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The

# ROTUNDA

Speaking up since 1920



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# COMING TOGETHER

FEBRUARY 25, 2019  
VOL 97. ISSUE 17  
ERIN EATON | THE ROTUNDA



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Reverend Dr. William Barber II, president of Repairers of the Breach and co-chair of the Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival and Al Gore, former vice president and now founder of the Climate Reality Project disapproved of the compression station.

As one of the three compression stations proposed to serve the Atlantic Coast Pipeline (ACP), Union Hill has seen a lot of controversy from the Buckingham County community since the site was purchased in 2015 for \$2.5 million by Dominion Energy, Duke Energy, Piedmont Natural Gas and Public Service Company of North Carolina.

The selected second compression station site sits on a 68 acre site located on the northern side of Virginia Route 56, according to the ACP website.

The State Air Pollution Control Board voted 4-0 in early January of 2019 approving the permits for the natural gas compressor after delaying the vote in November. Less than a week before the vote in November, Governor Ralph Northam removed two members of the board who voiced concerns in relation to the impact on the predominantly minority community.

The ACP, ranging over 600 miles in total from West Virginia to Virginia to North Carolina, needs

compression stations in order to maintain pressure to keep the gas at a consistent flow rate in order to provide energy, according to the ACP website.

After much controversy, the Buckingham community gathered in Buckingham County Middle School on Tuesday, Feb. 19 to show disapproval for the compression station in Union Hill as well as the

**"There is a reason why they (Dominion Energy) don't run the pipeline or a compression station through an affluent community," said Barber. "They (Dominion Energy) do it through poor and black communities."**

-Reverend Dr. William Barber II



During the rally, several people gave examples of how the compression station in Union Hill would affect their everyday lives.

ACP in general.

As the two main speakers of the event, both Reverend Dr. William Barber II, president of Repairers of the Breach and co-chair of the Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival and Al Gore, former vice president and now founder and chairman of the Climate Reality Project gave testimonies at the event.

"We are not gonna let this happen in the dark," said Pastor Paul Wilson of the Union Grove Missionary Baptist Church in his opening remarks.

As to how much the pipeline is

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# Gore and Barber rally against Buckingham County compression station

## Community members raise concerns over safety and financial impacts of Atlantic Coast Pipeline

by Christine Rindfleisch | Editor-in-Chief | @its\_rINDfleisch

going to cost, David Neal, attorney at the Southern Environmental Law Center and board of directors of repairers of the breach, said the cost has increased from about \$4.5 billion

to about \$7 billion and still remains unclear.

Barber called the compression station is scandalous and irresponsible.

“There is a reason why they (Dominion Energy) don’t run the pipeline or a compression station through an affluent community,” said Barber. “They (Dominion Energy) do it through poor and black communities.”

Buckingham County has a 17.6 percent poverty rate in comparison to Virginia with a 10.6 percent poverty rate with 34.1 percent accounting of African Americans, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

John W. Laury, a farmer in Union Hill, brought up the agricultural impact the pipeline could have.

“We live in an agricultural area where we

raise crops, dairy cows, goats and chickens,” said Laury.

According to Dr. Irene Ellis Leech of Virginia Tech and owner of Mt. Rush Farm in Buckingham, the property many residents of Buckingham County have is the most valuable asset they have.

station could interfere with nearby residents’ sleep and school performance.

“This is a reckless and racist rip off,” said Gore, regarding the compression station in Union Hill.

Gore emphasized the injuries and deaths there have been the U.S. associated with pipelines and compression stations.

Concluding the event was a call to action by Rebecca R. Rubin, environmental consultant and former Air Pollution Control Board member with Ruby Laury, Kathie Mosley and Marie Gillespie, all allies of A Moral Call For Ecological Justice in Buckingham.

“The stage has already been set for the dying planet, we are all suffering, we need politicians in the commonwealth whether they’re left or right or center to begin by being honest about the collapse of the environment and what we can do about



During the rally, Yara Allen, lead theomusicologist of Repairers of the Breach, led the crowd in songs including "This Little Light of Mine".

“If something goes wrong we could lose everything including our lives,” said Leech.

Gore said the noise level of the compression

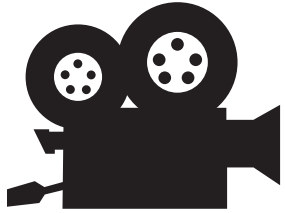
it,” said Rubin.

Continue to follow The Rotunda for updates.



The Buckingham County Middle School gym was packed with residents in opposition of the second of three compression stations proposed to be built in Union Hill.





# THE REEL LIFE

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

## HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON THE HIDDEN WORLD



PHOTO COURTESY OF DREAMWORKS ANIMATION AND UNIVERSAL PICTURES.

Without a doubt one of DreamWorks' most beloved and acclaimed series, "How To Train Your Dragon" ended its story this past week with the release of the final film in the trilogy, subtitled "The Hidden World." After two acclaimed films prior, can this finale cement its place as one of the crowned jewels of the DreamWorks canon?

Those going in expecting a scope as broad and expansive as the previous film might be disappointed. This is not an epic, earth shattering conclusion like other series typically have as their finales. On the contrary, this last chapter for Hiccup and his band of dragons and friends is much more introspective than before.

It focuses on why it takes others to show people the potential they have inside them, and how that can both help and hinder a leader. It's not as heavy as the emotional moments from the previous film, but it's still unique for a film billed as a family adventure to have such an introspective theme.

Hiccup is a flawed character, often times stubborn and over relying on his bond with the Night Fury dragon, Toothless. Writer and director Dean DeBlois ("Lilo and Stitch," "How to Train Your Dragon," "How to Train Your Dragon 2")

knows the bonds that seem the simplest often have the most complex connections bubbling underneath and he continues to employ that here. It helps that he continues to have such a great cast at his disposal. Jay Baruchel ("Man Seeking Woman," "Tropic Thunder") continues to deliver career excellent work as Hiccup. America Ferrara ("Superstore," "End of Watch") and Cate Blanchett ("Thor: Ragnarok," "Carol") play off each other wonderfully as Astrid and Valka, respectively.

F. Murray Abraham ("The Grand Budapest Hotel") gives a growling performance as the villainous Grimmel the Grisly. However, despite giving an excellent performance, his villain highlights a problem inherent in some of the film's aspects. Grimmel simply isn't as intriguing or well-developed of a villain than the previous film's antagonist Drago. He isn't poorly performed, he's just not as strong as those who came before. The same can be said for the film's third act.

As this is DreamWorks, it's expected some of their brand of kid-friendly humor will sneak its way into even its more serious films. The same is true here, where most of the more serious moments have at least a light chuckle peppered into them to prevent scenes from becoming too dire. A few running gags just seem bizarrely out of place though, like one of Hiccup's friends hitting on his mother.

It does leave a bit of a cloud hanging about this film: since the previous entry was so great, can this possibly match up? In some ways, like the villain and third act conflict, it can't, reaching a spot just below the excellence previously achieved. However, it still manages to hit the incredibly high bar the previous film set visually.

Every frame of "The Hidden World" crackles with color and life. This is a world that feels absolutely fantastical, with endless oceans and piercing blue skies. The seemingly endless

dragon designs are a joy to look at and identify. Even the character designs, just like the second film, go against the typical animated Hollywood tradition by aging them appropriately.

Since this is the final film in the "Dragon" series, there is a sense of bittersweet that goes along with it. It also leads to meditations on the nature of this finale; could it ever live up to expectations? Are the nitpicks and comparisons to the previous films worth picking at in what is, clearly, a smaller scoped film? Yes and no. While none of these are reason enough to harm the film, they are worth mentioning, especially since this is a series film. Even if "The Hidden World" is still leaps and bounds above most typical Hollywood animation, and even most DreamWorks films, it's still worth mentioning.

At the end of the day, it doesn't matter much because the emotional core of the movie is so incredibly rock solid. DeBlois doesn't pull any punches when it comes time to wrap things up, and the movie's closing monologue is not only something special, but something tear inducing as well.

"The Hidden World" is a worthy conclusion to one of DreamWorks best series. It continues the previous films trend of providing gorgeous animation as the backdrops for thought provoking meditations on friendship and leadership. Even if it can't quite live up to the previous film, that doesn't mean it isn't excellently voiced, wonderfully scripted and emotionally poignant. It's hard to see a better way this series could have flown off into the sunset.

★★★★☆  
4.5/5





# LSU hazing crimes put Greek Life in bad spotlight

## Longwood has seen hazing in years past

by Davina Applewhite | Contributor | @longwoodrotunda

COURTESY OF VISIT BATON ROUGE

On Feb. 14, nine former fraternity brothers at Louisiana State University (LSU) were arrested and charged with hazing the pledges of their fraternity, Delta Kappa Epsilon.

**Editor's note: The opinions expressed in this commentary are solely those of the author.**

Greek life is a defining part of American colleges and universities and it seems almost impossible to disassociate the two. There are many misconceptions to Greek life shown in the media, such as the crowded and deafening parties with hazing requirements.

While this isn't the case for all sororities and fraternities, there are some cases where these misconceptions still ring true and reinforce those pre-existing ideas.

Hazing may seem to be decreasing, with movements such as "These Hands Don't Haze" becoming more and more prevalent, but there are still incidences where hazing is brought into the public eye and paints Greek life in a negative light.

On Feb. 14, nine former fraternity brothers at Louisiana State University (LSU) were arrested and charged with hazing the pledges of their fraternity, Delta Kappa Epsilon.

According to the arrest warrants, the hazing included punishments such as pouring gasoline on the pledges, forcing them to sit in an ice machine while only wearing their underwear and attempting to beat the pledges with a metal pipe.

One pledge told officials after he'd sat in the ice machine, he was told to lay on a basketball court covered in broken glass, where he and another pledge were then hosed, urinated on and attacked with milk crates.

Other hazing endeavors involved fraternity members extinguishing their cigarettes using the victims' bodies and engaging in what Delta Kappa Epsilon members refer to as a "new boy shower" where one must stand in the shower and look up while holding a milk crate full of ice and cayenne pepper above their head, causing the water to melt the ice and the pepper to run into their eyes.

These cruel hazing allegations prompted the arrest of Charles Brakenridge (23), Blake Chalin (20), Cade Duckworth (23), Gaston Eymard (23), Shakti Gilotra (22), Joseph Harkrider (19), Malcolm McNiece (23),

Alexander Rozas (23) and Garrett Sanders (21).

According to the university, Duckworth and McNiece are not students this semester.

Unfortunately, this isn't the first time Louisiana State has made headlines for fraternity hazing. Back in 2017, 10 members of Phi Delta Theta took their hazing initiation a step too far, which resulted in pledge Maxwell Gruver's death on Sept. 14 of that year.

Gruver was forced to drink an excessive amount of alcohol in a ritual the fraternity called "Bible Study."

Those 10 fraternity brothers were charged with misdemeanors and the Phi Delta Theta chapter at LSU was shut down. At the request of Gruver's parents, Louisiana lawmakers strengthened anti-hazing laws.

However, it's clear that wasn't enough to deter other fraternities from participating in hazing and meeting the same fate.

After this keeps occurring, why does hazing continue to happen and what can Louisiana State and other universities do to further prevent it?

Hazing seems to be the rite of passage those looking to join Greek life must go through to prove their desire to be in a sorority or fraternity.

According to Georgetown University, some perceived benefits of hazing include keeping traditions intact, cultivating shared pride and weeding out those who don't "take the process seriously." Hazing can also be looked at as a bonding experience for new members once they emerge on the other side together.

At Longwood, there's been a fair share of hazing busts. Back in 2011, 15 students in the Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity were apprehended and taken into custody on hazing charges. Tau Kappa Epsilon is no

longer active in Longwood's Greek life.

More recently, in 2017, members of Delta Zeta sorority at Longwood were accused of hazing, though the details of the hazing were never publicized. The National Board made the decision to suspend Delta Zeta and put the sorority on probation until Dec. 2019.

To prevent more hazing incidents, Longwood has an enforced anti-hazing policy; each year, members of fraternities, sororities and other organizations must indicate they have read the policy outlines.

Longwood also has a hazing hotline for pledges or members that experience hazing and want to report it. The university also participates in an anti-hazing week with hundreds of other campuses across the country.

Additionally, The Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life at Longwood dedicates time to speaking out against hazing, with events such as "Hazing Does Not Fit in a Box" on Feb. 26, 2019.

It's imperative universities take these steps to prevent and stop hazing as a whole. College Hellenism is supposed to be a positive, life-changing experience, not a life-threatening one.

Hazing may seem like it's a traditional part of Greek life and in college, but it's time to create more peaceful traditions and put an end to the misconceptions.



COURTESY OF LONGWOOD ATHLETICS

Longwood's Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) held an anti-hazing event with the Order of Omega on Sept. 29, 2018.



BASE

# Lancers battle fatigue, key injury in early season

## Team off to 3-4 start after first week

by Kurt Martin | Assistant Sports Editor | @IamKurt14

CARRIE BAILEY | FILE PHOTO



Junior Shortstop Antwaun Tucker believes the team can compete in conference if they have a strong offensive support and bring their 'A-game.'

Longwood's baseball program is no stranger to changes in their schedule due to uncontrollable forces. The program has played their first seven games in seven days, and has admittedly shaken things up for Head Coach Ryan Mau.

"It obviously wasn't scheduled that way, getting the doubleheader on Thursday (Feb. 21) really throws everybody off. I mean, your starting rotation is typically scripted every seven days and to have everyone bumped up a day or two days just makes their pitch count less," said Mau. "The bullpen is getting utilized frequently because of the amount of games we've had in that short span."

In response to the quick turnarounds, Mau said the most important thing in early season situations is simply playing the game and finding out who can and can't respond before conference play rolls around.

The Lancers are looking to improve on a 2017-18 campaign which saw the team go 17-38 overall and 9-18 in Big South play. Their season ultimately ended two games into the Big South tournament.

Junior shortstop Antwaun Tucker, who is currently batting .364, said this year's team is less timid and shy compared to last year.

"Last year we would have games where our pitchers would throw really well and then we wouldn't give them the offensive support. And then there were games where we would score and our pitchers wouldn't bring their 'A-game,' so I guess we just have to combine those and bring them both to the field at the same time," said Tucker.

This year's squad is more experienced than in years past, and the team feels they possess the ability to compete in the conference.

"Positionally, I like us; we have guys that have played a lot of baseball and as long as they continue to trend the right way from that experience, then we are going to be okay," said Mau. "If we are in the same position that we were last year with those guys individually then we are not going to make progress."

The team's pitching staff suffered a major setback a mere seven days until first pitch, losing their projected number one starting pitcher, senior right-hander Cody Boydston, to a season-ending arm injury.

"It's something that you see in higher levels

of baseball, especially on harder throwers, and Cody is a low 90's guy," said Mau.

Mau said a team can never have enough pitching, but losing a player with a high level of importance near the season is deflating.

In response, Mau tabbed Tyler Morgan, the 5-foot-10-inch right-handed junior, to become the new number one starter for the team. Thus far, Morgan has amassed an earned run average of 5.40 in just over eight innings pitched, resulting in an 0-1 start.

"Opening Day, he competed with just one pitch. I've coached him for three years now and I've never seen him not have his breaking ball on opening day, we didn't have the breaking ball but he did compete with the fastball, (and) kept us in the ballgame," said Mau.

Mau expressed confidence in Morgan's game, saying when "he's on" and all pitches are working, he could be a player to keep the team in games and also take them over.

Redshirt junior Nick Fuchs, who transferred to Longwood in 2017 from Division II Gannon University, also showed the ability to dominate opponents in the team's recent win over Maryland-Eastern Shore on Feb 16., tossing a shortened seven inning complete game due to weather, which allowed only one run on four hits.

On the offensive side, the team is currently led by freshman infielder Hunter Gillam, who boasts a .400 batting average and also leads the team with four runs scored.

Gillam, the 6-foot-1-inch Farmville native, has already gained high praise from his coach while only his first year in a Lancer uniform.

"Unbelievable work ethic and poise for a freshman, his desire to be great is what drives him. The guy works relentlessly in the weight room (and) in the cage," said Mau. "He earned the role and he's yet to let go of it and I hope he doesn't."

In the coming week, the team will travel to Hawaii and to face the University of Hawaii at Manoa in a four-game series beginning on March 1. This is seen as a series with importance on the field, but can also be viewed as a team bonding experience.

"I feel like it will be big and it will also relax us coming off

these seven games in seven days," said Tucker.

This season, Mau believes the team can be an offensive force.

"That's what this experience of positional players returning (does and) that's what it lends itself to. We haven't fired on all cylinders yet - we have time, it's still early (so we've) got to figure it out and got to get some guys going before we get to Gardner-Webb and open up league play," said Mau.

While Mau expects success from the offensive side, there isn't a lowering of expectations on the defensive end, saying that the same experience and talent should help the team be able to do that.

"For us to be successful, the pitching staff is going to have to be really

good at challenging the zone, limiting free passes, holding a running game.

Defensively we have to make the routine play, and offensively we have to start firing on all cylinders because we are going to need some runs and we are capable of that, I believe," said Mau.

The team will be back on Feb. 26 against George Mason at Buddy Bolding Stadium with first pitch coming at 3 p.m.



Right-handed Pitcher junior Tyler Morgan competes with a fastball instead of his typical breaking ball on opening day.



# MBB: Improving on past mistakes as curtain begins to close

Lancers remain focused on **final week of regular season** ahead of Big South tournament

by Patrick Sanderson | Sports Editor | @psanderson20

The first five months of the Longwood men's basketball season has proven to be nothing short of historic. An early season upset over Atlantic-10 foe Richmond sparked their first 4-0 start, hot shooting and a top-ranked defense led to a 10-5 non-conference record and gritty performances over conference opponents have the Lancers fighting in the final stretch of the regular season.

With one game remaining, Longwood finds themselves locked at ninth place in the Big South standings. Their 86-66 loss at Hampton on Thursday night and a 74-72 loss to Campbell on Saturday has all but solidified an away game in the first round of the postseason. The Lancers are now likely to travel right back to Hampton for a win-or-go-home game against the Pirates.

Longwood's 9-5 home record backs their enjoyment of playing in front of their home crowd, something head coach Griff Aldrich reflects on as they headed into their final game on Jerome Kersey Court.

"This program is for the university and for the community. The fact that the crowds are into it, that's fun for our players for sure, but

it also brings us joy that they have joy," Aldrich said. "When I played at Hampden-Sydney, we had great crowds and it was an exciting event, and that's what we want for Longwood basketball. We want it to be something that the community gets excited about, you know, to come to celebrate."

Aldrich's run-and-gun type offense with high velocity and consistent ball movement had the Lancers potentially looking at their first winning season since the 2008-09 season, when they finished with a 17-14 record. Their loss against Campbell torched those chances, but are still able to finish over .500 with a win against Gardner-Webb.

"The goal is to build a foundation. The goal is for our team to be as good as we can be and for these players to continue to grow and develop," Aldrich said. "As you know, we really suffered a tough stretch losing four in a row, and the resilience of these guys, they could have cashed it in. These kids are continuing to battle and continuing to fight."

Their resilience showed in games such as against Gardner-Webb earlier this season, when the Lancers climbed back from a 12-point deficit with two minutes left to tie the game, and alternatively in their match up against USC Upstate, where they gave up a big lead but fought in overtime to snag a conference win.

Fully aware they're in the midst of

their final months as Lancers, senior forward Spencer Franklin and graduate student forward Damarion Geter are laying it all on the court as the postseason approaches. Junior forward JaShaun Smith isn't quite ready to let them finish their careers too soon, saying their day-by-day approach hopes to extend their season one game at a time.

"We're trying not to think ahead too much, we're just working and trying to get better each and every day," said Smith.

Smith, who is averaging a career-high 10.8 points-per-game with a stellar 49.8 field goal percentage, is the only player alongside junior guard Shabooty Phillips to start all 30 games this season.

This past season has been eye-opening for those who saw Longwood finishing at the bottom of the NCAA, as the Lancers have long since defied their original expectations. Drawing larger crowds than in years past, hope has slowly been restored in a program after it seemed it had all been lost. Even after a four-game slide in late January to early February and a disappointing result at Hampton, heading into the win-or-go-home phase of the season, Aldrich and his staff are confident with the strategies he has instilled throughout the season.

"I don't think we adjust anything, to be honest. Our goal is not adjusting; our goal is improving upon who we are," Aldrich said. "For all of us, it's more about refining and improving our principles."

The Lancers approach March Madness hoping to improve upon their principles to potentially make a run in the Big South tournament the first week of March. Senior night on Saturday marked their final home game, and a road match up with Gardner-Webb the following Saturday will close the curtain on a memorable regular season.



Senior forward Spencer Franklin walks off the court dejectedly after the team suffered their 10th conference loss Saturday, putting them at 15-15 on the year.



JaShaun Smith, who currently averages 10.8 points per game, has risen his offensive output from 6.2 points per game last season.





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