

THE CAVALIER DAILY

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AVA PROEHL, ARIANA GUERANMAYEH & ANKIT AGRAWAL | THE CAVALIER DAILY

DELAYED INTRODUCTION

STUDENTS SETTLE INTO DORMS AFTER FALL SEMESTER AT HOME

PG. 3



**VA. ATHLETICS RECORDS
\$1.5 MILLION DEFICIT**

PG. 10

**FILMS TO WATCH FOR
BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

PG. 17

**EXPERTS EXPLAIN PFIZER,
MODERNA VACCINES**

PG. 18

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NEWS

This week in-brief

CD News Staff

OAAA Black History Month events to honor ‘Black Bottom Saints’

In honor of Black History Month, the Office of African-American Affairs will hold a series of events inspired by Alice Randall’s novel “Black Bottom Saints.” The novel tells the stories of 52 individuals, or saints, from Black Bottom, Detroit. These saints include famous figures like Dinah Washington, a jazz and blues singer known as “the most popular Black female recording artist of the 50s”, and Joe Louis, a professional boxer who was heavyweight champion of the world from 1937 to 1949, as well as local heroes who embody the spirit of the vibrant neighborhood.

The kickoff event took place Friday, featuring author Alice Randall and recording artist duo Louis York. The remaining events will include a variety of book discussions and movie screenings and highlight other guest speakers, such as music supervisor Carter Little.

Michael Gerard Mason, associate dean of African-American Affairs, who curates the University’s Black History Month events, described his decision to change this year’s theme from origin stories to “Black Bottom Saints” in response to the Black Lives Matter protests ignited by the death of George Floyd last summer.

“I wanted to make a shift to something that was probably less trauma-focused and more celebratory,” Mason said.

While the chapters of “Black Bottom Saints” vary in length, each saint’s story is incredibly relevant for the current times. Other saints include poet Robert Hayden, singer Della Reese and Tanya Blanding, a four-year-old Black girl who was killed by a Michigan State trooper in her own home. The novel may be read from beginning to end or as a collection of short stories.

Mason said he hopes the University community will feel connected to some of Randall’s saints during these difficult times.

U.Va. extends admissions offers to 6,187 early action applicants for a 21.4 percent acceptance rate

The University released early action decisions Friday, extending offers of admission to 6,187 candidates out of a total of 28,897 applicants — a 21.4 percent offer rate. 40 percent of those admitted are students of color, 7 percent are foreign nationals and 46 percent are white.

The application pool for early action admission to the Class of 2025 saw a record 15 percent increase over those for the Class of 2024 when 25,160 applied. There was also a slight increase in the early action acceptance rate this year — up .7 percent from last year’s 20.7 percent offer rate.

“This year, admission through the early action option was incredibly competitive, perhaps our most competitive cycle ever,” Roberts said in a statement. “It’s an emotional and difficult process for teenagers and sharing deeply personal information with an admission committee takes great courage.”

The Office of Undergraduate Admissions extended offers of admission to a diverse array of candidates. There was a 16 percent increase in African American early action admits this year, with 478 offers. Notably, the number of American Indian admits increased from three for the Class of 2024 to seven for the Class of 2025. The Office of Undergraduate Admissions also extended offers to three Hawaiian/Pacific Islander applicants after not extending admission to any HPI applicants last year.

Both first-generation and legacy applicant admissions increased this year, with 614 first-generation applicants receiving an offer and 590 legacy applicants.



U.Va. identifies at least 17 positive cases of COVID-19 in Gibbons, residents in 24-hour quarantine to identify extent of outbreak

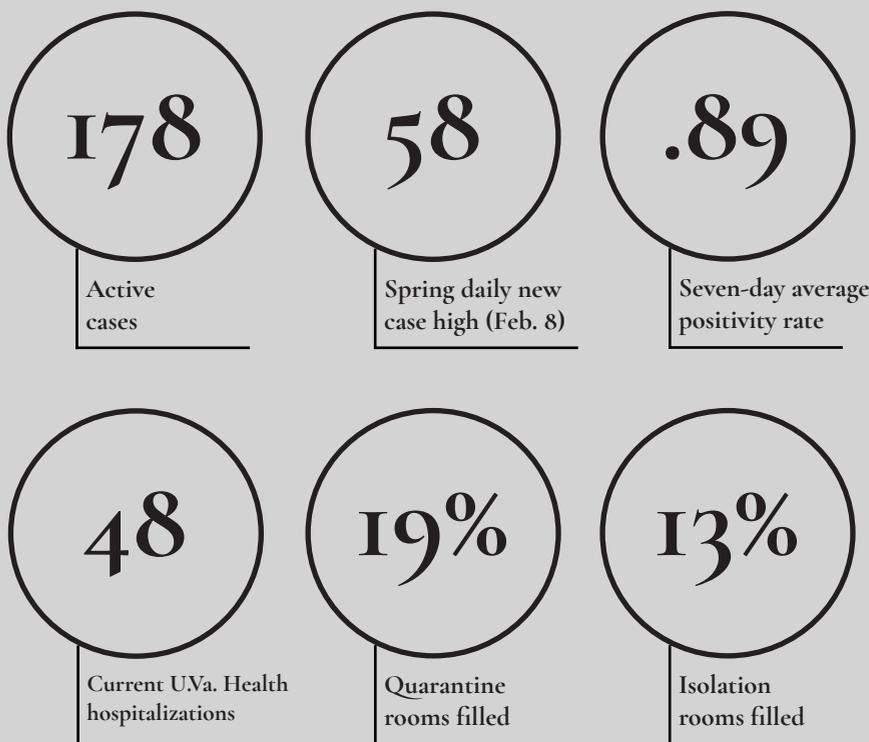
After identifying 17 positive cases in Gibbons dormitory since Feb. 3, the University has asked all 213 residents to remain in their rooms for at least 24 hours starting Monday night so that they can conduct an additional round of testing to determine the extent of the viral spread.

During this 24-hour period, residents of Gibbons will be provided breakfast, lunch and dinner, as well as enhanced personal protective equipment. Residents who test positive for COVID-19 will be moved to isolation housing, and close contacts of those who test positive will be moved to quarantine housing.

The University identifies potential outbreaks of COVID-19 in residence halls through its wastewater testing program, as well as its mandatory prevalence testing program. Students living in the Charlottesville and Albemarle area this semester are required to report for saliva screening once per week — if a student fails to comply, they are subject to sanctions that increase in severity each time.

During the fall semester, the University selected five residence halls — Balz-Dobie, Kellogg, Echols, Lefevre and Hancock — for prevalence testing after positive cases were identified.

COVID-19 AT U.VA. BY THE NUMBERS



Case data was obtained from the U.Va. COVID-19 tracker, which was last updated Feb. 10. The tracker includes data from testing conducted through U.Va. Health and pre-arrival testing vendor LetsGetChecked.

Students new to Grounds this semester adjust to college

While some students feel well acclimated to their new life on Grounds, others feel that there are not enough resources for them

Ava Seccuro | Senior Writer

As the COVID-19 pandemic threw many students' undergraduate education plans for a loop, many first-year and transfer students, in particular, delayed their arrival to Grounds this year. In their short time here, the question remains whether the University has adequately helped these students fully adjust.

According to University Spokesperson Brian Coy, 600 more students are planning to live on-Grounds this semester compared to last semester. A total of approximately 5,186 students are living on Grounds this spring.

Like many other students across the country, first-year College student Katelynn Nguyen decided to stay home for the first semester due to coronavirus restrictions on Grounds and the prevalence of online classes.

Academically, she said she feels "much better" on Grounds because psychologically, it's helped her feel more serious. However, the only thing she feels "behind" on is making new friends because of her delayed arrival.

For that specific predicament, Alison Nagel, clinical psychologist and program director for Hoos Connected, said that the group was designed to serve students just like Nguyen.

Hoos Connected is an organization that brings together first-year and transfer students by having small group meetings Mondays at 5:30 p.m., Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. or Wednesdays at 7 p.m. This year especially, the program aims to connect students through their housing assignments as University COVID-19 restrictions only permit residents of the same building to enter residence halls.

Nagel and other psychologists in her field observed connections between loneliness and isolation on both physical and mental health. According to Nagel, there has been a growing recognition of these impacts within the psychology literature. She reported that a quarter of all adults feel that they have nobody they can turn to in a time of need. This statistic — coupled with the fact that college-age students have higher rates of depression and anxiety and that there are higher utilization rates at counseling centers across the nation — prompted a "perfect pairing" for advertising Hoos Connected this semester.

With college being a time of change and transition, there can arise a "normative" stage where students feel isolated or that they don't have their footing, Nagel



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Resident advisors have played a large role in helping new residents adjust to living on Grounds for the first time.

said, especially due to the pandemic.

In theory, Nagel plans to help students feel "better in their skin" by gradually going from small talk about movies and TV in the earlier sessions to discussing personal identities, stories and self reflection to foster productive and "meaningful" relationships with other students.

"Hoos Connected is meant to meet students where they're at in that moment by providing a space where they can get to know their peers," Nagel said. "So, first years are in groups of other first years, transfers are in groups of other transfers and [we want them to] just get to know one another, get a little bit beyond the types of conversations that we, for very good reason, are most likely to have when we're new in a space."

In a randomized control trial of 438 people, or two semesters worth of participants, Nagel found that "students who participated in Hoos Connected reported feeling significantly less depressed than the control students."

Despite Hoos Connected's efforts, Nguyen feels that since the

University is so vast and most clubs have to meet over Zoom, the University hasn't done enough to facilitate a smooth process.

"In the nicest way possible, I don't think U.Va. has done anything to help students who are new to Grounds spring semester," Nguyen said. "I think it's just not their priority. Obviously it's a huge university so they only have so many resources, and I think they're just choosing not to direct attention to students who have just moved in because there's a relatively small number of us and in the grand scheme of things, there are more pressing issues than a small handful of new students."

According to Coy, who responded on behalf of Housing and Residential Life, the department thus far has not reported any particular challenges in accommodating incoming first-year or transfer students.

"The University looks forward to them being part of our residential communities," he said. "The Resident Staff have been checking in with their new residents and welcoming them to Grounds."

New residents moved into their residence halls a few days

earlier than returning residents. The day before returning residents began moving in, resident advisors held a meeting with new residents to welcome them to their residence halls and establish rules and responsibilities, a similar meeting to the one that first years usually attend during their first day living on-Grounds in the fall.

One student in particular that has benefited from the engagement of the resident staff is first-year College student Ronith Ranjan.

Ranjan — who decided to spend his first semester at home to spend more time with his family and reflect and recharge — chose to attend resident advisors meetings after he settled into Dillard dormitory and connected with other people on his floor that way.

"[It's] a lot of making opportunities for myself," Ranjan said. "There was a guy who lives on my floor, who was really into rock climbing, so because of that, I started going with him rock climbing this past week. I would have never seen myself do something as different as that, so it's great to be on Grounds."

Although Nagel said that transfer students historically have more often reaped the benefits of Hoos Connected, because of the circumstances of this year where first years are experiencing the same threshold of change that transfer students normally would, the program might work "particularly well" for first years.

However, according to Ranjan, it doesn't matter how many resources the University gives students because, ultimately, college life is dependent on the effort individuals choose to put into it.

"I've seen a lot of emails about Hoos Connected," Ranjan said. "But it's like, I think in general, for college life, you have to go make those opportunities for yourself. Things like Hoos Connected at U.Va. will only do so much for a student. You really have to put yourself out there and meet new people, go out to lunch and dinner with people with different interests."

The deadline to sign up for Hoos Connected was Wednesday, and groups meet starting on Feb. 15.

Students, faculty struggle to uplift Asian American Studies

The Asian Pacific American Studies minor consists of one professor and one directly relevant class

Jee-Ho Kim | Staff Writer

Many students of Asian descent are questioning University support as they explore identity and history in an academic environment that they say disregards Asian American Studies. Students and faculty are pushing for more courses and faculty devoted to Asian American Studies — today, the Asian American studies minor includes one professor and just one directly relevant class.

As of last fall, 2,758 students — approximately 15.9 percent of undergraduate students — identify as Asian American, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander. 11.8 percent of University faculty — 384 individuals — reported as identifying in those groups.

The Asian Pacific American Studies minor was first approved in 2004 — 10 years after Asian Student Union efforts began in 1994 with the publication of their Five Year Plan, which addressed academic coursework, faculty, relations with University administration and the formation Asian American groups, among other topics.

Two Asian American Studies professors were hired to kickstart the minor, which resides today in the Department of American Studies in relative obscurity. Only one professor, Assoc. English Prof. Sylvia Chong, remains. Chong has directed and managed the minor — which graduates anywhere from one to four students every year — alone for 14 years.

The Asian Student Union's 2020 Asian Pacific Islander Desi American Student survey reported that out of 890 APIDA-identifying respondents, 80 percent had not heard of the APAS minor.

"That minor has been running on fumes since 2006," Chong said.

Only one class in the minor is directly related to Asian American studies — Intro to Asian American Studies, which Chong usually teaches. Without interested and qualified faculty in previous years, Chong has had to remove the course offering entirely while on leave. Before the reintroduction of the class last spring, the class was unavailable for five semesters.

The minor also requires a comparative or race theory class, a class on modern Asia and three electives.

Intro to Asian American Studies covers Asian American history beginning with Chinese migrants in the 19th century up to present day events and issues, including the model minority myth that emerged during the Cold War era. The myth erases Asian and Asian American individuality under the false narrative that these groups are high achieving by nature. Such harmful stereotypes serve to drive a wedge between Asian Americans and other ethnic minorities, according to Karen Huang, an English doctoral candidate teaching the class

during Chong's leave.

"The waves of migration of Asian Americans that have occurred throughout history and the way that these groups of Asian Americans have subsequently been treated is really important because it speaks to the larger themes of history of oppression and of capitalist interests," Huang said.

Intro to Asian American Studies has been popular among students, regularly reaching its full capacity of anywhere from 25 to 60 students. Fourth-year College student Jasmine Mao, a student in the minor, took the class their first year and said they credit it for their political and personal growth at the University.

"I always get really emotional thinking about how lucky I got getting into this class," Mao said. "It's kind of dramatic to say, but I do feel like this class changed my life."

Fourth-year College student Andrea Dilao joined the minor last year after taking Intro to Asian American Studies. Dilao said she found the class — whose curriculum dedicates one week to Filipino Americans — and the minor critical to fortifying her ongoing reflection of her Filipino American identity.

"It was so important to me to be able to synthesize the last three years that I've been doing kind of my own personal ... introspection and reflection on what it is to be a member of a really diverse ... Asian American diaspora," Dilao said.

Similarly, third-year College student Heather Moser said they were enlightened by the diverse perspectives introduced in the course, which expanded beyond what they had learned in the East Asian Studies major. Moser's favorite unit delved into Hawaiian history, incorporating many texts written by native Hawaiians.

"My biggest goal, my own personal one, for doing the minor was to explore Asian identities beyond the East Asian narrative," Moser said.

Moser is currently taking an African American Studies course this semester for the minor's comparative requirement, which requires students to gain perspective through other racial studies as well.

Huang has heard from students of Asian descent that they have found comfort and identification in Intro to Asian American Studies. Students of other ethnic backgrounds have also been drawn to the class out of curiosity, she added, looking to fill in gaps of Asian American history missing from high school history classes.

"I think a lot of what I experience is not by virtue of being Asian in an essentialist sense, but being seen as Asian and what that means ... on an everyday level," Huang said.

Although Intro to Asian Ameri-

can Studies and the APAS minor have received love from students, the lack of additional Asian American Studies courses and University support has garnered criticism from students and faculty.

"If UVA. wants to claim to be both great and good, supporting its Asian American population through [the] bolstering of academia in Asian American history and experience is one way they have to go," Dilao said.

William & Mary, the University of Michigan, University of California, Berkeley and University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill all have larger Asian American Studies programs than the University, supporting both a larger number of faculty and courses.

Over the years, students have repeatedly called to improve Asian American Studies at the University.

Asian Leaders Council's 2018 report demanded the creation of a Department of American Studies to house and support both the APAS and Latinx Studies minors. Mao, who helped write the report, said they found shocking similarities between present-day demands and those from ASU's Five Year Plan almost 30 years ago, including calls for more faculty of color and non-Western classes. Both reports highlight the urgency of actively working to eliminate APIDA discrimination at the University. While the Five Year Plan did not explicitly ask for a department, the 2018 report details the benefits of having one.

Chong emphasized the administrative power a department has in controlling its hiring processes because it can employ faculty without the convoluted political process of hiring with other departments, as major and minor programs without an overreaching department must do. The Department of American Studies — established in fall 2020 — is capable of producing the Asian American Studies courses and faculty APIDA students lack, Chong said.

"It's a push that needed to happen for a long time," said Serena Wood, third-year College student and co-chair of the ALC. "I'm happy that they were able to finally ... hear it after we compiled this report and actually listened."

Although the creation of the department is a step forward, Vilas Annarapu — Class of 2020 alumnus who served as chair of the ALC when the 2018 report was published — expressed disappointment with the University for falling short of expectations after promising talks about expanding Asian American and Latinx studies with officials like Ian Baucom, dean of the College.

"In spite of verbal commitments ... the vision of the report has not been

actualized," Annarapu said in an email to The Cavalier Daily. "UVA. has a long tradition of delaying and deferring — one need only look at the Living Wage Campaign as evidence of the hard work of activists falling on deaf ears. I hope that UVA. — especially given the work of the Racial Equity Task Force — meaningfully commits to academic reform and ethnic studies."

Following the report's release, ALC and the Latinx Student Alliance held a symposium in 2019 during which students, faculty and administrators discussed the future of ethnic studies. Though students responded positively, Mao — who helped organize the symposium — noticed little change afterwards.

"In terms of awareness [and] energy behind the fight for ethnic studies, I have to admit that I don't feel like much has changed among students," Mao said in a statement.

Today, Mao still finds ethnic studies lacking.

"The [APAS] minor is bare," Mao said. "The minor is nominal in nature because of the way UVA. does not support its ethnic studies programs or its attempts at ethnic studies programs."

ASU, which signed the ALC report in solidarity, also champions more faculty as part of their mission to empower the APIDAS community in Charlottesville.

"We simply want more faculty who are knowledgeable about Asian American relations," said Valerie Young, former ASU president and fourth-year College student. "We want students to be more engaged in the history of how Asian Americans came to America and had movements beforehand."

Since the creation of the Department of American Studies, only one new full-time member has been hired — Professor Lisa Marie Cacho, who specializes in Latinx Studies. In a normal year, Chong said following up with a hire in Asian American Studies would be possible — major events in the past year have changed the University's plans, however. Specifically, Chong said she wants to hire an Asian American historian.

"So many universities in the country anchor their Asian American Studies programs around a historian because that's such an important topic," Chong said. "We have zero. I'm a fill-in professor who teaches a history class because no one is around to do it."

Recent events, including the COVID-19 pandemic, have reduced funding for faculty employment — according to an internal email obtained by The Cavalier Daily, Baucom has informed College faculty and staff of the University's intention to focus its

resources on hiring faculty in nine positions related to African and African American Studies as part of the University's Race, Justice and Equity initiative. Five of these nine positions will be filled as soon as possible, and the search for the remaining four faculty will take place in fall 2021.

Although Chong supports hiring experts in these underrepresented fields, she questioned the lack of Asian American and Latinx representation in the initiative.

"They are sending out a message that ... APIDA people are not a race, have no issues of injustice and inequity," she said. "They're pitting racial groups against each other. And this is particularly galling to me in a time of COVID, discrimination and racial paranoia."

Christian McMillen, associate dean of social sciences for the College of Arts and Sciences, said that the University's Race, Justice and Equity initiative focuses on hiring Black studies faculty. Due to the financial impact of COVID, he said, hiring has largely been funded by outside grants.

"Arts & Sciences leadership has met with the faculty about the need and the importance for Asian American scholars and bringing this focus into American Studies — we're acutely aware of the need and have identified it as a priority area," McMillen said in an email statement. "We remain committed to hiring faculty working on a broad range of questions focused on race and ethnicity over the coming years."

Outside academics, students have also looked for APIDA community and empowerment through local organizations. Dilao is a member of the Organization of Young Filipino Americans and the Asian Pacific American Leadership Training Institute, Moser is part of the Japanese American Citizens League based in Northern Virginia and Mao works with Asians Revolutionizing Together at the University. Additionally, ALC is currently working on compiling a history of Asian Americans at the University with the hopes of collaborating with University Guides to create an oral history tour, according to Wood.

As the push for an improved Asian American Studies program continues, Dilao recommends taking advantage of existing Asian American Studies resources — such as the introductory course and Asian American student organizations — to demonstrate support. She hopes more students will join the APAS minor.

"It is a numerical way to show the University that it's necessary, that it is essential to the academic and personal experience of UVA. students," she said.

Chinese international students ‘Go Local’

Fudan and Peking University continue to serve as homes for international students unable to come to Grounds due to the pandemic

Harry Farley | Staff Writer

Many Chinese international students were faced with an extremely difficult situation this fall and this spring — due to the pandemic and travel restrictions, many students were either unable to or had trouble entering the U.S. and getting to the University to take classes. To address this issue, the University partnered with Fudan University in Shanghai and Peking University in Beijing to create a program last semester for the Chinese students who couldn't make it to Grounds due to COVID-19 and other obstacles. The program is still continuing this spring.

The Go Local program, led by UVa. China Office's director Justin O'Jack, was made for Chinese international students who couldn't or didn't want to travel to Grounds during this period of uncertainty surrounding the pandemic.

The University has been in partnership with Fudan University since 2001 when the University joined Universitas21, a group consisting of research-intensive universities from around the world. Although the University left Universitas21 in 2014, the University still maintains a partnership with Fudan University. In 2008, the University signed a student-exchange agreement with Peking University, which expanded in 2012 to an annual student exchange program between the two schools.

For the fall semester and continuing this spring, Chinese students are able to take on the role of University exchange students at Fudan University and Peking University. Instead of coming to Grounds, students can choose to take classes at these universities and have the same, if not more, in-depth college experience.

The University is one of the only American universities to create a program like this through a direct agreement with the host universities. Other schools go through fee-based,

third-party services to exchange students while the University has a mutual-credit exchange where students receive regular, full-class credits, are housed in a hotel and can study on campus at both Fudan University and Peking University.

Fudan University accommodated 75 students in the fall, most of whom chose to live on campus for a real college experience. Sixty-seven students were from the College of Arts and Sciences, four were Architecture students and four were Engineering students. The group consisted of 58 first years, 13 second years and four third years. The students come from 34 different cities across China, with nine students coming from Shanghai. For the spring, 79 University students will be at Fudan, while 10 University students will be at Peking University.

Students at Fudan are given the opportunity to live in an on-campus hotel arranged by the UVa. China Office. In the fall, 61 students chose to live at the hotel, which also transformed some of its rooms into study rooms for students. The other 14 students at Fudan lived off campus.

Students can take up to nine semester credits at Fudan, with the rest of their schedule needing to be UVa. credits for students to maintain their status as University students. While the necessary University classes are taken online through Zoom, all Fudan classes are taken in person on their main campus.

Although the program was open to any student from China, first years were given priority over other students. There was no formal application process, but students did need to fill out a few surveys and complete other registration requirements.

Students had up until August to decide whether or not they would study at Fudan or Peking in the fall, but had to make the decision much



COURTESY JUSTIN O'JACK

Chinese international students at Fudan University are able to take courses and live on campus while maintaining their status as University students.

earlier — in October — for the spring semester, over four months before classes start March 1.

For the classes they have taken at Fudan, students will be able to receive transfer credits. However, major or minor departmental approval still needs to be obtained before these credits can count towards a student's degree.

The class selection at Fudan is similar to that at the University — students can pick from history, economics, math, science and psychology courses, among others.

Hongjia Yang, or Andy Yang, is a first-year student from China participating in the Go Local program who lives just a bike ride away from Fudan University. Yang emphasized that he had been to some lectures and met professors at Fudan while he was still in high school, so he already had a connection with the school.

He also mentioned how he enjoys in-person classes and the ability to take part in extracurricular activities, which he wouldn't have been able to if he was taking classes at the University over Zoom this semester.

“Staying on campus could also provide me with more opportunities to take part in group activities and clubs, such as cycling teams, literature club, Model UN and urban studies club,” Yang said.

While enjoying staying in China, Yang didn't really have the option to come to the University this year. He said he was unable to obtain an F-1 Visa to come to the United States due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Yang emphasized that his experience at Fudan University was a lot better than he had expected. He took challenging, upper-level courses designed for third- and fourth-year students and had a tough time at first, but Fudan students and professors were more than willing to help him

out. They sent him extra help, textbooks and reference sites to help him with the material, which he was very appreciative of.

Yang took classes that included “Shanghai: Urban Studies” and “U.S. Religion and Society.” He strongly recommends the former for other students at Fudan. The professor was born and grew up in urban Shanghai and still lives there today.

“This course turns the whole urban Shanghai into its classroom and field trips play a vital part in the teaching schedule,” Yang said.

Yang said that the best part of his experience in the Go Local program was the learning experience. He learned a lot about Sino-U.S. relations, and his professor, Wu Xinbo, taught with persistence and a rigorous spirit. He hopes to major in Politics and continue to study international relations and will return to Fudan this semester.

Xinbo is also the dean of the Institute of International Studies at Fudan and the director at the Center for Americans Studies.

Hannah Liu, a third-year student from Shanghai and a double major in Economics and Mathematics, also participated in the Go Local program this fall.

Liu's decision to participate in the Go Local program was an easy one — Fudan was always one of her dream schools, and her mother is a Fudan alumna. After moving to the U.S. six years ago, Liu thought this was a good opportunity for her to spend more time with her parents. She also was very concerned about the COVID-19 situation in the United States given its rising case numbers.

Since the start of the pandemic, China has reported around 100,000 total cases of COVID-19 and over 4,800 deaths, whereas the total case count in the U.S. has exceeded 27 million, with over 470,000 deaths. On Jan.

2, the U.S. reported over 300,000 cases in a single day. Currently, the U.S. has a seven-day average of around 100,000 cases per day.

Liu mentioned how supported she felt by the University during the whole experience. During Thanksgiving, students were invited to a Thanksgiving dinner with University alumni coordinated by the UVa. China Office and Fudan faculty.

Liu also got to meet James Heller, consul general at the U.S. Consulate General in Shanghai, as a student representative of the University. There, she was able to share her thoughts about her situation along with other U.S. students from different colleges.

Liu enrolled in an environmental science class and “Strategic Management” and really enjoyed the “Strategic Management.” Because of the class design, Liu got to know a lot of Fudan students through multiple group projects, and the content was also of special interest to her.

“Exchanging thoughts on different firms and their strategic plans on a weekly basis resembles my life back at UVa.,” Liu said.

Liu got much closer with her University friends who also took part in the program, and she said that was one of the best parts of the experience. They were disappointed that they couldn't be on Grounds, but still being able to go to the cafeteria to eat together or to go to the library to study gave them a sense of normalcy and togetherness.

The Go Local program has given University students in China the ability to have a normal college experience and remain safe during the COVID-19 pandemic. UVa. China Office has worked incredibly hard with Fudan University and with Peking University to give Chinese students an opportunity to learn just like they would be at the University.



COURTESY JUSTIN O'JACK

One student representative from the University who is studying at Fudan was able to attend a Thanksgiving dinner at the residence of Jim Heller, the Consul General of the U.S. Consulate in Shanghai.

LIFE

CIOs empower women to reach personal, academic success

Women-led organizations at the University strive to equip and support women of all backgrounds and passions

Nicole Freeman | Feature Writer

Despite underrepresentation of women in academic arenas like STEM and business fields, as well as in recreational spaces such as fitness centers, many women-led CIOs at the University have risen to the challenge and continue to create spaces that offer support and empowerment to female students. As the spring semester begins, CIOs like Girls Who Code, Society of Women Engineers, Smart Women Securities and Changing Health, Attitudes and Actions To Recreate Girls are open to new women and non-binary and gender nonconforming peers who are looking for a community of supportive people with shared passions.

Entering into a male-dominated field as a woman can be intimidating and even off-putting, especially because of underlying possibilities to feel undervalued as a team member. With the intention of opposing this discriminatory dynamic, which is particularly dominant in STEM, Mara Hart, third-year College student and president of Girls Who Code, founded the organization to give people a community of support and solidarity.

“The main mission of Girls Who Code at the core of everything we do is to create a more gender-inclusive tech field,” Hart said. “Whether that involves having more women, having more nonbinary people ... anything to build up that empowerment.”

At the University, female students make up 55 percent of the general student body, but only 32 percent of the School of Engineering and Applied Science. Feeling intimidated by this disproportionate ratio, Rebecca Della Croce, fourth-year Engineering student and president of Society of Women Engineers — an organization focused on empowering girls pursuing careers in engineering and technology — joined the CIO her first year. Rising to her position of leadership within the organization, she has since continued to help her fellow female engineers to feel represented and appreciated.

“When I got to UVA. I felt how big of a deal it was to be a woman in engineering in some regards,” Della Croce said. “Not only was it weird to not see a lot of other women in the room, but sometimes my male peers really wouldn’t take what I was saying seriously. I really wanted to find that community of other women in engineering, and I loved seeing how the women in SWE em-

powered each other.”

Hart shared similar experiences of being blatantly disregarded and disrespected by her male colleagues in her computer science education internship. She has turned to the Girls Who Code community as a

ists in the business sectors as well. Claire Duffy, third-year McIntire student and chief executive officer of Smart Women Securities, was initially intimidated by the competitive applications required to join most investment clubs, so she

very focused on mentorship and building connections between women currently in finance, especially those who have graduated from UVA. and are alumnae of SWS,” Duffy said. “This semester in particular, we are putting a large fo-

the community and working to give back as much as possible.”

Beyond academic and professional empowerment, woman-led CIOs at the University have dedicated their efforts to fostering personal growth by emphasizing physical and mental wellbeing. Cassie Korcel, third-year College student and president of CHAARG, has worked to establish a strong community of women’s empowerment through physical health and group fitness.

“Our mission is to show our members that fitness can and should be fun,” Korcel said. “We strive to remind our members to always be the best version of themselves and to take charge of their mental, physical and emotional health. We are encouraging people to make that change and live a healthy lifestyle.”

Going to the gym — and especially entering the weight room — as a woman can be a very intimidating experience that can turn women away from working out. CHAARG strives to reduce that pressure by creating a community of supportive women with a shared passion for fitness.

“Maybe it is unintentional that women feel pressured and even sometimes unwelcome in the space at the gym, but a lot of women do, so we can’t discount that,” Korcel said. “Personally, even going to the gym sometimes can feel scary, you don’t know what to do and you are unsure of where to go, but the beauty of CHAARG is being able to go with friends who make you feel comfortable to enter the space and to try new things.”

The University’s woman-led CIOs have created welcoming communities that are working hard to combat the gendered stigmas and barriers that women face in academics, the workplace and in their personal lives. The leaders of these organizations are setting great examples as women who are taking control of the space and opening the doors to empower other passionate women.

“If you are in a situation and there is not a chair for you at the table, pull up your own chair,” Della Croce said. “Show up anywhere you want to be and make a place for yourself. It is OK for you to show up somewhere that you feel unwelcome because you can change that experience for the women who come after you.”



COURTESY GWC AT UVA., SWE AT UVA., SWS AT UVA., CHAARG AT UVA

The University’s woman-led CIOs have created welcoming communities that are working hard to combat the gendered stigmas and barriers that women face in academics, the workplace and in their personal lives.

support system to learn from and grow with as she continues to face such challenges in the male-dominated field of computer science.

“Regularly my boss would disregard what I had to say, including picking up his phone while I was talking during meetings then putting it down as soon as I stopped talking [and] making provocative comments toward me when I was talking about education and trying to discuss professional matters,” Hart said. “Aside from that, I have come back and learned that there may be a lack of representation, but there are people to reach out to.”

The competitive nature of the University’s STEM programs presents a challenge for women to overcome the existing gender barriers in many professional fields. However, this obstacle for women pursuing professional careers is not exclusive to STEM fields, as it ex-

decided to get involved in SWS because it was an open space for women to learn about investment with less pressure and more support.

“SWS really prides itself on our focus on education,” Duffy said. “I know in general at UVA. a lot of clubs have really competitive application processes ... [but] women are so underrepresented in finance, we want to give any girl who is interested in learning about finance and investing the opportunity.”

SWS executes this mission of supporting all women interested in commerce by holding open seminars to educate students rather than expecting prior knowledge and experience. They also emphasize networking with women currently in finance to provide insight and expertise about navigating a career in the male-dominated finance industry.

“Alongside education, we are

focus on corporate events, so partnering with companies to come speak to our members and give them the opportunity to hear from women in finance. We want to be that lead into breaking more women into the industry.”

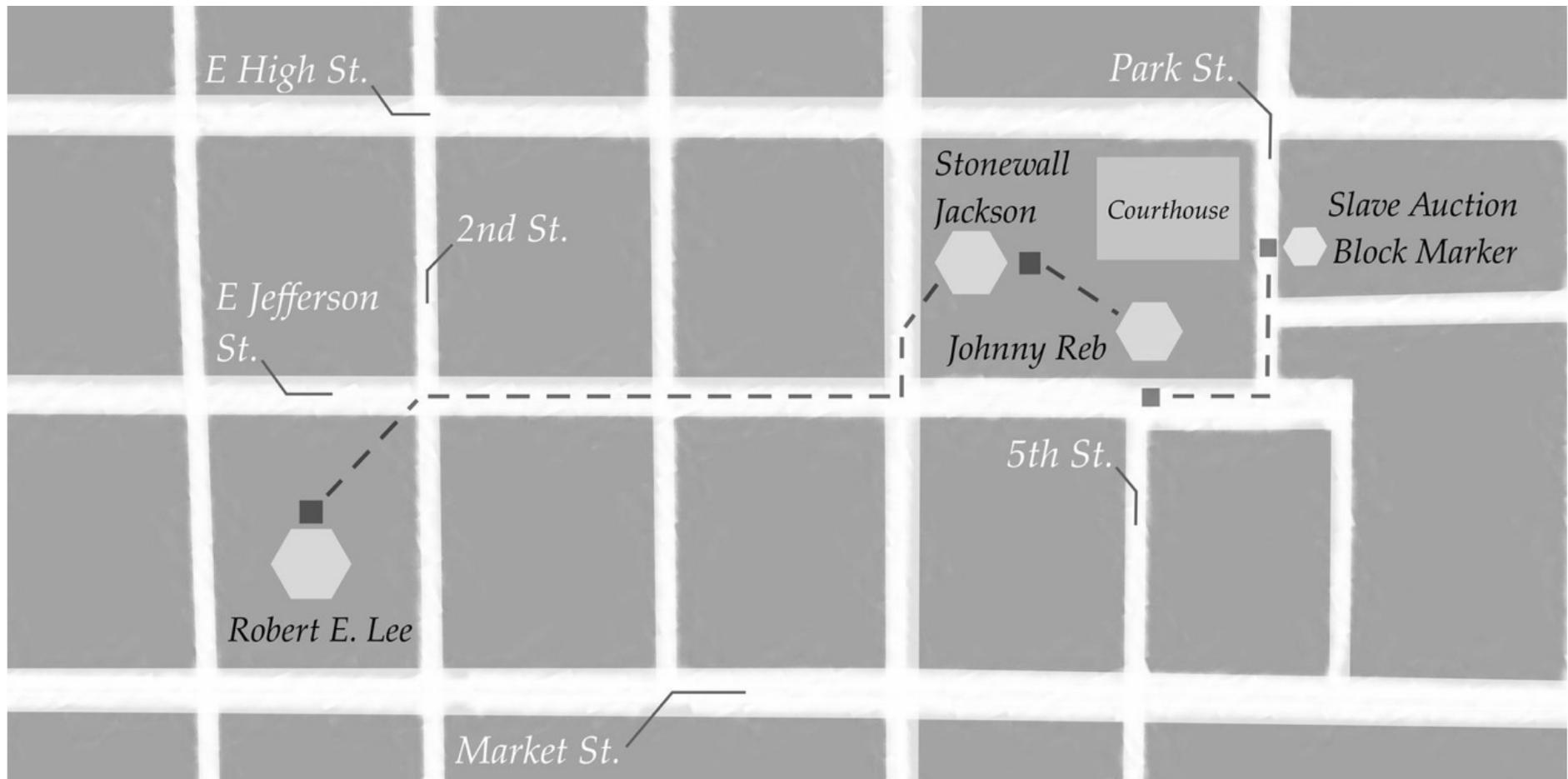
Girls Who Code takes a similar approach by offering open instruction on the foundations of coding. They also bring these educational pursuits to the greater community in order to empower girls from a young age.

“We want to make sure we are partnering with other members of our community, whether that is us teaching girl scouts or having Capital One come teach us,” Hart said. “Over winter break, the curriculum co-directors [and I] held a six-week coding workshop so that local girl scouts in middle school could earn all of their coding badges. We are all about integrating ourselves into

Virtual tour helps contextualize city's Confederate statues

Marked by These Monuments tour allows Charlottesville activists to keep sharing history behind local Confederate monuments

Anna Heyse, Elise Kim, Nayeon Kim | Staff Writers



COURTESY WTJU 91.1 FM AND MARY GARNER MCGEEHEE

The virtual tour in particular highlights four Charlottesville Confederate markers and monuments — some of which have been physically removed since the tour's inception.

In 2016, a petition written by Charlottesville student activist and second-year College student Zyahna Bryant voiced the discomfort felt by Black residents because of the city's Confederate monuments. In 2017, the City Council voted to permit removing the statues of Confederate generals Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson, although the ruling was barred by permanent injunction in Oct. 2019 after local residents filed a lawsuit against their removal in Mar. 2017.

In 2018, Assoc. Religious Studies Prof. Jalane Schmidt and Andrea Douglas, executive director of the Jefferson School African American Heritage Center and former University professor, introduced their Marked by These Monuments tour to serve as a way to educate and inform locals and visitors alike about the history of Charlottesville's Confederate monuments. As of Tuesday, the virtual tour has had over 8,545 visitors and over 17,225 page views since its publication in Aug. 2019.

Both the in-person and the online version of the tour begin in downtown Charlottesville at the Slave Auction Block Marker situated next to the Courthouse. Consistent with chronological order, the tour begins by discussing Charlottesville's social

environment during the pre-Civil War era. The tour continues by using reference points that include Charlottesville's Confederate monuments to cover the historical periods that follow and provide context for the underlying racism that is scattered throughout.

"[We] want to push back against the notion that these are innocent," Schmidt said. "They are not. We often bring up the example there are no monuments to the glorious Third Reich in today's Germany. How we want to represent our values and public space is what we're talking about here. What values are we going to broadcast on a daily basis from our publicly maintained public spaces?"

The virtual tour in particular highlights four Charlottesville Confederate markers and monuments, some of which have been physically removed since the tour's inception. The Slave Auction Block Marker, stolen Feb. 2020 by a local activist, has since been returned to Charlottesville officials who are yet to make a decision regarding the plaque's right to return to the Court Square. The Johnny Reb statue, also known as "At Ready," was removed Sept. 2020 from the Albemarle County Circuit Courthouse lawn. The state statute that was used to validate a perma-

nent injunction against the removal of the Stonewall Jackson and Robert E. Lee statues is currently in contention at the Virginia Supreme Court as of Nov. 2020.

Pre-recorded audio clips of one of Douglas and Schmidt's in-person tours discuss historical events specific to Charlottesville in chronological order. From Liberation and Freedom Day — established to commemorate the surrender of Charlottesville to Union forces in 1865 — to the Albemarle tax that funded the construction of Confederate monuments, listeners can embark on an informative virtual journey through Charlottesville's history.

Schmidt and Douglas both emphasize the importance of education and their desire to create a platform that could act as a free and accessible source of information for Charlottesville residents — and now participants in their virtual tour — to become informed and more aware about the history of the city.

"I see the tour's overall impact as public education," Schmidt said. "That's what it's meant to do, so that local residents have an understanding of how it was that those statues were installed. A lot of people that have come on the tour have said it has changed their minds about what

was going on, what they formerly saw as just innocuous statues."

Elizabeth Varon, associate director of the UVa. Center for Civil War History and member of the President's Commission on the University in the Age of Segregation, discovered Marked by These Monuments while following Douglas and Schmidt's work through social media and in the local news.

"The most important things to know about the Confederate monuments in the city is that they were intended to symbolize and to preserve white supremacy and Jim Crow discrimination," Varon said. "[The monuments] enshrine the 'Lost Cause' myth of the Civil War — which glorified the Confederacy and swept the complexities of Southern history, including divisions within the South, under the rug."

While information about the tour has usually been spread by word of mouth, conversations about the tour and its importance have started to pop up in educational settings. During a January term course called Art Now, a contemporary art history course that delves into the art of the past and the messages that the art continues to convey in present-time, third-year College student Kayla Foliaco was introduced to the on-

line version of the tour through the course.

"I think that remote access to knowledge is so powerful," Foliaco said. "Not only can people access the tour amidst a pandemic that made an in-person field trip impossible, but [it also] allows people who are differently abled or who do not live in Charlottesville to participate in an experience that would have been otherwise unavailable to them."

The tour provides the tools to frame the symbolism and connotations behind Charlottesville's Confederate monuments, which connects to larger practical conversations on what to do with other monuments that may be removed and more ethical conversations regarding the persistence of systemic racism today.

"We really need to engage in a new conversation about what it is that we as a community, and largely a nation, believe are representative objects ... because that is aesthetic space that says a whole lot about who you think you are as a community," Douglas said. "We still have a long way to go to talk about what is a more authentic and inclusive discourse for the objects that we put in our public spaces."

SPORTS

Previewing the 2021 Virginia men's lacrosse season

The Cavaliers look to defend their national title after last year's up-and-down season was cut short

Andrew Cho | Associate Writer

No. 5 Virginia men's lacrosse has another legitimate shot at defending its national title after its 2020 season was cut short due to the pandemic. The Cavaliers hope to build upon some of their 2020 success this year and ultimately find themselves leaving the spring season with some more hardware.

Virginia opened its season with a 20-11 win over Towson and will look to build on the victory as they dive into the rest of their schedule.

New additions

This year, Virginia welcomes the No. 6 ranked recruiting class according to Inside Lacrosse, boasting one five-star recruit and nine four-star recruits.

Four-star freshman long-stick midfielder Ben Wayer from Alexandria, Va. looks to contribute right away behind All-American senior long-stick midfielder Jared Conners, after the departure of senior long-stick midfielder Will Rock from the program.

The most notable addition, however, is senior attackman Charlie Bertrand. Bertrand completed his undergraduate engineering degree at former Division II powerhouse Merrimack College — where he was a two-time National Champion, two-time USILA National Player of the Year and three-time USILA All-American in just three seasons.

Prior to the shortened 2020 season, Merrimack moved up to the Division I level, and Bertrand continued to impress against more elite competition — netting 18 goals in just six games for the Warriors.

"With each week on the field, [Bertrand is] proving himself and the accolades that surround his past," Coach Lars Tiffany said.

Bertrand netted four goals and two assists in his Virginia debut, seemingly scoring at will against the Tigers' defense.

Despite Bertrand's many achievements, he will not be expected to shoulder too much of the offensive burden. Virginia's offense is loaded with former five-star recruits, All-Americans and even more talent that has yet to shine.

Notable returners

The Cavaliers welcome back All-American senior attackman Matt Moore, who in 2020 was ranked No. 8 nationally in points per game with 5.83 and No. 12 in assists per game with 2.67. While Moore was unavailable for

the Towson game, his talent and presence will play major roles on and off the field.

Moore is joined by his long-time linemate, senior attackman Ian Laviano — the spark plug for this Cavalier offense and a stalwart in the riding game. Sophomore attackman Payton Cormier — who saw time at midfield last year — may also slot in as the third attackman on the left wing.

Cormier set a career high this past Saturday with six goals, along with an assist, starting at attack with Moore out.

Though these three won't be joined by now-graduated attacker Michael Kraus, the blow is softened by the exciting news that three-time All-American senior midfielder Dox Aitken is back in Charlottesville after spending the fall at Villanova.

The Cavaliers have many talented options at midfield — or perhaps even attack — besides Aitken, including former No. 1 recruit redshirt freshman attackman Connor Shellenberger and Bertrand.

Shellenberger made his collegiate debut starting at attack, pouring in four goals and recording three assists in an electric start to his Virginia career.

Sophomore midfielders Peter Garno and Mike Bienkowski look to remain in the midfield rotation as well, along with junior midfielders Jeff Conner and Jack Simmons and junior attackman Xander Dickson. Both Garno and Dickson recorded their first goals of the young season Saturday.

With so much depth on the offense, Virginia's defense was the talk of much speculation in 2020. Last season, now-sophomore defenders Quentin Matsui and Scott Bower started for the Cavaliers, and they both look to contribute again in 2021. Matsui earned the start against Towson, alongside senior defender Kyle Kology and sophomore defender Cade Saustad.

The return of Conners will be vital in the success of the defense, with All-American Kology — a former walk-on — looking to anchor him and others on the backline.

"[It is] understated to call [Kology] a coach on the field," Tiffany said.

Kology's leadership could play a pivotal role in the growth and development of the relatively young Virginia defense, in the same way that Moore's leadership impacts the offense.

Saustad hopes to return to his prime form after an injury kept him off the field in 2020. As a freshman starter on the 2019 National Cham-

pionship team, Saustad consistently drew the matchup of the opposing team's best attacker — even as a rookie.

Holding down the backline will be senior goalie Alex Rode. Rode — the 2019 Final Four Most Outstanding Player — will be another leader for this Virginia defense and looks to build upon his impressive 2020 campaign. Rode had eight saves in 48 minutes of play against Towson.

Another specialist that will play a vital role in the team's success is junior midfielder Petey LaSalla. LaSalla went 19 of 23 from the faceoff X Saturday, dominating possession for the Cavaliers. As the starting faceoff man since his freshman year, LaSalla has worked relentlessly in the off-season to improve.

"Nothing in the weight room is too heavy [for LaSalla]," Tiffany said.

Key Matchups

No. 6 North Carolina (March 11)

It's been almost two years since the teams of the South's Oldest Rivalry played, with the Cavaliers winning 11-10 in 2019. Following up on an underwhelming 8-7 season, the Tar Heels roared back in the limited 2020 season — posting an undefeated record of 7-0 with notable wins over Johns Hopkins and Denver.

North Carolina opened their 2021 campaign with a dominant 24-13 victory over No. 7 Denver.

Riding the momentum from last season, North Carolina is looking to build on an unbelievably talented attack core led by senior attackman Chris Gray, who finished last year with 48 points — the most in Division I. Paired with junior attackmen Nicky Solomon and Jacob Kelly, Gray will likely wreak havoc once again as the catalyst of an electric Tar Heel offense.

Freshman Cole Herbert — Inside Lacrosse's No. 1 ranked incoming midfielder — will make his mark early along with team captain and speedster, senior midfielder Justin Anderson. In short, this North Carolina team looks to be one of the most talented rosters that Coach Joe Breschi has seen in his 13-year tenure in Chapel Hill.

No. 1 Duke (April 15)

The Cavaliers follow up a second game against North Carolina with a duel against the Duke Blue Devils — Virginia's clear kryptonite over the past decade. Duke owns a 10-2 record over the Cavaliers since 2010. However, the Blue Devils did fall to Virginia in the 2019 national semifinal courtesy of an overtime goal from Laviano.

There is no shortage of depth on



COURTESY VIRGINIA ATHLETICS

Sophomore attacker Payton Cormier has already started to build off of his hot streak from last season, scoring six goals against Towson.

Coach John Danowski's roster. Managing to snag one of the most dynamic attackmen in college lacrosse history — Princeton transfer Michael Sowers — the Blue Devils also reeled in the No. 1 overall player in the class of 2020 — freshman attackman Brennan O'Neill.

O'Neill, who poured in three goals in his debut against No. 7 Denver, will certainly continue to shine as Sowers draws the attention of the defense. Danowski will have many chess pieces to play with as he welcomes in another top recruiting class.

The Blue Devils opened up the season with two victories over Denver and Robert Morris.

The Cavaliers — who are not far behind Duke in the national rankings — will have a good shot to upend their archnemesis in Charlottesville. Containing Sowers and O'Neill will be the main priority for this Virginia defense, and it will most certainly be a battle from the start.

No. 2 Syracuse (April 24)

April will surely prove to be a tough month for the Cavaliers, with Syracuse, North Carolina and Duke all squaring off against the nation's No. 5 ranked team. The Orange — who experienced a resurgence last season after a disappointing 9-5 campaign in 2019 — finished the shortened 2020 season with a record of 5-0.

Much like the Blue Devils, Syracuse largely benefited from the NCAA transfer portal, landing former Loyola attackman and renowned scorer, sophomore attackman Chase Scanlan in 2020.

In the midfield, junior Brendan Curry and lightning-quick sophomore Tucker Dordevic will cause problems for defenses with their ability to dodge and shoot down the alley. The Orange also welcome back fifth-year senior midfielder Jamie Trimboli, an Inside Lacrosse preseason All-American.

As if these three aren't enough, Coach John Desko retained fifth-year senior X-attackman Stephen Rehfuss and nabbed the No. 2 overall recruit in the class of 2020 — freshman attackman Owen Hiltz. Rehfuss, who can dissect a defense with his clever passing, can count on shooters Hiltz and Scanlan to make his job that much easier.

Syracuse welcomes back seven fifth-year seniors, including Inside Lacrosse preseason All-American goalie Drake Porter. One of the best goalies in the country, Porter returned for another chance at championship weekend, hoping to bring the Orange its 12th NCAA championship.

All in all, Virginia reloads yet again under Tiffany and will remain a legitimate contender in 2021. With the ACC attracting many impact transfers, such as Sowers transferring to Duke, it appears that Cavalier fans will see some fierce competition this season. Yet despite its numerous notable departures, it seems as though Virginia has a plethora of talent to potentially repeat as ACC champions and national champions.

Next up for the Cavaliers is a date with Army Saturday at Klockner Stadium. The opening face-off is set for 12 p.m. and the game will be broadcast live on ACC Network Extra.

Spikeball Club is a hit at U.Va.

In its third year, Spikeball Club at U.Va. continues to provide a safe haven for upperclassmen and underclassmen alike

Sarah Pettycord | Sports Editor



EMMA HITCHCOCK | THE CAVALIER DAILY

Whether it be to picnic with one another, play pick-up sports games or just sit and chat, the fields outside of the Observatory Hill Dining Hall have historically been a place for first years to congregate. For many, the activity of choice on those fields is spikeball.

Spikeball, alternatively known as roundnet, is often compared to the likes of volleyball and four square. It was invented in the 1980s, but didn't gain popularity until it was revived in 2008 and rebranded as spikeball. Since its revival, the game has skyrocketed in popularity and garnered the attention of professional athletes, notable businessmen and everyday Americans.

For Class of 2020 alumnus Alec Dolieslager, one of the founders of the Spikeball Club here at the University, his love for the game began in 2016 — right before his senior year of high school. After some time, he got hooked on the game, and shortly after arriving at the University he was added to a GroupMe with some others who liked to play too. Eventually, he had the idea to make an official club with some other students.

“Our idea was to create an organization that had two different aspects to it — a social side and a competitive side,” Dolieslager

said in an email to The Cavalier Daily. “We wanted to foster community and create a space where people could learn how to play, meet other people and have fun. On the other hand, we also wanted to set up a space where people could get a lot better at the game and compete against other teams and colleges if they wanted to.”

And that's exactly what they did. The club became official in 2018 and has grown exponentially — it now has about 75-100 current active members and an impressive email list with over 600 students on it.

The club also delivered on its original intention to have a social side and a competitive side. Some members compete in tournaments hosted by the club itself and by the official governing body for the sport — the Spikeball Roundnet Association — while others join in on casual pick-up games whenever they can throughout the semester.

One member, first-year College student Joe Bondi, had been playing spikeball for a few years in the backyard with his family and started playing competitively last summer. Since then, Bondi has improved immensely and is currently ranked the No. 1 roundnet player in Virginia.

“Spikeball was pretty important to me coming to college and

I love [playing] it,” Bondi said.

While Bondi plays in competitive tournaments about once a month, supplemented by some games throughout the week, other members just like to play at their leisure.

First-year College student Ben Koen joined the club during his first semester at the University as a way to safely meet new people amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Unlike most extracurricular activities, Spikeball Club actually had its most active semester in the fall of 2020 because the game is typically played outdoors and therefore provided a safe way for students to socialize. The club also enforced a mask mandate throughout the semester.

“When I saw people playing it out on the fields at O'Hill, I kind of knew what the game was and I knew the rules, but I wasn't necessarily experienced or good,” Koen said. “That just drove me to ask, ‘Hey, can I play with you guys?’ and we just started to play.”

The proximity to one of the University's dining halls makes it easy for first years to come and start playing. Moreover, spikeball is not an extremely complicated sport, and the club prides itself on its openness to players of all ages and skill levels. Unlike other club sports, which require previ-

ous skill and a certain number of practice hours throughout the semester, there are no prerequisites or time commitments to be part of the Spikeball Club.

“Spikeball is definitely a different vibe in terms of the sporting community,” said Asher Pollack, third-year College student and club president. “The community is very open and a lot of people know one another because it's such a niche sport.”

The wider spikeball community, characterized by its welcoming nature, fosters a space for friendships — which is reinforced by the sheer number of active members within the club at the University.

“It's really given me a new friend group,” Pollack said. “I've been taking classes mostly with people above me ... so meeting people younger than me has been pretty difficult, and I think [being involved with the first-year community] is very important.”

Dolieslager, Bondi and Koen also all shared that one of the best benefits from being in the club is all of the friends they've made.

“The sport is fun but the best part of playing is definitely meeting people,” Bondi said.

As a competitive player, Bondi could have easily said that the best part is the recognition and

rankings, but instead chose to say this — a true testament to the spectacularly social nature of the club.

There's really no doubt that Spikeball Club has been invaluable to its members, from first years to fourth years, and to the University as a whole. In the coming years, it will be exciting to see how the club grows and just how good its players can get. And who knows, one day they might even take home a national championship.

Virginia Athletics generated record revenues in 2019-20

The University's athletics department's financial situation improved despite a partially pandemic-affected year

Vignesh Mulay | Senior Writer

Virginia Athletics generated \$110,283,933 in total operating revenues during the 2019-20 fiscal year, according to the department's annual financial report — obtained by The Cavalier Daily through a Freedom of Information Act request. Virginia's revenues last year, which increased by 0.06 percent from 2018-19, mark an all-time high for the University.

Additionally, Virginia's expenses fell for the first time since 2009, totaling \$111,779,897 in 2019-20 — 0.75 percent lower than the previous year. The slight increase in revenues and decrease in expenses yielded a reduced deficit of \$1,495,964, compared to \$2,402,121 in 2018-19. The athletics department plans to cover this deficit with a short-term operating loan from the University.

"The Athletics Department strives to support 750+ student-athletes across our 27 sports, while being fiscally responsible," said Steve Pritzker, Virginia Athletics' chief financial

officer, in an email to The Cavalier Daily.

Notably, the audited report — filed to the NCAA in January — consists of financial data reflecting a 12-month period including the 2019 fall season and the 2020 spring season that was shortened by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Virginia's most lucrative revenue stream in 2019-20 was monetary contributions from individuals, corporations, foundations and other groups, which accounted for \$27.7 million — or over 25 percent — of total revenues. The next three largest sources of revenue — media rights, ticket sales and student fees — added up to over \$48 million.

The major driver of Virginia's revenue growth was the football program. Propelled by its strong recent track record, Virginia football was directly responsible for over \$43 million in revenue in 2019-20, which represents a 33 percent year-over-year increase.

"Two of the larger drivers for revenue growth have come from

an increase in the ACC distribution — which is significantly tied to football — as well as progress in our on-field football performance," Pritzker said. "We are trending in a positive trajectory, having gone from no bowl participation to competing in the Military Bowl, Belk Bowl and a New Year's Six Bowl."

The football team's finances benefited from increased ticket sales and contributions as well as more sales from novelties, parking and concessions — all of which can be attributed to the team's growing popularity. In addition, Virginia football enjoyed a new revenue stream in 2019-20 with over \$7 million coming in from ACC distributions of bowl revenue.

According to Pritzker, Virginia also saw "an uptick in football home game revenue" because the football team played one more home game in 2019 than it did in 2018, and Virginia's 2019 home schedule included a marquee matchup with in-state rival Vir-

ginia Tech.

Furthermore, Virginia's football program generated \$11.7 million more in revenues than every other team combined. Men's basketball was the second-most lucrative team, earning \$13.3 million in revenues. Just six other teams — baseball, women's basketball, men's lacrosse, rowing, women's soccer and women's track and field — crossed the \$1 million mark.

Despite Virginia football's big year, Virginia Athletics' total revenues barely improved from 2018-19. This can largely be attributed to the decline of other revenue streams including media rights, NCAA distributions and other miscellaneous revenues. Altogether, these revenue streams brought in \$8.7 million less than the year before.

"We receive travel reimbursements from the NCAA for attending postseason competition," Pritzker said. "The cancellation of the winter and spring championships, as well as reduced NCAA-specific revenue, led to the decline in NCAA Distributions. Additionally, there is a bit of variation in the timing of the receipt of funds from the ACC Network."

A major financial blow was dealt to Virginia and other schools when March Madness — the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Tournament — was canceled. Since the tournament generates virtually all of the NCAA's revenues, the NCAA distributed \$375 million less than what it had originally planned to pay out to member schools.

The athletics department's most substantial expense was compensation paid to head coaches, assistant coaches and their support staff. In total, Virginia Athletics paid \$45.1 million to coaches and staff in 2019-20. Virginia paid a further \$20.9 million in athletics aid and scholarships for student-athletes. These costs alone made up nearly 60 percent of Virginia's total operating expenses.

While Virginia's expenses remained fairly consistent across the board between 2018-19 and 2019-20, the department was able to realize some cost savings in a number of areas. In particular, Virginia cut costs by a total of \$4.5 million in team travel and overhead and administrative expenses alone.

"The U.Va. Athletics department issued a spending freeze immediately following the can-

cellation of the spring season," Pritzker said. "This has been crucial in saving departmental resources."

Some of these savings, especially those related to travel, can also be attributed to COVID-19. Since the pandemic cut the seasons of many winter and spring sports short in 2020, Virginia did not have to pay for a significant portion of these teams' regular season and postseason travel. For example, Virginia men's basketball's travel expenses were nearly \$1 million less than in 2018-19 — presumably due to the cancellation of the 2020 NCAA Tournament. Moreover, Virginia also saved hundreds of thousands of dollars in travel costs related to several other sports like baseball and lacrosse.

However, the majority of these cost savings were canceled out by increased spending on debt payments, leases and rental fees on athletics facilities. In 2019-20, Virginia spent \$9.4 million in this category — more than twice as much as it spent the year prior. Without this development, the athletics department could have potentially posted a budget surplus for the first time since 2016.

After taking expenses into account, just two varsity teams were profitable in 2019-20 for Virginia Athletics. The football and men's basketball programs generated surpluses of \$15.6 million and \$2.4 million, respectively. On the other hand, Virginia's other varsity teams lost a combined \$15.9 million, with deficits ranging from \$375,262 — for women's golf — to \$3.1 million — for women's basketball. Accordingly, the athletics department's reliance on football and men's basketball to remain financially sustainable became even more apparent in 2019-20.

Virginia Athletics' 2019-20 finances did not appear to suffer from the pandemic, but the bulk of the negative impact of COVID-19 will likely be reflected in the department's 2020-21 report.

While the pandemic affected the tail end of the last fiscal year, COVID-19 has reshaped the entirety of this fiscal year — and financial ramifications are inevitable. From modified schedules to the lack of fan attendance, lost revenue from ticket sales, television deals and other game-related revenue streams is expected. On top of this, Virginia will have to pay for additional expenses related to COVID-19.

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“The athletics department has spent well over \$1 million in COVID testing in the fall of 2020,” Pritzker said. “We have also incurred unbudgeted expenses in other COVID-related expenses, like supplies, PPE and increased sanitization, and are working our hardest to provide the safest atmosphere for our student-athletes and employees.”

Most importantly, the college football season was heavily impacted by COVID-19 in 2020, whereas the pandemic only struck the United States after the 2019 football season was already completed. This fall, Virginia football was limited to a shorter, conference-only schedule, declined to play a bowl game and could not welcome fans to Scott

Stadium.

Given the football program’s importance to Virginia Athletics — the team was directly linked to 39 percent of Virginia’s total revenues — any loss of football revenue will certainly be felt. Although the athletics department has implemented some department-wide cost-saving measures, fully recuperating the budget shortfall will be difficult.

At this point, Virginia Athletics has not made any financial projections for the 2020-21 fiscal year.

Beyond Virginia, college athletics departments across the country have been paralyzed by the pandemic. Fellow ACC school North Carolina and SEC school Ole Miss both expect to

lose around \$30 million from less ticket sales and television revenue. In the Big 12, Texas Christian University reportedly lost about one-third of its revenue — or roughly \$25 million — during the pandemic. If its numbers are similar to those of other Power 5 schools, Virginia could have easily lost tens of millions of dollars due to COVID-19.

Some sports administrators have argued that the pandemic has exposed and amplified the “pre-existing structural problems in the broader economic system of college sports.” In an article for AthleticDirectorU, Kevin Blue, director of intercollegiate athletics at UC Davis, highlighted that athletics departments are incentivized to spend rather than

save.

Blue explained that athletics departments — like most non-profit organizations — often spend all of or more than their annual revenues in order to fulfill immediate needs and compete with other schools. Accordingly, without significant financial reserves, athletics departments are more vulnerable to surprises — like, for example, a pandemic.

In the case of Virginia Athletics, total revenues have grown 75 percent since 2005, according to the Knight Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics’ College Athletics Financial Information Database. During the same period of time, Virginia’s total expenses outpaced revenues, rising 87 percent. Moreover, Virginia

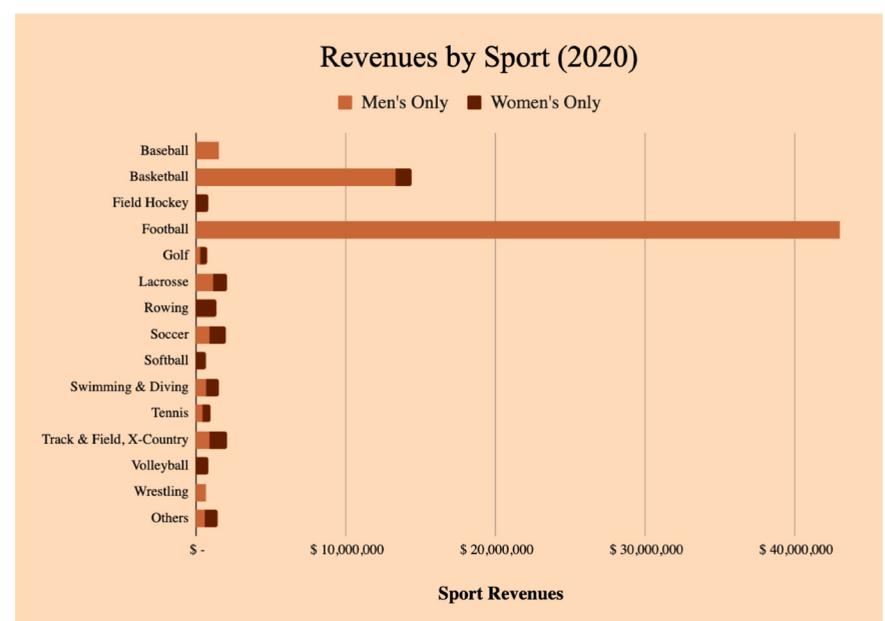
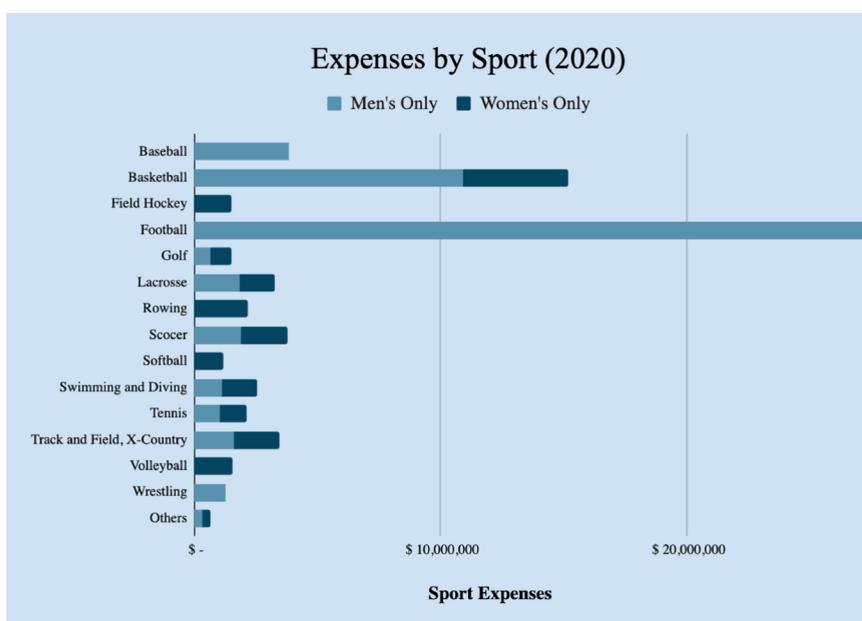
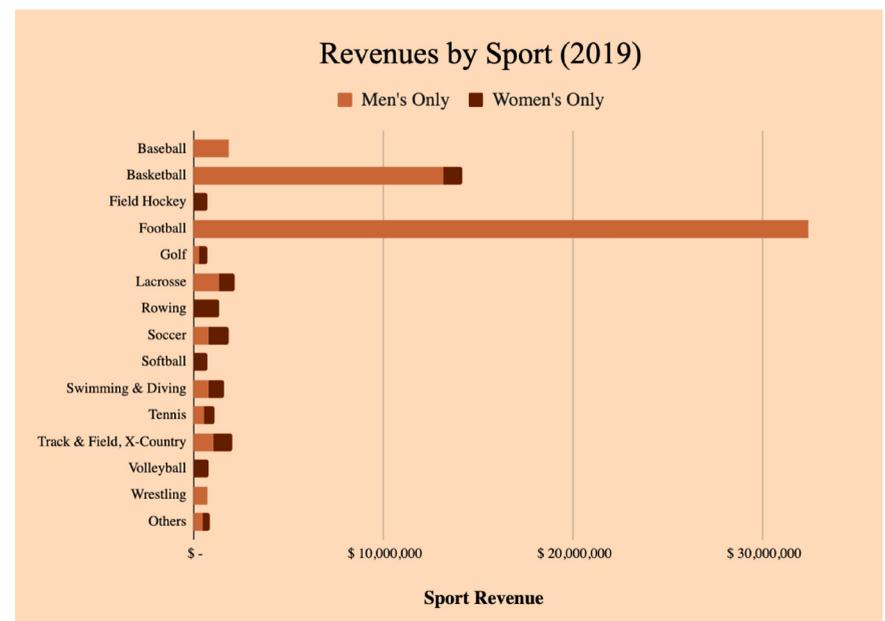
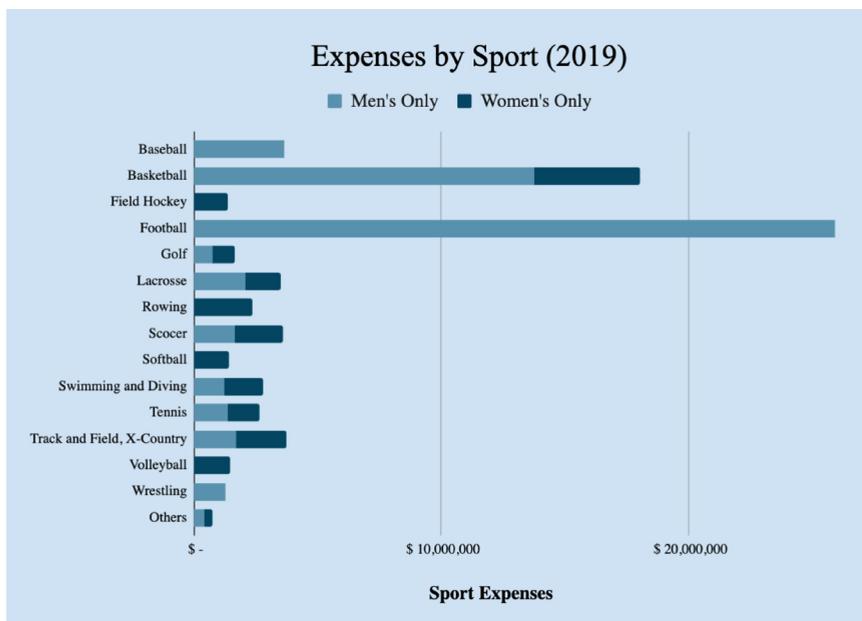
has posted a deficit six times in the last seven years and has amassed \$51.9 million in total athletics-related debt. In other words, as Blue described, Virginia Athletics seems to have prioritized short-term spending over long-term sustainability.

While the COVID-19 pandemic has already taken a toll on athletics departments since March, NCAA Chief Medical Officer Brian Hainline warned that the pandemic’s financial effects will likely linger into 2023. Therefore, it appears that Virginia Athletics will have to continue navigating the pandemic and its repercussions for the foreseeable future.

THE BREAKDOWN

A deep dive into sport-specific revenues and expenses across Virginia Athletics

Graphics by Anisha Hossain | The Cavalier Daily



OPINION

LEAD EDITORIAL

Your ignorance puts lives at risk

Irresponsible student behavior jeopardizes everyone's safety during the COVID-19 pandemic

In the two months that students were away from Grounds over winter break, the COVID-19 pandemic took a sharp new turn. Not only did the number of cases shoot up — both nationally and in the Blue Ridge Health District — but the very nature of the virus itself also changed with a more-contagious variant expected to become the dominant strain in the country by March. Despite this, a series of recent incidents suggests that students are not being any safer this semester — a period traditionally characterized by large social gatherings, sporting events, fraternity and sorority rush. Students have continued to display a lack of empathy towards those around them and a total disregard for all University-implemented policies intended to slow the spread of the virus.

We are nearly a year into the pandemic — students know what it takes to behave responsibly and protect those around them. At this point, those who continue to party and gather in large crowds are willfully ignorant, putting both the University and Char-

lottesville communities in danger. This past weekend, it was abundantly clear that many students blatantly disregarded COVID-19 guidelines, gathering in large groups for events like IFC rush and the Super Bowl. Scenes of maskless students drinking together on Mad Bowl or at Corner bars and pelting snowballs at each other on the Lawn have littered social media feeds, showing the incredible lack of concern these students display towards the virus. In addition, community members voiced their concerns on social media platforms with University students entering local communities without masks, jeopardizing the health of the predominantly Black population. Students who continue such recklessness during the current semester display a shameful disregard for the human lives very much at risk with their actions.

Indeed, college campuses often provide perhaps the best breeding ground for viruses like COVID-19. A single positive case on a residential hall has the potential to infect dozens, with residents not only living in close proximity to each other but also shar-

ing restrooms, study lounges, washing machines and even breathing the same filtered air. Little over a week into the semester, the University identified 17 cases in Gibbons residence hall. Similar conditions apply to off-Grounds houses and apartments as well. If students are cautious, dorms may not necessarily have to foster massive COVID-19 outbreaks. However, when students disregard the policies put in place to protect them, there is a large chance that residence halls will see these large outbreaks. Simply put, the actions of a single individual can have a very real and tangible impact on the community as a whole. The consequences of rash student actions also extend well beyond Grounds. Both nationwide and in the Charlottesville community, Black and Brown people are much more susceptible to COVID-19 complications.

The University itself certainly has a responsibility to look out for the well-being of the Charlottesville community. Doctors, nurses and volunteers from the health system have conducted thousands of free drive-in tests

for members of the community. This is certainly a step in the right direction, but there always remains more that the University can do. When the pandemic first began, for example, the University was incredibly strict on gatherings at Mad Bowl or the Lawn — even shutting down Mad Bowl for some time. As time progressed, the University eased up on some of these restrictions, which is why students were able to congregate in such a manner this past weekend. Now, as students have shown that they simply do not care about the policies the University has put in place, the University must recommit to these strict but necessary precautions. They must temporarily shut down Mad Bowl — which is known for its large gatherings of drunk students — and recommit to the six-person gathering limit, which is supposed to be reevaluated later this week.

Neither the University administration nor the student body can be entirely effective acting as independent bodies — they must band together to combat the virus. Although the

University must institute policies to ensure our safety and the safety of those around us, it is ultimately up to students to respect the clear directives and intentions of those policies — stop looking for loopholes. It is clear that the behavior of these ignorant and selfish students will have incredibly dangerous consequences for those in the University community and in Charlottesville. For those who continue to break COVID-19 policies — even if you refuse to acknowledge the implications of your behavior, hope that your own actions don't catch up and leave you suspended or with major health concerns. Know that your actions could have already caused irreparable harm for surrounding communities. Begin abiding by the rules now and hope that the damage has not already been done.

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THE CAVALIER DAILY

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The IFC and ISC are endangering our community

A reversal of the self-imposed ban on in-person gatherings ahead of Greek rush demands widespread condemnation from the University community

Late last month, the Inter-Sorority Council and Inter-Fraternity Council announced that a previous ban on in-person Greek Life gatherings would be reversed ahead of formal recruitment and bid day events. The IFC said that it will allow later rounds of recruitment and bid day events while the ISC will limit chapters to only hosting reduced capacity in-person bid days. Despite claims from the IFC president that “the Greek community stepped up huge [last] semester and showed that they were willing to sacrifice the parties” to protect public safety, the reversal of this policy will exacerbate the spread of COVID-19 and recklessly endanger our community.

We have been down this road before, and we know how this ends. As seen last spring, summer and fall, the Greek community was not, in fact, “stepp[ing] up huge” or “willing to sacrifice the parties” to protect the community — no matter what face-saving propaganda the IFC is spouting at us. Even now, as we begin our third semester of the pandemic, student compliance is questionable at best. Just last weekend,

large numbers of students gathered in the snow at Madison Bowl — many without masks and none observing proper distancing. Dozens more waited in closely packed lines outside of Corner bars. The IFC and ISC — like the University itself — should be doubling-down on restrictions, not lifting them.

The announcement of the policy reversal contains major causes for

this policy gap, the IFC has established a task force of five members per chapter and charged them with enforcing COVID-19 policies in their respective organization. If one of these five members observes an “egregious violation” in their chapter, they must report it to the IFC for adjudication. In essence, the system only works if brothers report fellow brothers for infractions. It is

another accountable, they choose not to.

The IFC and ISC reversing their ban on in-person gatherings is selfishly endangering our community — plain and simple. New cases in Virginia — while falling — remain at near-peak levels. The University Medical System, which serves not only the Charlottesville community but a wide swath of Central Virginia,

sorbed and sadly unsurprising move for the Greek community to act as though it is exempt from this ethical responsibility.

I have previously written on the importance of autonomy in student self-governance. I am always skeptical and hesitant about University interference in the right of students to govern our own affairs. I am not, however, skeptical or hesitant when I say this — the University administration must intervene and ban in-person Greek Life gatherings. It would not be unprecedented for it to do so — all Greek Life activities were suspended in the wake of the 2014 Rolling Stone scandal. It is morally wrong — not “Great and Good” — to allow the IFC and ISC to endanger community members in this way. I have said it before, and I will say it again — the University must rein in the social anarchy of Greek Life. The stakes are too high. Lives are on the line.

“The IFC and ISC reversing their ban on in-person gatherings is selfishly endangering our community — plain and simple.”

concern. First, the policy’s stipulation that all in-person events must be approved and regulated by the IFC and ISC only covers formal events. This means that informal gatherings — a hallmark of fraternity rush — remain unregulated. As evident by their behavior over the last year, we cannot trust that fraternities will refrain from holding in-person, informal and unregulated gatherings.

In an attempt to account for

hard to understate how naive it is to believe a system of this sort would work. Brothers have no incentive to report their peers and could face social ostracization in their chapter for doing so. The very purpose of a fraternity is supposed to be brotherhood over all else — why would anyone expect them to break it? Repeated University sanctions for alcohol and drug abuse, hazing violations and sexual assault show that while brothers could hold one

is near capacity and critically short-staffed. The pandemic remains at a level that mandates only the most essential services and events be held in-person. It might come as a shock to the “stepped up huge” Greek community, but recruitment and bid day are not essential and can be conducted online. Our community, our Commonwealth and our country are all suffering and must all make sacrifices to support one another. It is a stunningly self-ab-

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Respect the intentions of the spring break schedule change

To minimize the spread of COVID-19 while still allowing students a spring break period, students and professors must respect the intentions of the schedule change

This semester is sure to be rife with COVID-19 related stressors and pressures. Respect for our own health and the health of others mandates strict adherence to University COVID-19 guidelines. The limitations from the fall semester still exist — students must continue to expect that they will miss out on experiences that they or other University students have enjoyed in past years. In light of the social oriented sacrifices students are making, professors should be empathetic toward student stress levels. Despite less formal breaks, professors must understand that students still need time to relax. One such opportunity that will require support from students and professors is the newly changed spring break schedule.

Generally, spring break at the University is a weeklong reprieve from classes — this year’s spring break, however, looks quite different. The typical week-long break has been replaced with multiple shorter break days. Despite the complications of this alteration, changing the structure of the traditional spring break was the safe decision. The University has a duty to reasonably restrict events that have the potential to increase the spread of COVID-19. While the University has done its

part, students and professors still have a responsibility to respect the intentions of the spring break change. Students must avoid activities that would potentially spread COVID-19, and professors should organize their courses in a manner that genuinely allows students to have a break on these days.

There are justifiable reasons for students to be dismayed at this

gathering limitations, the unfortunate schedule change will be in vain if students disregard the pandemic and spread COVID-19 while attempting to enjoy a more traditional spring break.

Before the pandemic, spring break was generally associated with travel and spending time with friends and family. With the new schedule, one of the new spring

break days creates a three-day weekend. As such, I am particularly worried about students attempting activities on this weekend that were permissible in prior years — attending large gatherings or weekend long trips, for example. Although students should use their rest days to spend time with friends, they have a responsibility to not behave irresponsibly. Remember to follow the gathering size and travel expectations. The current gathering guidelines prohibit groups larger than six students and expect that all students remain at least six feet apart. In ad-

dition, students must understand that traveling in and of itself is a threat to the health of the University community. Unnecessary traveling during the pandemic is reckless. Last year, traveling during spring break led to spikes of COVID-19 on many college campuses. While we all want the pandemic to be over, ignoring COVID-19 will only exacerbate its consequences. Do not needlessly put

have a break day, with the belief that students pick up the slack during their time off. While many students seem to agree that they would prefer a week long-break, even one day of rest can be beneficial. Professors must not take advantage of the altered schedule to assign additional work.

I along with many others am personally disappointed that we will not be able to enjoy a weeklong spring break. However, I respect the decision of the University administration. They placed our best interests at the heart of this decision — valuing the mental and physical health of students. Nevertheless, sacrificing our week-long break is futile if students refuse to follow the clear expectations of the schedule change. However, any number of break days is worthless if professors refuse to acknowledge the very purpose for these days — to provide students a deserved rest from coursework stress. Reducing the risk of COVID-19 spreading while upholding spring break’s aim to destress is only possible if all of us work together.

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“Reducing the risk of COVID-19 spreading while upholding spring break’s aim to destress is only possible if all of us work together.”

scheduling change. Although the decision was clearly intended to help slow the spread of COVID-19, there are several unfortunate implications. The pandemic has resulted in increased stress for many students. However, the stress relief that comes from a weeklong break cannot compare to the stress relief associated with a day-long break. Students are clearly more stressed than in previous years with the numerous challenges presented by learning during a pandemic, yet they are provided less opportunities for much-needed stress relief. Regardless of this year’s

the University and Charlottesville community at risk.

On the other hand, professors must let this break remain a true break for students. In its essence, the reprise of spring break is intended to be a time for students to de-stress and relax with family and friends — the modified schedule should not change this goal. Especially with asynchronous classes, I worry that professors will continue to assign work during this period. I am also concerned that professors may schedule additional assignments during weeks where students

HUMOR

Five spectacular things to try out this semester

As January closes and February begins, we have concluded the first month of 2021 and add another month to the already thirteen-ish months of living through a global pandemic. This past year has been, in minimal terms, tumultuous and historic. Now, I have never been much of an active person in the first place, but like others, I am beginning to run out of new hobbies and random things to try out. As a result, I have resided myself to endlessly scrolling through Instagram and rewatching the entire Marvel cinematic universe in chronological order. And seeing that I have exited the baking bread, Animal Crossing and Among Us phases of quarantine while also failing to learn how to crochet a miniature blue penguin, I scoured the internet in search of new things to explore this semester on Grounds. Being an excellent and kind individual, I'll share my ideas below. Please enjoy these five safe

and University-friendly activities to attempt this semester.

Revive Pokémon GO

If you dislike deleting old apps like Temple Run or Candy Crush, it might just be time to break out Pokémon GO and revive the hype in capturing fictional animals and forcing them to fight each other. Most quarantine hobbies tend to keep you indoors, as we are in the midst of a pandemic, but apparently it's 'healthy' and recommended to get fresh air by medical professionals. So while I would love to spend an hour or two attempting to clean out my camera roll without actually deleting anything, finding ways to get outside may not be that bad.

Memorize Just Dance choreography

When I was younger, most of my music taste came from the song lists created by the Just Dance Wii

games. And, since technology is a big thing these days, it is relatively easy to find video clips of the various choreography of Just Dance's best hits — Rasputin, This is Halloween, and Oops! I Did It Again. So, if you want to get exercise or be able to say that dancing is one of your hobbies, I highly recommend setting up your phone or computer on your school issued desk and dancing to your heart's content to Cotton Eye Joe while making your roommate regret ever meeting you.

Sell Your Soul to Duo the Owl

If you want to learn a language while also not learning a language at the same time, Duolingo is a good way to accomplish this goal. Since selling my soul to Duo, the app's green mascot, I have spent 1122 minutes studying 2154 words in Spanish yet I remember absolutely nothing apart from how to say 'house' in Russian. It's DOM by the way. Do I

remember how to pronounce it? No.

Time Travel

If you are like me, you may be a bit tired of living through history from time to time. So, if escapism interests you, I suggest dressing up in crocs and warm colored flannel shorts while collecting Japanese erasers and silly bandz. Or, if you had a different childhood, explore it and smother yourself with nostalgia. Nothing is better than reorganizing your collectible cards or cringing at your reading log choices that your school made you fill out.

Download a Nature Identification App

Wanna look like a weirdo by stepping off designated pathways with your phone out while circling around a random tree? Of course you do! Apps like Seek by iNaturalist allow you to identify a wide variety of plants and animals by sim-

ply accessing your phone's camera. Or in my instance, you'll get weird looks as you chase ants crawling across asphalt or attempt to observe a horse only for it to be identified as an American bison. Otherwise, it's great fun and a good way to get outside — mask-on of course — and ignore your academic responsibilities.

To conclude, it is understandable that during the past months, some people have simply watched trends pass by without investigating them or dedicating their time to other matters like school work or family. Sometimes free time is not obsessing over a hobby, but simply sitting down and doing absolutely nothing.

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CARTOON

Second week update

Alyce Yang | Cartoonist



PUZZLES

WEEKLY CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Aaron Rose | Puzzle Master

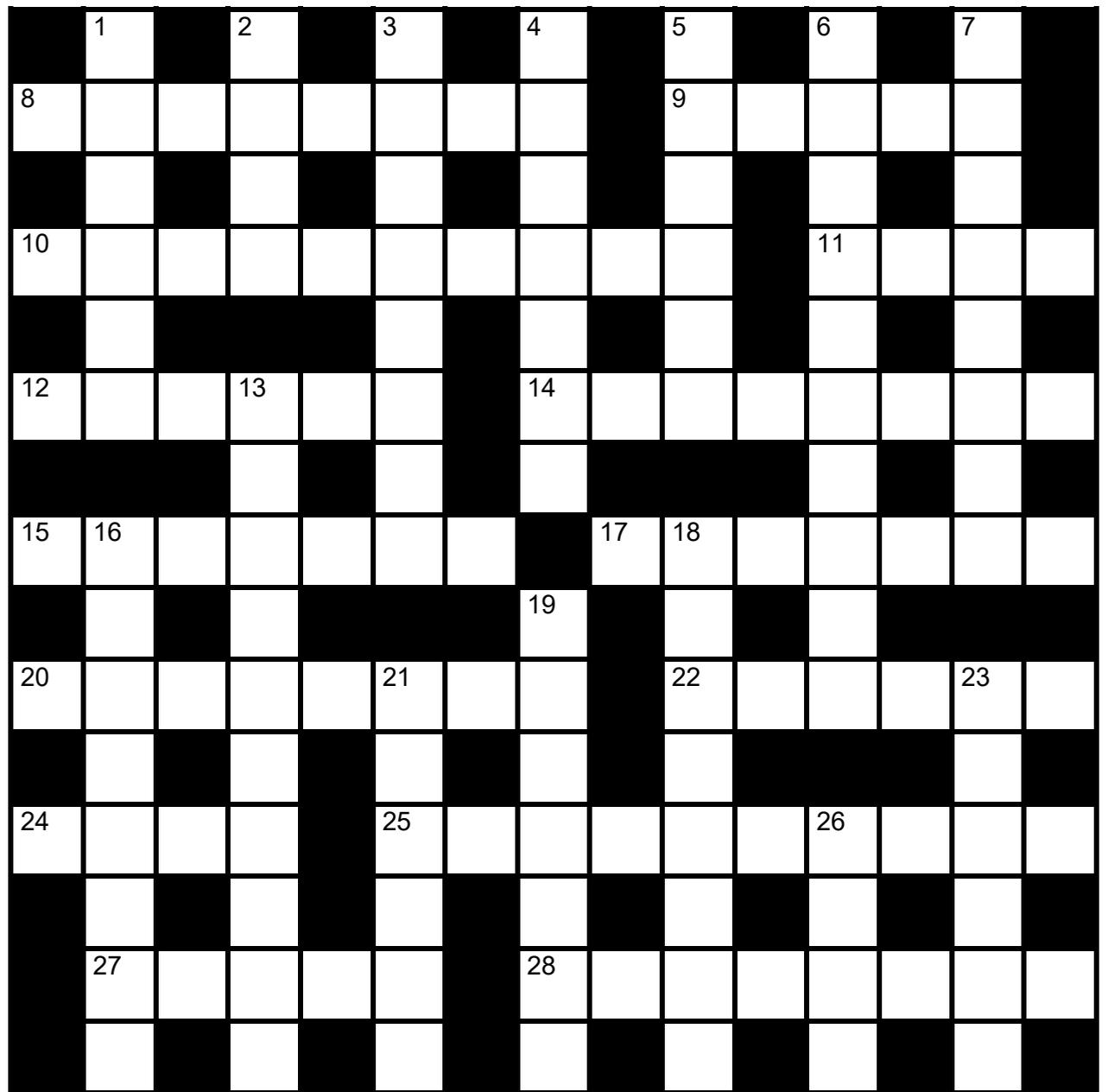
* THE SOLUTION TO THIS PUZZLE CAN BE FOUND IN THE NEXT ISSUE

Across

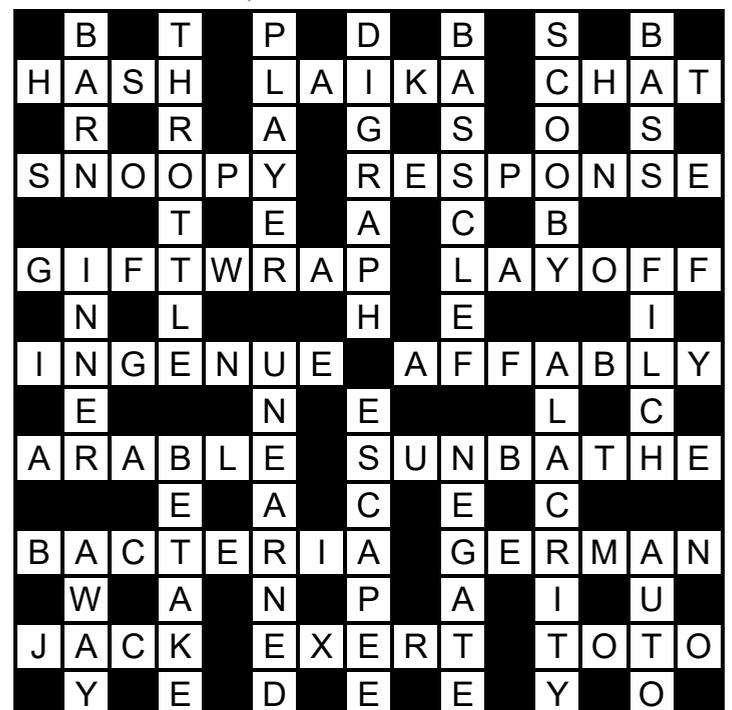
- 8. Famous orange comic strip cat.
- 9. To find the answer.
- 10. A flashy, ornamental style of singing; also used to refer to operatic singers of this style.
- 11. Conceited.
- 12. Ethnic group with origins in central Asia; the root word of one of the “-stan” countries.
- 14. Smiley, disappearing cat from “Alice in Wonderland.”
- 15. “----- your horizons.”
- 17. A male with the same parents as you.
- 20. DC Comics character associated with the Batman franchise; played by Anne Hathaway, Michelle Pfeiffer, and Halle Berry in film.
- 22. Type of cat with no fur.
- 24. Island.
- 25. Symbol that denotes American currency or a price in American currency. (Two words)
- 27. Talking black cat from the TV sitcom “Sabrina The Teenage Witch.”
- 28. Character from the musical “Cats” known as the Mystery Cat.

Down

- 1. A clunker; a broken-down car.
- 2. Hairstyle particularly popular in African-American communities during the 1960s and 1970s.
- 3. To decorate, especially through the use of rhinestones.
- 4. A type of professorship in which a person is allowed to teach, but not considered a full member of the faculty.
- 5. To get away.
- 6. A common, all-purpose type of knot. (Two words)
- 7. A person’s ancestry or upper-class lineage; a term also used when describing purebred animals.
- 13. Toothed wheels that engage another mechanism to change direction. (Two words)
- 16. To reexamine or reconsider in light of new developments.
- 18. To explore a topic or conduct an investigation; To read up on something.
- 19. To incite or stir up.
- 21. French language address to a woman.
- 23. To invalidate.
- 26. To keep; or, to rescue.



* SOLUTION FROM JAN. 28 ISSUE



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

‘Malcolm & Marie’ exemplifies volatile relationship

“Malcolm & Marie” contains beautiful directing, acting and cinematography, but its script causes it to falter

Omari John | Staff Writer



COURTESY GAGE SKIDMORE

Zendaya stars as one of the title characters in Sam Levinson's new film “Malcolm and Marie.”

Just in time for Valentine's Day, a new love story is here for audiences to see. “Malcolm & Marie,” a romance film recently released in theaters and on Netflix, was directed and written by “Euphoria” creator Sam Levinson. It stars John David Washington as Malcolm Elliot — a narcissistic, emotionally abusive film director — and Zendaya as Marie Jones — Malcolm's supportive, veracious girlfriend.

The film focuses on the night after the opening of Malcolm's new film. Malcolm believes Marie is upset with him because he forgot to thank her during his speech, which begins the biggest fight of their relationship. The actors do a great job of depicting Malcolm and Marie's relationship, but the screenplay does not express a clear message, which detracts from the excellent acting and direction of the film.

Before “Malcolm & Marie” was released, it was surrounded by two major controversies — filming occurred while cases of COVID-19 were rising across the country and there is a large age gap between the two stars. Now that the movie has been released, it is very obvious why these two aspects were part of the film.

Filming during the COVID-19

pandemic enhances the movie because it forces “Malcolm & Marie” to feel isolated. Due to the limited availability of filming locations, the film never leaves the house or shows past events in Malcolm and Marie's lives. This impels the audience to hang onto every word the characters say and the background details within the movie such as the lighting, the characters' facial expressions and the music.

Even though many films depict romantic relationships with large age gaps because that's what Hollywood believes is a typical romance, “Malcolm & Marie” actually used this dynamic to portray character development.

Through their conversations, we learn that Malcolm met Marie when she was 19 or 20 and addicted to drugs. Malcolm, approximately 10 years older than Marie, brought her to rehab and helped her get sober. By doing this, Malcolm establishes himself as a caretaker of Marie and puts himself in the role of an older mentor who guides someone on their path. Having the large age gap between them makes Marie feel powerless.

No matter how much she helps Malcolm with his artistic work, he will always look down on her because

he believes his age has given him more experience and knowledge. The large age gap and Malcolm's guidance of Marie to overcome addiction is an important foundation for their relationship.

Based on their arguments, it is easy to see that Malcolm views Marie as someone who needs him — and more specifically, someone who would fall apart without him. Marie knows that Malcolm perceives her this way, which leads her to grow resentful of him throughout the film.

Despite these controversies, the film still has quite a bit going for it. In particular, the film's technical aspects — including directing, cinematography, set design and the actors' performances — all stand out.

Levinson created a beautiful film, capturing many shots that could be framed in an art museum. The film is entirely black and white — which not only enhances its visual aesthetics, but also its overall narrative. Black represents the darker times in their relationship — drug abuse, stealing, cheating — while white represents the brighter times — getting sober, working on Malcolm's scripts together, being intimate. We learn about the ups and downs of their relationship simultaneously. So not only is the film black and white, but

the dialogue itself is black and white.

The set design of “Malcolm & Marie” is also a highlight. In the story, Malcolm and Marie are confined to a large but mostly empty rental home that the studio made them stay in while his film was being made. Taking place entirely within this house, “Malcolm & Marie” is cut so the audience never knows the exact layout. This makes the house feel like a giant maze, which is reflective of Malcolm and Marie's tumultuous relationship — something big enough for the characters to get lost in, yet they still feel lonely.

Washington and Zendaya deliver great performances. Both convey the dialogue excellently, making the audience feel like they are in the house with Malcolm and Marie — giving viewers an experience similar to watching a play. Zendaya brings a better performance, but that's mostly due to the failings of the screenplay. She plays Marie excellently, pouring out emotion whenever she is on the screen.

Washington is different. Many of the emotionally abusive things Malcolm says to Marie are executed very well. The audience can feel the pain when Malcolm mentions Marie's suicide attempt or that he could “snap her like a twig.” The real downfall

of his performance are his ongoing monologues.

Whether Malcolm is complaining about reviews for his films or that all art made by Black people is not political, he meanders. This is partially because of the script, but it's also on Washington for not changing his cadence or his attitude. Malcolm does this quite a few times, making much of the film feel stale and uninteresting.

It is vital to mention the worst part of the film — the script. A lot of red herrings are thrown into the plot, and it weakens the film. Malcolm's disdain for film critics, how society interprets art, what authenticity really means — these are interesting ideas, but the script doesn't do a good job of explaining how they connect to the overall plot.

Many of these topics are close to the hearts of artists, so it feels like Levinson is venting through Malcolm — especially since the script fails to reveal why these topics are necessary to the story. On the other hand, the film is at its best when focusing on Malcolm and Marie's relationship. Therefore, when it sidesteps that plotline to focus on other topics, the film becomes confusing.

The ending is a great example of this. Malcolm and Marie spend most of the movie arguing inside the house and then eventually fall asleep. In the morning, Malcolm wakes up alone, scrambling to find Marie. He finds her outside, then the screen fades to black. The credits roll while playing “Liberation” by OutKast and CeeLo Green.

It's an interesting conclusion, but the audience is left asking, “Liberation from what?” Is Marie liberated from Malcolm? Are Malcolm and Marie liberated from their past demons? Is the film industry liberated from white supremacy and patriarchy? Are filmmakers liberated from the idea of authenticity?

The audience doesn't know, and the film doesn't either. Leaving the film inconclusive and with something to talk about is nice, but if you bring in a smorgasbord of ideas with no real focus or new ideas, it leaves the audience feeling empty.

Unfortunately, this film goes for style over substance — focusing more on what it looks like than how it makes people feel. Definitely don't watch this for Valentine's Day with your boo. It'll ruin the night. But if you want to see something pretty with great performances despite a subpar screenplay, turn on “Malcolm & Marie.”

Five things to watch during Black History Month

Black movies to watch this month that are not about slaves or white saviors

Keyandra Morris | Staff Writer

Black History Month is already well underway this February. Expanding on the blueprint of “Negro History Week” — coined by scholar Carter G. Woodson in 1926 — it is a designated time to acknowledge the history of Black people and to celebrate Blackness for an entire month. Far too often, people fall into the trap of watching white savior films or films that only capture the trauma and none of the joy of the Black experience. Many of these films have a hidden agenda of trying to improve race relations. While films based on true events like “The Help” center around white protagonists to make the film more palatable to a white audience, this tactic compromises, and even erases, the stories of the Black people who shaped this narrative in the first place.

Looking at the other end of the spectrum, it is strange to center the celebration of Black History Month around slavery. The history of slavery is very important to the Black experience, but films that center on this

topic often lack the nuance and depth necessary to accurately depict the horrors of slavery in a meaningful way. It is necessary to acknowledge that Black people are not confined to the boxes they are placed in both on- and off-screen and to truly understand that one must diversify their viewing habits.

Since these celebratory films are difficult to find amidst white savior tropes and slavery narratives, here are five movies that are worth a watch this month. These are by no means a stopping point, but rather a starting point to branch out from.

“Sylvie’s Love” (2020)

Starring Tessa Thompson and Nnamdi Asomugha, this is the perfect Black History Month/Valentine’s Day hybrid watch. Taking place in Harlem during the 1950s and 1960s after the Korean War, this film captures a new side of Black femininity as it follows Thompson’s Sylvie through the ups and downs of her marriage, affair and

motherhood. By embracing the 1950s Hollywood melodrama style, one hidden gem of this film is the way they are able to hold on to that classic movie feel while creating a modern viewing experience.

“Black is King” (2020)

One of the more controversial picks is the 2020 visual album experience created by Beyoncé. As an 85-minute film, “Black is King” follows an abstract retelling of the familiar story of “Lion King,” complete with representations of Simba as a Black boy living in Africa and interluding dialogue from Disney’s 2019 “Lion King.” It seems as though she tried to capture every bit of the African Diaspora in the visual, so some of her choices regarding iconography and the interpellation of certain spiritual figures might rub people the wrong way. However, as a whole body of work, she connects the idea of Blackness with royalty and luxury in a way that has not been seen before.

“Rodgers & Hammerstein’s Cinderella” (1997)

Recently announced to begin streaming on Disney+ Feb. 12, the movie stars Brandy as the titular character and the late Whitney Houston as the fairy godmother, putting a new spin on the classic Cinderella story with its “race-blind” casting. A Black Cinderella makes perfect sense when she realizes that she is being forced to do domestic labor in her own home.

“Malcolm X” (1992)

As the name implies, this biopic portrays the, at times, tumultuous life and death of activist Malcolm X. Starring Denzel Washington as Malcolm X, it is one of director Spike Lee’s most memorable and culturally significant projects. It is a must-see, despite the three- and a half-hour run time.

“Black Panther” (2018)

If you have not seen “Black Panther” by now, this is your sign to go watch it. As a director, Ryan Coogler

was able to capture so much of his own experiences within the film, and that is part of what makes it so impactful on the big screen. As Black Panther himself, the late Chadwick Boseman’s career reflected on the importance of this representation in an interview with *The Undeclared*, stating, “It’s important for a black, or a child of African descent, to see me. It’s just as important for a white kid to see me.” It is more than just a superhero film — from the costuming to the characters, “Black Panther” captures the essence of Afro-futurism that is so pivotal to Black culture in general. As a cultural aesthetic, Afrofuturism seeks to unify Blackness with technology to recognize the advancement of Black people past the stereotypes that are often associated with the sordid past of slavery. In this way, “Black Panther” has created a new representation of the future of Blackness that is shaped by power, wealth and success.

Amanda Gorman reminds viewers what is at stake

The 22-year-old is the first poet to perform at the Super Bowl

Eva Sirotic | Staff Writer

Amanda Gorman, activist and National Youth Poet Laureate, performed an original poem at the Super Bowl game Sunday. Her poem, “Chorus of the Captains,” celebrated three community leaders who were named honorary Super Bowl captains by the NFL. Despite the challenges of the pandemic, each captain has shown admirable leadership. Pittsburgh-based Marine veteran James Martin volunteers with the Wounded Warrior Project and works with at-risk kids, Los Angeles educator Trimaine Davis goes the extra mile to grant his students accessibility and Tampa ICU nurse manager Suzie Dorner is on the frontlines of the pandemic.

After performing her original poem, “The Hill We Climb,” at President Joe Biden’s inauguration, Gorman became a viral sensation. On Sunday, she became the first-ever poet to recite a poem at the Super Bowl. Poetry does not typically spring to mind when thinking of a typical Super Bowl performance, but as the poet explained on “The Daily Show,” “These are the moments I strive for in my lifetime, which is to bring poetry into places that

we least expect it, so we can fully kind of grapple with the ways in which it can heal us and kind of resurrect us.”

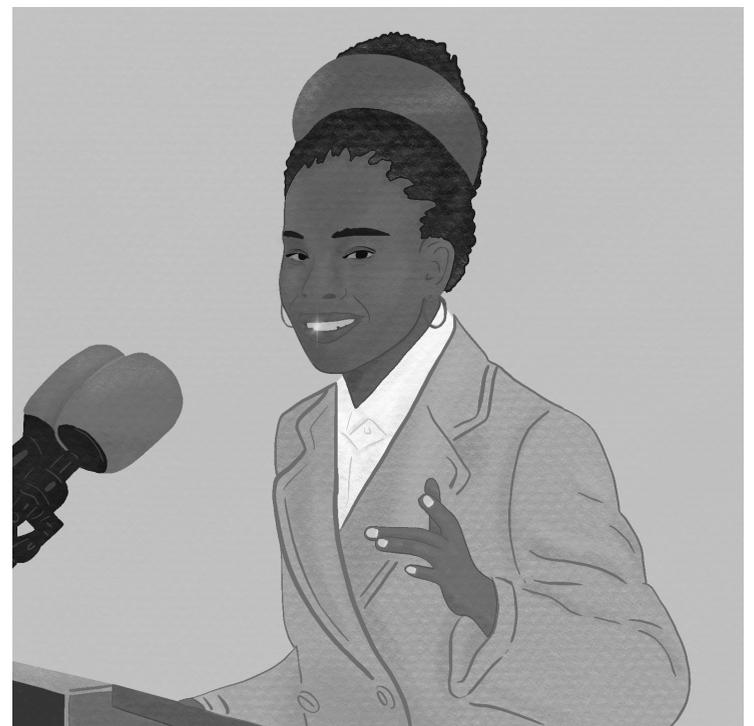
This ideal clearly resonates in her poem, as she describes the impact of COVID-19 and the sacrifices that have been made to survive this pandemic. Her words are particularly striking when she speaks of ICU nurse Suzie Dorner. “Her chronicles prove that even in tragedy, hope is possible / She lost her grandmothers to the pandemic / And fights to save other lives in the ICU battle zone,” Gorman said.

Gorman’s description of the pandemic as a battlefield reminds the listener that everyone must keep fighting even though people will face great sacrifice. The line also serves as a heavy reminder of the personal tragedies that have affected everyone during these times and praises the healthcare workers that have been at the forefront of this pandemic. Gorman places great responsibility and honor onto the listener by stating, “Let us walk with these warriors, / Charge on with these champions / And carry forth the call of our captains / We celebrate them by acting /

With courage and compassion.”

The weight of these words is particularly relevant to the Super Bowl itself. Over 25,000 people attended the 2021 Super Bowl in person, even though the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and medical experts have advised people to stay home during the pandemic. While the NFL provided masks and hand sanitizer to all those in attendance, by the looks of panoramic photos, social distancing was not properly enforced and many in-person viewers did not wear their masks correctly. After the Buccaneers won, throngs of maskless fans flooded the streets and sports bars in Tampa — a city where hospitalizations for COVID-19 continue to climb and Suzie Dorner is working tirelessly on the frontlines.

Surely, the irony of presenting Gorman’s words honoring COVID heroes and encouraging the public to act with compassion during a possible superspreader event was not lost on the NFL and Super Bowl viewers. Gorman’s poem provided a touching and much-needed reminder of how this pandemic has affected us and how it will continue to



ANISHA HOSSAIN | THE CAVALIER DAILY

impact us if we do not act with humanity and kindness. Her desire to bring poetry to the Super Bowl will give viewers who are unfamiliar with her work a new consciousness of the world and the consequences of their ac-

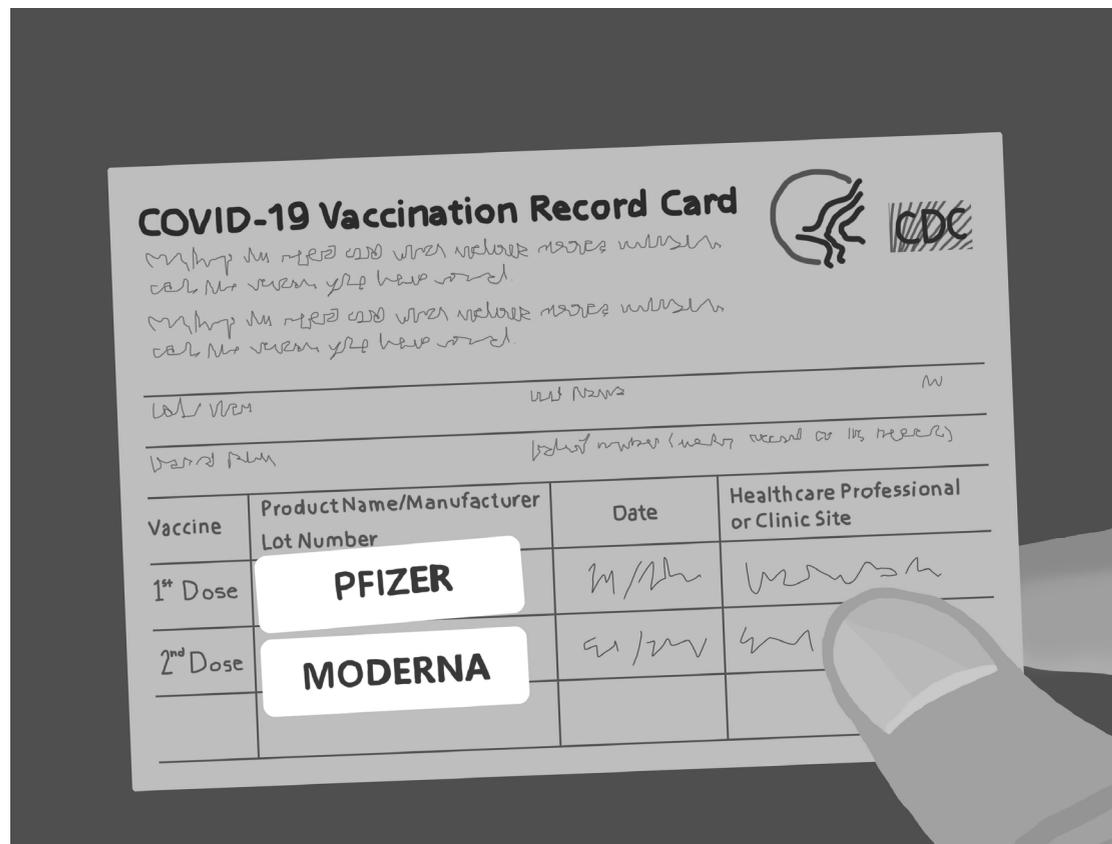
tions. Hopefully, this act of listening and acting with empathy will indeed “heal and resurrect us” amid these difficult times.

HEALTH & SCIENCE

An analysis of the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines

The mRNA vaccines require two doses and prevent symptomatic virus spread, though their abilities to stop asymptomatic virus spread are unknown

Abigail Challas | Staff Writer



AAYUSHA KHANAL | THE CAVALIER DAILY

Just over a year after the first COVID-19 case was documented in Wuhan, China, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration authorized two vaccines for emergency use against SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. The first, the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine, was authorized on Dec. 11, 2020, and just a week later, the FDA authorized the Moderna vaccine. These authorizations came after months of phase 3 clinical trials with a diverse group of participants — Pfizer enrolled 43,448 participants in their trial while Moderna enrolled 30,000 participants. These vaccines will play a critical role in ending the pandemic and allow life to regain a sense of normalcy.

William Petri, chief of the Division of Infectious Diseases and International Health at UVA., notes that the vaccine trials were conducted with a broad range of test subjects, giving scientists greater reassurance about the trials' positive results.

"They made a pretty good attempt to include a fair representation of people with underlying medical illnesses, the elderly, the African-American and Latinx communities," Petri said. "These vaccines are amazingly effective, and they are effective in people with underlying illnesses and in the elderly,

which is, of course, who we want to protect the most."

According to the Virginia Department of Health, 1,156,117 total COVID-19 vaccine doses have been administered in Virginia. Approximately 10 percent of the state's population has received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, and an average of 33,520 doses are administered each day. In Virginia, populations 70 years or older make up 27 percent of those who have received one dose of the vaccine. Additionally, of the 66 percent of vaccinations that report the race or ethnicity of the recipient, 28 percent have gone to people of color.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention stated that the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine is 95 percent effective in preventing symptomatic infection in individuals ages 16 years and older while the Moderna vaccine is 94.1 percent effective for individuals ages 18 years and older. The Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines both require a "booster," or follow-up, vaccine three and four weeks, respectively, after the initial dose.

"The first dose primes the immune system and the second dose boosts it," Petri said. "In the case of the Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines, the second dose increases the protection afforded by the

vaccine from 60 percent to approximately 95 percent ... mRNA vaccines are uniquely capable of inducing a kind of an immune cell, called a T follicular helper cell, to help B cells produce antibodies. It is this help in antibody production that makes these vaccines so effective."

Both the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines use messenger RNA, known as mRNA, a genetic element naturally present in the human body. Dr. Costi Sifri, director of hospital epidemiology at the University, explained that mRNA provides a template for making proteins. Once injected into the body, the mRNA instructs cells to create spike, or S, glycoproteins. Then, the body detects the synthesized proteins and creates an immune response against them.

"This protein itself is a part of SARS-CoV-2," Sifri said. "That's the Achilles' heel. It's a key component used by the virus to cause disease ... and the central target for all vaccines that are currently being either used or in the late stages of development."

Sifri further explained that S glycoproteins are an essential part of SARS-CoV-2 because they allow the virus to attach itself to healthy cells. Allowing the body to prepare an immune response against the S glycoproteins prior to SARS-CoV-2

infection largely prevents future symptomatic infection.

"By developing an immune response to this key protein ... you've allowed the body to learn how to protect itself from the virus," Sifri said.

While it is still largely unknown how long the vaccines protect against symptomatic infection of SARS-CoV-2 — partially as a result of insufficient data thus far — both Petri and Sifri are hopeful that it will be long lasting. However, it is possible that vaccinated people can still contribute to the asymptomatic spread of COVID-19.

Wendy Armstrong — an Emory University professor of medicine and the vice chair of education and integration for the school's Department of Medicine — explained that while it is certain the vaccines prevent symptomatic transmission of COVID-19, it is not yet known if the vaccines prevent asymptomatic transmission as well.

"One of those unknowns is whether or not a vaccinated person can get an asymptomatic viral infection that they could then spread to someone else," Armstrong said. "I think there is some reassuring data that may not occur, but we do not know for sure."

Part of this reassurance stems from the fact that, in the Moderna study, participants were tested for COVID-19 before receiving each dose of the vaccine. When comparing those who received the vaccine to those in the placebo group, there were fewer asymptomatic infections among the vaccine group. However, further data is needed to confirm any hypothesis.

Because asymptomatic transmission is still a possibility, Armstrong recommends continuing to practice COVID-19 safety precautions, including social distancing and handwashing, even after vaccination.

While these vaccines are nothing short of revolutionary, challenges have plagued their distribution. For instance, both vaccines must be stored at ultra-cold temperatures, and some facilities, especially in rural areas, do not have the resources to store them.

"The Pfizer vaccine requires a deep freezer," Sifri said. "They're shipped on dry ice and they're stored in these deep freezers that have a temperature of -70 to -80 degrees Celsius. In contrast, the Moderna vaccine is manufactured and stored in -20 degrees Celsius."

Armstrong explained another challenge facing vaccine distribution — some people are not comfortable receiving these vaccines. She suspected that the name of the U.S. government initiative to develop COVID-19 vaccines, Operation Warp Speed, misled the public to believe vaccines were developed too quickly and without proper testing and precautions.

"That isn't true — what Operation Warp Speed essentially did was it allowed the federal government to pour billions of dollars into this effort, allowing the process to move along more quickly," Armstrong said. "We try and encourage and reassure people that all the safety checks have been done ... that the trials have enrolled and tested the usual number of patients and that there's been no cutting corners."

In order to receive FDA approval, both the Moderna and Pfizer had to meet the strict standards laid out in the FDA's Development and Licensure of Vaccines to Prevent COVID-19 guidelines. These included randomization of vaccine distribution, follow-up studies on participants and close tracking of any adverse effects after vaccination, among others.

Armstrong also discussed the rise of SARS-CoV-2 variants, including the British and South African variants. Another variant has also recently been identified in Brazil. There are two reported cases of the United Kingdom variant in Virginia as of Jan. 31.

The CDC states that these variants are more transmissible and can spread more quickly, increasing the amount of COVID-19 cases. Armstrong explained that while both the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccine are effective against the British variant, both vaccines provide slightly less protection against the South African variant. To combat new strains of the virus, both Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna plan to develop additional booster shots for better protection.

Armstrong stressed the importance of getting vaccinated, especially with the recent emergence of new variants.

"I believe it's really, really important to get vaccinated, and I think until we have a mostly vaccinated population, we're going to be struggling with coronavirus for a long time," Armstrong said.

Artificial intelligence monitors patient risk via regression

Researchers at UVa. Health use Big Data collection to proactively treat chronic diseases and COVID-19

Anika Iyer | Senior Associate

Numerous chronic conditions manifest with unpredictable symptoms, which can sometimes make it difficult for clinicians to take necessary action in a timely manner when tending to patients. Researchers at UVa. Health working in the field of predictive analytics have created a software that uses artificial intelligence to estimate a patient's relative risk by combining physiological data from thousands of previous patients, with a current patient's physiological state. The software is crucial in allowing clinicians to assess a patient's risk for deterioration sooner than they normally would, allowing them to take — often critical — proactive actions towards maintaining the patient's health.

Life-threatening conditions such as lung failure, sepsis or acute respiratory distress syndrome can all manifest in a patient without displaying warning signs to clinicians until the patient is in a critically debilitating condition. This can leave providers with limited time to make imperative decisions for patients and may thus threaten chances of survival.

Dr. Randall Moorman, cardiologist and innovator in the field of predictive analytics monitoring, realized this healthcare dilemma early on in his career.

"Sometimes ... we can look back at the data that we had about those patients, and we can see that we should have seen it coming," Moorman said.

In attempts to better monitor patient stability through early detection, many hospitals around the world have resorted to using a standardized point system, which consists of recording certain physiological parameters and outputting a standardized score that can then be used to predict the patient's stability. For instance, in England the National Early Warning Score measures pulse rate, blood pressure, respiratory rate, oxygen levels, temperature and consciousness level in patients, allocating an individual score for each factor and totaling the scores. When the total reaches a threshold number designated by healthcare facilities, it alerts clinicians to take action.

However, Moorman found that such point systems were sometimes ineffective in monitoring the patient since they uniformly depended on the patient reaching a particular threshold score before clinicians were alerted. While threshold score monitoring may be helpful in some situations, these systems are not designed to indicate risk specific to each physiological factor, failing to utilize statistical tools like regression models, which use multiple variables to predict an outcome.

"One of the benefits of many machine learning approaches [is] you get

a continuous gradation of risk from all the possible numbers that might come in, no thresholds [are] allowed," Moorman said.

Additionally, tools like NEWS can be restraining since they do not focus on symptoms specific to a certain patient population, like cardiac patients, but instead rely on a "one size fits all" model.

"Our own point of view has been that this is not a one-size-fits-all problem at all, that the predictors of deterioration in one part of the hospital are going to be very different from elsewhere in the hospital," Moorman said.

Generalizing symptoms can lead to clinicians who depend on a standardized score when trying to predict any patient's disease progression, further leaving more room for ambiguity in executing care plans since the numbers are not always clearly indicative of a particular condition.

Approximately 20 years ago, Moorman decided to apply certain predictive concepts to proactively diagnose neonatal sepsis, which is a bacterial infection that occurs in the bloodstream of premature infants and can be deadly if not diagnosed early on. Sepsis has been particularly difficult for healthcare providers to diagnose since premature infants are unable to aptly communicate discomfort and are too fragile to have many diagnostic tests conducted on them.

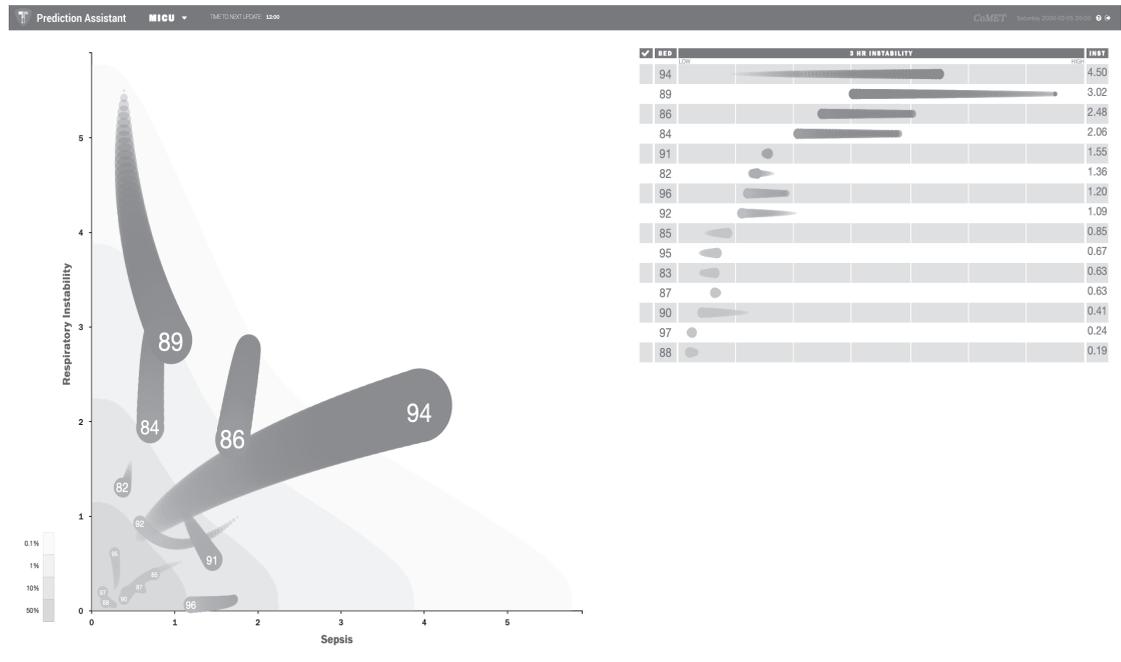
Moorman analyzed data from several infants infected with sepsis and recognized distinct patterns in the heartbeat of infants that occurred before sepsis began. He then quantified the heart rate data for the heartbeat abnormality and created a software which would detect this abnormality and alert clinicians. The HeRO software, coupled with observations and skillset of clinicians, allowed for them to proactively integrate the software's findings into their care, culminating in a 20 percent decline in premature infant mortality as shown by a randomized trial.

Consequently, Moorman expanded his work to create predictive models for adults, attempting to address a multitude of diseases using evidence from data coming from approximately 200,000 patients who have been admitted to UVa. Health previously.

"We present to the clinicians, not just the risk of sepsis, but we have developed predictive tools for early detection of other kinds of clinical deterioration like lung failure or bleeding or the need to be transferred to an ICU," Moorman said.

One of his primary goals is to use the benefits of Big Data analysis in predicting outcomes for future patients.

"[We are working] toward the idea of taking all of the data that comes out



COURTESY JOSH BARNEY

CoMET models risk for individual patients, with the larger comets corresponding to patients at higher risk of experiencing a serious event, such as sepsis or respiratory instability, in the next 12 hours.

from a patient and analyzing it in such a way that we can tell the clinicians that someone's risk for something bad is going up," Moorman said.

Contrary to standardizing softwares like NEWS, the Continuous Monitoring of Event Trajectories software relies on constant monitoring of the patient and previous data, working to apply algorithms which output the patient's status and risk of experiencing a serious event in the next 12 hours, updating every 15 minutes. CoMET updates models by calculating the cumulative contribution of physiological information from patients including data from their electronic medical records, EKG signals, vital signs and laboratory results.

The added machine learning approach allows for patients to be assessed relative to the outcomes from thousands of other patients and is more specific to the individual patient by displaying models specific to the patient's unit.

"At this point we have generated truly, hundreds of predictive models, depending on where you are in the hospital, what kind of things might go wrong and what information is available," Moorman said.

The "Prediction Assistant" screen uses regression to display patient risk by showing "comets" for each patient being monitored in the unit, with more stable patients represented as small and close to the bottom of the graph, while patients at higher risk are represented by larger and brighter comets. Each of the comets are graphed as a measure of a combination of factors most relevant to the hospital unit.

University cardiologist Jamieson

Bourque, in collaboration with Jessica Keim-Malpass, associate professor of nursing and pediatrics, have recently begun a two-year randomized controlled study of the CoMET software in patients in the medical-surgical floor for cardiology and cardiovascular surgery patients at the UVa. Hospital. They intend to analyze the long term outcomes of patients and prove the software's utility to help patients through providing clinicians with valuable predictive models from physiological data.

"What CoMET does is allows you to see the small incremental changes in heart rate, respiratory rate, vital signs [and] labs that can sort of fly under the radar, but when all those values are added together, that may signify a more significant change," Bourque said.

The team is also in the process of developing a predictive model specifically for COVID-19. However, it is waiting to gain more data to better understand the unpredictable nature of the disease so is currently using pre-existing models for the respiratory distress that accompanies COVID-19. The researchers feel that a predictive model could potentially be largely beneficial to dealing with COVID-19 patients since it could help anticipate some of the unpredictable symptoms which have shown to cause mortality.

"At unexpected times, a fair number of patients do deteriorate drastically, and then there are very big decisions to be made in this time of constrained resources or this time of full hospitals," Moorman said.

Main challenges researchers face with integrating CoMET involve educating clinicians on reading the pat-

terns as well as helping them integrate the software's usage into their daily workflow. With CoMET, clinicians are suggested to utilize the proactive warning signs and learn to construct a care plan sooner than they normally would.

Keim-Malpass, who is also trained as a nurse, is able to incorporate her first-hand perspective to CoMET's design by attempting to ensure that nurses and other clinicians in the hospital can adapt their responsibilities to the proactive nature of the software. She spoke of a time when nurses recognized a spike in the patient's CoMET score trajectory that allowed them to prevent sepsis when the patient was still stable.

"They went ahead and preemptively took blood cultures, and a few hours later they came back positive that they had blood infection, that they were heading towards sepsis, so that patient got antibiotics sooner [than] they would have," Keim-Malpass said.

In the future, the team plans to use more data to enhance the COVID-19 model and to implement CoMET to other hospitals around the nation.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE: Randall Moorman is Chief Medical Officer and owns equity in AM-P3D, which licenses technology from UVALVG and markets the CoMET monitor.

“
**Keep pushing.
This is
not the time
to give up.**

”
NATHANIEL CROFTS
FOURTH YEAR



FOR ALL OF US