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Two candidates squared off in the student union ballroom, stating their opinions on campus issues

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Longwood Libertarians host mobile liberty ball

Participants write uncensored phrases in celebration of free speech

ANN POLEK | THE ROTUNDA

On Tuesday, March 21, the Longwood Libertarians rolled a giant blow up beach ball across campus with sharpies for anyone who wanted to, to write their free speech. Some of the free speech excerpts included: "Freedom," "#Libertarians," "Henna for Life" and "<3 Longwood."

by Jesse Plichta-Kellar
News Staff
@longwoodrotunda

The Longwood Libertarians recently hosted an event, which allowed students to write uncensored statements in protest of the Freedom of Expression Policy Longwood holds.

The event, on Tuesday, March 21 was held from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. by moving a beach ball from Ruffner Plaza to

Brock Commons and ultimately to Stubbs Lawn.

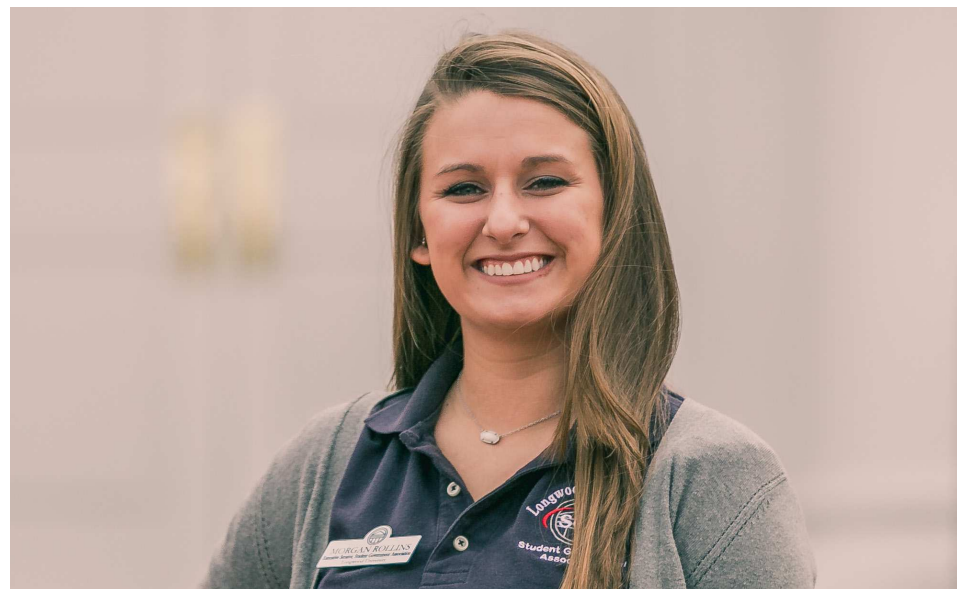
The ball was 12 feet in diameter covered in statements made by students and Farmville residents.

— "LIBERTARIANS" CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Two candidates fight for SGA President spot in debate



COURTESY OF KEVIN NAPIER



COURTESY OF MORGAN ROLLINS

Juniors Morgan Rollins (right) and Kevin Napier (left) are both candidates for student body president.

by Christine Rindfleisch
News Editor
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Both Executive Senators for the Student Government Association (SGA) Kevin Napier, a junior Kinesiology major, and Morgan Rollins, a junior Biology major, hosted a debate where Longwood students were able to ask the two candidates about their stances on certain issues on Monday, March 20 in the Lankford Student Union Ballroom.

Current SGA President Dillon Yonker introduced both candidates to the audience of approximately 50 students and staff.

Topics that were mentioned to the candidates by audience members were the Hardy House for computer science majors, the detachment of Longwood students to the Farmville community, the protest and demonstration policy, inclusion of transfer students, freshman transition in the first semester, improving SGA's current financial budget situation and removing Conduct and Honor boards from under SGA's constitution.

Napier stated his plans, if elected, would be to work with Lancer Productions (LP) to host one large band during Spring Weekend rather than several smaller bands, shorten the Student Finance Committee (SFC) process for clubs and organizations, improve the process of informing Dorrell Dining Hall (D-hall) of concerns by students and the possibility of adding a television in Greenwood Library that displays continuous construction updates.

Napier introduced himself with accomplishments such as working with Brent Roberts, dean of the library, to extend hours to 2 a.m. next fall and taking the initiative to start a Dining Hall committee, which has enacted a pasta bar.

Rollins stated, if elected, she would give back to

Longwood by "putting the student body first".

Rollins has served as a Peer Mentor and on Conduct Board in addition to her serving on SGA for the past two years. Rollins introduced herself with accomplishments such as having helped students register to vote in the Presidential election this past fall and starting the Pre-Professional Society as president.

Both Rollins and Napier worked in starting the Building Bridges: Discussions about Longwood, which hosted 39 students at the first of the three-part series.

SGA Secretary, Sarah Kensy, asked the candidates how they would be more transparent, if elected, to the student body.

Rollins stated she would publish an elaborated version of the minutes from the meeting on the newly renovated SGA website and on social media platforms.

Napier stated he would like to display a board detailing decisions the SGA is making and in particular with SFC with concerns from the budget arising.

Much discussion surfaced when one student attendee asked the candidates how they would prevent the current SGA financial situation in the future.

Napier believed the increase of the student activity fee from \$5 to \$6 in the upcoming year would improve the situation by adding approximately \$80,000 to the current budget.

Rollins felt making the hard decisions to organizations in SFC would become easier in the upcoming year due to the increased student activity fee.

Both candidates felt that students should be able to hold a

peaceful protest without a administrative sponsor risen by a question asked.

"What will you do to ensure the concerns of the students will be addressed?" asked Praise Nyambiya, junior class president of SGA.

Napier emphasized the importance of listening to the concerns from the students. Recently, he has created a Google form that is accessible to students where they can state their name, concern and contact information that is sent directly to Napier that he intends to use, if elected.

Rollins responded by informing the audience of the Speak Up tab located on the SGA website that can be filled out by students with concerns. Once received, Rollins then sends the tabs to the appropriate committee head in SGA who will address concern.

"It's everything you guys like," said Rollins in reference to the Speak Up form.

Dr. Tim Pierson, vice president for student affairs, addressed the audience after each candidate made their closing arguments. Pierson congratulated both candidates and commended them on their transparency when answering questions.

"The questions were great," said Pierson. "These two have done a terrific job they are here for you guys."

"I think we both did a good job of conveying our message to those in attendance," Rollins told The Rotunda.

Students can vote in the SGA Elections from March 22 thru March 28 on Lancer Link, per email by Pierson.



Recapping the Longwood Board of Visitors' first meeting of 2017

Updates on Core Curriculum, diversity training, Aramark contract and admissions strategy discussed

by Halle Parker
Editor-in-Chief
@_thehalparker

Longwood University hosted its governor-appointed Board of Visitors on campus from March 23-25, entering a succession of both public updates and discussion as well as closed executive committee meetings in typical fashion.

Each of the three days held one executive session, but Friday, March 24 also included a morning full of reports from Longwood University President W. Taylor Reveley IV, each of his vice presidents, the alumni board, the Longwood Foundation and representatives of the students, faculty and staff.

Friday afternoon included lunch with students handpicked by Dr. Tim Pierson, followed by a review of construction and updates on the results of the General Assembly session. Virginia's General Assembly was in session from Jan. 11-Feb. 25 this year.

Reveley began the morning reports by summarizing some of the highlights in each area - academic affairs, student affairs, administration and finance, institutional advancement, strategic operations and athletics.

"In a way that sort of belies the climate outside on this beautiful spring day, the climate around higher ed is pretty cloudy and pretty frisky these days in Virginia, around the country and that ought to make us all the prouder of all the progress Longwood has made," he said.

Academic Affairs Report

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Joan Neff who reviewed the progress of her department and focus moving forward.

"We've been moving forward with our academic endeavors in spite of the fact that there are some challenges that we are going to face," said Neff, again referencing the uncertainty in funding and legislation from the state and federal government.

Within her overview, Neff stated chemistry professor Melissa Rhoten, who served on the Academic Core Curriculum Committee charged with developing the new core curriculum, was recently named the director of the program. The Core Curriculum's new interdisciplinary and single disciplinary courses will be piloted in Longwood's curriculum in the fall to start

the university's transition with the class of 2022.

"No students that are currently here will be penalized by the changes to the Core Curriculum," said Neff. The provost added she will work with Rhoten to develop a plan to help students finish their general education requirements while the new students begin the Core Curriculum.

Outside of the Core Curriculum, Neff announced a new dean of the College of Business and Economics has been selected after former Dean Paul Barrett stepped down after spring 2016. Dr. Timothy O'Keefe will begin his first term in July, leaving his position as executive director and chair of the School of Entrepreneurship at University of North Dakota.

Neff said the university is also waiting to receive results from the Delaware study, which will show how they compare to other schools on several levels. The results should arrive by Dec.

According to Neff, the school applied to multiple grants through the Office of Sponsored Programs, including one from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ). The DOJ grant may get cut depending

on decisions made in the federal budget. She said if the grant is awarded, it will go toward creating programs developing a "coordinated community response" to instances like sexual assault, domestic violence and stalking on campus.

Office of Student Affairs Report

Vice President of Student Affairs Dr. Tim Pierson summarized the recent initiatives by students on campus, including the creation of the Dining Services Committee to provide Grant Avent, the director of Dining Services, more organized feedback.

Pierson also said the campus has recognized a "big need" for student, faculty and staff diversity training regarding international students or students of color and dealing with cultural differences.

"It is critical that they feel accepted and part of here," said Pierson, emphasizing international students. He added that there has been a rise of student activism on campuses around the nation, including Longwood.

— "VISITORS," CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

HALLE PARKER | THE ROTUNDA

— “VISITORS,” CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4



HALLE PARKER | THE ROTUNDA

The university's governor-appointed Board of Visitors convened from March 23-25 to receive updates from Longwood's vice presidential offices as well as attend other events like the Alumni Awards ceremony.

Board of Visitors Rector Robert Wertz, Jr. questioned whether the Longwood University Police Department was still short-staffed, previously down five officers and two dispatchers.

Pierson said some of the positions have been filled; he added that the issue was in part due to the salary competition. In addition, he said the university force saw new recruits dropping out of the police academy before finishing, wasting the school's investment in their training.

Office of Administration and Finance Report

Vice President of Administration and Finance Ken Copeland reviewed the two ongoing and two upcoming constructions projects as well as stated the year's financial audit was underway.

Copeland also said a team of university staff are in training to transition to the Cardinal Project payroll system developed by the state, which will allow Longwood to start paying wage, miscellaneous and adjunct employees every two weeks by April 16.

According to Copeland, the university plans to expand the biweekly payments to student workers by the next Board of Visitors meeting agenda, rather than

keeping the students' monthly paydays.

"Right now, our student workers are being paid once a month, and that's got to change," he said.

As the fiscal year nears its end in June, Copeland said the university is encouraging the faculty and staff to be "conservative" with their discretionary funds after numerous factors, including the lower enrollment, smaller number of credit hours taken and faculty salary increase without state assistance, drove some uncertainty into the 2016-17 budget.

While Copeland was confident the university wouldn't face a shortfall, he said, "Those things added together, we could end up in a budget deficit by the end of this year."

Regarding Dining Services, Copeland said their 10 year contract with Aramark will be up for renegotiation in a year or two, depending on whether the university decides to extend it by a year.

Longwood Athletics Department Report

For the athletics department, director Troy Austin said their most important update was preparing for the Big South softball tournament to be hosted at Longwood from May 10-13.

Office of Strategic Operations Report

Director of Strategic Operations Victoria Kindon said they are continuing to focus on retention and increasing their four-year graduation rate, currently sitting over 50 percent.

On the admissions side, Kindon said the university received over 6,000 applications and are making "tremendous strides" in moving prospective students into the acceptance phase faster. She said Longwood sent out financial aid packages two months earlier for the first time and are almost to their goal of 150 high school students committed by April 1. The deposit deadline is May 1.

Kindon said more students with 3.75 GPAs or higher are applying, but her team recognizes they have a lot of competition to appeal to those students. She said they mainly target high school students in the 3.2-3.3 range, as they usually are successful at Longwood, in response to a board member's question regarding the quality of student her team is recruiting.

Following the 2016-17's smaller freshman class, Kindon said they are treating the unexpected anomaly in last year's cycle as the new trend in order to be better prepared.

Office of Institutional Advancement Report

Vice President of Institutional Advancement Courtney Hodges said the university has raised over \$10 million so far this fiscal year, a untouched milestone for over a decade. According to her report, it was a huge jump from the \$4.18 million raised in 2016.

"Love your Longwood Day" raised over \$126,000 from current students, alumni, faculty and staff donations, according to Hodges.

Alumni Board of Directors Report

Alumni board president Kendall Lee began his report by reminding the board of visitors about the alumni awards taking place that evening at 6 p.m. in the Lee Grand Dining Hall. He also said he would introduce the new president, who will replace him at the end of his term this year, at the next meeting.

Faculty Representative Report

Lissa Powder-DeFur said professors are submitting their proposals for fall core curriculum classes and also provided an extensive overview of the professors who are also doing work in the Prince Edward County community.

Student Government Association President Report

Student Government Association (SGA) President Dillon Yonker, a Longwood criminal justice senior, said the 2017 SGA elections had received the more participation so far than previous years. He added that students brought up issues they cared about at the SGA Presidential Debate held on Monday, March 20, including security, the protest policy and improving engagement with transfer and first year students.

The next Board of Visitors meeting will be held from June 8-10. Follow *The Rotunda* for stories looking further into some of the issues in the meeting.

—CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

According to its members, their goal was to challenge the Freedom of Expression Policy, found on pages 36 and 37 of the student handbook. The policy outlines how requirements for individuals and organizations to hosting assemblies and protests on university property.

The members of the Longwood Libertarians had sharpies to write on the ball with, and called out to encourage people to write on the ball, saying things like “Don’t Censor yourself,” and “Write anything you want, uncensored!”

Students of all political affiliations signed the ball, as well as a few members of the local Farmville Community. Feedback from students was very positive.

Brenda Pereira, a junior business economics major, identifies as a democrat but attended the event and wrote “Love will always win” on the ball.

“I really loved it,” Pereira said. “I’m a really big pusher of freedom of speech, and I’m a big protester. I fully support the opposition to express themselves as it’s their right.”

Maria Ward, a liberal studies junior considers herself “politically neutral,” but appreciated the event.

“I thought this was awesome. Honestly, coming up to it, I thought this was a prank or something, but this is cool,” Ward commented. “I feel I’m pretty neutral on my

political standings, but freedom of speech is something I really respect and stand for. I wouldn’t want it to be taken away.”

A few Farmville locals who happened to be walking through campus also signed the ball.

“I was just walking by and saw the big beach ball and was curious,” Margaret Green, a Farmville resident, said. “So, I stopped and wrote on the ball.”

“This is our free speech ball,” Kyle Dobry, a senior political science major and president of the Longwood Libertarians said. “The idea behind this is for students to be able to express their rights in an uncensored fashion.”

Statements written on the ball included: “Keep calm and accept everyone,” followed by a heart emoji, “Eat more pancakes,” “Free speech for god and country” and “1st amendment is freedom.”

Alexander McKesson, a political science major with a concentration in pre-law and member of Longwood Libertarians, said he considers the free speech ball a symbol.

“The free speech ball, it’s a symbol of the freedom of speech here on campus,” McKesson said. “I wrote legalize liberty.”

According to Dobry, the ball was chosen in order to prevent blocking walkways, which is a violation of university policy.

“The idea behind the ball is that it is a

movable object, so we’re not going to ever block anyone’s way,” Dobry said. “We are portable. We are moving around campus encouraging students to express their first amendment rights.”

According to McKesson and Dobry, the goal was to raise awareness and create discussion on campus regarding the freedom of expression policy.

“I hope that it brings it brings to the administration’s attention the possible issues with the current free speech policies on campus,” Dobry said.

“Our campus has some pretty restrictive rules, so this is just a great way to get people expressing their freedom of speech and their liberties,” McKesson said.

“(The) next step is to continue with events that support the freedoms granted in the first amendment,” Dobry said.

Towards the end of their event, the organization received an email from the Longwood University Police Department (LUPD). Shortly thereafter, they met with the LUPD and had an extended discussion.

“LU Police (Longwood University Police Department) did not interfere with the event. (They) only wanted to clarify our intent and make sure things went smoothly with future events,” Dobry said. “We met with Chief Beach, who extremely invested and well-versed in the subject of free speech

on campus.”

“We spoke with them,” said Col. Robert Beach, Chief of Police. “He (Dobry) emailed us.”

Chief Beach said that there is no issue.

“There is no story,” He commented. “We look forward to working with them becoming a recognized organization in the future.”

According to Dobry, the Longwood Libertarians are already an on-campus organization are currently listed as such on the Lancer Link student organizations list.

“Longwood Libertarians are recognized by Longwood University,” Dobry said. “The affiliation with Young Americans for Liberty is going through the SGA (Student Government Association) process.”

The Longwood Libertarians are in the process of becoming an active chapter of the Young Americans for Liberty (YAL). The organization’s constitution is working to include the identification by SGA.

The organization is not facing any disciplinary action, and is continuing with the process of becoming affiliated with YAL from the perspective of Longwood, according to Dobry.



The Longwood Libertarians encouraged uncensored free speech on the large ball in protest of Longwood’s Freedom of Expression policy.

ANN POLEK | THE ROTUNDA

SFC Report: March 23

by Shelby Massie
Asst. News Editor
@shel_byloved

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc.

Allocation of \$1,000

Funds will be used for registration for two members to attend annual conference in Las Vegas, NV.

The Student Finance Committee (SFC) approved the allocation of \$1,000.

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc.

Allocation of \$306

Funds will be used to send one person to Eastern Regional Conference in Alexandria, VA.

The SFC approved the allocation of \$306.

Follow *The Rotunda* for more SFC coverage.

SGA Brief: March 21

SGA Constitution approved with talks of improvements within the SGA



ANN POLEK | THE ROTUNDA

SGA Vice President Tristan Hobbs and executive senator Morgan Rollins reviewed revisions they've made to the SGA Constitution. Junior class president Praise Nyambiya, along with many others, brought up points and input on how to better revise the Constitution.

by Cassandra Maddox
News Staff
@longwoodrotunda

In the March 21 Student Government Association (SGA) meeting, Tristan Hobbs, vice president, and Morgan Rollins, executive senator for committee relations, presented the SGA constitution for a final reading regarding revisions and specifications.

Revisions and prerequisites were added to the constitution under the Terms and Qualifications of Office sections, as stated by Rollins.

There was concern from many senators over the involvements of the senior class president stated in the SGA constitution, such as participating in the SGA debates.

Junior Class President, Praise Nyambiya, stated that the senior class president should be experienced, and have an understanding of the prerequisites and preparedness for planning.

Secretary Sarah Kensy added that the senior class president should have experiences in other areas as well, such as experience on senate.

The senators requested to add in the "Qualifications For Office" section in the SGA constitution that the senior class president "must be a rising senior, have served for office, class council or senate for at least one semester and has to be at good standing at Longwood University."

The addition was approved by the SGA.

Jen Cox, junior class advisor and director of local and community

relations, added that there should be advisory groups, along with a better structure for SGA advisors. Cox mentioned that this would pertain to the senior class and for students to stay involved with the SGA from freshman to senior year.

Freshman Class President, Lucas Hobson, suggested that there should be a binder consisting of goals for one to follow throughout the school years involved with the SGA.

The revised SGA constitution was approved by the SGA.

Senior Brianna Allen, chapter president of Zeta Phi Beta, attended the meeting in request of approval of the allocation of \$135.68 for the sorority to attend a conference in Concord, N.C. The allocation would cover the travel fees. The allocation also contributed from money given to the sorority from the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC).

The allocation was approved by the SGA.

Cheryl Steele, assistant director of student engagement, spoke in place of Dr. Tim Pierson, vice president for student affairs, commended the SGA on the recent SGA Presidential Debate on March 20.

Steele also wanted to remind freshmen and seniors to take the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) as mentioned in the Feb. 18 SGA meeting.

The next SGA meeting will be on Tuesday, March 28 in the Martinelli Board Room in Maugans Alumni Center at 3:45 p.m.

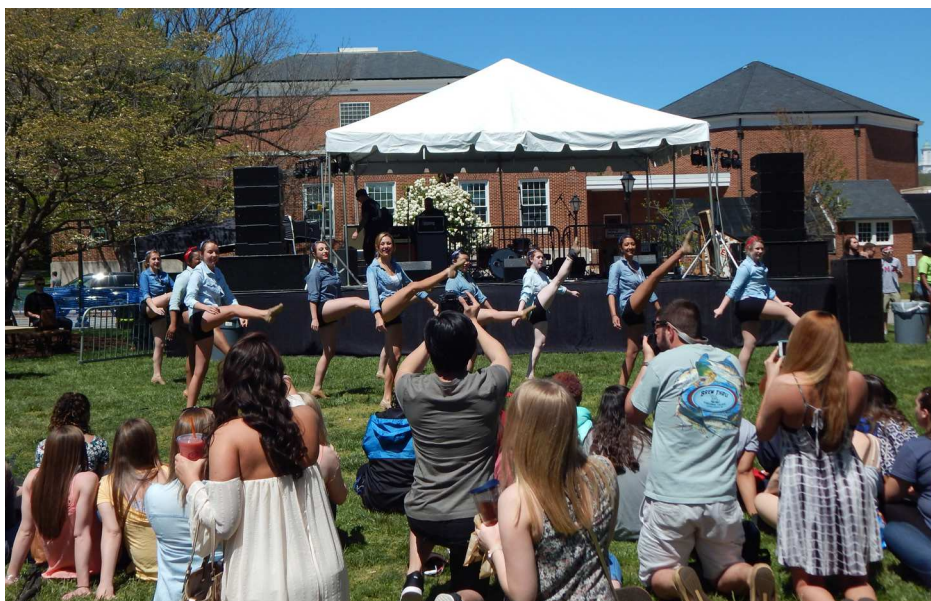
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Inside Spring Weekend

A look at how Lancer Productions plans Spring

by Megan Gary
Contributor
@longwoodrotunda



FILE PHOTO | THE ROTUNDA

These photos were captured last year at Longwood's annual Spring Weekend event. Spring Weekend will occur from April 7-9 this year.

This year, Longwood University will be hosting bands Bowling for Soup, Cheat Codes and Smallpools as entertainment during the University's annual Spring Weekend celebration. Many students were excited to hear that Bowling for Soup, which produced the iconic 2000s hits "1985" and "Stacy's Mom," would be headlining.

"I've been listening to them since middle school," said sophomore Nathan Everson. "So, I'm really excited to see them here, live."

Many people don't realize how much work goes into the development of the Spring Weekend entertainment. No student understands this more than Lancer Productions (LP) President and senior Rachel Hirsch. As president, Hirsch oversees and implements much of the planning that brings Spring Weekend concerts to fruition.

"Some people come up and are like, 'hey, you should get this band' like (two weeks before) or something like that," Hirsch said, with exasperated laughter. "It takes a lot of planning ... they don't understand."

Hirsch explained planning for Spring Weekend starts a week before Oktoberfest - a full 25 weeks before the event itself.

As the first step to securing the Spring Weekend entertainment, Lancer Productions sends an email or survey out to the student body "(to) get a better understanding of who the students want to see (or) what genre is wanted," Hirsch said. LP mainly gets specific bands requested on

this survey, leading them to step two.

"We made a whole giant list of who people wanted to see," Hirsch said. The LP staff looks into all of the bands with a certain budget in mind.

"Some people fall within the budget, and we have to rule some people out, like Beyoncé," Hirsch said, with another laugh. "(Beyoncé's) not really in the budget that we're given."

Then, LP gives the names of the more realistic bands to an agent that acts on LP's behalf to reach out to the artists. They also contact the Longwood University Police Department to make sure security for the bands is possible.

Hirsch added, "We also check if the artist has gang related activity or drug use. (If so,) we can't have them on campus." After all of this, LP checks if the bands are even available on the day of the concert. If they are, Hirsch says, "We put a bid in on them."

LP dealt with what Hirsch called a "small hiccup," when Jamie Lynn Spears had to cancel her performance due to a scheduling conflict. LP went back to the drawing board, looking again at the list of bands people had requested and calculating who the money could be put toward. LP decided on Smallpools, an indie pop band, as well as Josh Vietti, a hip hop violinist.

The next step, LP faces comes during spring weekend itself. The staff arrives to the concert site at around 7 a.m. and make sure the artists arrive on time.

They are in charge of hospitality for the bands as well, according to Hirsch. Hirsch said they make sure the artists are comfortable and have everything they need, even if that means making multiple trips to Walmart for them.

Last year, Hirsch said she was part of security for the band, 3OH!3. LP also had to deal with people trying to get into the student union, even though the area was blocked off. There was even an incident involving urination in the student union stairwell.

"It's a long day just making sure all bases are covered," Hirsch said.

Hirsch said all of the work does have its benefits.

"Everyone in LP gets to meet (with the bands), talk to them and take pictures with them. It's kind of like the perks of working a 16-hour day," Hirsch said. Hirsch said she's most excited for Bowling for Soup, who she used to listen to on Radio Disney growing up.

"It's kind of surreal," Hirsch said. "It's like, 'oh yeah, I listened to you when I was twelve, and I'm talking to you right now.'"

This makes everything worth it, even though "people don't (know) how much work and stress goes into this," Hirsch said. The biggest part of LP's job for spring weekend is "making sure everyone has fun in a safe way." Hirsch explained that all this effort is for the students.

"We want what they want," she said. "(We want them) to have a fun, positive experience."

A boutique with a purpose to empower

A selection of elegant clothing and accessories are brought to Farmville from around the world

by Miranda Farley
Features Staff
@mir4nd9

In August, Vellie Dietrich-Hall, owner of Vellie's Boutique in Charlotte Courthouse, Va., celebrated six years of business by opening a new location in downtown Farmville.

It's no ordinary boutique; all of Vellie's merchandise has a backstory.

"I only buy things that have causes for it," said Dietrich-Hall.

The causes she supports are located across the world, including countries like Belize, Vietnam, India, Bulgaria, Korea, Japan and Thailand.

Dietrich-Hall traveled all over the world to meet women she finds inspirational. Her passion for supporting the livelihood of populations in impoverished conditions is shown through the knowledge she shares about the culture of each piece of jewelry or clothing.

"(The proceeds from) our Sacred Thread brand provides education for malnourished children in India," said Dietrich-Hall.

Jewelry at Vellie's Boutique varies from bracelets blessed by the Mayans and designed by orphan boys in Belize to necklaces made by local women, including one with Multiple Sclerosis.

Unique jade necklaces, showcased near the entrance of the boutique, are made by women who are deaf-mute. The boutique also sells jewelry made of materials from mangrove trees. When the material is wet, it expands and the jewelry is commonly gifted to ward-off evil spirits when worn.

But Vellie's sells more than just clothing and jewelry; their selection includes a collection of sturdy, colorful woven bags made of recycled materials were made by blind high school students in the Philippines.

Dietrich-Hall supports women who converted from Islam to Christianity and were infected with HIV by their husbands. The statement necklaces made by these primarily single mothers feature exotic pearls and are shown off at the front of boutique.

Dietrich-Hall said the store valued health and revealed a selection of lipsticks and lip glosses that do not contain lead as an ingredient, unlike most lip products on the market.

The "top of the line" selection of clothing sold in Vellie's Boutique is by designer Joseph Ribkoff.

"He designed clothing for Miss America contestants and the winner of Miss America as he toured doing some educational tours all over the United States, all over the world actually, so that itself has meaning," said Dietrich-Hall.

The boutique also sells clothing made in the United States, appealing to a large age range of women. There is a selection of dresses, skirts, pants, tops, hats and boots showcased on mannequins, shelves and window displays. Items in the store range from \$36-\$600. Dietrich-Hall concluded that she hoped that more Longwood students would discover the boutique.

Humans of Longwood: Caroline Chatfield

by Cassie Tagert
Copy Editor
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"The easiest path for me that I'd still be happy taking (after graduation, would be working in a pet store). I really like animals, but I would not want to be a vet or anything because I don't like seeing them in pain, and I feel like the best way that I am able to help animals is to educate owners, and I (would) have very easy access to pet owners if I'm in a pet store all the time. I'm an artist, so I try to do different artworks about animal rights and things. I sell those paintings or donate all or part of the proceeds to different animal charities. Specifically, hermit crabs are one of my focuses. Someone brought in some hermit crabs to the (pet) store that I work at, and they said that it was acting sluggish and that they weren't moving around. I helped them re-do their entire habitat so that it was a proper hermit crab setup, and they filled it up with things that they needed. The hermit crabs actually got a lot better, and they're still alive to this day. It's been two years since ... I don't see a whole lot of difference between animals and humans. I know that a lot of people see differences, but I feel like we're just another species on this planet, and we should care for other species."



ANN POLEK | THE ROTUNDA

Around the world in nine days with the ninth annual Longwood International Film Festival

by Rae Mundie
Features Staff
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The English and Modern Language Department featured films from different cultures and languages around world. The showings started on March 20 and will end on the 29, switching between Blackwell Ballroom around Hull Auditorium

On March 20, the first film, “La Gran Familia Española” (“Family United”), a movie from Spain about romance, family and acceptance, was shown. The movie starts with the protagonist asking his crush to marry him around the age of ten, they agree to marry when they are 18. Even so, their wedding day doesn’t go as planned, but the couple and their family members learn more about differences in love and acceptance in one day than they have throughout their lives.

“I liked it. It was funny,” said sophomore Kimberly Herrling, German major and Spanish minor. “I learned the importance of not settling for someone you don’t actually

love.”

The languages of the films ranged from Spanish, German, French and even Japanese. There were subtitles in English to help students understand the films. Most, if not all of the films this year have a theme of learning to accept the unexpected and difficult times in life.

“I think it’s good and bad, good because you can learn different languages, based on the sounds, catch certain phrases and words from it,” said Khalid Alotaibi, criminal justice major. “But also bad, because you can’t fully enjoy the movie.”

One of the films, produced in 2013, “Father Like Son,” involves two families both having sons that were switched at birth. The families are not aware of the switch until a single incident, after which the film follows the two families as they try to work out a solution. The theme is on struggling to understand and accept someone who is not

blood-related and grew up in a different home.

By showing these films, not only can it allow students to have a different perspective on situations they may be faced with, but it can also provide a different perspective when it comes to accepting a person that is different from oneself. One of the films from Argentina, produced in 2014, will feature six different stories of individuals all dealing with a distressing situation and their separate reactions to it.

“I’m a language nerd, of course I love foreign films,” said Herrling. “There’s extra credit (for class) if we write our opinion on the film. The movies are used to show the students about different cultures and help the students understand how to use their language skills in a natural environment and encourages students in using their languages skills in the real world after college.”

Come see the instruments, but do not feed

David Pettyjohn
A&E Staff
@PettyjohnDavid

March is “Music in Your School’s Month” and Longwood University’s Gamma Kappa chapter of Sigma Alpha Iota has been promoting the Prince Edward county school system’s music programs. The fraternity has used its fundraisers to supply the county’s public schools with extra money for their music departments.

The latest fundraiser this month was an instrument petting zoo this past Saturday. Students were able to come by and try out (disinfected) instruments that they may not have played before.

Sigma Alpha Iota is an international women’s music fraternity, and the Gamma Chapter’s president is senior Courtney Cunningham, a music education major. She said that the instruments were borrowed

from Longwood’s music department.

“Our community service chair set all this up, she outreached to the community, [and] she emailed music teachers from Prince Edward County,” said Cunningham. Cunningham is a vocalist, and she is currently taking piano lessons.

The community service chair is Montana Nelson, a sophomore and music performance major.

“They [students] get to try out all the instruments; a lot of them haven’t tried instruments before,” Nelson said. “So, they get to play clarinet, flute, coronet, any percussion instrument, piano and then sax.”

Nelson, who plays the clarinet, said that the petting zoo and music in your schools

month are part of the fraternity’s “Music in the Schools Initiative.” This is the program through which Sigma Alpha Iota raises money for public K-12 music education. Throughout March, Sigma Alpha Iota held concerts and donation drives to gather funds. This petting zoo event also had a donation jar in which students could donate money for the cause.

“We have woodwinds, brass and percussion,” said Nelson. “So, we have clarinet, saxophone, flute, coronet, and then we have mallet instruments, snare drums, bass drums.” She also added that, “We have a gong; one of the kids really liked to play the gong.”

Nelson stated that she was very satisfied with the turnout for the event.

“I was happy with the turnout, actually, because it was the first time we’d ever done something like this in a really long time,” she said. “So, the amount of people that came, I was happy with. We’re hoping to get more people next year, like advertise it more, make it like an annual type of thing.”

“I think that people will recognize ‘Music in Our Schools Month’ as March,” said Cunningham. “Then they’ll see what we’re doing, or what the music department’s doing.”

Cunningham emphasized that Sigma Alpha Iota is not just for women in a music major, but for any woman who has an interest in music.

CREATIVE CORNER

The Reel Life: "Power Rangers" movie review

No Go Power Rangers

by Jacob DiLandro
A&E Staff
@spongejay1

Considering that the original television shows regularly featured actors in rubber alien suits fighting against teenagers in multicolored skin tight suits, having a serious take on the Power Rangers is just as silly a concept as the source material.

However, whether or not the movie is an accurate representation of the show doesn't really matter, so long as the movie itself is, from a critical standpoint, good.

Unfortunately, "Power Rangers" is not good. In fact, it is quite bad. Not completely terrible, but the redeeming qualities of the film extend to just a few things: the music, the Blue Ranger and the actors portraying the Rangers.

The score, composed by Brian Tyler, is fun and underscores the action well. It manages to be big and bombastic and really sets a great tone with the theme blaring at the beginning.

Another thing the film does get right is that the casting of the Rangers is good. All of the kids are likable and charming, but the writing is awful. Only three of them get actual story development and the Yellow Ranger, played by Becky G., appears to have only about two and a half pages worth of dialogue in the entire film.

The standout of the group is the Blue Ranger, Billy Cranston, played by RJ Cyler ("Me & Earl & The Dying Girl"). He is not only the most charming of the group, but he's often at the center of the plot. He brings a warmth to a

character that is otherwise poorly written.

Bryan Cranston as Zordon the talking wall and Bill Hader as Alpha 5 are both fine. Not great, but not bad. Elizabeth Banks as Rita Repulsa is laughably bad, though. She isn't "so bad its good" bad, she's just bad.

Bad as well is the camerawork. About 50% of the film takes place in caves or at night, but it's difficult to see what is even happening as the screen is so dark that telling each character apart is almost impossible.

The cinematographer must have decided that tripods don't exist in this universe, as even scenes where characters are sitting at a table wobble back and forth with a hand-held camera aesthetic.

While it makes sense to have a character drink a name brand soda, or eat a name brand chocolate bar in a film like this, there is one piece of product placement that is so obnoxious and obvious that it just makes the entire film feel more stupid.

Overall, the film isn't funny or silly enough to be as campy as the original series and it isn't compelling enough to be taken seriously. It's poorly written and shot, with thin forgettable characters. "Power Rangers" doesn't do the cheesy source material justice or even make a compelling film in its own right. It's a no-go, Power Rangers.

★★ 2/5

The Reel Life: "Life" movie review

by Jacob DiLandro
A&E Staff
@spongejay1

Whenever a movie of any kind, be it animated, action, horror, becomes popular, everyone attempts to imitate it, regardless of the amount of thought went into the effort. But having a derivative idea can be excused if the movie itself is good.

"Life" is clearly inspired by films like "Alien" and "Gravity," and its premise is simple but well done. Written by "Zombieland" and "Deadpool" screenwriters Rhett Reese and Paul Wernick, "Life" is not a comedy. It is a very serious sci-fi horror flick that has all its element working together very well.

The characters never feel like they are simply there to be bodies to die. Each actor shines in their role, with major props going to Hiroyuki Sanada as Sho and Rebecca Ferguson as Miranda.

Backstories for the characters never feel forced, with most of their lives and motivations coming out not through exposition filled monologues, but through simple conversations with each other.

While not stellar, the musical score by Jon Ekstrand deserves praise, as it manages to effectively put music to some horrific happenings. The visual effects are also good, but the real praise goes to the creature design

on the alien Calvin. Without giving away any spoilers, this is an intricately designed monster that you will not soon forget.

While the writing is constantly above average, and it does deserve praise for rarely having its characters devolve to stupid horror film decision making, the entire film can't help but feel like something that has been done before.

Sci-fi horror stories where a monstrous creature slowly hunts down the characters is not a new idea, but "Life" takes those well-worn elements and wears them well. The film is always engaging, and, while not original, it isn't predictable either.

"Life" is the cardinal example of execution over originality. Despite having what some would call an overused premise, the writing and performances manage to make the movie always interesting. Calvin is a greatly designed villain and the last 15 minutes feel genuinely surprising.

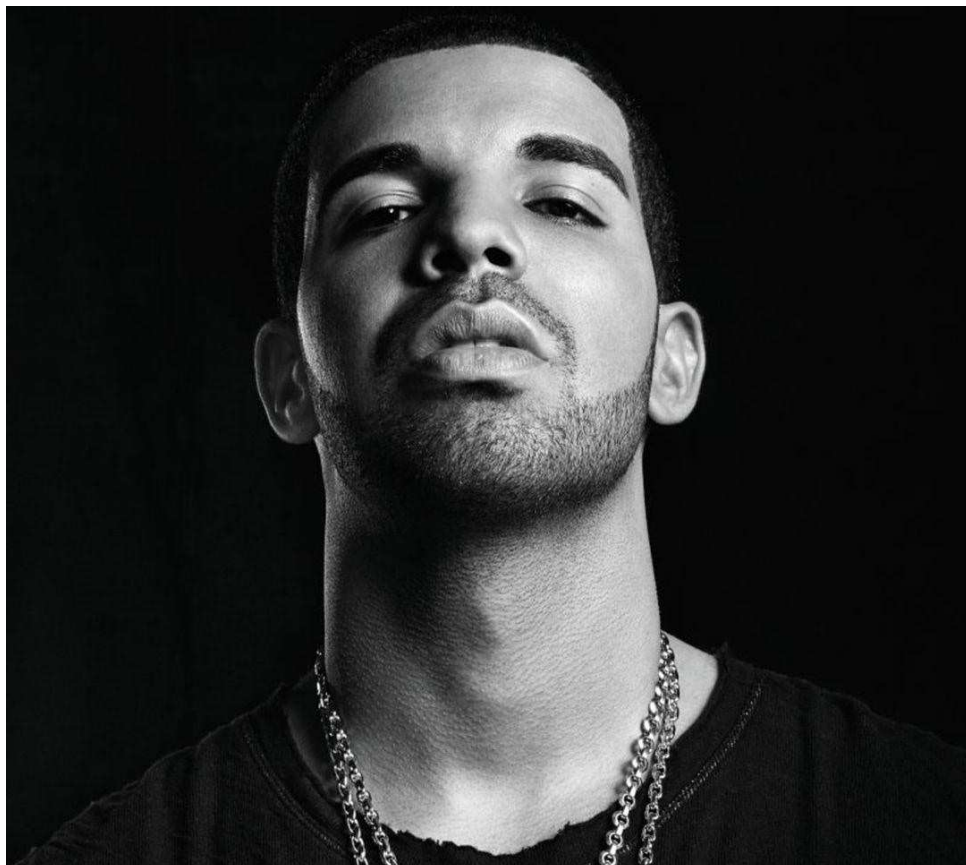
Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, and while it won't win any awards for originality, "Life" is a solid and smartly written horror flick, with a consistently terrifying tone and engaging atmosphere. At the very least, it's better than "Prometheus."

★★★★ 3.5/5

"More Life" Review

While not a masterpiece, "More Life" is good across the board

by Richie Kamtchoum
A&E Asst. Editor
@RichiePBM



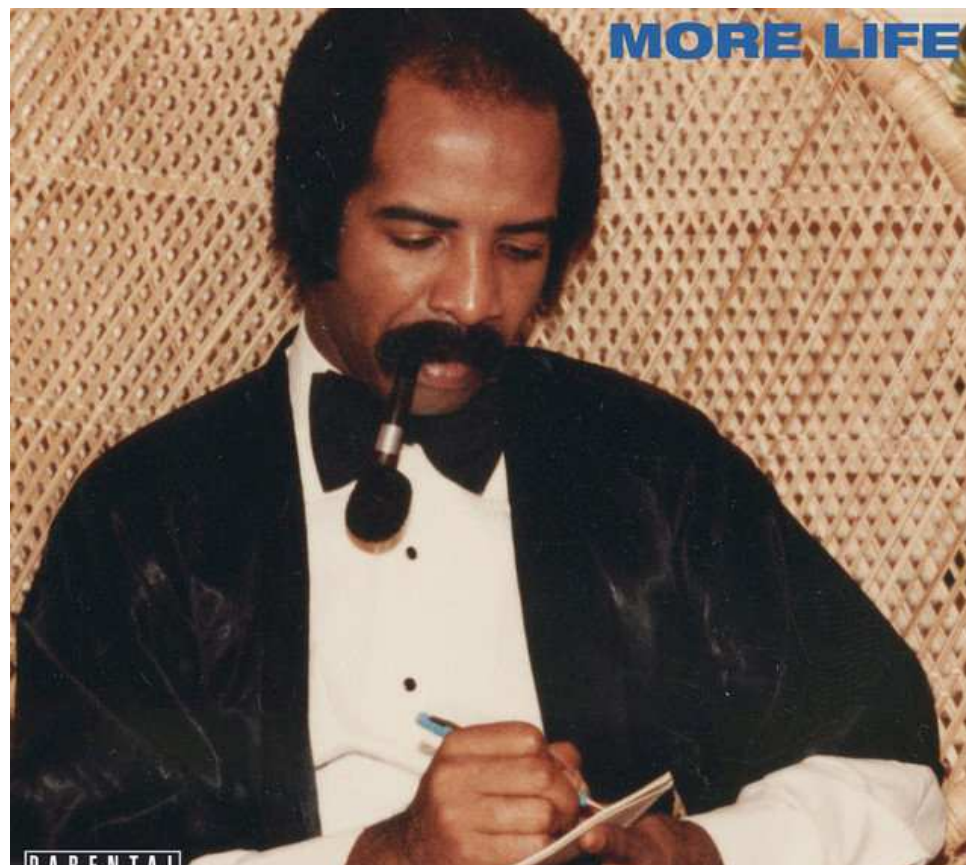
In his self-penned note on Apple Music's album page, Drake reflects, saying "More time with family and friends. More Life. I've still got vibrations to send. More Life." The sentiment is short but powerful. "More Life," a Jamaican saying that essentially means to be well is the thesis of Drake's tour de force on his conquest for global domination.

For one, it's silly to follow his approach that this project is a "playlist" instead of an album. Clocking in at around 81 minutes, it would be more appropriate to label it a double album. The intent does not go unnoticed though. After mediocre critical reception to what was supposed to be his magnum opus in "Views," Drake needed less critical expectations and more breathing room to deliver "More Life."

Deliver he did, as the album/playlist is the best body of work he's released since 2011's "Take Care," give or take the concise but not extraordinary "Nothing Was the Same." Drawing from major aspects of commercial hip-hop in the U.S. and popular black genres in grime, afro-pop and dancehall, "More Life" becomes a sprawling take on present day urban sonics.

Somehow, the album finds a way to be his most experimental album sonically, while sticking to lyrical themes associated with his music. That balance is something critics and fans expected on "Views," instead he reached and failed sonically while providing bland song concepts.

One thing "More Life" does continue on from its predecessor is the candid paranoia that has existed in his tone for the past few years. At the proverbial top of the hip-hop game



COURTESY OF IHEARTRADIO

and one of the biggest artists in the world, Drake has shifted through rap beefs, failed relationships and questions on his artistry.

The result of those tribulations has made him a more callous lyricist, ready to go blow for blow with anyone who dares cross him. That animosity manifests itself immediately, with the intro "Free Smoke" being a threat to air out any grievances, hence the smoke.

When Drake isn't laying competitors to waste and make no mistake, some of Drake's most vicious and effective bars are on display throughout the album, he's serenading in the most "Drake" way possible.

Coming to grips with his status as both rapper and pop/R&B star, half of the album is layered in island-inspired melodies, dancehall club tracks and fun pop tunes that straddle the perfect balance between inspiration and proper representation.

Formerly accused of ripping other art forms, mainly dance-hall and afro-pop, Drake is more at ease with those styles of music this go around, which makes for natural song concepts that come out extremely well.

What "More Life" represents is Drake's current psyche. As annoying as it is that Drake can't find anything else to talk about other than himself, he makes it more interesting than anyone else right now. Instead of attacking political institutions and the world around him, Drake insists on "More Life" as a mantra, employing it to all his devoted listeners.

As his career progresses, Drake is at an interesting crossroads. If "More Life" is his first real step into global domination, he couldn't have created a better soundtrack.

Relay for Life

Longwood University held their annual Relay for Life campus-wide fundraiser to raise money for cancer research while honoring those the disease has affected. The 12-hour event was held in the Health and Rec Center from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. on March 24 and 25. Student groups performed and held competitions to entertain the participants who stayed throughout the night.



Student Specials!

- SVM1: Large 1-Topping
- SVM2: Medium cheese & 16 Parm Bites
- SVM3: Extra-Large Cheese

All \$7.99 for carryout or Delivery!

We also have several group/party order specials and always our 7.99 large carryout and 5.99 mix and match deal!

ROTONION

{Pronounced: row • ton • yun (noun); a ridiculous argument column}

IT'S QUESTION TIME

His answers

by Austin Berry
Layout Editor
@austinoBurrito

Hello all, and welcome back to the Rotonion! We have more questions this week, surprise surprise. Lets get started, shall we?

The first question of the week is:

Q1: "My girlfriend is afraid of a common household condiment, how do i incorporate it into every home cooked meal without her knowing?"

Ok, well, I'm no Gordon Ramsay, but It's going to be pretty difficult for me to tell you how to cook with a common household condiment if I don't know what the condiment in question is. However I am just going to assume that it's the most common of household condiments, Banana Ketchup (It's real, I promise).

I understand the monumental challenge you face by having to incorporate banana ketchup into your everyday menu, but allow me to provide you with a recipe to get you started.

(In Gordon Ramsay's beautiful voice) Here is a beautiful recipe for Chicken Fingers with Banana Ketchup:

Place the bananas, rice wine vinegar, jalapeño, onion, ginger, allspice, curry powder, soy sauce, vanilla extract and tomato paste in the work bowl of a food processor or blender. Process until smooth and creamy. Set aside until ready to serve.

Preheat the oven to 375°F and line a large baking sheet with parchment.

Add the chicken to a large bowl, drizzle with the oil and season with salt and

pepper. Mix until the chicken is well coated with the oil.

Add the shredded, unsweetened coconut and panko crumbs to a food storage bag and shake to combine. Add about half of the chicken fingers and shake to coat. Arrange them in a single layer on the baking sheet and repeat the process with the remaining chicken.

Bake for 16 to 20 minutes, or until the chicken is cooked through. Be careful not to overcook.

Serve with banana ketchup for dipping.

Makes 8 appetizer servings.

With that out of the way, on to the next question.

Q2: "Hedgehog vs fox. Please help settle the disagreement my friend and I are having on which is better."

Ok, Why? What is the context of this argument? Why does it matter?

You know what, it's not my job to ask, let's just get to answering.

I'm going to say Hedgehog, because not only are they adorable, but they are also spikey. They are like little bunnies with spikes! How could they not win.

I mean, granted, if we are talking about a fight here, the fox would destroy the hedgehog, but the hedgehog is the better animal. Spikey floofs all day every day.

I hope I was able to provide some ridiculous answers to your ridiculous questions, see you losers next week.

Her answers

by Cassie Tagert
Copy Editor
@TheRotonion

Q1: "My girlfriend is afraid of a common household condiment. How do I incorporate it into every home-cooked meal without her knowing?"

Hello, Troubled Significant Other. Thank you for airing your dirty laundry for the enjoyment of our Rotonioners. First of all, I have been in a similar position as this. I used to live with a roommate who was afraid of tomatoes, and therefore, she was terrified of ketchup.

Unlike you, I took a more subtle route. I kept ketchup packets hidden in my drawers to use against her in an argument.

If things became too heated, I'd pull out a pack of Heinz, and she'd flee like a vampire before holy. I highly recommend this strategy. It will give you the upper-hand.

However, if you are set on putting a condiment in every meal, there are some things to take into consideration. First, all of your food is probably going to taste bad. Second, your girlfriend might do something irrational when she finds out like threatening to tell your resident assistant and moving out to get a new roommate from South Korea, or you know, something like that.

With all things considered, if you're absolutely certain you want to incorporate condiments in your food. Just do it. YOLO. Spread it over-top of all your food. Mix it in the batter of baked goods. Heck, get rid of the food, and resort to a life of snorting condiments (I hear horseradish is a good one for this).

Alternatively, you could just stop eating the condiment.

Q2: "Hedgehogs vs. foxes. Please help settle the disagreement my friend and I are having on which is better."

This is an interesting question. Unfortunately, I'm not supposed to go much over 500 words, so skipping all the philosophy mumbo jumbo about how people experience the world as either hedgies or foxes (although it's a fun topic on Le Google), I'd have to choose foxes. Here's why.

The Jimi Hendrix song called, "Foxy Lady." The lady is a fox. The song is cool. It's inspirational. Without foxes, we would not have this masterpiece to turn back to.

The Cure's cover of "Foxy Lady" with a punk rock twist.

Cee-Lo Green's cover of "Foxy Lady."

The scene in "Wayne's World" where Garth dances to "Foxy Lady" to impress a pretty girl. Garth is adorable.

Basically, anything to do with the Jimi Hendrix tune. Entire countries have gone to war over the lyrics, "Here I come/ I'm coming to get you/ Foxy lady." He gives Shakespeare a run for his money with words like those. Can you imagine a world where we couldn't pull up some Jimi on Spotify and go back to 1967? I certainly couldn't.

Take that, Taylor Swift. I bet she likes hedgehogs. What a fool.

The Beauty Community: MAC Cosmetics coming to Ulta Beauty

Longstanding cosmetics giant to change business model approach this spring

by Paulina A. Marinero
Opinions Staff
@MarineroPaulina



Previously unavailable in mixed makeup brand stores, MAC Cosmetics will enter the shelves of Ulta Beauty this spring.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MAC

If you know anything about MAC Cosmetics, you know the world-famous brand has been around since 1984. It's been around longer than I have, and it was actually one of the first makeup products I bought as a little girl, following in my mom's footsteps.

MAC built its brand off of exclusivity, meaning if you ever shopped at an MAC Cosmetics store, the only brand you can purchase is MAC itself.

By huge surprise, MAC Cosmetics is joining the wave of other brands this spring and coming to Ulta Beauty, a chain of beauty stores carrying both high and low-end cosmetics for men and women.

Although everyone is cheering and getting their paychecks ready to splurge, I can't help but wonder why is it that a makeup brand as prestigious and store exclusive as MAC Cosmetics is joining this cosmetics chain. I am not for one bit saying MAC is a dead-beat cosmetics line, but I have noticed a significant increase in other makeup brands and advertisements for them. So my question is, is MAC

Cosmetics falling behind on this beauty phenomenon we are having now?

Well first, MAC Cosmetics is one of the only companies still standing tall since the 1980s. Many have dropped or gone bankrupt like King Cosmetics, mainly because some brands don't follow trends. I don't mean seasonal trends, I mean following the artistry trends as years go on.

Second, it's important to know that MAC Cosmetics is actually a child company of Estee Lauder Company. Did I just blow your mind? Estee Lauder is actually the parent of brands like Clinique, Aveda and DKNY.

But let's talk numbers. The net worth of Estee Lauder as of 2017, reported by Forbes, is set to be \$10.6 billion, and this is also a family-run company so they distribute the wealth. According to Fast Company, a website giving annual reports on brands, MAC Cosmetics alone holds a net worth of \$6.3 billion, a little over half of the money for the entire company of Estee Lauder.

I think this is the start of the beauty business booming.

Estee Lauder can't afford to lose such a wealthy business like MAC. If all brands are suddenly being put into beauty trade stores like Ulta and Sephora, Estee Lauder needs to grab a surfboard and follow the wave.

This is no longer a one-shot deal of manufacturing the product and simply selling it. Now we have huge trade stores like Ulta being that middle man, getting profit in return.

Although this may not be ideal to some brands, this is the future of the beauty business. All the beauty products you could think of conveniently in one place, who's the genius behind this?

Huge props to Estee Lauder Company for noticing this huge transition in time and getting it settled before it's too late. As far as I can see it, MAC Cosmetics will be slaying the beauty business for the next coming decades. They're here to stay and joining an Ulta near you this coming spring.

MTEN: The great comeback Longwood men's tennis on track to have best season in program's DI history

by Stephanie Roberts
Sports Staff
@stephroberts07



Head coach Pierre Tafelski recruited freshman Amadeo Blasco from Valencia, Spain.

EVA WITTKOSKI | THE ROTUNDA

Coming off a losing streak last year, the Longwood men's tennis team has bounced back in head coach Pierre Tafelski's second year at the helm, achieving their first winning season in the program's Division I history and first Big South wins.

The Lancers overall record in the 2015-16 season was 7-15. This season, Longwood has gone 9-2 so far, already surpassing last season's total wins by two. The Lancers have also gone 3-1 in their Big South conference play, whereas last season they went winless.

The men's tennis team went through a coaching change in the 2015-16 season. Pierre Tafelski took the head coaching position in August of 2015 and coached his first season with the Lancers last year.

Before coming to Longwood, Tafelski coached as the men's and women's assistant coach at Division II powerhouse Hawaii Pacific. There, he was named Division II National Assistant Coach of the Year and helped push both the men's and women's programs to the top ten in Division II rankings.

"There has been a lot of turnover in terms of coaches and seeing that challenge was a big motivation for me to come (to Longwood) and work my way in and try to turn things around and create something more positive than in the past," said Tafelski.

Since his time here at Longwood, Tafelski has begun to work building up the men's team and improving team culture.

"Coming in the first year you have to create a culture. Success starts with strong culture and making the players understand the core values and standards/expectations," said Tafelski. "The first year it takes time for the players to understand the coach's expectations, but my goal was to make the players understand what

the culture is about and what is going to be next."

Tafelski recruited and brought in four new players for this year including three freshman and one junior transfer. The four returners to this year's team are senior Switzerland native Florian Uffer, senior Bulgaria native Rosen Ilchev, junior Indonesia native Lachlan Manser and sophomore from England, Julian Farthing.

"The following year is different because I brought in four new players so the team is very young, and now it is actually time to apply our values and standards. Also, the returners have to help me with that mission and make the new players understand what our culture is all about and apply it on the court," said Tafelski.

The Lancers have gotten a fresh start with a new coach and four new players on the team. Senior Florian Uffer has been here three years and experienced the change in team dynamic.

"Our team competitiveness has changed a lot," said Uffer. "We have changed our whole approach to things and how we practice."

Before Tafelski, Uffer felt the team was not expected to do or achieve much.

"He actually gave us goals, before we just went to matches and would try to do the best that we could. Now we actually have goals and something to work towards to, and the intensity and motivation went up," said Uffer.

Despite all of the challenges the tennis team has faced with consecutive years of coaching staff instability, they have found their niche and come alive this season.

"Our team energy has been a lot higher this year on and especially off the courts," said Uffer. "Having a record like this now, we are more positive and optimistic on and off the court."

WEEKLY ROUNDUP

BASEBALL

Sunday, March 19

vs. Charleston Southern L 8-7

SOFTBALL

Sunday, March 19

@ Campbell L 9-2

LACROSSE

Sunday, March 19

@ St. Francis L 13-12

MEN'S TENNIS

Sunday, March 19

vs. Morgan State W 4-0

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Sunday, March 19

vs. Morgan State L 4-3

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Club sports weekend roundup

RESULTS

- **Women's Rugby Club**
Saturday, March 26
Longwood women's club rugby fall 52-5 against George Washington University on First Amendment Field.
- **Women's Softball Club**
Saturday, March 26
Club women's softball rose above both Mary Washington University (12-6) and Southside Community College (10-2) this weekend

UPCOMING MATCHES

- **Baseball Club**,
Saturday, April 1
11 a.m. @Lancer Park (double header)
Sunday, April 2
10 a.m. @Lancer Park