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The Rotunda

King of Our Hearts Contestants Competed for Glory, pg. 5



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November 7, 2012

'Merica since 1920

Vol. 91, No. 10

EDITION

Greenwood Library Hosts Viewing of Obama's Victory over Romney

EJ DOWLING
Asst. News Editor

There is still a tradition to be had in America. A gift of something that is very much lost in today's society.

This tradition is going to the polls and casting a physical ballot, something that Longwood Professors Michael Mergen and William Harbour spoke on during the Greenwood Library's Election Coverage event on Election Day.

Suzy Szasz Palmer, dean of the library, started the night off on a high note, thanking the thirty or so students, staff and faculty for attending the event. Palmer then proceeded to introduce the two speakers.

Mergen, who teaches art and photography at Longwood University, then took the microphone while pictures of his photo collection entitled "Vote" flashed in the background. Mergen's talk revolved around the basis and the meaning behind his photographs. All the of the pictures mentioned were of his travels of two years going to different polling places all around the country. He called the right to vote "one of our duties as citizens."

Many of the polling places were very interesting to hear about. Mergen was asked by fellow speaker Harbour what was the strangest place

he had ever taken a poll photo, which Mergen said was a funeral home.

The types of places he found that were polling places had steered away from the traditional school or church. Freshman political science major Jake Kelly asked if this movement away from schools and churches was perhaps because people casting votes in schools tended to vote more democratic and those in churches voted more republican?

Harbour teaches political science at Longwood. His talk focused on the American election process. He was very sure to point out that running for office was entirely different then actually governing. Harbour spoke on the difficulties faced by officials once they are in office. When they are campaigning they want to win, but they also have the option to make up the rules.

Kenneth Harbour, a senior chemistry major who attended the event, said he enjoyed the patriotic food, but that he did not really like politics. He also said, "Politics are death."

This type of thinking seems to be the same for many college students these days. Many students just want the "whole ordeal" to be over.

The election coverage was displayed on the screens as President Barack Obama's votes led to his second victory.

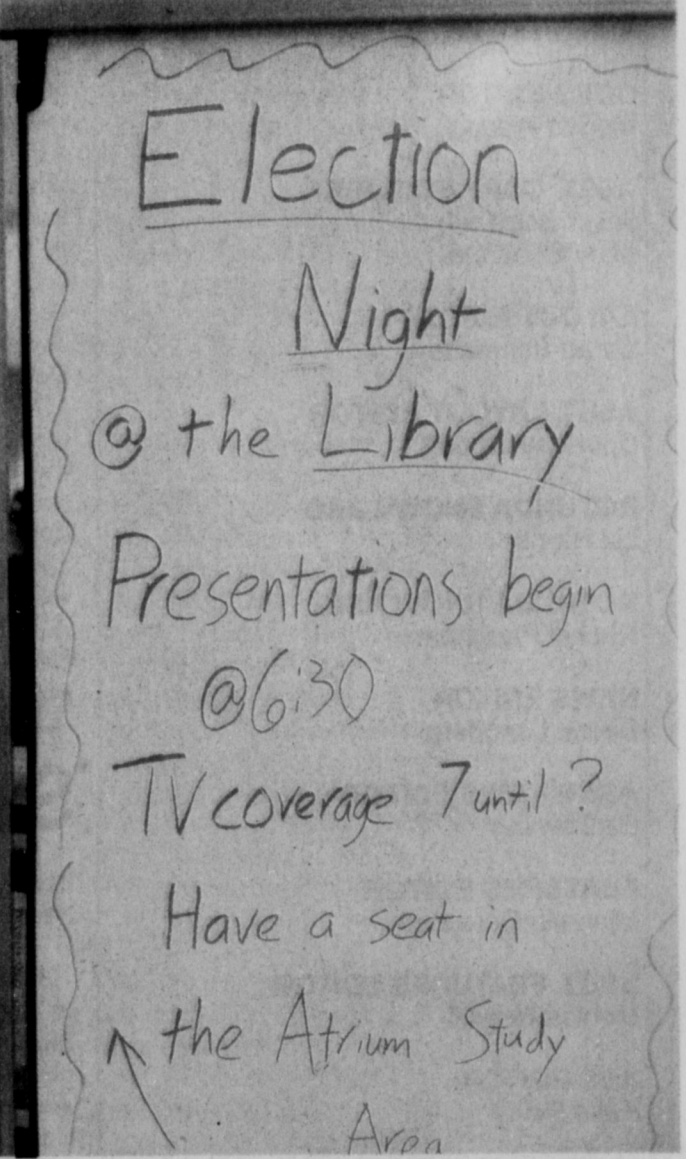


Photo By: Asst. Photo Editor Mike Kropp

Students, faculty and staff watch election coverage on the big screen as they await the results of the tight race.

Post-Election Results Couch Fire

BECCA LUNDBERG
News Editor

On Tuesday, Nov. 6 at approximately 11:46 p.m., the Farmville Fire Department received reports of a couch fire on First Avenue.

Robert Hammock, second lieutenant of the local fire department, said the fire took less than two minutes to put out after a blaze that lasted only a few minutes. He said police officers at the scene

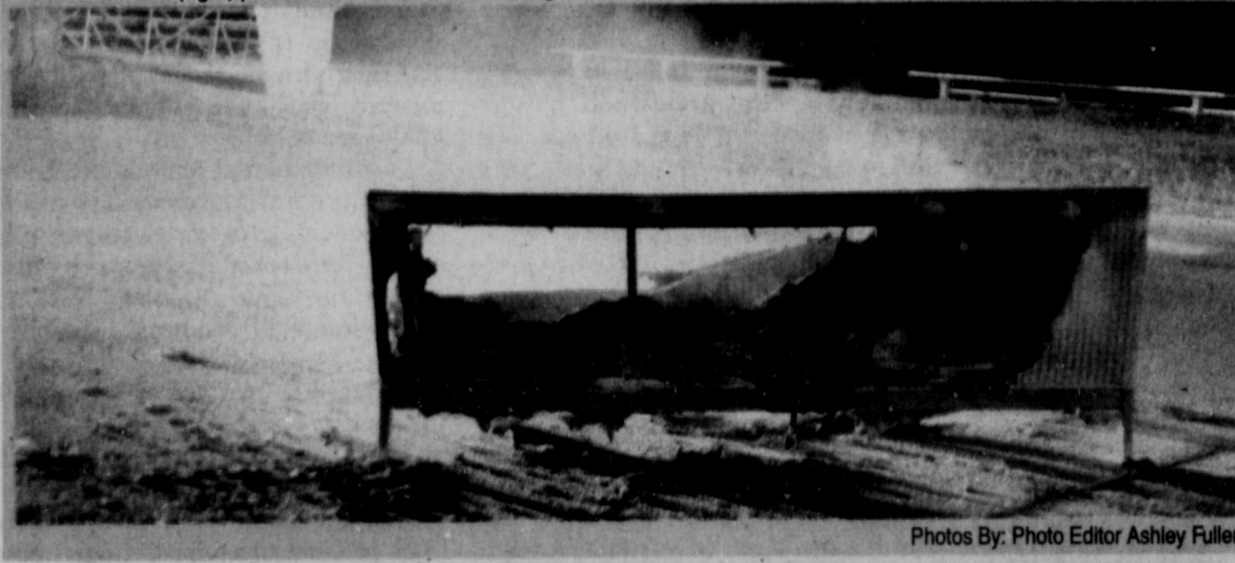
were able to put out the fire with fire extinguishers. The fire department later extinguished the fire further.

When compared to the Buffalo Street couch fire that occurred on Feb. 19 after the first snow of the season, Hammock said the Election Night blaze was "probably smaller."

The Farmville Police Department would not release any information about the fire to The Rotunda at press time.



Robert Hammock(right) puts out the remnants of a burning couch on First Ave., while his co-worker watches in the background.



Photos By: Photo Editor Ashley Fuller

What is Home and Who Gives a Damn? Two Students Show Another Option To Give on Nov. 8

MICHELLE GOLDCHAIN
Features Editor

It began as a class project, but it may soon change the perceptions of what it means to give for many at Longwood University. This event, "50 Students Who Give a Damn," will be located in Greenwood Library Room 209A on Thursday, Nov. 8 at 7 p.m.

Kasey Dye, junior history secondary education major, and Amanda Tharp, junior sociology and criminal justice double major, both organized the event. The event was organized for the course ENGL 400, "Active Citizenship: An Advanced Writing Seminar," taught by Assistant Professor of English Dr. Heather Lettner-Rust.

Dye said, "For our English 400 project, we had to come up with a solution for hunger, but it was supposed to be manageable, not something huge we had to do, not for the proposal of some other group to do."

At the event, students will donate \$3 each to Farmville Area Community Emergency Services (FACES). While there, there will be a 15 minute presentation on statistics of poverty and hunger in Farmville and how money contributes to food banks, in comparison to canned goods.

Concerning the presentation, Dye said it will be focused on "telling them the facts or what they can do to make a difference or how they can reach out to

their organizations and change things."

She further stated, "By informing these group of people, they're going to take that and hopefully apply it to their own organizations ... And for those that are in organizations, the holidays are coming up really soon, and that's when most people do the canned food drives. So, we're trying to get to them before they start to do anything so that they can start thinking of better ways [to give]."

"We're not saying, 'Oh, don't have a canned food drive,'" said Dye. "We're just trying to show them it's actually better to try and raise money, but we still appreciate that they're trying to do community service."

The website further states, "If you give FACES a \$10.00 donation, we can buy up to 67 pounds of food! For every 15¢ you donate, we can buy one pound of food from the Virginia Food Bank!"

According to Dye and Tharp, the event, "50 Students Who Give a Damn," was modeled after 100+ Women Who Care about Southside, Va., a charity group founded in 2008 composed of women who donate to a local charity in Prince Edward County and any adjoining county. 100+ Women Who Care meets four times a year, and with each meeting, \$100 is donated by each member, according to the 100+ Women Who Care website.

"We thought 50 was a

manageable number as a high goal," said Tharp, later adding, "People can give \$3 ... You can get a Starbucks drink for \$3, or you can give \$3 to hunger. I don't think we're asking for too much."

The focus of the event as a whole, according to both, is not on the act of raising money, but on educating the campus on other ways to contribute.

Dye said, "We want to tell people we do live here most of the year, so you can always find some way to help the community because it is our community. We are here more than we are at home."

She further stated, "When you think of home or what you call your home, you're not thinking Farmville. Students won't say, 'Oh, I live in Farmville.' They'll say, 'Oh, I live in Williamsburg ... but I go to school in Farmville.' So, they don't think of it as their community."

"It actually is our community," Dye continued.

Tharp said, "My thing is this is more likely to get individuals to volunteer. A lot of Greek organizations, a lot of service organizations, a lot of clubs do things as a group, but if you're not in an organization with FACES, and on your own, hopefully this will actually make people realize, 'Maybe I'm not in a club. Maybe I'm not doing this, but I can donate money here.'"

"We're reaching the community through spreading out to others," stated Dye.



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Opinion:

"I am friends with about 98 percent of my professors on Facebook. I'm interested in their lives just as much as they're interested in mine." pg. 8

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Interested in writing, broadcasting or photography? Come out to The Rotunda meetings, every Thursday at 7 p.m. in Chichester G12! We're always looking for more writers, photographers and the like!

 Longwood Rotunda

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Administrators Look beyond Blackboard for LMS Needs

BECCA LUNDBERG
News Editor

After more than a decade of implementing Blackboard Learn as the university's Learning Management System (LMS), the Digital Education Collaborative, Information and Instructional Technology Services (IITS) and Janet D. Greenwood Library faculty and staff are exploring other options for class use.

The three departments are currently conducting an LMS review, which is being documented on the LMS website at blogs.longwood.edu/lms-review.

According to Jeannine Perry, dean of the College of Graduate and Professional Studies, IITS and Academic Affairs plan to make a decision about what LMS Longwood will use by February.

The three platforms under consideration are Blackboard 10 (a newer version of the LMS Longwood uses currently), Instructure's Canvas and Desire2Learn.

Nick Langlie, director of Planning, Innovation and Implementation of the College of Graduate and Professional Studies, said, "the main reason [for the possible change] is that we've always used the same system, and we've never really looked beyond it ... maybe it's time for us to see what else is out there and be a little more progressive that way."

Langlie said cost is also an issue. Blackboard has raised the cost of its services significantly in the past year-and-a-half and will most likely charge more in the near future.

Blackboard also costs over 50 percent more than the other two platforms. "At some point you have to go, 'This is fiscally irresponsible,' and you've got to look into the alternatives," said Langlie. The support contract for Blackboard ends on June 30.

However, Jenny Quarles, director of Instructional Design and Training of the College of Graduate and Professional Studies, said cost is not the most important factor. "If it's decided that Blackboard is the best option for this school, that's fine."

Quarles said Liberty University is the only other university in Virginia that has chosen Blackboard Learn 10 due to the additional features it has. She said the new version is something to learn more about.

The College of Graduate and Professional Studies, IITS and the library think Canvas is a notable option because updates are ran late at night and take about 10 minutes. Langlie said the up time for Canvas is about 99.93 percent.

Desire2Learn is a popular LMS for K-12 institutions, but several United States universities use the product. It also allows faculty members to view the course as a student would.

In order to help determine the best

LMS for the university, the three vendors will give interactive presentations. Blackboard will present on Nov. 13, Desire2Learn will visit on Nov. 14 and Instructure's Canvas will address students and faculty on Nov. 15.

Quarles said recordings of the sessions will be available online for anyone who is unable to attend the presentations.

Another effort to get university community members involved in the LMS review process is a core review committee. Students, faculty and staff can apply to be a part of the committee by Nov. 16, and the committee will be selected by Nov. 20.

There will also be test environments for students and faculty who want to see how the three platforms work. There will be a demo class in each test platform as well as the option for faculty to build a class.

You'll be able to evaluate the presentations themselves and have an overview of the products," said Quarles. "I strongly believe that you can't decide that's a product you can use unless you've actually used it."

Quarles said courses currently on Blackboard can easily be transferred to a new LMS if the university decides to adapt to a new platform.

A change that will accompany any of the products will be remote hosting. Greg Tsigaridas, senior computer systems engineer for IITS, explained that he and others IITS currently maintain

Blackboard servers on campus. Under remote hosting, the LMS company would host the site.

Remote hosting means the LMS will only be down for a short amount of time while the platform is updated as opposed to the few days it often takes for the current manually hosted Blackboard to be brought up-to-date.

Tsigaridas said while a disadvantage of remote hosting is if the university's Internet goes down, the entire system is inoperable, but students and faculty can still access the LMS on their Smartphone with a modern browser if this occurs.

Langlie believes a mobile and social media friendly LMS is extremely important. He said students and faculty could access the two new products with their phones as well as through their Facebook, Twitter and email accounts.

As far as Canvas and Desire2Learn, Langlie, said, "You can set your preferences. It gives you a lot more freedom as far as the social media aspects, and you'll see that the systems aren't as much cookie cutter-framed web page like they used to be"

Perry said most faculty and staff members have reacted positively to the possibility of adapting a new LMS system. She added, "Two years ago this would not have been a good idea ... but our faculty are at a higher level than they were."

Second Annual Safety Walk Aims to Address Hazards

BECCA LUNDBERG
News Editor

Everyday safety issues such as lighting, landscaping or Blue Light emergency telephone placement are often overlooked on Longwood University's campus.

In order to address areas and aspects of Longwood-managed property that students, faculty and staff view as potential safety hazards, the Residential & Commuter Life (RCL) Advisory Board, Longwood University Police Department (LUPD) and the Real Estate Foundation will hold the university's second annual Campus Safety Walk on Wednesday, Nov. 7 at 7 p.m.

"Students, faculty and staff have an opportunity to put their opinions forth and give an effort to report these [safety] problems," said Doug Howell, RCL associate director of Residential Operations. Howell said participants can bring forth facilities concerns (e.g., sidewalks or shrubbery) in addition to reporting suspicious-looking people or situations.

"Campus safety and secu-

urity is a shared responsibility, Howell added. "It can't be done by one office or just one particular student group, staff member or whatever the case may be."

According to Howell, approximately 55 students, faculty and staff members attended the walk last year. He hopes the turnout will be greater in numbers a year after the first event.

"We're excited to take kind of the same structure and framework we had last year," Howell said. Walk participants will meet coordinators at the same eight locations focused on last year: the Beale Plaza Fountain, CHI Fountain, Wheeler Mall, Lankford Student Mall, Health and Fitness Center, Longwood Village Clubhouse, Lancer Park Clubhouse and Longwood Landings front desk. "Students, faculty and staff can come out to the area they live nearest to, work nearest to or study closest to," he added.

However, there are a few new coordinators this year, and there will be nine spread out among the designated locations. The faculty coordinators will be Howell, Louise

Waller, Space Planning and Real Property manager; Sgt. Ray Ostrander of the LUPD; Courtney Delorme, apartment manager; and Nicole Morabito, desk supervisor at Longwood Village

The students involved in coordinating the walk are Corey Davis, Student Safety Organization representative; Nicole Raslan, RCL Advisory Board officer; and seniors Claire Williams and Sarah Gordon.

Walk participants and coordinators will begin at their designated zones and walk around campus to identify possible issues and changes. Following the walk, the RCL Advisory Board, Real Estate Foundation and LUPD will then discuss the identified issues and refer them to the appropriate departments.

As far as the issues found last year, Howell said lighting and sidewalk maintenance hazards, as well as the locations of the Blue Light emergency telephones, were the issues identified the most. He said Facilities Management, Housekeeping and other departments were "very responsive as to what we had

for findings last year."

During summer vacation, Howell said, a great deal of time was put into improving the cracks and dips in the university sidewalks, and he believes last year's walk had a role in those improvements.

Howell said one change this year is the inclusion of the RCL Advisory Board. He said while students helped coordinate the walk before, he feels the board's co-sponsorship gives the event more of a student focus.

Another change Howell would like to see during this year's walk is for participants to search for hazards or improvements that weren't present last year. He said the completed Bedford Hall and the fact that French Hall is under renovation may present new issues for participants to identify.

Williams, who was a walk coordinator last year as well, said advertising for the event began in August this year, which was much further in advance than it was last year. She hopes this will bring more participants to the walk. "This is your campus, and if you think something needs to

be changed, then you should take part in that and get it done," she said.

Williams would also like to eventually help coordinate other safety-related events. Local Hampden-Sydney College has held Mock Room Burn events to show how quickly a residential room can catch fire, and Williams would like to see events like this concerning certain safety topics on Longwood's campus.

As a student coordinating the walk, Williams believes she has a helpful perspective. "If I have problems, I think someone else is going to have the same problems," she said. Howell emphasized that students can express safety concerns at the walk or any time they see something out of place or suspicious via email or phone call to the suitable department.

Overall, Howell said his main focus is for the campus community to be as safe as possible. "We can't make campus 100 percent safe, but we can definitely make a good effort to make it safer, and I think this is a great stride to accomplish."

International Student Enrollment Strives to Meet Goals

KARA SISCO
Contributor

Until two years ago, an International Student program was nonexistent on Longwood's campus, causing a struggle with diversity throughout the university.

As a university, Longwood began the International Student program under former President Patrick Finnegan, but the question posed was, "Just how successful would this journey be?"

The task of recruiting and obtaining these international students went underway, and Longwood now possesses the International Student Program.

According to the International Admissions Office, Longwood has roughly 55 international students from a multitude of cultures for the 2012-2013 academic year. These students may be enrolled as full-time undergraduate students if they pass their English language exams prior to applying for admission.

The other option for international students is to enroll in Longwood's one-year English as a Second Language (ESL) program and be admitted as full-time undergraduate students

once the ESL program is passed. This gives the students the opportunity to learn the English language and eventually become a recognized student of the university.

The vision of the International Student Program is essentially to increase status as a university and also develop a well-rounded campus. By implementing the international program, Longwood hopes to expose their non-international students to different cultural norms as well.

Students on campus may not have been aware of the significance of this program; however, with the increasing enrollment now, it should be a widely recognized importance.

Although 55 international students is the highest number that Longwood has obtained, the university's goal is not quite met.

"I think the main goal of Longwood, as previously set out by former President Finnegan, is try to make five percent of the overall student body international, roughly 200 international students," said Dr. Wayne McWee, special assistant to the president.

"The purpose of which is to just increase diversity and to have the

student body here on campus come in contact with those other cultures, understand those other cultures," McWee added. He also expressed his hopes that students embrace the potential to connect with the international students.

According to the International Admissions Office, Longwood has always had international students. The difference is that in the past, they have solely been student athletes or came to the university on their own.

"The program is an intentional effort to bring in more students," stated Patti Trent, director of International Admissions. "The initiative is the philosophy of increasing diversity."

As far as awareness, Longwood may be slightly behind. Trent said that "we tend to view ourselves as a small university in a small town, and this has discouraged appeal to foreign students."

The office seeks to break this assumption. Last fall, major recruitment efforts began being implemented, including the tactic of travel.

"For domestic admissions we make visits to college fairs and high schools. We treat international admissions the

exact same because you have to get your name out there," stated Trent.

Trent, along with others in the International Admissions Office, has made several organized tour trips and visits to recruitment fairs that sometimes involve up to five countries. Extensive recruitment tactics are key for meeting the international program goals here at Longwood.

Monumental actions are being taken from a recruitment standpoint. Representatives of Longwood are preparing for departure within the next month for Latin America, Europe, China and all of Southeast Asia in the spring. McWee said, "Longwood's steps are very planned and very progressive."

The International Student Program at Longwood aims to move the university toward a more diverse campus. "It's just fun to be involved with people from other cultures," mentioned McWee. "It's part of the world, as citizens of the world."

Obama will Lead U.S. Onward for Four More Years

EJ DOWLING
Asst. News Editor

For months, the Presidential election has taken over television, Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. One could rarely venture anywhere without seeing some sort of political advertisement. Last night, all of this came to an end when the leader of the United States for the next four years was decided after millions of votes were cast.

President Barack Obama will be sworn in again in January after his transition period is complete. Both candidates fought a very long and very hard campaign, and it had its fair share of negativity on both ends.

It was a long, hard night for both Obama and Republican candidate Mitt Romney. The polls had barely closed across the country when it was reported that Obama had won the swing state of Ohio and its 16 electoral votes. Those 16 votes put him over the 270 electoral votes needed to win re-election. When the election results were projected, Romney was leading in the popular vote by less than one million votes.

Even after the projections were made in favor of the Obama camp, Romney refused to go down without a fight. He reportedly told sources that he was not ready to concede. This is not a new tactic; any candidate running typically wants to wait until the official word comes out about the results.

Obama has been campaigning on the promise of moving forward for the past few months. No one can really know what is in store for America for the next four years. But Obama did campaign on immigration reform, possible reforms on Obamacare and an almost certain promised veto on packages that extend the Bush-era tax cuts on citizens making \$250,000 a year or more.

Social media sites like Facebook have put out their own polls about voting. Yesterday, Facebook added anyone who clicked at the top of their news feed and identified as a voter to an interactive map that the social media site created specifically for Election Day. More than one million Facebook uses said they were voting yesterday.

Polling websites such as Gallup had reported their final polling information as early as Monday night. Gallup.com reported that 49 percent of likely voters were leaning toward Romney, and 48 percent were tilting toward Obama. Other polls came up with inconclusive results.

This election has most certainly been a unique one. The lingering plague of Hurricane Sandy still hindered some states where the damage was most severe. States like New Jersey and New York reported that over 800 polling places were affected by the storm. Governor Christopher Christie in New Jersey allowed voting by text message and email. The deadline to cast votes in New Jersey was even extended until this Friday. The state was called early in the night in favor of Obama.

Romney decided to continue campaigning on Election Day and urged undecided voters to cast their vote for him. He also took it easy later that night, spending time with his children and grandchildren. Obama, on the other hand, laid low for most of the day, choosing staying in Chicago. ABC News reported that Obama conducted satellite television interviews and made calls on Election Day.

Before the polls even closed yesterday, there were reports that the absentee votes and the votes that were cast before Election Day would be a huge help in determining the outcome of the election.

Upon checking the polls every couple of minutes, at 8 p.m. last night Obama was leading with 64 electoral votes but losing the popular vote. At the time, the popular vote was 51 percent to Romney and 48 percent to President Obama. Those numbers were extremely new, and continued to be updated throughout the night.

Right here in Virginia, the experts were predicting that the Commonwealth would stay in play for a long while. The divides that were apparent in Virginia also seemed to be apparent across the country.

More northern districts in Virginia were projected to go for Obama, and at the same time the northern states were won by Obama while southern districts and some southern states primarily leaned toward Romney. At the time this article went to print, Virginia had suspended all election results until all votes were cast.

Around 10:30 p.m. last night, the Electoral College votes were 172 for President Obama, and 163 for Governor Romney. Obama had won Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, Illinois, Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, New Mexico and Minnesota as of 10:35 p.m.

Meanwhile, Romney won Utah, Montana, North

Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Missouri, Arizona, Louisiana, Mississippi, Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee, West Virginia, Alabama, Georgia and South Carolina.

The key battleground states of Virginia, Florida and Ohio were too close to call before 11 p.m. last night. The coverage was seen all over the world. It seemed as though the whole world was waiting to see who the leader of the U.S. would be for the next four years. Without a doubt, there will be a completely new future for the United States under the leadership of President Obama.

About 30 minutes before midnight, MSNBC reported that President Obama had won re-election. Other news sources like, CNN, BBC, Fox News and ABC News followed with their own projections on Obama's re-election.

STATE & LOCAL UPDATE

The congressional races that coincided with the presidential election kept the Democrats in control of the Senate and the Republicans in control of the House of Representatives.

Right here in Virginia, Democrat Tim Kaine won the junior Senate seat. He will start work with senior senator Mark Warner to represent Virginia in Washington, D.C.

The results of the Senate came out around 49 Democrats and 44 Republicans, while the Republicans came out on top in the House races with 205 seats to the Democrats' 148 seats.

President Barack Obama may have trouble with the new leadership even though he is familiar with the Republicans being in power in the House.

There are still many issues to be resolved and after a small change in whose who, the issues will be looked at again.

New Orleans: Let the Good Times Roll

BECCA LUNDBERG
News Editor

A saying often used in New Orleans, La. is "Laissez les bons temps rouler," or "Let the good times roll." The tour guide on my shuttle bus from the Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport to my hotel in the French Quarter made it clear that he expected us all to live by that expression while we were visiting New Orleans.



NEWS COLUMN

When I first entered the city of New Orleans, I wasn't particularly impressed. I saw nondescript buildings and an array of gift shops and restaurants; nice, but nothing out of the ordinary. My view of the city changed when the bus turned the corner and I felt like I stepped back in time into the French Quarter.

The allure and whimsy of the French Quarter can't be captured through photographs or words. It is a place that needs to be experienced first-hand. While my writing cannot do the area justice, it is an old-fashioned, European-inspired (especially French and Spanish) district filled with unique shops, restaurants, bars and street performers. There is an energy in the air I have never felt anywhere else.

Another incredible part of the French Quarter and New Orleans in general? The food. I joined my dad and brother at Deanie's Seafood for my first meal in the city: barbecue shrimp pasta. There is spice in literally every dish in New Orleans, but this was no problem for me. From the bread to the main dish, the spices are delectable.

The next morning, I began touring the French Quarter with my family, beginning on Bourbon Street. I soon found out that public drinking is, in fact, permitted in New Orleans when I saw people even in the early morning hours with drinks in their hands. Workers hosed the streets down from the night before, the neon signs on the bar windows still lit. Stay classy, New Orleans.

The French Quarter was dotted with shops selling everything from Mardi gras masks to tacky T-shirts to pralines. I spent a great deal of my money on souvenirs in the first two hours, wanting to take part of the city home with me with fleur de lis (the emblem of New Orleans) jewelry and even a Voodoo doll (don't worry, the sales clerk said they only work for you if you make one personally).

Later that day, we made our way to Voodoo Experience, a massive music festival at New Orleans City Park. In true New Orleans style, there were dozens of restaurants set up to represent the best food in New Orleans and thousands of people milling around. Most of the people were decked out in quirky costumes, of course.

The most notable acts at the festival were The Avett Brothers and Neil Young & Crazy Horse. The energy in the crowd was almost tangible, and both bands brought so much enthusiasm and passion to the stage. "February Seven" by The Avett Brothers and "My My, Hey Hey - Out of the Blue" by Neil Young were my personal favorite songs I heard live.

The next day, we took a tour of the Garden District, the calmer side of New Orleans. We rode a trolley as we looked at the large, nicely manicured homes that filled the streets. We couldn't stay long, though, because we had an airplane to catch.

An airplane is not a boat that turns into an airplane, which I was disappointed to discover, but it was a pretty cool boat powered by fans that took us into the Bayou. Our tour guide said we might not see alligators because there had been a significant temperature drop the night before, but thankfully he was wrong. Throughout the tour, we saw several huge alligators and even got to feed them marshmallows (who knew they had a sweet tooth?).

Near the end of our tour, our guide pulled out a small bag and said he'd been saving a surprise for us. The woman next to him jumped when he pulled out a miniature alligator. "That thing was next to me the whole time?!" she asked as we all laughed.

The alligator, named Dollar because our tour guide called himself "Richie Rich" was less than a year old and completely harmless.

Our last night in New Orleans, we dined at a sleek yet super Southern restaurant called Cochon Boucher. We had alligator as an appetizer (it tastes like chicken!) and I ate gumbo and macaroni casserole. Delicious!

The only part I didn't like about New Orleans was leaving. But I'll be back one day and the good times will roll once again.

*** This editorial is an opinion stated by the writer and does not represent the views of The Rotunda or Longwood University.

Only Portion of Faculty See Salary Raises after Four-year Dry Spell

MONICA NEWELL
Asst. Features Editor

This past academic year brought raises to the salaries of 30 percent of returning Longwood University faculty.

Dr. Charles Ross, dean of the Cook-Cole College of Arts and Sciences, explained the process in how those eligible for the raises were determined.

"The department chairs were asked to rank faculty members based on overall performances based on evaluations from the last four years. Those lists were given to each dean, and then the dean was asked to allot from the group based on how much money they had."

"It's 30 percent of 178 compared to 30 percent of 222," said Dr. Ken Perkins, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs.

Faculty who were not eligible for the raises this year included those who were just hired this past year, those who were lecturers, those who fall under certain categories where there is a pay ban, those who work for private companies on campus (e.g. the members of the food service staff) and those who were not tenured or who were recently tenured.

In October 2011, an AAUP (American Association of University

Professors) study stated that there were concerns over faculty salaries. The concerns were that faculty had not had seen significant increases in their salaries for several years, which is influenced by the amount of state funding offered to the school.

In a 2011 Richmond Magazine interview, former President Patrick Finnegan stated that Longwood saw the amount of money it received from the state slashed by nine million dollars since 2008.

Along with this factor, the economic downturn has prevented the state of Virginia from aiding in funding faculty salaries, dropping the number of salary increases for faculty and staff in the last four years to zero.

"There have only been two complaints, but they were gentle and asked to be considered for the next round of adjustments; so really there hasn't been a whole lot of dissatisfaction," said Perkins.

"At some point, and I thought we were at that point that we were going to start losing our faculty to other places for higher salaries, and some of that occurred, which alarmed the president and others," Perkins added.

Perkins noted the three categories of faculty: classified (those who are administrative assistants or work

on the grounds of Longwood), administrative and professional (not classified; therefore, "It is a little bit more difficult to figure out what to pay them," said Perkins.) and teaching (who have nine-month contracts and serve the core mission of the university). He said all three of these categories have not received raises in four years.

"Everyone here at Longwood is valuable, students and faculty alike," said Ken Copeland, executive director of Longwood's Real Estate Foundation and vice president for administration and finance.

We just knew that if we didn't have enough to catch everyone up to the market all at one time, that wasn't an excuse not to do anything. We needed to start some place."

Copeland then went on to explain the process in which the decision was made as to which members of the returning faculty would receive the raise.

"While President Finnegan was still here, we contracted with a company called Sibson Consulting and they have a division of their company that does compensation studies for higher education institutions."

Copeland added, "They looked at all three of the distinct employee classifications to determine which positions were the furthest away

from the midpoint of the market and which were the furthest away from our peer institutions."

"We are behind where we should be as far as market in terms of salaries; not just for academic salaries but across the board," continued Copeland.

"We cannot catch up that full three million dollars at one time. So we've tried to communicate to the university that this is our first swing," added Copeland. "We're going to take another step and another hard look next year at how much additional we can do and hopefully that catches those folks who were less than pleased this time."

This also added to the concern that Longwood might lose faculty to other state institutions; institutions such as the University of Virginia, whose salary average comes out to be \$106,300, or Old Dominion University and their average of \$74,500, compared to Longwood's average of \$60,400.

Longwood ranks only above University of Virginia at Wise in faculty salaries, as Norfolk State did not report to the data used during Longwood's Annual Salary Survey, compiled in March of 2012 by the Longwood University chapter of AAUP.

SGA Announces Faculty Senate Decisions

BECCA LUNDBERG
News Editor

Student Government Association (SGA) President Donald Knight began the Tuesday, Nov. 6 SGA meeting with the presentation of the October Presidential Excellency Award to Senator Andrew Bradshaw.

To begin open forum, Knight said many students had difficulty with senior registration on Monday. These concerns were referred to Student Affairs. Another senator raised

concerns about students longboarding on Brock Commons. Senior Class President Gina DeMarco asked one representative who is a member of Rip Chicks to start a campaign against boarding in that area of campus.

The washing machines and dryers in the laundry areas of residence halls only take Lancer CASH and change, so one senator asked if change machines could be put in the laundry rooms that would convert dollar bills into change.

Dr. Tim Pierson, vice president for Student Affairs, recommended that students come forth about what kind of environment they would like to see in the new student center that is set to be complete in summer 2016. Both fundraising and student dollars will help go toward the center.

Representative Dan Hughes said Orca TV CEO Rajiv Shenoy has taken down some of the old advertisements that were running on the LancerAds system. Hughes

said Shenoy ran the ads because of the low amount of LancerAds submissions. Hughes will soon be the student representative for Orca TV and can address any concerns students may have.

Greek Representative Shannon Rosedale said most of the televisions with MTV playing are no longer installed and wondered why this was the case.

Executive Senator Haley Vest said the Faculty Senate is revising the Senior Honors Research Proposal. She said

faculty evaluations will now be completely online this semester. The Board of Visitors will eliminate the community health education major at the next meeting due to the lack of participation.

Knight reminded senators to take an active role in the election.

Vice President Brian Reid said an "old friend" of veteran senators will be at next week's meeting at 3:45 p.m. on Nov. 13 in the BC rooms of Lankford Student Union.

Speaking Becomes Easy at the Farmville Bakery

MONICA NEWELL & MEGAN WADE
Assistant Features Editor, Copy Editor

On the brisk fall evening of Nov. 2, chilly Longwood students could be found making their way down Main Street and into the warmth of The Bakery.

When entering The Bakery, your nose is practically assaulted by the smell of freshly baked bread and crisp coffee.

At 6:30 p.m., students, Longwood staff and faculty and citizens of Farmville in attendance were invited to collect in the Hopper Room in the upper level of The Bakery to attend the Speakeasy. The event featured an evening of good food, good drinks (wines in particular, if you were over 21) and good literature. The warm, cozy feel of the Hopper room — complete with wing-backed chairs and fireplace — lent itself perfectly to the comfortable atmosphere of the event.

Longwood junior and English major Jason Tsai filled in for the Speakeasy's late-arriving host, Ilsa Loeser, and opened the event with a reading of the poem,

"Love Letter from a Barista,"

Chelsea Putland, a junior majoring in English, then took the stage to read a Haiku entitled, "West Winter." Next, Shannon Cassano, a senior theatre secondary education major with an English minor, read a self-authored piece of prose titled, "Stuff."

After a brief pause of silence, the first musical performance of the night, given by Longwood student Chip Hale, took place. Interestingly enough, the performance was the first of its kind this event has had in months. Hale performed a notable cover of The Avett Brothers song "Murder in the City." After Hale's performance, the audience was treated to three poems read by Letitia Montgomery-Rodgers, who happens to be an editor, linguist and poet. Montgomery-Rodgers gave readings of, "As if I were God," "The Visit" and "Flame and Flake."

Caitlin Payne, a freshman political science and Spanish double major, read another of Tsai's poems, one entitled "Poem No. 2." After the poem was finished, those in attendance were treated to pleasant anecdotes of swim-

ming in the ocean from a Navy veteran who had joined the Navy in 1952.

Following those stories, Kaitlyn Silver treated the group to a story of a different kind. The junior English major read passages aloud from a short story she has been continuously revising. At the end of the story, Chloe Joseph, a Longwood alumna who had graduated this past May with a degree in English, read two poems to the assembled group. Following Joseph was Kandice Farmer, a senior English major.

The event gradually wound down, and some audience members began to strike up conversations with each other while others steadily trickled out the door. All in all the event was a warm, cultured, and welcome reprieve from the evening chill and the humdrum of daily life.

The Bakery is located at 218 N. Main Street and is open Tuesday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and from Friday to Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. To learn more about when the next Speakeasy will be, contact The Bakery at (434) 395-1011.



Longwood students attend the Speakeasy at The Bakery and listen as Chip Hale performs a set of acoustic music.

Activist Zach Wahls Speaks on the 'Dialogue of Fear'

MICHELLE GOLDCHAIN
Features Editor

On Thursday Oct. 30, PRIDE hosted Gay rights activist Zach Wahls in Jarman Auditorium to speak on his experiences being raised by two mothers.

"No one was going to stand up for me, so I was going to stand up for myself," said Wahls.

In his senior year of high school, Wahls worked as Columns Editor for his high school newspaper "West Side Story." After printing a column in reaction to the Iowa Supreme Court's unanimous decision to legalize gay marriage in Varnum v. Brien, expressing his happiness for his mothers to be able to marry, the high school newspaper faculty advisor then submitted his column to The Press Citizen, Iowa City's largest newspaper. The editor of The Press Citizen then submitted his column to The Register, Iowa's largest newspaper. Wahls' column ended up being printed in the Sunday edition of The Register, to readers all across the state.

"It was really well received," said Wahls, who said that after his column was printed, a law firm that litigated the Supreme Court case got in touch with him to ask him to speak at a public forum at the Iowa House of Representatives in Feb. 2011, the one that would later get him famous through a viral video.

The viral video of Wahls showed him speaking on House Joint Resolution 6, saying, "Our family really isn't so different than any other Iowa family."

House Joint Resolution 6 states, "Marriage between one man and one woman shall be the only legal union valid or recognized in this state," as reported on the Iowa Legislature website.

Despite Wahls' best efforts at the public forum, the Iowa House of Representatives approved House Joint Resolution 6

by a vote of 62-37.

Regardless, the video of Wahls' speech to the Iowa House of Representatives received over a million hits on Youtube soon after being posted online, while various media outlets contacted him to speak to him, including CNN, MSNBC, Good Morning America and the Ellen DeGeneres Show.

"That's what technology can do. It democratizes this power, the power of word, even when we don't know that somebody else is watching, and I know that better than most. I had no idea I was being recorded that night. I saw the news cameras in the back of the room," but I did not see the flip cam on desk 23," said Wahls.

He added, "As that video went viral, I learned firsthand of the power of word." Currently, Wahls said that he is on a "60-day stint," saying, "Since mid-September, I've been traveling pretty much nonstop passing all over the country."

Different locations where Wahls has visited to speak on gay marriage and his life have included non-profits, businesses, high schools and universities and more.

"The reality is that when I was a little kid, I really wished that there was somebody who was out there speaking truth to power," said Wahls, who commented that being given the opportunity to be a counter-balance to anti-gay advocates was something he would absolutely do.

Concerning the debate for and against gay marriage and rights, Wahls said, "This is a dialogue that has been driven by fear."

"On the one hand, [people] say that it's an assault on marriage, that it's an assault on tradition, on normalcy, on common sense, and then ... listening to the Republican National Convention, listening to Mitt Romney stand up and talk about how important it was for kids

to have a mom and a dad, and we were going to be guinea pigs and we were flawed and all this stuff. And it made me scared, and it made me wonder if the government would swoop in and take me away from my parents and take me away and put me in a home where I would have a mom and dad."

Wahls cited why people have been afraid, saying how homosexuality used to be considered a mental illness to be treated and stating that only recently the state of California banned electroshock reparative therapy for gay individuals.

"You could've been taken to a clinic where they would subject you to electroshock therapy. They'd shock the gay out of you," said Wahls, adding, "People went through this. It's scary stuff."

"There is a lot of fear on both sides," he said.

Later, Wahls asked the question, "Is homosexuality unnatural?" He responded, "It's a very common perception or argument."

"Homosexuality has been documented in over 700 different animal species. Meanwhile, homophobia is found in only one. Can anyone guess which one that is? I'll give you a hint: That's us," said Wahls.

Before turning to a Q&A for the audience to ask questions, Wahls first acknowledged and answered a number of common questions asked about his experience with two moms.

One question included, "Who taught you to be a man?"

Wahls said, "The reality is that I've had plenty of role models when I was growing up." He noted that he found role models in teachers, scoutmasters, men from his church and more.

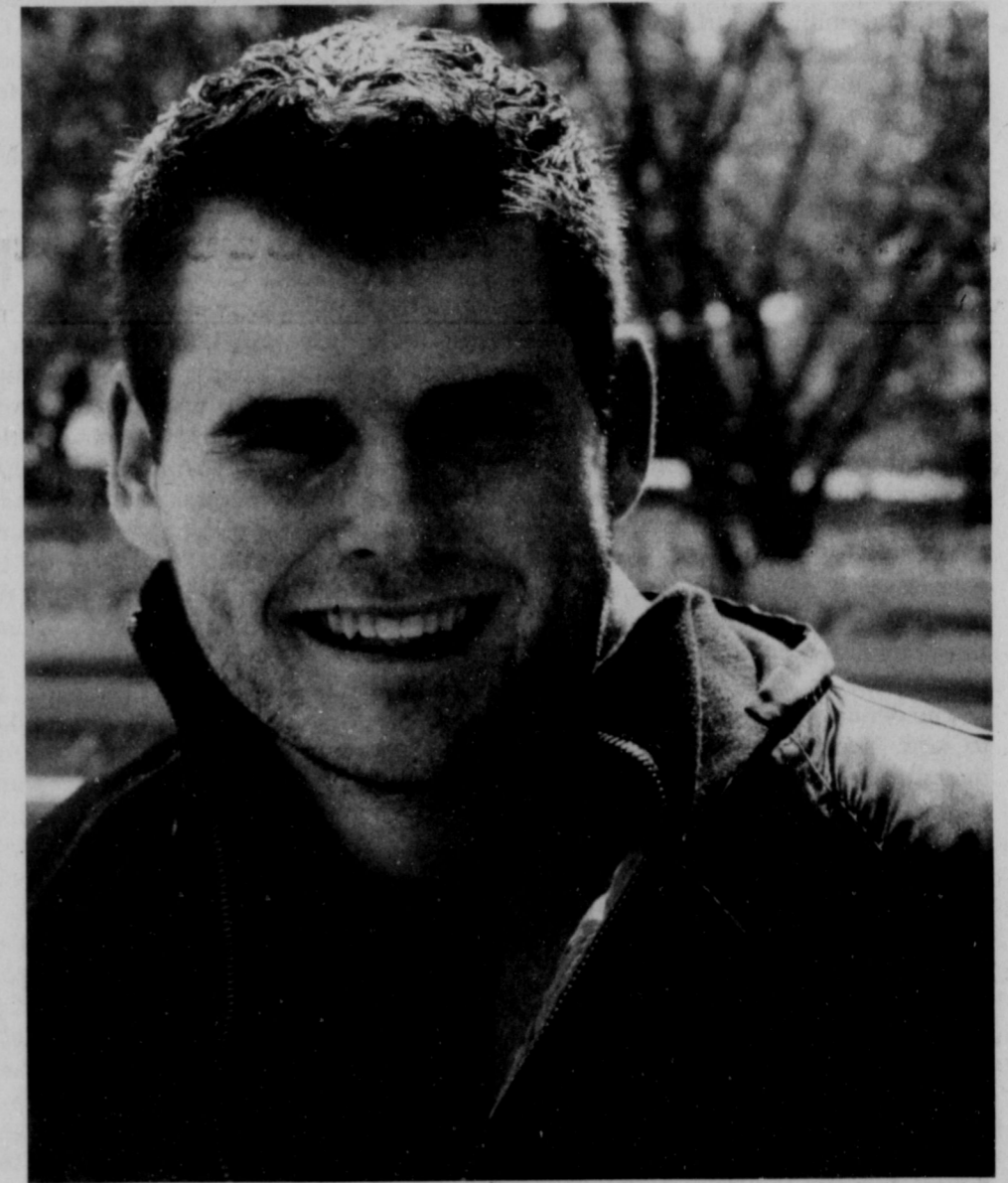
He further stated, "The reality is that you don't flip a switch, and — Oh! Now, I'm a man. It's a process."

Before ending his presentation, Wahls

said, "When you walk out that door tonight, I want to simply invite you to consider the power of your worth, the power of your actions, the impact that you have on your friends, your family, your classmates, most of the people that you don't know are watching, and you

never know what they might do."

To learn more about Zach Wahls, read his memoir, "My Two Moms: Lessons of Love, Strength and What Makes a Family," or go online to his website at www.zachwahls.com



Zach Wahls travels and speaks about his experiences with being raised with two mothers.

LU Grad Students Assist Farmville Families at Baby Clinic

MICHELLE GOLDCHAIN
Features Editor

This fall semester's Baby Clinic allowed parents and guardians in the Farmville community to get the opportunity to know the development of their children in communication-language-speech. The Baby Clinic housed 20 graduate students in Communication Sciences and Disorders who evaluated 10 children from Oct. 22 to Nov. 7. The Baby Clinic was held on Monday and Wednesday mornings as well as afternoons for accommodations to parents.

The Baby Clinic was a free service to the Longwood and Farmville communities with the assessment of communication-language-speech development of children from the ages of nine months to 24 months of age.

The Baby Clinic was organized by Dr. Peggy Agee, assistant professor for Communication Sciences and Disorders, for her fall graduate class, CSDS 520, titled, "Language Disorders in Infants and Preschool Children."

During the Baby Clinic, teams of two graduate students assessed the communication-language-speech development of children by utilizing the Communication and Symbolic Behavior Scale, a standardized, norm-referenced assessment developed by Amy Wetherby and Barry Prizant.

According to the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) website, the Communication and Symbolic Behavior Scale

"establishes a profile of communication, social-affective and symbolic functioning to monitor changes in behavior and plan treatment."

During the assessment, materials are used to assess the development of the child, including "action-based toys to elicit spontaneous communication, books designed for young children and play materials that assess how a child uses and plays with objects symbolically and constructively."

According to Agee, "The assessment looks at the child as developing a communication system and the development of play, and so using that instrument then gives the students a frame of reference to observe the young child."

Each session would be an hour long, and every team of students was supervised by an ASHA-certified speech-language pathologist.

Agee created the Baby Clinic in the 2011 fall semester, saying, "I wanted my students to have more of an opportunity to observe very young children and to think about how to describe their behavior, to think more about how quantify and qualify their behavior."

"It's a whole host of clinical skills that they're developing or having the opportunity to begin to develop during this one exercise," said Agee.

"Our purpose certainly is to make this available to the community and the larger opportunity here is for the students to get the practice, the experience, and so most often the kids who come here are typically developing kids. We do periodically, though, have a child whose parent brings them in because they're concerned because something is not going on that the parent expects, and that's what I'd like for it

to become over time," said Agee.

Longwood University has a year-round "clinical home of our graduate program," stated Agee, called the Longwood Center for Communication, Literacy and Learning (LCCLL), otherwise called The Center.

The Center allows in-house clinical training for Longwood graduate students, while being supervised by speech-language pathologists, through working with clients with a "speech-language-communication issue."

In contrast to the Baby Clinic, The Center does come with a fee. Agee said, "The baby clinic is done as a free community service within the standing clinic, and the reason that we don't charge is because again the students are doing this to get practice to benefit them as much as it might the young child."

She further stated, "We invite the community, anyone who has a speech-language communication issue to come and to receive services ... We see folks as young as two or three. We can see folks as old as end of life."

Agee hopes for the Baby Clinic to become a regular annual service to the Longwood and Farmville communities.

"The baby clinic is for a short period of time, but for the rest of the year we are in business, working across the lifespan with folks who have communication-learning issues," said Agee.

To schedule an appointment with the Longwood Center for Communication, Literacy and Learning, contact Carolyn Higgins at higginsca@longwood.edu or call (434) 395-2972.

therotundaonline.webs.com

New Beauty School to Come to Farmville

A Great Escape Spalon Soon to Expand in Size and Possibilities



Monday Oct. 29, hair stylist Latrice Tucker cuts and styles Mark Smith's hair at A Great Escape Spalon.

MICHELLE GOLDCHAIN
Features Editor

Everyone needs a place they can escape to, a sanctuary to forget about their worries and stresses. A Great Escape Spalon offers hair service, nail service, massages and body treatments. The salon offers the residents of Farmville the experience to be pampered and will soon offer, not only service, but also education.

With plans of expansion, owner of A Great Escape Spalon Julie Cales shared that there are plans for expansion to the building of the salon with an additional 300 square feet as well as the

founding of a beauty school.

Cales said that what caused the interest in a beauty school was in part due to the success of the apprenticeship program already in effect at A Great Escape. She noted that Southside Virginia Community College has a cosmetology program with a focus on the theoretical aspects of cutting hair but not the practical aspects of it.

She noted that what cosmetology students are supposed to do is to go into a salon and after three months sign up to work with them. After a year of working there, the student, according to Cales, should then take their theory class.

By doing this, "when they go to take their state board, all their theory is fresh, and all their practical is fresh, but the problem is that Southside has a theory program that they put the students into, and none of them have a salon to go to to get their practical part," said Cales.

She said that students of Southside attend Empire Beauty School in Richmond, Va. to do so. Cales said that she hopes to partner with Southside to be able to assist the students therein with the practical aspects of their education.

Before instating the beauty school, Cales stated that she and the staff will have to get

teacher's certification.

"Hopefully, by next year at this time we'll have a group of students enrolled," said Cales.

No prices have been set yet for the beauty school at A Great Escape Spalon. Cales assured that prices will be "within a fair market," saying that while A Great Escape is "higher end," their prices aren't.

"We're not in Las Vegas. We're in Farmvegas," said Cales.

Over the years since A Great Escape Spalon's establishment in Farmville in 2004, the business has expanded in more ways than one. When established, Cales stated that there were only three staff members, while there are currently 20.

Additionally, when established, A Great Escape Spalon was 900 square feet, then expanded to being 1,200 square feet, then 2,000 square feet. With the planned expansion for a beauty school, the establishment will grow to be 2,300 square feet.

One additional change that should be expected with the new expansion will include a relocated entrance to directly in front of the stairs that face the establishment rather than an entrance that veers off from the stairs.

For the future of A Great Escape Spalon Cales said that she hopes to buy the building the business is located in and then add a second story as

well as childcare and a café.

"We started small, and we've gotten to where we're at now just growing a little bit at a time, and we hope to continue to grow," said Cales.

When asked what she believes A Great Escape Spalon specializes in the most, Cales said, "Probably just making people feel better about themselves. You know, we have a lot of people that come through here and leave smiling. So, they say we're the highlight of their week. They couldn't wait to get here. They've been looking forward to this, and some people come in here, and I don't even think I've cut any hair off of their head. I think they just wanted to come in, you know?"

"We're not your normal salon that you go to," said Cales. "Here, I think it's more like coming home. You feel welcome when you come in here. It's kind of cozy. It's not like a typical 'I'm going to get my hair done. I'm scared to death.' You know, a lot of people come in here, and they're relaxed."

"They're looking forward to getting their hair cut," she said.

A Great Escape Spalon is located at 203 East Third Street and is open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and on Sundays from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. To make an appointment, call (434) 315-5655.

Inside the LCVA

ASHLEY FULLER
Photo Editor

When I bring up the LCVA with people I meet for the first time, they tend to know nothing about it, especially if they are new to Longwood's campus. Well, what is the LCVA? The Longwood Center for the Visual Arts, Longwood University's very own certified museum. Really? A certified museum right here in Farmville. How cool is that?



FEATURES
COLUMN

Art majors are more likely to walk through the doors of the LCVA just to view the artwork inside, and Greek life will wander in for volunteer opportunities. But the LCVA has so much to offer everyone, including the Farmville community. The LCVA hosts workshops of all kinds that people from the Farmville community can attend and LU students can volunteer at.

I first heard about the LCVA when I was a sophomore. I had done my time as a lowly D-Hall worker and I was on the prowl for another job on campus that would be more helpful toward my future career as a photographer.

Then I met Amanda Haymans, an art education major who worked part time at the LCVA. I didn't think that students worked there until I talked to her about her own position there and how she got it. When the spring of my sophomore year rolled around, I was on a mission to find a job there, a mission that followed me through the summer of 2011 and into the fall of my junior year of college.

I stalked to the LCVA's doors for weeks trying to get in to talk to someone before I realized they were closed to the public until a certain date. Then I did what most people would do and sent an email to Beth Cheuk, the program manager at the time. The response, to my dismay, was that they had no positions available.

My mission was put to a sad halt, that was until the LCVA held an art about Longwood show in October.

I submitted three photos to the exhibition. After submitting my work, I got an email from Alex Grabeck, the exhibition manager, regarding my work and how it was to be presented. So, on I went to the LCVA to meet Alex. I got to see the back room and talk about my work. Alex even asked me if I would like to see how to frame and mat my work, and I said yes. I thought it was just something I should know as an art major.

While he was working, we talked about art and photography and eventually I brought up that I had wanted to work at the LCVA, but there was nothing open.

A few days later I got e-mail from Alex saying that there was actually a position open for an exhibition assistant and asked if I would like to apply for it.

Of course my answer was yes. You might be wondering how photography and exhibitions are related at all and why, in my mind, it was relevant to my future to take the job. The thing is, there is a moment in college where you realize you are going to have to get a job and to get that job you're going to have to build a resumé. So exhibition is not photography, but at least it is around art, and in that respect I find it relevant.

And so, after over a year of working there, I can rightly say it is a place of many surprises, but also the right place to learn about artwork, people and what it takes to put up a gallery show. There is much more to the LCVA than just art work.

The people who work there and put everything together are truly excited to go to work every day, excited to be around art and most definitely excited to have Longwood students coming to see the art and volunteer.

When people go to any museum or art gallery shows, they look at the work. They "ooh" and "ahh", but not many people consider how the work came to be on the wall, where it came from and the maintenance that goes into taking care of it and preserving it for their eyes to see.

I know for me personally, there is nothing like going to an opening and seeing all the hard work we put into putting it up finally pay off.

Being a senior, my time at the LCVA is coming to a close. I don't like to think about it because I've met some of the best people I will ever know there. Even as just a student worker, they have made me a part of their family and for that I will be forever grateful.

I feel like more than just a college kid with a part time job. I will take the skills they have given me on observing and talking about art, preserving it and displaying it with me everywhere I go from here on out.

*** This editorial is an opinion stated by the writer and does not represent the views of The Rotunda or Longwood University.

Sigma Kappa Hosts Second Annual King of Our Hearts

NICOLE CHAPPELLE
Contributor

On Monday, Oct. 5, Sigma Kappa hosted their 2nd annual King of Our Hearts event. The cost was \$4 at the door or \$3 in advance. Their goal was to raise money for the Sigma Kappa Foundation which includes their philanthropies, such as the Alzheimer's Association, Maine Sea Coast Mission and Inherit the Earth Projects.

The event started at 7 p.m. in Jarman Auditorium, and the title of Longwood's Best Man was awarded at this event. The eight contestants that competed for the title were Kyle Feathers, Logan Miller, Dani Roberts, Kyle Butto, Christian Gangitano, Justin Golden, Francisco Mejia, and Steven Sommer.

Students filled up the auditorium to support Sigma Kappa and their foundation. The Sigma Kappa foundation has numerous projects that go toward helping improve our environment.

Logan Miller stated, "This year's King of Our Hearts was great and the turnout was even better."

According to the web page sigmakappa.org, their main philanthropy focuses on Alzheimer's disease. Because an increasing amount of older Americans face critical problems, Sigma Kappa has amplified their support for Alzheimer's disease in their gerontology program, which is the study of age.

The event started off with a dance number performed by the contestants, in combination with a

multitude of different songs. Then the contestants displayed a plethora of different talents, which involved singing, dancing, flip tricks, training for a marathon, standup comedy and wearing a banana suit.

Then came the interview portion of the evening, and it seemed like World Peace was a popular response. Sommer was asked to name his hero and the reason for his choice and Steven replied, "As far as nonfictional goes, I have to go with Abraham Lincoln, you know he helped free the slaves and that led to world peace."

Also Roberts was asked if he could be any Disney character who he would be and Roberts replied, "I would be Stitch because he was created for destruction and is cute and cuddly, but in the end brings world peace among other words."

Furthermore, SGA President Donald Knight, who hosted the event, made the comment, "Let's hear that change jingle," and then all the contestants dispersed throughout the auditorium with cups to collect change while the song "It's Raining Men" radiated throughout the room. This portion was audience-affiliated and the audience got to put some spare change in their favorite contestants' cup and the money collected went to Sigma Kappa's philanthropies.

Additionally, Knight was asked that if he could have one super power what would it be and he replied "the power of dance." Then Longwood's

Company of Dancers performed a couple of beautifully executed routines.

Moreover, after the panel of three judges had decided who had won, all eight contestants were called on stage. Each contestant had done an amazing job, but it was the results portion of the event and even though everyone was a winner in our hearts, the third, second and first place winners were announced.

Sommer and Golden tied for third place. The second place winner was Feathers. Miller was awarded a sash and crown along with the title of Longwood's Best Man as he was announced as the first place winner of the 2nd annual King of Our Hearts event.

Miller stated, "Although I am honored and excited to win, it's even more satisfying to know that me and a small group of men can help collect money for such a noble cause. I would just like to thank Sigma Kappa for putting on such a fantastic event and a special thank you to Alpha Delta Pi for sponsoring me."

Many students praised the event, including freshmen Reed Allen and Joan Giordano. Allen claimed, "It was very organized and well executed. I wasn't expecting much, but it was pretty legit and a lot of fun."

Giordano stated, "I thought it was really planned out and at first I wasn't quite sure about what to expect, but it turned out to be extremely entertaining."



Steven Sommer, Kyle Butto, Logan Miller, Francisco Mejia and Dani Roberts compete for the title of King of Our Hearts in the annual competition hosted by Sigma Kappa.

Poetry Corner:
A Picture Explained as Climate Change

SEMEIN WASHINGTON
 Asst. Opinion Editor

In Hokkaido, the northern-most island of Japan, twenty meters of snow fell. To let a truck down the road, a trench, a canyon, was carved in the drift. Road workers bundled in layers like otters examined the packed ice through goggles, big bug eyes. The truck peeked around the corner of the ice shelf like a desert mouse and crept forward, so timid in the new world, wondering With its hot breath if the earth Would ever melt.

YOU'RE INVITED: The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

Longwood University Theatre is proud to present The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee with music and lyrics by William Finn, book by Rachel Sheinkin, conceived by Rebecca Feldman, directed by Pamela Arkin. The performance will open Thursday, Nov. 8 at 7:00 p.m. and run through Sunday, Nov. 11, and Nov. 15 through Nov. 18. Both performances on the 11 and the 18 are matinee performances and will begin at 3:00 p.m. The theatre will open for testing at 6:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. for matinee performances.

This play follows the story of six eccentric and quirky children that participate in their county's annual spelling bee competition. The bee is run by three equally quirky adults. Hilarity ensues as the audience is given insight into the lives of each of these individuals. The play is recommended for mature audiences.

Tickets may be reserved online at etix.com, or through the box office at (434) 392-2474. The Box Office hours run from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, with the exception of Monday 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tickets will also be available show nights at 6 p.m. and 2 p.m. for matinees. Ticket pricing runs \$10.00 for the general public, and \$6.00 for students. All prepaid and reserved tickets must be picked up no later than 15 minutes before curtain.

46th Annual CMA Awards were a Party for Country Fans



Country stars Brad Paisley and Carrie Underwood host the CMA Awards and entertain the crowd of country music lovers. Photo Courtesy: bignewsok.com

JONEL ANDREW
 Contributor

This year's Country Music Association (CMA) Awards took place on Thursday, Nov. 1 with country music stars Brad Paisley and Carrie Underwood hosting for their fifth consecutive year.

The show opened up with a mixed performance by Jason Aldean, Luke Bryan and Eric Church in honor of the New York and New Jersey victims of Hurricane Sandy. Underwood and Paisley then took the stage and opened with a parody of Maroon 5's song "Moves Like Jagger," instead singing "Moves Like Haggard." The duo then toyed with the lyrics to Taylor Swift's "We Are Never Ever Getting Back Together," and danced it out to "Gangnam Style." The two hosts brought together one of their classic well-put together opening skits, and the audience died laughing.

Lisa Marie Presley presented the award for Single of the Year to Little Big Town's "Pontoon," making it their first CMA award for this category. Tim McGraw took the stage, performing "One of Those Nights." It sometimes amazes me how long country artists can stay relevant and new, in comparison to hip-hop and pop artists. The next award for Vocal Duo of the Year was presented

by Jake Owen and Jana Kramer and is given to Thompson Square, also making this their first CMA in the category.

Miranda Lambert took the stage to perform her song "Fastest Girl in Town," with a very spunky outfit to match her spunky lyrics. The Zac Brown Band followed Lambert's wild performance with their slower tune, "Goodbye In Her Eyes." Dierks Bentley, the Band Perry, Eric Church and the Eli Young Band gave the next four consecutive performances of the night, making the show feel as if it was more of a concert than an awards ceremony.

The first award presented was Song of the Year. Lambert and her husband Blake Shelton took home the award for Song of the Year with their emotional song "Over You," which brought Lambert to tears as she tried to give her thanks. This couple also won the awards for Male Vocalist of the Year and Female Vocalist of the Year, respectively.

Taylor Swift performed the song "Begin Again" off of her new album, "Red," with an adorable French café set, which was based off her music video shot in Paris. Swift was followed by Little Big Town performing their award-winning song "Pontoon." After the performances, the award for Musician of the Year was presented to Mac McAnally.

Next, Luke Bryan showed up on the stage for a solo performance and Sugarland presented the award for Album of the Year, which was given to Eric Church for his album "Chief." Hunter Hayes was at the CMA Awards for the first time and gave a shaky performance of his song "Wanted." You could practically see the nervousness coming off of him.

Connie Smith was honored for entering the Country Music Hall of Fame this year with a ballad from the hosts. Faith Hill and Brantley Gilbert took the next two performances in the line-up and Keith Urban and Zac Brown gave a joint performance.

The Band Perry presented the award for New Artist of the Year to newcomer Hunter Hayes. Both hosts performed and Carrie Underwood stole the show with her strong performance of "Blown Away."

The award for Vocal Group of the Year was given to Little Big Town, who accepted the award with a lot of yelling, hooting and thanking Jesus in between every word. Jason Aldean gave a solo performance, after which Kelly Clarkson and Vince Gill performed together, introduced as "an idol and an icon." The Music Video of the Year went to Toby Keith with "Red Solo Cup."

Overall, there were over 20 performers at this year's CMA Awards, with only 12 winners. So, if you're ever looking for a concert-like event that you can enjoy from the comfort of your own home, I guarantee the CMA Awards will not let you down.



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Game Corner: Create and Destroy in 'Minecraft'

CHELSEA PUTLAND
Staff Copy Editor

Time to counteract the depressing subject matter of last week's review! "Minecraft" is an indie sandbox game created by Markus Persson, who is known more commonly as "Notch." The game was originally created in 2009 and was called "Minecraft Classic" before the release of the improved "Minecraft 1.0" in 2011. Slightly different versions of this game are available for three different platforms: PC download, Xbox 360 download and Pocket Edition for Androids and iPhones. According to the Xbox Marketplace website, this game is rated E10 for fantasy violence and mild violence.

Story: There isn't a definite storyline or plot. The objectives differ depending on what game mode you play. In Survival mode, players have to keep up with their health bar and hunger bar while using resources found in the random landscape generated. Players must also fight enemies — called "mobs," get experience through gameplay and upgrade tools and weapons all while working their way to The End to fight the Enderdragon or newly-implemented Wither boss. There are multiple levels of difficulty, including Peaceful (in which no enemies show up), Easy, Normal and Hard. In Creative mode, all objects and blocks break instantaneously, and the player can fly. This is solely for players who want to build things and not have any other aspect to the game. Players can have multiple worlds saved at the same time in all three plat-

forms, so you don't have to choose just one game mode.

Controls: Simple and easy to learn, since the actions performed in the game are not complex. There is a button to place blocks, a button to destroy blocks and others to move, jump and sneak. PC controls are a little easier, since you can scroll through your item bar quickly with the mouse and number keys. However, the PC game itself is much more complex than either of the other platforms, as I found out when I switched from the Xbox 360 to PC after a few months. Lagging on the PC can be a serious problem when it comes to controls, so if the game starts lagging, be very cautious and move slowly, especially around lava.

Graphics: Though I disliked them when I first started playing, I'd now call them "funny" rather than "bad." Everything is a square, and almost nothing has curved edges, with a few exceptions like clocks and the moon. According to the "Minecraft" Wiki, all of the blocks are the size of one cubic meter. All blocks are the same size, no matter if the block is made of dirt, glass, ice or obsidian. Items, animals and mobs do not follow these rules, since they aren't made out of the same kind of blocks that the environment is. For instance, chickens and bats are smaller than one cubic meter, and cows and Endermen are larger. Those who play on Xboxes or gaming computers will have a much better visual experience with this game than those of us who do not have very good graphics cards.

Music and Sound: Not the best of all the games I've played. The music, created by C418, is fun to listen to when you first start playing, but since it's the same few songs over and over, I normally end up turning it off and listening to my own music. The sound effects are simple and unique, but are nothing extravagant. Some, like cave noises, can get annoying, but they and other sound effects are useful for locating chasms, caves, abandoned mineshafts, dungeons, water and lava.

Replay Value: High, because there isn't a real end to the game. There are always different modes to try, new structures to build and new items to create. If the player is bored with how their game is progressing in Survival mode, he or she could always turn up the difficulty for a more challenging game. The PC version gets updated quite often, so it gets even better with time. There is also a multiplayer aspect in which you can visit other players in their worlds, or they can visit yours.

Finally, would I recommend this game? Yes, as long as you're all right with getting absolutely addicted to it. If you're a casual gamer and don't want all the bells and whistles, I would recommend the Xbox version or Pocket Edition. If you want to play the game to its fullest, buy it for PC. On any platform, you can literally make anything you want if you're creative enough. Give it a shot!

Disney Needs to Take Some Creative License with 'Episode VII'

KEVIN GREEN
Contributor

FEATURES
COLUMN

The Internet world blew up last Tuesday when Walt Disney Pictures announced its buyout of Lucasfilm and the rights to "Star Wars." What fueled this fire was the announcement of a new trilogy that will begin in 2015 with "Star Wars: Episode VII." The \$4 billion deal is Disney's stab at claiming a flagship franchise. Mickey Mouse will have his hands full trying to make "Episode VII" work in the eyes of film fans and "Star Wars" faithful.

Needless to say this will be a lucrative deal for the mouse. According to an article in the Washington Post, the "Star Wars" brand brought in \$3 billion in commercial sales last year. In the words of Darth Vader, it will be "all too easy" for Disney to start swimming in cash like Scrooge McDuck.

But this is a deal that goes beyond money for a lot of fans. Sure the prequel saga averaged \$500 million domestically per film at the box office, but that is hardly the point here. By and large the prequel films were considered to be failures. They failed to live up to the standard and the quality of the original films.

Fan reaction here was a mixed bag of outrage and excitement. The optimistic fans that may see some light from "The Avengers" are missing the point. Marvel and its producer Kevin Feige were the driving forces behind "The Avengers," and Marvel made the decision to hire Joss Whedon — the man who made the groundbreaking super hero project work.

Disney was merely a distributing partner and nothing more than a leech on the coattails of Earth's mightiest heroes. At the same time, fans that are angry and think they should have left the franchise alone need to understand something about franchises.

Hollywood is very much a franchise-driven world. Warner Bros. Pictures, for example, has the rights to the Batman franchise. They have been releasing Batman films on a regular basis since Tim Burton released "Batman" back in 1989. Regular releases like that are a big way companies keep the rights to certain property.

Disney is probably hoping to erase any memory of the "John Carter" experiment. They pumped \$250 million into that project in the hopes that it would be their next flagship franchise. Of course, it failed to connect with fans and only made a pathetic \$73 million domestically. This is the key point for Disney. They need this next "Star Wars" trilogy to connect with audiences.

The current state of the "Star Wars" franchise is similar to where Batman was at the end of the 1990s. Batman was still worth a lot of money commercially, but fans were tired of the campy Joel Schumacher films. Then Christopher Nolan came along, gave Batman a stronger and darker sense of pathos, and the films made a ton of money while winning over a lot of fans in the process.

Disney has a chance to do something similar here. They can take artistic license and take "Star Wars" in a different direction than the prequel films. That is not to say that they should take a "Dark Knight" approach to it. They need to simply do something slightly different. But it will just come down to who is directing and writing the project.

The problem there is that George Lucas may not be out of the picture creatively. According to USA Today, Lucas will be a creative consultant or executive producer on the project currently being titled "Episode VII." This is essentially the same role he had with "Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull."

Lucas was the man who convinced Steven Spielberg to direct an Indiana Jones film with aliens. The campy and cringe-inducing elements from the prequels may not be omitted from this chapter. Disney should hire a young director with ambition and vision. Someone who can give the franchise the cinematic boost it sorely needs.

They could look into someone like Neill Blomkamp. Blomkamp directed 2009's "District 9" — a film widely regarded as being original and creative. Another director to consider here would be Rian Johnson. Johnson is the man behind this year's surprise hit "Looper."

Both men have a strong sense of story and an ability to mix CGI effects with practical effects. Those are qualities that not only will make any film strong, but especially a space-adventure film.

Strong screen writing and practical settings are two ways to help a new trilogy meet expectations. They are certainly part of what made the original trilogy so good. There are other factors to consider such as casting, story and cinematography. These are two areas that Disney should consider when planning the next adventure in a galaxy far, far away.

*** This editorial is an opinion stated by the writer and does not represent the views of The Rotunda or Longwood University.

A Pop of Culture: For Those Too Busy to Turn on the TV

Oh my God, like, for real?

Everyone stop buggin' because "Clueless" is totally becoming a musical. 90s children rejoice everywhere. Director of the original movie Amy Heckerling recently announced the news. She stated that she would also be working with the director from "Rock of Ages," Kristin Hanggi. The two will work together to create a "jukebox musical" with a variety of songs. Unfortunately, the girl that made the role of Cher so iconic, Alicia Silverstone, will not be returning as her same character but may make an appearance in the show. I, personally, cannot wait to see the return of scrunchies and Sketchers on stage.

Source: perezhilton.com

Free at last! Free at last! The final "Twilight" movie opens in about two weeks, so we'll finally be free of all sparkly vampire related media, right? Wrong. That saint, Stephenie Meyer, has just announced that she has possible plans to continue Bella and Edward's story after the fourth book. It was at a conference in California that Meyer released she may, indeed, begin writing a fifth installment of the "Twilight" series. Apparently, she even already knows what would happen in the books to come. Meyer wants to introduce more characters and give characters a "voice" in the books. Thankfully, so far any addition to the series is just talk, and hopefully it stays that way. I don't know if I could live in a world where even just one more "Twilight" "novel" existed.

Source: abcnews.go.com

Evan Rachel Wood got hitched! Wood, star of "Thirteen" and "Across the Universe" married long time boyfriend, Jamie Bell, last week. The two met on the set of Green Day's music video, "Wake Me Up When September Ends," way back in the day and have been on and off ever since. The ceremony was very small and private, but Evan's dress is said to have been beautiful and one of a kind. She even tweeted about her happiness on the day of the event. Though Evan Rachel Wood has been engaged to Marilyn Manson in the past, her life seems to be settling down, and I wish her all the happiness with her new hubby.

Source: people.com

Chris Brown has turned over a new leaf! Brown is currently filming a special on his life with MTV and in the documentary he talks about how he's turned his life around and has become a better person. It's interesting that Brown is now speaking about his new holy life because just a week ago for Halloween he and his friends dressed up as Arab terrorists and dared anyone "to mess with his clique" at a party. Very positive and sensitive, that Chris Brown is. It's kind of hard to see Chris Brown in any light, other than negative, considering his past, but maybe he's being honest? Or maybe it's just another publicity stunt. I guess only time will tell.

Source: perezhilton.com

Briefs Compiled By: Holly Hackworth, Business Manager

'Once Upon a Time': Mysteries Begin to Unravel

MEGAN WADE
Copy Editor

In this week's episode, "Tallahassee," we got to delve into Emma's pre-Storybrooke past, saw some Emma/Hook bonding time and had one of the biggest mysteries of the show revealed at last: Who exactly is Henry's father?

The answer to that question turned out to be Neal Cassady (played by Michael Raymond-James): mysterious suited man from episode one, professional thief, conman and rightful owner of Emma's little yellow Volkswagen Bug. Nothing says true love like bonding over a stolen German automobile.

We finally got a concrete look into what exactly made Emma the emotionally closed-off and mistrustful woman we're familiar with on the show. If it wasn't already bad enough that Emma was (supposedly) abandoned by her parents on the side of the highway as a baby and then left to the mercy of the foster system by her entrusted caretaker, Pinocchio/August, poor Emma was also unlucky in love.

Based off of Emma's vague explanation of the events of her life, I fully expected to go into this episode and see Neal as a sleazy, selfish character who abandoned Emma when the going got tough in order to save his own skin. Not so. Neal is actually a pretty stand-up guy. Yes, he may have been a thief who apparently didn't mind living a life of crime along with Emma, but he had a strong conviction to keep Emma from getting tangled up in the consequences of his more

serious crimes and wanted to build a more stable life with her in Tallahassee.

But then August had to suddenly pop back up in her life and completely derail those plans. After abandoning her and being absent from her life up until that point, August apparently thought it was perfectly fine to show up and dole out advice about how Emma's wellbeing should be handled. And that advice leads to Emma's lover and baby daddy abandoning her (and their unborn child) and her getting arrested and giving birth in prison, and in the end results in Emma's long-standing issues with abandonment and difficulty in forming relationships. Not to mention August stole the several thousand dollars Neal intended to send to Emma in prison. What a douche-y move.

I sincerely hope at some point in the future there is a reunion scene with Neal, Emma and August all present because I get the feeling August will be losing some major brownie points with Emma when/if she finds out exactly how involved he actually was in facilitating the crappy events in her life.

Back in the present day in Fairytale Land, Emma's emotional block is causing some problems between her and the flirtatious Captain Hook.

Hook's a lot more perceptive than he lets on, though. He's got Emma's number and can read Emma like a book — he's one of the first people who's been able to do so, and it kind of throws Emma for a loop. Hook's perceptiveness could be a good thing because it might get Emma to open up some, but at the same time it could

mean that Hook can find out Emma's weaknesses and use them against her without her ever having to tell him.

Clearly Emma's kept this in mind because despite a deep conversation with a not-so-jolly giant about the importance of not judging a book by its cover and giving people a chance, she chains up Hook and leaves him at the top of the beanstalk in order to get a 10 hour head start over him. I have a worrying feeling this may come back to bite her in the butt when he finally gets back on solid ground.

By the end of the episode, we've gotten insight into the complex person that is Emma Swan, said good-

bye (for now) to Captain Hook, discovered the identity of Emma's baby daddy and been left with a new mystery. Apparently across realms, Aurora and Henry have been sharing the same terrifying nightmare: Trapped in a red room with no doors or windows where the curtains are all ablaze. What does it mean? Why are they the only two that are experiencing these dreams (aka how in the world is Aurora important to the relevant plot)? With only three episodes left in the first part of this season, let's hope some light will be shed on this new development.



Henry's parents, Neal and Emma, encounter one another while stealing the same car.

You're Old(ish) & I'm Definitely Not: Closing the Generation Gap between Students & Teachers

COURTNEY CARROLL
Opinion Editor

I have known many wise and wonderful professors here at Longwood. Some are much older than me, and some are right out of graduate school and are closer in age with me. I've found myself getting closer and closer to the older professors because of how I was brought up.

My father would make me watch his "old" movies with him and listen to his "old" music. As a 21 year old female, I am the manliest of all my friends. I have a terrible sense of humor, watch cult films that most women would find distasteful or stupid, and I definitely listen to my father's "heathen devil rock music," or so my mother says.

I have never had a problem with my older professors because we understand one another more than I ever thought possible. Dr. Lynch, an English professor, bursts my bubble about getting out of Longwood with a job on a daily basis. He doesn't do this to be mean, he does this because he is from a time where you could find a job right out of college or grad school. He is looking out for my best interest because he doesn't want me to have a false perception of the United States job situation.

Most students don't understand their professors – or they won't try to understand them. Age is a natural barrier between us, yes, but that shouldn't stop any of you from becoming friends with the people who teach you on a daily basis. They know more than we know. This isn't just about the subject they teach, it's about the real life issues. SPOILER ALERT: 18 to 21 year olds do not know as much as they think they do. This is shocking, I know, but if you take a second and listen to your professors in class, they'll teach you just as much about real life as they will about academia.

One of my fellow editors, EJ Dowling, actually had to teach one of her History professors how to use Twitter and Facebook. Now, that's intense. I honestly believe some of my professors are on the Internet more than I am, YouTube'n and Facebook'n on a daily basis. Posting statuses about everything they do.

Let's back up. I am friends with about 98 percent of my professors on Facebook. I'm interested in their lives just as much as they're interested in mine: Facebook is definitely a way of closing the gap between our generation and the generation(s) that came before us. Don't take this for granted, please. If one of your professors,

or your elderly neighbor, sends you a friend request, just click "accept." They're interested in having more than just a boring academic or "Hi. How are you doing?" relationship with you.

It's not your professors fault they're "old." They were just born before you. You'll be old one day and you'll want to have these types of connects with younger people, too.

Jeff Halliday, a professor in the Communication Studies department, made a comment Thursday about referring to the movie "Pulp Fiction" in class and nobody knowing what he was talking about. This stopped me dead. A professor should be able to make references to bad ass movies like this and you, as the student, should be educated enough to at least know the movie title.

A photography professor, Mike Mergen, mentioned mix tapes. At the mere mention of this word, the room erupted in laughter. Although I have never received a mix tape from a significant other, I remember blasting my Garth Brooks tape through my tape player. Okay, Okay. I'll admit it. It was my mother's tape, but I still listened to it.

Neither Halliday nor Mergen is old by any means. But aren't we all aging at the same rate? They were our age once – and not even that long ago. And



Art Professor Mark Baldrige helps graphic design student Danielle Dmuchowski in the Fall of 2011.
Photo By: Photo Editor Ashley Fuller

we'll be their ages in a few years. These people we look up to lived through what some of us would deem "hell." They didn't grow up with Wikipedia, cell phones, computers. What would you do without texting? How did they survive boring classes if they couldn't text the person sitting beside them? Well, they did all the hard work so we wouldn't have to. How sweet was that? Very sweet, I

say.

All of us, old and young, need a lesson in being patient with one another. The young will never understand the old, and the old will never understand the young. We must simply communicate better. Don't just say "He's old; he'll never understand me" or vice versa. Your professor was your age once. If you think this is a lie and he or she wasn't like

you when he was your age, take a look at your parents' or grandparents' photo albums they conveniently leave lying around. They won't look much different, I promise. Talk to them. Go to their office and just talk. This sounds scary, I know, but it's not. They aren't as distant as they seem standing in front of the class. Give patience and communication a try.

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Jeff Halliday is an Assistant Professor of Communication Studies at Longwood. He spent his undergrad days at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, earning a Bachelor of Arts in Speech Communication. He also holds a Master of Science in Broadcast Journalism from Syracuse University S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications. At EUP, he was heavily involved with the campus newspaper and radio station, as well as the Iota Xi chapter of Alpha Phi Omega. There was no such time for fun things in grad school. Here at The Wood, he also advises WMLU, The Longwood Show and the Alpha Alpha Omicron chapter of Alpha Phi Omega. His family is his life and while he considers LU an extension of that, his life fully revolves around his lovely wife, Susan, and their three decidedly above-average children: Isabelle, Kenny and Troy. If he were on a deserted island, he would bring a canoe. He's more Captain Jack Sparrow than First Mate Gilligan; he'll take his chances with Davy Jones' Locker. He'd get too bored there anyway – no Wi-Fi.



Michael Mergen is a Photography Professor at Longwood. He attended Rochester Institute of Technology where he received his Bachelor of Fine Arts in Visual Journalism and Rhode Island School of Design where he received his Master of Fine Arts in Photography. As an undergrad, he was active with the National Press Photographers Association and here at Longwood, he's only officially involved with The Rotunda. He believes free time is really time to make work. The type of work he does as a photographer requires a lot of time and particular long stretches of it. He has, however, managed to play two rounds of golf since moving to Farmville in July 2011. If he were stranded on a deserted island and could only bring one item, he would bring postcards with him. He's been sending them to family and friends since his first cross-country road trip in high school.



Lauren Karidis is an admissions counselor at Longwood. She actually went to Longwood for her Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication Studies with a concentration in Mass Media. She went to grad school at VCU and got her Master of Science degree in Multimedia Journalism. As a student of Longwood, she was part of The Rotunda, the Ambassadors, Lambda Pi Eta, an RA and part of RA Mentors. Currently, she's only part of The Rotunda on campus. She spends a lot of weekends going to baseball games with her husband, AJ. She also enjoys cooking and playing with her puppy, Charlie. If she were stuck on a deserted island, she would bring with her a lighter so she could make a fire to stay warm, cook food and signal for help when she was ready to leave.

Facing Your Twenties: It's Not as Hard as it Seems

SEMEIN WASHINGTON
Asst. Opinion Editor

This is an opinion for people of a certain age. I expect for other readers, such as professors, to snicker. But then, all transitory ages are pure comedy after and distilled horror in the midst.

Can any of our readers do more than laugh at the quicksand between 13

and 15 years old when legs and arms were, without being asked to do so, twice their normal length and flopping around? Some of them are still in that gooey pupa stage and have learned to laugh at themselves with little else to do.

The first half of life's second decade, if you make it that far, is or has come to be, another type of awkwardness.

This time, it's not how do I navigate my limbs, but how do I make enough money to afford an apartment, find someone nice to have kids with and have a boss career 'til I die.

People who have gone through this stage of life, often under different circumstances, as I will come to explain, will smile or sigh at your questions. Often, their attempts to console you will be mixed. "It's fine, live your life while you're young," the oldheads will say while pointing at a certain person that you shouldn't be. In general, you should make mistakes but none so bad as to turn you into a criminal, the homeless or a pony-tailed, obese sad sack living with his parents.

But then, all is vanity. You're going to have to learn how to live your life yourself either by being told or figuring it out. Now that you can buy your own beer from the gaping mouth of the grocery store, how much do you buy? Now, that you're thinking about, or are, living on your own, any money is worth having. The bottom line, beyond all of your expectations and the expectations of others, is to not starve to death and have some sort of hammock to sleep in. The other details, including who is or is not willing

to give jobs, sex or friendship, are ephemeral.

Another funny thing about the early twenties is how much it changes with time. I'm not going to overlook the fact that your body still changes a lot as it stops changing. However, this is more of a social transition than the aforementioned stage when many of your voices dropped the bass.

Social expectations change with the decade and, as far as I can see, no more so than for someone between 18 and 25 years of age. What was expected of young men during a certain epoch was to send home money and a young woman was expected to marry someone safe (though not usually in the physical sense). During another ancient time, the young people were expected to think differently and change the world. In yet another, if they had the opportunity, a young person should become as wealthy as possible. These expectations differ more as you go through different types of people in different places.

Of course, this is all old news to the readers who exist now, as I wrote about extensively in a whole 'nother piece, in a certain valley. The earth has gotten too much salt, Gordon Gecko has gone

to jail and the ecstasy of it all has lost its charm.

So, if anything can be said for your early twenties, it is not only that age in which you tell yourself what to do but in which no one else can. By this, I mean that you are allowed to fail without much more than the obvious guideline. Pay the rent; if not, then eviction. Keep money for food and if not then you starve. This is not to say there isn't someone to slip you a fifty every blue moon but they often won't live with you and often won't be down the street.

But there is something to the half soothing advice of your resident old people. You are still technically young. There are definite reprisals for doing the wrong things but there is hope for replacing lost things. Present difficulty can expire and gains can be made. With several decades ahead, I or someone else can change entirely. Facing your twenties, facing the last big push to grow up, is, like many things in life, tedious and tenuous but not bad. Think of it as a beginning.



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- Long lines at stores
- Dryers eating socks

Longwood Men's Basketball Begins New Era

ERIC HOBECK
Sports Editor

On Nov. 15, 2003, Charles Stephens hit a three-pointer at the buzzer at Winston-Salem State to give Mike Gillian a win in his first game as Longwood head coach.

Never since the start of that season have there been more questions surrounding the Longwood Lancers. Gillian, now in his tenth year as head coach of the team, sat down on Friday to talk about the 2012-13 season, which begins Friday evening at Marshall. "Practice is going great," he said, "We have a great group of guys [that are] very hard-working and very excited because everything that's a part of the journey that's a college basketball season is in front of you."

"That's always been true no matter the circumstances; although there is the reality now of us being a member of the Big South, knowing that this inaugural season is going to be super exciting, and also, we have a group that is new to this level of college basketball. The energy [in practice] has been good, and we've just got to translate that to some competition now."

In five years as a Division I Independent in the NCAA, Longwood went 60-95. Now, being in the Big South, the Lancers hope to improve on last year's 10-21 record.

Key injuries and the suspension of Jeremiah Bowman served as catalysts for a backslide that saw Longwood lose seven of its last 10 games in 2011-12. Longwood lost all-time leading scorer Antwan Carter, as well as Martiz Washington, Jan van der Kooij, Bowman and Durann Neil.

Gillian said, "On one hand, you don't have a group with as much tangible experience or as much Longwood experience as we've had [in the past]. However, the experiences of the guys who are here are really good, and I think the leadership in this group is as good as we've ever had to help the newer guys to become acclimated and understand how it is we do things."

"This [team] in particular has been really good every day, all the way through the season so far."

This year's captains for Longwood are Tristan "TT" Carey and David Robinson. Gillian said that their response to being "thrust into the role" as captains has been "positive, grounded ... and [they] have done a great job with it."

Robinson said, "We've been practicing with a lot of intensity. I feel like we come hard to practice every day." Carey echoed the sentiment, adding, "There's been a lot of teaching and adjustment for the new guys."

Carey, the leading returning scorer

from last year, was not named in any pre-season All-Conference team at Big South Media Day on Oct. 9. When asked why he voted Carey as the conference's preseason Player of the Year, Gillian said "I would turn that around and [ask] how anybody else can leave him entirely off their ballot? ... It's not really why I would vote him first because I think he's as good as any player in the league and he plays for our team. It just means that the other guys are not clearly better than him, he's on our team; I'm going to vote him first. If he plays to his ability, he can be one of the five best players in the league."

Robinson averaged 7.7 points a game in 24 appearances last year. "He progressed to the point where he learned what he was capable of doing," said Gillian. An injury before the start of overtime in the game against Seattle on Feb. 11 sidelined him for the rest of the year. "The expectation is that he's going to pick up where he left off and continue to perform as we move into this year. Does that mean it's going to happen? It means that you have a reasonable idea that it can and should happen, but it doesn't mean it's going to."

"He's done the work. He's ready to go ... The proof will come out when we start playing against somebody else."

With players like Nik Brown, Lucas Woodhouse, Frank Holloway

and others, Gillian has a crop of, in his words, "good players and high character people" to lead the program into the new season.

In the years the team spent transitioning to Division I, and as a Division I Independent, the Lancers have certainly been no strangers to excitement. They played, and almost defeated, Illinois on the road when the Fighting Illini were the top-ranked team in the nation in 2004. They've traveled to what Gillian calls "Meccas" of college basketball in places like Rupp Arena (Kentucky) and Allen Fieldhouse (Kansas). From Seattle to Florida to Dartmouth, Longwood is both well-traveled and well-seasoned in terms of stories that they have to tell.

With many storylines, there is no shortage of hype surrounding the team heading into this season. Gillian is also quick to note that the team will return all but one player next year.

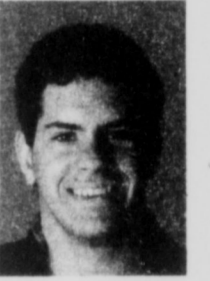
"I feel really, really good about where we are and the team we have and the players that make up the team. It should be very exciting for people to come and watch," said Gillian.

After visiting Marshall, Longwood will host a "White Out" game for the home opener against Norfolk State on Nov. 15 at 7 p.m.

Here We Go Again

ERIC HOBECK
Sports Editor

Last Friday, I talked to people throughout both Longwood basketball programs. In the afternoon, Rotunda Assistant Photo Editor Mike Kropf and I went to Willett Hall to take pictures that appear in this issue and will appear in coming issues. It was like The Rotunda had its own media day. Both teams have played big games over the years.



SPORTS COLUMN

Whether hosting the likes of George Washington and James Madison, or on the road at places like Rupp Arena and Allen Fieldhouse, Longwood basketball teams have stories to tell. In 1980, the men's team made the Division III Final Four (just imagine if they did that today), and in 2003, the women's team made the Division II Sweet 16.

This year, there is no shortage of big games for Longwood fans and students to pay attention to. Teams from the ACC, Big East, Pac-12 and SEC are featured on schedules this season. This column is dedicated to five "must-see games" for 2012-13. Before getting to that, I'll start off with the "best of the rest." As the top five games are all at home, the honorable mentions are games on the road, or "less" important home games.

The men open at Marshall on Friday as several Lancers are slated to make their blue and white debuts. In the Las Vegas Invitational, the men also play at 1994 NCAA Champion Arkansas on Nov. 18 and at preseason No. 15 Creighton two days later. If you're from Northern Virginia like me, you will definitely want to go to the Georgetown game at Verizon Center on Dec. 10. Those from the Richmond area can easily see LU take on local power Virginia Commonwealth on Dec. 21. Charleston Southern comes to town on Jan. 12, and while the game is during winter break, the game will be broadcast live from Willett Hall on ESPN3.

The women travel to North Carolina State on Nov. 15 and then to Virginia Tech on Dec. 1, right before finals. They then play Arizona and Arizona State on Dec. 20 and 22, respectively, before coming back to the Commonwealth to visit Radford on Dec. 29. On Jan. 3, the Big South era begins in Willett Hall as the women take on Gardner-Webb.

Now, on to the true list. No. 5 is the women's game against High Point on Feb. 7 at 7:00 p.m. The Panthers were picked to finish second in the conference on Big South Media Day back in October; their effort is spearheaded by leading returning scorer Erin Reynolds (15.9). Cheyenne Parker led the team in rebounding last year with 12.2 a game. High Point lost in the first round of the Women's NIT last year to NC State, 88-78.

No. 4 on the list is the men's home opener against Norfolk State next Thursday, Nov. 15. Norfolk State, of course, shocked the college basketball world last March, beating No. 2-seeded Missouri in the first round of the NCAA Tournament. Kyle O'Quinn and Chris McEachin have since graduated, but Pendarvis Williams returns after scoring nearly 12 points a game last year. With hundreds of white-clad students in Willett Hall screaming and chanting, the atmosphere will be nothing short of intense as the Lancers take on the Spartans. A Longwood win there might be a start that the team can use to propel themselves to their first winning record since 2008-09.

The third-best game on the list is the women's game against Liberty on the afternoon of Feb. 9. The defending Big South champions, the Flames are a perennial threat in the conference. Head coach Carey Green has led his team to the NCAA Tournament every year since his 1999 appointment as coach, save for 2007 and 2011.

The second-best game is one of several Saturday afternoon games for the men this season.

Radford was hit by NCAA sanctions back in February, thanks to violations by former coach Brad Greenberg. One of the weaker teams in the Big South, the Highlanders will visit Farmville on Feb. 16 for a 2:00 p.m. tipoff. It'll be Reunion Day, as former players return to take in another rivalry game. By that point, we'll know what kind of team Longwood is. That should be a great one.

The number-one must-attend game on the list is, unsurprisingly, the men's home game against Liberty on Feb. 19 at 7:00 p.m. The first game for the men after the Radford matchup, the "Southside Showdown" has all the makings of a classic. My only viewing tip is to not get arrested if and when things get out of hand (I'm half-kidding).

Get your popcorn, and your vocal cords ready for all the games this year; I know I will. But, for these five games, drink a Monster or some coffee beforehand. Lace up, because basketball season is here.

*** This editorial is an opinion stated by the writer and does not represent the views of The Rotunda or Longwood University.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Sean Payton's Future with Saints Unclear

New Orleans Saints head coach Sean Payton may not be filling that role in seasons to come. Payton had his contract extension voided due to some of the language that it contained. He received an extension during the 2011 season and since it has been voided no solution has been found to resolve the issue.

As of right now, Payton's contract is scheduled to end in 2012 but that doesn't mean he will be a free agent coach at the end of the season. There are other things that need to be looked into first. Payton was also suspended this past season for the role he played in the Saints' bounty scandal. Typically, when a coach is suspended, that suspended year doesn't count towards the coach's contract, so Payton's contract may carry over until the end of the 2013 season.

The decision comes down to NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell in the end. According to NFL spokesman Greg Aiello in an article on nfl.com, "Our office has made no determination on Sean Payton's contract status with the Saints for next year. All contracts between clubs and their employees must be approved by the commissioner, and we do not comment on specific terms of individual contracts. Any comment regarding the matter should come from Coach Payton and the Saints."

Sean Payton released a statement in an article just a few hours later, telling Fox Sports Insider and NFL Network contributor Jay Glazer, "I absolutely plan on being a New Orleans Saint. This is the franchise I helped rebuild from the ground up with [general manager] Mickey Loomis, with the Benson family. I love working for the Benson family and with Mickey Loomis. Obviously that's why that stipulation was in the contract."

The Benson family owns the Saints, who entered the league in 1967. The Saints won the Super Bowl with Payton in the 2009 season.

NHL Cancels Winter Classic

The National Hockey League has announced that it will be cancelling this year's Winter Classic game. This year, the game was supposed to take place at the University of Michigan's football stadium in Ann Arbor, Mich. on New Year's Day between the Detroit Redwings and Toronto Maple Leafs.

The Winter Classic has always been a fan favorite event. It is the only time during the season that a game is played outdoors in an opened air stadium, and while the fans must go up against often bitter cold and snowy weather conditions, to most, the experience is well worth the suffering. Players also enjoy it because it brings them back to their youths spent skating on frozen ponds.

According to ESPN reporters Katie Strong and Craig Custance, since the lockout that began a little over six weeks ago, there have been hundreds of cancelled games, "significant revenue loss and what may be irreversible damage to the game's reputation."

In their article, NHL deputy commissioner Bill Daly said "The logistical demands for staging events of this magnitude made today's decision unavoidable. We simply are out of time. We are extremely disappointed, for our fans and for all those affected, to have to cancel the Winter Classic and Hockeytown Winter Festival events."

Don Fehr, the National Hockey League Players Association executive director thinks that cancelling the Winter Classic is "unnecessary and unfortunate." He says that the season has not started yet because of decisions made by the owners and that the players have always been willing to negotiate.

Fehr continues, "We look forward to the league's return to the bargaining table so that the parties can find a way to end the lockout at the earliest possible date, and get the game back on the ice for the fans."

The cancellation also ends plans for HBO's "24/7" series, which follows teams in the month leading to the Winter Classic. The Capitals and Penguins were featured in 2010, followed by the Rangers and Flyers last year.

SPORTS BRIEFS COMPILED BY JOSEPH SCHUMACHER, ASST. SPORTS EDITOR



Head Coach Mike Gillian, TT Carey, David Robinson and Nik Brown stand on the court.

THE ROTUNDA'S PIGSKIN PICK 'EM

ERIC HOBECK, SPORTS EDITOR (22-14):

Patriots over Bills: Tom Brady is Tom Brady, simply put. At home, the Patriots take this one easily.

Texans over Bears: Houston is still my pick to win the Super Bowl over the Falcons. It'll be cold, but Matt Schaub has ice in his veins. Texans win by a touchdown.

No. 8 Florida State over Virginia Tech: The Hokies as a team are having a down year. And I'm just fine with that. I'll take the 'Noles on the road.

Virginia over Miami: My beloved Cavaliers had a fantastic 33-6 win over NC State last week. Phillip Sims is the man under center in Charlottesville, and I'll go with the Hoos on the road in my upset special of the week.

No. 1 Alabama over No. 15 Texas A&M: The Crimson Tide barely escaped LSU over the weekend. That near-miss will put some fire under the entire team as they knock off the Aggies in Tuscaloosa.

JOSEPH SCHUMACHER, ASST. SPORTS EDITOR (21-15):

Patriots over Bills: New England has a winning record; they are on a two-game winning streak, and they are playing at home this week. The Bills have none of this, so Pat all the way in this one.

Texans over Bears: Both teams are having a great season with a 7-1 record, but I have to pick the Texans on this one because they are undefeated on the road so far this season.

No. 8 Florida State over Virginia Tech: FSU is playing really well this season and Tech just doesn't seem to be able to get it together. Florida State takes this one.

Miami over Virginia: Miami is simply the better team in this matchup. They have the better record both overall and in the ACC.

No. 1 Alabama over No. 15 Texas A&M: Alabama has yet to lose this season and while Texas A&M is a really good team, I don't think they have the skill to change that, especially not in Alabama's Bryant-Denny Stadium. Alabama wins it.

GUEST MIKE GILLIAN, LONGWOOD MEN'S BASKETBALL HEAD COACH (GUESTS 24-12):

Patriots over Bills: Seriously? As a Pats fan, nobody should be surprised that I pick the Pats here. Plus, did you see the offensive display we put on over in London against the Rams — that's called finding your rhythm!

Bears over Texans: This has to be the game of the week. The Bears defense performs at their highest level week after week, and there's the potential for cold weather. I'll take the Bears at home.

No. 8 Florida State over Virginia Tech: Florida State is one bad half from being in the BCS picture and coming off a bye week. I'll take the Seminoles.

Miami over Virginia: With my man Coach Larranaga now being at Miami I have to pick the 'Canes. No other reason. (Editor's note: Coach Gillian served as an assistant under current Miami and former George Mason head coach Jim Larranaga before coming to Longwood.)

No. 1 Alabama over No. 15 Texas A&M: Alabama survived against LSU on the road, now come home. This will be closer than people think (depending on who the 'people' are), but 'Bama are not to be denied.

Lancers Hope to Rebound from Tough 2011-2012 Season

HUNTER COSTLEY
Contributor

The Longwood women's basketball team, led by third-year coach Bill Reinson, will begin their first season in the Big South Conference with a little bit of uncertainty but also with potential to improve as the season progresses. Finishing 7-22 last year, the Lancers lost four seniors from last year's team and will bring in nine newcomers this year, including seven freshmen, one redshirt freshman and one transfer.

The Lancers do return four starters though, including three of the top four scorers from last year's team, including leading scorer Crystal Smith. Smith, a guard, averaged 11.2 points per game last year. She also led the team in assists a year ago averaging 4.0 per game, to go along

with 3.0 rebounds a game. Reinson knows Smith will be very important to how far this team goes. "She's a very important player. She needed to score last year. Hopefully this year will be better for her playmaking skills. We've surrounded all the point guards with shooters and given her more weapons to distribute the ball to," he said.

Senior forward Chelsea Coward, and senior guard Erin Neal will also play key roles in this year's success. Howard averaged 10.3 points and 5.2 rebounds a year ago and will be relied on heavily in the paint, especially with the departure of Brittani Billups, the team's second leading scorer and leading rebounder last season. Neal averaged 9.4 points a game last year and was second on the team with 54 steals. She'll be counted on to take some of the scoring load of Smith.

Reinson says, "It all depends how she [Howard] handles the pressure. Her role is to score, rebound and be a vocal leader. She scored last year without a lot of shooters and should have a great senior year."

Senior guard Mieke Elkington will also play some big minutes for Longwood. She started 21 games last year, averaging 4.8 points to go along with 4.8 rebounds, good for third on the team.

Reinson plans on playing an up-tempo style of play, with lots of players constantly subbing in and out. Hampered by injuries a year ago, this year's team should be much deeper as long as they can keep everyone healthy. Neal thinks this team can play faster and more aggressively and really surprise some people.

"Our style of play has changed a lot. We're going to play a lot faster and have a brand new

team. The mentality going into the season has changed. And we finally have a full roster," Reinson says.

When asked what the goal for this season is, Neal said, "To surprise everyone. Polls show that we're being underestimated, and I think we can surprise people. I think the goal is to start a dynasty and a winning tradition."

Though it could take a little while for the Lancers to put it all together, Reinson isn't worried. He knows these things take time, especially with so many newcomers, and his goal is to be ready come Big South Tournament time.

"We're going to play 29 games before the tournament. It's a marathon, not a sprint. If we're prepared by March 1, and hitting all cylinders, we should be really tough to beat come tournament time."

Women's Soccer Notebook: Lancers Eliminated in BSC Semifinal

KEVIN GREEN
Staff Reporter

The 2012 season is officially in the books for the Longwood Lancers women's soccer team. The Lancers finished 13-6-2 (8-2-1 Big South) after dropping a 2-0 decision to the Radford Highlanders (14-2-4, 7-0-4 Big South) in Friday's Big South Championship semifinal.

The Highlanders scored a pair of goals in a three-minute span to take the semifinal match. The first goal came in the 49th minute as Radford junior forward Sahar Aflaki scored all the way from near the end line.

"It caught us all off guard. [Aflaki] was serving the ball and it went in our goal," said Longwood's 19th year head coach Todd Dyer. According to Dyer, the second goal by Radford sophomore midfielder Stephanie Herb also "looked like a harmless

cross that we would deal with and it just went in."

The Highlanders offensively dominated a scoreless first half. The eventual Big South champions outshot the Lancers 8-2 in the open frame and had the only two shots on goal.

At halftime, Dyer said the message was to "go out there and play with a little more passion and energy and see if we can raise our level and tempo a little bit." Dyer also said, "We liked where we were at [in the game] and goals change everything. Those two goals were pretty devastating."

Following the goals, the Lancers went into desperation or "all-out attack" mode. The result was a period in which the Lancers outshot Radford 15-6. The reality for the Lancers is only one of the 15 shots taken was considered on goal. However, Longwood had a few chances to get

back in the game.

Near the halfway point of the second half, LU senior forward Lindsey Ottavio had a chance to score. Ottavio beat the goalkeeper and "it was her and an open net and [she] got tackled from behind. Obviously we thought it was a PK [penalty kick], but the referee did not, and we had to deal with that."

Near the closing stages of the game, Dyer changed the formation and brought senior defender Natalie Massey up as a fourth striker. The Lancers came close a few times. Dyer said, "We were knocking on the door, but just could not quite kick it in."

On the season as whole, Dyer considers it "an overwhelming success." Statistically speaking, this is the women soccer team's best record since the team went 15-3-1 in 2002. "Looking [back] on it now, I'm very proud on what were able to do. We

won a lot of big games."

A few of those big games included a 2-1 overtime victory against Richmond and the penalty kick victory against Liberty in the Big South quarterfinals. The Lancers exceeded expectations by entering the Big South tournament as the third seed. The team was picked to finish fifth in the preseason polls.

Dyer said the team is "eager to move forward and build on this year's success." The Lancers will be graduating four seniors including Ottavio, Massey, goalkeeper Kyra Byron and midfielder Nikki Glisson.

Byron's backups, junior Shelby Hall and freshman Hailey Machen, will both be returning next season. Dyer said, "Those are two very capable goalkeepers that will duke it out to see who earns those minutes." Hall, who would be a senior, has only been with the team for two seasons and was redshirted "due to timing."

Dyer says that the biggest question moving forward is leadership. Kelsey Pardue will be a senior next and led the Lancers in scoring with seven goals and six assists. Dyer said, "She tends to lead by example so we will need her to take a little bit more ownership and be more vocal at times."

The Lancers are returning 19 players that were either freshmen or sophomores. Dyer said, "We've got a lot of young talent that gained valuable experience this year. How they are able to continue to progress will determine what we are able to do next year."

In addition, a recruiting class of six freshmen will join the team next fall. According to Dyer, this is a class with players who can "start or get significant minutes, but we just don't know any of that until they get here."

A Leading Lancer: A Look at Senior Point Guard Crystal Smith

DAVIS GAMMON
Contributor

What defines leadership? This question keeps coaches thinking and searching for that leader who can give their team a spark. Longwood Women's Basketball Coach Bill Reinson has found that leader in senior point guard Crystal Smith.

Smith has been a key member of the Lancers since she arrived on campus in 2008. A native of Manchester, Va., Smith grew up around the sport of basketball. "I grew up with my brother and my cousins, and we always were all outside, so I started playing when I was around five or six [years old]," Smith says of her youth around basketball.

It was here that Crystal became instilled with the

virtues of the game.

In high school, Crystal played for the Meadowbrook Lady Monarchs. "I was a captain for two years at Meadowbrook. My head coach wanted me to be the coach on the floor, so I felt more pressure, like everything was on me, but we got through it."

"We only lost one game my junior year, and we made it to regionals," she said. As captain of the Lady Monarchs, Crystal took a great leadership role as a teenage high school student, which required a strong sense of responsibility.

Through the recruiting process, Crystal was recruited by some of the premier women's basketball programs across the country, including Arizona and seven-time national champion UConn. "But I didn't really

want to go far [away], so I picked Longwood," Smith says. "It was close to home, was the reason I decided to come. When I got here, I actually liked the campus and the team. They were really welcoming to me, and I just fit in."

When Smith got to Longwood, she had a responsibility placed on her shoulders relatively quickly. "My freshman year, [then-head coach Kristin Caruso] told me that there was going to be a lot on me as a freshman because I was one of her most talented freshmen coming in ... Freshman year, I had a lot of pressure on the court and off the court as a starting point guard." Being an extension of the head coach on the floor as a point guard takes a great deal of leadership, and as a

"It was close to home, was the reason I decided to come. When I got here, I actually liked the campus and the team. They were really welcoming to me, and I just fit in."

freshman, Smith had to earn her stripes quickly for the team to succeed.

Her sophomore year was haunted by injury, causing her to miss the first five games of the season, but she showed resiliency and finished the season leading her team as point guard, heading into her all-important junior year. "Last year, I did pretty well. I was more aggressive offensively, so I started to score more," Smith said of her junior campaign. She finished the year leading the team in points and assists.

Smith has high expectations for the Lancers for the 2012-13 season. "This year, I think it's going to be a pretty good year for us. We have a lot of freshmen that are very talented and have good potential." From

a potential-filled freshman, to senior leader, Smith has been the leader Longwood women's basketball relies on.

Smith returns after averaging 11.2 points and nearly four assists per game in 2011-12, both of which are team highs.

If you have an athlete you'd like to see featured in The Rotunda, contact Sports Editor Eric Hobeck at eric.hobeck@live.longwood.edu.

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