VP debate to be secured by over 1,700 officials

by Halle Parker
Editor-in-Chief
@_thehalparker

Over 1,700 public safety officials will flood the Farmville area to offer security assistance to Longwood University during vice presidential debate in less than two weeks.

Approximately 75 percent of the officials offered to work voluntarily, outside of food and lodging costs, according to Longwood Police Chief Col. Robert Beach. He said the majority of assistance is coming from within Virginia and some are providing support from across the country, including the U.S. Secret Service.

“The community should understand that this is a very, very historic event and that they should relish the opportunity to experience it from that perspective,” said Beach. “I think that there’s this misperception that there’s going to be this great upheaval and turmoil that is going to occur, and I don’t think that will be the case at all.”

In their 18-month preparation for potential risks posed by the debate, Beach said Longwood Police, in a “unified command structure” with the Farmville Police Department, Prince Edward County Sheriff’s Office and Virginia State Police, conducted a risk assessment resulting in a 40 to 50-page incident action plan.

“It’s pretty significant; that’s what two years’ worth of planning does,” said Beach.

The details of the plan couldn’t be released, he added.

Matt McWilliams, director of Communications & Media Relations said, “Many details of the emergency plan can’t be released for security reasons, but emergency personnel will be on hand and equipped to deal with any situation on campus or in town. The plan is comprehensive and nimble enough to allow for resources to be dispatched as needed.”

According to the official Longwood debate website, a perimeter security fence will be erected by Sept. 28 around Willett, Hull, Bedford, Wygal and Dorrill Dining Halls as well as Greenwood Library, the Communication Studies and Theater Center and the Health and Fitness Center, which will hold the media filing center during the debate.

Within the security perimeter, no one will be able to enter without an approved credential, according to the website. Debate volunteers, media, ticket holders and Longwood faculty and staff in the area will be granted different levels of access.

“One of the primary principles that we put in during this process was to make sure that we provided the same quality of service to the entire Prince Edward, Farmville, central Virginia community that they get every day,” said Beach. “That we weren’t going to rob that resource from the community in order to put on this vice presidential display.”

Beach said he “doesn’t anticipate any violence because that’s not the nature” of the event, but they have prepared for “any risk you can imagine.”

The department hasn’t received any threats as Tuesday, Oct. 4 approaches, said Beach.

The university is providing a designated free speech area on Lancer Field, a practice facility for the athletics department, called First Amendment Field for organizations and individuals to voice their views on the day of the debate.

The field was historically used for a similar purpose during the 1960s to protest the segregation and eventual closure of Prince Edward County Public Schools for five years, refusing to integrate.

—continued on page 4
Over 200 sign petition for Johnson to debate

by Christine Rindfleisch
News Editor
@longwoodrotunda

Protesters rallied in favor of Libertarian Party leader, Gary Johnson, in front of Dorrill Dining Hall.

Students gathered on Thursday, Sept. 22 on Brock Commons to gain signatures on a petition wanting Gary Johnson to participate in the upcoming debate, including William “Bill” Weld to participate in the vice presidential debate held at Longwood University.

The Commission on Presidential Debates decides whether or not a candidate can participate in general election debates. The commission announced on Sept. 16 that Johnson would not participate in the first debate on Sept. 26 at Hofstra University due to his lack of achieving 15 percent support over the course of five national polls. Johnson has hovered around 10 percent, according to nytimes.com.

“If you are on the ballot, if you have a mathematically possibility of winning the Electoral College, if you are on enough ballots to win, in enough states to win, which Gary Johnson has in all 50 states including D.C. (District of Columbia), Why shouldn’t he be allowed to debate?” said senior Kyle Dobry, the student protester who put the event together via Facebook.

The protesters handed out flyers regarding the political stances of the Libertarian Party on one side of the flyer in comparison to both the Democrat and Republican parties with the other side displaying an image of both Johnson and Weld.

“When students are actively engaged in the political conversation, the country is better for it. Longwood is proud to have students who are enthusiastic about driving that conversation here on campus,” said Matt McWilliams, director of communications & media relations.

Skylar Ward, a student protester, believed that Gary Johnson was “a very valuable candidate and not a lot of people know about him.”

“There’s not too many people here right now, but we are just trying to hold the signs get people to notice us and figure out why we are here, and we can talk to them about how we want everybody represented,” said Rowan Ridge, a student who participated in the protest.

“A lot of the younger generation feel the old left and the old right haven’t really adopted a lot of the issues that a lot of us care about and for that reason we feel this voice needs to be heard,” said Dobry.

In order to protest on Longwood’s campus, the group sought approval from Longwood University Police Department (LUDP) to protest where they did. Protesters also reached out to the Johnson campaign in which they received merchandise to hand out at the protest in addition to more information on how to reach the status of getting both Johnson and Weld into the debates, said Kelsi Forehand, a student protester.

“(Our goal with protesting and signing petitions is) To try to get as many signatures that we can and try to get as many people educated about this kind of issue and try to get everyone to realize that there’s more people than just two people,” said Ridge.

The group protested from noon until 2:30 p.m. and gained 210 signatures for the petition, according to Ward.

“As for which candidates appear on stage at the debate, that is entirely a decision made by the Commission on Presidential Debates, not Longwood,” said McWilliams.

Individuals who wish to protest the debate at Longwood are encouraged to do so on the First Amendment Field located at 800 Griffin Blvd., Farmville, Va. The field is open to the general public from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Oct. 4, according to Longwood’s official debate website.
Recently, Longwood University paused their acceptance of students to the elementary education graduate program as the education department and faculty changes the current program to offer more to students who choose to expand their education.

“The faculty and department are rewriting it to be a better program for students. It was really just a repeat of what you got as an undergraduate and we really want it to be a much more robust program,” said Dr. Jeanine Perry, the dean of the College of Graduate & Professional Studies.

Perry said they hope the remade program will bring endorsements from the state, encouraging more students to enter graduate school.

Dr. Paul Chapman, dean for the College of Education & Human Services, said, “We have focused on enhancing people’s master’s degrees so it can either give them more pay or the endorsement gives them an upper hand.”

The goal for the change in these graduate programs is to make them more competitive in the educational world. The idea is to make it so that when students who have completed the graduate programs go out to get jobs, they have a higher chance of being offered the position because of the level of experience and knowledge the program has given them, according to Chapman.

Chapman added, “I used to be a principal and I would take a look at people with all kinds of endorsements and say ‘I could really use this person in multiple places’.”

These changes are being made so that students will continue to want to apply to these programs. The hope is to continue to give Longwood students the chance to use their degrees to obtain better jobs in the educational field, according to Chapman.

“We think about Longwood and we think about the university students. We love you, we want you to be here longer. We are student focused,” said Chapman.

The program will begin accepting applications in the fall of 2018 or sooner, depending on when the faculty and department can spend time working on it, according to Perry.
Longwood moving to new core curriculum

by Christine Rindfleisch  
News Editor  
@longwoodrotunda

For the past three years a selected group of faculty members have been working on creating a new core curriculum to replace the current general education program.

The curriculum will be voted on in November of this year in Faculty Senate, and if approved, will be voted on by the Board of Visitors in December of this year. Following that, the curriculum will be slowly phased in, according to Wade Edwards, department chair of English and modern languages.

“In fall of 2018, all incoming freshmen will be in this program; everyone else will be in the current general education program,” said Dr. Sharon Emerson-Stonnell, professor of mathematics. “In Fall 2019, all freshmen will be in this new program, but transfer students are going to decide based off their major.”

According to Emerson-Stonnell, all students entering Longwood in the fall of 2020 will be in the new program.

“We (the committee) started three years ago (Fall 2013) with a charge from the president (W. Taylor Reveley IV), who basically said that he wanted our general education program to be a signature program at Longwood University,” said Lee Bidwell, professor of sociology.

The committee included Dr. David Locascio, associate professor and associate dean of the College of Education and Human Services; Sharon M. Menegoni, associate professor in the College of Education & Human Services; Dr. Cheryl Atkins, professor of management; Dr. David Lehr, associate professor of economics; associate provost for academic innovation and development, interim director; Dr. Sharon Emerson-Stonnell, professor of mathematics; Dr. Larissa Smith Fergeson, professor, 20th-century American history, African-American history, history of the U.S. south, Virginia history; Dr. David W. Shoenthal, professor of mathematics and department chair; Dr. Melissa C. Rhoten, professor of analytical chemistry; Dr. Lee Bidwell, professor of sociology; Dr. Heather Lettner-Rust, assistant professor, rhetoric and composition; Dr. Sarai Blincoe, assistant professor and Pamela D. J. McDermott, assistant professor; conducting, aural skills, choral methods.

“We (the committee) studied national trends in general education and what general education is even for,” said Edwards.

Emerson-Stonnell disclosed that Student Affairs have also played a key role in the process with the idea to be more welcoming to undeclared students.

“The very first thing we did was that spring semester (2014) we went into every English 400 level class, and we surveyed every student in every one of those sections, and we found out that they did not see the connection between our current general education courses and their major,” said Emerson-Stonnell.

The core curriculum is composed of three levels, with the foundation levels being 100-200 level courses that do not require any prerequisites. In this level there are two courses that are required for all students to take, ‘Writing & Rhetoric’ and ‘Inquiry to Citizenship,’ according to Emerson-Stonnell.

“If you have found a major you like, you do not have to retake a course, the course will count towards your major and the core curriculum at the same time,” said Emerson-Stonnell.

In this new core curriculum there will be six other courses, along the lines of general education courses that will give students the opportunity to try different things and ultimately sample from seven different majors if students choose to take an extra course. These courses will make up 21-22 credit hours for students, according to Emerson-Stonnell.

“We have built into this program with every single course they take is either going to be speaking infused or writing infused with 10 percent to 15 percent of their grade is either going to be speaking or writing,” said Emerson-Stonnell.

The new set of courses will include the foreign language component required of students at a maximum of two semesters for all students. In the original general education program, some majors required students to take three semesters of a foreign language, according to Emerson-Stonnell.

Emerson-Stonnell explained students will test into language courses, but if they do not place into a lower level language course then they will have the option of taking a course on global citizenship. If a student places into a higher-level language course then the student will take a different course for global citizenship. The language course is built into the foundation level of the curriculum. The second language course is in world perspective, according to Emerson-Stonnell.

When students completed the survey in English 400, the committee found that students felt the in-state tuition 125% rule was an issue when it came to changing their major within the general education program, according to Emerson-Stonnell.

In addition to the two required courses for students to take as freshmen, all students will also be required to complete ‘Symposium on the Common Good’. This course will host one broad theme, but each major will have an aspect of the theme, according to Emerson-Stonnell.

“We are proposing that general education classes are capped at much smaller numbers than they currently are for some departments. We are proposing a cap of 25 in classes that don’t have a cap right now,” said Bidwell.

The committee is talking to Reveley and other administrators about funding the new curriculum and have come in agreement that it is going to require a lot of resources, according to Bidwell.
SGA Brief: Sept. 20

by Cassandra Maddox
News Staff
@longwoodrotunda

New senators were inducted into SGA at their last meeting.

In this week’s Student Government Association (SGA) meeting, Senator Morgan Rollins presented concerns from students regarding food and meal plans at Dorrill Dining Hall from her experience at Dine with the Director on Sept. 14 with Grant Avent, the director of student dining.

Rollins shared that students had been sharing guest swipes prior to the meal plan change and Grant addressed the issue of sharing guest swipes prior to the meal plans and outrage from students.

Grant Avent, the director of student dining, addressed the issue of sharing guest swipes prior to the meal plans allowing students to receive guest swipes prior to the meal plan change and Grant addressed the issue of sharing guest swipes prior to the meal plans and outrage from students.

Another concern pointed out was that many students experienced food poisoning from raw or poorly cooked foods at the dining hall. Rollins felt this issue was hard to determine whether it should be notified to the staff at the dining hall or not as only a few students have experienced such.

Rollins advised the SGA to remind their peers about the problem whether or not the issue originates from the dining hall.

Aside from concerns and complaints being addressed, the senators recalled that there was a gluten-free advertisement handed out during the Involvement Fair and also stated that steak and donuts will return to the dining hall.

Rollins also stated the possibility of pancakes being served after the vice presidential debate. Moe’s Southwest Grill and Chick-Fil-A will eventually accept gift cards and promotions, according to Rollins.

Dr. Tim Pierson, vice president of student affairs, mentioned that he had spoken to many parents of students about the upcoming vice presidential debate during Family Weekend on Sept. 16-17 and overall received positive feedback about hosting.

Pierson encouraged students to invite their peers to attend the debate.

Pierson also disclosed that the many debate-themed banners on display around campus are for the media to use in their broadcasts.

Secretary Sarah Kensy informed the SGA that she placed a work order for the blue emergency pole in front of Greenwood Library and wanted the issue to be addressed.

Treasurer Dustyn Hall replied that the pole is scheduled to be fixed after the construction is complete, which is taking place next to Greenwood Library due to an electrical issue.

Two senators pointed out that many students have experienced catcalling remarks from construction workers on campus. One senator informed the SGA that a student had approached them with a personal experience near Willett Hall.

President Dillon Yonker swore in three freshmen council members into the SGA.

Historian Maribeth Stotler-Watkins chose to table the constitution regarding the Sport and Leisure Industry Management (SLIM) organization due to lack of representation.

The SGA approved the motion to allocate $10 to the League of Legends Club for advertising purposes to increase membership.

The SGA approved the allocation of $100 to the Outdoor Club for an upcoming canoe trip.

The SGA reallocated the funds to WMLU from their event, Battle of the Bands, to a new event in the amount of $4,150. WMLU cancelled Battle of the Bands and is going to replace it with a new event with the reallocated funds.

The SGA held a closed forum meeting to discuss committees within the SGA.

There will be a SGA meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 27 in the Martinelli Board Room in Maugans Alumni Center at 3:45 p.m.

SFC Report: Sept. 22

by Shelby Massie
News Staff
@longwoodrotunda

Peer Health Educators $2,219

• Funds will be used to advertise the organization since the organization was off-campus for one semester last spring.
• Funds will be used to train members to be certified for certain programs.
• Funds will be used to purchase promotional materials.

Outdoor Club $1,825

• Funds will be used for White Water Rafting trip on Oct. 25-26.
• This trip is open to all members.
• The allocation will be used to replenish the current funds in the organizations account to prevent depletion.

The SFC approved the allocation of $1,825 and will be voted on in the SGA on Tuesday, Sept. 27 to be approved.

The SFC did not pass the allocation amount of $2,219, but did fund them $10 to advertise and will be voted on in the SGA on Tuesday, Sept. 27 to be approved.
‘If you learn enough, you can feel at ease’

by Emily Carroll
Asst. Features Editor
@em_carroll_18

“Education can be many things, but fundamentally it is nothing less than mental adventure,” explained Michael Dirda.

Dirda proudly received a Pulitzer Prize for his columns and was an editor for The Washington Post Book World. He came to Longwood University to speak to students on Sept. 19 about, “Becoming a Citizen of the World.” His speech, located in Blackwell Hall, was hosted by Longwood’s English and modern languages department. The majority of the department’s lecturers promoted the event in their classes.

The event began with an introduction of Dirda, which gave the audience a sense of who he was and what he had accomplished throughout his career.

Then, he took the stage. His quick wit and funny tales captured the audience’s attention from the start.

He explained he was from a working class family without a lot of money, getting by with what they had. Dirda’s explanation resonated with the audience members as clapping broke out among them.

He shared his belief that in the face of doubt, even if someone can’t afford some luxuries, they can still prosper and learn to be an intelligent and cultured citizen.

He described how teachers would have described him as “slow” or “hard of hearing.” He talked about his mother. He said she was the one who taught him to read; a few novels he described to be among his favorites were “Moby Dick” and “The Count of Monte Cristo.”

“In eighth grade, I was elected king of the book fair,” he joked, receiving laughter from the audience.

Early on, Dirda said he realized he could create his own destiny and knew others could recreate themselves as well.

“Dumas’s book (author of Monte Cristo) set me to think about my life and future, looking back I realized that its message is fundamentally American, you can change you apparent destiny, you can reinvent yourself and education is the means that will enable you to do so,” stated Dirda.

Dirda, proud to be a cultured man, exposed himself to art such as literature, writing, languages and musical influences.

After seeing “cool places and cities in the movies and on television,” he became excited to travel to America.

After seeing “cool places and cities in the movies and on the internet” he became excited to travel to America.

“Growing up I always had the idea, and I always told them (my parents) I would come here (America) when I finished (school),” said Aleidi.

Aleidi completed the English as a Secondary Language (ESL) program in almost three months. He picked up English by listening to his roommates communicate with each other and by watching American movies and television shows.

Aleidi described the extreme difference between the two countries and said, “everything is 100 percent different.”

“Starting from my first day here, I was at the airport and this kid was maybe seven years old, and his mom was trying to stop him from running around, but he was yelling, crying and hitting his mom and telling her what to do and his mom was actually doing it. Back at home if I were to put my hand on my mom she would make me cry for the next week. I’ve never seen that before,” said Aleidi.

Aleidi’s shock at children’s behavior and parental discipline has appeared in various other aspects of his life.

“In my own case with a blue-collar background, I learned to be cultured so I could feel comfortable around people from any sort of background; but above all, I wanted to be a cultured citizen,” said Dirda.

Dirda switched his speech to more inspirational messages, urging the audience to believe in themselves no matter what.

“If you follow around less traveled, be prepared for setbacks; it may take awhile to get the career (you had hoped for),” said Dirda.

Dirda described majors in college, focusing more on English majors, and how their degree could lead to great things.

He said when people ask, “What can you do with an English degree?” He responds, “(An english degree) prepares you for anything and you never know what course could change your life.”

Six inspirational words concluded Dirda’s speech and led the full house in Blackwell to a round of applause, “Try again, fail again, be better.”

Humans of Longwood: Sam Aleidi

by Miranda Farley
Features Staff
@longwoodrotunda

After three months of convincing his parents, junior communication studies major Sam Aleidi gained approval from his family to leave Riyadh, Saudi Arabia to attend college almost 7,000 miles away in Farmville, Va.

Aleidi was the first of his six siblings to move and study in America; he wanted to be independent and have a fresh start.

Aleidi became intrigued and wanted to experience the country for himself after talking with American friends. After seeing “cool places and cities in the movies and on the internet” he became excited to travel to America.

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Aleidi’s shock at children’s behavior and parental discipline has appeared in various other aspects of his life.

“I still have culture shocks every day,” said Aleidi.
**MONDAY**
44 Cent Wings & Half Price Hindenbergs
4PM - Close

**TUESDAY**
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Children 12 & Under Eat for $1 - 4PM - 9PM

**WEDNESDAY**
Mexican $6.95 Fiesta Feast!
All Day - All Night

**THURSDAY**
Half Price Spinach Dip 4PM-9PM
39 Cent Boneless Wings 4PM-9PM
2 for 1 Appetizers 9PM-Close

**FRIDAY**
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$3.95 Cinnamon Sensations
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**SATURDAY**
$7.25 Reuben’s
All Day - All Night

**SUNDAY**
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Movie review: When the Bough Breaks

by Kiersten Freedman
Social Media Editor
@kfreedman44

When it comes to having a baby, a surrogate mother is the last option for John (Morris Chestnut) and Laura Taylor (Regina Hall). After exhausting all of their embryos without luck, the well-off couple turn to Anna (Jaz Sinclair), a young waitress who just wants to help couples achieve their dream.

Clearly the Taylors have never watched any movies about surrogates, or they might’ve shown a little more hesitation or been a tad bit more cautious once they noticed things starting to go awry.

The perfect picture of sweet Anna cracks when the Taylors meet her unstable boyfriend and things go downhill from there. The Taylors realize she is not safe at home and ask her to move in with them, then pamper her like their new 16 year-old daughter with a brand new car.

Laura is a high-profile chef, who frequently spends her time out of town on business trips. John is a powerful lawyer, spending day in and day out at his office, and even more so when Laura is away.

So, Laura is away on business a lot, Anna is staying in their house and John is either at home or his office... I think you can see where this is going.

The ending of this movie leaves something to be desired and keeps you guessing, but not in a good way. It was not made clear whether or not there would be a sequel, but given the abrupt, vague ending, I hope there is. I think that we all need a little closure after that sequence of events.

As far as movies of this sort go where a surrogate mother terrorizes an innocent couple because she realizes her power, “When the Bough Breaks” does not stray from the norm.

In fact, I may have watched this exact movie with different actors on the Lifetime Movie Channel. Everything was extremely predictable, and if you were not able to guess the entire plot from the trailer, you would from the first ten minutes of the movie.

However, it is still a thriller, so even though I knew what was coming, I did jump several times within the movie. And I am nothing if not a sucker for a thriller. So, even though it was predictable, I would recommend seeing “When the Bough Breaks” to see exactly how the story unfolds and get your adrenaline pumping.

A night for old souls and young hearts

by Joel Worford
Contributor
@joel_worford

In a rare moment of modernity during a set that mainly consisted of classic soul covers and pop standards, singer-songwriter Caleb Elder launched into a minimalist cover of Walk The Moon’s 2014 hit single “Shut Up and Dance With Me” to the pleasure of his younger audience members.

Elder’s arrival at Uptown Coffee Café on Saturday saw a crowd comprised of mainly older aged 50 people tapping their feet, dancing and reminiscing over classic hits from the 60s, 70s, and 80s.

Elder had the crowd from the start, opening with a cover of Otis Redding’s post-mortem classic hit “Sittin’ On the Dock of The Bay” that featured an ill-fated, albeit endearing attempt at the song’s whistling coda that left everyone smiling in its wake.

Elder’s lighthearted banter with audience members consisted mainly of self-deprecation, but his confident stage presence backed by room-silencing vocal prowess proved that he was no amateur.

Elder’s credentials stand for themselves; he was once a contestant on “The Voice,” a nationally televised singing competition featuring judges such as Adam Levine, Usher and other pop icons. Elder was on “Team Adam,” getting eliminated during the battle rounds, but not before receiving praise from Levine for the “great quality” in his voice.

Elder’s performance Saturday supported Levine’s claim; in a night that started with a light crowd, every song towards the end was met with loud cheers and applause from both the older audience members, who remained from the start and local college students, who slowly trickled in about halfway through the set.

“Great crowd!” Elder replied when asked about how the night went overall. “I love playing at Uptown. The folks there always ask me how I’ve been, and it’s just a great laid back atmosphere.”

The music of the night featured not only covers, but also Elder’s originals such as “The State” and a Delta Blues-influenced jam called “Can’t Help Myself.” Elder cites “The State” as one of his personal favorites because of its “fun, very not serious” nature. He stressed the importance that musicians should “have material like that in (their) repertoire.”

What’s next for Elder is a five-month gig on a cruise ship that will land in the Bahamas. He’s excited for the “traveling” and “new faces” that he’ll surely encounter for what will be his fourth contract with Carnival Cruise Lines.

In the meantime, however, he’s still close by in Appomattox, Va. working on his next CD that many audience members from Saturday night are surely looking forward to hearing.
The Maine, Baby Bash and more come to Longwood for upcoming Oktoberfest

Past the vice presidential debate being held at Longwood University, Oktoberfest is sure to be among the biggest events held at the school. The annual weekend celebration is a culmination of the fall semester that merges student activity, class wars and live music as a treat for students.

Along with color wars, amongst the biggest draws to Oktoberfest is the live music provided. Past years have seen acts such as Travis Porter and Post Malone grace the stage. This year's lineup includes The Maine, Baby Bash, Raelynn, The Last Bison and Major and the Monbacks.

Historically, Mortar Board has done a good job of including diverse acts for students and concert goers alike, and this year's lineup is no different. Headlining acts The Maine and Baby Bash are starkly different but speak to the increasingly diverse taste in all types of music.

Although the acts may not be amongst the most popular on today's music charts, traditionally Longwood has done a good job of either bringing in acts that serve as nostalgic reminders for past years or breaking in new artists such as Taylor Swift, The Fray and J. Cole.

Baby Bash had two hits in the 2000s, the gold certified “Suga Suga” and the double platinum certified single “Cyclone.” The urban hip-hop and R&B performer will likely have the biggest audience due to the hit songs he created in the past decade.

Although not critically acclaimed or a relevant act in today's scene, Bash may have the loudest crowd reaction amongst all acts when “Cyclone” is performed.

The Maine, the main headline (pun intended), are an alternative post-punk band that appeals to a large student demographic. Typically acts that headline Oktoberfest and Spring Weekend fit the alternative rock or punk-rock mold.

The relatively mid-level popularity band is most noted for its single “Into Your Arms” from their debut album “Can't Stop, Won't Stop.” Although not as popular as Bash, the band has found moderate success with the college aged demographic while charting on Billboard with the majority of their albums.

The Last Bison, Raelynn and Major and the Monbacks round out the crop. The Last Bison are a native Virginian indie-folk band originally from the Tidewater area. The homegrown presence appeals to a indie music crowd as the genre has grown to be a festival favorite.

Raelynn is a strong vocalist that competed on “The Voice” and may provide a commercial presence for the relatively indie/mid-level acts.

Major and the Monbacks, probably the least well-known act on the lineup, are another alt-rock band that play as a vibrant up-tempo old school band. Songs such as “I Do” are reminiscent of 1950s cuts and may be a favorite among Longwood students.

Oktoberfest takes place Oct. 21-23, a couple weeks after fall break and the debate, and hopefully, it will be a fun culmination for Fall 2016.
Parents Council Grant

Want an opportunity to improve Lancer life?

Look no further!

The Longwood Parents Council is now accepting grant proposals for the upcoming year! The Parents Council grants process is open to faculty, staff, students, and student organizations. Grant money can be used for projects that promote learning, citizen leadership, and enhance student life within the University community.

The Parents Council has approximately $10,000 to award this year with a maximum amount of $2000 awarded per grant proposal. The grant process includes a written proposal followed by a brief presentation (10 minutes) to the Council highlighting the merit of the project.

Students and Organizations can apply for funding to use toward things such as:

- Hosting Speakers
- Transportation Costs to Conferences
- Hosting an event such as a 5K
- Marketing costs for annual events
- Promoting Citizen Leadership

**APPLY TODAY!**

Applications are due by 5:00 on **OCTOBER 14th**

Email application to LUparentscouncil@longwood.edu

Questions?

Contact the First Year Experience and Family Programs

Phone: 434-395-2414

Email: LUparentscouncil@longwood.edu

Visit us: Lancaster G28
ALIENS

by Austin Berry
Layout Editor
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The topic of debate (get it, because of the debate?) this week is aliens. Everyone, don your tinfoil hats and grab your non-traceable cell phones because this is going to be a weird one, even by my standards. If you are still reading, I applaud you already.

So, why are we talking about aliens of all things? Well, besides the fact that Cassie and I are seriously scraping the bottom of the topic barrel, (Tweet us topic ideas with #rotonion!) there has been a lot of unexplainable chaos in the world as of late. There’s Global Warming, Donald Trump, Brad and Angelina splitting, Donald Trump, North Korea testing nukes, Donald Trump, Brexit and of course, the screaming, racist, human tangerine that is Donald Trump.

Something external has to be causing this right? There’s no way the human race could let things deteriorate to this point on our own. I mean, we’re the same species that invented chocolate, coffee, the iphone and beds! We cannot be at fault for all of the madness in the world, surely.

With that being said, the question now is what is causing all this madness? Some people think it may be some secret new world order, or Illuminati type group, made up of the world’s most powerful people, but c’mon, the government can barely hold itself together, much less run a super secret, world dominating organization.

That leads me to only one conclusion, it has to be aliens. No doubt, this sounds crazy, but I’m about to drop some science on you. There are over 10 billion galaxies in the observable universe, and each of these galaxies contains around 100 billion stars give or take. Scientifically speaking, that puts the quantity of stars in the observable universe at precisely a shit ton. Because most of those stars have planets orbiting them, just like in our solar system, there must be somewhere where aliens exist (and maybe even in a place where people read this column).

Is that not enough to convince you? Well what about something closer to home? With all that has been happening, I’m willing to bet the aliens have somehow taken control over every level of our society, including right here at Longwood. I mean, c’mon, look at all this debate madness. Look at the banners alone for Christ’s sake! Do you think a real living human being of Earth decided to cover campus in a bunch of signs that only say the name of the school and the state, not to mention that fact that most are upside down (vertical type is supposed to run top to bottom people). This had to be the work of some alien race who is not quite familiar with human customs, but tried nonetheless. (And it’s the thought that counts right?)

Food for thought people. Food for thought.

Don’t blame aliens

by Cassie Tagert
Copy Editor
@longwoodrotunda

This year has been notable for all of the crazy events that have happened so far from the rise of extremely controversial political figures to people being robbed at gunpoint while trying to catch Pokémon. There are a lot of theories as to why the general public has decided to forego their safety to elect infamous characters to public office and capture cartoon creatures. The most ridiculous theory so far has to be that it’s all a ploy instigated by aliens.

It’s easy to jump on board with this theory because it would explain a lot. For example, why does it take so long to start construction on a building that was torn down two years ago, or why do professors all schedule their projects to be due in the same week or even, why do I lose half a pair of socks every time I do my laundry? Putting the blame on aliens would solve a lot of our problems, but there is a logical explanation for everything.

First of all, it takes two years to progress on a construction project when you’re working on a million construction projects at once. Sure, it may seem counterintuitive to start a bunch of projects all at once rather than finishing one at a time, but if you’re constantly working on multiple projects at once, it will seem like you are accomplishing more than you really are. Once one building is finished, people will be impressed at the “rapid” change. And, really, aliens couldn’t pull that off.

It may sound strange, but there’s a logical explanation behind why most professors tend to assign their projects and papers during the same week. There’s actually a requirement when applying to work at a college that says a professor’s favorite week of the semester must be the week before finals and that’s when all of their projects need to be due. So, you can put your mind at ease; now you know the secret and won’t have to worry about aliens conspiring to test your stamina by making all projects due at the same week.

The disappearance of half of the pairs of socks has been a growing epidemic in this country since our humble beginnings. Considering the endurance of this problem, it’s obvious that aliens may be behind our sockless left-foot struggles. However, have you considered the possibility that through stealing half of our pairs of socks, the government is able to collect massive quantities of information about us?

Think about it. Each pair of sock contains our individual DNA and, by amassing a sock file on each person, they are able to keep tabs on our lives and how they are changing. Scary, I know, but it’s the truth.

So, whenever something bizarre happens, and it seems like the answer may point to the existence of aliens, just think it through. Remember, there is a logical explanation for everything. Don’t just blame your problems on aliens.
An open letter to Longwood University

by Alyssa Wright
Student Letter
@longwoodrotunda

Dear Longwood University,

This letter is to address the issues surrounding the campus holding the VP debate. As a current student, I have heard so many complaints and disagreements with the way things are happening, and I wanted to take a moment to address our needs as students of this fine institution.

First, let’s talk about the construction. You have now blocked off half of campus by barricading Brock Commons in front of Hull, Willett, Communication Studies and Theatre Center (CSTAC) and the library. Students who have to run from one end of campus to the other to make it to their next class on time are losing hope entirely.

Over the past few days, I have been late to numerous classes as I sprint from French Hall to CSTAC. You would think this may not be a big deal, but Longwood’s campus is known widely as one of the most accessible college campuses. Now, students who are in wheelchairs have to take the huge incline behind the library to get to class instead of just taking the low slope of Brock Commons. Students who have broken legs now have to be even more late to their classes because they have to take an alternate route that is almost always more difficult to climb. How is this fair to any of us? We are paying for our education; being late isn’t acceptable, and we are all concerned about it.

Since I brought up money, let’s talk about that issue as well. We are also paying for amenities that we don’t even have access to anymore. The Health and Fitness Center was one of a kind. Now, we are next to subway in a small space that is just like a Gold’s Gym (no offense, Gold’s). We paid tuition with almost a 7 percent increase from last year because of this debate. That may not seem like a lot, but it increases a couple thousand dollars every time you increase a percentage. We also do not have access to the Willett pool. We just had this building renovated during my freshman year. So, why does it need a new face now?

We are also paying for a debate for which we got no warning and absolutely no say in hosting. If you ask the student body how they feel about the debate, you will get an overwhelming amount of negative feedback. Yes, we understand that it’s a big event for Longwood and will help us to be a part of history. But you’re going overboard. Your students should come first, no matter what. We should have gotten a say as to what our money was going toward, especially since many of the things we thought we were paying for have been taken away.

Finally, let’s talk about the classes. I did not sign up for Longwood because the classes surround the politics of today. But now, because of my major, I am in every debate centered class that fit into my schedule. This means I am hearing the same thing, in Every. Single. Class. Every. Single. Day. I am paying around $11,000 to take five of the exact same classes. Why?

I came to Longwood to gain the skills I need to become a successful professional in my specific career, not to become a successful politician. So, why do I need to know the importance of arguing in a debate or how to analyze a debate?

So Longwood, next time you want to hold a national debate, please take your students views, needs and opinions into account, or you’re going to have even more unhappy, paying college students.

Sincerely,
The concerned and upset students of Longwood University.

Dear Shentel Wi-Fi

by Hannah Moonis
Contributor
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You’re probably wondering why I am writing this to you. Well, I would like to tell you the story of how I ended up in Russia, selling fruit on the side of the road. A tragic tale full of pain and suffering; and it’s all your fault.

I used to be a mildly successful student. I turned my work in on time, made A’s and B’s, and even tutored other students in math. But that was before I met you. When I started college, I didn’t pay attention to you. You were something I was aware of, but didn’t feel the need to address in any way.

Classes began, and the first week was a success. I wasn’t given too much homework and what I did have, I felt I could do on the weekends. That was when it all went wrong.

I realized you weren’t always around. Sometimes you dipped out for hours. So, when I sat down at nine o’clock at night to write my first college essay, you can imagine my displeasure when I realize you are nowhere to be found, and I had to submit my essay by midnight.

Do you understand the position that puts me in?

A bad one, a very bad position. You were in and out all night, and you were definitely not in at midnight. Needless to say, I didn’t receive a good grade on the essay.

That was only the beginning of my problems with you.

Sometimes you would move slower than a herd of snails traveling through peanut butter when I was in the middle of binge watching “Stranger Things.” Sometimes you would, once again, disappear completely when I needed to do my online math homework.

Not only were you personally aiming to disown me for wasting their money on a school I had to leave. I tried different schools, but everywhere I went, there you were, stalking me and reminding me of my failure. I flunked out of three more schools before I was blackballed. No one would take me, all because of you. I couldn’t get a job because I could never connect to the Wi-Fi long enough to submit an application. Jobs with written applications seemed to sense my failure and refused to hire me. I reeked of defeat. I soon became renowned across the country for my total and utter lack of purpose.

Soon I was summoned to Washington, D.C. to speak with the president. He told me I was a disgrace to the American name and was being deported. Before I knew it, I was on an airplane across the Atlantic. Every country I went to kicked me out sooner or later for fear I might spread my disgrace to others. I felt the weight of your punishment on me. I was Cain, cut off from all of humanity, and you were God, refusing to end my suffering.

Somehow I made my way to Russia, the only place where no one would care about my past failures as I shiver in the howling wind and my fruit begins to frost over. There I remain to this day. You ruined my life. Thanks for nothing Shentel.
FH: Lancers fall short against defending MAC champion

Kent State snatches overtime winner

by Tristan Penna
Sports Editor
@colourlessbeige

The Longwood field hockey team fought bitterly against Kent State but lost in overtime, 3-2 on Sept. 25. The Lancers dropped to 6-4 following the loss in Farmville, Va.

Longwood came into their Mid-American Conference opener off the back of an upset win over rivals Liberty. Despite their good form, head coach Iain Byers’ side fell to an overtime winner from junior forward Shannon Talbot in the 76th minute.

“It was a tough loss,” said Byers. “We moved the ball; we stuck to our gameplan. To take a team like Kent State, who are double-MAC champions in the regular season, they’re a good team, and to take them to overtime is progress for us. Everyone on the team’s obviously disappointed that we didn’t win, but that’s because they’re a team that wants to win, and you’re super proud of that as a coach.”

“We’ve just shown how good we are this year, for sure, and this game proved that. Overtime is very unlucky, you have six people on the field, whoever gets a lucky breakaway wins the game,” added senior midfielder and team captain Ellen Ross. “It could have gone either way, I think we deserved to win, but we lost. We learned so much from this game… this is the hardest team we’ll play for the rest of the year, we’ll see them again in the MAC championships, and I can guarantee you we will beat them.”

In a tactical, defensive struggle, it was the home side that opened the scoring. Sophomore forward Leonie Verstraete converted off a penalty corner to give Longwood a 1-0 in the 29th minute, and the Lancers held that lead into halftime.

The Golden Flashes emerged brighter after the break, and in the 41st minute, junior midfielder Ines Delpech slotted home from a penalty corner to draw level. Senior forward Krysti Lober looked to have won it for Kent State in the 68th minute with a goal to make it 2-1 for the Golden Flashes.

Although registering just two shots in the second half, the Lancers equalized one minute later. With just 90 seconds remaining, Verstraete’s second goal made it 2-2 to send the game into overtime.

Longwood hoped to carry the momentum from the late leveler into the extra period, but there was no such luck against the preseason MAC favorites, as Talbot struck the game-winner five minutes into overtime. Despite the loss, Byers and his squad were pleased with the team’s performance.

“I think this shows that we can compete,” said Byers. “We took them to overtime, and it was more the manner in which we did it. It wasn’t a crushing, it wasn’t lucky, we kind of moved the ball, we did what we wanted to do, and we took our chances when we had them.”

“I don’t really think there was a difference (between the teams). I think we played a lot harder than they did. I think they came out thinking they would beat us,” said Ross. “They really underestimated us, and I think we proved ourselves.”

A visit to Washington D.C. to face Georgetown on Oct. 2 is next up for the Lancers, and Ross said she is “very confident” heading into the clash.
WSOC: Lancers demolish Gardner-Webb, 5-0
Five second-half goals blow Bulldogs away

by Tristan Penna
Sports Editor
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An offensive explosion of five goals in 20 minutes advanced the Longwood women's soccer team to rip apart Gardner-Webb 5-0 in their Big South opener on Sept. 24. The home win brings the Lancers to 4-6-0 on the season.

Heading into the game, the Lancers had been struggling offensively, scoring just seven goals all season. But after an end-to-end first half where both teams failed to score despite rattling the crossbar, the home side came out firing after the break. In the 51st minute, senior forward Amanda Spencer fed the ball to fellow forward Sheyenne Stretz, and the sophomore poked it home to make it 1-0.

“This week, we spent a lot of extra time on finishing. All of us forwards were out there for an hour before practice every day this week working on striking the ball and finishing,” said Stretz. “Today we just had it, we were there, we felt it.”

That practice paid off just two minutes later as sophomore forward Kathryn Miller put away the rebound off of a shot from Stretz. Now with a two goal advantage, head coach Todd Dyer’s side continued to pour forward following the breakthrough.

“I think we created a lot of similar chances in the first half. We just weren’t quite clinical enough in front of goal. Gardner-Webb still had their legs under them and were making things difficult for us,” said Dyer. “In the second half, it was just one of those deals where you just keep chopping. And once you get that first goal, it just kind of helps you relax a little bit more and things just kind of snowball from there.”

“I think once we got one we just had a lot of momentum to go forward,” added Stretz. “And we said once we got a couple in, the floodgates were going to open.”

In the 67th minute, junior midfielder Janese Quick curled a free kick inside the post, before Miller lofted one over the goalkeeper one minute later to make it 4-0. Sophomore defender Sydney Wallace drove home another rebound in the 71st minute, this time off sophomore midfielder Kelly Almeida’s shot to cap the win.

Despite tallying five goals and 30 shots, with 20 on target, Dyer was equally pleased with his defense, which picked up its second shutout of the season. Dyer highlighted the play of junior goalkeeper Maria Kirby, senior defender Jayden Metzger and Wallace as well as Quick’s role in front of the defense.

“That’s the spine of our defense, and they were rock solid today,” said Dyer. “If those four are on the same page and playing well, we’re going to be tough to break down.”

Dyer will hope the defensive quartet is up to the task in their next game against defending Big South champion Liberty. Longwood will travel to the conference favorites Sept. 28.

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MSOC: Longwood drops Big South opener to UNC Asheville
Lancers fall to Bulldogs in overtime

by Stephanie Roberts
Contributor
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Longwood lost in double overtime to UNC Asheville 3-2, at the Greenwood Field on Sept. 24. The back and forth battle between the Lancers and the Bulldogs was stretched until the last two minutes of the second overtime when UNC Asheville’s senior forward Zach Joens scored the game winner in the 109th minute. The conference opening loss drops the Lancers to 3-4-1.

“I guess it wasn’t our day,” said Longwood head coach Jon Atkinson on the official Longwood athletics website. “We had enough clear chances to win a hatful of games, but a combination of top goalkeeping and poor finishing left the door open for a spirited Asheville team to overtake us in sudden-death.”

The Lancers came out strong and tallied the first goal of the game in the fourth minute. Longwood senior midfielder Michael Margulis finished the goal off a cross from junior defender Martin Pajunurm, marking his first goal of the season.

Although the Bulldogs had 11 shots, the Lancer defense held them scoreless in the first half.

However in the 58th minute, UNC Asheville’s Joens scored his first goal off an assist from junior midfielder Richie Lee. Longwood responded with a goal from redshirt sophomore forward Mo Jalloh in the 78th minute. Jalloh received a through ball from junior midfielder Dan Campos, who picked up his fourth assist in five games.

But then in the 87th minute, the Bulldogs equalized through junior defender Zack Compton, assisted by Joens, to force overtime.

Following the scoreless first overtime, both sides got two shots off in the second overtime. However, UNC Asheville managed to find the golden goal from Joens and secure the conference win.

“It’s a painful way to end a game on the wrong end, but it is what it is, and we need to rebound quickly and get some players healthy as we start a busy conference slate and look to get back on track,” said Atkinson on the official Longwood Lancers website. “I fully believe in this team, and we have shown that we can match any team.”

The Lancers will host Pittsburgh in the next match on Sept. 26 before hosting Campbell on Oct. 1.
Fellow Lancers, families, faculty and staff gathered in Jarman Auditorium to witness the mock presidential debate hosted by the College Democrats of Longwood and the College Republicans of Longwood on Wednesday, Sept. 21.

Before each party made their opening statements, Kyle Dobry spoke as a representative of the Libertarian party in support of its presidential nominee, Gary Johnson. Dobry announced and encouraged the audience to participate in the protest which was held on Brock Commons, Sept. 22 to allow both Johnson and William “Bill” Weld, Johnson’s running-mate, to participate in upcoming debates.

The Democrat panel included, Joe Hyman, president of the College Democrats, Will Grainer, and Franklin Marrs.

The Republican panel included Kaitlin Owens, Geoffrey Goodwin and Josue Gallardo.

Some controversial topics during the debate included gun rights, affirmative action, minimum wage, birth control, transgender bathrooms and tolerance for marijuana on campus.

Owens, a three-year College Republican member, participated in the mock presidential debate for the first time this semester. Owens was most passionate about topics regarding free birth control and affirmative action.

“I think it (College Republicans of Longwood) is very informative. We talk about issues whether it be social issues, policy issues or terrorist acts. We don’t always agree, and that’s not a bad thing,” said Owens.

Longwood College Republicans President, Malina Foldesi has been a member for two years. The subject of abortion meant most to her.

“Contrary to the people on stage, I am very pro-life. That’s the issue that got me involved with the Republican Party, and then the rest kind of fell into place,” said Foldesi.

“I feel the debate was good. There were a few partisan issues that both the Republican and Democrats agreed on, which definitely gives me hope for the future, but I do feel there were some areas that the Republicans could improve on, but overall I think we (Republicans) did good,” said Foldesi.

The winning party was voted on by the audience, and the College Democrats won this year’s debate.

“I thought the debate was extremely successful. We had a great turnout, and we had a great, mostly civil, discussion on stage. There were a lot of great discussions about different issues that we don’t often hear about,” said Hyman.

Hyman described how the panel spent several hours the week before preparing for the debate in order to make sure “everything was in place and that our sources were reliable.” During the debate, the audience was allowed to live tweet using the hashtag #LUMockDebate to respond and ask questions.

A few questions were selected toward the end of the debate when votes from the audience were being counted. One of the questions selected from the audience addressed police brutality and how the issue could be solved. Something both parties took pride in was their ability to agree on certain issues, including finding a solution to police brutality.

Following the closing statements of each party, Dr. William Harbour, associate professor in political science, closed by congratulating both panels on not making any personal attacks at each other throughout the debate and expressed pride in the upcoming generation of politicians. He shared with the audience that in his opinion both sides were winners of the debate.