Candlelight Vigil for Hannah Graham

Students gather around President Reveley for the candlelight vigil that was held in memory of Hannah Graham. Read more on page 9.

photo by staff photographer marlisha stewart
Card Access in Wygal Hall

The grey side door leading into the first floor of Wygal has not been opened, neither is the red door that opens to the staircase and the two grey double doors are locked shut now.

While this would be considered annoying for some, for music majors, this is a constant struggle that they must deal with every day. The only way for them to access the building is through the front doors of the building and these are the only unlocked doors from 6 P.M. to midnight. On weekends the doors typically are not unlocked until 12 P.M., which some consider to be too late. There’s one thing that music majors have been asking for some time more than anything else: card access.

Many Music majors would like to have what other students consider to be “normal” for the building they consider to be home. Much like Art and Design, Music majors spend large amounts of time in Wygal in either classes, rehearsals and meetings, or often times practicing their instruments, in some cases late into the night. Their needs are much different compared to other majors that often involve work that can be completed outside of the academic building. In addition, many extracurricular activities and ensembles frequently meet during times that the building’s lower floor is locked because it’s the only time they can meet. Senior Music major, Sam Andrews said, “It’s just a hassle to do school work and it shouldn’t be too hard to access the building to their destinations.

In the main atrium of Wygal sits a small white cardboard box with the title “Suggestion Box.” Like most suggestion boxes, they contain a small pad of paper and a pen for concerned people to voice their observations, but something is different about the one in Wygal. The paper is gone, and the box has been drawn all over. It’s been neglected, many people have simply forgotten about its existence. For some majors, it’s like it doesn’t even matter.

The box is nothing more than a representation of how many of the majors feel about the situation of the building. During a meeting, one of the majors advised other majors to not make suggestions for card access, because it won’t happen. However, changes such as new water fountains would not have happened without the suggestion box.

While plans for card access have not been established in the revision of Longwood’s master plan. Students hope that with enough support, they will be able to access the building in the same way that they access their dorms.
The Increasing Issue of Commuter Parking

Longwood students begin to address the issue of parking spaces

BY RAVEN WILLIAMS
CONTRIBUTOR

Why are there fewer commuter parking spots this year? Why are parking passes so expensive? Numerous students around campus have asked these questions. At the start of the 2014-2015 school year, there were a lot of changes being made and parking spots were one of them.

There are many students that drive to campus everyday. These students are required to have a commuter parking pass on their cars. Students with commuter passes are also required to park only in designated areas with red lines. There have been a lot of areas taken away where commuter students used to be allowed to park. The main question students want to know is “Why?” Laura Rice, manager of Parking Services, explains exactly why these changes were made.

“This year there has been a lot more construction going on. We had to make changes to parking so that the construction workers could have somewhere to park,” stated Mrs. Rice. “We lost the Jarman lot because of the Cunninghams project. When you lose a parking lot, you have to make up those spaces somewhere.” She also stated that by late December construction by Arc will continue for the new dorms, as well as the Cunninghams will begin to come down, and the Dining Hall is still getting a new roof. “We have construction all over the place,” said Rice.

For many students, parking is a major problem on campus. The most complaints come from commuter students. In previous years, there was commuter parking behind Willet Hall, a very convenient spot for athletes that had practice sometimes until 10:00 at night. Now that those parking spots are available for faculty and staff only, athletes have to park further away from the gym. Walking all the way from the gym to Cox Hall or to the top of the Recreational Center can be difficult late at night.

“The parking around here sucks,” said Kyndal Skersick, a commuter athlete. Skersick explained how she drives around for ten minutes some mornings, looking for a parking spot before class. “It has made me late numerous times,” she adds. Then says that she needs to leave 20 minutes before class in order to find a parking spot.

However, not every student is allowed to purchase a commuter pass. You are expected to buy a parking pass for the residence you live in, with the exception of Longwood Village residents.

Student athletes that live in Lancer Park are allowed to purchase commuter passes as well, an issue that has raised a commotion. “Everyone should have the same privileges,” said Deshay Brown, a resident at Lancer Park. The problem with that is everyone would purchase a commuter parking pass and there would be even less parking and even more problems than we already have. “It may make parking worse, but they should really think about making more available spots for students so there won’t be any problems,” said Brown.

Another issue that has been brought up is the fact that students pay so much money for a parking pass and are limited to spots. “The parking passes are way too expensive,” Skersick stated. “My brother attends Charleston Southern and he only has to pay $25 and is allowed to park anywhere. If they are going to make us pay so much money for a parking pass, they should allow us to park anywhere on campus.”

According to Rice, the prices here at Longwood have not changed in ten years. “They are about the same as other schools. Other schools have different ways of calculating their fees. For example, the further you park away from school, the less money you have to make.”

Even though parking has been a huge struggle so far this year, it all falls on the students. “Students have impact schedules. There’s traffic and accidents, so students should plan ahead,” said Rice, “Being self informed is a good point. Not only for riding the bus, but for everything with rules.”

The Longwood University Emergency Response Team Update

BY VICTORIA WALKER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
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The Longwood University Emergency Response Team (LUERT) has been under investigation since September 2014.

“The LUERT was recently accused by the Longwood Police Department [for] possessing dangerous equipment,” said the LUERT Captain Corey Davis in a press release. “Specifically three smaller-sized oxygen cylinders.” According to Davis, the LUPD also stated that they were not in compliance with Section 16, Subsection A of the Student Handbook which states: “16. Flammable Items: a. Possessing, lighting or burning candles, incense, oil lamps, lanterns, grills or any item/device capable of producing an open or enclosed/contained flame in any residence hall or Longwood owned or controlled property, except when such use is consistent with existing policies or written permission is provided by the Vice resident for Student Affairs.”

“It was because of this accusation that LUERT was placed on temporary suspension pending an investigation and hearing,” said Davis. “However, the administrative hearing held Tuesday, Nov. 4, at 12:45 p.m. has found LUERT not responsible.”

According to Davis, the LUERT continues to operate in accordance with Longwood policy and procedure and strives to promote safety within our organization as well as campus wide.
Longwood’s drumline is back and ready to perform for Longwood’s student body at basketball games. The school’s very own drumline, also known as Longwood’s Stampede, is a fairly new program that started in 2013. Chris Thomas, director of percussion worked hard to put the drumline where it is today. "It was difficult setting up the program and trying to get students to join, but we got it done," said Thomas. The majority of the group was made up of percussion majors and people who had experience with instruments. The first year, the drumline members were trying to figure out how to perform, what works and what doesn’t and what made things easier for them through trial and error. The new process brought the members closer, and they became fast friends. "It was really amazing how fast these students became friends with one another, it quickly started to feel like family and I think that’s what made this a success," said Thomas. Being in drumline takes work and practice, but can be an enjoyable experience. Practice began in mid-September. Although it started out as a small group of students, they were very eager to perform in front of a crowd. A member of the drumline says, “It’s really great playing for the audience, the energy is amazing, I’m grateful for having experienced [it].” These students take time off their schedules to practice on the weekends with the group or break off into sectionals so that they can learn how to play their parts with their section. “It can sometimes be difficult to rehearse since there are other things I have to do like homework for other classes. I am not getting any class credit for joining the drumline, but it’s something I really enjoy doing, so regardless of all the other things that I have to do I always try to fit into my schedule,” remarked a drumline member.

Students that have been to Longwood’s basketball games in 2013 may have noticed the drumline. Student Emily Horton says, “I went to a basketball game and I saw the drumline play and I thought it was pretty cool. I didn’t even know that Longwood had a drumline.” She spoke to her friends that have been to Longwood longer and found out that they had never seen the line before either. Horton also noticed that there were flyers about the line and thought that originally only people that played instruments were allowed to join, but saw that anyone could join. “I think more people should join. The group was small, but they sounded great. I would join, but I don’t have the time for it this year, but who knows maybe I’ll check it out next year.”

Longwood students in the drumline have spent hours in rehearsal. If you want to see them perform, come out to a basketball game. Longwood Stampede is under the direction of Chris Thomas. If you are interested in joining or want to learn more, talk to Thomas in Wygal Hall.

Drumline members practicing techniques and coordination as a group.

The Struggle that is Financial Aid

BY CHRIS CLEMENTS
CONTRIBUTOR

Around the nation, colleges and universities can vary in many different ways such as the size of their educational focuses. The one thing that they all have in common is the inconvenience of tuition prices. The price of receiving higher education is rising around the country and this has lead to a heavier dependence on financial aid. Longwood University is certainly no exception to this trend. In this modern society, a college degree is mandatory for a successful career in any field. One has to wonder if there is a more efficient way to aid students’ education that does not result in large sums of debt after graduation.

A fairly common way to reduce the cost of college tuition is to attend a school that is in the state of which the potential student is a resident. At Longwood, the tuition price of a non-Virginia resident is approximately $7,000 more than it is for a resident of Virginia to attend. Though this is common among most top Virginia state schools, Longwood ranked among the Top 5 highest tuitions prices for public universities in 2013-2014. Longwood University’s tuition price has also increased by around $400 to $500 each year, over the last 5 years.

The Office of Financial Aid at Longwood does try to give students a variety of useful ways to assist in paying for their education. The Office of Financial Aid offers grants, scholarships, loans, an education grant and a work experience system. The majority of students use loans, which is the most common resources utilized by students. When Shawn Clements, loan counselor in the Longwood Office of Financial Aid, was asked what the average sum of a typical student loan was, she replied, “It is difficult to determine an average sum, because every student’s situation varies.” The amount of aid given by the school depends on what amount a student or their family provides. Most financial aid cases are very specific to the individual receiving the aid, and plans are created to best match their financial situation.

For the most part, the ultimate goal of financial aid is to help students pay for their education. While it does provide education for students, it also hinders many in post-graduation life. The price of college is looked at as a good investment in terms of future benefits and quality of life. In the present day economy, getting a job immediately after graduating college is not guaranteed. As it seems difficult enough to get a job, it is unlikely that it will pay enough to make up for ongoing student debts.

The good intent of financial aid is certainly not in question, however, the rising cost of higher education is what’s questionable. Schools everywhere are seeing an increase in tuition year after year, and unfortunately it shows no sign of slowing down. This is quite concerning to incoming students, and over the next five to ten years, the price of tuition could be significantly higher than it already is today.

Financial aid will be more prevalent than ever before and hopefully a more affordable student-oriented payment system will be developed. If not, the future average American family might not be able to provide the necessary funds for a college education. People are going to continue to attempt to find alternative ways to pay for a college education. This nationwide issue can be resolved in a financially efficient matter. For now we will just have to wait and see.
The Student Government Association (SGA) meeting opened with the presentation of the Rowe Award, last week’s Freshman Class Representative, Dustyn Hall, presented the award to Senator Constance Garner.

WMLU, radio station representatives Scott Baldwin, General Manager, and Jason Tsai, Program Director, spoke to SGA members on recent talk of WMLU DJing organizational events. To clarify steps for DJ requests WMLU advises those who are curious to visit wmlu.org to request forms, state organizations, events, special requests, dates and times, etc. Be specific, “we prefer two weeks prior,” to date of the request. The remote director then sends a “confirmation” that correlates that the request is pending. They will contact the organization, and if not, “we let the organization know three days prior.”

Senator Leighann Worden pointed that in the past couple of years it has been hard for organizations to hear back, and followed up with a question asking what WMLU is doing to improve response times.

Tsai answered saying that WMLU is taking “the proper steps” to make sure that this will not happen again. Currently, there are 16 active DJ’s on WMLU, in which each DJ is assigned for each day out of the week, for equipment set, as well as going through the whole process. Tsai explained that WMLU “cannot play music that does not conform within community standards,” that is WMLU has to take the proper precautions to make sure music falls under the program standards. Tsai also advises when making a request, “be as specific as possible,” in regards to music selection. WMLU wants diverse programming and is there “to serve you,” added Tsai. WMLU also made a point of clarification that under policy they cannot play music off of YouTube. The WMLU website has a forum for all requests. Tsai added, “to respond to question of tardiness, we do apologize for that,” stating that DJ’s events should be prompt and ready at the start of the event.

Senior Class President, Paige Rollins, was curious as to if WMLU felt comfortable making changes to forum, as such for specific songs, “maybe investing in portable hot spots.”

SGA hopes to work with WMLU on all on-campus related events, as a contact for a list of requests. Tsai also stated that “we’re completely a student run service,” as WMLU members have respective positions, stating that they would love more members on WMLU, and could be “happy to train” anyone interested in working with or DJing events for WMLU.

Under Federal Communications Commission (FCC) guidelines listed on the website, WMLU is based on “community standards” as one of their main focuses. When playing music, WMLU radio complies with guidelines for radio programming. WMLU committee is in constant change to their constitution “every year to meet needs of the community” and to keep themselves updated.

WMLU spoke on matters such as not being able to play “profanity” on their radio station. However, closed Longwood based parties are allowed to play music of their choice for events and organizations. Tsai and Baldwin explained that it is important for DJ’s to be responsible for fines if they are not following the guidelines, as DJ’s want to cater to their organizations’ scheduled event, as well as following the guidelines of FCC.

WMLU and the senate members discussed a possible “greater submission time” to provide service for an organization’s needs on music selections. In order to provide better service for organizations and events for Longwood, WMLU is “doing [their] very best to train [DJ’s]” to DJ for organizational events on campus.

President Joseph Gills added, “WMLU does a lot for us, and we appreciate everything you do, please let us know if there is anything SGA can do.” Tsai added, WMLU is “happy to help,” with any specific concerns that their clients may have.

The Open Forum was next, discussing registration issues as many students had “glitches,” and some seniors could not complete registration because of this, explained Worden.

Another registration issue that arose is that English 400 “filled up before half the seniors had registered,” stated Treasurer Jessica Darst. Also, professors did not override any students. Darst spoke on the issue, saying “more courses could be offered” for students so they will not be set back due to the few number of seats available.

Next, students with food allergies have been having issues being exempt from the Dining Hall. They are “concerned about student health,” as many have allergic reactions and many need to avoid certain foods served at the Dining Hall, as there are “not many options” and are concerned with having to purchase a meal plan when they are not able to eat “most of the food.” Garner advised to meet with these concerned students after the meeting for further discussion.

The R.C.L. Representative, Savannah Barnett then brought up that “some students have requested to put in a camera” near the commuter lots for safety purposes.

Gills moved to Orders of the Day, stating he will keep a follow up with WMLU, adding, this Saturday, Nov. 8 at 5pm is the basketball game against Hampden-Sydney. “Make sure we have a lot of support,” added Gills. At the game, 1,000 wristbands will be handed out instead of tickets at the game, added Executive Senator, Natalie Joseph.

Campus Safety Walk is next Tuesday, Nov. 11 at 7pm meeting at the Chi fountain, as well as handing out information for the walk.

Garner explained she had a “productive meeting” with Doug Howell, Residential and Commuter Life staff, on how to fix the issue regarding last week’s overflown trash shoots near Curry and Frazer.

Dr. Tim Pierson added on academic issues over registration, to “get word to the registrars office, so it can be “targeted quick.”” Adding that faculty is working to establish “well known hours” for dining hall, library and other rec hours, on upcoming winter snow days.

Wednesday, Nov. 12 at 7pm MTV’s The Buried Life is coming to speak, in Jarman.

Senate board meeting called to close.
Delta Zeta’s annual Turtle Tug event took place on Wednesday, Oct. 29 in the sand volleyball courts on Stubbs Lawn. The event raised over $690, and had 21 teams participate. Delta Zeta’s Turtle Tug and intramurals chair, Alexandra Horton, said, “I think it was a very successful event. There were teams who came out and supported Delta Zeta and our philanthropy.”

Turtle Tug is an event in which six players of the same gender participate as a team against another in a tug-of-war competition. Once the red marker on the rope is pulled completely over to one team’s side, the players of the losing team are pulled into a mud pit.

The entry fee into the Turtle Tug was five dollars per person, so thirty dollars a team. All proceeds of the event went to Delta Zeta’s philanthropy called, ‘The Painted Turtle Camp.’ The camp is a place that gives and helps children with severe and chronic disabilities a chance to attend a camp in which they can participate in unique programs, gain support and celebrate being a kid.

Horton said, “Each member of Delta Zeta holds ‘The Painted Turtle Camp’ close to their hearts and we want to do everything we can to help them in any way we can.”

The competition was split into random brackets based on gender, one male and one female. The first place winners in the male bracket were the Longwood Rugby team. For the females, Therapeutic Recreations took home first place.

The Turtle Tug was mainly organized by a planning committee within Delta Zeta who planned the logistical aspects of the event, headed by Horton. Along with the other sisters in the chapter, they all came together to market and promote the event throughout Longwood. The sisters also came together to work the event by helping set up and take down the event as a chapter.

The sisters of Delta Zeta also raised money for their philanthropy by going out to local business and asking for donations to “The Painted Turtle Camp.” Together, they also dug out the mud pit in the sand and brought out a DJ to the event.

Horton said, “The event in very important to me because it’s an annual event that Delta Zeta has every fall. It is one of the events that raises a lot of money for one of our philanthropies.”
This year’s Trunk or Treat event was held on Wednesday, Oct. 29, on the patio behind the Lankford Student Union. The event began at 2 p.m. and lasted until 4 p.m. and was hosted by the Residential and Commuter Life Advisory Board (RCL).

Three cars for three different participating organizations came out with their trunks open and decorated. The two organizations and commuter students that participated in this event were the Student Government Association (SGA), Theta Chi Fraternity and Longwood student Jacque Maupin.

The participating organizations also came dressed up in fun costumes to match their cars or to represent their organization. Every person who came to the event, or passed by, was offered the chance to vote for their favorite decorated trunk. The first place winner was Theta Chi Fraternity, Maupin came in second and SGA came in third place.

Senior and RCL Advisory Board Constance Garner said, “The RCL Advisory Board focuses on programming for Commuters. All of our residential students have RA’s who program for them, however, sometimes our commuter students get left out of a lot of things on campus, thus the Advisory Board was formed. Last year we came up with Trunk-or-Treat as a way to get more commuters involved on campus, because they all have cars conveniently on campus.”

First place winners, Theta Chi Fraternity, had their brothers come out in fun costumes for the event and even played music from their car as a special treat for the observing students. Maupin’s trunk was decorated in stuffed animals and was bright and colorful. She was in the Halloween spirit by coming dressed up in a onesie that perfectly matched the decorations of her trunk.

SGA’s trunk was decorated to match the Halloween spirit with monster teeth, and also included a sign that advertised SGA meetings and included candy for voters to take. The event was sponsored by the RCL staff. Members of the staff participated in the event by handing out Halloween candy and passing out voting tickets. The first 50 students who came to the event received treat bags.

This was the advisory board’s second annual Trunk or Treat event. The event was made so that more commuters could get involved and feel a part of the main campus. Since cars are very popular for on-campus students as well, the board made the event open to all campus organizations to participate.

According to Garner, they planned for the event by picking a convenient and popular location, as well as a time and date. They then added a few things that were different from last year, like the treat bags and used the event to hand out flyers that promoted appropriate Halloween costumes.

Garner said, “We really hope to see this event carry on as a tradition of the RCL Advisory Board. We are already using our experience this year to build off of for the planning of next year’s event. We know that each year it will continue to get bigger and better!”

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In order to generate interest and excitement for the upcoming winter basketball season, the Lancer Lunatics and Athletic Department put on the second annual Lancer Madness event on Wednesday, Oct. 30. The event kicked off with a tailgate at 6:30 p.m. where free corn dogs, cookies and drinks were provided by Aramark Dining Services. Also, a hired crew of DJ’s played music to keep the energy high.

Although people were not allowed into Willett Hall until 8 p.m., the line started forming as early as 6:40 p.m. Slowly, the line grew and snaked its way around the building as the time for the event approached. While people waited in line, they watched as limo after limo appeared, holding different men’s and women’s basketball players—the men’s players in suits, the women’s in dresses. Each group was greeted by a different theme song, finally ending with the delivery of both teams’ coaches.

Just before 8 p.m., students were allowed past the intimidating bouncer that guarded the doors. The head men’s basketball coach, Jayson Gee, greeted each student who passed him with a handshake.

Once everyone filed into the gym area, it went dark and MC Steve Robertson introduced this season’s men’s and women’s basketball roster with great enthusiasm. Select members on both teams shared a prepared dance transitioning from waltz to tango to freestyle. This was followed by many other events such as the Hot Shot challenge, a time trial and a Dunk Contest.

The Hot Shot challenge involved four groups of shooters competing to receive a 250 dollar textbook scholarship, provided by the Lancer Lunatics. Along with the basketball events, the crowd also watched performances by the Longwood cheerleaders, the Blue Heat dance team and the dance group FIERCE. Each group had their own prepared routine to entertain those in the bleachers, or standing opposite to the bleachers.

Throughout Lancer Madness, the members of both the men’s and women’s teams showed each other support and cheered each other on through the challenges.

During the Dunk Challenge, the women’s team joined the audience in supporting the four competing men’s players. In the end, sophomore Darrion Allen and junior Shaquille Johnson were the final players left standing.

Junior Shaquille Johnson tried to dunk over the head of redshirted junior Lotanna Nwogbo and eventually found success, after a few unsuccessful attempts.

Gee ended Lancer Madness by addressing the crowd to come support the team in their first exhibition match on Nov. 8 against the Division III school Hampden-Sydney at 5 p.m. in Willett Hall.
Dozens of people braved the chilly weather last Thursday night to gather together and show their support for Hannah Graham and other missing persons. The somber faces of students were lit up by the light of a candle as they listened to speeches from Josh Atkins, general manager of 202 Bar and Grill, Longwood Police Chief Beach and President Reveley.

This vigil, headed by Hannah Burns with the help of Kandice Brown, Amanda Elgin and Melanie Books, was put on by the brothers of Alpha Phi Omega. Burns said that the vigil was “to remember Hannah in a respectful and formal way, as well as have this be a somber opportunity for Longwood to re-evaluate how we might handle similar situations like this in the future.”

One of the main topics of the night was safety. What happened to Hannah really could happen to anyone. During his speech, Josh Atkins reassured students that our safety is of the utmost importance to him. He promised to watch out for each and every Longwood student, and before turning the microphone over to Beach, he said, “It’s my job to make sure you’ll be safe, and I’ll do whatever it takes to do that.”

Students were also reminded by Beach that the police aren’t the enemy, especially in situations like this. We should never be afraid to contact them in a time of need. More importantly, Beach stressed the idea that it’s important for us to let Hannah’s life make a positive difference on everyone it has touched and watch out for those closest to us.

Before closing with a moment of silence, President Reveley stressed that Hannah’s story has brought heartbreak for many. We must draw strength from the past and send our thoughts and prayers to our sister university and all of those suffering from this tragedy.

Attendee Jennifer Trate said, “I thought it was really sweet and well put together. The vigil was a great way to honor Hannah’s life, as well as remind us that this really could happen to anyone.”

Longwood will continue to remember Hannah Graham and her family in this difficult time. There will be a ribbon campaign put on by SGA, Monday, on Brock Commons. Make sure to stop by, pick up a ribbon and show your support for Hannah.

Students stand with somber faces in honor of Hannah Graham, as they learn about safety, awareness and to incorporate this knowledge into their every day lives.

Longwood’s On-Campus Clubs and Organizations

IFC Treasurer Benjamin Baker, who is also a member of the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity found fraternity life to be one of the best things he has done at Longwood. Baker, who is originally from Temecula, California, said of his fraternity, “It is my home away from home. Because I live so far away from home my fraternity brothers are in a way my family.”

As far as the fraternity life being a distraction from schoolwork, Baker has a different view, “In our fraternity we are required to maintain a 2.7 GPA, which is a little added pressure to do well.” Baker later went on to say, “Brothers try to help other brothers out if they are struggling in a subject.” Fraternities helped Ben feel more at home at Longwood, despite being so far away from his

Longwood has more to offer than just fraternities and sororities such as countless clubs, sports teams and other organizations that students have the option to join. Chaz Gibson, a member of the club rugby team, finds his involvement in club sports to be a good thing, “Before I started playing rugby my days were boring, I would have all this free time and nothing to do with it.” For Chaz, he was able to find something that he enjoys to occupy his time.

Students choose not to get involved in a club or organization for a few reasons, such as they want to maintain their grades, or they feel that they are enjoying the college experience without clubs or organizations. Junior Matt Harrington sees no need in joining a club or organization. He feels they are “not completely necessary to enjoy college life.” Another roadblock for Harrington is also his grades. “I might consider joining a fraternity if my grades were better, but I feel if I join my grades are going to drop dramatically.” Matt is perfectly happy in his current situation, and does not want to change that.

So whether you see clubs and organizations as a good or a bad thing, just remember, everyone sees things differently. What you see as fun, someone else might not see as fun.

Attitude is everything when it comes to clubs and organizations, if you enjoy them and want to be a part of them then do so. If you don’t see much of a point in clubs and organizations it’s perfectly fine to not join them. College is different for everyone, but as long as you do well in class and enjoy yourself, then you have made the right choice.
"Private Show" and "Oh Yeah" Showcase T.I.'s New Album

BY RYAN QUIGLEY CONTRIBUTOR

T.I. has somewhat fallen off the map over the last few years. T.I. used to be one of the biggest rappers in the game with his signature Atlanta-based hip-hop style in songs such as “What You Know,” “Top Back,” “Bring Em Out,” and “Rubber Band Man.” His potential had no limit. With the release of 2006’s hit album “King,” T.I. was getting the recognition he deserved through the early years of his career.

Since the release of his 2008 album, “Paper Trail,” he seems to have succumbed to the dreaded lack of originality that fills much of today’s pop-oriented hip-hop. Since “King,” T.I. has released average-at-best records routinely. 2010’s “No Mercy” was underwhelming to say the least. Though the album featured the likes of Kid Cudi, Eminem, Chris Brown, Pharrell Williams and Kanye West, the lyrics were uninspired and the instrumentals were empty.

“Heavy Man: Heavy is the Head” wasn’t any better. One of the few segments of the album that are even somewhat decent to listen to is “Sorry,” featuring André 3000. The only part of that song that I end up listening to is 3K’s sick verse towards the song’s twilight. “Heavy Man” had some decent dance floor hits such as “Go Get It” and “Ball,” featuring Lil Wayne, but other than that, there’s nothing much to take away from it.

Unfortunately, T.I.’s new album, “Paperwork,” continues his trend of releasing subpar records. The album’s lead single, “About the Money,” is one of the most unimpressive songs T.I. has released in the last few years, which says a lot, given his poor track record as of late. This song consists of everything that a respectable hip-hop track shouldn’t have. There are random shouts and screams all throughout the song’s background, the lyrics are empty and the song's horrible auto-tune makes it almost painful to listen. Some people can pull off auto-tune, but T.I. does not, by any means, pull it off on this track, or this album in general.

“No Mediocre,” featuring Iggy Azalea, is one of the better tracks on “Paperwork,” but it’s nearly a copy and pasted version of Iggy’s “Fancy” beat that T.I. just shuffled around to make it sound like a T.I. song. If you listen to the two songs side-by-side, it’s almost eerie how similar they are: same tempo, same rapping style and both songs are nearly the exact same time-length. It’s kind of freaky. I honestly wouldn’t know who wrote the song if the album I bought didn’t have the name “T.I.” written all over its’ case. I certainly hope that T.I. isn’t being influenced by a newcomer like Iggy Azalea because, if that’s the case, he’s looking in the wrong direction.

However, that does not mean that there weren’t any bright spots in this album. “Private Show,” featuring Chris Brown, is a settled, sexy tune that’s about as smooth as D’Angelo back in his heyday and the Pharrell Williams-featured song, “Oh Yeah,” is ridiculous. This song is just begging to be played at football games when the home team runs out of the tunnel. This is nearly reminiscent of T.I.’s golden days from “King” and “Urban Legend.” It’s just a shame that the rest of “Paperwork” isn’t nearly as good as “Private Show” and “Oh Yeah.”

T.I. isn’t a bad rapper. If he was, he wouldn’t be getting the recognition he continues to receive. Decent artists put out bad albums all the time, and this is one of those cases. “Paperwork” just doesn’t know where it belongs. One second it will be gangsta rap and then all of a sudden it’s pop. There’s no structure and the album is at a low level in creativity. I didn’t expect much from “Paperwork” and, unfortunately, there wasn’t much received.

My rating: 5/10

What’s Trending May Not Be for You

BY NICOLE REED CONTRIBUTOR

Ladies, this article is for you. How many times have you purchased an item knowing it’s too small, but had to have it because it was the latest trend? Well, I’m here to tell you that everything trending isn’t always for you.

Your body is your temple, and when dressing your temple make sure you’re embracing every aspect it has to offer. Body shape is all about proportions, not about height or weight. So choose pieces that showcase your body in a positive light.

According to sheknow.com, there are five general categories in which women’s shapes may fall into. They are as following: pear, wedge, rectangle, apple and hourglass. Once you figure out the shape you have, shopping will become much easier and you will leave every mall feeling accomplished.

When choosing clothes make sure they’re flattering towards your individual body type. I know especially on Longwood’s campus, us ladies love our leggings. They are comfortable and easy to throw under a shirt or sweater for either a casual or dressy look.

Leggings are not always the most flattering piece of clothing for every body type. It simply boils down to what looks best on your body type, and not every woman should wear leggings. Ladies, you should love your bodies, don’t disrespect it by wearing unflattering clothing.

Prints are also another huge issue amongst women’s clothing. Picking the right print is important because they can enhance the look of your body. Some prints to look out for are polka dots, stripes and Aztec prints, which are tricky and can be hard to wear on certain body types.

Ultimately, everything comes down to dressing for your body and learning what compliments it best. Ladies, look like the Queens you are and enhance your body in every way that you can.

Meet the Editorial Board

week 6

Each week The Rotunda will feature a member of the editorial board.

Jessica Godart

Event Coordinator
21 years old
Senior
Major: Communication Studies; Minor: Criminal Justice

I’ve been with The Rotunda for three years.

Fun Fact: “In my pastime I like to write short stories and crime fiction novels.”

She wants to pursue a career in writing for Entertainment Magazine and be a published author.
By Meghan West

Seto Amazes Audience with Senior Recital Performance

On Nov. 1, 2014, Dawn Seto, a senior Music Education major took the stage to perform her senior recital in front of friends, family and her peers in the Music Department. The Molnar Recital Hall began to fill as the clock struck 7:30 p.m. and Seto was moments away from taking the stage. When the stage door opened, silence overcame the auditorium as Seto, in a beautiful gown, took her place on stage beside her accompanist, Teri Kidd.

The evening’s program consisted of four selections, each comprised of multiple songs that told a story. The audience could follow along with Seto’s singing by using the notes and texts included in the program. These notes contained background information on the composer and piece, along with the lyrics to each and for the majority of the pieces a translation by Seto herself.

Seto’s first selection of the night consisted of excerpts from “Weichet nur, betrübte Schatten,” a German piece composed by Bach, telling the story of ridding winter for spring to come. Seto’s friend Kathryn Zeh played the flute along with Kidd’s piano accompaniment, and it really spoke to the audience.

The next selection by Seto was a few excerpts from “Hermit Songs” by American composer Samuel Barber, and consisted of six smaller selections. These pieces were in the key of the notes changed and went higher and higher.

The second selection was a few excerpts from “Tre sonetti di Petrarca.” The two selections were expressing the poet’s love for a woman named Laura who could never return his love because she was married. These selections were more somber as Seto expressed the sadness of the poet with her tone and facial expressions. This final selection introduced the highest pitches of the night from Seto, with the repetition of the lyrics, the key of the notes changed and went higher and higher.

This recital showcased the various talents of Seto and her diversity of singing in multiple languages. It was an overall impressive performance for Seto has an excellent voice that carried throughout the auditorium and sent chills down each of the audience members’ spines as she hit the highest notes imaginable with grace and ease. Seto’s selections were perfect for her voice and her passionate tone and expressions during each piece made the performance an enjoyable experience.

If you ever have the opportunity to attend a senior recital, you will not regret it. These students have worked very hard in making their selections, practicing and performing them as part of their senior project. Take one evening out of your schedule to support your fellow peers in the Music Department and experience music you may have never heard before.

Splash Zone Provides Best Seats in the House

By Jessica Mayo

I highly recommend you go see Evil Dead: The Musical because if you have seen the original Evil Dead and Evil Dead 2, then you will understand all the jokes/songs that the cast make and will need to gasp for air from laughing too hard. If you haven’t seen any of the films, that is okay, you will still laugh at all the jokes they make.

The musical makes light hearted jokes not just about the films it’s based on, but at horror movies in general that take place in the woods. If you have seen at least one horror film that took place in the woods, then you know the ingredients that many movie productions use to make a horror movie. If you think this is going to be scary, think just the opposite!

I highly recommend you buy a ticket in the splash zone because at random parts of the musical you will be sprayed with blood! So wear a white shirt if you want to get splashed or get one of the ponchos that they handout when you walk in if getting covered in blood is not your thing. They also have plastic bags to put your phone in and have plastic on the floor in front of the seats to cover your bag.

The cast did a great job of portraying their characters and mocking them by making jabs at what they are doing and how it’s a crazy situation they are in. They blended the first and second Evil Dead wonderfully and used great quotes from the movies to add to the humor.

If you’re still iffy on going to see this because it says it’s a musical, see it anyway! They are singing exactly what we all think of when watching a scary movie at home or in theaters. After hearing the songs, you’re going to want a CD of them because they are catchy and relatable to a viewer.

The best song of the musical has to be the opening song. It sets the tone of the musical and of what you are about to witness. I won’t go into detail because I don’t want to ruin the glory of the musical, but be prepared to laugh almost the whole time as they sing. The best scene is right before the musical is over. It was hilarious and well done on how to wrap it up. Basically, it ends like almost every other horror movie.

The only downside of the whole musical has nothing to do with the story, but the technology. The microphones the actors used would go out and the audience would miss a piece of a joke or plot. It was hard to follow what was happening when I could barely hear the actor’s voice when they were normally speaking versus them speaking into their microphone. Admittedly, this only happened a few times and was fixed after intermission.

Longwood’s Theatre Department always puts on amazing shows every year and they continue to get better with every show. Get your ticket, preferably splash zone, and enjoy the show while you can!
OPINION

To Drink, or Not to Drink: That Is Not the Question

BY JASON TSAI
OPINIONS STAFF
@LUOPINIONS

Whether it is nobler in the mind to suffer the jeers of your merrymaking friends on the porch or to spend an entire night in blacked out drunkenness is not the question.

Your attitude toward the consumption of alcohol in any form or quantity is a habit; a series of decisions over time leading to a consistency in behavior. This habit should not be affected by your immediate society or by some self-righteousness that is staked on fear and ignorance.

No, your decision to drink or not to drink at house parties on Buffalo, in small gatherings at Lancer Park or even in your Frazier dorm suite should be a practical and ethical decision.

You wouldn’t wolf down in one sitting that fifth donut from that box you bought at the Boy Scout fundraiser or the large, unhealthy cheddar bacon cheeseburger at Cookout. You wouldn’t go weeks without sleep looting caves full of virtual gear on Destiny with your fraternity brothers. You wouldn’t wear your Superman pajamas bottoms to class for your news presentation with makeup (yours?) smeared onto the front of your T-shirt.

No, you would at least eat a banana from D-Hall or a hard boiled egg and even a salad (maybe with a little too much ranch). You would at least take a nap in the commuter lounge between French Class and Public Speaking. You would at least make an effort to look presentable for any presentation in a classroom setting.

You would at least think twice. Why should drinking be any different?

Alcohol use should be considered in the context of your responsibilities.

In perspective: two nights out drinking is two days gone out of a seven day week if you count the hangover the following morning until noon. With assignments due at least five days a week and all that we are involved in, be it the Paleontology Club’s dinosaur movie nights or a food drive for local families in need, where can we even find the time? Can we really afford to be so self-indulgent as to drink so much in lieu of our true passions and commitment to a career program?

Practically speaking, a habit of turning it up can ruin meaningful, memorable life experiences.

This is an ethical choice. After all, we are responsible not only for ourselves, but also for those who invest in us. Eight shots of straight bourbon and a few margaritas in the span of a few hours is not a feat, but a miracle. It’s alcohol poisoning, even if you didn’t wind up in the hospital. Would you have put yourself in the same state in front of your parents, whose health insurance you are on?

A twenty-four pack of gas station beer and a bottle of vodka passed around the boys on the porch may have sparked great conversations, but have you decided if you are going to drive home yet? Now how can you even think about driving home, when you are not even sure if you can make it down the front steps without falling? Are you going to be able to see through your windshield and see the old man walking his terrier across the intersection at 3am?

Be you a woman or a man, would you want to pass out in a house full of strangers? Wouldn’t your significant other worry? Shouldn’t you?

What I am urging here is not abstinence – despite the gruesome scenarios I’ve invoked. For one, where I came from abroad, alcohol is a normal part of everyone’s routine and the legal age is 18 (a different discussion). What I am recommending here is a more mindful decision when it comes to consuming alcohol.

This is all I am proposing. Who and what are we really affecting with each drink?

To Drink, or Not to Drink: That Is Not the Question

A modest proposal to how we consume alcohol in college

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Dear Netflix...

By: College Student

Dear Netflix,

I feel like we have had this conversation before. The one where you decide to invade my studying time and tempt me with your endless possibilities. Well, I know I am weak-willed enough to fall for it.

Sometimes, Netflix, I feel like you really get me. All of my favorite shows and movies are on demand, and my homework can wait. After all, “Once Upon A Time” is worth the binge watching so I can actually understand what my friends are talking about. Whenever you suggest other titles, I feel like you really get me. When I'm watching a comedy, you instead suggest to me “The Bucket List” so I then cry for hours.

Sometimes, Netflix, you're so far in left field that you suggest something I'd never watch, but watch it anyway because I have nothing better to do. Rather I should say something I don't want to start yet. Your algorithms won't align our stars properly, and I'll have to keep searching through the titles until I feel inspired.

Sometimes, you're a matchmaker in heaven. It's like, you know I want to waste time, so you give me these shows that are only six seasons, twelve episodes each, long that I can easily do nothing for a whole weekend.

Who needs human interactions when I've got you, Netflix?

---

I love you, Netflix, but I feel like we need some time apart. We've been spending so much time together. Not that I didn't want to, since I am the one that presses the start button. It's a way for me to relax, sure, but relaxing for more than eight hours and completely neglecting, or flat out forgetting, an important assignment. I need to give others some attention, like Hulu or Youtube.

Oh, Netflix, how could we possibly be apart? Well, we really aren't. Not when your application is on my smart phone and you’re downloaded to my computer, tablet, and/or e-reader. Plus with all of my friends reminding me of your existence, I couldn't possibly forget about you.

Netflix is a way to watch movies I need to for class. Sure I can watch that foreign film I need for my GNED class, but first I think I’ll watch some “Breaking Bad” and maybe a little “Project Runway.” Just one more episode usually translates into three hours later when I'm with you, Netflix.

Thanks, Netflix, for without you I wouldn't be able to survive breakups, delaying discussion posts, or avoid talking with actual people.

Hugs and kisses,
College Students

---

Poetry Corner

Anonymous contribution

They come forth in swarms.
High-heels continuously forcing their staccato beat
Into the night
Equally match their low-cut uniform.

They call it “Buffalo Street.”
Like good little soldiers,
Marching their way to the front,
Just like the pictures make it seem.

They say everyone does it.
Pushing themselves into darker houses with
A putrid smell wafting through the air,
Yet these soldiers don’t seem to mind
Knowing little tokens covered in Red
Will bring them an off-put beat,
Or heavy heads.
Mashing into tiny rooms,
Seemingly effortlessly,
They ask for another.
And another.
And another.
Another.
Another.

They shuffle on.

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PROPS & DROPS

Props:
+ Beards
+ Starbucks' LGBT commercial
+ American Horror Story connections
+ Extra hour of sleep

Drops:
- Too early Christmas displays
- Baseball season being over
- Waiting for Thanksgiving break
- No more flip flops
Men’s Basketball Excited for New Season

Longwood’s team is ready to recreate its own identity

After a poor season last year, 3-13 conference record and 8-24 record overall, five players from the 2013-2014 roster transferred to new schools, four graduated and one was dismissed from the team. Of these ten players, four out of five were starters last season.

With such a large turnover, head coach Jayson Gee said they had “basically a whole new team” this year. However, he’s confident that the change is for the better.

“The turnover’s going to make us stronger because we’ve increased our talent level,” said Gee.

Finishing in sixth place in the North Division of the Big South Conference last year did not give them automatic entry into the quarterfinals of the Big South tournament. The last four teams of each division—North versus South—faced off in the first round where Longwood lost to the South Division’s No. 3 seed, Gardner Webb University.

One of the four voted team captains, sophomore forward Damarion Geter said he is excited to see what happens this season and “ready to improve on last season.”

In order to improve, two players are expected to make an impact on the team after both were redshirted during last season due to an NCAA transfer rule.

Captain senior guard Quincy Taylor, a transfer from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, started for most of his sophomore year prior to a knee injury, is anticipated to have an effect on the court.

“Quincy Taylor, who sat out last year and learned our system and worked extremely hard to become the left point guard, he’s had a great summer of training and he’s got a great attitude,” Gee said. “I expect him to be one of the better point guards in the Big South Conference.”

Also, junior forward/center Lotanna Nwogbo, a transfer from Tulane University, has the ability make an impression.

“He sat out last year, got a chance to learn the system as well, and has become a dominant force inside as the preseason goes. My plan and hope is that he can continue that once we start playing games this weekend,” said Gee.

Aside from these two previously redshirted players, five other players return including last season’s regular starters, junior guard Leron Fisher. Also, Geter and sophomore guard Darrion Allen return after earning a few starts and minutes last year.

“Where they [Fisher, Geter and Allen] really bring us an advantage is that they’ve got a whole year under their belt in our system, which is a productive thing,” said Gee.

With the new players, Gee said the team’s depth has improved, along with their talent and athleticism, allowing them to play his style of basketball involving “pace, pressure, [and] attack,” characteristics to define them.

“I think that it’s important in any organization that you develop a culture or an identity,” said Gee. “Our identity is playing defense, playing hard [and] playing tough.”

These qualities will be important in their performance in their upcoming exhibition game against Division III school, Hampden-Sydney College. on Saturday, Nov. 8.

Hampden-Sydney has earned eight Div. III NCAA Tournament appearances in the past 15 years, one of which was in 2013. Last season they finished as runner-ups in their conference tournament.

“They own this town and deservedly so with all the championships they’ve won and the great success they’ve had...we’re not just playing against their players. We’re playing against a confidence and a lot of success,” said Gee.

With the new season comes a new opportunity to gain respect, which is a goal for the team, according to Gee.

“I believe we’ve established some relevancy. This season’s about the second stage and that is we’ve got to garner some respect,” said Gee. “The way you garner some respect is we have to win some more games and we’re focused on doing everything we can to make that happen.”

In describing how he thinks the season will be, the fourth captain, Tyler Akers, senior guard, said it would be exciting and different from previous seasons, summarizing Gee’s thoughts as well.

“We’ve got a great team, great chemistry, a lot of athletes, a lot of leadership, pretty deep and we’re really just looking forward to getting it going.”

*For full Week 10 NFL Picks go to therotundaonline.com

**WEEK 10 NFL PICKS**

**GAMES OF THE WEEK:**

| Nick Conigliaro (Rotunda Sports Editor) | 23-12-1: |
| Travis Lyles (Rotunda Staff Writer) | 21-14-1: |
| Derrick Bennington (WMLU Sports Director) | 20-15-1: |

Jeff Halliday (Associate Professor, Rotunda Adviser, Former TV & Radio Sports Guy) guest pick 18-17-1*

*TheRotundaOnline.com*
Women’s Basketball Up for the Challenge

A new season of Longwood Basketball is soon to be underway

“We’re expecting a lot more energy. We’re expecting a lot more mature group. We’re expecting them to play hard every practice and every game; and we’re hoping for a little better health,” said head coach Bill Reinson.

This season the team is bringing back every player from last year, but 6’4 forward Heather Tobeck (graduated). Reinson believes, if she stays healthy this season, sophomore forward Emily Nylen (6’5) will be able to help replace the down-low presence Tobeck brought.

Besides having the same team roster as last season, and two new freshman, Reinson and the coaching staff have changed everything.

“We have two freshman coming in who I think by midseason will be playing valuable minutes for us. What else has changed? Pretty much everything else. I didn’t like the way we played last year,” said Reinson. “Our tempo was too slow, we’re too small to play at that tempo, so this season so far we’ve been working on pushing the ball in transition, high pressure defense, and a lot of traps. Maybe playing at a little bit more frenetic pace would be the best way to describe it.”

Last season the team went 8-22, with a conference record of 5-15; good enough to be ninth out of eleven.

The Lancers were hurt by injuries throughout all of last season, only playing a handful of games with the same starting five, but Reinson still believes that wasn’t what kept them from winning.

“The biggest problem we had last year, to be honest, wasn’t necessarily the injuries. The problem was they would then sit out three or four days, or two weeks, and they wouldn’t be able to practice with the rest of the group. So, there was a lack of congruity among the group,” said Reinson. “So, the injuries themselves, outside of Daeisha Brown, weren’t the cause of the issues. It was the fact that they haven’t played together enough and weren’t familiar with each other enough.”

Reinson believes there are many players that need to step up, but in particular he believes junior guards Deborah Headen, Daeisha Brown, Raven Williams and, once fully healthy, Khalilah Ali.

“I think everybody does need to take a step-up. Deborah Headen took a huge step-up this summer. Daeisha Brown being back healthy is going to help us. Khalilah Ali returning from her knee injury, she’s been pretty good, she hasn’t gotten back to 100% yet but she’s been pretty good,” said Reinson. “Individually the one that really needs to take the step is Raven Williams because Raven had a tough season on and off the court and it’s one of those situations where we really need her energy, we really need her ability to pass, we need her leadership. So, she has to get her mind right and she has to take a step-up and be the vocal and physical leader of the team.”

In the Big South Conference preseason rankings Longwood was voted ten out of eleven by the league’s head coaches. Reinson believes with the Big South Conference there’s only three teams (Liberty, High Point, Winthrop) who are for sure the top teams, but after that it’s basically a situation of “four through eleven, you can throw them all in a hat and pick them out.”

The 2014-2015 women’s basketball begins on Sat, Nov. 15 at 2 p.m. in Winston-Salem, N.C. against the Demon Deacons of Wake Forest University.

Longwood Receives New Additions

The men’s basketball team has added new players and coaches

There is new life in the Longwood University Men’s basketball program; seven new players and two coaches. Longwood acquired head coach Jayson Gee for the 2013-2014 men’s basketball season. Gee has to work with a team in a transitional period, and it showed in their Big South Conference record (3-13).

One of the new assistant coaches for men’s basketball is Samba Johnson. According to www.longwoodlancers.com, Johnson’s has been coaching for 18 years, and is now reunited with Gee. Johnson coached alongside Gee at the University of Charleston 2001-2002.

“The ability to build relationships with our guys and to develop them from young men to men,” said Johnson on what he brings to the job.

Johnson was very adamant in the capabilities of Gee, “These guys get an opportunity to play for one of the best head coaches, up and coming, coaches in the country Jayson Gee; who loves his players and is all about the development of the total person.”

The other new assistant coach for men’s basketball is Craig Carter. Carter has been coaching at the college level, since 2001. When talking about what attracted Carter to Longwood he said, “I didn’t really care about level or where it is. It is more about the people you are working with, and these are a great group of people. I’m looking forward to being here and helping to get Longwood on the map.”

Recently at the Big South Conference media day, Longwood was ranked to finish in tenth place.

“Make no mistake, none of our guys want to finish tenth and we have way loftier goals for this season,” said Carter.

With a lot of new players to the men’s basketball team Carter believes nobody really wants to be that guy, they’re embracing being a team.

Longwood also has a new impact player, transfer power forward Jason Pimentel. Pimentel’s height (6’8) makes him a pivotal big player for Gee’s developing team.

“Many times, a head coach has to work with a team in a transitional period, and it showed that this was a case of four through eleven, you can throw them all in a hat and pick them out.”

Transfer junior forward Jason Pimentel and transfer junior guard/forward Shaquille Johnson.

“The environment and coach Gee really made it sound good, and he sold me on family, and the school is almost like a family as well as our team,” said Pimentel. “We are a family we do everything together and whatever we go through we go through it together. Like, if you’re going through something personal everybody on the team pretty much knows what you are going through and we are always going to support you through it whether it’s good or bad.”

I wanted to find out what the coaching dynamic from Pimentel’s point of view was. Even though he is a transfer this year to Longwood he has a good working knowledge of the coaches’ backgrounds. Pimentel said in regard to the coaches, “They understand us, we understand them, they set expectations for us and we set expectations for them as well.”

According to Pimentel, the coaches understand the players and set the expectations for them. With the many additions to the team, as far as players and coaches go, Longwood men’s basketball team will be one to watch in this year’s Big South Conference.
Costume Contest Downtown

The town of Farmville invites local families to showcase their Halloween costumes and receive more candy before the night ends. (Bottom Left) Longwood students Cainan Townsend and Tevin Jones aid Josh Bolt, a local boy with cerebral palsy.