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LIVING LEGEND LEAVES LONGWOOD

Dr. Jordan retires after 39 years

JAN. 29, 20178
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This week in SGA & SFC

by Rachael Poole | Opinions Staff | @rapoole17

- Virginia21 representative Morgan Rollins summarized a meeting with the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia
- Rollins stated the state wants to make it easier for college students to register to vote
- SGA President Kevin Napier announced Counseling and Psychological Services is adding a 10-month post-graduate position
- Executive Senator for Senate Relations Benjamin Brody suggested connecting with Farmville and Longwood Police for students to be able to pay for parking tickets in canned goods
- **Student Government Association (SGA): \$3,820.88**
- Funds will be used for the 37th annual Conference On Student Government Associations (COSGA) that will take place from Feb. 23
- Feb. 25 in Houston, Texas. SFC approved the allocation.
- **Longwood Ambassadors: \$1,525**
- Funds will be used for the CASE District III Conference in Knoxville, Tennessee that will take place Feb. 15
- Feb. 17. SFC approved the allocation.
- **American Marketing Association (AMA): \$2,500**
-Funds will be used for the American Marketing Association International Collegiate Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana from April 5
- April 7. SFC approved the allocation.

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Library updates for spring

Love Your Library Month, guest speakers and furniture upgrades

by Jesse Plichta-Kellar | News Staff | @JesseKellar

THE ROTUNDA | FILE PHOTO

To start off the spring semester, the Greenwood Library announced plans to host a series of events, feature student artwork, update library furniture and add additional study space.

During February and March, several special events are scheduled to take place at Greenwood Library, according to Dean of the Library Brent Roberts.

“We have a lot of great events (planned),” said Roberts. “For February, we’re doing love your library month. That involves some movies, both here and at the public library.”

Farmville’s Barbara Rose Johns Farmville-Prince Edward Community Library is showing movies as well, and the Greenwood Library will host events for Valentine’s Day.

“At Greenwood, we’re going to be doing Beauty and the Beast on Valentine’s day itself,” Roberts commented. “Earlier in the day, we’re going to have High Street Harmony sing some love songs in the library. It’ll be fantastic.”

The library is having a game night on Friday, Feb. 9 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., according to Roberts. Snacks, music and games are going to be available for students.

On March 27, the library is going to host Kyle Courtney, a copyright specialist from Harvard University, according to Roberts.

“He’s going to be coming in and giving a fabulous talk on copyright, intellectual

property, fair use in education and pay-for-play publishing,” said Roberts.

The library is also having ongoing activities for students and two of them are scheduled for February. One is the Post-It area, where students can write and post what they like about the library. The other is the blind date with a book program.

“You can take out a book, it’s called a blind date with a book,” Roberts explained. “It’s all wrapped up, it’s random and then you just read the book and enjoy it.”

Other projects that involve fostering information literacy and research skills are in the works.

“We have our ongoing things we do in the library, which involve fostering information literacy and research skills,” said Roberts. “One way or another, we can help students navigate the information universe.”

The Greenwood Gallery, found on the quiet study half of the second floor, is also open, featuring artwork from recipients of the Greenwood Student Art Award.

“There are three students selected from the junior show and the senior show last spring,” said Roberts.

The artwork will be changed at the end of the year to feature six more artists.

The library has also recently had some painting done.

“We did a lot of painting and carpeting in the fall. We painted in here, you see all of this Longwood blue,” said Roberts. “Something old that is back again is the Honor Creed.”

The chairs, tables and lamps throughout the library by the windows will be replaced. Some of the tables and chairs will be converted into standing tables to suit all students’ needs.

“The lights, these desk lamps, are actually from the vice presidential debate,” Roberts said. “As campus looked around and said, ‘What should we do with these?’ We said, ‘Why not put them in the library so students can have additional light to study?’”

The library will also be participating in Love Your Longwood Day and fundraising to create a zen corner on the second floor overlooking what will be a green space between the library and the student success center, according to Roberts. The zen corner will have comfortable furniture for students to relax and appreciate the view of the green space and Brock Commons.

When the Student Success Center opens, the Writing Center will be moved there. According to Roberts, the space will be used for additional group study space.

Continue to follow *The Rotunda* for more updates.

Dr. Joan Neff steps down as Longwood provost

by Steven Herring | Asst. News Editor | @Skherring

In an email sent to the Longwood faculty and staff during winter break, Longwood President Taylor Reveley IV announced that Dr. Joan Neff would step down as the university's provost before the start of the spring 2018 semester. Associate Provost Dr. Larissa Ferguson will step in as interim provost through the 2018-19 academic year as a result.

In the email, Reveley described Neff as instrumental in many university functions while serving as provost.

"In her (Neff) time as Provost, she has been instrumental in hiring and supporting new full-time faculty, the continued improvement in faculty compensation, the hosting of the Vice Presidential Debate and the adoption of the new core curriculum," said President Reveley.

Neff had served as provost since July 1, 2015, according to Longwood University's website. Before coming to Longwood,

Neff worked at the University of Richmond for more than three decades where she served as a professor, department chair and assistant provost. She is also a widely known scholar of criminology and received her master's and doctorate in sociology from Ohio State University.

Neff succeeded former Longwood Provost Dr. Ken Perkins when taking the position. Perkins served as Longwood Provost for five years before becoming director of advancement for academic priorities and receiving the honorary title of provost emeritus in 2015 after stepping down from the position, according to a release from Longwood University.

Reveley stated Neff will assist the administration as provost emeritus after her departure as provost. She only served as provost for a little over two years, having held the position since 2015.

Ferguson begins serving as interim provost starting the spring



COURTESY OF LONGWOOD UNIVERSITY

Dr. Joan Neff served as Longwood's provost for two years after working for University of Richmond for over 30 years.

2018 semester in the absence of Neff. She will also take over the role as vice president of academic affairs from Neff. Ferguson joined the Longwood staff in 2000 and

has served as associate provost since 2015, along with serving as a civil rights historian, according to Reveley.

During this time, Reveley stated procedures to replace Neff will be underway.

"The Board of Visitors and I will consult over the months ahead as to considerations for the filling the position permanently and the process that will best serve the university," stated Reveley.

Reveley also shared his appreciation for Neff's service as provost in the email.

"I know the university community joins me in our deepest thanks to Neff for her devoted service," stated Reveley. "My debt of gratitude is especially great to a dear friend."

Continue to follow *The Rotunda* for further updates.



COURTESY OF LONGWOOD UNIVERSITY

Dr. Larissa Ferguson will serve as the interim provost for the remainder of the 2017-18 academic year as well as 2018-19.



"A Funny Thing Happened" Longwood theatre and music teamed up for the first production of 2018

by Rae Mundie | Features Staff | @rjmundie

EVA WITTKOSKI | THE ROTUNDA

Director Lacy Klinger and the cast continue rehearsed for the upcoming musical, "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum."

With less than a month until opening night for their upcoming musical, "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum," Longwood theatre's actors continue to prepare, breaking in their costume shoes and trying on their corsets. During the rehearsals, director Lacy Klinger is never too far from the stage, constantly communicating with the actors and going through their lines while making sure everyone is on the same page.

Nearby, both the stage manager and the assistant are taking notes and checking the sound systems for music. With preparation for the show well underway, actors and crew members practice every day of the week from 6-10 p.m.

"Most college students haven't seen this play or won't know what the name is, but they will love it," said stage director Kaydan Ferguson, a theatre senior. "It's funny, flashy, tastefully comedic, there's a lot going on all the time in the show to make the crowd laugh."

Ferguson said rehearsals have been going smoothly, and that this production has made actors "blossom" and better themselves. The production requires acting and musical numbers with the inclusion of dancing. "Real dancing," Ferguson emphasized.

Actor and theatre senior Harrison Gray, shares the excitement felt by Klinger and Ferguson, saying the play rehearsals haven't felt painful yet and the actors are still energetic as practice continues. The production team look forward to entertaining the crowd and hope to have audience leave happier than when they arrived.

The Stephen Sondheim play draws inspiration from the Ancient Roman playwright Plautus

and comedically satirizes present-day social class issues without slowing its pace while set in an unexpected location - Ancient Rome.

"I wouldn't say that this musical has a message, per se. There are no serious moments whatsoever," said Klinger. "The show is non-stop and goes from one situations to the next incredibly fast, a marathon vaudeville performance."

The musical will give the theatre department the rare opportunity to collaborate with the music department and allow their students to share the stage with professionals as one of the lead characters will be played by Farmville resident Jordan Whiley. Whiley has directed and acted for the Waterworks Players, the local performance art theater.

"There's a lot going on all the time in the show, it's a big show with 19 actors and plenty of stage crew to work with," said Ferguson.

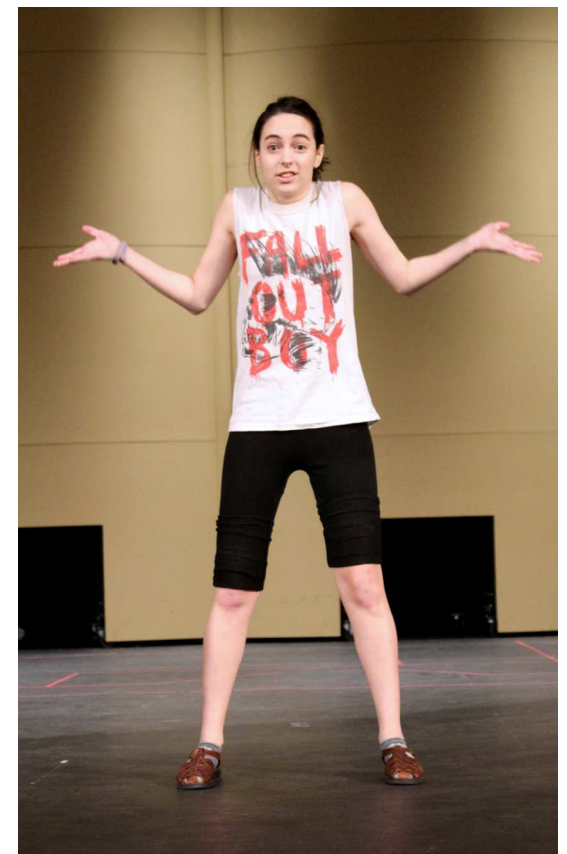
Each year, the theatre department selects the production lineup based on what its students need to experience for their education, but also what the students want to produce. Director Lacy Klinger is excited for the production and the chance to work closely with music department chair Lisa Kinzer and musical director Christopher Swanson, a Longwood music professor.

Klinger said she expects professionalism from all of her actors, requiring them to be prepared and willing to work hard.

Assistant stage director Sydney Griffin theatre education freshman said, "She works very well with the actors, very kind to them. And (the) stage manager, Kaydan, also makes sure that everything is in place."

For most of their shows, the Longwood theatre department takes over the stage

in their home base at CSTAC, but for "A Funny Thing Happened," the cast will find themselves across campus performing in Jarman Auditorium from Feb. 21-25. Tickets are available for purchase in-person at the Longwood box office or online at www.longwoodtickets.com- for print. Tickets are \$6 for students, \$10 for general admission and \$8 for senior citizens.



EVA WITTKOSKI | THE ROTUNDA

An actress with the the Longwood theatre department rehearsed for her role.

Iconic professor of 39 years remembered for his career

Students and colleagues share their memories



Dr. Jordan shows a student part of his skull collection after collecting them over the course of his career.

COURTESY OF LONGWOOD UNIVERSITY

After publicly announcing his retirement on Nov. 21, 2017 on Longwood's Archaeology Facebook page, Dr. James "Jim" Jordan, Board of Visitors' Distinguished Professor of the Archaeology Department of 39 years with Longwood, officially retired on Jan. 1, 2018

due to health concerns.

"Through four decades this wise, gentle, kind man has shaped the lives of untold thousands of students with his keen intellect, characteristic wit and good humor," Part of the Facebook post stated.

"Throughout his career, Dr. Jordan has

exhibited extraordinary dedication to his scholarly field of anthropology, to his department and to the university which he so deeply cherishes," said President Taylor Reveley IV.

During his time at Longwood, Dr. Jordan received special recognition from the Board of Visitors in July 2014, one of nine to ever receive the award. In addition, Dr. Jordan founded the Archeology Field School in 1980 only to have it named in his honor in 2012, The James W. Jordan Archeology Field School, according to a Longwood News article.

Being a colleague of Dr. Jordan, Dr. Walter R. T. Witschey, anthropology and geography research professor, describes working with him as complimentary.

"For every accomplishment, large or small, by student or colleague, Dr. Jordan has a complimentary word. Compliments and encouragement from Jim not only arrive in person, but also in Jim's unmistakable voice on the voicemail system," said Witschey.

Known for his ghost stories during the kick off of Oktoberfest, Dr. Jordan's presence will be missed, according to President Reveley.

"He has played an essential role in keeping vibrant many of the campus traditions that make Longwood special. His retirement marks the end of an era," said President Reveley.



TAYLOR O'BERRY | THE ROTUNDA

Dr. Jordan sits in his office where his collection of artifacts consumes its entirety.

Dr. Jordan told the Rotunda in 2014, he refers his ghost stories to “let the good times roll, kick off to Oktoberfest”.

Having Dr. Jordan as an advisor, Airelle Prevatte, a senior archeology major, wishes she could thank him for the passion that he brought her to be a better anthropologist.

“I think that’s one of the reasons I stayed an anthropology student because when I went to his classes he was just so passionate about what he was teaching he always brought in examples of things he was talking about and his own personal pictures,” said Prevatte.

Tatianna Griffin, a senior anthropology major, still has the rose that he gave her freshman year in 2015 on Sept. 13, a common Farmville tradition of Good Neighbor Day.

“It was such a great feeling,” said Griffin.

Griffin described Dr. Jordan as “one of the greatest people I’ve ever met”.

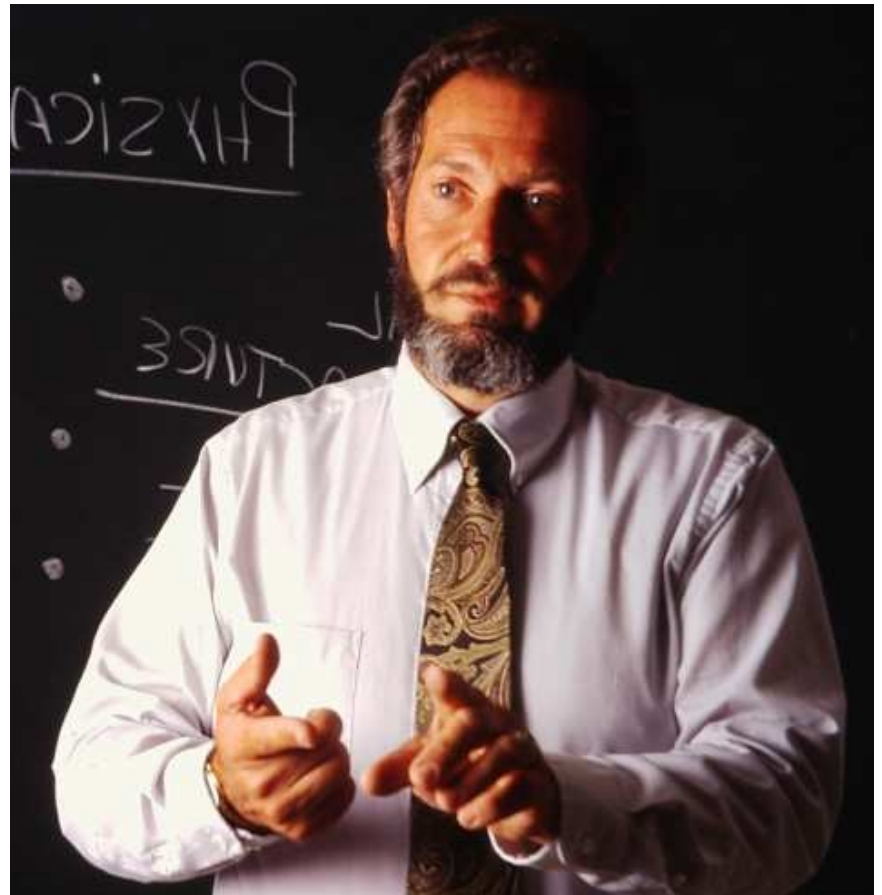
“He was the main reason that I came to Longwood in the first place. I love him so so much and am so sad to see him retire, but he has definitely left his mark on Longwood and we can be nothing but appreciative toward him,” said Griffin.

Griffin remembered one of her favorite moments in Dr. Jordan’s class was when he complimented her as she will be the “most excellent professor”.

Dr. Jordan along with his daughter Katie Jordan Goff, associate professor of biology at Ferrum College, were consulted for one episode titled ‘The Dentist in the Ditch’ on the show ‘Bones’ in 2010 , according to the Richmond Times-Dispatch.

“I kind of grew up in the classroom with him at Longwood,” Goff told the Richmond Times-Dispatch.

Dr. Jordan declined comment to focus solely on his health at this time.



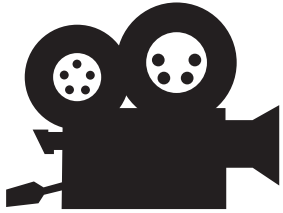
COURTESY OF LONGWOOD UNIVERSITY

Dr. Jordan is known for his passion that he brought to his anthropology classes.



CARRIE BAILEY | THE ROTUNDA

Dr. Jordan carries the ceremonial mace to lead the faculty and staff during Convocation in September 2017.



THE REEL LIFE

Movie reviews by Jacob DiLandro | A&E Staff | @spongejay1



A screen grab from what critics have predicted to be one of the best films of 2018, "Paddington 2."

COURTESY OF THE BOAR

Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, then writer/actor Doug Kenney must have been one hell of a flattered dude. After founding National Lampoon in the 70's, and writing films like "Animal House" and "Caddyshack," Doug's style of humor took off across the world, inspiring countless copycat films and publications.

But what director David Wain and a host of comedic stars want to tell us in this Netflix biopic about Kenney is that for someone who took comedy so seriously, his life wasn't a laughing matter.

Doug created National Lampoon in 1970 with his best friend Henry Beard, who he'd run the Harvard

Lampoon with in college. The pair did their best to keep the problematic magazine afloat until the both left. Henry went on to pursue other avenues and Doug left to write "Animal House." He would struggle with drugs and writing throughout his life, through writing "Caddyshack," and his eventual death in 1980, in Hawaii at a rehab resort. At the funeral Harold Ramis, a friend of Doug's has been quoted as saying, "Knowing him, he probably fell while looking for a place to jump."

David Wain, fresh off his previous Netflix collaborations "Wet Hot American Summer: First Day of Camp" and "Ten Years Later," directs this biopic, and Will Forte stars as Doug. His trademark wide grin and oddball demeanor really works as Doug, and he manages to mostly balance the film's more dramatic sequences with the absurdist humor.

The ensemble cast is a who's who of modern comedy stars, from Joel McHale to Jackie Tohn to Matt Lucas. The best moments of the film involve all of these talented people doing impressions of other prominent comedians and clearly enjoying their work. It's a stark contrast to how grim the film gets by the end with different points in Doug's life and career.

So many great comedic moments and amusing situations are packed into the film. From seeing a montage of all the people that National Lampoon offended during its print run to directly acknowledging its darker scenes and the fact that the film only focused on a select few of the magazine's writers.

These moments, as funny as they are, contrast the film's main tone though. For a movie that wants to show just how serious Doug took comedy, it doesn't take

itself seriously enough for its more dramatic moments to work. Sure, the change in tone works to portray the different states of his life, but it doesn't give any insight into who he is, which is the purpose of a biopic.

The humor also contradicts the very nature of a biopic because when it's filled with funny scenes it becomes difficult to tell which events actually happened and which were embellished for the sake of comedy. A bomb being sent to the National Lampoon offices? Plausible, but the film never makes it clear how accurate it's being until after the fact, making it hard to take things seriously in the moment.

By the time the credits roll, doing so in a very cheesy and sweet way, the film does manage to wrap itself up nicely. But it feels less like audiences have learned about a legitimately interesting person and more like a series of boxes have been checked off about them. It's a funny biopic parody, but not an especially successful biopic. At the very least, it manages to make people want to read the book it's based on to learn more about Doug's actual life.

As a tribute to the kind of comedy Doug loved and as a biopic parody, "A Futile and Stupid Gesture" works wonders. It's consistently funny, but in its focus on comedy, it seems to lose sight of telling a legitimately compelling story about the man it so clearly admires. "Futile" is not a bad film. It's just not a great biopic. Which sucks, because that's what it's supposed to be.

★★★★★ 5/5



PHOTO COURTESY OF HEYDAY FILMS, STUDIOCANAL, CANAL+, CINÉ+, AND WARNER BROS. PICTURES.



Poole: Why women still march

By Rachael Poole | Opinions Staff | @rapoole17

COURTESY OF RICHMOND FREE PRESS

Gov. Ralph S. Northam, second from left, holds the banner with organizers at last Saturday's Women's March RVA in Carytown. More than 3,000 marchers turned out for the demonstration.

Last week, millions gathered all around the world for the 2018 Women's March. The march occurred exactly one year after Donald Trump took office.

Millions of people also came together last year in a symbolic feat that sparked international headlines. While the majority of marching was held in the United States, marches also happened in cities like London, Rome, and Tokyo.

The purpose of the Women's March is to unify all women and work toward transformative social change, according to its website. The march is to bring awareness to the idea that women are not treated equally in society.

While some people believe that strictly means women are not equal to men, it also means that some women are not equal to other women. White women have the most privilege compared to black, muslim or transgender women. The list goes on.

There's major controversy in the United States specifically that women are marching for ideas that don't truly exist. There's a stigma around the idea of oppression against women.

Historically, it's well known that women have had to fight for their rights. Something that was fought for the most in the 19th and 20th centuries was the right to vote. Women all over the United States marched and fought for that privilege, and ultimately it was given to them in 1920.

The battle didn't end there. While women are seen as much more equal in today's society than they were 100 years ago, there's still a long way to go. Women are still very much seen as inferior to men, even in the smallest

of ways.

Statistically, women are generally paid less than men. According to the American Association of University Women (AAUW), there's a 20 percent wage gap between what the average white male makes and what a white woman makes. The wage gap varies by race.

There's also a lot of violence against women, especially centering around sexual assault. According to the Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network (RAINN), 1 in 6 American women have been the victim of rape or attempted rape.

Reproductive rights are also a major issue that women fight for. In 1973, the landmark case *Roe v. Wade* made abortion legal and was a historical moment for women's reproductive rights.

Since Trump's presidency, there's been fear that *Roe v. Wade* will be overturned, making

abortion illegal again and also impacting the availability of birth control.

Women are fighting against any cuts or restrictions to the access of quality reproductive healthcare services, birth control or medically accurate sexuality education. This means open access to safe, legal, affordable abortion and birth control for everyone, regardless of income, location or education.

It's 2018 - we shouldn't have to march anymore. We shouldn't have to fight to be seen as equal and listen to others telling us that we have no reason to be marching; that's the exact reason the march exists.

Maybe 100 years from now, there will be perfect equality and equity. It's up to the young people of today to fight for a change.

When women march, they are marching for not just equality, but for respect. A respect that should've been granted to them a long time ago.



SHELBY LUM | RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH

Marchers hold signs in the air during the Women's March in Richmond on Saturday, Jan. 20, 2018.



From summer to spring

Increased experience and preparation has expectations high for Lancer baseball

by Kurt Martin | Contributor | @lamKurt14

MATT ALEXANDER | THE ROTUNDA (FILE PHOTO)

Looking at the returners and new dimensions to the team, the Longwood baseball team looks to be a threat in upcoming 2018 campaign.

“Our goal is always to win a conference championship,” said Longwood baseball head coach Ryan Mau.

The season begins on the road for the Lancers as they take on the Auburn Tigers from the Southeastern Conference in a three-game series beginning on Friday, Feb. 16. The team will then travel home for another three-game series against Niagara beginning on Feb. 23.

Starting the year on a positive note is of great importance to the team as the college baseball schedule is a non-stop grind from Feb. to May.

“We try to play some good competition up front and challenge ourselves at a high level with a big name opponent. I don’t want the Big South to be a shock to us at all, so we open up at Auburn in a hostile environment. Our guys are very excited to head down there,” said Mau.

During the offseason, sophomore pitcher

John Gregory, senior outfielder Sammy Miller, senior outfielder Justin Mitchell, junior pitcher Cody Boydston, redshirt junior outfielder Eric Crain, redshirt junior outfielder Jawan McAllister, sophomore shortstop Antwaun Tucker and senior outfielder Ryan Shull all took part in college summer leagues to prep for the upcoming season.

“Baseball is baseball; if you love it you’re going to go through all the taxing situations,” said Miller. “We need to keep it even; we cannot get too high or low on ourselves. The season is a marathon, not a sprint.”

Miller, who led the Morehead City Marlins with 50 total hits during the summer, is one of seven seniors on this year’s team.

Fellow senior Mitchell, who had a great deal of success with the West Virginia Miners over the summer, was named to the 2017 Prospect League All-Star team. Last year, in his first season at Longwood after transferring from the Junior College ranks, Mitchell finished tied for the lead on the team in home runs with three.

“If all of us just stay consistent with ourselves

and just trust each other then I feel like it’s going to be a very successful year,” said Mitchell.

After playing with the Harrisonburg Turks over the summer, Gregory says he feels as confident as ever heading into his sophomore season.

“I got into a really good groove (in Harrisonburg), coming off the summer I had,” said Gregory. “Everyone here working very hard just boosts my confidence even more. I feel like we will be a force to be reckoned with this season.”

Mau was pleased with his players who strived to better their game before the start of the new season, even with time constraints.

“A lot of guys went off and not only played, but with the free time they had without class demands, got after it and made huge strength gains,” said Mau. “The inexperienced players were able to go out and get more opportunities that they weren’t maybe able to get in the spring which is always good.”

2018 Baseball Home Schedule

Feb. 23-25 vs. Niagara	4 p.m., 2 p.m., 12 p.m. Farmville, Va.	March 16-18 vs. High Point	6 p.m., 3 p.m., 2 p.m. Farmville, Va.	April 13-15 vs. UNC-Asheville	6 p.m., 4 p.m., 2 p.m. Farmville, Va.
Feb. 28 vs. N.C. Central	4 p.m. Farmville, Va.	March 20 vs. Norfolk State	5 p.m. Farmville, Va.	April 17 vs. James Madison	6 p.m. Farmville, Va.
March 2-4 vs. USC Upstate	4 p.m., 2 p.m., 1 p.m. Farmville, Va.	April 3 vs. VMI	6 p.m. Farmville, Va.	April 20-22 vs. Campbell	6 p.m., 3 p.m., 2 p.m. Farmville, Va.
March 9-11 vs. Iona	4 p.m., 2 p.m., 12 p.m. Farmville, Va.	April 4 vs. GMU	6 p.m. Farmville, Va.	May 9 vs. Richmond	6 p.m. Farmville, Va.
March 13 vs. Lafayette	5 p.m. Farmville, Va.	April 6-8 vs. Radford	6 p.m., 4 p.m., 2 p.m. Farmville, Va.	May 17-19 vs. Gardner-Webb	6 p.m., 6 p.m., 4 p.m. Farmville, Va.

Athletics director to host open forum

“Letter of Concern” by former student-athletes calls for transparency within athletics department

by Patrick Sanders | Sports Editor | @psanderson20



COURTESY OF LONGWOOD UNIVERSITY

Longwood Director of Athletics, Troy Austin

A group of anonymous former Longwood student-athletes created a Letter of Concern in December 2017 directed toward the university’s athletics department, expressing concerns over the future of their programs.

The online letter, which currently has 150 signatures, says it wants to add “transparency, accountability and collaborative solutions,” and suggested the athletics department host an open forum to answer questions from alumni and fans.

Of the 150 signatures, 61 of them are by former student-athletes from both the Division II and Division I eras.

Director of Athletics Troy Austin decided to respond to their requests and hold an open forum

event called “Lancer Talks” for those who have questions or concerns about Longwood athletics.

The forum is set to be held on Thursday, Feb. 8, from 6:30-8 p.m. at the Capital Ale House in Midlothian, Virginia, according to Assistant Vice President for Athletics Communications Chris Cook. The event will be open to the public, but registration is required.

Cook said the department plans on making this event an annual occurrence to answer questions and listen to concerns the public may have.

The concerns voiced in the letter include the low winning percentage for men’s sports teams since 2006, funding for new athletics facilities, premiums for Lancer Club members and outdated athletics fundraising web presence.

“This is not a finger pointing exercise, rather a way that we can all come together to find a path to improved facilities and success on and off the field,” the letter stated.

Additional resources are provided regarding the strategic plans of both Longwood as a whole and the Big South Conference, and comparisons of winning percentages between institutions using data from previous seasons. The final resource is a public document where signees are able to add their specific concerns anonymously.

Although the letter notes the recent success of the softball, women’s soccer and field hockey teams, it questions the abilities of other programs to be successful in Division I athletics.

The writers of the letter declined to comment further and remain anonymous.

Cook released the following statement regarding the event:

“We’re excited to host the first of what will be an annual off-campus gathering between members of the Longwood athletics department and our alumni and fans. This will be an opportunity for us to share updates on the athletics department’s five-year strategic plan, highlight the successes of our student-athletes and programs, and address questions about the past, present and future of Longwood athletics.”

Excerpt from Letter of Concern

There are three goals of this letter; transparency, accountability, and collaborative solutions. We would like to hold an open forum with the athletics administration to answer questions and voice concerns. We would like to see this forum available digitally as well for all alumni and fans to participate.

This is not a finger pointing exercise, rather a way that we can all come together to find a path to improved facilities and success on and off the field. We would like to ask question about long term planning and overall coaching philosophy. Most of all, this is a chance to come together, set aggressive goals, and help build a stronger program together.

WEEKLY ROUNDUP

MEN’S BASKETBALL

Sunday, Jan. 21

vs. High Point L 75-55

Wednesday, Jan. 24

vs. Winthrop L 95-78

Saturday, Jan. 27

@ Gardner-Webb L 60-57

Thursday, Feb. 1

@ Presbyterian 7 p.m.

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

Saturday, Jan. 20

@ High Point L 62-41

Tuesday, Jan. 23

vs. Liberty L 63-51

Saturday, Jan. 27

@ Campbell L 58-48

Tuesday, Jan. 30

vs. Winthrop 7 p.m.

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