
Cavalier Daily Senior Writer

The Board of Visitors Wednesday approved plans to improve air conditioning of buildings on Grounds and discussed the construction and renovation of dorms.

The Board approved designs for a Newcomb road chiller plant and the North Grounds Mechanical Plant, both of which will improve the efficiency and sustainability of air-conditioning in buildings around Grounds, University Chief Facilities Officer Don Sundgren said.

"If you were to lose air conditioning in a building with a standalone system, you lose air conditioning," Sundgren said. "With central, if you lose air conditioning, you can offset it to another chiller. I

think it's a much better solution. It leads to cost reduction and less pollution."

The Board also considered future plans to upgrade the McCormick Road dorms during the presentation from Rick Kovatch, associate vice president for Business Operations for the University.

"[We want] to try to bring air conditioning [into these dorms] and upgrade all of their building systems," Kovatch said. "We're getting ready to hire consultants and engineers and architects to renovate these residence halls. Also, we can try to claim some of the space used by the housing and residence spaces."

In addition, University Architect David Neuman proposed

Please see **Board**, Page A3

States legalize marijuana use

Colorado, Washington permit recreational drug usage; Montana tightens medical marijuana regulations

By Racine Fraser
Cavalier Daily Senior Writer

As voters in Colorado and Washington reelected Barack Obama Tuesday night, they also passed ballot measures legalizing marijuana, while, in Massachusetts, voters chose to legalize medical marijuana.

Voters in Oregon, meanwhile, rejected a measure to legalize the substance, and in Montana, a referendum banned the use of medical marijuana.

In Washington adults older than 21 will be legally able to carry an ounce or less of marijuana, said Kevin Oliver, the executive director of the Washington affiliate of National Organization to Reform Marijuana Laws.

Montana voters, on the other hand, chose a different course, deciding to change the law to place greater restrictions on

marijuana, a reversal from the legalization of medical marijuana voters passed in 2004.

State Senator Jeff Essman, a supporter of the current referendum, said the previous law had been misused. The 2004 law had fewer restrictions on growing marijuana for patients, and the new law cuts qualifying conditions and reduces storefronts, Fox said.

"[The people] did not like the store fronts," Essman said. "They did not vote for a recreational program."

The new state laws legalizing marijuana do not overrule the existing federal criminalization, leaving questions about what states can do, Center for Politics spokesperson Geoff Skelley said.

"What it means, is that state

Please see **Marijuana**, Page A3

Spotlight Shines on Body Image Vigil



Marshall Bronfin | Cavalier Daily

Students gathered in Newcomb Hall Wednesday evening to share personal stories about how they, their friends and members of their family suffered through eating disorders. The Women's Center sponsored the event.



Thomas Bynum | Cavalier Daily

Members of the LGBTQ communities celebrated laws allowing gay marriage in Maine, Washington and Maryland, which passed on Election Day.

Gay marriage laws pass

Maine, Maryland, Washington approve new policies; Minnesota rejects ban

By Kaelyn Quinn
Cavalier Daily Senior Writer

The country inched closer to national acceptance of gay marriage Tuesday evening when voters in Maine, Maryland and Washington chose to legalize same-sex marriage, and Minnesota voters rejected a proposed ban.

Tuesday marked the first time a popular vote, as opposed to a court order or legislative action, has institutionalized gay marriage in a state, Center for Politics spokesperson Geoff Skelley said.

"It is hard not to notice that national polling suggests that more people are supportive of gay marriage," he said.

In Minnesota, however, some saw the rejection of the gay marriage ban as a move in the wrong direction.

"Despite the disappointing outcome of this election ... We know that God has defined marriage as between one man and one woman, regardless of the efforts of some to overthrow His design," Minnesota for Marriage Chairman John Helmberger said in a press release.

To Virginia residents, President Barack Obama's win in the commonwealth Tuesday also shows promise for progress on the state level, said Cindy Gray, co-president of the University Queer Student Union.

But Skelley said a measure to legalize gay marriage in Virginia would not pass currently, and it would likely be a while before the state would do so.

"[It would be] narrowly

Please see **Marriage**, Page A3

NEWS IN BRIEF Study finds far-reaching damage

The United States Geological Survey presented research Tuesday showing an earthquake in the eastern United States can travel much farther than originally thought.

The study used data from last year's earthquake in Virginia

to see how far away the shocks could be felt, USGS scientist Randall Jibson said in a press release. Previous studies have not had access to data from an earthquake of this magnitude — the largest earthquake to occur in more than 100 years in the

eastern U.S.

Charlottesville was near the epicenter of the 5.8 magnitude earthquake last August. The study found the farthest landslide from Charlottesville was 150 miles away, but previous studies had shown landslides

typically occur no further than 36 miles from the epicenter of a magnitude 5.8 magnitude earthquake.

University buildings are constructed to be able to withstand reasonable amounts of earthquake damage, University Chief

Facilities Officer Donald Sundgren said.

But for an earthquake stronger than the one in 2011, "We'll have to see; we will respond as quickly and effectively as we can," he said.

—compiled by Erik Payne

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Comics

Thursday, November 8, 2012

DJANGEO BY STEPHEN ROWE



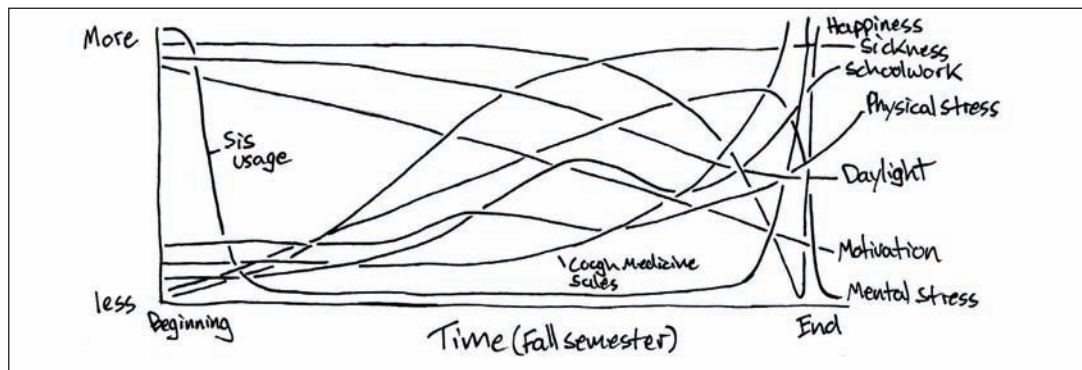
THE ADVENTURES OF THE AMAZING <THE> A-MAN BY EMILIO ESTEBAN



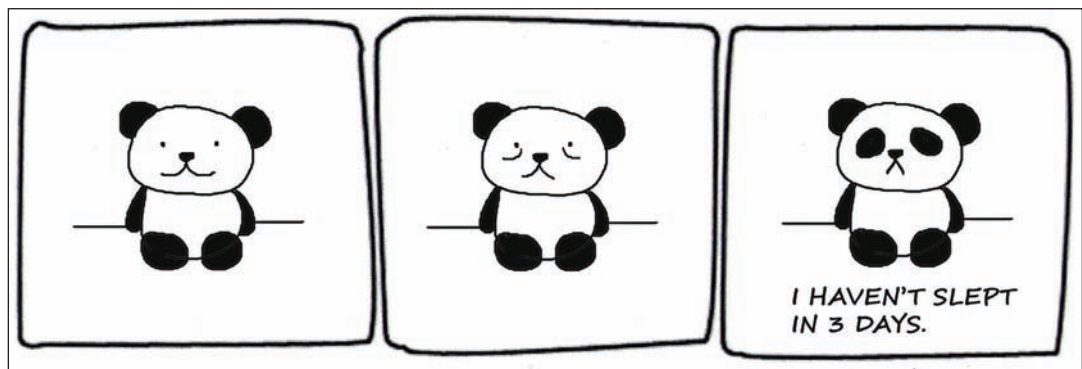
SOLE SURVIVOR BY MICHAEL GILBERTSON



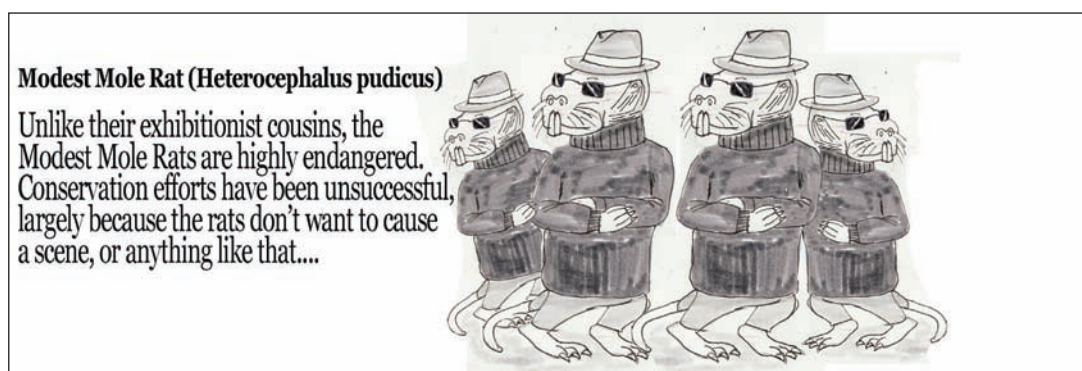
RENAISSANCING BY TIM PRICE



WHOA BY TIFFANY CHU



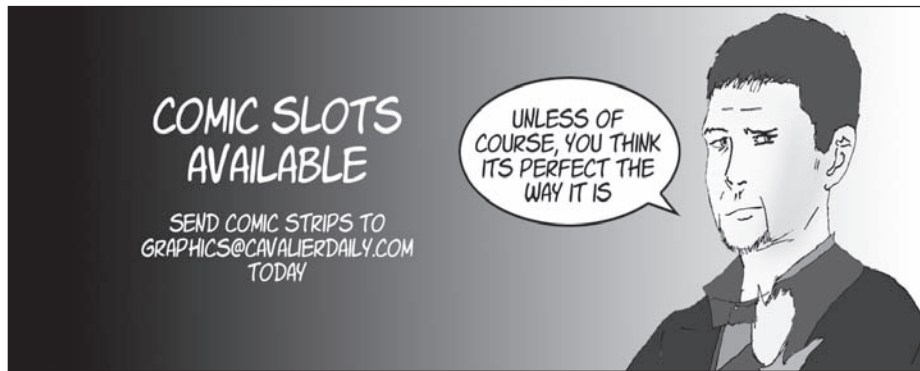
A BUNCH OF BANANAS BY GARRETT MAJDIC & JACK WINTHROP



(NO SUBJECT) BY JANE MATTIMOE



A MILLION DOLLARS ISN'T COOL, YOU KNOW WHAT'S COOL? THE COMICS PAGE



HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You're not quite ready for a big opportunity, but it's coming anyway. A lack of experience isn't reason enough not to try for this one. When the pressure is on, you do your best.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). The errands you run for other people are somehow easier to accomplish than the ones that are strictly for you. You like to help and are rewarded by the smile at the end of the tunnel.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Friends are likely to keep your confidences, but why risk it? There are some things you're better off not sharing -- for instance, the minutia of relationship statuses that are likely to change with the weather.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You have already learned your place in a system. So if someone tries to teach it to you anew, you could either politely pretend to pay attention and take the lesson, or you could turn the table. How feisty do you want to be?

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Cats like you aren't entirely nocturnal. It's just that they are hunting machines, and they do some of their best hunting at night. You're the same right now with something you want to acquire in the after hours.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your admired person will be part of the action. You don't need super-vitamins or caffeine drinks to get through the day if you have an invigorating presence standing next to you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). When lightning strikes, thunder comes resounding from the Earth. When you make your electric move, you elicit a noisy response from the masses, perhaps in the form of applause.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The sacrifices and trade-offs you make to keep a relationship healthy will be well worthwhile. It's your job to make sure this is true and to avoid over-giving, which helps no one. Don't be a martyr.

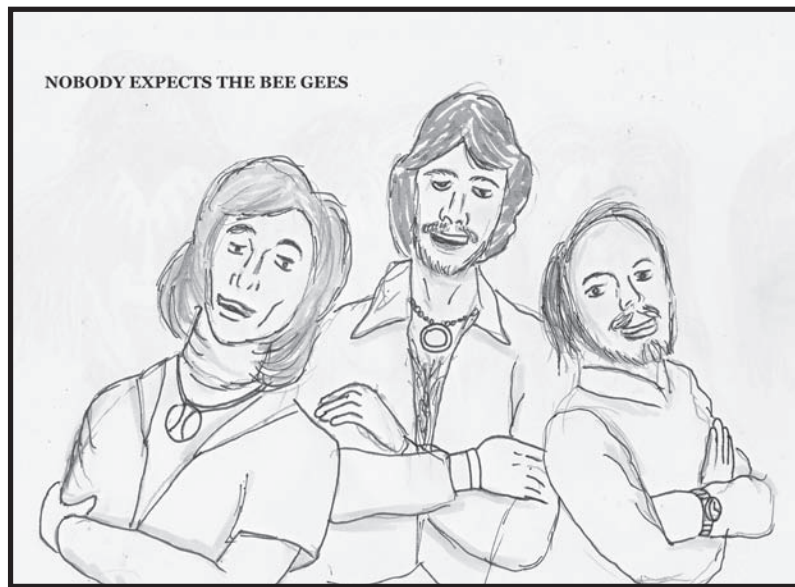
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). As on any dance floor, each dancer's moves are subtly influenced by the movement of the other dancers. You'll be aware of the rhythmic force inside you. Your heart beats to the music of the world.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Just when you start to fear that all the excellent work you put into your project will come to nothing, a glimmer of hope glints in the sun. Your breakthrough is around the corner.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your enthusiasm is like an egg white. With enough vigor, it can be whipped into the light and wonderful meringue that turns an ordinary tart lemon pie into a spectacular dessert.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You are so in sync with the season, and yet you put your own spin on everything you do. You'll love the creativity and fresh ideas that are sprinkled throughout this day.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 8). This month you will be the goodhearted stranger that helps out and lifts society in some small but contagious way. December brings achievement in business. You'll forge a special bond in January. Family celebrates together in the spring. Young people will make you proud, reflecting what you taught them. Aries and Virgo people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 30, 1, 24, 16 and 37.



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HARD # 10

su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

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

LAST SOLUTION:

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

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

The New York Times Crossword

The seven circled letters reading from top to bottom describe an event occurring at four locations in this puzzle.

- Across**

1 Thrifty alternative
5 Signs of spring
10 Feline face cleaners
14 Casino stock
15 Shorten, maybe
16 Settled
17 Ceremonial military outfit
18 —
19 Long
20 Like the worst excuse
22 Clink
24 The girl from Ipanema?
25 "You will be ___" (last line of "Wishin' and Hopin")
27 Classic play whose title is an abbreviation
28 Dairy Queen treat
- Down**

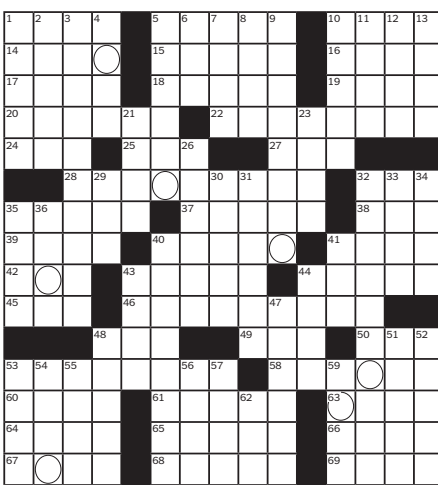
32 —
35 Drum kit component
37 "Oops, sorry"
38 Build on, with "to"
39 Deuce follower
40 Govt. security
41 Certain spot
42 "Delta of Venus" author
43 Actress Davis
44 One carrying dust, maybe
45 Hides, in a way
46 —
48 Place for a particle accelerator
49 Photoshop option: Abbr.
50 Help-wanted letters
53 "Man who catch fly with chopstick accomplish anything" speaker

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

T	R	O	T	J	A	D	E	L	A	M	P	S
H	A	N	A	O	P	E	R	A	F	I	R	E
E	N	E	R	G	I	C	Y	B	A	R	P	I
R	H	A	M	E	S	R	O	A	D	I	E	S
M	A	R	C	L	A	S	E	R	O	D	U	Z
A	R	T	C	L	A	S	E	R	O	D	U	Z
L	D	S	N	A	T	S	L	E	P	E	R	
H	I	G	H	T	A	I	L					
T	A	P	E	D								
H	U	R	R	A	Y							
E	D	O										
J	E	M	B	A								
E	B	O	L	A								
T	O	T	E	S								
S	N	E	A	K								

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 1004



- 32** Kato Kaelin
portrayer on "S.N.L."

33 Purim's month

34 Whirl

35 "___em!" (mob's cry)

36 Graphic beginning?

40 Tots' sports equipment

41 Whup

43 Greeting in Oz

44 Image on the "E.T." poster

47 Feature of Mike Wazowski in "Monsters, Inc."

48 Work after work?

51 Basket material

52 Chair for Cleopatra

53 Singer Jason

54 Rake

55 Team whose colors are blue and orange

56 Tech whiz, say Wazowski in "Monsters, Inc."

57 Meaning of "Ich bin ein" in J.F.K.'s quote

59 "In your dreams!"

62 Big tank
- For answers, call 1-800-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.
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Three-Day Weather Forecast

Provided by the Cavalier Weather Service

 TODAY High of 55°	 TONIGHT Low of 32°	 TOMORROW High of 59°	 TOMORROW NIGHT Low of 35°	 SATURDAY High of 65°
Partly sunny skies with a northwest wind picking up between 10 to 15 mph.	Clouds move out for mostly clear skies and a northwest wind between 5 to 10 mph.	Sunny with a calm northwest wind.	Clear skies with temperatures in the mid 30s.	Sunny skies with temperatures warming into the mid 60s.
As the coastal low pressure system moves further northeast, clouds will clear and blue skies will begin to peek through. A high pressure system will move in tomorrow for the weekend, bringing back sunny skies and warmer temperatures.				To receive Cavalier Weather Service forecasts via email, contact weather@virginia.edu

Board | Neuman proposes Rotunda improvements

Continued from page A1

plans for the construction of a new dormitory to replace Dunnington, which should open in fall of 2015. The design would be similar to other new dorms such as Kellogg. The new building will be fol-

lowed by two others, which will replace the other old dormitory buildings on Alderman Road, Neuman said. Neuman is currently work-

ing with housing clients to create a budget for the project, and they will report to the Board with their final design in February.

Neuman also discussed proposals for the Rotunda, including opening the main doors on the Lawn for visitors to enter, which would cost \$10,000.

Marijuana | Laws do not change federal ban, Skelley says

Continued from page A1

law enforcement will not pursue recreational or personal use of marijuana, [but it] ... can't stop federal law enforcement," Skelley said. "State law can't preempt fed-

eral law, [so I'm] not entirely sure how it works."

The placement of these initiatives on the ballot during the presidential election may have affected the results, Skelley said.

"In a presidential election [legalization is more likely to pass] because voters skew [to be] younger and more diverse," Skelley said. "If you are a Democratic operative in Colorado, put[ting] marijuana legalization on [the presiden-tial] ballot is great way to get

more young people to turn out."

But even if the measures were helped along by a more diverse voting base, these most recent decriminalizations merely reflect growing trends in public opinion, Skelley said.

"There is a general trend in this country slowly but surely towards the increased legal-ization of marijuana," he said. "Legalizing medical marijuana can be seen as the first step to going beyond that and doing what Colorado did."

Marriage | States' approval could show growing national support

Continued from page A1

defeated at the moment," Skel-

ley said. "If trends continue, it could have a chance... [because,] at the end of the

day, the state has a larger per-centage of college educated voters than other states."

Gray said she is confident Tuesday's results are just the beginning.

"We hope that this is a fore-shadowing of what is to come in the future for states across

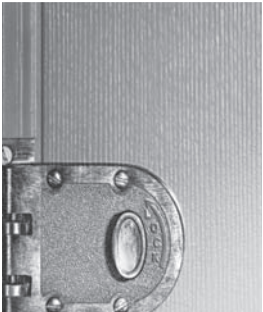
Correction

In an infographic depicting Election 2012 results Wednesday, North Carolina should have been marked as red. GOP nominee Mitt Romney won 50.6 percent of the state's vote — 2.2 points more than incumbent President Barack Obama.

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The College of Arts and Sciences is pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for the *Small Research and Travel Grants*. The grants are intended to support College undergraduates who are conducting research or engaging in artistic activities in *all* fields within the College. Students presenting their own research at professional conferences may also use these grants to defray registration and travel costs.

The maximum amount for which students may apply is \$1,500.00.

For more information and an application, please visit:
<http://college.artsandsciences.virginia.edu/scholarships>



Applications are due by December 14, 2012.



It's not out in the open, but

GRIEF
IS HERE.

1 out of 3 college students experienced the illness or loss of a family member or close friend in the last year. Talk about loss and help your friends in need by starting a National Students of AMF Support Network Chapter at your school.

TalkAboutLoss.org



The Cavalier Daily

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

—Thomas Jefferson

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Fixing the board

The state government and University Board of Visitors should adopt reforms proposed by the Faculty Senate

After a one-week delay because of Hurricane Sandy, the Faculty Senate met Monday night with John Simon, the University provost. Here the Task Force on Board of Visitors Composition made its presentation — a 15-page brief comparing the University's Board to that of peer institutions. Although the Board of Visitors has already established an internal Special Committee on Governance — which has recommended reform measures — the senate's Task Force on Board of Visitors Composition brings an outside, academic perspective to the University political structure. The steps this task force suggested were approved by the senate this week and would better not only the University's Board but those of all in Virginia.

The task force delivered a tract that featured comparative analysis on university board structure and literature from the Code of Virginia. All of this information contributed to the paper's five main recommendations that were approved by the faculty Monday. These recommendations not only aim to change the University's Board composition but also to alter the process for adding members to boards of all state universities.

The first of the recommendations is to amend Virginia Code to incorporate language that would make a board selection process "mission-driven" rather than politically driven. By articulating specific guidelines in accordance with a well-defined mission, the selection process for board members would follow an explicit set of criteria to pick only those members aligned to a university's goals.

The next recommendation is to improve the Commission on Higher Education Board Appointments (VCHEBA), the panel that helps Gov. Bob McDonnell make selections for university boards. VCHEBA is only advisory, providing suggestions for additions

to boards but allowing full discretion to the governor for making final appointments. Yet considering VCHEBA itself is appointed by the governor, it seems one person wields undue influence over making so many selections central to public education.

The existing corrective measure to make board appointments a more democratic process is that the General Assembly must approve of all appointments to boards. As the Faculty Senate notes, however, there exists a time-delay: The governor makes appointments in July to be approved by legislators in January. This temporal gap makes it more difficult for the General Assembly to oversee the appointments and less likely that they will deny many selections. The senate wisely wishes to improve this by recommending legislation be passed to calibrate the appointment process for when the General Assembly is in session.

Lastly, the Faculty Senate has two recommendations specific to the University's Board. One of them is increasing the size of the Board; the other is adding a non-voting faculty member to sit as a Board representative — a common practice of public universities in Virginia, and one we have previously endorsed.

These recommendations are promising but might be difficult to incorporate within the near future. Changing legislation at the state level is hard for any goal, let alone something as seemingly far removed from the public as the structure of university boards. Yet the senate is right to capitalize on the bipartisan momentum created this summer to ensure the political integrity of Virginia public universities. By adding more members with academic backgrounds and checking the role of the governor in making selections, boards at the University and elsewhere will more closely resemble the constituents of public schools.

Featured online reader comment

"Wrong. I think your judgement is poor and your comparisons, selective. Armstrong will eventually be forced to step down from the board: definitely. He has seriously perjured himself, has been a big-time bully and aggressor, failed to confess, failed to apologize, continued to lie and deceive, and his reputation will continue on the current downward trajectory until he addresses these issues."

"Wayno," responding to Alex Yahanda's Nov. 7 opinion column. "Pants on fire"

Concerned?

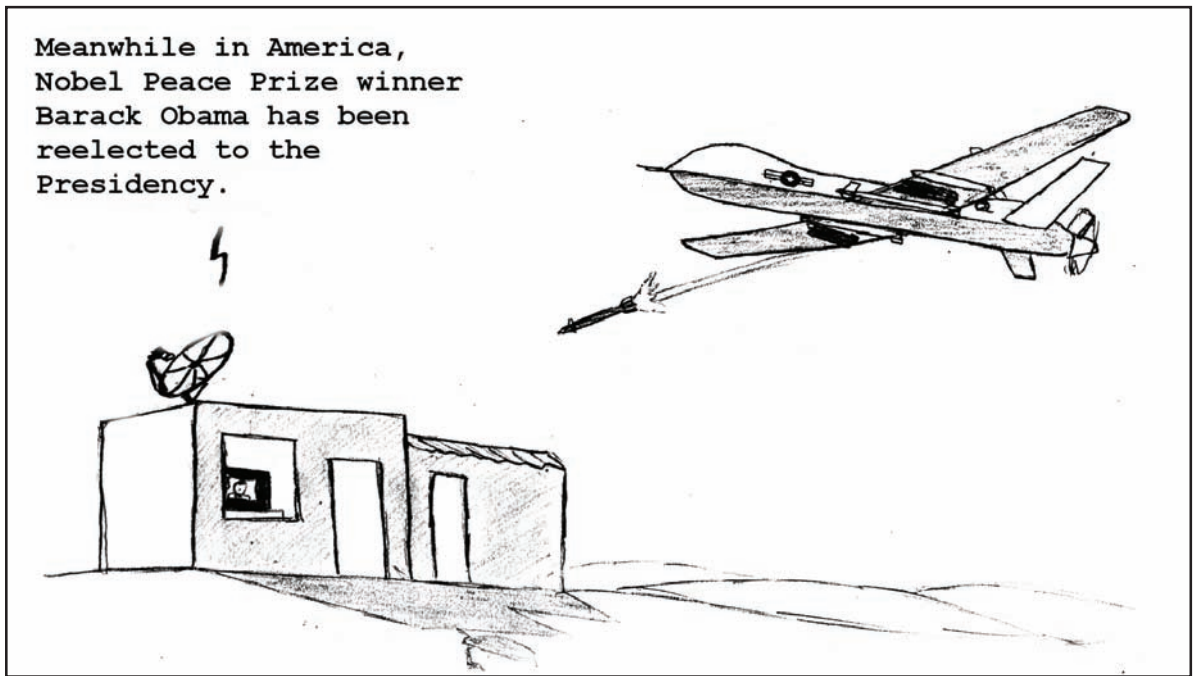
Write a letter to the editor today!

opinion@cavalierdaily.com

Letters should not exceed 250 words.



Editorial Cartoon by Peter Simonsen



The denial of Dragas

An alumnus offers advice on how to ensure Helen Dragas is not reappointed to the Board

AS A PARTICIPANT in UVa Alumni for Responsible Corporate Governance, I continue receiving questions from students about Helen Dragas and the Board of Visitors. Students ask how they can help assure that Ms. Dragas is not confirmed for a second term on the Board.

University students who reside in Virginia can play a crucial role in persuading Virginia's General Assembly to decline approval of Ms. Dragas's nomination for a second Board term.

University students hail from every Senatorial and House District in the Commonwealth. Many of you are voting age. You have parents, other relatives and friends who are voting constituents. Some of these people are also University alumni; all of them should care about whether U.Va. has proper corporate governance.

Enlist all these people in a concerted effort to email, phone and even visit their Senators and Delegates. We need people from every district in the Commonwealth to participate.

The message is straightforward, and can be delivered in one sentence: Do not approve Ms. Dragas for another term on the University's Board.

For a one-page summary to back up this request, go here <https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/445407-uva-alumi-for-resp-corp-gov-legis-br-09042012-3.html> or here <http://wvuvaonline.com/fourteen-alumni-follow-up-on-open-letter-claim-u-v-a-s-gov>

erning-crisis-still-remains/

For a longer discussion of the issues, go here <https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/445409-alum-opn-ltr-bov-corp-gov-08082012.html> or here <http://www.readthehook.com/open-letter-bov-several-prominent-uva-alumni>.

Start talking to your parents, friends and acquaintance now. Over Thanksgiving, really press your relatives and friends to join this effort. Use social media and old-fashioned face-to-face discussions.

You and your relatives and friends in Virginia should contact your own Senators and Delegates each week through November, December and January. The next General Assembly session starts in January and runs for several weeks.

Contacts from constituents when the General Assembly is in session are particularly important because the Senators and Delegates feel the impact as they prepare to vote on the Board nominations.

You must sustain the effort. If you do, we will succeed.

Post comments and reports of progress here <http://hoosuniversity.org/> and here <https://reformtheuvabov.wordpress.com/>.

The General Assembly has a statutory responsibility under Virginia law to supervise the Board when it goes awry. The Board has and is breaching corporate fiduciary duties of due care and of fair dealing, as recent Board interactions with the University's accrediting agency (and Randal

Kirk's Washington Post interview, available at http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/education/u-vas-sullivan-was-hired-as-an-interim-ex-board-member-says/2012/10/29/58eb2-201f-11-e2-afca-58c2f5789c5d_print.html) show.

To people around the US, the fact that Ms. Dragas remains on the Board is the most visible sign that the University continues to be mismanaged at the top corporate level. The damage that her continued membership on the Board causes to the University's reputation and to the effectiveness of its ongoing operations is palpable.

One example: The University's accrediting agency is accusing the University of continuing violations of corporate governance integrity standards. The accusations relate specifically to the Board's attempt to fire President Sullivan and to the Board's refusal since then to offer sensible reasons for the abortive coup. Mr. Kirk's Washington Post interview inadvertently supports the accrediting agency's reasons for pursuing the investigation into Ms. Dragas' role in particular.

For the University's students from out-of-state, please keep up your interest and involvement in changing how the Board sees its role and how it operates. You will find ways to help, but for the next three months, success is in the hands of your in-state colleagues. Democracy works.

Richard D. Marks is a 1966 graduate of the College and one of 14 members of UVa Alumni for Responsible Corporate Governance.

THE CD

The Cavalier Daily is a financially and editorially independent newspaper staffed and managed entirely by students of the University of Virginia.

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The Cavalier Daily is published Mondays through Fridays during the school year (except holidays and examination periods) and on at least 40 percent recycled paper. The first five copies of The Cavalier Daily are free, each additional copy costs \$1.

The Cavalier Daily Online Edition is updated after the print edition goes to press and is publicly accessible via the Internet at www.cavalierdaily.com.

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HAVE AN OPINION?

The Cavalier Daily welcomes letters to the editor and guest columns. Writers must provide full name, telephone number, and University affiliation. If appropriate. Letters should not exceed 250 words in length and columns should not exceed 700. The Cavalier Daily does not guarantee publication of submissions and may edit all material for content and grammar. Anonymous letters, letters to third parties and pieces signed by more than two people will not be considered.

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The ombudsman is available at ombud@cavalierdaily.com.

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Hoos in charge here

A student group, “Hoos University,” calls on the Board of Visitors to work with the University community for a more transparent future

TO THE Board of Visitors, The uncertainty that currently faces public higher education is also an opportunity: Crises invite conversation as much as they court controversy. We seek to forward that conversation in this letter by articulating a vision of shared University governance that will allow the University to continue to grow as a pre-eminent institution of higher education in the United States and abroad.

Last month, a group of students came together to begin this process. We call ourselves “Hoos University,” and we seek to promote a governing structure in keeping with the principles and practices of a participatory democracy. These principles include a commitment

LAURA GOLDBLATT
GUEST VIEWPOINT

to giving all stakeholders in the University a voice, ensuring that its many, various constituencies have a say on the issues that affect them.

First and foremost, we call for a more diverse and representative Board of Visitors. In keeping with governing boards elsewhere, like Virginia Tech and William and Mary, we believe that ours would benefit from the inclusion of distinguished professionals from many walks of life. We think it is especially key to include the perspectives of individuals who have dedicated their lives to developing an intimate knowledge of the workings of higher education. Along these lines, we support the election of University faculty and staff representatives to serve as voting members of the

Board.

We also call on the Board to affirm the core values of higher education: academic freedom, job security and fair compensation for all. The involvement of faculty in articulating and safeguarding these values is crucial. As the American Association of University Professors writes on its website, “We are facing hard times ... But it is precisely in these times that faculty should be a central part of the decision making processes in colleges and universities. It is precisely in these times that faculty should have access to the sort of financial information that makes such shared governance meaningful. And it

is precisely in these hard financial times that faculty must take the lead in helping to define the academy's future.”

Our group asks, finally, for a commitment to fair employment practices and adequate compensation for all members of our University community — adjunct as well as full-time faculty, staff as well as professors and administrators, contract as well as direct employees.

As a first step, we invite the Board to join us in forming several focus groups that will bring together the various stakeholders at the University: scholars, students, staff and alumni. We believe that these focus groups

would help to foster a closer relationship between the Board and the many men and women who reside and work, day to day, in Mr. Jefferson's Academic Village. The result, we hope, would be a collaborative process for shaping a twenty-first century University that both reflects our founding values and responds to a changing world.

As an open, student-centered organization dedicated to the future of the University, we invite anyone to attend our meetings, to check out our website hoosuniversity.org, or to follow us on Facebook or Twitter.

We look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

Laura Goldblatt is a member of Hoos University.

Unacceptable exception

A principled pro-life stance cannot accept exceptions that allow for abortions

WHEN Representative Todd Akin made his inflammatory remarks regarding abortion — primarily, that “legitimate rape” does not result in a pregnancy — he thrust something else into the national spotlight: the conservative position on abortion. Now, the question of how to treat the unborn is not exactly a new one; in fact, the issue has been plaguing U.S. politics for decades now, especially since the pivotal Roe v. Wade (1973) Supreme Court case. I will not attempt to weigh in on the politics of it, and this article will not lay down a verdict on whether “pro-life” or “pro-choice” is the appropriate path for the nation to take — though, like everyone else, I do hold an opinion on the matter. Instead, I want to tackle something that has little to do with the merit of one side or the other: specifically, why the pro-life position cannot make exceptions for rape or incest if it is to be philosophically sound.

This initially seems to be absurd. Indeed, politicians like vice-presidential candidate Paul Ryan who have held this view are labeled as extremists and

RUSSELL BOGUE
OPINION COLUMNIST

“far-right.” Making exceptions for rape and incest is seen as a tempering of views. Witness current presidential candidate Mitt Romney's views on the issue: Broadly against abortion, he has made exceptions to this conviction in cases of rape, incest, and the life of the mother. Ryan initially opposed abortion in all cases except to save the life of the mother; he has since swung to the “center” by joining Romney in permitting the practice following rape or incest.

But the pro-life position, whether you agree with it or not, cannot afford such an unstable policy on abortion. The issue becomes quite simple when you look at it frankly. Pro-life advocates believe that the fetus is a life worth protecting. They do not differentiate between an underdeveloped fetus and a fully developed human; the right to life, they claim, does not hinge on development. Under their framework, abortion is murder. Why, then, would the causes of the conception, however repugnant, be legitimate grounds for murder? Homicide of an innocent third party is never the appropriate response to rape —

yet this is precisely what pro-life advocates often concede. This is, I think, something people from both ends of the spectrum would acknowledge: at the point where you believe the fetus is a life, whether that's at conception or nine months into the pregnancy, you would not tolerate an abortion for any reason other than to save another life. Even pro-choice politicians avoid advocating for murder in response to rape because they believe the fetus isn't a life yet in the first place. You can either admit a fetus is a life, which under no circumstances should be destroyed, or you can refute that claim and freely allow abortions. There is no middle ground; there is no “life except in cases of rape or incest.”

In cases of incest, the argument is often made that the child would be at risk for severe birth defects. This argumentation falls flat in the face of existing norms concerning disabled people. Simply the possibility of birth defects is not enough to justify making exceptions for incest,

and moreover once the baby is considered a life, disabilities or defects cannot — and most would agree should not — impinge on the child's inherent value as a human being.

It is important to note that this argument says nothing about whether or not it is reasonable to consider a fetus a life. That is not the issue here. The point is that once a politician — or anyone, for that matter — adopts a stance that assigns life to an unborn child, he or she cannot compromise on this position except when the mother's life is at stake. Some would not even make an exception for the mother's life; however, I consider this exception highly reasonable. In cases of rape or incest, pro-life politicians are pitting privacy rights against the right to life — the latter must necessarily win out. When the mother's life is at stake, however, we end up with two competing rights to life. It is reasonable to accept that it is better to save one life than lose two.

What are the consequences of

this argument? Pro-choice advocates should no longer label all those who unequivocally oppose abortion “extreme”: Ryan was actually holding a consistent, philosophically sound stance on the issue. For purity of discourse, we should in fact demand this rigor from all who hold a pro-life stance. You may disagree with their conception of life and rights, but you must respect their solid framework. When pro-lifers ignore their philosophical premise, they instead rely on ridiculous claims in order to justify a “no-exceptions” policy; Akin's comments are a clear example of this. People with Akin's views should instead argue on the basis of consistency of values instead of using pseudo-science to justify what is in many ways a reasonable stance. As it stands, the pro-life camp cannot survive strict scrutiny of its own philosophical premise because, in its most centrist form, it does nothing less than advocate life while permitting murder. Mr. Romney, Mr. Ryan — make up your mind.

Russell Bogue's column appears on Thursdays in The Cavalier Daily. He can be reached at r.bogue@cavalierdaily.com.

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CHINA PREPARES FOR LEADERSHIP TRANSITION

Tomohiro Ohsumi | Bloomberg News

The venue of the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, The Great Hall of the People, is illuminated in Tiananmen Square. Vice President Xi Jinping is expected to begin the transition to Secretary General of the 18th Chinese Communist Party Congress on Nov. 8th.

China begins transition

Once-a-decade leadership transfer carries significant U.S.-Sino consequences

By William Wan
Washington Post

BEIJING — China’s once-a-decade leadership transition begins Thursday with all the pageantry, security and behind-the-scenes political intrigue befitting the secretive ruling Communist Party’s most sensitive event.

By Wednesday, the usually crowded Tiananmen Square had been cleared, giving it an eerie, post-apocalyptic feel. Activists had been chased out of the capital, and buildings across the city were draped in flags, flowers and signs, all colored Communist red.

But beneath the pomp of China’s week-long 18th party con-

gress are deep implications for the U.S.-China relationship and the world at large.

China’s new leaders will take over at a critical moment. The country’s economy, the world’s second largest, has been growing for three decades, providing much-needed fuel for the regional and global economy and helping to ensure stability at home. But it has slowed in recent months, and many believe economic reform is desperately needed.

China’s complicated and often fraught relationship with the United States has also been stalled for much of the past year, with China-bashing figuring promi-

nently during the U.S. presidential election.

At a news conference Wednesday, Communist Party spokesman Cai Mingzhao expressed hope that with his reelection, President Barack Obama would “continue to build a positive China policy.”

In recent years, the Obama administration has invested time and energy into nurturing ties with the next generation of leaders. Vice President Joe Biden in particular has tried to develop a rapport with Chinese Vice President Xi Jinping, who is widely expected to replace President Hu Jintao as leader of the party and the country next week.

Ryan considers political future

Unsuccessful Republican vice-presidential nominee returns to Congress, House Budget Committee

By Felicia Sonmez
Washington Post

CLEVELAND — Paul Ryan jogged down the stairs of his campaign plane at Cleveland Hopkins International Airport late Tuesday morning to meet his running mate, Mitt Romney, part of a final, frantic Election Day dash for swing-state voters.

Crossing the tarmac, he found himself a few hundred yards away from the plane of the man Ryan had hoped to oust from the White House: Vice President Joe Biden, who had arrived minutes earlier for an unannounced eleventh-hour visit.

Unfortunately for Ryan, Air Force Two still remains beyond his reach.

After Romney and Ryan’s defeat Tuesday night, the seven-term Wisconsin Republican will return to Capitol Hill with no clear flight path, a wealth of options and a host of questions about his political future.

Ryan, 42, could decide that the House offers the best place to pursue his ambitions. As chairman of the House Budget Committee, he has secured a place among his party’s intellectual leaders, speaking out on how to rein in entitlement costs and cut government spending. Staying in the midst of the action could keep him in the public eye, but it also carries the risk of dragging him back into the gridlocked skirmishing that has

earned Congress such consistently low marks in public opinion polls.

He could choose to leave Congress and head for the quieter quarters of a think tank or the megaphone of the lecture circuit, if he wants to gear up early for a 2016 presidential bid of his own. But few nominees, let alone presidents, have traveled that path to the White House. Ronald Reagan, in 1980, was the last president to be elected from private life rather than from a public office.

Will the GOP ticket’s loss tarnish Ryan in some way? Ryan’s backers say no. So have some in the media, such as New York Magazine’s John Heilemann, whose Sunday story about Ryan carried the headline, “Win or Lose, Paul Ryan’s GOP Future Is Bright.”

Weekly Standard columnist Bill Kristol, one of Ryan’s most ardent supporters, predicted that the Wisconsin Republican is not going to follow in the footsteps of other unsuccessful vice-presidential nominees. He is “not going to do what John Edwards did in ‘04, just to be an outside figure campaigning for president,” Kristol said. “He’s not going to be a Palin.”

Rather, he argued, Ryan is likely to stay in the House and play a hand in negotiating the fiscal deals that need to be made or pushing for conservative alternatives, because even with an Obama victory, “something has to happen on taxes and entitlements and the deficit.”

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Senior tailback Perry Jones looks to juke a defender in a game earlier this season. Jones ranks second on the offense in both rushing and receiving yards.



Jenna Truong
Cavalier Daily

FOOTBALL

Cavs brace for Hurricanes

Dominant win last week, recent success against Miami emboldens players for must-win contest

By Om Evani
Cavalier Daily Staff Writer

The Virginia football team hosts Miami Saturday in an attempt to hold on to its slim bowl chances. The Cavaliers (3-6, 1-4 ACC) are coming off of a 33-6 upset against North Carolina State, which ended their six game losing streak. Before last Saturday's stunning victory, Virginia had yet to record a conference victory. A third win, along with the hopes of post-

season eligibility, seemed out of reach. "If we lost this game, we still had three other games to play but it's like nothing to look forward to," sophomore linebacker Daquan Romero said. "So this was like a spark to win this game." The Cavaliers are still clinging to postseason aspirations after the defense forced five turnovers

Please see **Football**, Page B2

VOLLEYBALL

Virginia closes home schedule

After momentous victory against Georgia Tech, squad welcomes surging Terps, struggling Eagles



Charlotte Burchett | Cavalier Daily
Senior setter Rachel Gray is one of three players who will play their final collegiate games at Memorial Gymnasium this weekend.

By Peter Nance
Cavalier Daily Associate Editor

The Virginia volleyball team plays its final home matches of the season this weekend when it hosts Maryland and Boston College. The Cavaliers (8-18, 2-12 ACC) posted their second ACC win of the year Friday with a thrilling five-set victory against Georgia Tech. The team dropped a tough match to Clemson the following night to finish 1-1 for the weekend. The result was gargantuan for Virginia, who had struggled for much of the season but has seemingly started to gel down the stretch. "It was a really good win for us against Georgia Tech," senior setter Rachel Gray said. "I can't remember the last time we actually won against Georgia Tech during my career here, so it was a really exciting win. They're a really good team." Up first this weekend is Maryland (14-13, 5-10 ACC), who has also managed to turn its season around after a rough stretch. At one point the Terrapins had lost six matches in a row, but they have since won four of their last five, with three of those victories coming in the ACC. The following evening, Boston College (10-17, 4-11 ACC) will try to spoil Virginia's senior night.

Please see **Volleyball**, Page B2

WRESTLING



Redshirt freshman Blaise Butler won his only match at last week's season-opening quad meet, defeating Anderson's Nick Giuliette at 157 pounds. Butler could feature again in Saturday's duals with George Mason and Gardner-Webb.

Courtesy
Virginia Athletics

Matmen travel for duals

No. 16 wrestlers hope focus, conditioning key success in early season matchups

By Matthew Wurzburger
Cavalier Daily Associate Editor

The No. 16 Virginia wrestling team travels to the Gardner-Webb Duals in Boiling Springs, N.C. this weekend to face George Mason and Gardner-Webb. This meet marks the final chance for the Cavaliers (3-0) to compete against lesser known opponents before the season intensifies. Virginia kicked off the season last week with a home quad meet against Ohio, Anderson and Chattanooga. Although the Cavaliers easily swept all three teams in decisive fashion, head coach Steve Garland noted a few issues with his squad's performance that need improvement.

"I saw some mistakes from the top position," coach Garland said. "I consider us one of the better teams on top, but we were getting sloppy in some areas we're usually very tight in." Lack of sharpness on top may have prevented the team from scoring more points as Virginia wrestlers were able to score takedowns but failed to score points for near falls. This inability to score points led to eight matches during the quad meet, including four Virginia losses, being decided by three points or less. This weekend's host, Gardner-Webb, begins the season under new command as Daniel Elliot replaces Dick Wince, who retired

earlier in 2012 following 22 years of coaching. The Runnin' Bulldogs feature a mixture of experience and youth: Redshirt seniors Alex and Ryan Medved headline the top returners with 14 incoming freshmen bolstering the squad's depth. George Mason begins what appears destined to be another rebuilding season this weekend. After inheriting a winless team in his debut year, second-year coach Joe Russell led the Patriots to a 6-17 record. George Mason's roster does feature two stars in sophomores Vince Rodriguez and Jake Kettler. Rodriguez qual-

Please see **Wrestling**, Page B2

CROSS COUNTRY

Runners crave NCAA Regional success

Men's team stands among contenders for Southeast Regional title after finishing second at ACCs; top two teams qualify for NCAA nationals

By Matthew Wurzburger
Cavalier Daily Associate Editor

The Virginia men's and women's cross country teams compete in the NCAA Southeast Regional Championships in Charlotte, N.C. Friday. A team win or runner-up finish offers a guaranteed ticket to the NCAA National Championships in Louisville later this month. For most runners, Regionals represents the culmination of countless

miles covered in practice this season. Simply put, this is why they run cross country. The No. 21 men hope to build upon their success from the ACC Championships two weeks ago. Zach Gates, Graduate Arts & Sciences student, and redshirt freshman Kyle King placed fourth and fifth respectively to lead the Cavaliers to a second place finish, just six points behind champion No. 17 Virginia Tech. The men's team

hopes the momentum gained from such a strong ACC showing will translate into a monumental victory Friday. "We're going into this thinking we can win it," freshman Connor Rog said. "We're coming in with a little momentum, but we also want revenge." The women's team was not as successful, leaving the Championship with a sixth-place finish despite an outstanding silver medal effort from Graduate Edu-

cation student Catherine White. Unsurprisingly, the coaching staff would like to see the team muster a stronger performance in Charlotte. "Sixth is never anything we want to be here," women's coach Todd Morgan said. "Like any team we have had some obstacles to overcome, and we need to do a better job of overcoming them." The women's team believes its fortunes will improve come

Friday, a sentiment prompted by the course itself. Many of the runners who competed for their high schools in Virginia are familiar with the McAlpine course, as it is the sight of the Footlocker South Regional. Friday's race should showcase the triumphant resurgence of Mark Amirault, Graduate Arts & Sciences student. Amirault placed 30th at the ACC Cham-

Please see **Cross Country**, Page B2

What to watch for this weekend

Home:

- Friday, 6 p.m., Women's Soccer vs. La Salle
- Friday, 7 p.m., Women's Basketball vs. James Madison
- Friday, 7 p.m., Volleyball vs. Maryland
- Saturday, 12 p.m., Football vs. Miami
- Saturday, 2 p.m., Field Hockey vs. Iowa
- Saturday, 7 p.m., Volleyball vs. Boston College
- Sunday, 9 a.m., Women's Rowing at Rivanna Romp
- Sunday, 2 p.m., Field Hockey in NCAA Second Round (if applicable)

Away:

- Thursday-Sunday, all day, Men's Tennis @ ITA National Intercollegiate Indoors in Flushing Meadows, N.Y.
- Thursday-Sunday, all day, Women's Tennis @ ITA National Indoors in Flushing, N.Y.
- Friday-Sunday, all day, Women's Tennis at UNC Team Invite
- Friday, 12 p.m., Cross Country at NCAA Southeast Regional Championships
- Friday, 5:30 p.m., Men's Soccer vs. North Carolina in Germantown, Md.
- Friday, 7 p.m., Men's Basketball at George Mason
- Saturday, 9 a.m., Wrestling at Gardner-Webb Duals
- Sunday, 12 p.m., Men's Soccer in NCAA Championship in Germantown (if applicable)

Football | Miami’s Johnson poses ‘explosive’ threat

Continued from page B1

— one more than it had all of last season — and held N.C. State to its lowest point total for the year. The defense was also staunch against the run for the second time in three games, holding the Wolfpack to a measly 19 yards after limiting Maryland to negative one yard of rushing Oct. 13.

“As a defense, that’s something that you have to establish,” Romero said of the unit’s recent rushing defense renaissance. “That’s what we try to do, we try to stop every team from running the ball. We just try to be a dominant defense.”

With the defense playing dominantly, the offense finally started to come together and racked up 446 total yards. Sophomore tailback Kevin Parks led the ground attack with 25 carries for 115 yards and a score, and senior tailback Perry Jones contributed in many different aspects of the game, gaining 6.1 yards per carry and adding six catches for 46 yards.

Similarly, Virginia’s passing game gained traction thanks to the steady play of both sophomore quarterback Phillip Sims and junior quarterback Michael Rocco. Sims completed 8-of-10 passes for 115 yards and one touchdown, and Rocco was 12-for-23 for 83 yards and a score. Neither threw an interception, portending a happy November for the squad if the quarterbacks can remain consistent.

“I think with success comes confidence,” Sims said. “When you’re successful as an offense like we were last week, everybody gets a little more confident, everybody’s a little happier with the situation that’s going on.”

The ACC Coastal-leading Hurricanes (5-4, 4-2 ACC) are coming off a 30-12 win over Virginia Tech in which they did not trail at any point during the game. Miami’s attack revolves around incendiary freshman running back Duke Johnson, who tallied 217 all-purpose yards last week to add to his 1,320 for the season so far.

“The freshman, Duke Johnson is everything that he’s been made out to be,” Virginia coach Mike London said. “He’s very explosive. He gets his hand on the football in various ways; the offense is very creative with him.”

Johnson and senior running back Mike James have accounted for 1,032 of Miami’s 1,171 rushing yards as well as 15 of Miami’s 29 touchdowns this season.

The Hurricanes only need one more victory to clinch bowl eligibility but have struggled against Virginia recently. The Cavaliers have won the last two matchups, including a 24-19 home upset in 2010 against a then-No. 22 Miami team, and four of the last six. Last year, the Cavaliers stunned Miami with a 28-21 victory that went down to the wire.

“I know that [Miami coach Al Golden is going to be reminded of that,” London said. “But we’re reminded of it too. It goes back to winning in November and having a chance to keep some of these goals alive.”

Although they know the road to reach their goal of bowl eligibility appears perilous, the Virginia players are working to stay focused on the task at hand.

“We’re taking it one game at a time,” Romero said. “We’re not really trying to look forward, we know what we have to do and where we have to go to get to these bowl games, but right now we’re just focusing on Miami.”

The game is set to kickoff at 12 p.m. and will be televised nationally on ABC.

Volleyball | Seniors’ last games prompt mixed emotions

Continued from page B1

After a 4-3 start to the conference schedule, the Eagles have struggled mightily and dropped eight matches in a row. Boston College came within one set of topping Duke last weekend but ultimately fell in five to prolong their skid. The Cavaliers will be looking for a bit of revenge, as the first meeting between the teams this year in Chestnut Hill ended in a sweep for the Eagles.

With Maryland and Boston College each expecting important contributors to return from the injury list this weekend, Virginia has faced a stiff challenge in preparing for the matches. The Cavaliers, however, still believe they will enter the season’s final weekend ready to excel after an encouraging week of training.

“We’re having a great week right now in practice,” senior right side Tobi Farrar said. “The last two days have gone really well with hard work. I think we need to work on keeping our composure and going for all of the balls. We need to play hard and outwork the other team.”

This weekend’s matches will hold a special meaning for seniors Gray, Ferrar and middle Jessica O’Shoney as they play in front of the Memorial Gymnasium crowd for the last time in their careers.

The class has had a very tumultuous career, enduring a string of tough seasons and the coaching change from Lee Maes to Dennis Hohenshelt this year.

“It’s a really weird feeling,” Gray said. “I was thinking about it last weekend, and I was reflecting on my time here and thinking how crazy it is that it’s my last home games ever in this gym. I just want to leave on a positive note and get two more wins my last two games here in Mem Gym.”

Hohenshelt has already built a close relationship with his seniors. The coach saw many classes come and go during his 16 years as an assistant at Penn State, but he knows it never gets any easier.

“You’re excited and you’re also a little sad about it,” Hohenshelt said. “I know they’re looking forward to senior night. It’s a nice thing ... I’m excited for them, so hopefully we’ll give them a win to go out on.”

Wrestling | Moore’s tenacity sets tone for fellow Cavaliers

Continued from page B1

ified for the NCAA Championships as a true freshman last year, and Kettler, a transfer from wrestling powerhouse Minnesota, qualified for the Olympic trials last year.

Both teams’ rosters guarantee to produce exciting wrestling as the best wrestlers match up with Virginia’s best. Such potential marquee matchups include Alex Medved against Virginia redshirt senior Jedd Moore at 157 pounds, Ryan Medved against redshirt senior Derek Valenti at 149 pounds and Rodriguez against redshirt sophomore Joe Spisak at 133 pounds.

Moore’s performance at last weekend’s quad drew vociferous praise from the coaching staff, and his aggressive, high-scoring wrestling style has made him a model for the other wrestlers.

“We’re creating a highlight film of Jedd Moore to show the team and say, ‘this is how it is supposed to be, fellas,’” Garland said.

Along with a more talented stable of wrestlers from which to draw, the Cavaliers should benefit from their prime conditioning. Virginia’s superior stamina was obvious in many matches Saturday as opposing wrestlers entered the third period with their heads down and their hands resting on their knees.

Given the advantage of top-notch conditioning in the latter stages of matches and meets, the Cavaliers take pride in their fitness.

“[Conditioning] is something that we definitely do a lot of in the preseason,” redshirt junior Stephen Doty said. “It has a lot to do with the way we wrestle. We wrestle very physically.”

The Gardner-Webb Duals offer the Cavaliers a fantastic opportunity to wrestle against less talented Division I schools before facing more challenging opponents such as No. 4 Iowa and No. 12 Virginia Tech. But Garland is not allowing himself or his wrestlers to overlook any team.

“I don’t want to use the term tune up, ever,” Garland said. “We need to worry about beating these guys, taking it one match at a time, and then worry about Iowa and the rest of the crew.”

Cross Country | Women strive for national meet qualification

Continued from page B1

pionships, his first meet of the season, and all signs indicate that the two-time All-American will be near the top of the pack come Friday afternoon.

“I remember looking at my spot thinking there should be at least one more orange jersey ahead of me,” Rog said. “I think Mark is going to be that guy, and that could determine the win for us.”

A competitive field awaits both Virginia squads at the Southeast Regionals.

The Cavalier women face a challenge from familiar ACC foes No. 10 Duke, North Carolina State and North Carolina. Non-conference teams such as No. 19 William & Mary and Kentucky also pose formidable threats.

“We have a real chance of getting that first or second place spot,” junior Barbara Strehler said. “We’re going to have to work hard because those other teams are our main competition, and they want the same thing.”

A mix of potent conference and non-conference teams will challenge the Cavalier men as well. No. 15 Eastern Kentucky is the highest ranked team in the Southeast Region and joins Virginia Tech as Virginia’s stiffest competition for the Regional title.

In addition to winning or finishing second, teams outside the top two can receive an at-large bid to Nationals. Given their second place finish at the ACC Championships, a competitive showing Friday almost guarantees an at-large bid for the men’s team.

The women’s future is less certain. Their less than desirable performance at the ACC Championships would hurt their chance at an at-large bid should the team not finish in the top two.

Should neither team advance from Regionals, individual Cavaliers can still earn a spot in the NCAA Championships. The top four runners not on the top two teams receive invitations to run as individuals, providing an additional outlet for Virginia runners like White, Amirault and Gates.

Still, both the men and women are approaching the meet unequivocally focused on team aspirations.

“We’re totally in the mix,” Rog said. “We replace Florida State with Eastern Kentucky, and we’ll have to watch out for them. There is no doubt in my mind that we can win this.”

The women’s race is scheduled to begin at 12 p.m. with the men’s race immediately following.



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Leslie Baltz was a 4th year student who died after a day of high-risk drinking on the day of the last home football game. To honor the memory of Leslie, the race promotes healthy UVA traditions.

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HOO knew?

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*From the Fall 2010 Health Survey with responses from 1,700 U.Va. students

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film

No 'Silver Lining' for this 'Playbook'

by conor sheehy

It takes a pretty terrible movie to make a magnificent theater like the Paramount feel like a prison, and David O. Russell's *Silver Linings Playbook* accomplished just that when it played at the Virginia Film Festival Saturday. Surrounded by hordes of cackling viewers, I knew from the film's first frame that there would be no escape from the dull, lumbering story that writer-director Russell had cooked up in an obvious attempt to strike Oscar gold after failing two years ago with the similarly mediocre *The Fighter*.

Like that 2010 hack job, *Silver Linings Playbook* tells the tale of a simplistically drawn and cliché-ridden protagonist who seeks to piece his life together and to strike a balance between familial pressures, professional fulfillment and, of course, romance. Here, the leading man is Pat Solitano Jr. (Bradley Cooper), an ex-teacher plagued by anger issues, an estranged wife, a competitive older brother and a sports-obsessed father. And as if these factors weren't clichéd enough, Pat has recently spent time at a mental institution and is still trying to convince himself that he's not crazy as he strives to see the "silver lining" — get it? — in every situation.

For much of the movie's excessive runtime, we have the unfortunate privilege of seeing this thoroughly unlikable and obnoxious character engage in predictably irritating antics. One particularly quirky sequence has him laying waste to a magazine rack at his therapist's office, and another heinous scene has him accosting a high school teacher and dramatically pumping her for information. If none of this sounds funny, it's because it's not. Pat's character tends to come across as a mix between Adam Sandler's annoying role in *Anger Management* and a piece of lifeless cardboard — as you might expect, the result isn't pretty.

But a movie this pretentious could never settle to be merely a cringe-

inducing *Anger Management* rip-off, so Russell introduces a subplot involving Pat's father (Robert DeNiro) and his bookmaking gig, along with a conventional oddball-meets-oddball love story featuring the lovely Jennifer Lawrence. DeNiro's role is reduced to the status of broad caricature, and his attempts to become closer to his son through gambling on Philadelphia Eagles games induce more eye rolls than smiles or tears, but Lawrence almost redeems the film with her turn as Tiffany, a wild-child widow who enlists Pat to enter a dancing contest with her in return for helping him to regain contact with his wife.

Sadly, even Lawrence's charming presence and sympathetic portrayal can't hope to make up for the rest of the movie, which vacillates between silly sentimentality and coarse humor

without any apparent consistency or narrative flow. *Silver Linings Playbook* relies heavily upon its audience's desire to watch people yell at each other in vulgar and uninventive ways, and frankly, I've seen enough of that activity in the presidential debates and advertisement back-and-forths to last me more than a lifetime.

Here, the conversations are supposed to make us think seriously about mental illness, romantic compatibility, misguided pursuits, obsessions, the value and measure of victory and familial cohesion, but the film treats these issues in such shallow and overdone ways that we, as the audience, ultimately gain nothing. To make matters worse, the movie's camera work amounts to jerky and seemingly meaningless shifts in angle and focus that prove more distracting than enlightening.

Both the cinematography and Danny Elfman's monotonous musical score seem aimed at achieving a sort of stereotypically "indie" aesthetic, but indie for indie's sake

just isn't all that interesting, especially considering the polish and potential Russell demonstrated 18 years ago with the low-budget *Flirting with Disaster*.

Apart from Lawrence's thrilling performance, everything about *Silver Linings Playbook* seems sloppy and ill conceived. Brilliant actresses such as *Animal Kingdom*'s Jacki Weaver, who plays Pat's mother, are pushed to the sidelines, whereas bland and inconstant actors such as Cooper and Chris Tucker — who portrays a jaw-dropping stereotype of a mentally unstable man — are given the spotlight and allowed to sink an already nasty script even further into the muck. Unless someone chains you down and forces you to suffer through this mess of a movie, you'd do best to run for the hills when it comes to a theater near you.



Courtesy The Weinstein Company



film



Brilliantly acted, self-aware film depicts San Diego subculture, indie music

Courtesy Uncle Freddy Productions

by James cassar

I have been dressed for this occasion for two days straight: ironic, muted, flannel jeans skinnier than Nicole Richie, blister-inducing Chuck Taylor kicks, a trapper hat straight out of Northern Michigan and, of course, imitation Ray-Bans. But don't worry — unlike most people afraid to be stamped a "hipster," my fay-Bans have lenses to accommodate my 20/80 excuse for vision.

Not to drive the fair-trade nail into my stereotypical argyle-sweater coffin, but I'm typing this review while craving Starbucks on an undeniably sleek MacBook Pro. No joke.

Kicking off the first night of the Virginia Film Festival, *I Am Not a Hipster* is one part *Control* — a grainy, bleak take on a Joy Division biopic — and two parts *High Fidelity* — where admittedly archaic cassette culture takes a backseat to grade-A drama — dotted off with a dollop of self-mocking sarcasm. If anyone truly believes this film adheres to its title, he'd obviously be overlooking the gratuitous nods to the much-parodied subculture: Pabst Blue Ribbon, cheap ciga-

rettes and a penchant for obscure indie-rock serve as the spectacle's driving force.

Set against a soundtrack predominantly crooned by acoustic slow jam upstarts Canines, *I Am Not a Hipster* depicts San Diego's "starving artist" indie scene, with forlorn folk-rocker Brook Hyde (Dominic Bogart) serving as the movement's poster child. Coping with the death of his mother, his life is plagued by loneliness and isolation, and despite his art being praised as revolutionary, he deems his efforts empty and passionless.

Substitute teacher by day, eternally tormented Tom Waits clone by night, he swallows his bitter solitude alongside a vegan diet. Among his ragtag clan of artistic cohorts is the iPhone touting, bike-racing modernist Clarke (played in a truly non-mainstream fashion by Alvaro Orlando), the laughably realistic Spaceface, a blatant farce of computer-driven dance music (Adam Shapiro), and Hyde's three supportive, sympathetic sisters (Tammy Minoff, Lauren Coleman, Kandis Erickson).

The performances in the film are

nothing less than breathable representations of the trendsetters they attempt to avoid illustrating. Brook is crushingly cynical and intolerant of digital buffoonery — calling all Instagram fanatics, your number's up! Clarke, who's living easy between unemployment checks, is unabashedly sociable and fittingly flamboyant.

There's a scene where Hyde nonchalantly writes off the entire indie subculture during a radio interview, cursing the music industry at large for its predictability. In another fit of cathartic negativity, Hyde deems Auto-Tune and shallow "photography," both staples in the decades of the double-click, as pointless as his painstakingly pensive music.

Music films tend to reach the common conclusion that the tunes transform tragedy into togetherness, but *I Am Not a Hipster* sidesteps the trite conclusion for something more encompassing and deep. Chalk one up for these true hipsters. They lived up to their label.



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

arts & entertainment

INSIDE



'About Cherry'
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'Hardcore Norfolk'
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ONLINE

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NEXT WEEK

Film:
'Skyfall'
'Man With the Iron Fist'

Music:
Toby Keith
Meek Mill
Lady Antebellum
Reptar

film

||||||| BY JAMES CASSAR ||||||

In my third review of Virginia Film Festival screenings, I'm faced with a reprise of sorts. *Not That Funny* is what *I Am Not a Hipster* is titularly: sort of a misnomer. Well, yes, it tends to be what Thursday's delightfully indie film could not accomplish and carries a plot that does hold close to the promise its title strings up in lights. But, despite the relatively serious nature of its plot, *Not That Funny* has its chuckle-inducing moments.

Stefan (Tony Hale) cares for the elderly Toogey (K Callan) and doubles as her astute financial adviser. His best friend, Kevork (John Kapelos) pesters Stefan about his apparent loneliness, to which he simply replies: "I'm alone, I'm not lonely." But in true dramedy fashion, a girl flips his ideology like lackluster McDonald's hotcakes. The stereotypically troubled granddaughter Hayley (Brigid

Brannagh) begrudgingly toils under pretentious sleazebag Finneas Patrick O'Neill (Timothy V. Murphy), who prides himself on being the most unpleasant humanitarian in the history of humanitarianism. Haley "just wants someone who makes her laugh."

Let's set the record straight: Stefan is indeed not that funny, so he flocks to the Internet to fuel his comedic fire. He attempts to emulate female fan favorite Norm Getz (Nick Thune), whose claim to fame is being rudier and cruder than your average ExxonMobil gas. After priming his humor, the unfunny man test drives it and misfires, discovering that he's more himself as a serious man than a hilarious one. Cue the *Full House* episodic score and let's call it a night.

But wait! There's more! Not that much more, though. The action moves at such

a glacial pace that most of the quips are hidden behind questionable music choices — I recall hearing an industrial-dance tune immediately followed by a Sarah McLachlan clone — and Hale's signature facial expressions. The performances are hit-and-miss, and the emotive conclusion that tries its best to remain unequivocally original is your standard 100-minute Lifetime special closer.

This film seems to have a cast cursed with an ironic case of arrested development. It breaks no new ground, and those wishing that Hale would return to his typecast role as the awkward, coddled kid brother will leave *Not That Funny* with a bitter taste of disappointment.

But let's remember: The movie isn't advertised as "*Arrested Development: Solo Round*," Hale's glorious return-to-

form as Fox's poster child for the results of terrible parenting. It's presented as a pensive dramedy, even though it ironically never strays from the stale formula that Hollywood keeps slopping onto movie screens.

Despite these flaws, the flick's current 3.8 stars on aggregate website IMDB hint that it does have some merits, even if it's as predictable as your standard Nicholas Sparks blah-a-thon.

It'd be a crime to discount the fact that *Not That Funny* does bring to mind this important reminder: This movie delivers, for the most part, what it intends to. Phrases are sometimes followed by smatterings of chuckles, others welcomed by embarrassing silence. But isn't that the point?

**film**

'About' a girl



Scandalous coming-of-age tale suffers from uneven pacing; lacks character development

by kristen hardy

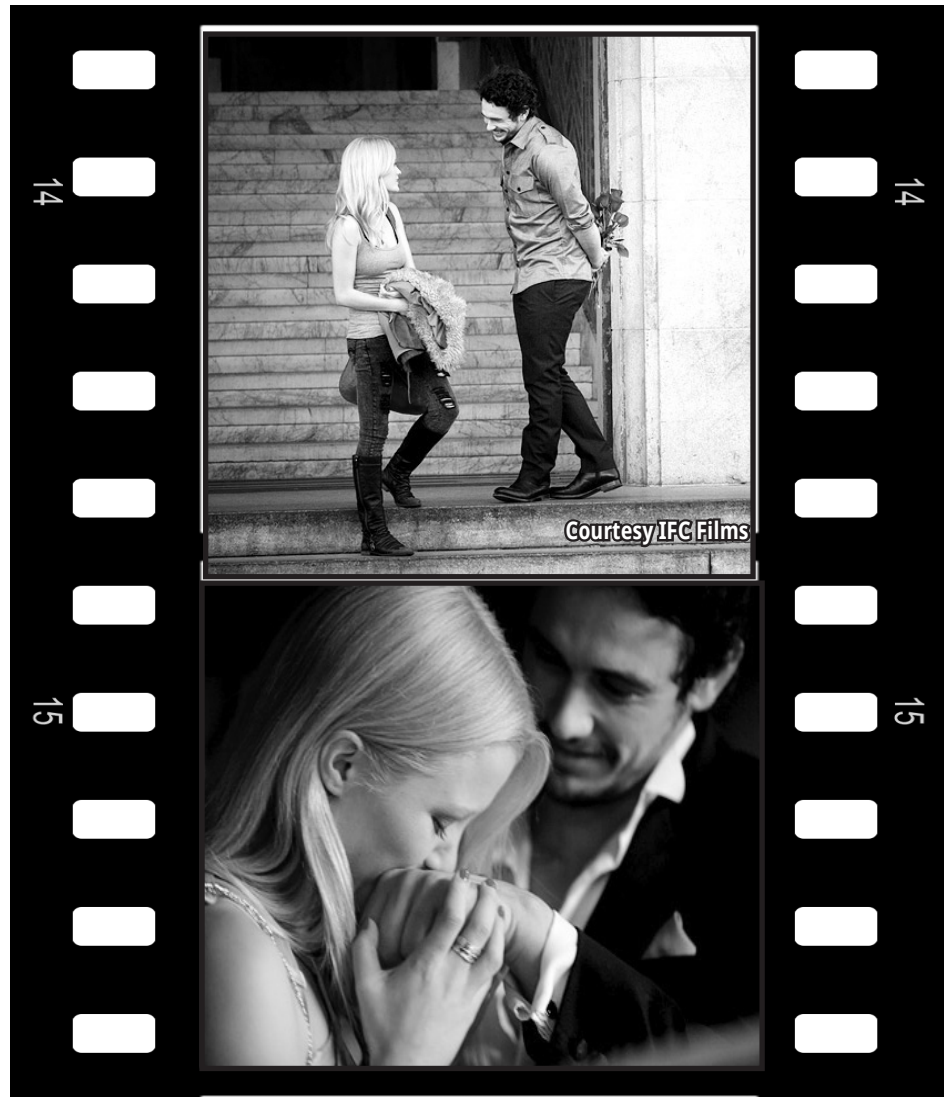
About Cherry is mostly sex and drugs, with a little bit of heartache thrown in, too. The tale of a teenager with a terrible home life, this is not your average “inspirational, rise from the ashes” movie. With the potential to be a riveting story of struggle, it just misses the mark for me because of its unnecessarily numerous sex scenes, superficial story telling and rushed ending.

Cherry, who starts out as a hard-working older sister/replacement for her absentee mother, transforms from struggling teenager to porn star so quickly that if you blinked you would have missed it. This seemed to be a theme throughout the entire movie, however: quickly introducing characters and relationships, then letting them trail off without mention.

The ending was no exception. The sudden resolution was quite frustrating after so much of the film was wasted on one seemingly unnecessary graphic scene after the other. The movie was starting to lull toward the end, and then, in a mere three scenes, the whole thing wraps up. Feeling confused and somewhat cheated, so many questions came to mind after the credits began to roll — ones that should have been answered throughout the course of the movie and not left as loose ends.

Despite the incomplete and shuffled method of storytelling, *About Cherry* does boast some sexy scenes, and some big names such as James Franco, Heather Graham and Dev Patel. Ashley Hinshaw, the lead, gives a riveting performance as a believable porn star while maintaining the innocence of a teenage girl. Though the plot was a bit lacking, the acting was top-notch and it made a film that could have been trashy and cheap into a respectable piece of work.

As the debut film for author Stephen Elliott, it was definitely not bad — but it could have been better. The story line had immense potential to truly convey the heartache associated with a broken childhood and the struggle to make ends meet, but it seemed to just skim over a lot of these points. Sex was used as the filler for all of the plots inadequacies, which really sacrificed the depth of the story. Nevertheless, I truly enjoyed the majority of this bold and risky film. If you're looking for a deeply complex story, *About Cherry* is probably not right for you; but if you are looking for a movie with no rules that is unlike any that are being produced right now, this is it.



★ poor

☆☆ average

☆☆☆ good

★★★★ excellent

★★★★★ classic



Cyan Magenta Yellow Black



all the president's men

by will mullany

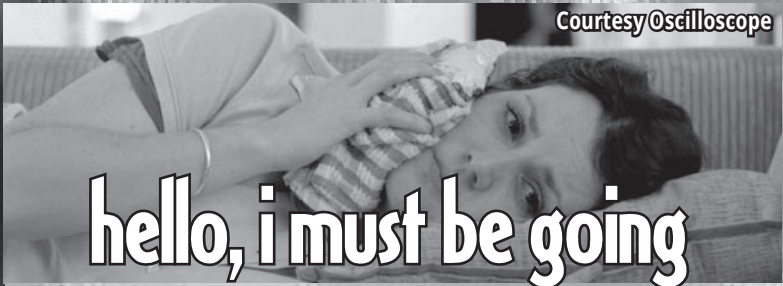


Everyone knew the movie was going to be good. With two of the greatest actors of the century, four Academy Awards and a multitude of other accolades, *All the President's Men* has already been deemed a bona fide classic. I could sense, however, that the most anticipated segment of the show was the discussion afterward with Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein, the very men who inspired the film, broke the Watergate scandal and cemented their status as genuine journalistic royalty.

Even as the film progressed, it only served to heighten the audience's anticipation. From the very beginning when we see the two reporters initially drawn to the fast-paced investigative journalism unfolding on screen, we realize just what a feat of genius these two men accomplished.

The fact is, we know how the story ends. We know how the whole thing blows up. But it's the process, the dogged tenacity of the duo that makes the story astounding all the same.

As Bernstein said after the screening, the film "shows the process of reporting" as not just sitting in an office and calling numbers. Especially in light of the changing nature of journalism in today's world, hearing from the dynamic duo was almost as fascinating as watching the movie itself — and that's saying something.



hello, i must be going

by annie wilmer



In *Hello I Must Be Going*, the performances of lead actors Melanie Lynskey and Christopher Abbott pull together the very tragically subtle story of Amy's recent divorce and how she finds understanding through her relationship with 19-year-old Jeremy. The story in itself, although definitely offering a distinct look at both love and knowledge of the self, would not hold the strength that it does without the two leads, who bring humor to the most uncomfortably realistic of places.

The film focuses especially on Amy, who has moved back in with her parents after her ex-husband cheated on her and then asked for a divorce. Her parents, however, are trying to find success in the rough economy by assuming control of Jeremy's stepfather's business. When the two start to fall for each other, Amy finds herself in her mid-30s and forced to learn to actually grow up. The story has strong, witty moments that contrast with the sad reality that is Amy's life. *Hello I Must Be Going* has a voice of its own and is well worth watching.



silver linings playboök

by james cassar



Sure, the Virginia Film Festival has had its share of superstars grace Charlottesville's gigantic screens, but David O. Russell's brilliant *Silver Linings Playbook* was last weekend's *Valentine's Day*: a romantic comedy with an ensemble cast that, unlike that god-awful comparison, isn't formulaic and doesn't star Taylor Swift in a fittingly lovelorn role.

Set for wide release in a little less than two weeks, *Silver Linings Playbook* was described by festival Director Jody Kielbasa as one of the festival's pinnacle showings. The Paramount Theater was home to a sellout crowd for the second night in a row after Friday's *All the President's Men* gathered a sizable, albeit older viewer base the night before.

Silver Linings Playbook is (500) *Days of Summer* meets *Harold & Maude* — featuring music by the White Stripes and a substantial subplot involving the Philadelphia Eagles. It's the same story that's been retold countless times — some worse train wrecks than in other films — but the psychological undertones and the two talented leads, Bradley Cooper and Jennifer Lawrence, deliver something not completely overdone in the rom-com playbook.



the man with the iron fists

by will mullany



The Man With The Iron Fists unites prominent cultural forces with the furiously devoted masses of Kung fu fans. RZA of the rap posse Wu-Tang Clan writes, directs and stars in the film that is set against a backdrop of traditional Kung fu aesthetic.

Even Tarantino — whose presence can be felt strongly throughout the film — puts his stamp on the production. All in all, this was an earnest Kung fu movie.

Or so I thought. But I was quickly alerted to its sardonic tone by a young lady sitting behind me who giggled gleefully "This is so ridiculous." Ah. Yes, it was ridiculous. Let's hope so, anyway. Because if even part of the film was straight-faced, that means it really was just that bad.

No, no. It couldn't be. It was a satire. A genius satire of the martial arts film genre, of course. I laughed the whole way through. Fantastic. Just heed this advice: Sit back and enjoy the streams of gore, hackneyed writing and the downright ungodly levels of absurdity without thinking too much about it. It wasn't intended to be anything remotely serious.



From Culbreth Theater to the Downtown Mall, our writers covered all of the festival highlights for our comprehensive VFF blog. Check out these excerpts below!



fat kid rules the world

by annie wilmer



Matthew Lillard (*The Descendants*, *Scooby Doo*) and Billy Campbell (*The Rocketeer*, *Dracula*) came to the Newcomb Theater this weekend to present Lillard's directorial debut and Campbell's role in *Fat Kid Rules the World*. After a rough life, obese high school teenager Troy (Jacob Wysocki) finds himself dragged along on the adventures of expelled band member and junkie Marcus (Matt O'Leary) when Marcus saves Troy from his suicide attempt. By the end, Troy is the one playing hero, rescuing Marcus from his downward spiral.

This film has a ton of heart, from the amazing performances of the actors to the honest environment Lillard creates. *Fat Kid Rules the World* is a product of Lillard's hard work and dedication and should be seen for its energetic, believable story.

Lillard and Campbell stayed long after the film ended to talk to basically every fan in the theater, and their energy made everyone feel like they truly loved the experience. I highly, highly recommend checking this film out on Video On Demand or when it comes to iTunes.



rust and bone

by annie wilmer

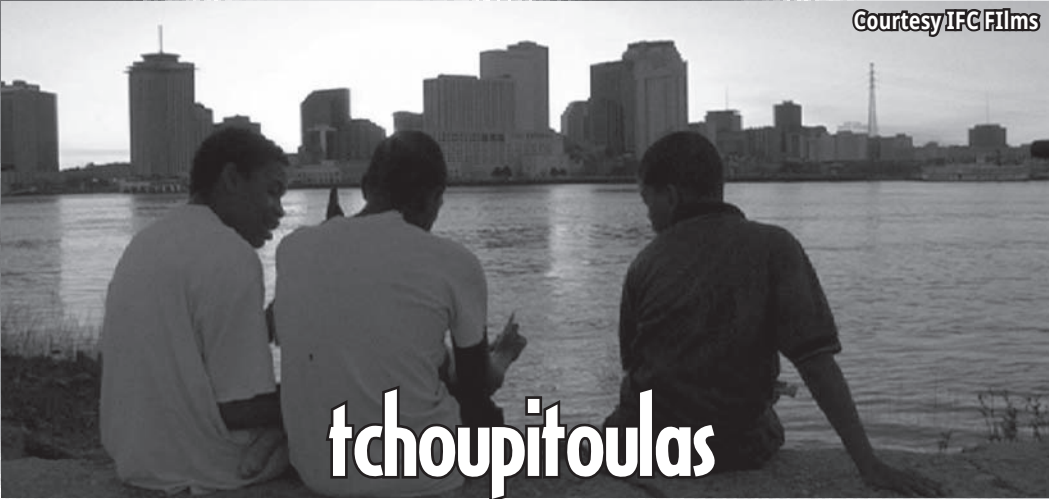


In what was apparently the U.S. premiere of French film *Rust and Bone*, the Virginia Film Festival brought in a strong crowd. In a role that has a good shot to lead to an Oscar nomination for Marion Cotillard (*Inception*, *The Dark Knight Rises*, *Contagion*), Stéphanie suffers a major accident working with killer whales that leaves her without her legs and without much will to live. At the same time, Ali (Matthias Schoenaerts) is fighting to support himself and his five-year-old son, Sam, after he and Sam's mother break up.

Both in very difficult times of their lives, Stephanie and Ali work symbiotically to move

along and find purpose.

Jacques Audiard made an amazing film that truly takes the time to study the characters, their environment and their lives. He allows his leads to pull through their respective adversities, not just for the sake of the audience but because they actually find a way to do so. He takes Stéphanie from having exquisite control of her life to being naked on the ground, and he portrays Ali as the continually deficient father, brother and friend. The movie transforms the gray and depressing aspects of the characters' lives, highlighting the light amid the shadow.



tchoupitoulas

by will mullany



Bill and Turner Ross are the type of filmmaking duo that emerged from a childhood obsession with the power of the camera to put an audience into your shoes and show them the world as you see it.

Though the brothers have grown significantly since their boyhood, their film *Tchoupitoulas* possesses that distinct touch of naiveté. Rather than recounting a narrative or voicing some socio-political commentary, their film shares with the audience a vision of New Orleans as seen by the multitudes of often-overlooked ordinary people that make the city run.

Unsurprisingly, the Ross brothers said they had sought to create a film that "immerses itself into New Orleans," a feat oft attempted and rarely accomplished. Although they do at times fall prey to many of the trappings common to the Art-House canon — abstract interludes of poorly focused camera shots, for example — their unconventional technique characterizes an important essence of the city: unpredictability. And although *Tchoupitoulas* may not be fit for the full-length, big-screen, wide-release that so aptly suits other films, it is certainly worth the time for anyone with an open mind.



Party politics

Students gather to watch Election 2012 results, cheer on party favorites

Dillon Harding | Cavalier Daily

