

11-18-2015

## Rotunda - Vol 94, no. 12 - Nov. 18, 2015

Longwood University

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### Recommended Citation

Longwood University, "Rotunda - Vol 94, no. 12 - Nov. 18, 2015" (2015). *Rotunda*. Paper 2158.  
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LONGWOOD UNIVERSITY

# The Rotunda



December 2, 2015

Wishing everyone a happy holiday since 1920

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# Crime during the holiday season

BY CHRISTINE RINDFLEISCH  
CONTRIBUTOR

The increase in criminal activity is always expected during the holiday season. Larger purchases are made with a higher monetary value at risk.

Chief Curtis Davis of the Farmville Police Department said that shoplifting, larcenies and occasionally some breaking and entering are all frequently seen during the holiday season.

“There is not a significant measureable trend... (it) all depends on the opportunity,” said Davis.

When it comes to the increased crime rate, Davis explained how the rate fluctuates from year to year.

“(It) goes from year to year, depending on what’s happened, and how the economy is...” Davis

added that this is due to the fact it becomes more common to “see a lot more folks out shopping with more vehicles with items inside of them, with expensive items providing those opportunities.”

According to the U.S. Census in 2010, the Farmville population was 8,216, while Roanoke’s population sat at 99,428.

Comparing Farmville to Roanoke, Davis said, “It (Farmville) is a smaller scale, and certainly it has a lot to do with how much the community is vested in reducing crime.”

Chief Davis explained that crime in Farmville is noticed more quickly than in Roanoke due to the sizes of the two in comparison.

“Obviously there is attention drawn to crimes quicker here than in a larger city. (It’s) more stressful when we hear about one

(crime) or see one because they don’t occur as frequently, which is a good thing,” said Davis.

Because most students will be traveling home during the holiday break, Chief Davis said that “it is no secret that the normal housing is unoccupied.”

In order to keep any valuables inside the residence safe, Davis suggested that if there is someone around the area, you could have them check on the residence and make sure everything is secure.

Davis stated that the key concept to remember in making sure that students and faculty are safe during the holiday season is awareness.

This holiday season, remember to lock your doors, use lights, store your packages properly and travel in groups.

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# No “safe ride” program for Longwood

BY BRIANA ADHIKUSUMA  
NEWS EDITOR

With the common drinking culture surrounding campuses, some universities have created “safe ride” programs or “drunk buses” for students to use for getting home safely.

Longwood has not created a specific program for this purpose and according to Lieutenant John Johnson of the Longwood Police Department, the university probably won't consider it.

“It's a huge liability and it's a huge responsibility to take on that, and 98 percent of the people that they would be providing their service for would be underage. You just can't take that lightly. You cannot do that. I don't think the university would do that anyway,” said Lieutenant Johnson.

According to Sasha Johnson, the Education and Prevention Coordinator for the Office of Student Conduct and Integrity and Chair of the ATOD (Alcohol, Drugs, and Other Drugs) team, a “safe ride” program had been considered before a few years ago, but didn't make it through due to funding and driver issues.

“I think it's something we should consider. We have considered it before. It would be a student-led initiative.

That's what I can see, I don't see the university hiring a driver all night to take students around...the insurance on that would be pretty expensive, but if the students want to do it, the students can do it. We ran into the issue of who would drive. Are we going to have enough volunteers? Who is going to staff that? Who is going to make sure it exists? All of the details that go along with having a ‘drunk bus’ or safe transportation program,” said Johnson.

According to Johnson, there is about 1,800 alcohol-related deaths annually among college students. Although Johnson believes that a “safe ride” program should be considered for the university, she said the issue would run into a difficult funding situation.

“We don't have it in the budget to supply that service... we can look into things like parent council grants. There might be a certain donor, someone who may want to donate to that particular cause. Because I would hate for students to go through the process of starting that type of program, and it last one year.”

As far as other options, intoxicated students are unable to use the Student Safety Organization walkers due to their policy of not walking intoxicated students home. This leaves them with the option of Longwood Police, which

most students would not venture to look for help from, nor would the police want to turn into a transportation system.

“It's our job to make sure these kids are safe. It's not our job to shuttle them around because they want to go to the next party and drink some more. We will not do that,” said Lieutenant Johnson.

As far as walking around at night, Lieutenant Johnson advises students to “...stay in well-lit areas...walk in pairs, walk in groups, always have someone there with you. Think about where you're walking and what you're doing while you're walking.”

For now, a safe ride program will remain nonexistent until any further initiatives are taken. It would ultimately be up to students to pull together the program and funding to make the program successful.

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# SGA Brief



BY CHRISTINE RINDFLEISCH  
CONTRIBUTOR

This week's SGA meeting focused attention on the issues concerning summer registration. It was brought up by President Constance Garner how currently the registration for summer courses is a free-for-all.

Complaints on the matter have been brought to faculty senate as well as the registrar. The main issue is in regard to foreign language courses. Garner voiced her concerns with this in regard to seniors and how those particular students are not receiving a slot in the course they would need to graduate, keeping in mind they are still allowed to walk in graduation.

One suggestion made by Senator Tonisha Pitchford would be to have the first time ticket serve juniors and seniors to ensure that no underclassman would be taking their spot in the class. Much discussion surfaced as to why time ticketing does not exist currently as many were unaware this wasn't already in place.

Other suggestions were made for the same procedure as regular registration with fall and spring registrations.

Dr. Tim Pierson focused on the recent bias protocol

made November 21. Pierson stated the incident was a "comment on the street," and that it occurred in town. Due to the fact that this matter occurred in Farmville both the Longwood University Police as well as the Farmville Police are investigating the incident. Pierson ensured that all those involved will "...follow up to the best of our ability." Campus student leaders have been informed of further details regarding the incident.

The SGA passed the motion to allocate \$3,207.00 to IFC for their conference held in Atlanta. This allocation will fund seven people in terms of registration fees, lodging and transportation.

They also approved to reallocate \$2,350.00 to Alternative Spring Break. The organization had not realized how the site fees were no longer needed and wished to use the already allocated funds for transportation that ended up being more expensive than expected.

Longwood Ambassadors' allocation of \$1,573.00 was approved by the SGA for a conference in Louisville, Kentucky funding four people. These funds will include registration fees and lodging.

Senator Mark Barham brought up the need for Longwood to pay for night classes that can be costly to students. Barham stated how even a compromise between Longwood and the

students would be a possibility to cut down on some of the costs. Barham also mentioned how there was an alumnus who is certified that would be willing to accommodate for those students looking to take these courses at a lower cost.

It was also brought up how the Student Union will be open next week until 2:00 a.m. to provide for finals week as well as two nights this week.



CARLY SHAIA | ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR



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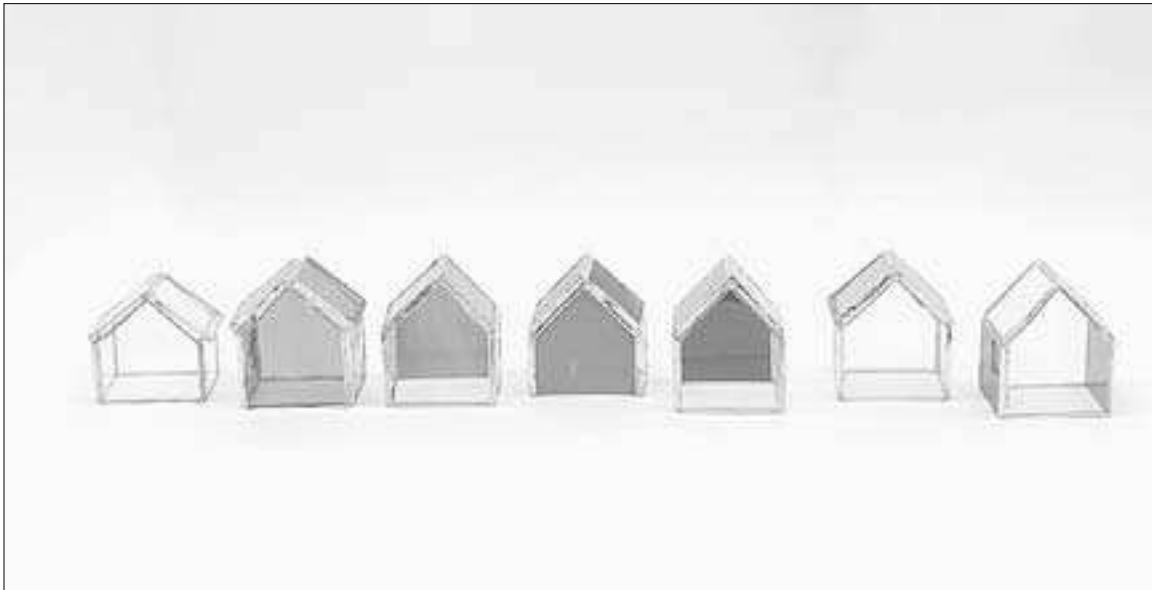
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# Holiday cheer at the Bedford fine art sale



CAMERON BURNS | CONTRIBUTOR

BY DAVID PETTYJOHN  
CONTRIBUTOR  
@PETTYJOHNDAVID

On Thursday, December 3, Bedford Hall will host a fine art sale featuring the brilliant works of the talented faculty and students in the Longwood University Art Department. Professor Angela Bubash, the assistant professor of jewelry metalsmithing and crafts, is running the sale. This is the first year that she is in charge of a project like this in her two years at Longwood, though she has been involved and in charge of fine art sales before at other venues. She was also the president, the secretary and the treasurer at her school's arts organization when she was an undergraduate and during graduate school.

When asked about the art that can be bought there, she describes how “we have clay, we have metal and jewelry, we have stained glass, we have handmade books, and we have some origami sculptures that... the paper class is making.”

She explained that this means she is able to represent “the best that we can offer here,” so all of it is “student effort and work.”

The art fraternity Kappa Pi will be helping with the event and are actually “presenting the holiday sale itself,” according to Bubash.

She has been working with her professional practice class on marketing techniques throughout the second half of the semester, primarily on advertising and professionalism. This is a great opportunity for them, as it allows them to get experience and “not only learn about these details, but also putting on a

show and dealing with gallery relations and pricing and marketing and actually doing it.”

While Professor Bubash's specialty is in metalwork, she will be overseeing the entire event, as it was her idea “to do this sale, and to work in [her] metals classes, and [her] stained glass class.”

She will also be in charge of production, because art students often do not learn how to price their work and make multiple copies of it to sell.

This is why having her classes collaborate on the event was critical to the event, as it would “help them learn a different aspect of being an artist,” to give them “a little bit more of a real world experience of what they might encounter when they're done with school,” she said.

This way, they will know what to do when they want to sell their work or when they attempt to have their work entered into a gallery. This formula of hers seems to have worked very well in the past; students that have done well at her previous sales (mostly the ones at graduate school) have gone on to start their own businesses or studios or to teach art.

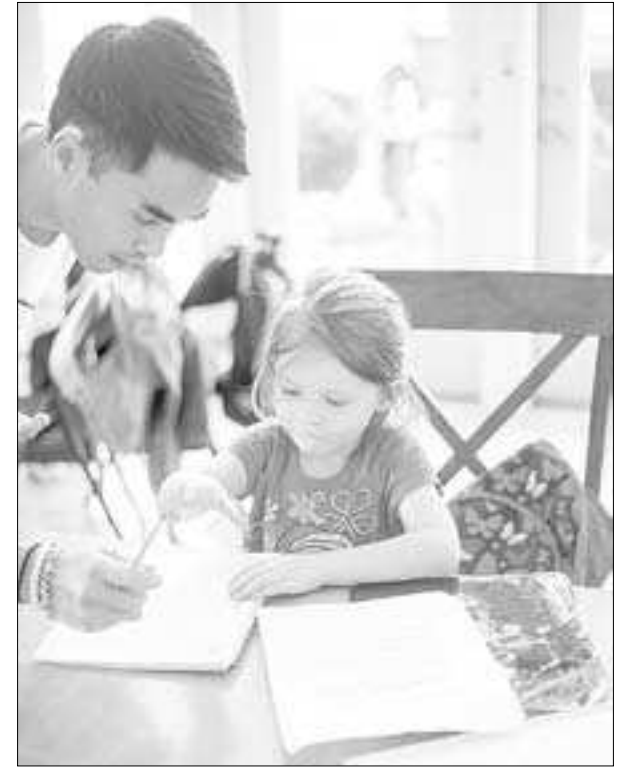
Some of the money that is made through the sale will be going to FACES, and some will be going back to the students themselves. The students will be needing the money for their senior thesis shows, so this sale will “be helping a lot of different people, and that's exciting,” according to Bubash.

The event will start at 10 a.m. and will end at 8 p.m.



Longwood art students come together to create pieces to sell for charity.





MARLISHA STEWART | PHOTO STAFF

Longwood University Students Amelia McConnell (middle) and Molly Kabis (far left) started the program Beyond the Numbers in 2013. Today the program is up and thriving with over nine volunteers and over 20 attended children every day. Students gather at Parkview Gardens to help children strive for success after school. They provide help with homework and give the students free time, after homework is completed, to play games or get active outside. As soon as the children jump off the bus, they run with excitement to the volunteers with smiles and open arms.



MARLISHA STEWART | PHOTO STAFF

Printmaking Professor Kelly Nelson hosted an Art After Dark Workshop at the LCVA Wednesday November 11th. The workshop was on crafting holiday cards and gift wrapping paper. Each table had a handful of crafting objects such as paint, stamps, scissors, stickers and more!

# Ruffner Tree lighting 2015



CARSON REEHER | PHOTO EDITOR

On the evening of Monday, November 30 students and faculty gathered for the annual Rotunda Tree Grand Illumination located in Ruffner Hall. The Longwood Choir sang Christmas songs, Holiday stories were shared and refreshments were served during the ceremony.



# Music Review: Adele's 25

Making up for lost time

BY NATALIE JOSEPH  
ASSISTANT A&E EDITOR  
@HEYNATJO

It has been four years since we have heard new music from superstar singer Adele Adkins. On Nov. 20 though, after getting a preview of just two songs (“Hello” and “When We Were Young”) off her new 11 track album, “25,” Adele delivered, which according to the official Nielsen Ratings was the largest selling album ever sold in just one week, selling a total of 3.38 million copies just in the United States.

After reaching high success with her sophomore album “21” (sold 11.4 million copies in the U.S.), having a baby and going through what could have been a career-ending



COURTESY OF XL RECORDINGS

vocal surgery, Adele is back with vengeance, but “25” is not her typical break-up ballad album. “25” is instead, a “make-up” album, mixed with inspiring songs, tear-jerking power ballads and pop melodies that will get you on your feet.

Not to mention, she sounds even better than ever post-surgery, and even Adele herself says, “she is making up for lost time.”

Some may be disappointed that they cannot cry in remorse about an ex-lover while listening to “25” as much as they could during “21,” but do not worry, you still can, just not as much, and it is only because now we must accept the fact that Adele has grown up and so has her music. She cannot write heartbreak ballads forever, especially when she is in a happy place, with a kid, a fiancé and fame.

I will say, that except for songs such as “Hello,” “When We Were Young,” “Water Under the Bridge,” and “All I Ask,” many other songs initially fall into the shadows, but still, over time, find a place in your heart.

“25” is simple, and made up mostly of piano ballads that although they have different themes, may start to blend together at one point. But regardless of what you wanted

(or expected) from her, Adele’s vocals remain at the top of her game, and her songs remain beautifully written and produced.

This album does not radiate saddens like “21,” and her first album “19” did. Instead, it radiates a new Adele who is willing to accept her fame, family and new familiarity with the world around her.

There are no songs like “Rolling in the Deep” or “Set Fire to the Rain” on this album, because it is more of an evolution than it is a comeback album seeking to challenge “21.” But still, for all you people looking to for Adele to mend your broken heart, do not worry. There are still reminiscences of small heart break on songs like “Send My Love (To Your New Lover)” and “Remedy” that may bring tears to your eyes.

Adele is not back. She has still been here for a long time just out of the shadows, growing up, mending her broken heart and learning lessons. “25” will take you into her new world and subtly help you mend your own at the same time. Needless to say, “25” is all that you wanted it to be and deserving of selling 3.84 million copies in one week.

# TV Review: Jessica Jones

BY EMILY HASWELL  
A&E EDITOR  
@EMILYHAHAHAHA

As I sat in my family home with a serious turkey hangover I browsed Netflix for something to distract me from the looming projects and tests that finals week has to offer. I needed something that would distract me totally from my fate of the two weeks of torture that lie ahead. That’s when I found it, a new Netflix/Marvel series entitled Jessica Jones.

Ok, so I didn’t exactly discover it. It’s one of those shows with a huge photo that pops up as soon as you open Netflix. Also, people have definitely been talking about this show. There is an undeniable buzz surrounding it that helped to pique my interest. Well it is my job to tell you that when it comes to Jessica Jones, you should believe the hype.

Jessica Jones (played by Krysten Ritter) centers on a young ex-superhero, who now works as

a private investigator. A dark past with an evil super villain called Killgrave (played by David Tennant) has forced her to live a more solitary life. However she reluctantly finds herself in the position to play hero once more when Killgrave returns.

Now I know that Superhero movies are not everyone’s cup of tea, which is totally understandable. I like Ironman as much as the next girl, but in recent years I’ve grown a little tired of his buddies’ on-screen antics. Can you blame me? Avenger movies have become overly complex and predictable. Don’t lump Jessica Jones in with her more famous predecessors.

The show feels more like a well-thought-out drama with a high special effects budget than it does a superhero show. So, even if superheroes are not for you Jessica Jones doesn’t play that way.

Krysten Ritter was born to be Jessica Jones. Her physique is so spot on for the character that it’s

hard to believe that the original comic wasn’t modeled after her. Her performance manages to be both stylized and relatable, a hard combo to achieve. Her character doesn’t feel annoying despite the fact the writers were a little heavy handed with the whole “I can’t be the hero you want/I hurt the people I love,” rhetoric.

What the show does manage to do perfectly is blend the world of comic books with the world of reality. Each character feels a little bit larger than life, a little bit shinier while still maintaining their footing in the real world. By doing this, the show still has stakes. Nobody is going to kill off Captain America but in Jessica Jones’s world the people she loves can actually be killed. This sense of reality keeps you on the edge of your seat. It’s hard to relax when no one is safe.

Unfortunately one weak link on the show is Mike Colter, the actor who plays Jessica’s love interest, Luke. Colter lacks the emotional

depth that many of the other actors showcase so beautifully. This is especially evident as Colter plays a man who goes through a lot during the season. When Ritter and Colter share the screen she outshines him every time, and when he is not an episode you barely notice.

Conversely David Tennant gives an absolutely hypnotizing performance as Killgrave. His character has the power of mind control, and he uses that power to get what or who ever he wants whenever he wants it. He’s the villain, but I couldn’t help but find

him oddly likable. Hopefully he was meant to have this effect on audiences, if not may have some serious issues to work through.

So, if you are looking for a show to binge-watch during winter break I would highly suggest Jessica Jones. If you start it during finals week, and you have no self-control like myself, you may find a sharp decrease in your grades. This is the kind of show that compels you to watch just one more episode over and over again. Jessica Jones will keep you guessing till the end, It’s binge worthy entertainment that is not to be missed.



# Wake Up: Letter to the Editor



BY DR. CHRIS BJORNSON  
PROFESSOR OF PSYCHOLOGY

I woke up at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 19, 2015 in Hiner 207. No, I didn't pull an all-nighter grading papers or working on a publication. I woke up because two of my students saw me in the D-hall and handed me an invitation to a discussion hosted by the Black Student Association and Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc., called "Wake Up – Part Two." I had no idea what would happen at this event. I just knew I respected and liked my students, and I wanted to show them I could at least show up and see what they were up to outside of class. It seemed important to them. I didn't need a better reason than that to go.

I was the only faculty member in the room, so I found one of my students and

sat next to her. For the next hour and a half, a group of about 60 students were prompted by the discussion leaders to post anonymous comments through a web site onto the screen in the classroom. These comments were used to generate a discussion that lasted 90 minutes but felt more like 15. Students were prompted to share their experiences with race, ethnicity, prejudice, and diversity.

What I heard was a group of students who shared the most diverse set of life experiences, feelings, attitudes and desires imaginable. Students shared stories about how they felt they were treated as an outsider or "different" just because of the color of their skin. They shared these stories without anger or blame. They just described what happened. They talked about how they wrestled with the decision to attend an HBCU (Historically Black College or University) or a school like Longwood University. They talked about how other people, including people in their own ethnic group, made comments about how they acted white, or acted black, or how they sounded when they talked or how they dressed or fixed their hair. Many students described experiences

in which other people, from different ethnic groups including their own, have treated them a certain way just because of the sound of their voice. They struggled with the complex issue of whether or not it is ever appropriate to use "the N-word." Some students described experiences in Longwood University classes in which professors asked for their views on a topic, expecting them to speak for their entire ethnic group, as if every African-American student at any time, any place can stand up and tell others "this is what all people with my skin color believe, everywhere in the world, so you don't have to bother getting to know anyone else with my skin color, because I speak for all of them." It was clear they found it frustrating that other people judged them not for who they were as people, but rather based on characteristics that did not define them as a person.

They talked about how they hoped Longwood University would become more diverse. But no one said that meant more African-Americans. They mentioned people from all kinds of ethnic groups. They talked about how they were proud to be students at a university that seriously

challenged them to work hard and earn their GPA and degree and that made them feel good about who they were. I interpreted their lack of negative comments and criticism about their Longwood experience to mean they generally felt comfortable and a part of our community. But they clearly expressed the hope that Longwood University, faculty, staff and students, could become even more diverse, accepting and color-blind than it already is.

I went to sleep last night being immensely grateful for this experience. I spent 90 minutes with a group of students who demonstrated that diversity is reflected by one's thoughts and actions, not by skin color or the way one sounds. I encouraged the students to invite others, including their professors, to future discussions. It was the best learning experience I've had in quite some time. The maturity, openness and integrity I witnessed in these students were inspiring. I think it will take me some time to fully process the effect these students had on me, but I do know it will be a lasting one.

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JOSHUA BAKER | CONTRIBUTOR

# Holiday tree versus Christmas tree

BY CASSIE TAGERT  
COPY EDITOR

The holiday season has begun, and every year it is called into question whether or not one should be politically correct with their holiday greetings or stick with the old “Merry Christmas!” For Longwood University, this can be a rather heated debate. Every year around this time, the lighting of the annual holiday tree takes place, but not too long ago, it wasn’t a holiday tree. It was a Christmas tree.

There are a lot of people who think that it should still be referred to as a Christmas tree, which makes sense. It was a tradition that many people cared about, but it was a misnamed tradition.

During the holiday season, after Thanksgiving, there are a number of holidays that are celebrated in the U.S. including but not limited to Kwanza, Hanukkah and the winter solstice. Over time, the racial and religious demographic of the U.S. is becoming more and more diverse, which leads to individual communities becoming more diverse as well. With more and more diversity within our community, we need to make changes to make other feel welcome as well.

Obviously, it makes sense within a Christian household to refer to the tree as a Christmas tree, but in an environment like Longwood with a variety of students all with different beliefs, having the tradition of lighting a Christmas tree seems to ignore all other faiths. Renaming it the Holiday

Tree was a way of keeping the tradition while becoming more inclusive to students who don’t celebrate Christmas.

At the same time, changing the name was not meant to disregard those with a Christian background. To the contrary, the very fact that we’ve kept the tree is a hat’s off to those who celebrate Christmas because that’s where the original tradition came from. We’re just trying to acknowledge others as well.

Also, the celebration of our winter holidays with a tree is not solely a Christian tradition and never has been. In fact, this tradition started when German pagans worshipped an evergreen tree. Egyptians, ancient Chinese and Hebrews also worshipped evergreen trees because they believed it symbolized eternal life. It wasn’t until the renaissance when Christians began to use the evergreen trees during their holiday celebrations.

During conversations with other people, if you know someone is Christian, it is perfectly acceptable to wish them a “merry Christmas.” Conversely, if you know they aren’t Christian, it is more considerate to wish them a “happy holidays.” However, when it comes down to Longwood’s Holiday Tree, we have to take into account everyone on campus’ belief systems and not attempt to impose our own upon them. The name will stay the Holiday Tree, not with the intention of upsetting anyone, but so that everyone on campus feels welcome in celebrating, not just certain students.

BY AUSTIN BERRY  
LAYOUT EDITOR  
@AUSTINOBRURITO

Merry whosawhateveryoucelebrate, everybody! The Holiday Season is upon us. This means family, good food, pretty lights and a nice long break!

Let me set the scene. You walk into your house after getting home for winter break. The air is cold and your breath is wispy in front of your face. Venturing inside, you see stockings hung by the chimney with care, and in the corner, there is a lone fir tree, adorned with lights and glittery ornaments, with colorfully wrapped boxes underneath. What do you call this tree?

I’d be willing to bet that all five of you who read this column (hi, mom!) said that the object in question was called a Christmas tree. You would be correct! If you said something different, then I just don’t know what to tell you. Please hang up and try again.

This is why I struggle with the large, beautiful tree being put up in Ruffner Hall. Not with the tree itself, of course, I’m certainly not one for the whole war on Christmas thing and I really couldn’t care less about Starbucks Red-Cup-Gate. No, what bothers me is what the festive display is being called. Depending on where you look, it is either “The Holiday Tree” or just “The Tree.”

I have a few problems with this, the largest of which being that a tree with lights and ornaments is a Christmas

tree and is, by definition, a tree used to celebrate Christmas. You can’t just rename something purely in the interest of cultural diversity and mass appeal. It would be like meeting someone named Smitty Werbenjagermanjensen and deciding that his name is too “edgy” and you would rather call him Steve. I can’t imagine he would be very pleased.

The reason that is being cited for the change in nomenclature is that all people should be included in the tradition of the tree. However, the tree itself has nothing to do with the Christian idea of Christmas and fir trees have nothing to do with the birth of Jesus. Christmas has grown beyond that, into arguably the most major holiday of the western world, regardless of religion. Santa Claus didn’t come from the scripture, he came from a Coke ad and nothing biblical happened at the North Pole. Yes, Christmas is celebrated on December 25 because that is the day of the birth of Jesus, but the holiday we celebrate today with the elves, presents and lights has almost nothing to do with religion.

If we are really trying to pander to all religions here, then why do we only put up a Christmas tree, excuse me, Holiday Tree? Why not some Menorahs, erm, I mean, multi-pronged-holiday candle holders? Or any other misnamed tradition for that matter?

So remind me again, why we can’t call the damn thing a Christmas tree?

Who won? Tweet us @LongwoodRotunda

# Voicing the Lancers

How Scott Bacon's voice became part of Longwood Athletics' brand

BY HALLE PARKER  
SPORTS EDITOR  
@\_HALPARKER

While watching a baseball game, you hear two announcers—one over the speakers and one directly behind you. Turning your head slightly, the source of the secondary play-by-play is found.

A kid, around 8 or 9, providing his own live commentary as the game goes on. No one can tell if it's annoying or cute.

Scott Bacon was that kid.

Now that same voice is heard on the radio, Big South Network and highlight videos, nearly becoming a trademark of the Longwood athletics department.

An Ohio native, Longwood's newly promoted senior associate athletic director of external relations knew early in his career — meaning before it had begun — that he wanted to go into sports broadcasting.

After participating in a broadcast program provided by his high school, he went on to attend Otterbein College, a small school in Ohio similar to Longwood, and graduated with his bachelor degree in communications. At Otterbein, he had a radio show and announced for their varsity sports.

"I went there to call games, I was locked in," said Bacon. "(His advisor) said you could go there and you could get on the air right away instead of waiting two years."

Taking his experiences at Otterbein to the next level, Bacon moved to Virginia in 2007 to professionally announce for the Lynchburg College Hillcats as well as several professional teams affiliated with them.



COURTESY OF CHRIS COOK, LONGWOOD ATHLETICS

**Scott Bacon, "Voice of the Lancers," has worked with Athletics for eight years.**

It was at Lynchburg where the first sound of the Lancer's voice was heard, at the time just a whisper.

"My first ever game that I called was our first game as an official Division I school," said Bacon.

His role at Lynchburg also involved doing the play-by-play for Longwood men's basketball, becoming close to the program and the university. After four years, Bacon took on a full-time position with Longwood Athletics as a broadcaster in 2011, expanding not only to other sports, but also a new area of communications — marketing.

In 2012, Longwood, still growing as a Division I program, became a full member

of the Big South conference. Having been working with Longwood since November 2007 and fully employed the year prior, Bacon had the opportunity to play a major role in the department's transition and development.

"In Ohio, all of our D1 schools were kind of established, I had never come across a transitioning D1 school before," he said.

To Bacon, his purpose is to shape the way others view not only the athletics department, but Longwood, wanting them to feel the passion he does for the university. For him, he doesn't sell his vision, but shares it, truly believing in the message he conveys.

"I could never just sell to sell... You've got

to believe it," he said. "We really want to tell the Longwood story."

While at Longwood, Bacon also experienced another milestone prior to his promotion with his wife, Lacey Bacon, — the birth of his son, Mason. With his son nearly two years old, Bacon had nothing but positive things to say about fatherhood.

"He's always hearing me in the car, the football games on TV... Now he's gotten to the point, Lacey said that he heard my voice on the radio in the car and started saying, 'Da-da, da-da,'" said Bacon. "My number one goal in life, back to the teaching aspect of it, was to be a dad. That's always been number one on my list... It's my biggest purpose in life."

Secretly, Bacon would love to start his own summer camp with a college friend for kids to run around in, though he doesn't expect it to become a reality.

"I'm pretty open-minded, I've got a lot of crazy ideas," he said with a smile. "We're still working on the game plan for it (the camp)."

The future isn't totally clear for one of the highest Longwood Athletics staff members, broadcasting versus administration, but he knows that while he's with Longwood, he's "building a legacy."

"All I know is I love all of it," said Bacon.

"The real blessing of the opportunity for me at Longwood is that I could do so many things and have the opportunity this week in this small school environment," he added. "The fact that I could take on so many things and have a real authority in the university is tremendous."

## Women's Basketball

(1-5-0, 0-1)

Tuesday, Dec. 1

79-68 Loss at High Point Univeristy

## Men's Basketball

(3-4-0)

Saturday, Nov. 28

70-69 Win at Columbia Univeristy

# Student-Athletes give back through Operation Christmas Child



COURTESY OF C. J. ROTH, SAAC PRESIDENT

**The Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) divided into sides to pack the 40 shoeboxes with toys and hygienic products. All shoeboxes were donated to the Samaritan's Purse's project, Operation Christmas Child.**

BY DERRICK BENNINGTON  
SPORTS STAFF  
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The Student Athletes Advisory Committee (SAAC) took part in the annual Operation Christmas Child this past week in order to give back to the Prince Edward and Farmville community.

Longwood senior baseball infielder C. J. Roth, who served as the SAAC President over the past year, helped to lead the charge on the project.

"It's great to be able to do something for somebody else, and everybody has that same sense of accomplishment and that good feeling you kind of get in your stomach when you've been able to help 40 families or 40 kids," said Roth. "I think overall, everybody was extremely happy and

pleased to be able to do it."

The project is held every year by the Samaritan's Purse organization, an international relief group that provides help to people all over the world. Operation Christmas Child is an opportunity for people to pack shoeboxes full of gifts and necessities to give to children and families that may not be able to afford having formal Christmas presents.

"We had everything from personal hygiene products to little toys, kind of some fun little things for the kids," said Roth. "They ask a lot for socks, gloves, stuff that parents may not be able to afford during the winter, personal hygiene, a little bit of toys. We packaged some fun things that brought back our childhood memories, so it was fun to be able to do it."

The SAAC is a committee made up of student-athletes, as well as a six-member executive board that provides insight on the student-athlete experience. They also offer input about any rules or regulations that affect the lives of student-athletes.

"Alana Mackey (women's soccer senior) and Sarah Butler (women's lacrosse senior) and I all went out and purchased the items for the boxes and then we basically formed an assembly line and had boxes at one end and the rest of the SAAC members along the tables filling, sending them down and then organizing as they needed to be," said Roth.

Roth added, "This year we managed to pack 40 boxes, 20 boys, 20 girls. Last year we managed somewhere around the 20 mark, so this year it was definitely great to

be able to increase from last year and help more kids."

Many people at Longwood, including student athletes, take time out of their busy schedules to give back to the community, and this is one opportunity as the Christmas season quickly approaches.

"It's an easier way for student athletes to be able to show we care about our communities, we care about other people, and we care about everything that's going on in the world," said Roth. "The Samaritans Purse organization sends some of these around the world, and there's a lot of disrupt in the world, and this can bring peace for maybe five or 10 minutes for somebody."