

Longwood University

Digital Commons @ Longwood University

Rotunda

Library, Special Collections, and Archives

3-19-2018

Rotunda - Vol 96, no. 17 - Mar. 19, 2018

Longwood University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.longwood.edu/rotunda>

Recommended Citation

Longwood University, "Rotunda - Vol 96, no. 17 - Mar. 19, 2018" (2018). *Rotunda*. 2199.
<https://digitalcommons.longwood.edu/rotunda/2199>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Library, Special Collections, and Archives at Digital Commons @ Longwood University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Rotunda by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Longwood University. For more information, please contact hamiltonma@longwood.edu, alwinehd@longwood.edu.



The ROTUNDA

Wishing we were talented since 1920

GOT TALENT?

ARTISTS OF ALL KINDS WERE SHOWCASED
IN LONGWOOD'S ANNUAL TALENT SHOW.

MAR. 19 2018
VOL. 96. ISSUE 17
TAYLOR O'BERRY | THE ROTUNDA

EDITORIAL BOARD 2018

HALLE PARKER
editor-in-chief

JEFF HALLIDAY, MIKE MERGEN AND
KATIE WINDLEMEESE
faculty advisers

NEWS

CHRISTINE RINDFLEISCH
editor
editor-in-chief pro-tempore
JESSE PLICHTA-KELLAR
staff

BUSINESS

DAVID GILLIAM
business manager
MARISA YEAGER
staff

FEATURES

DAVID PETTYJOHN
staff
RAE MUNDIE
staff
MEGAN GARY
staff

A&E

JACOB DILANDRO
staff
TAIYA JARRETT
staff

OPINIONS

RACHAEL POOLE
assistant editor

SPORTS

PATRICK SANDERSON
editor
KURT MARTIN
staff

COPY

SARA HOLDSWORTH
staff

SOCIAL MEDIA

MIRANDA FARLEY
editor

ROTUNDA STUDIOS

PAYTON CONWAY
executive producer
NICOLE DEL ROSARIO
assistant producer
ALAINA JACQUES
staff
ELLIE STUCK
staff
TJ WENGERT
staff

LAYOUT

ERIN EATON
editor
LAURA GOTTSCHALK
assistant editor
MASON VEST
staff

PHOTO

TAYLOR O'BERRY
editor
EVA WITTKOSKI
staff
CARRIE BAILEY
staff

EVENTS

EMILY NEIGHBORS
co-coordinator
ALEX KISZKA
co-coordinator

CONTACT INFORMATION
therotundaonline@gmail.com
www.therotundaonline.com

**INTERESTED IN
THE ROTUNDA?
JOIN US**

MONDAYS @6:30 P.M. IN BEDFORD 106



SGA revealed their new logo (pictured above).

EVA WITTKOSKI | THE ROTUNDA

In this week's Student Government Association (SGA) meeting, Treasurer Dustyn Hall presented the new SGA logo to the senate.

Hall said the logo was rebranded through a partnership with Longwood's Design Lab. According to Hall, the newly-updated logo will be the logo for four years and there was a six-week design process for the new one.

Hall said that since the rotunda symbol that represents Longwood cannot be used in the logo, him and the design lab worked out a design that looks like the rotunda symbol when flipped upside down.

The new logo includes four people standing at different heights, and the people can be interpreted to represent the three branches of government, according to Hall.

During open forum, Virginia 21 Representative Morgan Rollins stated that the wasp issue going on in Hiner Hall is currently being worked on.

During President Kevin Napier's executive report, Napier reminded

SGA that elections are taking place from March 27 to April 3.

Conduct and Honor Board applications are due to Associate Dean of Conduct and Integrity Jen Fraley by March 19, according to Napier.

Napier also said that Longwood University Police Department (LUPD) is teaming up with SGA to plan a forum where students can come in and talk about concerns they have with LUPD.

Some of the topics Napier gave as examples were campus safety, the differences between LUPD and Farmville Police Department (FPD), rights and boundaries of students and parking.

Senator Joseph Hyman suggested that another topic should be nighttime campus safety specifically.

No open forum was held.

There will not be an SGA meeting for the next two weeks due to elections.

SFC REPORT

by Rachael Poole | Opinions Editor | @rapoole17

**Student Government Association,
\$900**

- Allocation would be for blue books to become free for students and given through SGA office
- SFC approved the allocation



BRANDON CHEUNG | THE ROTUNDA

Inside look of Upchurch University Center

Funding for building from donor gift

by Jesse Plichta-Kellar | News Staff | @JesseKellar



Situated to be the new heart of student life, the Upchurch University Center will hold several new food options, a large student multi-purpose room and updated office space for several departments and organization spaces.

TAYLOR O'BERRY | THE ROTUNDA

Set to open in fall 2018, the Upchurch University Center is 75 percent complete according to Kim Bass, deputy director for capital design and construction and the project manager for Upchurch University Center.

According to Susan Sullivan, director of the university center and student activities, the school hopes "to open between mid-September (and) mid-October."

The building will be home to dining services, student clubs and organizations and meeting spaces, according to Bass.

"The bottom floor is mostly food service. So we've got three food vendors. We've got Panda Express, Farmville Grill, Au Bon Pan," she said. "It'll be mostly eatery, food service, and lounge space. We do have the gaming center space and then the pool table."

Bass said the cafeteria area is not formally named. According to Grant Avent, general manager of Longwood University dining services, the hours for the food vendors have not been determined yet.

Avent said the Farmville Grill is a concept unique to Longwood.

"We wanted to have at least one concept not affiliated with a national brand, so we could more easily manage the menu around the needs and requests of the campus community," said Avent.

Greens to Go, currently in the Lankford Student Union, will move into the lower level of Dorrill Dining Hall, where Outta Here is located.

According to Avent, the new businesses will create more jobs with dining services.

"At this point, we are estimating the need to hire around 30 additional associates," said Avent.

On the second floor is the large multipurpose

room with pre-event space and student lounge, according to Bass.

"We're not calling it a commuter lounge," Bass said. "There's a lounge for everybody."

There will also be offices spaces in the building for various offices relating to student life, according to Bass.

According to Gary Honickel, assistant director of student clubs and organizations, "all departments under the Student Engagement umbrella will move into the building."

This includes the Office of Citizen Leadership and Social Justice Education, the dean of student engagement, Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life and the university center and student activities. According to Honickel, student organizations including Lancer Productions, The Rotunda and the Student Government Association (SGA) are also moving into office space there.

According to Honickel, there will be locker space available for organizations to use as well.

"The club and organization office in the building will have some locker space for some student organizations," he said. "We are currently developing a fair and equitable way to disperse those lockers amongst organizations on campus. A solidified plan will be made once we are in the new building."

According to Honickel, the third floor will have meeting spaces students can reserve, as well as the second floor's multipurpose room.

"Organizations will be able to reserve all seven bookable meeting rooms," he said.

According to Honickel, there are other spaces for students as well including "a meditation space on the third floor, the NH Scott Lounge (and) a performance area with a small stage on the first floor near the food vendors."

Bass said there are also small porches on the

third floor, the hours of which are still to be determined.

"There's a small one on the north and a small one on the south," she said. "The one on the north has a more circular configuration and the one on the south is rectangular."

According to Bass, the third floor also has a rotunda structure similar to the one in Ruffner Hall.

The hours for the various parts of the building are not yet determined, according to Sullivan.

"There will not be much of a difference from what they are now," Sullivan said. "We may stay opened later on Friday and Saturday and open a little earlier on Saturday but we are still throwing around ideas."

According to Bass, the building is making progress toward LEED certification. LEED certifies the level of environmental friendliness that the construction process and the building itself has. Buildings receive certification based on how environmentally friendly the supply line, the construction process and day-to-day functions of buildings are.

"At this point, we're on target for LEED Gold," Bass said. LEED Gold is the second-highest rating a building can receive.

According to Bass, almost all of the waste from the demolition of the Cunningham buildings has been diverted. Additionally, some of the floors from the Cunninghams will be used for the floor of the multi-purpose room.

According to Sullivan, the building is paid for by the donor gift and student fees.

"The gift from Mrs. Upchurch and student fees will pay for the project now and over time," Sullivan said.



"Organic and local"

New grocery store planned for midtown landings

by James Spence | Contributor | @longwoodrotunda

In the vacant space within the Midtown Landings, university officials are planning to create a small grocery store beneath

HALLE PARKER | THE ROTUNDA

After moving the Longwood Barnes and Noble bookstore in November 2017 from the Midtown Landings, focus groups and plans have been made for a grocery store, according to Sheri McGuire, associate vice president of the office of community and economic development.

The Longwood Real Estate Foundation began a dialogue with the Farmville Downtown Partnership about what to do with the leftover funds from the recent removal of the bookstore, according to McGuire.

"This grocery store could provide options for people who are starting to live and work downtown," said McGuire.

McGuire said the key challenge for this grocery store is finding the appropriate store for Farmville's community.

"The population statistics are not attractive to something like a Kroger or Whole Foods," said McGuire. "It's hard to sell our area to them. Grocery stores typically have thin margins of profit."

"After doing about eight focus groups with Longwood students as well as other people in the community the same need for balance in the grocery store was reconfirmed," said Louise Waller, associate vice president of the real estate foundation.

"In about three to four months, we should have enough data to begin being able to say what our costs are going to be and put together a better business model and start shopping around for a proprietor," said Waller.

Waller said adding a grocery store within walking distance to Longwood's campus will help students and the Farmville community

"come together and intermingle."

"I feel like it's our responsibility to have a grocery store in walking distance from campus for our students," said Waller.

The Longwood Real Estate Foundation started looking at independent operators instead of larger chains according to Waller.

"An independent operator invests their own

"For many people there are enough excuses to go out to Richmond already that they end up traveling with a cooler in their car and shopping at Wegmans or other chains that are not available to them locally," said McGuire.

"People love those experiences of shopping at these nicer grocery stores," said McGuire. "So, if we are going to make this work than it needs to be the exact right fit so that people can get out of those habits. If we put something here than they have got to love it."

In September 2017, the Student Government Association (SGA) held a meeting about the grocery store and discussed a number of similar options and issues.

"We can't expect to outbid Walmart and Food Lion in terms of low prices, but we will be able to provide organic, local and sustainable options that they don't have," said McGuire.

"We want to emphasize our desire for it to be organic and local," said Waller.

Waller said she is always looking for student input with the possibility of a grocery store in the space.

Continue to follow The Rotunda for more updates.



capital into a venture like this, but the challenges for setting up a new grocery store, one that could meet the needs of the surrounding population, would require someone very specific to pull it off," said McGuire.

Longwood's Got Talent draws huge crowd

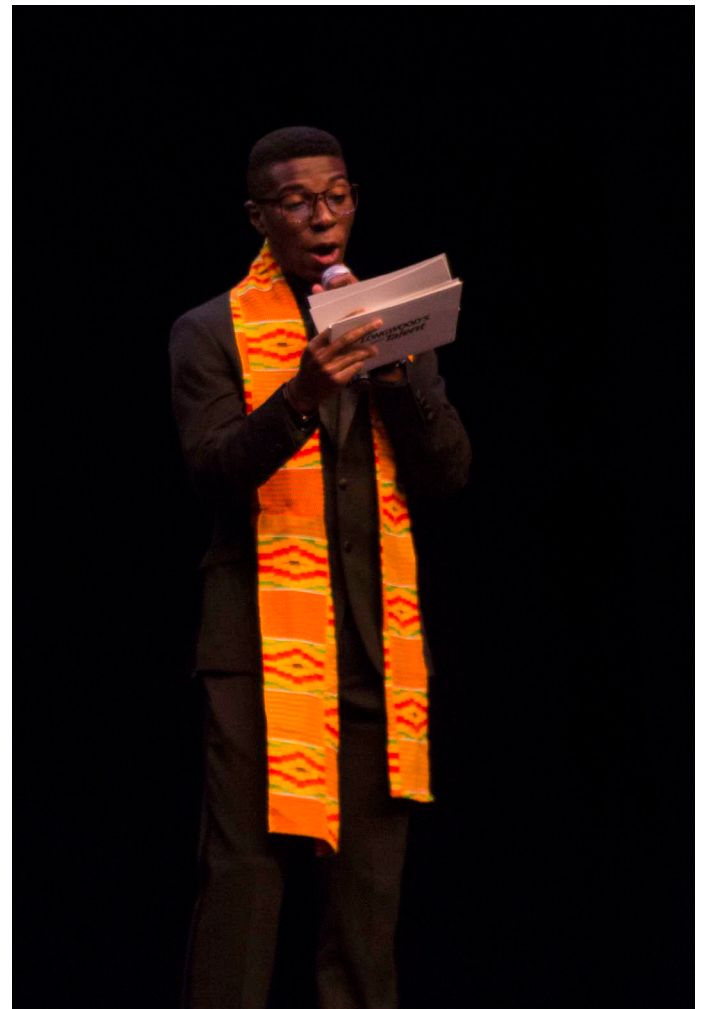
TAYLOR O'BERRY | THE ROTUNDA



At the annual campus-wide talent show, Good Girls Gone Bad stole the show, earning first place with their mashup of several popular songs. The dance trio of juniors Sierra Davey (left), Liberte Thurston (front) and Chyanne Correa (right, back) received the highest ratings from the four judges. The first place winners won a single iPhone X.



Theatre senior Zachary Glasscock sang "Stand by me" to the huge crowd gathered in Jarman Hall on Friday, March 16. The powerful performance drew a strong reaction from the audience.



Business senior Charles Opoku-Amoako hosted Longwood's Got Talent with junior Jahnay Davis; both were resident assistants in the Cox-Wheeler residential halls. This year's show had a diversity theme, performing various talents that dealt with politics, current events and the representation of under-served communities.

Dean of Students: Larry Robertson

An old student for the new students

by Rae Mundie | Features Staff | @rjmundie

The Dean of Students, Larry Robertson, has an impressive resume and will leave Longwood with big shoes to fill, not that it will be happening soon. Even so, Robertson isn't done with his work at the university, he wants to keep changing applications and procedures to make things easier for students.

"Things you have to remember; brick and mortar and technology won't last forever, it's the people and the memories that make up Longwood University," said Robertson.

As the Dean of Students, Robertson has a lot of responsibility, helping Residential and Commuter Life (RCL), including developing a class for the residential assistants (RA) to make things better. His constant goal is to make things easier for students, drawing on his own experience as a student of Longwood. After graduating in 1990, Robertson left Longwood to attend James Madison University to pursue a master's degree, finishing in 1992.

"The biggest difference (between student and staff) is you learn that Longwood is not perfect, that there is a reality of a real world," said Robertson. "I think one of the things we do in our office, and I won't take full credit, but

we remove a lot of red tape for students, make things easier."

Robertson's biggest goal is to help students realize their own potential. When he came to college, he discovered that he could be successful in an academic setting and hold a leadership position. Students need a person who will believe in them when they don't believe in themselves; Robertson wants to be there to change a student's mind and to make them see their own potential.

"One of the other things you notice, traditions, a lot of people think are long standing actually aren't," said Robertson. "Small things have to change to keep longstanding traditions apparent."

Plenty of things have changed from when Robertson attended Longwood and in the past 12 years as he's worked with RCL and other departments on the way to his current deanship. As a Mortar Board alum, he talked about how the famed tradition of Color Wars used to occur on the Sunday of Oktoberfest, now it's on a Friday. When asked, he said the day was changed to attempt and later found successful in bringing more students to the event.

"I think the things that are the same, the

Longwood students have been able to make the most of college," said Robertson. "The huge difference, people know about Longwood. We

"Small things have to change to keep longstanding traditions apparent."

Larry Robertson

have people who wouldn't have known about Longwood 20 years ago."

Changes to campus are never-ending as an evolving landscape; Robertson said when he was a student, Brock Commons didn't even exist. Since he graduated 27 years ago, the campus has changed immensely physically in terms of buildings and moreover in academics. But beyond the more visible changes, he said it was harder to accept the changes in people, those who have left either through moving away, or possibly dying.

Robertson said, "I would say something I really want to see changed is our students seeing how much potential they have and take advantage of the opportunities to fail without fear."

SEASON 2 EPISODE 3 NOW PLAYING CONFESSIONS FROM SOCIAL WORK

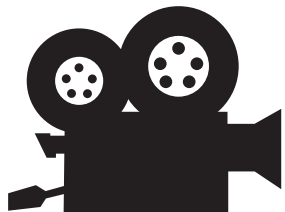


Available for download at:

<http://www.longwood.edu/alumni/day-after-graduation-podcast/>

EPISODE 3 DESCRIPTION

Social work is without question a very emotionally challenging profession. In this episode of the Day After Graduation podcast, alums Anna Hardin '01 and Emily Russell '15 share their thoughts, feelings, trials and tribulations as they've worked to help the people in their case files. Hear more about their work as both Emily and Anna navigate through the challenges of communicating with clients dealing with abusive relationships, difficult home lives, and the mental toll this can have on their own psyche. This episode contains some adult content and might not be suitable for young listeners.



THE REEL LIFE

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

LOVE, SIMON



PHOTO COURTESY OF 20TH CENTURY FOX, TEMPLE HILL PRODUCTIONS, AND FOX 2000 PICTURES

Directed by Greg Berlanti, creator of “Supergirl,” “Arrow,” “The Flash” and “Riverdale,” and written by Isaac Aptaker and Elizabeth Berger, the showrunners of “This Is Us” and writers of series like “Zack Stone Is Gonna Be Famous,” “Love, Simon” is the first major studio teen rom-com with a gay central character. From that statement alone, the film is important, but can it deliver a satisfying love story in addition to its historic nature?

Immediately deviating from the typical rom-com clichés, “Love, Simon” has an incredibly smart script. The lines fly fast with sharp wit. This isn’t the typical PG Plus that most teen rom-coms go for. “Simon” is a fierce film with a lot to say and a very specific way to say it. It also maintains a warmth like “This Is Us” while also still maintaining its sass and bite.

This sharp wit doesn’t prevent the film from bringing the emotion though, and the entire cast is excellent when it comes to their own individual emotional scenes. Nick Robinson is absolutely wonderful as the titular Simon, bringing the stressed mentality one would

expect of someone in his situation, but he still manages to be a regular teen, without turning the film into a “woe is me” story for two hours.

His supporting cast of friends is great as well, from the best friends Leah (Katherine Langford, “Thirteen Reasons Why”) and Nick (Jorge Lendeborg Jr., “Spider-Man: Homecoming”) to the scene-stealing Alexandra Shipp (“Straight Outta Compton”) as Abby or the even more incredible Natasha Rothwell and Tony Hale as Simon’s drama teacher and vice principal, respectively.

Josh Duhamel and Jennifer Garner also bring their A-game as Simon’s parents. Their few scenes with him resonate as the emotion builds through the depth of love and confrontation that most Hollywood rom-coms would be afraid to dip into. Not because of the overwhelming emotion, but because of the sincerity.

Even as the movie retraces some of the typical teen movie situations with “the party,” “the awkward date,” “the theatre show,” and “the football game,” it never feels tiring or clichéd, because of these characters who are so much fun to watch and that the audience legitimately cares about.

Greg Berlanti seems almost determined to avoid as many rom-com clichés as humanly possible, and he absolutely succeeds. The film never feels overstuffed, thanks to a great balance of Simon’s real life and some flashbacks and fantasy scenes. The musical selection feels authentically modern and yet nostalgic all at the same time.

Really, the movie’s biggest strength is its authenticity.

Regardless of someone’s high school experience or if they’re gay, straight, bisexual, transgender, there’s

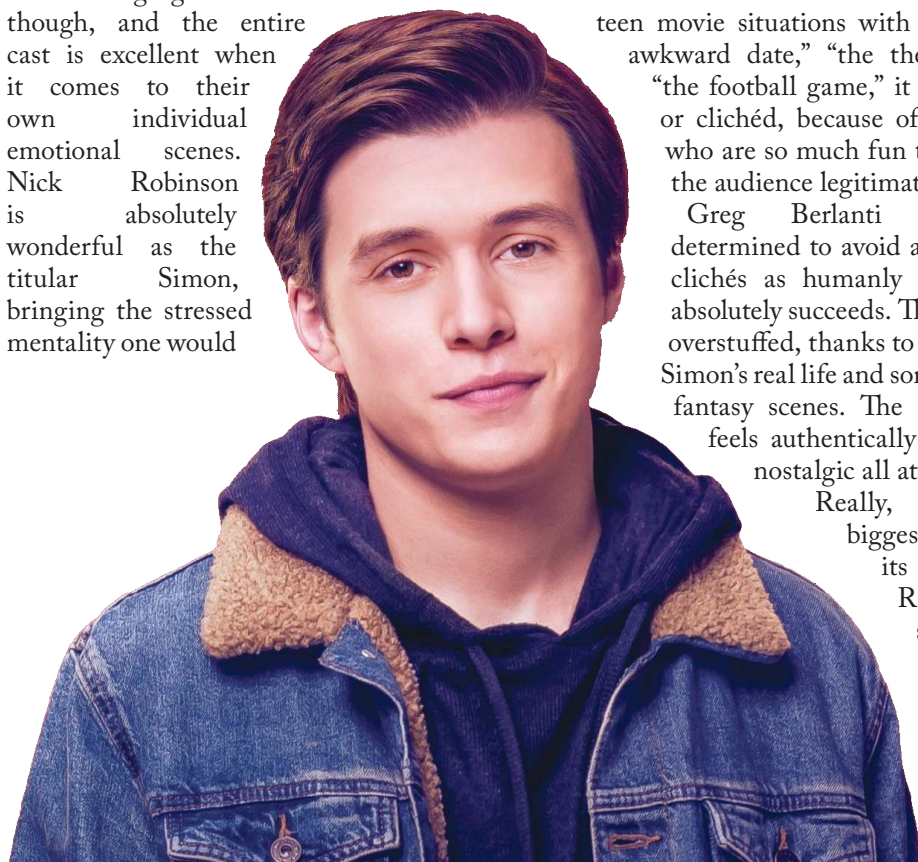
something to relate to in Simon’s quest. Because it boils down to wanting to be accepted, and that’s what high school is all about, after all.

It never alienates anyone, even the antagonist is given a chance for redemption, and when the conclusion rolls around, everything feels warm and sweet.

“Love, Simon” balances some wonderfully witty writing and direction with a lovable cast of well-developed characters and a great sense of authenticity to bring Simon’s story into the realm of the sublime. Nick Robinson’s emotional performance helps to round out a film that is without a doubt one of the most charming, emotionally effective teen rom-coms ever made. It’s virtually impossible not to “Love, Simon.”

★★★★★ 4.5/5

**Check online
for “Wrinkle
in Time” and
“Tomb Raider”
reviews!**

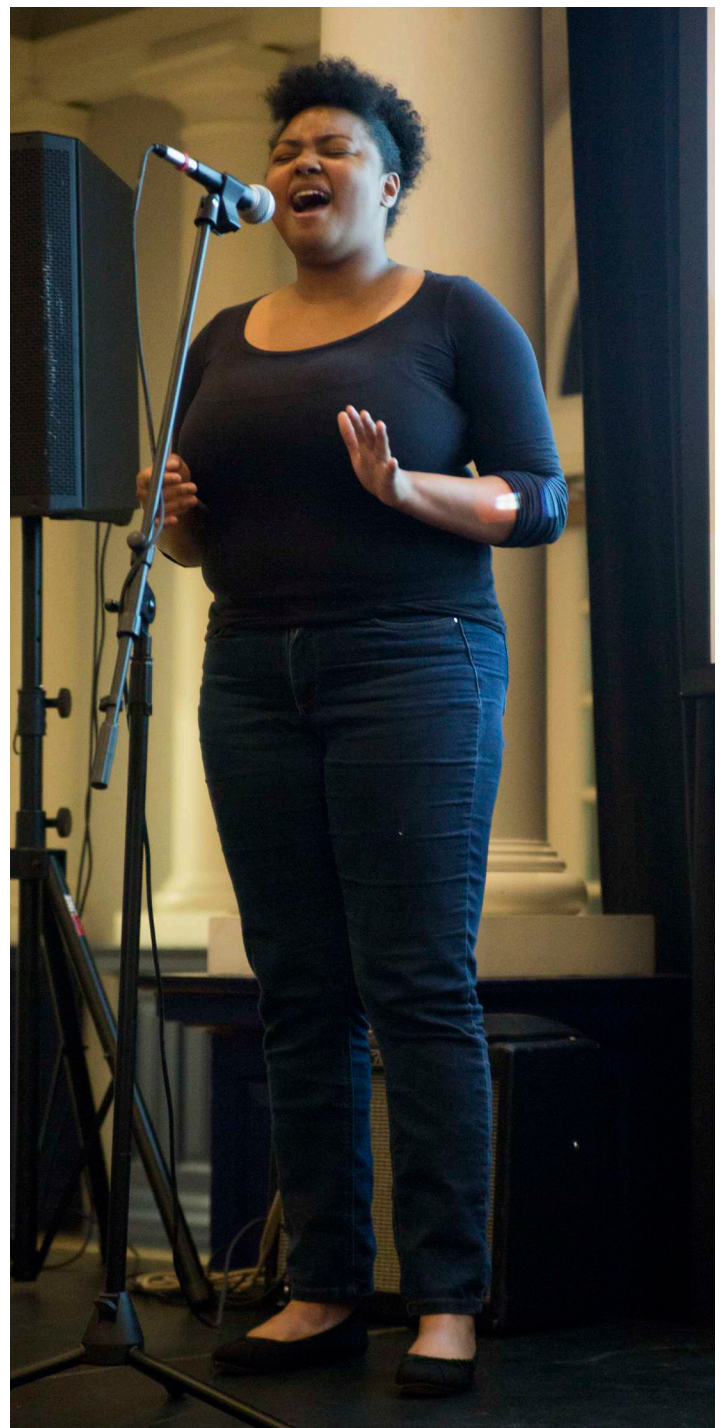




TAYLOR O'BERRY | THE ROTUNDA

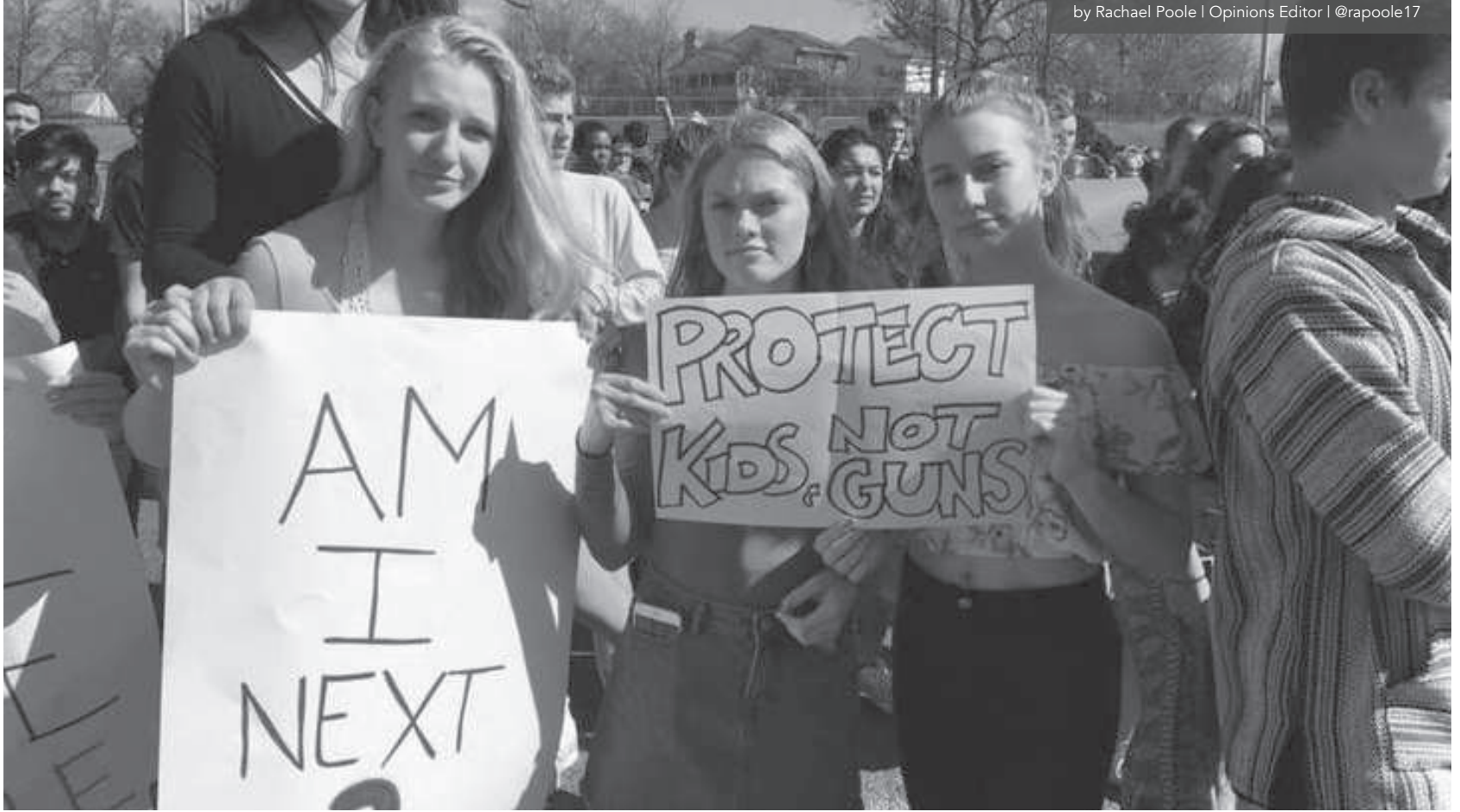
A celebration of black music across the ages

As a part of Black History Month, the NAACP and the Black Student Association (BSA) put on the African-American Music Appreciation Event on Feb. 28 in the Lankford Student Union. The event went through the history of black music from the 1600's to the present and was hosted by junior Chyanne Correa.



POOLE: The danger of #WalkUpNotOut

by Rachael Poole | Opinions Editor | @rapoole17



Students at Wakefield High School in Arlington, Virginia push for gun control during the student walk out.

COURTESY OF PATCH

Exactly one month after the Parkland shooting, students across America walked out of class for 17 minutes to demand stricter gun laws in honor of the 17 lives lost on Feb. 14.

The walkouts began at approximately 10 a.m. in each time zone, and the demonstrations continued throughout the day in different cities.

In response to the #WalkOut movement started by student activists, the #WalkUpNotOut movement started to trend after being proposed by Ryan Petty, a father of a Parkland victim.

The movement suggests that instead of walking out of schools for a simple 17 minutes, students should walk up to those considered “outcasts” and befriend them.

The idea that school shooters are social outcasts goes back to the Columbine High School massacre in 1999. The shooters, Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold, were reported to be social rejects, and discussion surrounded the bullying by popular kids.

However, the FBI decided Harris was a psychopath, and that kids didn’t like him and Klebold because they walked around giving the Nazi salute.

A few days before the attack, Klebold took a date to the prom and got into a limo with a bunch of friends.

The lost life of Rachel Joy Scott - the first victim of the Columbine shooting - exemplifies the flaws in the #WalkUp effort.

Scott was known for her dedication to both

God and the spread of compassion. She wrote journals filled with entries on how compassion and just simply being kind can change the world.

She even wrote a paper a month before her death called *My Ethics; My Codes of Life* that advocates her belief in compassion being “the greatest form of love humans have to offer.”

Klebold had known Scott since kindergarten,



COURTESY OF RACHEL'S CHALLENGE

The first victim of the Columbine shooting in 1999, Rachel Scott. Scott was a devout Christian who wanted to dedicate her life to spreading compassion and love.

and in that respect, most likely knew that she cared for everyone and didn’t partake in the exclusion or bullying of anyone.

That didn’t stop her from being shot in the head, torso and leg.

The danger with combatting #WalkOut with #WalkUp is that it makes it seem like students can’t do both. The other danger in #WalkUp is that it’s straight-forward victim blaming.

It also allows students to target others that they think might have “school shooter” potential. In the wake of all that’s been happening, if someone who doesn’t normally have that much interaction with others starts to suddenly have more people sit with them at lunch, they will know why: because other kids think they will shoot up the school.

The movement is just another way to trick students into not using their first amendment rights. The reason students are walking out of schools in the first place is to emphasize the fact that too many children have died in schools.

In the past month since the Parkland shooting, students across the country have been advocating for gun reform, asking for better background checks, a raise in the legal age to buy guns, bans on semi-automatic and automatic assault rifles and mental health checks.

The #WalkUpNotOut movement does nothing but insist that if children were nicer, they wouldn’t be killed. It’s extremely dangerous and appalling to even suggest to kids that their potential deaths could be their fault.

Students should walk up and walk out – push for a change while being a decent human being. This isn’t an either/or situation. Everyone can do both.

Jayson Gee resigns as LU men's basketball head coach

by Patrick Sanderson | Sports Editor | @psanderson20

Longwood head men's basketball coach Jayson Gee has resigned after five seasons, Director of Athletics Troy Austin announced in a press release on Friday, March 2.

According to the March 2 press release, Gee and Austin mutually agreed to part ways based on the team's performances and results.

"After a number of conversations between Coach Gee and myself, we agreed it is time to give someone else an opportunity to move the men's basketball program forward," said Austin in the press release. "Longwood men's basketball took some important steps under Coach Gee, and he demonstrated unwavering commitment to helping his student-athletes develop as people, not just basketball players."

Austin will begin the process of finding Longwood's next head basketball coach immediately, according to the

release.

Gee became the program's eighth head coach after being hired in April 2013, and accumulated a 42-120 record over his five seasons at the helm. He also boasts the program's first Big South semifinals appearance in 2015.

The Lancers ended the 2017-18 season with a 7-26 record following their loss to Radford on Thursday, March 1, eliminating them from the Big South tournament. The 29-year coaching veteran said, despite the results, he's proud of what his team has accomplished during his five years as head coach.

"I sincerely thank Troy Austin, President (W. Taylor) Reveley and Longwood University for the opportunity they provided me to serve as Longwood's head men's basketball coach for these past five seasons," Gee said in the press release. "Building a competitive program at the Division I level is a long-term

process, and while our results were not what I envisioned when I took this job, I am proud of what my staff and players accomplished."

He continued, "However, despite the adversity we endured, I stand by my assertion that Longwood basketball is better now than it was five years ago, not just in terms of the caliber of basketball player and person we have been able to attract, but also in the culture our staff and players have built."

Gee referenced the amount of injuries Longwood basketball faced, limiting their abilities to compete at a high level. The team ended the 2016-17 season with only seven scholarship players available, and finished this season with nine, according to Gee.

Austin said Longwood made a commitment to building the men's basketball program's culture and success to compete in the Big South conference beyond the coach Gee era.



MATT ALEXANDER | THE ROTUNDA (FILE)

Longwood head men's basketball coach Jayson Gee resigned after five seasons following the team's defeat in the Big South tournament.

Women's basketball "parts ways" with head coach Bill Reinson

by Patrick Sanderson | Sports Editor | @psanderson20

Longwood women's basketball has parted ways with eight-year head coach Bill Reinson, Director of Athletics Troy Austin announced in a press release on March 9.

According to the March 9 press release, Austin and Reinson agreed to "part ways" and bring in new leadership to the program, just a week removed from men's basketball head coach Jayson Gee resigning from his role.

"Coach Reinson inherited a difficult situation eight years ago and brought stability and organization to the team," Austin said. "In his 15-plus years at Longwood, he has been a tremendous advocate for his student-athletes, and I have never doubted his commitment to helping them develop as basketball players and as people."

He continued, "However, the results on the court over the past several years have not met the goals we maintain for this program."

Reinson's current contract ran through and expired following the 2017-18 season, allowing

for its review. The department decided not to renew his contract, according to Assistant Vice President of Athletics Communications Chris Cook.

According to the press release, Austin will immediately begin the search for the next Longwood women's head coach.

Before serving as the women's basketball head coach, Reinson worked as the assistant coach on the Longwood men's basketball team from 2002 until 2010. He then transitioned to the interim head coach for women's basketball following former head coach Shirley Duncan's departure.

After serving as the interim head coach six games into the 2010-11 season, Reinson was officially hired as the head coach of the basketball team in April 2011. He spent eight years as the head coach, and held a 58-177 overall record.

Reinson led the Lancers to an overall record of 7-23 this past season, losing to Charleston

"Coach Reinson inherited a difficult situation eight years ago and brought stability and organization to the team,"

Troy Austin

Southern in the first round of the Big South tournament.

"I am sincerely grateful to President Taylor Reveley and Athletics Director Troy Austin for affording me the opportunity to live out a lifelong dream of coaching college basketball," Reinson said in the press release. "To the talented young group of ladies that I have had the privilege of coaching, I want to say thank you. Although we encountered many ups and downs, I have enjoyed every minute of my time with you."

A tribute to fallen teammate

Longwood rugby plans tournament to honor '08 player Todd Miller

by Kurt Martin | Sports Staff | @lamKurt14



CARRIE BAILEY | THE ROTUNDA

Longwood University's Rugby Football Club team practice together just weeks before their 6th annual "Todd Miller Memorial 7's Tournament" on Saturday, April 14.

Although sometimes overlooked, rugby is both physically and mentally taxing as athletes throw their bodies on the line each and every match. For the Longwood University Rugby Football Club, they compete for something greater.

During a match at Virginia Military Institute in March 2008, former Longwood student and club member Todd Miller tragically passed away after suffering a head injury.

The club will be holding their 6th annual "Todd Miller Memorial 7's Tournament" on Saturday, April 14 in honor of Miller, the first time they host the tournament in five years. The tournament will begin at Lancer Park athletic fields at 9 a.m.

"We really look forward to having a great day of rugby surrounded by both alumni, friends and family of the team," said senior club president Curtis Ormsby.

The club will host squads from VMI, NC State, Duke, JMU, H-SC, CNU and VCU in the tournament.

"We are especially looking forward to playing VMI out of respect for the last team that Todd was able to play against," Club Captain John Fredrickson said.

The team wants to keep Miller's legacy alive by putting on a well-attended tournament in his name, according to Fredrickson.

Miller is remembered for much more than simply being a rugby player by his teammates, he is remembered for being a great leader and captain both on and off the field. While also bringing joy to everyone he interacted with according to Fredrickson.

Fredrickson added Miller was multi-faceted with his ability to play rugby, show proficiency in the classroom and he lit up a room with his singing talent.

According to a Rotunda article from March 2012, Miller had achieved a 4.0 grade point average in the semester before his tragic passing, while also being named to the Virginia Rugby Union all-star team in 2007.

The club also gives a one-thousand-dollar scholarship to both a male and female from the

rugby teams on campus.

The scholarship through its growth over the years has now become endowed by Longwood University, which means that school will now support giving the scholarship annually.

To be eligible to win the scholarship the player must have a 3.0 grade point average and also have been a member of LURFC for at least two years.

"Todd's legacy is an inspiration to all of us, and with this scholarship he continues to lead us all in the right direction to being better men both in the classroom and on the field," said sophomore club member Andrew Synnott.

"We wish he was still around because even though a lot of us didn't know him personally, it is really telling of the great impact he left behind, and we want to honor him in the best way possible," Synnott said.

With both the scholarship and the tournament returning this year, the morale is high as the team goes into the competition.

"With the winner of the scholarship in Todd's name being announced at the tournament in memory of him, there's no better way to honor Todd's legacy," said Ormsby.



WEEKLY ROUNDUP

SOFTBALL

Saturday, March 17

vs. Radford W 4-1

vs. Radford W 3-2

Sunday, March 18

vs. Radford W 1-0

Saturday, March 24

@ Charleston Southern 2 p.m.

BASEBALL

Saturday, March 16

vs. High Point W 5-4

Sunday, March 17

vs. High Point L 8-2

Sunday, March 18

vs. High Point L 10-2

Tuesday, March 20

vs. Norfolk State 5 p.m.

MEN'S TENNIS

Saturday, March 17

vs. North Carolina A&T W 7-0

Sunday, March 18

vs. Radford L 5-2

Saturday, March 24

vs. James Madison 2 p.m.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Friday, March 16

vs. Radford L 6-1

Saturday, March 17

vs. North Carolina A&T W 5-1

Friday, March 23

@ UNC Asheville 2 p.m.



LIMITED TIME ONLY

INTRODUCING YOUR NEW FAVORITE NUMBERS:

7... 8... 9...

\$7.00 LARGE 1 TOPPING PIZZA

\$8.00 LARGE 2 TOPPING PIZZA

\$9.00 LARGE 3 TOPPING PIZZA

Carry-Out, Delivery, & Dine In
237 Sunchase Blvd
434.391.1000

Taste the World... Gourmet & Traditional