Dining services addresses meal plan changes

Longwood updates the media on topics like debate tickets, volunteers and housing

Christine Rindfleisch

Rotunda critic says Travis Scott’s “Birds in the Trap Sings McKnight” is much ado about nothing

Richie Kamitchoum

An open letter from George Washington on the state of the union

Hannah Moonis

Longwood students are required to purchase a meal plans if they live in Longwood-affiliated housing. The housing options that Longwood provides are on-campus housing, Lancer Park, the Longwood Landings and the Longwood Village.

As of the fall semester, there have been changes made to the meal plans of Longwood students. For instance, if a student had a Block 80 plan, students were able to use those swipes on anyone they choose, Longwood student or guests. This is no longer the case, according to Grant Avent, the senior director of dining services.

The meal plan choices include 19 meals per week with $175 bonus dollars, 14 meals per week with $275 bonus dollars, 10 meals per week with $375 bonus dollars, Block 160 which gives you 160 swipes per semester with $325 bonus dollars and Block 80 plan which gives you 80 swipes for the semester with $325 bonus dollars. Both of the block meal plan options are geared towards students living in off campus housing that may not need to use it on a weekly basis. Each of the weekly meal plans come with a certain number of guest swipes and all plans include a certain amount of bonus dollars. All figures are according to the Longwood website.

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Students not reporting hit and runs to police

by Christine Rindfleisch
News Editor
@longwoodrotunda

In the Sept. 30 Student Government Association (SGA) meeting, one senator voiced concern with the amount of hit and runs in student parking lots that have occurred this year so far.

Since some of the student parking lots have been expanded in terms of spaces for vehicles, there has only been one reported hit and run in comparison to 2015 in which there were five that were reported to the Longwood University Police Department (LUPD), according to Col. Robert Beach, chief of police.

In particular, the Cox parking lot that is designated for commuter students has been expanded in terms of the parking spaces themselves which has ultimately taken away some of the spaces.

“What I’m assuming what’s happening, students are having their cars bumped and not calling the police or not letting us know about it,” said Beach.

There are several offences that can occur on private property that are subject to be charged criminally that fall under the traffic code which includes hit and runs.

Therefore, Beach felt that when a student takes note of damage on their vehicle to call LUPD in order for a report to be filed in order to identify possible suspects in the crime.

In some instances where the student has moved the vehicle to another location and not taken note of the damage on the car the solvability to the crime gets increasingly lower as time passes, according to Beach.

“(LUPD) we are pretty good at identifying who did what and getting it handled,” added Beach.

As for advice that Beach is giving to students is to take note of the surrounding cars when students are parking, which ultimately can help the police take note of the timeline in which the incident may have occurred.

“(By students) making just that mental note might give us some evidence and information when we do come to look at it,” said Beach in regard to calling LUPD when damage is noticed, regardless of the timeframe in which it has occurred.

In preparation for the debate, Beach disclosed that LUPD is placing more security cameras in parking lots, which may also help in the investigation when and if more hit and runs occur in the future, according to Beach.

“If you find that there has been some sort of damage or something that has happened, don’t move the car, call the police, allow us to come and start investigation,” said Beach.

Another problem Beach felt happens with students is when students try to repair the damages as a result of a hit and run through the use of car insurance; many students find that insurance will not cover the cost of the damage unless a police report has been filed.

“(The) solvability factor really reduced at that type of report,” said Beach in regard to filling a report after much time has passed.

If the cost of the deductible from the insurance company is higher in amount, then the damage that calling the police will make the process smoother if a report is filed by police immediately.

Ultimately, this will help prevent that situation in the first place, according to Beach.

Correction:

In last week’s The Rotunda article, “Longwood misses 2016 target freshman enrollment,” there were two inaccuracies printed. The difference in the amount of students Longwood enrolled from 2015 to 2016 was changed from 153 to 103 after realizing a calculation error. The 1,053 student class of 2015 was one of Longwood’s top three freshman classes, not their largest. The lead has been adjusted online to reflect both inaccuracies.
Marching towards change

by Halle Parker
Editor-in-Chief
@_thehalparker

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Aug. 31 for Croom and ElMadany’s event called, “Am I college community and Farmville residents, totaling over 100. They were brought together on Wednesdy, police oicers and police officers killed in retaliation.

Some of the demonstrators carried signs displaying the faces and names of both unarmed black people killed by police officers and police officers killed in retaliation.

The nonviolent crowd contained a mix of the town’s college community and Farmville residents, totaling over 100 people. They were brought together on Wednesday, Aug. 31 for Croom and ElMadany’s event called, “Am I Next: Debunking Stereotypes.”

The peace walk was confined tightly to the sidewalks, according to Croom. The Town of Farmville required them to have a parade permit for more space.

Several participants felt the walk provided a time for reflection - thinking about the names they carried and the names they didn’t.

“It feels great to be a part of change, and it also makes me reflect and get emotional about these people who have lost their lives due to senseless violence,” said Deja Mills, Longwood’s Black Student Association senior president, as she walked carrying the face of Michael Brown. “It is a peace walk, so it’s a lot of time to think to yourself about (how) that could have been me or that could be them.”

The demonstrators filed through the double-door entryway of the Moton Museum, a co-host for the event, finding seats and relief in the air-conditioned auditorium hosting the second part of the event.

A panel of Longwood University and Hampden-Sydney College professors of mixed backgrounds were joined by Hampden-Sydney Police Chief Scott Williams to answer prepared questions from Croom.

The discussion allowed for responses from both the panel and the audience as ElMadany challenged audience members to think about other perspectives. The event aimed to unite the African-American and law enforcement communities and foster understanding while sitting in a place bursting with civil rights history.

“We’re here today not to argue; we’re here today to come together; we’re here today to debunk stereotypes,” said ElMadany to the participants. “There’s no better place to start than your own community. We all know the history of Farmville. We’re in the Moton Museum right now, so if we want to make a change, we have to start where we are.”

Topics like the Black Lives versus Blue Lives Matter movements, how to have dialogues about race and law enforcement relations and the lack of diversity in the local police forces were discussed.

Hampden-Sydney sophomore Chris Wiggins, treasurer for the college’s Minority Student Union, said the conversations directly impacted his own life and campus.

“Going to Hampden-Sydney, it’s predominately white,” said Wiggins. “You get a lot of backlash when you try to talk about race, but when you start to talk to people on a one-on-one basis, you get your ideas across, and you really create a discussion.”

While some of the panel’s professors were based in the criminal justice field, Williams was the sole representative and voice for active members of law enforcement.

Williams said providing his perspective and answering questions in front of a community audience was furthering some of the goals of his police force.

“Being the police chief at Hampden-Sydney College, we’re trying to bring community policing to our campus, and this is the perfect way for us to be part of the community,” he said. “This is the perfect venue for us to get the conversation started.”

“Be involved and communicate with us.” H-SC Police Chief Scott Williams asks of the community.

Representatives from the Longwood University Police Department, Farmville Police Department and Prince Edward County Sheriff’s Office were not present. Croom said the three police forces were busy with vice presidential debate preparations and unable to attend. Longwood University is set to host the 2016 vice presidential debate in less than a month on Oct. 4.

“I know they want to help, and they want to be a part of the conversation,” said Croom. “So, after the debate, we’ll get together and see what we can do for the community.”

Both Croom and ElMadany assured there would be more events held in the near future.

ElMadany said she believes “as long as we continue to push the issue, as long as we continue to shed light on wrongs and ask those tough questions,” people will continue to come to the events.

Croom said, “This won’t be the last time; it has to be continuing. Because we’re going to face things again, we don’t know when, but we need to be proactive, not be reactionary.”
Farmville prepares for upcoming debate

by Christine Rindleisch
News Editor
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As the vice presidential debate is set to take place at Longwood University on Oct. 4, the town of Farmville, Va. is just as impacted with the upcoming event as Longwood itself.

The town of Farmville has paid for some of the improvements visible in the heart of the town on Main Street with financial help from the state budget, according to the Farmville website. In addition to funds from the state budget, Farmville has received a match of grant funds to go towards the work of improvements around the Farmville area from the Virginia Department of Transportation.

Farmville mayor David Whitus touched on the fact that most of international eyes will be on Longwood in the matter of less than a month in a meeting with media on Sept. 8 to discuss aspects of the upcoming debate.

As for debate preparation, Farmville has seen the power washing of sidewalks, trash receptacles and light poles in the downtown area in addition to the recently repaving of several roads.

There will be a community fall clean up day that will allow for volunteers to spruce up the town in preparation for the debate, taking place on Monday, Sept. 19.

As stated on the Farmville website, the cleanup entails residents in the Farmville area to throw away items that on most cases would not be picked up by the garbage disposal service. This includes furniture, appliances, carpet, bedding and building materials.

The town and university can expect to see some road closures during the day of the actual debate on Tuesday, Oct. 4. There is set to be temporary closures of South Main Street in addition to other streets immediately adjacent to Longwood’s campus. Ultimately, Farmville is set to see closures typically one to two blocks, according to the Farmville website.

On the corner of Third and Main Streets in the center of downtown Farmville, a newly painted mural displays both Longwood University and Hampden-Sydney College as being the first two-college community. The artist, Joe Giles, is a Longwood graduate, according to Longwood’s website.

Whitus added how in many cases people have mistaken Longwood University to be a private institution rather than a public one. Whitus felt that those individuals who will be visiting Farmville will be impressed by the shopping Mecca, famous Green Front Furniture and High Bridge Trail that Farmville has to offer.

“As the debate moves closer, you can sense what a major moment this is for our community. These projects showcase what residents already know— that Farmville is a wonderful place to live with so much to offer,” said Whitus, as quoted on the Farmville website.

Matthew McWilliams, Longwood’s director of communications and media relations, also disclosed that in addition to the recent launch of the new Longwood website that Farmville has recently debuted a new website as well, visitfarmville.com. The website, which states how Farmville was founded in 1798 and displays tabs for About Farmville, What to Do, Outdoor Adventures, Shopping, Stories and Press Room.

The Longwood and Hampden-Sydney Wall mural is found at the corner of East Third Street.

Student Finance Committee (SFC) Report Sept. 8

by Christine Rindleisch
News Editor
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Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA)
$1,892.40
• Funds used for a conference in Indianapolis
• For the dates of October 21-25
• Four members attending including the president, vice president and two other members of the organization wanting to attend conference

Graduate Student Association Council (GSAC)
$7,514.00
• Funds will go towards fall semester lump sum for events for the graduate students
• The figure is based off of enrollment and will need to be configured every semester
• Organization will also have to request a name change to their new name of Graduation Student Association (GSA) rather than Graduate Student Association Council (GSAC)

The SFC approved the allocation with only enough funds for both the president and the vice president to attend and will be voted on in SGA on Tuesday, Sept. 13 to be approved.

The SFC approved the allocation as promised when SGA approved the financial bill on Sept. 30 and will be voted on in SGA on Tuesday, Sept. 13 to be approved.
Update: VP Debate

by Christine Rindfleisch
News Editor
@longwoodrotunda

With the upcoming vice presidential debate fast approaching on Oct. 4, many topics have been on the minds of many as to who will be allowed into the debate hall taking place in Willett Hall and what to expect within the next month.

Dr. Joan Neff, the provost and vice president for academic affairs shared that Longwood University has 33 classes that are incorporating the debate into them in 15 different disciplines, which has involved over 1,000 students in the coursework. Neff acknowledged Dr. Pam Tracy, communication studies professor and Dr. Dereck Taylor, English professor, as being in charge of working the debate into the curriculum of the 33 classes.

As for how many tickets Longwood will receive to view the debate from inside Willett Hall is still something Longwood doesn’t know yet, according to Justin Pope, co-director of the 2016 debate. Pope reiterated that Longwood is simply the host of the event while the event itself is strictly up to the commission on presidential debates. The commission is in charge of how the tickets are distributed. Pope added that in year’s past the commission has chosen to divide up the tickets to campaigns and host sites.

“If I had a ticket, I would give it to a student,” said Tim Pierson, the vice president of student affairs.

Pope adds that there is a ticket lottery scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 2, and Monday, Oct. 3, before the debate takes place in order to decide who is chosen to attend the debate. Longwood will not be given tickets until the few days leading up to the debate which will mean those students wishing to attend the debate, will have to be near campus during the weekend before, according to Pope. The lottery will be based completely on randomness and a student’s major will not affect whether or not the student is chosen to attend.

“Students will be prioritized,” said Pope.

The number of candidates is still unknown as well, which may affect the number of tickets that Longwood receives, according to Pope. The number of total seats that Willett will hold is still unclear as well since the building itself is still in the process of construction. Pope adds that the space, commonly known to many, will not be recognized during the debate. Rather than the space that can typically hold a couple thousand people the hall will hold a couple hundred during the event. The facility will be transformed into a television studio, according to Pope.

“(Longwood is) one of the smallest, perhaps the smallest space that has ever had a debate,” added Pope.

Pope disclosed that Longwood has tried to maintain three goals throughout this preparation process for the upcoming debate. The first goal is to engage Longwood students in the process. The second goal relates to sharing Longwood’s name and Longwood’s story, according to Pope. The third and final goal is to leave some kind of legacy so “this isn’t just a one time thing,” added Pope.

Pierson adds how on the night of the debate those students who have chosen to stay for the debate during fall break over the week of Sept. 29 through Oct. 5 who are located in either Frazer Hall of Curry Hall will need to find alternative housing for the night of Oct. 4. Pierson disclosed that Resident and Commuter Life (RCL) have a plan in the works in order to make sure all the accounted students have a place to stay. Many of the students that have room in their off-campus housing have opened up their space for students to stay for the night, according to Pierson.

“We are bending over backwards to ensure that anybody in those buildings that wants to stay can find a place to stay for one night,” said Pope.

—continued on next page
Debate update —Continued from page 5

Longwood in the past during fall break has required for students to register to stay in order for their card to be accessed in areas on campus but for this year’s fall break students are not required to register. Ultimately, making it more appealing for students to stay and not have to worry about registering beforehand even if it’s a last minute decision, according to Pierson.

Pierson added how the extended fall break will entice students to have a nice break at home and return Sunday afternoon to campus when he feels most of the activities begin that are geared towards students.

Longwood’s Health and Fitness Center has been transformed into the media center for debate-affiliated media. The space now holds numerous versions of the debate banners, endless rows of tables and chairs and red carpets in various locations in the facility. The space will be the main stage for surrogates of the debate that once the debate has ended will transition to the media center and give their interpretation of how the debate went.

“The place (The Health and Fitness Center) has been transformed to a new identity,” said Pierson.

As for what to expect on campus during the production, Pope added there is expected to be TV networks and cable networks out on campus broadcasting their shows live.

Longwood is expecting 2,000-3,000 media visitors, according to Matthew McWilliams, the director of communications and media relations.

As for the volunteers, Pope has disclosed that there have been over 1,000 people that have signed up to volunteer and of that 1,000, nearly 700 are Longwood students. Over 200 volunteers will just in the Media Center alone, according to Macrae Hammond, special assistant to the vice president of strategic operations.

“Volunteers (for the debate) can expect a lot of excitement and should wear comfortable shoes because they are going to be on the move a lot … a long day but a day that they will remember forever,” said Hammond.

Hammond disclosed that it took a team of 10 staff members to make sure that those students who signed up to volunteer were given assignments that related to their interests and help them professionally.

Meal plans —Continued from front page

“Students patiently wait in line to be swiped into the dining hall.”

“There was some meal plan sharing, that factored into this (decision to change the plans) a little bit,” said Avent.

Avent felt that these changes, in his opinion, were not big changes. The block plans never had guest swipes like many thought in which students would simply use one of their own swipes for friends, making it seem like the plan included guest swipes. The weekly plans were all increased by $25 in addition to the increase in guest swipes from five to seven.

Avent made it clear that the information was available to students and that he would look into possibly adding the information in the weekly email all students receive with updated weekly information via Elsie Angus, executive secretary senior for student affairs.

“It’s (the new changes are) on the Lancer Card website, it’s on the RCL website, it’s in the student handbook I believe, so it’s out there,” added Avent.

Dr. Tim Pierson, vice president of student affairs, and Ken Copeland, vice president for administration and finance, according to Avent, approved all of the changes in regard to the meal plans. Both Pierson and Copeland signed off on the action in which was necessary in order to move forward with the changes for the fall semester.

These changes were approved in the late spring of 2016, but are just now being brought to the surface. Avent claimed that he brought it up at a meeting and that he met with Peer Mentors after the changes were made.

“I met with the peer mentors in the first part of the summer and then through the summer, and I let them know what it meant,” said Avent.

Avent made it clear that meal plans have always been non-transferable. With these changes, it just makes certain that students no longer share their meals and are able to take full advantage of what they are paying for, according to Avent.
by David Pettyjohn
A&E Staff
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Longwood’s fall Interfraternity Council (IFC) walk was held Friday, Sept. 9. The walk displayed the seven recognized fraternities on campus as they accepted bids for new members.

IFC is the umbrella organization on campus that is in charge of all the recognized fraternities. There are several fraternities that are “unrecognized,” meaning that they operate outside of campus and may not follow all of Longwood’s policies. Subsequently, they do not receive the benefits that a recognized fraternity does.

The event was a sight to see with the organizations’ flags, the toga outfits that members of Alpha Sigma Phi, Inc. opted to wear and one student in a gorilla costume who announced that he was dressed as Harambe, the late Cincinnati Zoo gorilla.

“Thirty-six percent of our campus is involved in a social sorority or social fraternity,” stated Sean Ryan, the associate director for fraternity and sorority life. He has been in this position since June, and was previously in a leadership and development position at the University of Alabama where he, “worked with about 32 fraternities and sororities.” He said that this year’s Fall IFC walk had about the same number of people involved as last year, which is, “phenomenal, considering that we essentially pushed up fall walk by two weeks … (it shows) the groups and their ability to connect with the students on campus, and it really shows the positive aspects of going Greek.”

The spring IFC walk is usually larger than the one held in the fall because of Longwood’s policy that all students must first complete 12 credit hours before joining a Greek organization. The size of the event is also reflective of the student population. Last year, a large number of seniors graduated, so the quantity of people that attended was slightly lower, but was still a good turnout overall.

“IT’s a test to the fact that they want to get involved. They want to take advantage of opportunities. They want to know their network on campus,” said Ryan. He also notes that students who are in Greek organizations “actually have a higher GPA than the overall population on campus.” Ryan believes that Longwood’s number of Greek chapters, including four Alpha chapters, on campus is unique for a Division I state school.

The fall IFC walk is held annually. Though, Greek organizations accept new members each semester. The spring IFC walk will be held next semester, and students can sign up for that at the Fraternity and Sorority Life web portal. The open house for College Panhellenic Council, who is in charge of the sororities, will be held on Sept. 17. The 2017 Sorority recruitment registration form is currently available to Longwood students.

Elizabeth Acevedo “snapped” the audience away

by Rachel Mundie
Contributor
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Acevedo was born and raised in New York City with her heritage being a mix of Dominican and African descent. All of which was expressed in her poems she performed, and her heritage isn’t hidden within her poems.

The first poem she performed was “Rat’s Ode” which conveyed her message that small and ugly things are subjects that are hard to talk but they are still beautiful and should be talked about.

Every day, there is something horrible on the news, and it is usually more than one event. These cultural differences were her inspirations for the majority of her poetry. It can be easy to write about a personal issue, but it isn’t as easy to think or discuss how the same issue isn’t just affecting one person.

Acevedo never said that she could do anything to easily fix the entire problem or make it go away. She did acknowledge the things that she could do, such as using them in her poetry and recite them to a crowd; but also to inspire those around her about the issues and to make a change.

With each poet, there is a different style and there are different influences or different patterns that each one follows. Acevedo would not only recite her poetry, but she gave it life by adding her own body language and facial expressions to it.

Also, she would give the back story or the inspiration of the particular poem, and then she would take it a step farther and relating it to the students and their everyday lives.

“Crossing genres” is the term Acevedo used when asked about what her particular genre of poetry is. Just as many of poems will speak of not letting limitations hold a person back, she will not let a genre restrict what she writes about. Instead she uses different genres to her advantage to better tell the story or to communicate her ideas further.

Acevedo touched on many controversial topics that can be difficult to discuss, yet with each poem she brought forth the meaning and truth of her words. With her words projected powerfully, the message was clear and the crowd was more than able to respond to her words. Making it important for the crowd to participate and to give responses back to Acevedo during her performance.

The crowd was able to give the proper responses from the lesson in the beginning of the production. Not only was body language given by the crowd, but it was encouraged for the crowd to also make certain actions in order to give her feedback on what they enjoyed. She even added an extra “Wepa!” to it, an exclamation of excitement or content that comes from her Dominican Heritage. Acevedo was an inspiration to have on campus. Lancer Productions will be hosting Mike Super, a magician who will be performing in Jarman Sept. 17 at 8 p.m.
Where are they now?

Collected by Emily Carroll
Asst. Features Editor
@longwoodrotunda

“Holding leadership roles and even staff roles that I’ve helped out on The Rotunda are invaluable because people always say ‘oh you’ve changed’ as if it’s a bad thing but growing up teaches you how to be a better person so changing for the better has definitely been something that The Rotunda has taught me grow into myself and formed me to be the best me I can be.” ~ Victoria Walker

Victoria Walker is the former Editor-in-Chief for The Rotunda for two years. Walker’s biggest accomplishment since graduation was landing a job with the National Rifle Association (NRA) as their media relations coordinator as well as signing a lease on her first apartment on her own. Her job for the NRA will require her to blog and cover certain things that are going on within the association.

“Whether it is the college newspaper or a creditable blogging site, I encourage students who want to work in any type of journalism to have published writing clips - it will get them very far post-grad.” ~ Natalie Joesph

Natalie Joesph is the former Assistant Editor for the Arts and Entertainment section for The Rotunda. Joesph’s biggest accomplishment since graduation has been her job at SB Nation (SBN). Not only is she working for SBN, but she recently accepted a local job as a features reporter for the Daily Press.

“At the college level, before you receive your degree, you get a professional platform that helps you to build your credibility it allows you to build your professional portfolio.” ~ Taylor O’Bier

Taylor O’Bier is the former Rotunda Studios Producer. O’Bier’s biggest accomplishment since graduation has been , “Getting a job in the first place I was hired almost immediately after college at the Northern Neck News and it was surprising its not a job that I saw myself getting but its an accomplishment getting a job within my field.”

“The Rotunda was a huge part of being responsible for where I am today and being on The Rotunda really allowed me to learn and understand how a newspaper works, how to work with people who have different ideas as you, how to ask the right questions, how to talk to strangers and it definitely taught me how to be a reporter who knows what the right questions are and is not afraid to chase the story.” ~ Briana Adhikusuma

Briana Adhikusuma is the former News Editor for The Rotunda. Adhikusuma’s biggest accomplishment since graduation has been landing a job at the News -Topics, a newspaper in North Carolina, as the government and business reporter.

“The Rotunda opened my eyes to the newspaper publishing business and that helped me with my career.” ~ Emily Haswell

Emily Haswell is the former Arts and Entertainment (A&E) Editor for The Rotunda. Since graduation she has landed a job as an editor of the Northumberland Echo.
Movie Review: “Sully”

by Jacob DiLandro
Contributor
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You wouldn’t be alone if you thought that Sully was in the same ballpark, story-wise, as 2012’s Flight, and while this film is based on a true story and the previous was fictional, the similarities are there. Unfortunately, Flight is the better film, but that’s not to say Sully is a bad one.

It’s merely flawed.

The first major issue is that the film was marketed wrong. The trailers and posters promise the investigation into ‘what really happened’ and the ‘untold story’ of the Miracle on the Hudson, but the truth is, only about a quarter of the film focuses on the investigation, while the rest of the film is a recreation of the crash.

The film’s writing and pacing are also an issue. Many moments are heavily steeped in thick melodrama as Captain Chesley Sullenberger, played excellently by Tom Hanks, walks down the New York street or sits at a bar, having praise drunkenly yelled at him by bar going patrons.

Many moments of the film feel lifted straight out of a Lifetime original movie. The moments aren’t acted poorly, as previously stated Tom Hanks is by far the best part of the entire film, and the entire supporting cast is excellent, but it’s the writing that brings the film down.

There are many moments of forced one-liners or moments of humor, and they don’t hit like they should. The bartender in one scene says that they named a drink after him, and then tells Sully that it’s “a shot of Grey Goose, and some water,” and proceeds to laugh, along with the patrons, as Sully sits, uneasily smiling. The moment initially sounds like it’s to make us feel for his uncomfortableness in the public’s eye, but the moment is played like a joke.

The same goes for a scene where Sully’s co-pilot discusses how impressive of a “bullshitter” Sully is. These moments seemed lifted out of completely other films, as they don’t flow with the momentum of the rest of the film. At one point we are taken completely out of the aftermath story line to an almost 45-minute-long recreation of the crash. Other, smaller characters are introduced, but they simply don’t need to be there and they feel phoned in to pad the film’s run time.

However, when the film focuses on this recreation, it is truly at its best. The tension is ripe, and you feel for Sully. Even after the passengers and crew are safe, he continues to look over his shoulder and the camera lingers on the plane with him. He knows that he could have very easily missed someone or something, and the audience is right there with him.

The film isn’t bad, it simply has a multitude of pacing issues, a bunch of scenes with conflicting tones, and some scenes and characters that don’t need to be in the film. I’m all for having Sully’s wife in the movie, but she is given some of the worst dialogue, and Laura Linney is clearly phoning it in. If some of the fat and excess characters were cut from the movie, and if the recreation of the crash was extended to the full film, Sully could have been much more enjoyable.

The film is carried by a talented and skilled cast, including Tom Hanks at his prime, and Aaron Eckhart who keeps up with Hanks’s skill surprisingly well, and a truly heart racing recreation of the 1549’s crash, but it is brought down by some poor editing and writing, a myriad of unnecessary characters, and an overuse of melodrama leading to a film that isn’t bad, but it isn’t great. It’s simply okay.

3.5/5
LCVA teams up with Associated Press for a presidential ride through time

As Longwood University prepares to host the upcoming Oct. 4 vice presidential debate, the Longwood Center for Visual Arts (LCVA) paired with The Associated Press (AP) for a look into American politics and presidential campaigning.

On Friday, Sept. 9 the “Citizens and Leaders: A Century of Iconic Presidential Campaign Photography by The Associated Press” exhibition opened to the public. The downstairs gallery of the LCVA filled with Longwood faculty, staff, students and alumni as well as guests from around Farmville as they gathered to admire the 100 years of pictures illustrating presidential candidates, courtesy of AP.

The Associated Press has covered American politics and presidential campaigns for 170 years with a record 31 Pulitzer Prizes. “Citizens and Leaders” is curated by AP Special Projects Manager Chuck Zoeller along with LCVA Executive Director Rachel Ivers and Justin Pope, chief of staff at Longwood and former AP national reporter.

Iconic photos spread through the gallery from 1916 to 2016 displaying notable political figures from former President John F. Kennedy to President Barack Obama. Also included were this year’s earlier campaigns: Senator Bernie Sanders and Senator Ted Cruz and of course the current candidates: Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton and Republican nominee Donald Trump.

While candidates themselves are the focus of the photographs, the shift of American opinions and ideals are also explored in these figures. Each chosen individual reflects the issues of that time and America’s political stance.

Almost every photograph in the exhibition captures the various aspiring leaders engaging with and inspiring citizens. This concept of “Citizens and Leaders” coincides with Longwood’s distinctive mission to shape “citizen leaders” in preparation to have a positive influence on society.

On the day of the debate, the AP Vice President and Director of Photography Santiago Lyon will speak on the exhibition regarding the impact of the AP’s coverage on presidential campaigning throughout the years, ending with coverage of the 2016 presidential election.

The “Citizens and Leaders: A Century of Iconic Presidential Campaign Photography by The Associated Press” exhibition will remain open until Oct. 16 and is free and open to the public.

The museum is located at 129 North Main Street in Farmville, Va. For additional information on the exhibitions or other programs and events, contact LCVA at lcvainfo@longwood.edu or 434.395.2206.

Farmville cuisine under $15: Musashi Asian Cuisine

In my underclassman days here at Longwood University, I tended to stick to restaurants close to campus with the naïve idea that there were finite dining options here in Farmville. However, as I shifted into my upperclassman status I came to the beautiful, yet shocking realization that our little town isn't quite as limited in restaurants as I once thought it to be.

Into my fourth year, a friend invited me over to Musashi Asian Cuisine for dinner. It was here that I found a great lunch or dinner deal for the first edition of Farmville cuisine under $15.

Although I had never attended Musashi’s, I was no stranger to hibachi, so my eye quickly went to the entrées. Prices for the entrées vary in regards to choice of meat but all include soup, salad, rice and vegetables.

Included in the meal was the traditional Japanese dish miso soup. This soup is traditionally a stock-based broth that results in a simply-seasoned, fairly ordinary-tasting soup.

But Musashi’s rendition of miso soup had more of a zing to it. With greater amount of seasoning than usual, the soup had a more appetizing, peppery and full-bodied taste.

However, salad was your basic Asian-style salad that you get at a restaurant made with romaine lettuce, peeled carrot bits and cucumber and topped with ginger salad dressing.

As for choice of meat, I went for the teriyaki chicken which included a generous amount of chopped chicken tossed with a sweet and flavorful teriyaki sauce. Vegetables on the dish included a mix of zucchini, onion, celery, mushrooms and broccoli which paired perfectly with the cooked rice - all for the price of $8.99.

Although I thoroughly enjoyed my meal, Musashi’s has a lot more to offer than what I ordered. Besides the entrée deal with a variety of meats including chicken, steak, shrimp and even scallops, they also offer dumplings and many types of sushi rolls.

Now for those of us with a sweet tooth, desserts include a Japanese ice cream and bubble tea. If you’re anything like I am, than you too have never heard of bubble tea, but don't let that stop you from experiencing this delightful treat.

Bubble tea is a slushy-textured type of drink with tapioca balls that have a gummi-like texture. These tapioca balls lay at the bottom of the cup and come up as you sip through the thick straw that comes with drink, for a pleasant surprise as you eat the tapioca and drink the frozen tea.

Rating: soup & salad: 3.5/5 stars teriyaki chicken entrée: 4/5 stars Honey Dew bubble tea: 4.5/ 5 stars overall: 4/5 stars

Musashi’s can be found in the shopping center in front of the Sunchase at Longwood Apartments right next to the movie theatre, Sunchase Cinema 8 - ideal for dinner and a movie without worrying about getting to the theatre on time.
Music Review: “Birds in the Trap” sounds more epic than it actually is

by Richie Kamtchoum
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Hip-hop music has seen a wealth of household names drop albums drop in 2016. The likes of Chance the Rapper, Kanye West, Drake and Kendrick Lamar have all released studio albums to decent fanfare. West’s protégé Travis Scott is no different, as his latest LP “Birds in the Trap Sing Mcknight” released Sept. 2 as an Apple Music exclusive.

“Birds in the Trap Sing McKnight,” which may be in the running for best album title ever, is the second studio album by Scott coming in 11 months after his debut album Rodeo. Although he isn’t a superstar yet, “Antidote” was one of the more successful singles of 2015, while he also lent his pen to Drake and Rihanna songs.

What we get is a collection of 14 decent to great songs that don’t correlate or tie into each other. Scott sequences his songs as if there is an underlying narrative and his style of eerie production can put the listener under a spell.

As soon as the album is over though, a realization occurs that the album was much ado about nothing. The intro, “the ends,” is rattling and has a promising verse from Scott and Andre 3000 rapping about their respective neighborhoods. By the time the outro, “wonderful” ft. The Weeknd ends, the promise isn’t fulfilled.

Scott produces high-quality filler songs for the most part. A lot of the tracks contain minimal rapping and rely on lengthy production. Such is the case with “way back”, a two-part song that touches on fake friends and then switches to a hedonistic late night affair while the beat rides out for the last minute.

The best aspect of “Birds” and, quite honestly most Scott projects, are the mood and atmosphere he places the listener in. His tendency to overproduce, probably a nod to his mentor West, does well in that nobody else is producing trap music with a dark twinge to it.

Scott adds everything from ambient sounds, to 808s, synths, drums and strings that work as an enthralling soundscape. The mixing on the album is terrific, as a lot of the songs have two-parts to them with instant transitions and no hiccups between songs.

He also improves as a songwriter, if only minimally. The range in topics is the most obvious improvement such as the trap love ballad, “first take” ft. Bryson Tiller, a style Scott previously shied away from. “guidance” is the clear dancehall club track and a brighter point on the album.

Among the major criticisms on his debut “Rodeo,” the featured artists outshining Scott is back on “Birds” albeit not as detrimentally. Scott enlists the likes of 21 Savage, then on the next song has Lamar. He invites them into his world instead of the guests completely taking over the song.

“Birds” is good in that it is captivating for the duration of the hour it takes to listen to it. The beats are wonderful, the rapping has improved and the features are top notch. Did Scott actually say anything though? Perhaps not, but the rest of the pros outweighs that major con and leaves “Birds” as an above average album in today’s hip-hop.
Satirical articles are the worst
by Austin Berry
Layout Editor
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Hello, loyal readers (and mom). Today, I need to bring up a very important topic, something that I’ve struggled with every week for the past year, one that I can no longer bear. I need to talk about why satirical columns suck.

This is going to get pretty meta; hang on to those lanyards, freshmen.

Every week, trusty iPad sidekick in tow, I sit myself down in Java City, drink a latte and crank out these columns for all five of you to read just hours before their deadline (and sometimes hours after). My process is the same every time. I have a general topic (bad Halloween costumes, pets, campus construction) and a few severely underdeveloped opinions on said issues. At this point, a good writer would have some sort of outline, and ideally flesh out their points to form a semi-coherent argument. Then they’d add some amusing metaphors and clever one liners to form a well-developed piece of literary entertainment. I don’t do that. I just write down whatever comes off the top of my head with little to no plan whatsoever, in a vain attempt to hit a specified word count and be somewhat entertaining.

So, what’s my point? It is (as it is just now coming to me) that columns and articles such as this are just a waste of time. An entertaining waste of time, but a waste of time, nonetheless. Much like a Michael Bay film, articles like mine are rich in dumb jokes and spectacle but have no more substance than any of the Transformers movies (I can’t believe they are still making those).

Think of all the better ways you could be using this time: you could be reading something by a writer who gives a shit or learning how to be an ostrich farmer. You could be working towards your goal of being the world champion wiener dog racer or learning how to play the didgeridoo or reading something that’s actually funny or just sleeping, for all I care.

According to the research that I just made up, the results of a recent study by the National Wildlife Association found that eleven-seven percentiles of humans were at increased risk for falling down and not being able to get up after reading satirical pieces. Obviously, we cannot have this kind of risk in modern society. As a satirical writer, I am deeply sorry for any pain or injury I have caused, if only I had known I was a threat.

On to my last and final point that I’m just now thinking of, humor is the devil. We can’t just have people laughing and having fun in an esteemed academic setting such as this. How are we students going to focus on our studies while being interrupted by a cacophony of cackling about? It’s madness, and it’s time we take things seriously around here.

The fun has to stop people.
That’s it. That’s my completely serious two cents. None of this is a joke. Make America Serious Again 2016.

Satirical articles could cure cancer
by Cassie Tagert
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I spent my hourly Facebook time perusing the depressing headlines and memes that my friends had posted when I came across a particularly dismal article from the Onion entitled, “Tim Kaine Found Riding Conveyor Belt During Factory Campaign Stop.” The saddest part of the article wasn’t the title, but it was actually a few of the comments on the article from people who were confused as to why this was news. Then, there were a few people who used this article to confirm their opinions that Tim Kaine is an idiot. Just to clarify for any of my readers who are confused as well, The Onion is a satirical newspaper that comes up with articles on subjects that are funny and don’t matter, much like this weekly column does. Anyone who has been caught believing in these sorts of articles has often declared that satirical articles are stupid. But, they’re wrong.

Say, you find yourself spending your birthday at your stepfather’s cousin’s uncle’s funeral and during the memorial service afterward, your always-drunk nephew Larry spills glow stick fluid on your dark clothes and steps on your pinky toe, squishing it to a pancake. Immediately after the fact, you could be angry that Larry brought a glow stick to a funeral and that you’re now handicapped due to pancake-toe syndrome. Or, you could read satirical articles about why a dog, who has suddenly learned to speak English, thinks he’s better than a cat or about Tim Kaine riding a conveyor belt in the fetal position. Really, satire provides a momentary escape from the trying or mundane moments in life.

Maybe that’s a little bit far-fetched. Maybe instead, you’re battling a chronic condition of unfeelingness, and you’re trying to learn how to express emotions again. Well, look no further, young, expressionless one! Satirical articles will turn that frown upside down. I mean, why watch a comedy movie or show when you can read articles that hilariously point out the depressing flaws in our system of government or the importance of going to class?

When you think about it that way, why even read serious articles in the first place? Sure, it would be more informational to read about the unexpected drop in your university’s attendance, but that is BORING. It’s much more fun to read about the reasons Batman thinks Superman is lame, and if it can help you cope with chronic disorders and anger during funerals, who knows what else could be at our fingertips with satire? Maybe we’re on the verge of the cure to cancer or the answers to 100 percent efficient and natural fuel. Who really knows? I certainly don’t. That’s why I write satire.

And, in case you were wondering, you did just read about 500 words about why you should have read this article.
Longwood students political views are diverse

by Cassandra Maddox
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Politics as a whole can be a very complex, yet intriguing topic to talk about. There are many diverse perspectives from college students regarding the candidates who aspire to become the next President of the United States. Some of those are based on political party affiliation, others on political views.

Students and faculty at Longwood University are preparing for the vice presidential debate coming up on Oct. 4. We are continuously introduced to news regarding presidential and vice-presidential candidates and political issues regarding the United States and international relations. Although there are other political parties, including the Green Party with its candidate, Jill Stein, or the Libertarian Party with Gary John, news outlets and media mostly highlight what's occurring through the Republican and Democratic parties as only their vice presidential candidates will be present for the upcoming debate.

In response to Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton running for president, many college students have reacted differently, forming a range of opinions.

Malina Foldesi, Longwood’s College of Republicans, considers herself a devoted, far-right Republican, whereas Rebecca Huffine, the treasurer of the College of Republicans, considers herself a moderate Republican, disputing the stereotype all Republicans have people see for the nation moving forward.

As a political science major, Foldesi said she doesn’t think politics as a whole are difficult to comprehend. “I'm very opinionated,” said Foldesi, “But at the same time, I always see the other side of most issues.”

Huffine, a communication studies major concentrating in public relations, acknowledges it can be difficult to understand politics but added, “Politics is what you make it.”

When it comes to presidential candidates, Foldesi said she doesn’t prefer the Republican and Democratic candidates, and that the only reason she would vote is because of following Supreme Court nomination.

Huffine said after Ben Carson, her first choice, dropped out of the election, she prefers Trump over Clinton.

Foldesi finds more negative reactions to the candidates than positive. “This is definitely the most negative election we’ve ever had,” said Foldesi.

Huffine considers perspectives on candidates to mainly depend on what you see of them from news outlets, especially on T.V. “People like the candidates from seeing them on T.V. in one particular way,” said Huffine.

In preparations for the vice presidential debate, the College of Republicans organized a mock debate with the Politics Club to introduce more students to politics.

Both Foldesi and Huffine strongly encourage everyone to vote, even if it may not be for presidential candidates. “Vote who you want to vote for,” said Huffine. “The media makes it really hard.”

Longwood’s College of Democrats president Joseph Hyman said he considers himself primarily Democratic and at times independent.

Hyman finds that it can be difficult for people to talk about politics.

“I think that there’s a certain way to put things that allows people who are not knowledgeable on the issue in a position to understand it much better,” said Hyman.

Hyman said he believes the Republican Party nominated a candidate incapable of becoming president, and the Democratic Party has nominated a candidate with questionable integrity, but a platform that doesn’t seem disastrous.

Along with Foldesi, Hyman agrees the reactions toward the election are primarily negative. “I think America has reached a point where we are now selecting people that the majority do not support,” said Hyman. “But rather a plurality support.”

In preparation for the vice presidential debate, the College of Democrats have given opportunities for students to register to vote, and they have opened up club meetings for people to help prepare and be involved in the student-run debate. They have also encouraged students to stay during the debate and created events prior to the debate to get students more involved in politics.

Hyman also finds it important to note not everyone in the Republican and Democratic Parties or related organizations is behind everything their nominated candidate says or does. “The Democratic Party and the Republican Party are not a person as in Trump or Hillary,” said Hyman. “Rather, they are a set of ideals that people see for the nation moving forward.”

Dear America

by Hannah Moonis
Contributor
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Salutations friends,

It is I, George Washington, your humble first president. I would like to offer my congratulations on all you have accomplished these many years. I am particularly fond of indoor plumbing and central heating. You have done well expanding the nation westward and exploring the stars, being the first nation to walk on the moon. I couldn’t be more proud. Alas, I have not written to you this day to compliment your accomplishments. It has been brought to my attention during a Dead Presidents’ Society meeting that you are having some troubles.

I shall offer you my advice on such matters.

To begin, your many problems with foreign nations could have been easily avoided if you had taken heed to my warnings. I distinctly remember telling you in my farewell address to remain isolated. If you had just listened to me, many wars could have been avoided. Looking at you, Vietnam. Why get involved, really? I understand the humanity of it all, but why waste so many lives? Was it worth it? I’d argue not.

Not only would isolationism save lives, it would have saved jobs! I hear you have an unemployment problem. Just think how many jobs would have been available if you’d only listened. Ronald Reagan just mentioned to me that North Korea is isolated, however, I believe America could be better than North Korea. America’s trade can still be controlled by private owners, whereas North Korea’s trade is controlled by the state. It is possible to be both a capitalist country and an isolated one. All I’m saying is that you could still consider it.

Now it’s time to address the more urgent matters you’re facing: this clown show of a presidential campaign. There are two scoundrels running for president. On one hand, we have a criminal who, if she were anyone else, would be in prison. Now, I don't remember women being able to vote, let alone run for president. However, my wife has pointed out that she practically ran the country at times. And don’t even get me started on the other candidate… Too late. I’ve started. He is the most ridiculous man to ever walk the face of the earth, and I know John Addams. That man was a pill. The only thing more shocking than the things that spill out of his mouth is that fact that people actually support him. Appalling.

All of this could have been avoided if you had only listened to me when I had warned you about the dangers of political parties. I propose you get rid of them immediately. I'm positive it would solve many of the problems facing the country today.

And so I leave you with this food for thought: You should have taken my advice.

Yours truly,

George Washington
WSOC: Home comfort sparks win

by Tristan Penna
Sports Editor
@colourlessbeige

The familiar confines of Farmville brought a much-needed 1-0 victory for the Longwood women’s soccer team against UMBC on Sept. 11. Junior midfielder Janese Quick’s 59th minute goal and a first shutout of the season improved the Lancers’ record to 2-5-0.

Longwood came into the contest having been outscored 11-4 over their first six games. Head coach Todd Dyer’s side hosted the Retrievers looking to get their season back on track in just their second home game of the season, and was happy with how his side responded.

“We’re pleased to earn our first home win,” said Dyer. “It’s good for morale; it’s good for our mentality moving forward. Because we’ve been in a lot of close games, we’ve just been on the short end, and that takes a toll on you emotionally. So more than anything, I’m glad they just get to feel and experience that winning feeling.”

The Lancers started well, controlling possession and the flow of the game, but failed to create many clear-cut scoring opportunities in the first half. However, they broke through early in the second half via Quick.

Senior defender Gina D’Orazio found Quick at the top of the penalty box, and the junior converted off the underside of the crossbar to give the home side a 1-0 advantage. Dyer was full of praise for his team’s play in the buildup.

“It was huge. Whenever it comes, we need that first goal, and I think it was a great goal in terms of the buildup, and then Janese (Quick) arriving late with her run, I mean just perfect,” said Dyer.

“The way it unfolded and she smacked it, she scored a great goal. But it was a team goal, and she just had that last touch for us... that first goal is always important.”

Quick’s goal was a just reward for the Lancers, who were in control for the majority of the game. Longwood outshot UMBC 11-7 as the Retrievers did not generate much offense until they were trailing.

Despite a couple of nervy clearances and a potential handball that was waived away, the Lancer defense held firm for their first clean sheet of the season, which Dyer was pleased to pick up.

“I thought it got a little hairy there at the end, but we held strong and you know, saw the game out and got the result we wanted,” said Dyer. “(The defense) was huge, like this was the first game where we haven’t given up a goal. So hopefully we like the way that feels, we see what type of work and commitment it takes to earn that.”

The Lancers will look to put their rough start behind them and continue their turnaround in Blacksburg, Va. against Virginia Tech on Sept. 13.

Junior midfielder Janese Quick scored the game winner in Longwood women’s soccer’s first home win over UMBC on Sunday afternoon.

Weekly Roundup

Men’s Soccer

Tuesday, Sept. 6
@ William & Mary  L 0-2

Saturday, Sept. 10
vs. Newberry  W 3-0

Tuesday, Sept. 13
Upcoming @ Virginia Tech

Women’s Soccer

Thursday, Sept. 8
@ American  L 0-1

Sunday, Sept. 11
vs. UMBC  W 1-0

Tuesday, Sept. 13
Upcoming @ Virginia Tech

Field Hockey

Friday, Sept. 9
@ VCU  L 2-3 (OT)

Sunday, Sept. 11
vs. Davidson  W 4-3

Saturday, Sept. 17
Upcoming @ App. State

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MSOC: Three Lancer goals tackle DII Newberry

Longwood earns first regular season home win

by Tristan Penna
Sports Editor
@colourlessbeige

Two minutes into the second half, Longwood sophomore forward Mo Jalloh capitalized on a pass inside the 18-yard box from freshman forward Jacob Parrot, putting the Lancers up 1-0 after a messy first half.

“It felt really good scoring, it definitely brings my confidence up,” said Jalloh. He added with teammate Willy Miezian’s knee injury, they’ve been looking to fill his role as the team’s goal scorer. “We’ve been trying a lot of people up there, trying to make it work.”

Jalloh’s goal was the first of three for Longwood on Saturday evening, senior midfielder Finnlay Wyatt and junior defender Sepehr Harandi adding another two goals in the final 15 minutes while shutting out Division II Newberry College in front of their home crowd. Harandi scored the first goal of his career.

“The big picture is to get that win, get the clean sheet and protect your home turf, so all that was achieved,” said Longwood men’s soccer head coach Jon Atkinson. “How it was achieved wasn’t maybe the cleanest way of doing it. We left it late, and credit to Newberry they made it hard for us, but I think we had a big part in that too.”

With two forwards sitting atop the Lancers’ lineup, several of Longwood’s 27 shots developed from balls over the top of Newberry’s backline. Atkinson said with the speed the team has up top, mentioning Jalloh, they will continue to use the direct ball in games and look to improve the quality.

“There’s a variety of ways of hurting teams, we can’t just be one-dimensional. But if we’re not able to play the ball down the middle and through the midfield then the ball in behind is definitely an option,” said Atkinson. “It’s just down to playing a quality ball and the right time to play a quality ball. I think we need to rehearse a little bit better.”

Newberry put Longwood under pressure during the first half, but unable to capitalize on their own dangerous plays, the teams entered half time scoreless.

“It was just a bit of a lack of identity in the first half. We really weren’t too sure what page everybody was on,” said Atkinson.

In the end, Longwood outshot Newberry 27-10 in a statistically dominating performance. Newberry forced the Lancer goalkeepers to make four saves to keep the clean sheet, split between Longwood senior Carlos Canas and freshman David Hay, making his collegiate debut.

The Lancers will travel to Virginia Tech on Tuesday, Sept. 13 to face the Hokies at 7 p.m. Virginia Tech will host Longwood after having five days to recover from their 4-1 road loss to Notre Dame on Friday, Sept. 9.

“They’re a really tough opponent,” said Jalloh. “I think that they’re kind of vulnerable right now so if we utilize the stuff we’ve been doing at practice, keeping our shape and keeping a positive mentality, I think we can get the result we want.”

FH: Lancers hang on against Davidson

Verstraete scores two in home win

by Halle Parker
Editor-in-Chief
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The Longwood field hockey team held off a late comeback from Davidson in Farmville to win 4-3 on Sept. 11. The victory improved the Lancers record to 4-3 and snaps a two-game losing streak.

“Every year we have a battle with Davidson,” said Longwood field hockey head coach Ian Byers on the official Longwood athletics website. “We’re both very competitive teams, and we play similar styles. We finished a bit better than we have in our previous games, so that’s a step in the right direction.”

Sophomore forward Leonie Verstraete opened the scoring in the 10th minute, before the Wildcats equalized through junior forward Paige Albert in the 27th minute. But one minute before halftime, senior defender Jordan Chapman converted off a penalty corner to give the home side a 2-1 lead at the break.

Longwood came out of the break firing as Verstraete notched her second goal in the 58th minute and junior forward Edel Nyland made it 4-1 for the Lancers just three minutes later. Nyland’s goal keeps her in second place on the NCAA scoring charts.

Davidson stormed back, as senior midfielder Becca Jones pegged one back in 65th minute before senior forward Anne Federico made it a one goal game with two minutes left. However, the Lancers were able to hang on for the win and move back above .500.

“This was a big step for us, coming back from a disappointing loss,” said Chapman on the official Longwood athletics website. “We let ourselves down Friday, and we just wanted to prove to ourselves that we can play at a higher level. We really just wanted to play simple, make the easy passes and connections.”

Statistically, the game was nearly deadlocked with both teams putting up 16 shots, with Davidson edging shots on target 10-9. Though in the end, the Lancers had just enough to pull out the win and Byers was happy with the result.

“We were better,” said Byers on the official Longwood athletics website. “We probably still had a few circle penetrations that we could have capitalized on better, but we asked them to improve and they improved. If we keep working on it, we’ll keep getting better. The effort’s there; it’s just the application that needs to come now.”

They will hope to bring that application in their next game, when they go on the road to face Appalachian State. The Mountaineers will host Longwood on Sept. 17.
Celebrating the class of 2017
A look into convocation

by Emily Carroll
Features Staff
@longwoodrotunda

It’s that time of year again when Longwood seniors, cappers, faculty and staff gather around Wheeler Mall to celebrate the seniors at Convocation. As everyone fanned themselves with their programs and filed into the neatly rowed chairs; folks were dressed up and ready to participate in this Longwood tradition.

On Thursday, Sept. 8, Wheeler Mall wasn’t as packed as it usually is for this occasion, (maybe because of the 100 degree heat index) but that didn’t stop most of the class of 2017 to receive the cap they’ve longed for the past three years. The cap that tells them they’re almost to the finish line. The cap that helps end their undergraduate careers, the cap that represents their achievements in academics as well as extracurricular activities and most importantly it’s a memento that represents their personalities and college experiences.

Matthew Swarm, the senior class vice president opened the ceremony with uplifting words that described some of his memories while being at Longwood.

President W. Taylor Reveley IV then welcomed everyone to the ceremony and introduced Robert Wertz Jr., who was the rector for this year’s convocation. Following his encouraging words speaker James Lehrer spoke.

Lehrer was the former anchor on the PBS News Hour and has moderated a dozen debates as a journalist. Lehrer’s speech was uplifting and memorable especially when he reminded the audience that this year will be the 15 anniversary since 9/11. He reminded us about how that day impacted every American citizen. He reminded us that, that day has affected every aspect in American politics, government, military, travel, even this year’s presidential election. Lehrer reminded the audience about the reactions of everyone around America on that dreadful day and how everyone wanted to “help.” However, he said, “this is our time to do something” in regards to voter participation for the Presidential election.

Lehrer concluded his speech with these inspiring words, “After the election, no matter who wins let’s all do our part as voters, individuals and citizens to help out this country within its discourse and within the functioning of the government to make this a truly changed time.”

After Lehrer’s words of wisdom, it was a time to recognize some of Longwood’s faculty members with seven awards. These awards recognized these faculty members for their hard work, scholarship and dedication to Longwood and it’s students. The awards began with the Maria Bristow Starke Faculty Excellence Award, awarded to Dr. Leigh Lunsford; the Maude Glenn Rafford Award, which Dr. Timothy Holmstrom accepted; the Maude Glenn Rafford Junior Faculty Teaching Award, given to Dr. Brett Martz; the Provost’s Scholarship Award awarded to Dr. Sean Ruday; the William David Stuart Leadership and Service Award awarded to Dr. Charles White; the Junior Faculty Award awarded to Dr. JoEllen Pederson. Lastly, the second annual Simpson Award was given to Dr. Steven Isaacs in which he proudly accepted.

Then came the time that the seniors were waiting for - the capping ceremony. Senior Hallie Robinson stated in regards to this tradition, “I’m excited to end this milestone and I never thought I would actually be putting on a cap and gown. I’m also happy to share this memory with my best friend.” Victoria Hamilton, a graduate student at Longwood, proudly capped Robinson. Hamilton described this year’s convocation as “an awesome (tradition) but it’s bittersweet because I’m leaving both my best friend and my beloved university in December.”

However, the capping ceremony didn’t just end with the seniors receiving their caps as Reveley presented a cap to Lehrer that was themed as a debate with a moderators desk and the colors of red, white and blue were decked out all over the cap. In which Lehrer proudly accepted with a grin upon his face capping off Lehrer’s first trip to Longwood.

As students eagerly waited to go take pictures of their decked out mortar boards, the ceremony concluded with inspiring words from senior class president Drew Pelkey that left the audience in a round of applause.

Left: Sisters of similar sorority patiently to be capped.
Right: Jim Lehr addresses the student body.