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The

ROTUNDA

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PRECAUTIONS FOR EXTREME WEATHER

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EVA WITTKOSKI | THE ROTUNDA

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MONDAYS @6:30 P.M. IN BEDFORD 111



Director of Residential Programs Monique Bates (right) and Director of Housing Jean Wilwohl (left) stressed the importance of safety and when students have issues with housing to talk to Residential Education Coordinators (RECs).

In this week's Student Government Association (SGA) meeting, Director of Residential Programs Monique Bates and Director of Housing Jean Wilwohl gave a review of housing services and answered some frequently asked questions students have had since move-in.

Bates reminded the SGA that all residential problems need to be taken to Residential Education Coordinators (RECs) and that all residents have access to a Resident Assistant (RA). Per Bates, commuters have access to Commuter Assistants in case of an issue.

Bates also said her largest concern is safety, encouraging senate to remind students to report incidents when necessary and to download the LiveSafe app.

Wilwohl gave an update on Frazer Hall's renovations, saying the renovations were on schedule and students should be living in the resident hall by the fall 2019 semester. Wilwohl also added that the campus is not over its housing capacity despite the Frazer Hall under construction.

During open forum, Junior Class President Haleigh Pannell brought up issues that were discussed in the previous meeting surrounding dining hall lines and said she has been working on getting those issues resolved.

According to Pannell, new training and a new point of sale system have been implemented with Longwood Dining Services, as well as a food truck outside of Ruffner Hall to make up for the loss of Einstein Bros. Bagels.

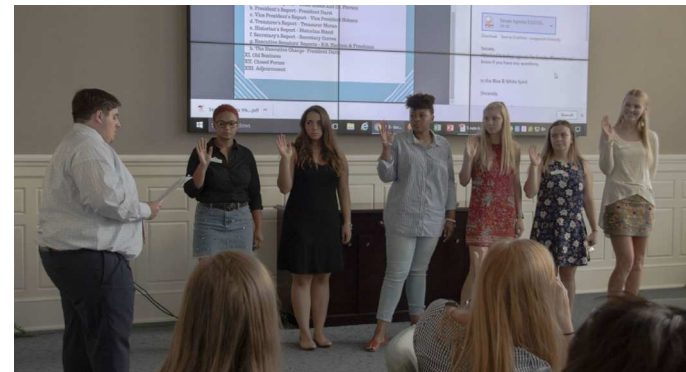
Virginia 21 Representative Mary Zell Galen reminded senate that midterm elections start on Oct. 15 and Election Day is Nov. 6. Galen also announced there will be a Virginia Student Democracy Summit on Sept. 14 at James Madison University (JMU).

According to the JMU website, the

summit will host over 100 students across Virginia and will "include dynamic speakers, workshops, discussions and campus action planning".

Student Diversity and Inclusion Council (SDIC) Representative Arin Young brought up concerns from students surrounding sexual assault on campus, saying students don't feel like Title IX is very effective. Young suggested that there be education on prevention in response to this issue.

Executive Senator for Committee Relations Kiersten Freedman said the SGA suggestion box from the involvement fair on Sept. 30 brought up concerns such as the lamps by the library being too dark and a need for more blue phones on the walk to and from Lancer Park and main campus.



President Josh Darst swore in newly elected members.

During new business, seven new members were sworn in including Senator Jalyn Jones, Freshmen Class President Eleanor Carr, Freshmen Class Vice President Jessica Faulk, Freshmen Class Secretary Laura Wilcox, Freshmen Class Treasurer Kayla Brundick and Freshmen Class Representatives Claire Lesman and Kayla Foster.

The next SGA meeting will be held on Sept. 11 at 3:50 p.m. in the Martinelli Board Room located in the Maugans Alumni Center.



Upchurch on track to open in late October

by Rediet Fissiha | News Staff | @Rediet_17

EVA WITTKOSKI | THE ROTUNDA

The front entrance of the new Upchurch University Center facing Lancaster Hall.

Upchurch University Center is set to open in late October and is considered the third-largest building on campus after Curry and Frazer. It is a 79,000 square foot building and named after Elsie Upchurch, according to Associate Vice President of Campus Planning and Construction Louise Waller.

Replacing the Cunninghams in 2014, Upchurch will take the space that once housed over 400 students.

"The Cunninghams were very tired, there were many maintenance issues (and) no air conditioning. They were not the best place in the world to live so we looked into renovating those facilities and the cost was (extremely high). They also were not meeting the demands and needs of the student body. So, then the decision was made that this would be the location for the new student union, Upchurch (University Center)," said Waller.

"Site work of construction started of summer 2015, and the building (construction) began starting in spring '17," said Jerry Jerome, facilities planner at Longwood.

According to Waller, Lankford Hall, home of the current student union, was built in 1967. The student body was much smaller and Lankford was not designed for the student body today.

"And as an institution, we have a responsibility to provide the students the resources for collaboration for all the wonderful clubs and

organizations," said Waller. "It's an important piece of our offerings."

Per Waller, Upchurch is near completion and the contractor and construction crew worked fast to make this building happen.

"They are still working on the food court area and the landscaping exterior now," Waller said. "But everything should be completed in the next four weeks."

There is a need to incorporate a tree plan for Upchurch University Center in the future, according to Waller.

"There are some additional sidewalks that need to be done, but the exterior landscaping

and put them in the multipurpose rooms, (it) was cool to save something from that site," said Deputy Director for Capital Design and Construction Kim Bass. "We also had reclaimed lumber from trees from that site that is being utilized as some wall covering in a couple of spaces in the first floor."

Within Upchurch University Center's food services will be Panda Express, Au Bon Pain, FarmGrill and Starbucks, according to Bass.

"The ground floor is the food court area, and it will (also) have pool tables, stages and a recreation space. And the upper floors will have offices, ballrooms and meeting spaces for student organizations," said Waller.

"There is a cabaret, and it was planned to have three pool tables but the staff is preferring that there be a mixed of pool tables, foosball tables and ping-pong," said Bass.

According to Waller, Starbucks will be on the first floor, while the other dining options will be facing Lancaster Hall.

"It surpassed all of my expectations," said Waller. "It will be the heart of the campus, it is geographically the heart and you can't help but be drawn to that building. I sincerely

hope that the students will love, appreciate it and value it."



Construction workers add the finer details into the back entrance of the Upchurch Center.

is minimalist. This gives us the opportunity to enhance our trees. This will all just add to the beautiful palette (of Upchurch University Center)," said Waller.

"We have hardwood floors that were saved from Cunningham (Hall), we salvage those

the **SECOND** **AMENDMENT** beared by **ARMED** **EDUCATORS**

by Taiya Jarrett | A&E Staff | @ohsootayv



Courtesy of ClickOnDetroit

With the recent increase in mass school shootings, state legislators around the country have contemplated the idea of arming public school officials, yet Virginia Attorney General Mark Herring completely disagrees.

The tragic Valentine's Day mass shooting that occurred at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, FL., collectively killing 17 students and staff members, has led to a national outcry of whether more thorough federal background checks, resulting in stricter gun control laws, are enough at this point.

A CNN report conducted from Feb. 20 to Feb. 23 established that "70 percent of Americans said they wanted stricter gun laws".

To be more thorough and in-depth, Vox.com drew statistics from previous mass shootings to generate a compare-and-contrast study of when many Americans were in support of stricter gun control laws.

The study states, "Compared to just 52 percent after the Las Vegas mass shooting in October. 64 percent said that the government and society could take actions to prevent mass shootings, 46 percent after the Orlando Pulse nightclub shooting, 35 percent after the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church shooting in Charleston, and 46 percent after the Newtown shooting."

These ongoing issues not only gained momentum after the Parkland, FL.

shooting, but also a new set of generational gun control advocates.

As recently as March 14, an array of young adults participated in the National School Walkout in efforts to protest the relevancy of school shootings. Yet most notably, March 24, a student-led march in the metropolitan area of Washington, D.C. March for Our Lives urged people in Congress and others to consider tightening gun control laws—or an alternative that would lessen the aftermath of distraught and torn families from being victimized of gun violence.

Meanwhile this concept of staging walkouts and protests supports a cause that needs to be widely spoken about, instead of being overshadowed by rhetoric that goes against their main agenda.

"In America, we trust the people to be wise and good...that is why in America, we've always trusted the people to keep and bear arms," said President Trump at a 2018 National Rifle Association (NRA) event.

Prior to being elected, Trump endorsed gun rights throughout his presidential campaign, though it suddenly doesn't seem that way.

"They're great people. And by the way, they love our country. They love our country. The NRA has been a great supporter. They love our country," said Trump in a CNN interview.

Yet, in order to reduce gun violence and prevent mass school shootings, Trump has collaborated with the pro-gun organization

to implement a solution to its continuous problem: arm teachers and staff.

Despite efforts to combat this epidemic, it has caused a media frenzy and mass disapproval among legislators, especially from Virginia Attorney General, Mark Herring.

Speaking to the Department of Criminal Justice Services, Herring said "Our kids deserve a safe, secure learning environment when they come to school, and adding guns and armed, unqualified personnel to our classrooms is incompatible with that goal, the introduction of unqualified personnel with guns raises the likelihood of a tragic accident, or potentially catastrophic confusion during an emergency".

Furthermore, this statement made an impression on the Lee County School Board. As of last month, they initially planned to allow teachers the legal right to bear arms on school grounds.

However, according to the Washington Post, "Superintendent Brian Austin said the school system is consulting with its attorneys before pursuing further action".

Over the course of these past months, these mass school shootings have been frequent and unfortunate, but not unexpectedly, desensitizing. As school board officials and Congress differ, the unfortunate reality is that these events are likely to repeat themselves if proper action isn't taken.



Courtesy of Boston Herald



Courtesy of Mirror UK

POOLE

Gay and bisexual men should be allowed to give blood The rule is based on fear and hate, not science

by Rachael Poole | Opinions Editor | @rapoole17

The aftermath of the gay nightclub Pulse shooting that happened on June 12, 2016 in Orlando, FL. Gay and bisexual men were not able to donate blood due to the FDA's ban.

After 30 years, France is banning its rule which states men who have sex with men can't give blood. The rule was implemented in the wake of the HIV/AIDS epidemic from the 1980s and 1990s.

Laurent Drelon went to the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) to try to overturn rules that are seen as discriminatory among the LGBTQ+ community. Drelon decided to go to the court after being told he can't give blood several times since 2004.

Gay men were banned from giving blood in France in 1983 over the fear of spreading HIV, which would lead to AIDS. Originally, men who had sex with men couldn't give blood whatsoever, but in 2016, the rule was changed to say gay men couldn't give blood if they've had intercourse within 12 months.

In Drelon's case, he argued that the rule is discriminatory on the basis of sexuality and it also forces him to reveal his sexuality, which is a violation of privacy.

Patrice Spinosi, Drelon's lawyer, said the rule for forcing abstinence in order to give blood "is based solely on a person's sex and sexual orientation... and violates the right to privacy" as set out in the European Convention on Human Rights.

Up until Dec. 2015, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) concluded that a man who had ever had sex with another man was unfit to give blood. Then, the

rule was changed, just like the one in France, to say that if a man has had sex with another man within 12 months he is unfit to give blood.

When the ban was originally put into place, HIV tests were less sensitive and couldn't detect the virus until six to 12 weeks after infection. However, today's technology detects HIV within nine to 14 days of exposure with near-perfect sensitivity.

Additionally, advances in research have provided extremely reliable methods for determining if someone is at risk of infection based on their sexual behaviors, not sexual orientation. The chance of getting HIV from a blood transfusion in the United States today is 1 in 2 million, according to the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI).

The rule that gay/bisexual men can't give blood is based on fear - not science. Heterosexual donors who have multiple concurrent partners have much more of a chance spreading some kind of disease than a gay or bisexual man who's been in a relationship with one person for a good amount of time.

Under the current system a heterosexual man with an active chlamydia or herpes infection is not prohibited from donating blood, even if those infections suggest recent high-risk sexual contact.

Overall, the rule suggests that all men who engage in sexual intercourse with other men automatically have HIV - which is a very overused stereotype.

In a country where nearly one-fourth of newer HIV diagnoses are coming from heterosexual transmission, this double standard is ridiculous unless the goal in the United States is discrimination and not safety.

"In the wake of the Pulse shooting in Orlando, Florida there was a common (ironic) issue: many gay and bisexual men could not donate blood to help the victims."



Heat illnesses raise concern over health of student-athletes

by Patrick Sanderson | Sports Editor | @psanderson20

NCAA implements extra breaks to protect players when training in high temperatures.

EVA WITTKOSKI | THE ROTUNDA

High body temperature, dizziness, not sweating, hyperventilating and inability to control breathing. These are all symptoms of heatstroke; when over-exposure to extreme heat causes your body to overheat.

These are all symptoms of which were present when Jordan McNair, 19, of the University of Maryland football team had a seizure during an organized team workout on May 29. McNair passed away two weeks later in the same hospital after receiving a liver transplant.

Since the incident, there are growing concerns over student athletes being pushed beyond their limits during training sessions and games in extreme weather conditions. With teams at Longwood University conducting late summer training sessions, athletic trainers are taking extra precaution in the amount of time teams spend outdoors.

As a representative of the NCAA, Longwood Director of Athletics Troy Austin said they have tried to set up protocols so games are able to be adjusted for heat illness prevention and allow institutions to manage their individual sport contests.

According to Austin, the NCAA has pushed institutions to educate its own student-athletes on the warning signs of heat illness in order to prevent similar incidents.

“It’s really educational pieces and reminders to NCAA membership institutions about how to manage student-athletes in preparation and enduring extreme heat,” said Austin. “It’s the school and the coach’s responsibility to go overboard about communicating and promoting how to do it. It’s ultimately the

student-athletes’ responsibility to implement that instruction.”

Although student-athletes are responsible for following through on the instruction and taking care of themselves, Austin ensured athletic trainers at Longwood are well-prepared for extreme circumstances.

“Every staff member who interacts with a student-athlete in a training situation has to be CPR (Cardiopulmonary resuscitation) certified before they have any interaction with a student-athlete,” said Austin. “The athletic trainers through their certification are already CPR certified.”

He continued, “It is (the athletes’) responsibility, but we also don’t leave them devoid of safety nets.”

Austin said a safety net would be an athletic trainer being present with an in-season team to let coaches know if a player looks uneasy on the field, and pushing them to take more water breaks during their training sessions. Longwood field hockey coach Iain Byers said he’s tried to work his practice around days of extreme heat to minimize the amount of time spent outside.

According to Longwood Director of Sports Medicine Carly Fullerton, protocols for treating athletes who experience heat illnesses depend on the severity and type of illness they’re experiencing.

“Usually heat illness is described as three different levels, so basically you start out with heat cramps,” said Fullerton. “Then you get heat exhaustion which would be the next level up which you’re looking at sweating but they’re a lot more red and flushed... and then you have heatstroke which would be the severe

side of that when their body temperature starts getting up above 104 degrees.”

Fullerton said she’s had athletes experience full-body cramps and has taken trips to the hospital due to heat illnesses, but none have been permanently damaging. She ensured all trainers at Longwood are aware of all symptoms and protocols to ensure player safety in extreme heat.

The University of Maryland has been under fire since the incident due to the concern their training staff didn’t follow their specific protocols in responding to McNair’s symptoms. In fact, there is an hour of unexplained time where nothing significant was done to avoid complications. At the time of his collapse, his body temperature was recorded at 104 degrees, constituting his condition as heatstroke. In the event of a player suffering from a heatstroke, they must be cooled down immediately to bring their body temperature down, according to Fullerton.

McNair arrived at the hospital an hour and a half later with his body temperature raised to 106 degrees, showing nothing had been done.

Fullerton said she’s had athletes with full-body cramps and has taken trips to the hospital due to heat illnesses to avoid the risk of permanent damage.

According to Austin, the NCAA is continuing to work on new protocols for extreme weather, as they recently added an extra break in each half of soccer matches to ensure players are drinking enough fluids to prevent heat illness.

Longwood, Big South Conference events to be featured on ESPN+ exclusively

by Kurt Martin | Sports Staff | @lamKurt14

In the past, games from the Big South conference could be found on the conference's official website, but after a deal which was reached in July, it all changed.

According to a press release from ESPN Media Zone released on July 24, "ESPN and the Big South Conference have reached a comprehensive extension to its existing media rights deal, resulting in ESPN becoming the exclusive rights holder of the conference and greatly increasing the conference's presence on its platforms."

ESPN+ is a subscription-based service which costs \$4.99 per month, to not only view Big South Conference events, but also a wide range of different sports and leagues.

"We unfortunately don't get the numbers on a game to game basis the way we did with the Big South Network, but it's estimated that we're going to have huge growth in viewership over the next few years, especially as ESPN+ grows," said Assistant Director of Athletic Communications Darius Thigpen.

However, an estimate is just an estimate, and ESPN+ is in its beginning stages of operation.

"Right now, Big South Network is ESPN+, so as ESPN+ goes, the Big South Network will go," said Thigpen. "Because the conference made the deal, and schools made the deal

with ESPN+, that is our official broadcast partner. Big South Network and ESPN+ are one and the same essentially."

There have been small issues as far as production with events produced here at Longwood.

"What hinders us a little bit is, the amount of bandwidth we have for our internet speed," said Coordinator of Broadcast Operations and senior Kiersten Freedman. "Pretty much all of the freak

problems I've had go back to that. This town is a little bit limited on internet strength, so, what ESPN expects from us is sometimes a little hard to achieve because of the maximum bandwidth we can get from the town."

As a result of the internet issues, there has been a lowering in quality in which events at Longwood are streamed.

"Our broadcasts are not the best streaming quality that ESPN might expect, or what you might see on ESPN on TV," Freedman said. "They are coming through well enough that people can watch them, but we have been known to have a little bit of buffering. Everything comes back to the internet service, and we just make the best of what we can."

Even with the lowering in quality, Freedman said that the product does meet ESPN's point of satisfaction.

The changeover to ESPN+ broadcasts has not cost the university, according to Thigpen.

"The big thing is, actually we're getting back money from ESPN+. So ESPN has made a commitment to help upgrade the equipment with all the different schools," he said. "Every school is getting three new cameras from the Big South Conference, and helping along with that is ESPN, then ESPN is also sending money to each school, just as a little stipend to help any other equipment, or personnel issues that may come up."

According to BigSouthSports.com, the

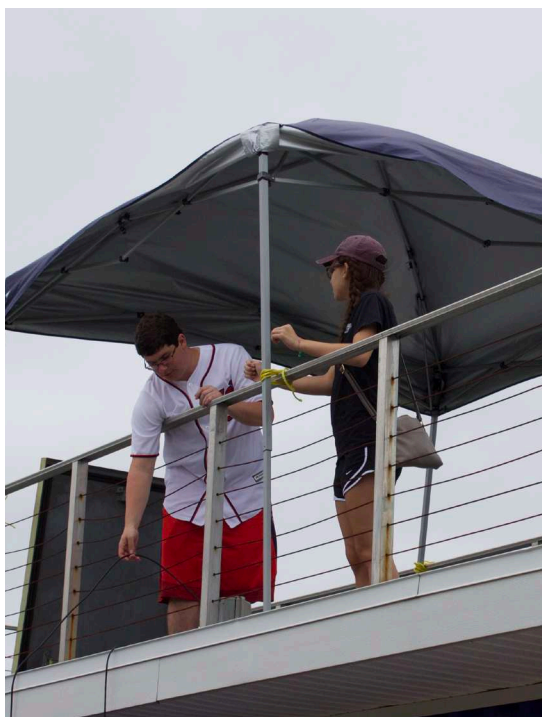


GISELLE VELASQUEZ | THE ROTUNDA

ESPN+ provides more streaming options to connect to a wider audience.

agreement between ESPN and the Big South Conference will run through 2024-25.

"We unfortunately don't get the numbers on a game to game basis the way we did with the Big South Network, but its estimated that we're going to have huge growth in viewership over the next few years especially as ESPN+ grows,"
Darius Thigpen



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ESPN has made a commitment to help upgrade equipment.



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