

# The Rotunda

Wednesday, March 30, 2016

Holding Rotunda elections since 1920



HALLE PARKER | SPORTS EDITOR

## From The Pridelands to Prince Edward

BY EMILY HASWELL  
A&E EDITOR  
@EMILYHAHAHAHA

Ben Jeffrey is an incredibly tall man with a big voice to match his stature. Even when he is sitting down for an interview he can't stop moving, fiddling with his water bottle and speaking excitedly about his time starring as Pumbaa in "The Lion King" on Broadway.

Watching him up onstage doesn't feel a whole lot different from speaking to him one on one. As he kicked off his cabaret performance in Farmville last Friday with a big exciting song from "The Last Five Years," his chemistry was palpable. He truly enjoyed performing for us, and we thoroughly enjoyed being in the audience.

It's no wonder Jeffrey has so much energy; he performs eight shows in six days when he is back home in New York. Keeping up his stamina is key; his entrance in "The Lion King" comes at the end of act one. He runs onto the stage screaming, and he relates it to "being shot out of a cannon."

Pumbaa is a big character, one that requires an extreme amount of charisma and enthusiasm. When young audience members come to the show, he is very recognizable to them. Their favorite movie has come to life. No wonder Jeffrey is a fan favorite.

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## Longwood receives record number of applicants

BY CHRISTINE RINDFLEISCH  
NEWS STAFF

Longwood University has received a record number of applicants for the upcoming class of 2020, many of which believe the vice presidential debate to be a major contributing factor.

The application increase refers strictly to the freshman class and does not include transfer students. The increase stems from both in-state and out-of-state applications.

According to Jennifer Green, the associate vice president for enrollment management and student success, applications to Longwood broke a record with more than 5,000 applications being received, which is a 10 percent increase.

Longwood has seen an increase of 26 percent for incoming freshmen in the past three years in which there is also a 30 percent increase of students who apply with a high school GPA higher than 3.0.

"Our reputation as an institution has increased within the state, great faculty-student ratio, a beautiful campus and the debate all have given us recognition," said Victoria Kindon, vice president for Strategic Operations and chief information officer of Information Technology Services at Longwood.

"It seems to be a stronger academic student (applying)," said Johnice Brown, director of Undergraduate Recruitment, of the type of students applying this year.

The Admissions staff for Longwood has increased outreach by direct contact, encouraging students to apply, which has also contributed to the increase in applicants, according to Brown.

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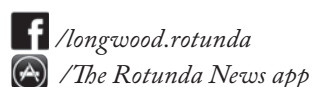
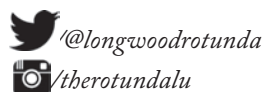
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# Dean steps down

## College of Business and Economics to receive new dean

BY CHRISTINE RINDFLEISCH  
NEWS STAFF

Dr. Paul Barrett, the dean of the College of Business and Economics at Longwood University, has recently announced his decision to step down as dean to pursue his dream of teaching.

Barrett brought his decision first to Joan Neff, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, and President Reveley during the last fall semester. The announcement was made public in early January this year.

Barrett describes his decision as a “leverage point” when his son-in-law suffered from a traumatic experience of a heatstroke during a triathlon this past summer, which resulted in 16 surgeries. This caused Barrett to rethink his time and area in life.

“It’s just time,” Barrett said when asked what caused his decision.

Barrett received his bachelor’s degree from the University of Maryland at College Park, and received his master’s degree in education in the 1970s from Towson University and since then has yet to teach. Barrett also received a doctorate from Regent University.

Barrett will have worked at Longwood a total of nine years when he resigns as dean on December 31, 2016.

“(Teaching has) been on my bucket list,” explained Barrett.

In preparation to become a professor at Longwood, Barrett must first complete research and be published in order to teach in the College of Business and Economics. He must also take a sabbatical to brush up on his teaching skills to differentiate from his responsibilities as dean.

“I just have a passion for leadership and leadership values,” said Barrett.

Given that there are two departments in the College of Business and Economics, Barrett discussed how his doctorate and experience will allow him to teach in the management and marketing departments, and his license for teaching will also allow him to teach in other departments.

Barrett explains that he has big plans as far as teaching goes, which directly relates to one of the centers which was founded in 1998, and was brought to Longwood in the last seven years, the

SNVC Leadership Institute.

“I will, likely when I’m teaching, step in full-time as director of the (SNVC Leadership) Institute,” Barrett added.

As for the process of picking a new dean, Barrett describes it as being a yearlong process which will include a public search with a search committee. Barrett emphasized he currently has no involvement in the process.

“I’ll do whatever they want me to do,” Barrett said when asked about the involvement he may have in the future.

In a statement sent to The Rotunda, Neff said an ad would be developed for the position which will be published in various higher education publications. This strategy will ensure the ad will only be seen by a well-qualified and diverse pool of potential applicants.

The search committee will then select and conduct interviews with a maximum of 12 applicants. After all the potential applicants have been interviewed, the search committee then selects the top two to four candidates who are then invited to campus for another round of interviews.

With those applicants who are invited to campus, they will meet with various constituencies on campus. These constituencies will voice their opinions on each candidate’s qualifications for the position.

Finally, Neff will take into consideration the opinions of the constituencies and make a final decision for the position.

As for advice for the incoming dean, Barrett suggested taking the first semester or two to learn.

“(The new dean must) understand all the assets certainly regarding faculty and understand all the boards including the alumni board,” explained Barrett.

Barrett describes the College of Business and Economics by saying, “it’s not an island,” meaning there is a necessary cohesiveness which should exist with other colleges and offices at the university.

“The learning curve is significant,” said Barrett.

Barrett will stay in his position as dean through the upcoming vice presidential debate and has plans to involve the College of Business and Economics with the debate.

# Alcohol increase in dry dorm

Seven underage alcohol cases in Curry since June

BY NICOLE GILSON  
CONTRIBUTOR

Underage drinking is a common occurrence on Longwood's campus, evidence of which is displayed in the Longwood Police Department's crime log. This results in problems for Residential & Commuer Life, the Longwood University Police Department (LUPD) and the Office of Conduct and Integrity.

According to LUPD's crime log for 2016 alone, there are 12 cases referring to underage possession of alcohol (UPA) and drunk in public (DIP).

"For the '14-'15 year there were 184 students and one recognized student organization charged with violations of the alcohol policy," said Jen Fraley, associate dean of Conduct and Integrity.

The first alcohol related charge for the 2016 crime log was on January 22 with UPA charges. The most recent charge was a DIP on March 18. Within these three months, there have been a total of 12 reported cases which have been documented. This could be compared to all of 2015 where there were a total of four alcohol cases in the crime log associated with Curry.

Most of Longwood's dorms don't have many restrictions with alcohol besides it not being allowed for those under the legal age limit of 21. Curry is defined as being a dry dorm, meaning that no alcohol is allowed in the building, no matter the age of students.

The reasoning behind Curry being dry is because of the fact that there is an

abundance of freshmen in the building, and no other dorm has as many first year students.

According to the crime log, out of all the dorms on campus, Curry is the only one which has more than one alcohol related charge; they are at seven currently.

"It's kind of easier because there is no need to worry about whether or not anyone's 21; it's just a fact that no one's allowed to have it," said Ashley Valk, the residence education coordinator for Curry.

In the student handbook, students can find punishments and consequences for potential charges, as well as the procedure for a hearing. Anyone who is going to be having a hearing can set up a meeting with

a professional from the Office of Conduct and Integrity to learn more about the process.

Jen Fraley added, "Our system is set up to be educational in nature, and everyone who is found responsible gets an education sanction. Because we're holding people accountable for their behavior, because there are certain standards that we have that we need to uphold in the community. But we also want to make sure that it's a learning experience for people in terms of their choices, and people learn from making mistakes. So when we make mistakes, we like to help you learn and move forward in a better fashion."

# Farmville PD names Officer of the Year

Officer Gary Williams receives award for work in community

BRIANA ADHIKUSUMA  
NEWS EDITOR @BRIADHIKUSUMA



COURTESY OF FARMVILLE PD

"What makes Gary worthy of this award is not just the professional performance of his duty, but the many tasks he undertakes to foster community policing," stated Farmville Chief of Police Curtis Davis in a media release.

Officer Gary Williams was named the 2015 Farmville Police Officer of the Year, his second time receiving the award since his first recognition in 2012.

Williams previously worked for 27 years with the Virginia State Police before joining the Farmville Police Department.

In the release, Davis stated the activities which Williams has participated in for the community, such as child safety seat installations, reading to children in daycare centers and attending community events.

Williams has also been involved in the establishment of a Farmville chapter of "Help Save the Next Girl." This program assists in bringing awareness to and prevention of abductions. Williams also assisted in the reestablishment of the Police Explorers Program, which introduces students to the practice of a law enforcement career. The program currently has 15 members, which has risen from a previous five.

The process of choosing an Officer of the Year involves gathering nominations from members of the department and then a discussion of the nominees. This discussion is carried out by the command staff which includes Davis, two lieutenants and the captain. A vote is then taken by the command staff in order to determine who receives the award.

"For us, it's a little different. It's not necessarily incident-driven, meaning you have to catch a robbery suspect or make a big arrest. What we look for is a body of work, a continuing effort by someone to do something. I don't want

to say extraordinary but obviously different. Gary has done some tremendous things for the community. He's like that every day," said Davis.

Davis will also be taking over Williams' post directing traffic during the Christmas parade while Williams leads the parade itself, a position which Davis would have been given.

According to Davis, Williams will be recognized through the media and will be given a plaque.

"All the officers here I believe treat people very well. It's just with Gary, he has the ability to go out and talk to people, to perform his duty sort of the way we want it to be done, and there were several good candidates for that position this year that were all very deserving."

Davis said that Williams' behavior has not changed since receiving the award.

Davis added in the release, "He is a full service officer to the community who does not focus simply on the enforcement of the laws, but also the improvement of the quality of life for all citizens and the future of our profession. In addition to the many accomplishments that Gary has achieved over his esteemed career, nothing can compare to his friendly demeanor, compassion and the genuine respect he shows to everyone he meets. He represents the things that made a true public servant."

# Longwood receives record number of applicants

—CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

“We (the Admissions department) have been starting to talk to freshmen and sophomores,” explained Kindon.

Kindon went on to further explain that in years past, the Admissions department has strictly reached out to students in their junior year of high school.

This past year’s deadline to apply for regular admission was Feb. 1 with early action being Dec. 1.

Kindon said that students can still apply, but with so many students already applying and being accepted, a student must exceed the Longwood application requirements in order to be accepted. Kindon further explained that this is a result of Longwood wanting to keep the incoming freshman class around 1,100 students.

“(Longwood) wanted all the students to be looking towards that deadline,” said Kindon.

The deadline to apply was changed to coincide with approximately 90 percent of institutions both nationally and within the Commonwealth, according to Kindon.

The Admissions department began to notice the increase with the amount of tours prospective students were taking to get a better feel for the campus.

“(Longwood tours) allow to have a very homelike feeling,” said Kindon.

There is no change in acceptance qualifications for the rising freshmen of the class of 2020. Brown described the guidelines as the student’s high school record with an added emphasis on the courses taken, as well as the grades from

the core academic classes.

Kindon mentioned a new application feature which many other institutions are coming to as SAT optional. This concept allows students who meet a certain grade point average (GPA) to have the option of providing their SAT score when applying to colleges.

“(Longwood) could potentially be going to SAT optional,” Kindon added.

With the university receiving more applications, the total number of acceptances will decrease in able to maintain the class size which Longwood currently has, which is approximately 5,000 undergraduate students.

“I anticipate the acceptance rate in comparison to the total number of applications will decrease,” said Brown.

The Admissions staff at Longwood tracks the applications on a weekly basis. According to Brown, Applications are monitored throughout the entire application process.

“(There has been an) increase of students where Longwood is their first choice,” said Kindon.

Kindon hopes that this school spirit will eventually increase the overall culture of Longwood.

# Farmville and Prince Edward Police comment on diversity within departments

BY BAILEY JENKINS  
CONTRIBUTOR

The Farmville Police Department and Prince Edward County Sheriff’s Department have recently placed an extreme emphasis on integrating diversity into their forces following the transition of leadership in the departments.

Chief Curtis Davis was instated as the chief of police for the Farmville Police Department in March 2015, and Sheriff Wesley Reed was re-elected sheriff in 2015, having served as sheriff in Prince Edward County since 2012.

Davis had a broad opinion on diversity concerning not only race but ideas and thinking as well. Davis believes he holds his force to a high standard, enforcing his officers to think diversely, encouraging them to deal with people fairly no matter what culture, race or personal lifestyle they prefer.

Davis said, “In policing, you must have officers that are going to be respectful and diverse in their thinking so you don’t come to the table thinking this is right and this is wrong. There are laws, but then there

are certain ways that people live and ways things are conducted that vary, and you have to have respect just like with culture.”

Davis’ opinion on diversity revolved around diverse thinking, meaning he expected his force to be respectful and fair in the way they policed and connected with the community of Farmville, considering all different backgrounds of individuals.

Davis felt that while some may believe that race creates a divide in the community, trust between the police force and community comes from individual regard with dealings between the police force and the community.

To Davis, equality in thinking, and not race, was the element which mattered when it came to the police force and the way the department policed in Farmville.

“To me, that’s the best part of diversity is the fact that you can be from a different lifestyle and different viewpoint, but in the job you are in, your professional opinion and professional approach may be separate than what you would be personally, and that is something that we would expect,” said Davis.

Similarly to Davis, Reed’s idea of diversity involved having the willingness to treat everyone equal.

“At the sheriff’s office, you gotta be well diverse in all aspects. You have to be a well-rounded person willing to treat everybody equal and still uphold the code of Virginia,” said Reed.

However, unlike Davis, Reed did feel that race had to be factored into the role of diversity in his force, especially when it came to hiring and the dealings with the community.

“In this area, I would be ignorant to the fact to say that race isn’t a part of it because you have to be very diverse when it comes to that,” said Reed.

Reed stated that he preferred to keep his team balanced in race, preferring to replace a white officer with a white officer if one should leave, or a black officer with a black officer if they should leave.

However, despite his attempts to keep his force as balanced as possible to avoid perceived prejudices, he did feel that above racial diversity was the importance of hiring the most qualified candidate who

would serve the community in the best way. For this reason, Reed stated that though he attempts to keep the force balanced, they are in no means 50/50 because his first priority is ensuring the most qualified deputies make up his team.

Reed identifies himself as “old school,” having little tolerance for racial discrepancies involving his team and the community.

Reed stated, “I won’t accept anything less. That’s just the way I am,” referring to respect and professionalism expected of his deputies in dealings with the diverse makeup of the Farmville community.

To Reed, his department is responsible for dealing with “all walks of life” in the community, but despite how different each group of people is, they all deserve to be treated equally and fairly.

Both Davis and Reed feel that their departments have done well in maintaining diversity and a strong relationship with the community.

## SGA Brief: March 29, 2016

BY CHRISTINE RINDFLEISCH  
NEWS STAFF

In this week's Student Government Association (SGA) meeting the topic of cost for students to attend public universities was raised by Senator Mark Barham as many other members of the SGA held discussion on the matter.

Barham inquired if Longwood University currently hosted an open forum run by SGA that would allow students to voice their opinions on the matter.

Treasurer Jessica Darst elaborated on the topic with how in years past SGA has held open forums about sensitive issues. Darst continued on to say that open forum takes place every week at the SGA meetings that students may attend to voice concerns.

Dr. Tim Pierson, Vice President for Student Affairs, mentioned that since President Reveley has been the president, Longwood has been able to stay well under the 3 percent mark in terms of tuition increases. Pierson continued on to say that leaders in Virginia are making efforts to continue that trend in the commonwealth.

The status of potential speakers for the Vice Presidential Debate was also brought up by Senator Shawn White. He expressed concern that the university hasn't chosen one yet with the debate nearly six months away.

Cheryl Steele, Associate Dean for Student Engagement, elaborated by reading off about 30 names that were suggested by students as to who they would like to see speak during the debate. Names included Oprah Winfrey, Jon Stewart and Ellen DeGeneres as well as many more. Steele reassured White that preparation for the event as far as planning goes is ahead of schedule.

President Constance Garner mentioned

that the debate committee makes the final decision as to whom the guest speakers will be.

A member of the gallery spoke on behalf of the Longwood Young Democrats looking to broadcast the upcoming mock debate between the Longwood Young Republicans and the Longwood Young Democrats.

The representative was looking to potential stream the broadcast live on the Longwood University website. Topics will include economy, gun control and minimum wage. There will be three members from each side debating. The debate will take place on April 6 at 7p.m. in Blackwell Ballroom.

Garner encouraged the SGA to advertise that voting for SGA members is open until Thursday and currently has 664 people that have voted as of Tuesday. The organization needs to have 1/6 campus participation in order for the vote to count, which is 750, needing 100 more people to participate before a second election is put in place.

Garner informed the SGA that the freshman class has received the lowest voter turnout in relation to the other student classes.

Senior Class President, Natalie Joseph advertised that the senior class is looking for ideas that students want to see at Longwood in the future. Darst suggested that the senior class host an event that could entail giving away free items or even holding a band.

Executive Senator Chyanne Trowell felt that a tangible object would be more significant for future students to appreciate rather than a one-time event.

## SFC Report

BY CHRISTINE RINDFLEISCH  
NEWS STAFF

\$214.56

Alpha Phi Alpha

-Funds will be used for mandatory conference

-Funds will be for three members attending

-Funds will provide only for a hotel reservation for two nights

*The motion was passed to SGA for a vote.*



BRIANA ADHIKUSUMA | NEWS EDITOR

## Faculty Spring Meeting Brief

BY BRIANA ADHIKUSUMA  
NEWS EDITOR  
@BRIADHIKUSUMA

The majority of the faculty spring meeting was spent reviewing the new core curriculum.

During the rest of 2016, the curriculum will be reviewed in the fall by Faculty Senate and then sent to and reviewed by the Board of Visitors in the winter.

The revision of SCHEV competencies and development of requirements for core courses, as well as the professional development for the Foundation level of the core curriculum will be done in the spring of 2017.

The piloting of the Foundation level courses will be during the spring semester of 2018.

By the fall of 2018, all incoming freshmen will be in the core curriculum. Incoming transfers will be placed in the current general education curriculum due to the inability to complete the core curriculum before their anticipated graduation.

During the same semester, the Perspectives level courses will be piloted.

By the fall of 2019, the placement of transfers in the general education curriculum or the core curriculum will be decided by individual departments. The Symposium level sections will then be piloted during the fall and spring semesters.

During the 2020-2021 academic year, an external and internal assessment will be conducted.

By the academic year 2021-2022, the current general education curriculum will close and all students will be under the core

curriculum.

Some concerns raised during the meeting included the possible need for more adjunct professors to teach the core curriculum courses, instead of hiring and filling needed faculty positions within departments. Concerns concluded with the inquiry on whether there would be enough funding.

During the meeting, the changes to the bylaws of Faculty Senate were reviewed. There was an addition of a graduate student representative and ex officio members will not have voting privileges, but will be allowed to participate in discussion. The bylaws were passed by the faculty present at the meeting. A faculty representative for the Faculty Senate of Virginia was also voted into position.

Dr. Bill Abrams, a member of Faculty Senate, provided an update on a salary study. The current statistics and data for the study come from early November 2015.

The mean salary for faculty increased by 4.65 percent, and increased by 3.86 percent for continuing faculty.

The university has added five more faculty than last year, and are in the fifth percentile compared to peer institutions, as well as the second to last in mean state salary for faculty. The salary study and salary summary can be found on the Faculty Senate web-page under "Reports."

# SNA brings awareness to campus for multiple sclerosis



MARIAH JOHNSON | SNA PRESIDENT

**Students gather around to help raise awareness for multiple sclerosis.**

BY EMILY CARROLL  
FEATURES STAFF

Wanting to raise awareness of the disease, Longwood's Student Nursing Association (SNA) hosted a multiple sclerosis (MS) simulation event on Friday to help students and faculty to understand the difficulties faced by those who suffer from the disease. The members of SNA had a table decked

out in orange (the color that represents MS) on Brock Commons where they educated students on MS and how it impacts one's lifestyle. SNA members gave out ribbons and beaded necklaces to students to raise awareness of MS. Their table also had many simulations that represented the effects

that one faces with this disease. Mariah Johnson, SNA president, named MS the "invisible disease" because there is not much awareness of how MS truly turns one's lifestyle upside down.

SNA provided a variety of simulations to show how MS affects every part of the body and to put how people live with this disease into perspective for the students. Some of the simulations included buttoning up a shirt with gloves on to symbolize the loss of motor skills. Goggles were used to signify how this disease impairs vision. A bucket of ice water where one could fish out marbles for a short period of time which symbolized the numbness and tingles in the hands and feet of someone who has MS. The last example involved students putting on ankle weights and kicking a ball, which represented how difficult it is to be in control of one's limbs.

MS affects 2.5 million people worldwide and SNA wanted to bring awareness to Longwood and to give students a "little walk in their shoes" as Johnson explained.

Johnson added, "I think that the simulation activities we had really allowed people to see and somewhat feel what living with multiple sclerosis is like. While these simulation activities are no testament to the

reality of living with MS, but I feel that it really opened peoples eyes."

SNA was very pleased with how successful the event was and how the Longwood community told their stories about how the disease has affected them.

Johnson stated, "As an organization we were honestly overwhelmed with the amount of people who came up to us and shared personal stories of mothers, fathers, grandparents and other family members who have struggled with MS. After seeing the appreciation of our event by these students and faculty, I am so glad that we chose the MS Society as our philanthropy and I, along with the rest of the organization is eagerly looking forward to a walk in the fall."

SNA would like to host an MS walk to support their philanthropy this September, however making the walk a reality is still in the works. To help raise more awareness, SNA also hosts spirit nights where the proceeds go to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

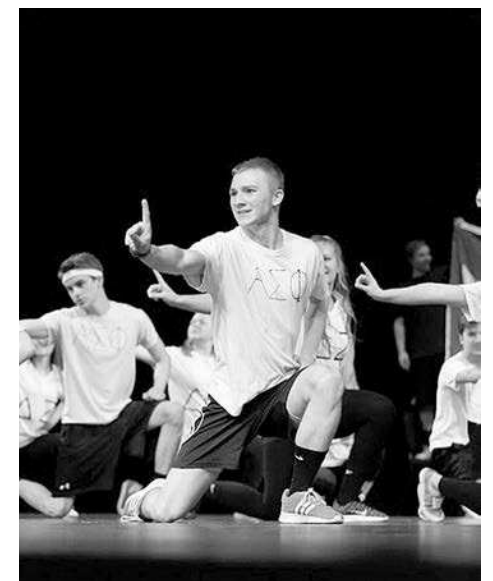
## Greek Sync

With great dance routines, costumes and fun music, Greek Sync was again a hit on Wednesday in the Jarman auditorium. Longwood students both Greek and non-Greek came out to see the crazy performances. This year's winner were:

**3rd Place** - Delta Zeta, Phi Mu Delta, and Alpha Sigma Phi

**2nd Place** - Sigma Sigma Sigma, Sigma Kappa, and Theta Chi

**1st Place** - Alpha Sigma Alpha and Zeta Tau Alpha



MATT ALEXANDER | PHOTO STAFF

# Eighth International Film Festival comes to campus

BY EMILY CARROLL  
FEATURES STAFF

Over the past week, Longwood's Modern Language Department has been hosting the eighth annual International Film Festival in Hull Auditorium. The film festival started on March 21 and ends on March 30. All films shown were free and had English subtitles for all to enjoy.

For the Spanish series the festival showed, "El Hijo de la Novia" which translates to, "The Son of the Bride" which was shown on Monday, March 21. The Spanish department also showed the film, "Ladron que Roba a Ladron" translated, "To Rob a Thief" which was shown on Monday. While there was much persuasion for students to attend the films from the modern language department, the screenings of both films were well received, and students and faculty who attended seemed to enjoy the films.

"El Hijo de la Novia" was a romantic

comedy which introduced the audience to the son, Rafael who lost his way when he was younger and opened a restaurant. However, he had an eye opening experience that put him on the right track. He then went on to become closer to his family and his father proposed to his mother to renew their wedding vows and other events ensued. Student Logan Potts stated, "I thought the 'Son of the Bride' was a very good and funny movie."

The turnout for this movie was good, but the auditorium was packed during the second movie.

"Ladron que Roba Ladron" was an action packed film with much comedy added in the plot line. The film was a look at how money can overrule honesty in a person's life. Alejandro was a professional thief who sold infomercial products that people ordered,

spent good money on and truly believed would work, but the products failed. However, Emilio who is also a professional thief felt this was very wrong and planned a heist to steal Alejandro's money, which he basically stole from the hopeful people. All in all, it was a film which portrayed honesty is everything, and if one is not honest then it can definitely come back to haunt them.

Student Amelia Butterfield said, "The movie was very comical and had me hooked all the way through the end."

Also student Mikayla Clarke stated, "The movie was actually very intriguing! I didn't expect to get that into it; while the subtitles were helpful to follow the plot line it almost seemed as if the movie was in English because of how intrigued I was."

This film was very well received and ended with the crowd in applause.

Another great attraction to the festival was the raffle of a Barnes and Noble gift card at the end of the films as well as pizza to wrap up the Spanish department's portion of event. In addition to the Spanish department, other language departments participated including the German department which showed, "Ein Freund Von Mir" translated to "A Friend of Mine" and "Die Farbe" translated to "The Color out of Space;" the French department showed films, "Alceste a Bicyclette" which translates to, "Cycling with Molière." and "La Famille Bélier" which translates to, "The Bélier Family."

The last film of the festival will be the German film, "Die Farbe" on Wednesday March 30 at 7 p.m. in Hull Auditorium.

## Kappa Delta Self Defense Class



CARLY SHAIA | ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR

On Monday March 28, 2016, Stubbs Hall became more than a dormitory. It became a meeting place where young women learned how they could one day save their lives in a life-or-death situation.

Alex Joynes, Sisterhood Chair for Kappa Delta, decided to have a self-defense class for her sorority. "I've learned a bunch of different stuff..." said Joynes, "While I hope no one gets in that situation, It's good to know (how to defend oneself)."

Officers Michael Gordon, Patrol Sargent with Cumberland Police Department, Stewart Godsay Patrol Corporal for Farmville Police Department and David Regland Sargent Patrol for Farmville Police Department volunteered their time to teach the young women how to properly defend themselves in multiple situations.

"I know I have three daughters," said Gordon as he empathized with the women as they explained their worries when walking alone at night. The key to learning self-defense is that one should never stop learning. "It's important to have more tools in your toolbox than you need," said Gordon.

# Humans of Longwood: Maribeth Watkins

BY KIERSTEN FREEDMAN  
COPY STAFF  
@KFREEDMAN44

“The whole thing (Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival) seems very cheesy and very superficial, but being a (Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival) Princess is an absolute honor because they choose those who are excelling in college. I get to represent Longwood, my community and all of the things I’ve done well, and bring a lot of people together in the community. People of all social classes and locations come together (for the Festival), people come from Virginia, Maryland and West Virginia. Not to mention that Cal Ripken, Jr. is going to be the Festival’s Sports Marshal... I love Cal Ripken, Jr... He’s my family’s ‘patron saint.’”



KIERSTEN FREEDMAN | COPY STAFF

# Sigma Gamma Rho



MARLISHA STEWART | PHOTO STAFF

**Saturday, May 26, four women became new members of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. Jamilah Fatimah, Kayla Hogues, Alexis Gregory and Marissa Woods are now proud members of the Omicron Omicron Chapter at Longwood University.**

# A cup of joe with the po-po

BY DAVID PETTYJOHN  
FEATURES STAFF  
@PETTJOHNDAVID

Rather than put on a speech, the Farmville Police Department took a more laid back approach to get citizens talking about their concerns. On Thursday, the Farmville Police Department held their fourth “Coffee and Conversation” event at Uptown Coffee Café. The event allowed citizens to engage with the police in an informal and conversational setting. Special Operations Lieutenant William H. “Bill” Hogan explained that there are many problems that residents may have, but do not feel are worth a 911 call.

“They won’t call us. They think they’re bothering us, but they come here... and they say, ‘Hey, since I got you here, let me

ask you something.’”

Representing the Farmville Police were Captain A.Q. “Andy” Ellington, Detective S.L. Entrekin and the department’s accreditation manager, Dale Dowdy.

Their jobs are certainly more risky than others, but as far as actual harm goes, Farmville seems to be relatively safe.

Hogan commented, “Farmville, generally speaking, is pretty laid back. Nice town, as far as crime rate goes... It doesn’t matter where you go, you’re always going to have more serious things happen from time to time... But we don’t have too many god-awful occurrences around here.”

Hogan also added “We have the

occasional shooting or stabbing or something like that, but they’re very rare.”

Captain Ellington had some concerns in regards to crime specifically affecting college students. “On the female side, they’re more subjected to sexual assaults... they need to be more cautious, especially late at night after they’re drinking heavily.”

As far as the rest of the student body goes, he stated, “[they] could be the victim of any crime. You could be the victim of a burglary. You could be the victim of theft.”

Hogan explained that when students go away on various breaks (such as spring break, fall break or Christmas break) the rate of theft often increases. During these

time periods, “There’s an increased patrol of the areas that you live in, because you’re usually there,” according to Hogan. “In the past we’ve seen some break-ins and things like that... We’ve seen scams that are trying to scam people into making money for college loans... I don’t think crimes are more geared towards students, but I do see crimes that students are more susceptible targets for some things,” said Entrekin, “Because everybody’s got a laptop and a backpack, and it’s sitting right over there.”

The department has several events coming up including a blood drive on Friday, April 2.



# Waterworks Players: “Into the Woods” preview

BY NATALIE JOSEPH  
ASST. EDITOR @HEYNATJO

“Into the Woods,” a popular hit movie starring Meryl Streep and Emily Blunt in 2014, is coming to the Waterworks Players Community Theatre during the first two weeks of April.

Written by Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine in 1987, “Into the Woods” has stood the test of time making its way on Broadway, the big screen and community theatres all over the country.

The musical is a modern take on the Brothers Grimm fairytales, featuring characters such as Jack and the Beanstalk, Little Red Riding Hood, Cinderella and Rapunzel. Each character is tied together into the large plot of the production, which centers around a baker and his wife who wish for something they cannot have – a child. Soon the pair find out that there is a curse over their family that is preventing

them from having a child, and they must find multiple items such as a cap, hair, cow and a slipper for The Witch, who cursed them in beginning.

In an epic and exciting adventure, the baker and his wife go into the woods to retrieve the items for The Witch, meeting fairytale characters that transform their journey along the way.

Senior music education major Jared Dowdy, who plays The Baker, said, “The show goes through many different stages. In the first half of the show you see all the characters learn and grow, and in the second half we all go into the woods and see and meet all sort of things there.”

Coming to the Waterworks players on April 1-2 and April 8-10 at various times, the stars of “Into the Woods” include Longwood students, faculty and staff,

along with actors from the community and university alumni.

Directed by Dudley Sauve, the two and a half hour musical will use a moving set thrust stage, allowing the characters to break the third wall and allow the audience to see everything no matter where they are sitting in the relatively small community theater.

Junior communication studies major Miriam Loya, who plays Jack’s mother, said, “The moving pieces for the set are what transform you into the different places we are at. We have to fit a big set and a big cast into the small theatre.”

For people who loved the movie but have not seen the Broadway musical or any production of it off the big screen, they should expect similarities to the film.

Sophomore communication studies major

Alex Woods, who plays the Baker’s Wife, said, “I think that the movie does a very good job representing the story and the musical adaptation. You will see more songs and music from each character that you did not see in the film in our production.”

Being a musical, a lot of the show is dependent on music, and the show has many talented musical performers.

The cast has been rehearsing about five days a week for over a month, and they are ready to showcase the musical and all the hard work they have put into it.

Junior music education major Roxanne Cook, who plays The Witch, said, “There are a lot of characters that really make you think. The show is about growth and learning about yourself. There is really no right or wrong in the end. It’s really what you want to decide.”

# From The Pridelands to Prince Edward

BY EMILY HASWELL  
A&E EDITOR

—CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

“Particularly playing the role I play that’s the best part. You just hear kids squealing and laughing, and it doesn’t get much better than that,” said Jeffrey.

He makes the same impact with audiences of all ages, during his one night only performance, a small group of Longwood theatre students sat in the audience with rapt attention. They laughed and applauded hard and loud, clearly fresh off of one of the workshops Jeffrey offered during his week here.

To say Jeffrey has been lucky in his career would be an understatement. He spent only four months in New York before landing his big break as Pumbaa. He’s been playing the role for six years. He still happily recalls

the day he got the big news.

“I was like I want to tell everyone I know, but if I tell anyone before I tell my wife she’ll leave me,” joked Jeffrey. “She was at work. She had just started a new job all the way on the Upper East Side. So I like jumped in a cab, and we didn’t have money for cabs back then, but I was like I’ve got to get there quick! So I went in, and I said I’m looking for Christina.”

Jeffrey jumped for joy with his wife before getting back in his cab and calling his parents. His mother had been the one to start him on his path to Broadway. Back in Kansas City, Jeffrey’s mom had started a theatre group for him and other homeschooled kids. When it started, it was him and eight other kids. By the time Jeffrey graduated high school nearly 200

families were involved. Jeffrey’s parents were overwhelmed with pride at the news.

“When they came and saw me on the first night that I was in the show, they wore matching mother and father of the warthog t-shirts” said Jeffrey.

Despite the fact that he’s made it to the Great White Way, live theatre still comes with twists and turns. Even on Broadway technical things can go wrong that force performers into some sticky situations. Jeffrey recalled a time in which the actor playing Timon got stuck in an elevator. He had to make some quick decisions.

“He was stuck down there for probably two full minutes, which felt like about ten years. I just started moaning about how he was dead and singing amazing grace. I was about to start running out into the audience

and being like ‘I’m so alone will someone hold me?’ because I was desperate at that point. Finally they got the elevator going, and Timon came back up”

Jeffrey admits that after six years of performances these little missteps give him and the other performers a chance to play. He definitely used that playful spirit during his performance here at Longwood. Watching him perform with Fran Coleman, Lacy Klinger, Chris Swanson and Teri Duke Kidd was certainly a treat. The Longwood faculty held their own with their outstanding performances alongside Jeffrey.

Jeffrey isn’t sure when his time as Pumbaa will be over, but for now life seems pretty Hakuna Matata for this talented performer.

# Bas' "Too High to Riot" showcases an up-and-coming rapper at his best

BY RICHIE KAMTCHOUH  
CONTRIBUTOR

Dreamville Records, a label founded by rap superstar J. Cole, has found moderate success thus far. The label houses a talented in-house crew, from rappers, to singers, to producers, to engineers and label executives. However, not many outside fans know of the label's artists other than J. Cole. That may soon change with the release of Bas' second studio album, "Too High to Riot." The LP finds the rapper delving into the themes of egoism, relationships, family issues and expectations, all the while being "too high" and experimenting with drugs. The outcome is a fearless and nearly flawless execution of cohesive production, loosely conceptual lyrics and impressive rapping over 36 minutes. From a technical standpoint, Bas is a better than average lyricist, but his flow and delivery set him

apart from most up-and-coming rappers. He has a Jay-Z-like effortless approach to beats, while also showing a knack for multi-entendre rapping. The intro "Too High to Riot" perfectly displays his rapping ability with lines such as "I'm too high for games and I'm too high for liars, F\*\*\* TSA cause I'm too high for flying, F\*\*\* NSA cause them satellites too high they do all the spying, F\*\*\* all the leaders that's too high off power, they do all the lying and treat us like prisoners..." Lines such as those display the outward critique Bas has of the government and the theme of being too accomplished to deal with minuscule issues. This is in direct contrast to Kendrick Lamar's "To Pimp a Butterfly," the new standard bearer for hip-hop albums. Bas strikes an interesting balance between narcissism, humility and

self-awareness on Too High to Riot. Songs such as "Live For" show Bas at a vulnerable place, directly in the middle of the album as he grieves over failed relationships and the loss of his beloved aunt: "Busy on the road, I couldn't make it back home, You couldn't make it that long, I'll never forgive my self." As the album winds down, Bas finds himself perched above the madness in "Penthouse." He compares his hectic life to that of Atlas, rapping "Die by my word, that's an author's fate, So how your shoulders holding up fine, great? I got the weight of the world on mine, I'm straight." In the closing song, Bas returns to a humbling position and decides he may as well fight the fight in "Black Owned Business." Bas understands how to sequence an album and finds a good rhythm and pace. He sticks

to his strong suit, subtle production with versatile lyricism that teeters on the edge of brilliant. In regards to the production, Bas enlists a small core of producers, with others sprinkled in. Ron Gilmore, Ogee Handz, DikC and Cedric Brown handle most of the production which makes for a cohesive sounding project. The production coupled with the arrangements of sounds placed throughout the album shows an artist that places musicianship as an important staple, and shows that Bas is still growing with vast improvement from "Last Winter." Bas has already amassed millions of streams on SoundCloud, along with stunning visuals to accompany the project. If you're looking for a top-tier rapper in 2016, play "Too High to Riot" from beginning to end and look for Bas to blow up in the near future.

## VCU teams up with Longwood for chamber music concert

BY DAVID PETTYJOHN  
A&E STAFF @PETTYJOHNDAVID

Last night, March 28, Jarman Auditorium held a concert by a combined chamber music chorus of singers from the Virginia Commonwealth University Women's Choir and the Longwood University Chamber Singers. They were also joined by Dr. Justin Alexander, who plays the vibraphone and is an assistant professor of percussion at VCU. Since "most of (the concert) celebrates women," as the brochure puts it, the choirs were entirely female. In addition to this, several of the songs were about women, such as "Womanly Song of God," which was adapted from a poem by Catherine de Vinck. Dr. Pam McDermott, the Director of Choral Activities at Longwood, noted before the production began that "there has been a lot of discussion and conversation around the text of our music tonight." She felt that it was "especially wonderful to sing these texts with women, conducted by women and accompanied by women; it gives

us an opportunity to explore." These women are not only from the music department, they are from "all over campus," as Dr. McDermott says. This event filled many of Jarman Auditorium's seats.

The show was split into four different sections. First there was the Combined Choirs, which sang the songs "Gloria" and "Sanctus" from "Mass No. 6." After that, the show split into the VCU Women's Choir and the Longwood Chamber Singers. The VCU Women's Choir went first, singing "Gnothi Safton (Know Thyself)," "Voices of Broken Hearts," and "A City Called Heaven." All of these songs are very much what they say on the tin. The song "Gnothi Safton (Know Thyself)" is a song about knowing who you are and being in touch with that. "Voice of Broken Hearts" on the other hand, is about the pain of losing a loved one. Lastly, "A City Called Heaven" is about eternal life and peace.

There was a brief interlude from the two female choirs in which Dr. Alexander from VCU played the song "Cycles (America)" by Walter Whitman on the vibraphone. This song, he said, was about the cycles of poverty and discrimination that continue to exist in the United States. It was almost odd to change from the soft singing of the choir to the low hum of the vibraphone.

At this point in the concert, there was also a small vocal ensemble of singers from both schools. These singers sang two songs, "Dôme Épais" by Leo Delibes and "Nothin' Gonna Stumble My Feet" by Greg Gilpin. "Dôme Épais" is a very happy song about two friends, while "Nothin' Gonna Stumble My Feet" is, like "Cycles," about overcoming obstacles.

After VCU's women finished their part, it was time for the Longwood Chamber Singers to take the stage. The Longwood women sang three different songs of their

own; "Regina Coleli," "Rise Up, My Love, My Fair One," and last, but not least, "Morning Light." These were all amazing songs to listen to.

These talented singers are far from done with their semester. "We perform a couple times every semester. This is our first time collaborating with VCU," says Dr. McDermott. "This is the first time our two women's choirs have joined forces," she reiterates. "I'm looking for different styles, different combinations of voices, different genres so that the singers experience lots of different kinds of music over the course of the semester," she says when asked how songs are chosen. The women will be singing next at Shady Grove United Methodist Church in Mechanicsville, with free admission.

## Planting

MARLISHA STEWART  
PHOTO STAFF

E E B P X A K L M L S S R C D N T R R I  
 O M C M O P S M I E E Q O O R N T E W L  
 D H Y U Z T A P O L S K S N I A E G P O  
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appletree	lilies
asparagus	mint
basil	potatoes
beans	roses
broccoli	spinach
cantaloupe	squash
carrots	sunflower
corn	thyme
ginger	tomatoes
jalapenos	tulips
lavender	watermelon
lemontree	zucchini
lettuce	

THOMAS WISE  
A&E CARTOONIST



# In favor of stricter gun legislation

BY DYLAN CAMPBELL  
CONTRIBUTOR

It is no question that gun rights are one of the most hotly debated issues today. Many of the candidates feel that it is one of great importance and have each released their opinions on this issue, from the “A+” National Rifle Association (NRA) rating for Ted Cruz to the “F” rating of Hillary Clinton.

Many Americans have their own opinions about gun rights; however, the majority, 55 percent, favor stricter gun control according to a Gallup Poll in 2015. A majority of adults, including gun owners, support the banning of assault weapons, restrictions on ownership by the mentally ill, restrictions on high-capacity magazines and much stricter background checks. It is worth noting that undocumented private gun show sales, while difficult to regulate, account for many gun ownerships that

eventually lead to crime.

The idea that guns protect law-abiding citizens has been disproven since a 2005 study saying that out of 626 fatal and nonfatal shootings, only 13 were considered self-defense, including police officer shootings in the line of duty. This study concluded that guns that were kept in homes are more likely to be used in assault, suicide or accidental shootings.

Speaking of which, states with the highest concentration of guns have nine times the amount of unintentional gun deaths.

One may argue that banning guns would leave law-abiding citizens defenseless against criminals – those that break the law to obtain firearms. However a report from 2013 by the Institute of Medicine indicated that almost all guns used in criminal acts were obtained legally and then stolen from

United States homes.

If anything, the presence of more guns can be a stimulus for burglary and theft, even if the original gun owner had a permit for a firearm. I would also like to point out that, even without all of the gun restrictions that have been proposed, none of the 294 public shootings were stopped by an armed citizen, according to PolitiFact.

It is also worth considering that countries with stricter gun legislation have less crime than the United States. A study from Harvard found that across a subject of developed countries, wherever the presence of guns are heightened, homicides also increased. This gives way to the argument that the Second Amendment protects any and all gun rights given to American citizens. Originally, this was unanimously held true.

Recently, however, former Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens has interpreted the Constitution in a way that the second amendment was intended to arm state-regulated militias, meaning standing armies controlled by the government which count as the National Guard, Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and law enforcement.

Gun control is not an attack on the rights of the American people, nor is it a tool for the national government to exercise control over the states or constituents. The intent of the proposed restrictions on gun shows, types of weapons, magazines, who can own guns and government regulations is to protect the American public from crime the best that the government can. The notion that the conversation about gun restrictions is un-American is useless for change.

# Opposed to stricter gun legislation

BY TYLER CHADDUCK  
CONTRIBUTOR

Guns have been a hot topic in recent years all around the United States and, as always, there are opposing viewpoints. I am here to tell you that gun rights are a positive thing, and they should not disappear for many reasons.

Let me start with my favorite reason, one that tends to relate to other topics. People often say we should not judge all of one type of person based on the actions of a few. A main argument to ban guns is mass shootings, but in reality, it is a tiny percentage of gun owners, even though most shooters are not legal gun owners, that are involved in mass shootings. There are many attempted mass shootings that are stopped before they happen by legal

gun owning citizens, but rarely do you hear about them from the media because that is not part of their agenda.

This leads into my next point about guns being a main type of protection. Guns are only as bad as the people whose hands they are in, that being said, wouldn't you want the good people to have guns too?

If someone breaks into your house and is attempting to hurt you or your family, a gun is an efficient way to stop them. It is important to remember that banning guns will not stop criminals from obtaining them. They are called criminals for a reason; they break the law, so if they want guns, then they will get guns.

That leaves the good defenseless to

the bad. Why would we want to give the criminals the upper hand? Many people often try to argue that police are responsible for our safety. Well that is not the case; you are responsible for your safety and you cannot always count on a cop being there because there are not enough to assign a personal protection detail to every citizen. Take protection into your own hands and take responsibility for yourself. Not to mention that a criminal is less likely to target someone who is “packing.”

Criminals may not all be the brightest, but most of them do not have a death wish. There is often a saying used when people try to blame guns for killing people and that is, “Blame the fool, not the tool.”

A gun does not have a mind of its own. It does not hate, it is simply a tool. A gun is a tool that can be used to provide safety to oneself and others. Guns are a line of self-defense and stated as so in the Constitution.

Our founding fathers saw guns to be such an important line of defense to the threats foreign and domestic that they made it the Second Amendment. We cannot blame the gun for human action. We live in America, also known as the “Free World.” How can we call ourselves a “Free World” when we limit our citizens to their own rights and protections?



ILLUSTRATION BY JOSHUA BAKER, CONTRIBUTOR

# How to prepare for April Fools' Day

## How to avoid being the April Fool

BY CASSIE TAGERT  
ASSISTANT COPY EDITOR

April Fools' Day is just around the corner. That's right, it's that time once again to carry around a pair of scissors in the event that your roommate decides to Saran Wrap the toilet paper roll for the third year in a row. Some people just love to use the first of April as an excuse to get on other people's nerves. However, this year you'll have some tips on your side to avoid becoming the April Fool.

A pretty common and perhaps, the most dried out joke of all time is the "Kick Me" sign. For reasons I can't quite comprehend, this joke is still happening. The best way to avoid being kicked in the back is to wear a fur suit. Adhesive tape has a hard time sticking to fur because it's an uneven surface, so you can avoid having signs taped to you while simultaneously looking fabulous.

Ever since "The Office" premiered in the US, people have been using pranks that were done on the show like the classic stapler-in-the-gelatin-trick to torture their officemates. Don't be like Dwight. Instead, you can avoid having this happen to you by putting your stapler in a mound of Jello in advance. People can't dirty your office supplies if you beat them to the punch, or solidified sugary goop in this case.

One particularly annoying and time consuming prank is the old "covering someone's belongings in sticky notes" prank. Obviously, the best thing to stop

this would be to lock your door, but in case your prankster is determined and has a lock pick kit on them, the next best thing would be to temporarily borrow an aggressive Rottweiler. Your sticky note toting hooligan will be running for the hills when they find themselves face to face with a vicious attack dog.

Probably the worst April Fool's joke is when someone switches the signs outside of bathrooms, and an innocent passerby walks into the wrong one. This one is an easy fix. Don't go to the bathroom; just hold it in all day. If you wait until the next day to free the pee, you won't have to worry about accidentally walking in the wrong room. It may be a wee bit difficult, but it should be passable.

Of course, last but not least is the prank call. If someone call's you wondering whether or not one of your various appliances is running, answer the phone as if you are the receptionist from a hospital's urology department. Nobody wants to be reminded that they are holding their bladder all day to avoid walking in the wrong bathroom. Your prank caller will be so deterred that they will hang up instantly.

All joke's aside, April Fool's Day is just a day to celebrate fun. Don't take any pranks that are played on you too seriously, and enjoy the one day a year made for amusement.

## How to win at April Fools

BY AUSTIN BERRY  
LAYOUT EDITOR

Hello, friends. As you may be aware, April Fool's Day is upon us! Some of you might be readying yourself for spectacular pranks, others might be preparing to be the butts of said pranks, and others still might just not give a shit. But for those who are indeed givers of the shits, this is the column for you.

I have searched the Internet long and hard, read list after list, done furious research, and explored more than Dora ever has. So, here, I present to you, my dear readers, the best of the best and crème de la crème of my oh-so-expansive efforts that totally were not just a quick google search.

Let's start with some classic ways to play some pranks on your friends. You have probably heard these before, but they are worth a second look, especially as the first approaches.

To start with, there is the classic Oreo prank, where you replace the cream inside Oreos with toothpaste and offer them to your victims... err friends. Then, we have the time tested gag of changing the names in their cell phone, or swapping the language in their computer, or even worse still, making their default search engine Bing. You could also set some random alarms and calendar events on their phone at odd times of the day, put a sticky note over the sensor on their mouse so it won't work, or turn everything in their car (volume, heat, wipers, etc) up to 11.

But surely, we can do better than that. If you really want to make April Fool's Day memorable, you need to think outside of the

box.

One of my personal favorites works especially well if your friend has a water-bottle, mug or something-of-the-like that they use everyday. Simply coat the rim (where their lips touch) with a little bit of Orajel and watch as their lips go numb. You could also further mess with their morning routine by slipping a cube of Chicken Bouillon flavoring into their showerhead, or taking the deodorant out of their deodorant stick and replacing it with butter. While you're at it, go ahead and fill their hair dryer (if they have one) with flour and cover their soap with a layer of clear nail polish so it won't get sudsy.

After all of this, your friend or roommate is bound to hate you, so you might want to do them a favor to make up for all the abuse. Perhaps hang up all their clothes for them, and by hang, of I of course mean tape them all to the ceiling. Or maybe it's just best to switch your focus from a single individual to everyone around you. Why not cause a bit of general mayhem by switching push and pull signs on doors, or securely attach a cup to the roof of your car and drive around and enjoy the confused and worried faces of other drivers?

However, perhaps the best prank is no prank at all. Leave notes and weird cryptic messages all around to make your victim think that there will be a massive antic, but then do nothing all day. Then just sit back and watch them worry.

Good Luck!

# Women's tennis head coach resigns mid-season

BY TRISTAN PENNA  
SPORTS STAFF

For the Longwood women's tennis team, the past few days have been eventful. Beginning when former head coach Bruce Myers announced his resignation from the program on March 18, assistant women's soccer coach Rich Stoneman was named interim head coach.

Myers was not made available for comment, but in an official statement, he said that he accepted the head coaching position of the men's tennis team at the University of Delaware to be closer to his family.

"It was such a bittersweet announcement of my departure from Longwood. The University of Delaware is literally a homecoming for me. It is 35 minutes from my home and allows me to see my wife and five boys every night," stated Myers on March 18. "My sister and brother-in-

law are Delaware graduates, so I am very familiar with the university. My family is thrilled at the opportunity to see me every day, and I am very excited to get this chapter of my professional life underway."

Just hours later, the Lancers hosted Winthrop University, who cruised to a 7-0 victory. The following morning, Gardner-Webb picked up a 5-2 win in Farmville, as the cloud of Myers' stunning announcement continued to loom over the team.

"Honestly, we were all really shocked that he left," said junior Anna Pelak. "And it's a huge blow honestly for us because Bruce really helped us to work hard and keep believing in ourselves that we can win."

Myers' unexpected departure has raised several questions for the program in the short term, as well as the prospects beyond this season. For now, the team looks to regroup and rally under Stoneman for

the remainder of the season. Meanwhile, the athletics department has the task of replacing a man who brought a big turnaround to the program in a short amount of time.

Over a season and a half at the helm, Myers compiled a 16-21 record, including a 6-7 record this season. He brought a marked improvement to a team that had only won three times the season before his arrival, and was named the 2014-15 Longwood Coach of the Year by the Longwood Student Athlete Advisory Committee.

But Myers took just as much pride in impacting his players' lives outside of the court as he did in improving results.

"Knowing that I was able to touch my student-athletes' lives in so many different ways – not just on the tennis court through coaching and athletic development, but off the court with their personal and academic

struggles and helping them to overcome all the adversity of being a Division I student-athlete in today's climate – is what I am most proud of," said Myers in his statement.

"Coach Myers really helped me grow as a person. One of the things that I lack when I play tennis is my confidence," said Pelak. "He actually really helped me grow on and off the court, but also helped me in a way to keep believing in myself."

The team channeled that self-belief on March 25, rolling to a 6-1 road win over George Mason University, giving Stoneman his first win since being named interim head coach. Stoneman was not available for comment in time for the article, but Pelak spoke the effect he has had on the team.

—CONTINUED ON PAGE 15



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MATT ALEXANDER | ONLINE EDITOR

**Women's tennis' head coach of a year and half resigned Friday, March 18 for a coaching job at University of Delaware in the middle of the season.**

"For our (George) Mason match, he was just very supportive of us, and just kept telling us to keep positive and keep believing in ourselves," said Pelak. "And honestly I think that was a big factor of

7-9, ahead of another road clash on March 31, against Campbell University. With eight games remaining before the Big South Tournament, Pelak said keeping the team focused and untied is the key to a

why we came away with that huge win."

The win over the Patriots brought the Lancers to

strong finish to the season.

"We are really close as a team, and we like to work together as a team. And we push ourselves every day to become better," said Pelak. "So even though Bruce is gone, I do feel like we can work together as a team and try to even do better than last season."

Looking beyond the rest of this season, questions remain. There is currently no known timetable on finding a permanent head coach. It is also unknown how the players will react after the end of the season, with Myers gone or how the program will recruit without a permanent head coach.

—CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

Pelak hopes the next coach brings the same qualities to the role as Myers.

"I think it's very important to bring in another coach, such as coach Myers, who will help us improve even more," said Pelak. "Because I do find that our team has a lot of potential and we just need someone there to guide us along with our tennis."

## No ice necessary

How the new floor hockey intramural league was brought about

BY DERRICK BENNINGTON  
SPORTS STAFF  
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Longwood's newest intramural sport of floor hockey has seen a good turnout even with the late notice and shortened season but it wouldn't have officially happened this year if a handful of students hadn't approached Marissa Musumeci, the assistant director of Campus Recreation, about reserving a space and time to just shoot around.

"We do evaluations with our student employees and our officials and there had been a few requests of 'hey, let's do floor hockey' but we hadn't really put it into place," said Musumeci. "I think way back before I was here, there was some floor hockey once in a while but there really weren't any intramurals for floor hockey, and these guys really made a push to talk to me about it."

Three Longwood students - senior Ryan Quigley, Ryan Rice and Forrest Bennett - really got the ball rolling after running into trouble finding space to play for an hour once a week.

"Thursday nights last semester, that was our day to come in and play hockey," said Quigley.

"We just started doing that and it was fun, like a lot of fun and it just developed into

pretty much asking Marissa (Musumeci), 'hey, can we turn this into a thing?' said Quigley. "We were having a hard time finding time to play because all of a sudden on Thursday nights we found that we would go in and the club soccer team's in there and they're playing around."

Since the three students weren't part of a club team on campus and they hadn't started a floor hockey team, they were forced to use the open hours of the Multi-Purpose (Mac) Gym. Only club sports can reserve that space for specific dates and times, so the three had to vacate the area once a club team showed up for practice.

"This semester we were fighting volleyball, we were fighting soccer, we were fighting everybody," said Rice. "This kind of started as us talking to (Musumeci) and reserving it to get more time in there; she was like, 'well we really can't do that, what would you guys think about starting up an intramural league?'"

Rice added, "We talked to her a little bit last semester and then Quigley was emailing her over the break to get that going, and then we came back this semester and things started to get set into motion."

Musumeci decided to start a shortened season of intramural floor hockey to try

and gauge the popularity of the sport on campus and whether or not they would bring it back next year for a full season.

"We ended up having ten (teams), which for a very short season and short sign up period wasn't bad," said Musumeci. "I think we'd be able to extend it in the future."

The floor hockey games are played at the Health and Wellness Center inside the Mac Gym, which is the smaller, enclosed space inside the Health and Wellness Center on campus. The area had typically been used for club and intramural sports such as volleyball and soccer since the building opened in 2007 but Rice believed it carried the prime design to host a hockey game.

"It has hockey boards, the floor is painted for it; it's a hockey rink," said Rice.

In order to sign up for the league, a minimum of six players are needed, but there is no limit to how many you can have on a roster. Just like in ice hockey players can substitute on and off the floor throughout the game, but the rules have been slightly changed for safety precautions.

No helmets are needed to play floor hockey, but players can wear one if they want. Instead of a puck, a plastic ball is

used and there is no physical contact such as 'boarding' as well as no sliding.

"We ended up doing a safer version where the goalies have some stuff on but it's more of a softer, plastic ball instead of a puck and you can't have slap shots and things like that," said Musumeci. "We didn't have to go out and purchase that equipment so it made it a little bit easier to implement."

"Just doing this encouraged me to go back out and get back involved into hockey, and now I'm trying to play ice (hockey) this summer," said Quigley. "It's wild how this whole thing has turned into kind of a thing that I really, really enjoy and that I'm focusing a lot of my time onto now."

Quigley added, "The fact that we have intramurals now is really, really awesome and I think that's a really good start at least for maybe a club floor hockey team or something."

# Shaq to slam on ESPN Thursday

First Longwood appearance in college slam dunk contest

BY HALLE PARKER  
SPORTS EDITOR  
@\_HALPARKER

ESPN will set the stage for Longwood senior Shaquille Johnson and seven other collegiate men's basketball players from programs across the nation to compete for the State Farm College Slam Dunk crown on Thursday evening, March 31.

When the clock strikes 9 p.m., the Lancer logo will blaze in front of the thousands of viewers across his chest for the first time in Longwood's history, but also for his final hurrah while robed in blue and white.

"It's like a great situation for everybody," said Johnson, adding that the contest is "a great recruiting tool" for the program and a "great way to go out in college" for himself.

After making a name for himself in high school through his athleticism and dunking ability, his reputation followed him to the next level, bolstered by his victory over now-NBA player Derrick Williams in 2011 at the Under Armour Slam Dunk Contest also shown on ESPN. When he came to Longwood two years ago, CollegeBasketballTalk.com tabbed him as the No. 4 dunker in college.

One of the first four players, Johnson will travel down to NCAA Final Four host Houston, Texas for his second appearance in a nationally televised dunking contest. The 220 pound, 6-foot-5 forward said his difference in age and experience will ground

him going into the event as he comes off his final season of Division I basketball.

"When I was young (I) was really excited for it, but now being older, it's just something that I want to win. I'm not going into it trying to be cool, and just because

I'm on TV, I'm not going to get too cocky," said Johnson.

Aside from the final two unannounced participants, the Lancer will be joined by East

go out there to just have fun," he said. "I'm not nervous, at the end of the day, it's just basketball."

*Shaquille Johnson,  
Senior forward*

MATT ALEXANDER | ONLINE EDITOR



Tennessee State's Deuce Bello, Davidson's Jordan Barham and Tulsa's Shaquille Harrison, as well as non-Division I Dark Horse picks in Yunio Baruetta of Barry University and Devan Douglass of University of Mary - both Division II institutions.

Even in the face of such competition, Johnson said preparation would be minimal leading up to Thursday's showdown.

"When it comes to dunk contests, I don't put a lot of pressure on myself or emphasis on certain dunks. I

## Weekly Round-up

### Baseball

Home vs Norfolk State  
March 29 - Win 11-9

### Softball

Away at Eastern Carolina  
March 29 - *DH* Win 8-2, 6-2

### Lacrosse

Home vs Presbyterian  
March 26 Win 20-4

### Men's Tennis

Home vs NC Central  
March 26 Win 6-1

### Women's Tennis

Home vs Hampton  
March 27 - Canceled

### Women's Golf

Kingsmill Invitational  
William & Mary  
March 28-29 ranked 8/19

### Men's Golf

No competition

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