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The Review

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Douglass' exit marks another administrative loss

HANNAH TATE
Senior Reporter

After this semester, Scott Douglass will be making his second exit from the university, the first taking place in 1976 after he received both his bachelor's and master's degree in political science.

In 2007, 31 years later, Douglass returned as the university's executive vice president and university treasurer. It was announced at the end of November that he would be leaving for the position of vice chancellor for finance and administration at North Carolina State University.

"The university gave me a life I probably wouldn't have if I didn't come here," Douglass said.

Douglass came to the university from the University of Pennsylvania when then President-elect Patrick Harker appointed him to his current position. Douglass' departure comes less than a year after Harker announced his sudden departure as president. Douglass said he was not shocked by the announcement.

"If you look at Pat's history, he was the dean for eight years at Penn," Douglass said. "I never thought he would be here for more than eight or 10 years. I think eight or 10 years is about the right maximum length to stay at a place."

Within the year that Harker decided to leave, there have been many departures from the university administration in addition to Douglass. This has included Deborah Hayes, vice president of communications and public affairs, Patricia Wilson, vice president and chief of staff, Nancy Brickhouse, deputy provost and José Aviles, director of admissions.

There's always a kind of rhythm to these things—change is a healthy thing, Douglass said.

Hayes and Wilson have both joined Harker at the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia. Hayes was named senior vice president of corporate affairs and Wilson will reprise her role as Harker's vice president and chief of staff at the bank, a position she has served for Harker since he was Dean of the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania in 1999, according to UDaily.

Douglass said he began thinking about what was next for him last summer.

"I'm really excited about where I'm going," he said. "North Carolina State University is going to be an exciting place for me to be."

According to the university's 2014 tax forms, Douglass made $447,058 in salary and an additional $34,340 through other compensations in the 2014 school year. Charles D. Leffler, who Douglass is replacing at NC State, made $288,420 in the same year, according to a University of North Carolina administrative salary study.

One of the things that drew Douglass to NC State was its mission, which is similar to the university's. It's about increasing access to students, but there's also an emphasis on economic development—the two institutions are similar in that way, he said.

Access to students—specifically Delawareans—and economic development for the state are two university achievements Douglass highlights during his time here. This was done largely through the creation of STAR campus and the opportunities it offers for faculty and students, particularly internships for students.

NC State has something similar called Centennial Campus, which the university looked to when designing the STAR Campus.

When it comes to his achievements during his time here, Douglass points out he was just one in a group that had a lot of success.

See DOUGLASS page 4

More details of professor's misconduct emerge

COURTESY OF NBC SAN DIEGO
Former professor Vincent Martin was able to leave quietly for the San Diego State University after allegations that he sexually harassed a female student.

MATT BUTLER
Editor in Chief

Details continue to trickle out regarding former Spanish professor Vincent Martin's 2011 departure from Delaware after he recently left San Diego State University (SDSU) following allegations of sexual harassment.

Arbitration documents were obtained by NBC San Diego in November which stated that Martin "resigned his prior post at the University of Delaware after he was accused of sexually harassing a female student."

Jan Blits, a retired professor who served as chair of the Faculty Welfare and Privileges Committee (FWPC) at the time of Martin's resignation, said his committee was circumvented entirely during Martin's exit. The FWPC is charged with overseeing faculty dismissal, evaluation and general personnel policies.

Blits said the university employed a similar strategy when allowing former sociology professor Eric Tranby to leave the university in 2013, though Blits was no longer running the FWPC at the time. Blits said the administration at that time, under former President Patrick Harker, was "hostile" toward faculty governance.

Tranby had been accused of sexually harassing a female student, but was poised to take a job at the University of Cambridge before another faculty member at the university notified it of the reason for his departure. Cambridge then rescinded its offer. Text message records later showed Tranby attempted to trade good grades for sexual favors from the female student.

He also said Martin's study abroad trips seemed geared towards a more festive student demographic, and described a picture he remembers of Martin, arms around two female students with empty alcohol containers around them, that Martin used to solicit applications for his study abroad program.

"The advertisements for the study abroad made quite clear that this was to be a party," Blits said.

Martin's problems became public several months ago when he was investigated for the harassment of at least four female students during his time at SDSU. After an internal investigation, Martin was initially suspended for 30 days, a punishment upheld after the arbitration process.

However, at some point in November he left SDSU entirely, and according to an NBC San Diego report he was mulling a lawsuit against the university regarding information released by SDSU. In a letter from Sept. 14, his lawyer, Hockessin-based Michele Allen, stated that the school had improperly obtained and used the information about his time at UD.

"It is my understanding that San Diego State University has egregiously disregarded knowledge and reports that this information was improperly obtained and has continued to disseminate and disclose this information, with the intent to harm Dr. Vincent Martin," the letter said.

SDSU responded with a letter that said though they requested information from UD about Martin's resignation during their internal investigation, they were given none. They said Martin admitted to the misconduct at UD during his arbitration hearing.

"Of greater concern to San Diego State is that your client has engaged in predatory behavior on multiple occasions at San Diego and, based on Dr. Martin's own admissions, had engaged in similar behavior at the University of Delaware," the school's response stated.

Faculty Senate questions Board of Trustees

SARAH GIBSON
Staff Reporter

A disconnect between the faculty and the Board of Trustees has been an issue this academic year with the presidential search, and the lack of major faculty and student involvement on the search committee, in the spotlight.

Acting President Nancy Targett voiced concerns regarding the current definition of "faculty" in the university's bylaws of the Board of Trustees. The Board is also concerned that there is currently a disconnect between the university's faculty and their responsibilities according to the bylaws.

"It seems that the trustees have in their mind that the administration can't be in charge of the faculty," John Gizis, a physics professor at the university, said. "Perhaps the Board of Trustees is just kind of misguided on the whole thing."

Associate Professor John Morgan said he also does not think the Board of Trustees is familiar enough with the campus environment to make decisions without communicating with the university's administration.

"In order to have effective shared governance, there must be communication in both directions," Morgan said. "Unless the people from the Board of Trustees want to come up here and walk around Main Street at two in the morning on a Friday night, they don't really know what's going on."

See SENATE page 5

MELISA SOYSAL/ THE REVIEW
Professor John Morgan said in order to have effective shared governance, there must be communication in both directions between the faculty and the Board of Trustees.

WHAT'S INSIDE

PENCIL IT IN

TUESDAY, DEC. 8

- Asian Student Association Present: Karaoke Night 7 - 8:30 p.m., Gore 208
- USC Quizzo: META Quizzo Reloaded with Cara White, 7 - 8 p.m., Perkins West Lounge
- UDance Tweet Spree, 8 - 9 p.m., Kirkbride 100

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 9

- Air Force ROTC Open House, 6 - p.m., Air Force Building, 314 Wyoming Rd.
- HOLADAY's Holiday Celebration, 6 - 8 p.m., Trabant Lounge
- Festival of One Act Plays, 7 - 9:30 p.m., Perkins Student Center, Bacchus Theatre
- Waffles and Ice Cream Study Break, 9 - 11:30 p.m., Perkins West Lounge

THURSDAY, DEC. 10

- PRoUD: Seeing Eye Dogs and pizza, 6 - 7:30 p.m., James Smith Hall lounge
- APO at Launch Trampoline Park—College Night, 8 - 10 p.m., 200 Interchange Blvd.

FRIDAY, DEC. 11

- Last day of classes!
- YChromes Fall Concert, 8 p.m., Pearson Hall
- Symphony Orchestra, 8 p.m., Center for the Arts, Puglisi Orchestra Hall
- WVUD Thrift Shop Cotillion, 9 p.m. - 12 a.m., Perkins Rodney Room

SATURDAY, DEC. 12

- Reading Day

SUNDAY, DEC. 13

- Reading Day

MONDAY, DEC. 14

- Finals begin

#TBT

Dec. 2, 2005

Only a month remains until hundreds of students pack their bags and set out to travel around world for winter session. The university's study abroad program, the oldest in the country, continues to grow in size. In 2005, the Institute for International Education named it the top program for study abroad participation among public universities. Students described their experiences as educational opportunities of a lifetime. "There's no better way to learn than by going to the place you're learning about," senior Marion Herrick, who chose Ireland for winter session, said. "In Ireland, while learning about the poetry of William [Butler] Yeats, we actually went to the places he wrote about."

TL;DR

Adviser sends mass email to students after termination

JoAnn Ciuffetelli, exercise sciences academic adviser, sent out a mass email to the exercise sciences mailing list, with the subject line "JoAnn Ciuffetelli has been fired" on Monday afternoon following her termination.

She said she became a target for department administration after she began taking prescription migraine medication more than a year ago.

Before her termination, Ciuffetelli said she was unaware of any severe problems with her employment status before Monday, though she admitted to having been written up for performance issues before.

Ciuffetelli said William Farquhar, the chair of the department of kinesiology and applied physiology, fired her Monday flanked by a human resources representative and a campus security officer.

Dairy Queen scoops a spot on Main Street

Dairy Queen opened up its doors at 74 E. Main Street last Thursday, offering students and community members alike a fresh new place to grab dessert near campus.

The opening of Dairy Queen was initially delayed, in order to give adequate time to renovate the space which once was home to both an apartment-leasing office, as well as a U.S. Marine recruiting office. These renovations included installing a walk-up window and full-service kitchen.

The ice cream shop will be open until 2 a.m on Thursday, Friday and Saturday and until midnight the rest of the week.

Dairy Queen signed a 20-year lease with their new location.

One Easton apartments expect to welcome residents next fall

Construction on the One Easton apartment building behind Newark Shopping Center is projected to be finished by March. Residents should be able to call the new units home by next August.

The building is to be comprised of 220 units at two bedrooms apiece, according to Community Assistant Michael Zerillo. He explained One Easton is unique in that it offers only two-bedroom, two-bathroom units. The leasing company will offer an individual leasing system.

In addition, the apartments all come fully furnished, a feature which Zerillo hopes will give the One Easton a competitive edge when pitted against the other prominent apartment buildings located in Newark.

"Too long; didn't read" gives you weekly news summaries in 200 words or less."

Rosin's mother and sister sign anti-bike petition

COURTESY OF HALLI ROSIN

Sophomore Matt Rosin pictured to the right with older sister Halli, who has provided numerous updates regarding her brother's recovery.

ALISON WILSON
Managing News Editor

Six weeks after the bicycle collision that left sophomore Matt Rosin in a coma, a petition called Walk Your Wheels has garnered 327 supporters.

The petition, fighting for walk-only zones in heavily traveled areas of campus, will require students to walk their bikes or carry their skateboard Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The restricted areas will include the North and South Green, the Trabant patio area—where Rosin's accident occurred—and the sidewalks lining Academy Street.

Addressed to university's Office of Campus and Public Safety, the petition needs another 173 signatures to reach its goal of 500 supporters. Included among the supporters of the petition are Rosin's sister Halli Rosin and mother Terri Hertz-Rosin. His mother commented on the petition's website, Change.org.

"My son Matthew's life was changed forever on Oct. 23 because a bicyclist was riding recklessly," Hertz-Rosin said in her comment. "Our whole family struggles and suffers every single day. No one should ever have to experience this nightmare ever again."

Halli Rosin's Facebook post was similar. She said she signed the petition in honor of her brother.

To date, Rosin's recovery fund has raised $23,590 since its creation nearly one month ago. Currently 472 donations have been made on the GoFundMe page, which says the goal is $50,000. Rosin was recently moved to Mount Sinai Hospital closer to his Long Island home, and these donations have helped the family bear these costs.

Diversity action plan draft calls for inclusivity, lacks statistics

ALISON WILSON
Managing News Editor

Following a racially-tense semester, the university released a 12-page draft of its diversity action plan Nov. 20 that stresses inclusivity and equity for future success.

Vice Provost for Diversity Carol Henderson compiled the draft from results of the 2009 Diversity Task Force and the 2014 Delaware Will Shine Advisory Committee, among other sources. She said the document took a year to create and the original draft was much longer.

Henderson called the draft process "almost a research project" and said it is an extension of the Delaware Will Shine (DWS) strategic plan. DWS met with over 100 constituents including students, faculty, staff and the community to get a feel for the campus diversity landscape.

The plan is still in draft form so feedback can be received.

What seems to be missing from the action plan are numbers that specify goals for improving diversity statistics on campus. This is because the metrics of measuring progress is complicated, Henderson said.

"I can't put in there we're gonna raise diversity 20 percent," she said. "People are uncomfortable with that from a legal perspective."

The "legal landscape" barred her from including percentages in the plan because people often misinterpret them for quotas. So instead, to chart improvement the university must analyze change between a start date and a future date.

However, it takes more than just statistics to measure improvement. It's also looking at the results of the campus climate survey, the retention and recruitment infrastructures, the genetic makeup of freshman classes and student satisfaction, Henderson said.

Analyzing the state of diversity on campus is an "ongoing exercise." Henderson said from this moment it will take approximately five years, from 2015 to 2020, to determine where the university is now.

"I can't put in there we're gonna raise diversity 20 percent," she said. "People are uncomfortable with that from a legal perspective."

The plan includes six guiding principles for action—recruiting a diverse faculty and staff, creating a more diverse student body, promoting diversity as a fundamental building block for every student's learning experience, educating the faculty and staff on diversity, improving the campus climate and strengthening relationships with community organizations from historically underrepresented groups.

Among the goals outlined in the draft is hiring diverse faculty and staff, specifically historically underrepresented groups like first-generation and low income individuals and women. It also details the need to enhance learning for both undergraduate and graduate students to create globally educated citizens and creating a campus climate that is accepting of differences.

In order to identify how to include diversity education in the curriculum, professor James Jones is developing the Diversity Competency Six, Henderson said.

To implement the goals of the action plan, accountability partners were named to be positive influences for change, Henderson said. Students are included as partners in the goal to create a welcoming community on campus.

"Diversity is not just my office or me," Henderson said. "But it's the ways in which we engage with each other every day of the year and we need students to be part of that discussion and part of that practice."

She emphasized the final paragraph on page 12, entitled "We Are All In This Together" as an area of focus, which says students, faculty, staff and the external community are significant participants in driving change on campus on the subject of diversity.

Henderson said she is hoping the draft will be able to be finalized before the end of May.

She said her vision for the future of diversity at the university is to have her position no longer be relevant.

"My desire is for you to put me out of business," she said.

Keenan Faison: Staying "woke" for future classrooms

HOLLY CLAYTOR
Staff Reporter

From kindergarten to second grade, junior Keenan Faison was one of the few students of color at a predominately white private school. This is where he learned at a young age that discrimination exists, he said.

"I felt very singled out by two specific teachers," Faison said. "I was always pulled out of the classroom and getting in trouble for acting out."

He said his teacher would constantly tell his mother how much of a "problem child" Faison was, yet would praise him in the presence of the school principal.

Fed up with these inconsistencies, Faison's mother made the decision to pull him out of the school and move to his present home in Cheltenham, Pa. His experience was later validated when a lawsuit followed against the school; other black students had felt the same discrimination inside the classroom setting.

For Faison, a newly declared music education major, this occurrence of prejudice was the first of many incidents that would eventually contribute to his present day aim to break the stigmas and stereotypes of black Americans.

He discussed the concept of staying "woke" or looking back in history to where these problems arose and what they have been developed into. The phrase expresses an overall acknowledgement of an issue followed with an active effort to change things. Faison said he did not fully become "woke" until this year.

"Witnessing the things that have been happening in the last year after the many shootings and the beatings and the unfair arrests of young men of color," Faison said, is what sparked his desire to make a difference in how society addresses racism.

Faison said the university has not properly handled racial acceptance at all up until this year. Throughout his college career, he said he has witnessed white students feel generally uncomfortable around minorities and think it acceptable to make jokes at their expense.

"It is ridiculous how often they're happening still and a lot of other people don't even realize it is a problem," Faison said. "Why are these things happening?"

However, he said over the last year things have turned around due to the efforts of Acting President Nancy Targett.

"We were being heard," Faison said in praise of Targett's efforts. "She really took the bull by the horns—actively listening to us. From that, started many discussions between administration and students."

As a student, Faison has learned the importance of recognizing how people view a specific racial stereotype. He said people should no longer be uncomfortable asking questions or talking about racial matters. In the years to come, he said he hopes the new president, Dennis Assanis, will continue forth with the efforts Targett has set in motion.

After experiencing the lingering presence of marginalization in school atmospheres throughout his life, Faison wants to create a safer environment for his own future students.

"My motivations for being a teacher is that in my classroom I can make whatever space I want, and I want an open, safe space where people can express themselves how they choose," he said.

EMILY MOORE/ THE REVIEW
This October's Mobility Challenge participation nearly doubled since last year, bringing in over 800 participants.

Disability studies faculty unsatisfied with Mobility Challenge

RAQUEL MORRIS
Senior Reporter

English professor Stephanie Kerschbaum was stunned by this October's Mobility Challenge, as participation nearly doubled since last year. Still, as a deaf woman, she said people must remember they do not understand what living with a disability is like, just from one day.

Kerschbaum said she appreciated the hard work students put into the event and the energy behind it. She was not aware how big the event would be until after the fact, however, she said.

GoBabyGo!, a registered student organization on campus, hosted the challenge to promote awareness for people with disabilities on Oct. 27, and reported over 800 participants. However, members and faculty of the Office of Disability Support Services said they were unsatisfied with the structure of the events.

Kerschbaum, who also teaches classes in the disability studies minor, said she could not believe how large the event was. She said she is excited about how people are starting to recognize disabilities, but does not want the conversation to happen without the involvement of people with disabilities.

She said she believes the energy for an event like this is great, but said it is not okay to try on a disability for a day because this still does not allow people to understand other's experiences. She wants people to develop a comfort speaking to those with disabilities about what they believe needs to be improved in society, especially surrounding issues of accessibility.

"In my experience, people will temporarily have an issue such as an ear infection and can't hear for a few days, then they'll come to me and say, 'Oh my gosh, I have so much sympathy for you I can't even imagine how you do this,'" she said. "And they don't really know because they haven't dealt with it their whole life."

Kerschbaum also said it is an exercise in pity rather than an exercise in changing the world.

Anne Jannarone, the university's director of disability services, was unaware of the event until after it happened. She tries to get students who are interested in organizing such events connected with the right people and feels the Mobility Challenge missed the mark.

"Disabilities seems to be the one underrepresented population that everyone thinks is okay to imitate," Jannarone said. "You wouldn't see someone simulate being gay for a day or being African American for a day, yet we do it with disabilities and think it's okay."

Cole Galloway, the faculty advisor to the GoBabyGo!, said the Mobility Challenge is a celebration of the joys of movement and mobility. He said he is proud of the number of people that participated, and said the event was a great celebration of great student organization.

Vinayak Rajendran, the co-organizer of the event and president of the Assistive Medical Technologies club, said he came up with the idea of the event over the summer of 2014. That fall, he helped host the first Mobility Challenge, which had around 400 participants and even got him recognized at other schools around the country, he said.

Rajendran and his team said they knew even before the event that it was going to be controversial.

"There are two different philosophies of teaching about disabilities," Rajendran said.

Rajendran and his team chose simulation as the main tactic because they believe that people do not want to listen until they experience and understand someone else's experience. He said he wanted to motivate people on campus to start advocating and discussing the real issues.

"For any insult we generated, we sincerely apologize," he said.

Since the event, Rajendran and his team have spoken to the faculty and they now will begin monthly meetings about how to improve the next Mobility Challenge. They are also trying to find ways to educate students on campus about disabilities.

Adviser sends mass email to students after termination

MATT BUTLER
Editor in Chief

More than a year of what JoAnn Ciuffetelli called "bullying" came to an end on Monday, as she was terminated from her position as an academic adviser in exercise sciences.

Ciuffetelli said she became a target for department administration after she began taking prescription migraine medication more than a year ago. She said she supposes the medication's side effects, which may have included slurred speech, led her superiors in the exercise sciences administration to tell coworkers she was coming into work intoxicated.

"I can't use the word 'men' about them because they are not men," she said of her supervisors in the department. "They have been looking for a while to get rid of me. They will say that it's performance issues."

Ciuffetelli said she guarantees she could get students who would vouch for her aptitude and fairness as an adviser, while there would also be some students who had complaints about her. She said it would be the same for any adviser.

Before her termination, Ciuffetelli said she was unaware of any severe problems with her employment status before Monday, though she admitted to having been written up for performance issues before.

Students were notified of the dismissal in an unorthodox manner—Ciuffetelli fired off an email shortly before her email account was deactivated by the university. The email, sent to the exercise sciences mailing list, has "JoAnn Ciuffetelli has been fired" as its subject line.

"Greetings and good bye [sic] students," the email said. "Dr. Farquhar has come in and fired me thid [sic] morning. Best wishes to you all. I will miss [sic]."

'Dr. Farquhar' refers to William Farquhar, the chair of the department of kinesiology and applied physiology, who Ciuffetelli said fired her Monday, flanked by a human resources representative and a campus security officer.

The university declined to comment on the situation, calling it a "personnel matter." An email message to Farquhar requesting comment was not answered by The Review's deadline.

Ciuffetelli said she did not think it was in her best interests, legally, to comment on whether or not she intends to pursue legal action against the university over her termination. Ciuffetelli said she sent the email so her side of the story could be represented fairly.

"So that my students would know the truth," she said. "I don't think it would have been honest otherwise."

Study abroad unaffected by European unrest

COURTESY OF RORY MCLAUGHLIN
The Institute of Global Studies is not currently canceling any sessions abroad because of Europe's political climate.

ALEX STUBBOLO
Staff Reporter

When asked if he had any trepidation about teaching abroad in the coming months, Philosophy professor Richard Hanley crossed his arms behind his head and answered simply: "No."

The world was shocked last month when members of the terrorist organization ISIS staged coordinated attacks throughout Paris. More than 100 innocent people died in the assault, according to news outlets such as CNN and The Guardian. With rising debt and an influx of Syrian refugees throughout Europe, the terroristic activities of ISIS have further destabilized the already tumultuous continent.

Hanley has been appointed to teach a semester abroad in Greece this winter and Italy in the spring and during winter session 2017. He stated that students and faculty should not fear traveling abroad, despite the unstable political and social climate.

"The increased risk isn't enough to make us hide from the world," Hanley said. "The proper response isn't to bow down and be terrified."

As The Review reported last month, the university's Institute for Global Studies (IGS) has made no moves to call students back from overseas nor has it canceled any future sessions abroad due to the unrest.

"I applaud IGS for continuing these projects," Hanley said. "The terrorists win if they get us to change our behavior."

Hanley said that the events of last week's shooting in San Bernardino demonstrate that the United States is just as susceptible to acts of domestic terrorism as we are to foreign attacks.

"Wednesday's events show that we're not immune to these things in the U.S.," he said.

Senior Jae Woo Chung has enrolled in Hanley's "micromester" in Greece for this winter. He agrees with Hanley that students should not feel threatened or unsafe while overseas.

"I am not too worried about safety because it is unlikely that Europe will undergo another major attack after the one on Paris," Chung said. "My thinking is that since the Paris attack, most European countries are more aware of the potential for danger than before."

Christian Ruth, a sophomore planning to spend his winter session in Spain, said she feels similarly.

"Personally I feel safe knowing that Spain hasn't been specifically targeted for an attack, but the thought of something like that happening definitely still looms in the back of my mind," Ruth said. "I feel that IGS should at least get in contact with local authorities and/or keep students up to date with the local knows where we're traveling to make sure our group is as safe as possible."

All students traveling internationally receive an International SOS emergency card in case of medical emergencies or for necessary evacuations during times of civil unrest. Hanley also said the university subscribes to an international alert system, which IGS recommends that students and faculty abroad follow as well.

He said students should not let the fear of terrorism change the way they act or alter the values that America has historically stood for. He said this holds true about the debate on whether or not to allow Syrian refugees into America.

"Anne Frank's family was refused citizen status," Hanley said. "That kind of fear always exists, but it's not based on a sober assessment of facts—it's based on fear."

Women's Caucus report reveals childcare concerns

MEGHAN JUSCZAK
Executive Editor

There is no greater detriment to women faculty than affordable childcare, an anonymous faculty member wrote in response to the university's Women's Caucus' fall 2014 survey. It impacts all of her decisions, from housing options to research, she said.

This sentiment was not unusual among the survey's results, which were released recently as part of the UD Women's Caucus 2015 Annual Report. Several respondents featured in the report noted that the university's family-friendly policies were inadequate, especially in terms of affordable and accessible childcare. The lack of resources for graduate students who must support their families with minimal stipends is a particular issue, one respondent wrote.

According to the report, approximately 50 percent of more than 500 respondents disagreed or disagreed strongly with the statement "UD provides affordable childcare options." Slightly less than half of respondents also said the university's childcare options were not accessible. If there were more childcare resources available, 70.1 percent said they would take advantage of them.

A general theme of the responses is concern due to institutional apathy, the report said. In comparison to other academic or corporate employers, survey respondents felt the university did not meet their childcare needs.

Thomas LaPenta, chief human resources officer, said the survey results are indicative of a trend nationwide as childcare becomes a greater concern for employers and employees alike.

"There is no question that this is becoming a bigger issue as millennials move into the workforce," LaPenta said. "A couple of months ago human resources began a discussion internally...we are just starting to discuss what are the options with childcare, and looking at what other universities are doing. We are in the very initial stages of that."

The Women's Caucus, a volunteer-run advocacy group established in 2011 composed of female faculty and staff members, hopes to work with human resources and encourage them to partner with area childcare services, Christine Scheirer, co-chair of the caucus, said.

"Budget is always concerning and part of the conversation," Scheirer said. "So we are hoping that we could find ways for local childcare services could be offered at discounts or something similar, of that nature."

The primary on-campus option, the Early Learning Center, is really a research center for current students in the College of Education and Human Development, she said. It is kept small for this reason, which is why it remains expensive and consistently has a long wait list.

According to the survey in the Women's Caucus report, aside from before- and after-school programs, the Early Learning Center (ELC) is the most popular option faculty and staff would like to explore for future care.

Peggy Bradley, the director of the ELC, said the center provides care for children that range in age from six weeks to fourth grade. Prices vary based on the age of the children, she said, meaning that full paying clients in infants pay $1,390 a month, toddler clients pay $1,260 a month and preschoolers cost $1,070 a month.

"We do a local market reach survey every year and keep our prices in the same price range as other nationally-accredited centers in our community," Bradley said. "Accessibility and affordability are issues, without question, throughout Newark and the nation. The real crux of that issue is accessibility for infants and toddlers. I think there's actually a lot of availability for preschool and pre-K, and that's true at the ELC as well."

However, many clients at the ELC do not pay full tuition, she said. Part of the ELC's mission is its commitment to serving children whose families live under the federal definition of poverty, and so the state covers their tuition.

The ELC also gives priority to students with serviceable disabilities, because the ELC's staff believes children thrive best in inclusive settings. As a result, 12 to 20 percent of the children at the ELC have serviceable disabilities. The rest of the spots are filled by members of the university and Newark communities, Bradley said.

While there are many improvements, the Women's Caucus would like to see regarding childcare opportunities for faculty, students and staff, Scheirer said the caucus has been excited about some recent changes enhancing the university's family-friendly policy.

The university adopted a new policy in August 2014 called the "Flexible Work Schedule," she said, which allows employees to start and end earlier or later depending on their schedules. The caucus is excited about that, she said, but would also like to see a work from home policy, which currently does not exist for university employees.

LaPenta also mentioned the Employee Assistance Program, which makes a concentrated effort to help employees find daycares in the area.

For now, Scheirer said the caucus will continue its advocacy surrounding childcare, as well as emphasizing the importance of continuing conversations around sexual violence and the representation of female faculty, particularly in STEM fields.

"We're definitely looking forward to working with the new president on the childcare issue," she said. "I'm sure he'll take a look at these policies and the issue and recommend something for us[...]We hope to have open communication with him, as well as other members of the administration."

DOUGLASS

Continued from page 1

"I don't think individuals achieve anything," he said. "I think people achieve things."

The impact of Harker's administration and its work over the last eight and a half years won't be visible until five or 10 years after we've left, Douglass said. What's important is how President Dennis Assanis fits with what Harker started. Harker did a lot of things, and Assanis will do a lot of things, but it's the collective things they do together that matter, he said.

"Assanis is going to be a superstar," Douglass said.

Assanis was announced as Harker's replacement last month after an extensive search. Assanis will take over from Nancy Targett, who is the current interim president.

Targett came at a very challenging time, all universities are facing a challenging time right now with social issues, Douglass said.

"I think Assanis is really lucky she was here to make very wise decisions in difficult times," he said.

Assanis is going to be someone who builds on what former presidents did. The value of a degree from the university is only going to go up in the future, Douglass said.

Third party study abroads gaining traction

MATT BUTLER
Editor in Chief

The university's study abroad program, the first in the country and long touted as one of the best in the nation, may be facing some more competition for students.

Third party study abroad programs have begun to gain popularity throughout the country, and the university has been no different. Students turn to programs outside the university either as a way of finding a cheaper option, or if the school is not offering a program that interests them.

Micaela Miller, a junior, said she was planning on attending a study abroad trip through a third party provider to Germany, which would have included trips to France and Luxembourg. Miller said she wanted to go on that trip since the school does not offer a similar trip that could help her major requirements. However, the transfer credit process was far too complicated and she ended up not being able to apply.

"That's why I wanted to go on this program, because we are really lacking any kind of political science study abroads," she said.

Another contributing factor was the massive price difference. The program Miller applied for would have cost between $2,000 to $3,000, while the study abroad trip she took to Morocco last winter cost around $10,000.

The Germany trip was through the Institute for the International Education of Students (IES), a non-profit organization that was founded in 1950. Its website lists 235 schools they are either partnered or affiliated with, though the university is not listed. Miller said she thought this complicated the transfer credit process.

Ashley Houston, outreach coordinator at IES, said the program caters to several thousand students across the country. According to the website, students can also apply for scholarships to offset costs, despite them being lower than average study abroad costs.

"IES Abroad is a global, not-for-profit academic consortium that offers over 125 study abroad programs, in over 34 international locations, to some 6,000 U.S. college students annually," Houston said.

SENATE

Continued from page 1

In light of the nationwide epidemic of school shootings, Patrick Ogden, university police chief, presented on that topic.

"Twenty-five percent of these incidents happened in an educational environment," Ogden said. "You can't put a price on a life, so we're gonna try to do everything that we can to protect our property and protect our people that are within our property."

Ogden discussed the 2014 Florida State shooting, where the suspect attempted to enter the library and was turned away at the security gates. The university plans to add similar turnstiles at the library in January for additional security.

"We've worked with the library for the last few years about having some type of card access so we know who's going in or going out," Ogden said. "Sometime after the first of the year, there's gonna be some turnstiles in there where you have to card in or show ID to get in and out."

The university's police department uses a 20-minute long video called "Shots Fired on Campus: When Lightning Strikes" to teach students and faculty about safety protocols in the event of a school shooting. Ogden encouraged everyone to watch the video, since it provides information about what to do in the event of an active shooter and what to expect from the law enforcement's response.

"Research suggests that the chance of any of us being involved in an active shooter situation is very similar to being struck by lightning," Ogden said. "It talks about awareness, preparation and rehearsal."

Provost Domenico Grasso took the floor to update the Senate on the university's progress with diversity initiatives.

"Now we have a diversity blueprint that was written in collaboration with faculty," Grasso said. "It is a commitment to inclusive excellence that we again are going to adopt as a whole, as a collective."

Emily Davis, chair of the Faculty Senate Committee on Diversity and Inclusion, highlighted some of the university's problems with diversity and inclusion, quoting both professors and teachers who felt excluded or marginalized based on their race, gender or other identity.

"I don't have magic answers to them [our issues], but I wanted to give this preliminary overview to give you a sense of where our committee is planning to go next," Davis said. "We're hoping to use the Faculty Senate space as one place where we can bring up some of these issues and potentially offer some short mini-workshops that you can take back to your department."

MELISA SOYSAL/ THE REVIEW
Faculty Senate members (Top: Targett, Middle: Grasso) highlighted some of the university's diversity problems, quoting both professors and teachers who felt excluded or marginalized based on their race, gender or other identity.

Dairy Queen scoops a spot on Main Street

MELISA SOYSAL/ THE REVIEW
Dairy Queen signed a 20-year lease at their new location on 74 E. Main Street, next to Del Pez and Insomnia Cookies.

MICHAEL HENRETTY
Staff Reporter

As December brings colder weather to Newark following a temperate autumn, the chill of the famous DQ Blizzard has wafted onto Main Street.

Dairy Queen opened up its doors at 74 E. Main Street last Thursday, offering students and community members alike a fresh new place to grab dessert near campus.

The restaurant, owned by businessman Mike Jordan, offers both products from Dairy Queen as well as Orange Julius.

Jordan credits his business partner, Charlie Fisk, with helping bring Dairy Queen to Newark.

"Charlie's daughter plays ice hockey for Penn State, and she had a game down at UD," Jordan said. "He called me and said he loved the 'boardwalk-esque' feel of Main Street and that we had to get down here."

The opening of Dairy Queen was initially delayed, in order to give adequate time to renovate the space which once was home to both an apartment-leasing office, as well as a U.S. Marine recruiting office. These renovations included installing a walk-up window and full-service kitchen.

The effects of the delayed construction took a toll on some of the local residents, particularly junior Gwen Clarke, who lives in an apartment above the Dairy Queen.

"Construction got pushed back several times since we moved in, so the men who came here and worked on it kept making their mornings earlier and staying later in the evenings," Clarke said.

While people are usually shocked to discover Dairy Queen is already open, Clarke said, "in reality it's been a pretty long 4 months for my roommates and I watching it all unfold."

The temptation to drop by Dairy Queen for a late-night snack is one that Clarke said she hopes to be able to keep under control, but an idea that Jordan wants to capitalize on.

"We're still experimenting with our hours of operation," Jordan said. "We're going to be open until 2 a.m on Thursday, Friday and Saturday and until midnight the rest of the week."

Jordan added that the walk-up window will allow the store to serve customers later in the night after the indoor dining section closes for the night.

In addition to serving food, becoming involved with both the local and campus community will be a priority for the pair of business partners.

"Soon we're going to start accepting the off-campus meal plan," Jordan said. "We want to make it easier for students to be able to afford eating here."

According to Jordan, Dairy Queen will be holding student-oriented events, and is looking to get involved with the school, someway or another.

Head manager of the new Dairy Queen location, Michelle Jordan, said the company is currently accepting applications for hire.

"We're looking for reliable, friendly, outgoing, self motivated employees to join our staff," she said.

Dairy Queen signed a 20-year lease with their new location, so Delaware students can look forward to enjoying late treats for years to come.

Comics, community and cosplay at Captain Blue Hen

ALEX STUBBOLO
Staff Reporter

Joe Murray bustled back and forth between helping customers, stocking comics on shelves and firing off perfectly timed sarcastic quips at his employees. Instead of a man at a job, Murray more so resembles a child who grew up to own a candy store.

Murray was a regular customer of Captain Blue Hen (CBH), a comic book store on Main Street, while he attended the university. He began working at the store in 1992, and after nine years, he bought the shop from Paul Stitik, who opened it in 1980. Since then, Murray has poured his heart into the store to make it into a hub of family, community and charity.

"Our motto is: we sell fun stuff to fun people," Murray said. "Pop culture is our culture, so let's have fun with it."

What sets Murray's Captain Blue Hen apart from other comic shops is the store's commitment to community involvement. The store regularly holds events to raise money or supplies for local charities. CBH is currently holding a toy drive to benefit children in A.I. DuPont Children's Hospital until Dec. 21.

"The bins are already full," Murray said. "We're probably going to have to make one or two drop offs before Christmas just to free up some space for more toys."

The shop also hosted a free showing of "A Christmas Story" at the Newark Cinema Center for the past 10 years. The event doubled as a canned food drive for the Newark Food Bank. However, since the Cinema's closing earlier this year, CBH wanted to host a new event to collect food donations. The small staff came to the consensus that a costume party was the way to go.

"We tried to figure out something fun, quirky and low effort," Murray said. "People are always looking for a reason to dress up in costumes. Hopefully people will bring canned foods and get whacky pictures too."

The idea ballooned into "Cans for Cosplay," a community event where costume play or "cosplay" enthusiasts can come dressed up as holiday versions of their favorite characters and children can get their pictures taken with their fictional heroes.

Jason Colatriano, a CBH employee, said another goal of this Saturday's event is for people to visit other stores in Newark.

"The Newark community supports one another," Colatriano said. "Hopefully people will come out to see us and spend the rest of the day exploring Main Street."

"Our motto is: we sell fun stuff to fun people," Murray said. "Pop culture is our culture, so let's have fun with it."

Colatriano says an opportunity to help the community and have fun while doing it is too good to pass up. Dave Williams, a loyal patron of the store in the 1980s and now an employee, said he feels similarly.

"We definitely want to give to the community, and any opportunity we have we're going to take," Williams said.

Murray is dedicated to keeping the fun in all of the store's charity events. At its recent "Back to the Future Day" event, fans celebrated their love of the series and raised over $400 for the Newark chapter of the Delaware KIDS fund. The shop also holds an annual food drive on National Free Comic Book Day in May when kids can come and meet artists and revel in "nerd culture."

"In the world we live in today—with all the nonsense going on—any chance we get to escape, to act like kids again should be celebrated," Murray said.

One Easton apartments expect to welcome residents next fall

LARRISA KUBITZ
Senior Reporter

Students looking for a place to live next fall can add a new apartment building to their list of options, as construction of One Easton continues on Main Street.

The building is located directly behind the Newark Shopping Center. Work on the large-scale project is expected to be complete by March, according to One Easton Community Assistant Michael Zerillo.

Residents, however, will not be able to move in until August of 2016, he said.

"We are actually a bit ahead of schedule," Zerillo said. "It's possible we could be finished as early as February."

The March completion date will mark the end of construction, and allow potential residents to begin touring the new building, Zerillo said. The leasing office will also be able to move to the new building at that point.

The building is to be comprised of 220 units at two bedrooms apiece, according to Zerillo. He explained One Easton is unique in that it offers only two-bedroom, two-bathroom units.

Residents can also look forward to an individual leasing system.

"You and your roommate have individual leases, so if your roommate isn't paying rent, you aren't penalized for it," Zerillo said.

So far, they have received a large amount of interest from students, he said.

"We've had a lot of people touring, thanks to all the marketing tactics, like the flyers and advertisements," Zerillo said. "We even handed out T-shirts at the football game."

One Easton has seen a lot of students touring and showing interest in its apartments, although they are not necessarily signing leases as of yet. Lease signing, Zerillo said, has just increased in the past month as a result of the holiday specials going on.

Among the other impressive benefits the new building offers, Zerillo highlighted the amenities available to residents, including an outdoor courtyard and a fitness center.

In addition, the apartments all come fully furnished, a feature which Zerillo hopes will give the One Easton a competitive edge when pitted against the other prominent apartment buildings located in Newark.

"Our biggest rival is The Retreat, but we have a great location and atmosphere overall," he said.

Ricky Nietubicz, part of the Planning and Development Department of the City of Newark, believes the addition of One Easton to the community is a step in the right direction.

"Residential development is very important to downtown revitalization, providing a customer base for successful businesses," he said.

Nietubicz explained that there is a strong demand for housing in Newark, both for students and other residents. He hopes that new job opportunities will continue to support the housing market.

Based on feedback from students so far, Zerillo said students are also noticing how conveniently-located the new building is.

Zerillo describes the living environment at One Easton as a "happy medium" between a dorm and an apartment. Students can choose to make it feel more like a dorm living arrangement, with community events taking place for residents to socialize. They also have the option to embrace apartment living and stay closed off from the community, he said.

Nietubicz believes One Easton will fit in just fine with the other housing options in Newark.

"Each apartment complex offers something a little different," he said. "As with any other market, each will have to find the right customer."

JOE SCHWAB/ THE REVIEW
Community Assistant Michael Zerillo said the new complex aims to compete with other housing options via amenities and individual lease signing.

EDITORIAL

We want more from the diversity action plan

In an effort to demonstrate a commitment to increasing diversity, the university's sent out a draft entitled the Inclusive Excellence Diversity Action Program two weeks ago. While it touches on many key points to changing the racial climate on campus, it fails to differentiate itself from previous calls to action.

The new plan is pure semantics; all it does is recycle the same discussion points and buzzwords that have been kicked around for a long time.

Each of the eight goals are general recommendations, divided up into three phases. The first phase, "Where are we?", aims to lay out the groundwork potential diversity action. The second is called "Implementation," which aims to work with the Chief Diversity Advocates as well as build on the Delaware Will Shine action plan. Lastly, from 2018-2020, the program will be assesses by an external evaluation team.

As stated in the plan, the university is calling for accountability on its diversity initiatives and striving for a more representative campus. If we want the administration to be held accountable in achieving diversity goals, we need a more clear direction. How will the university begin to represent not only people of color, but first-generation college students and low-income families?

Current statistics reveal that the state Delaware is 64 percent white and 22 percent black, while the university is 76 percent white and only 5 percent black. Knowing these numbers and reading through the lackluster diversity memo should call for more than just a list of talking points.

We need action.

Take the current series "Race in America" sponsored by the Center of Political Communication. Moderator Lindsay Hoffman set out to "engage in forward-thinking and respectful conversation about race in this country and on this campus."

With a goal that had a specific plan, the series of speakers did exactly what it intended on. This should clearly indicate that we can look past our diversity failures and bring hope and change for the future.

The Review understands that yes, this is only the foundation; the beginnings of a promising movement for a more diverse campus. However, we need more. The school needs to recognize its past failures and give us more specific goals for the percentage of future students and faculty that belong to underrepresented groups, among the long list of tangible goals needed.

Editorials are developed by The Review staff, led this week by copy editor Will Kebbe.

Why I pray for San Bernardino

JACK McMAHON
Guest Contributor

"God Isn't Fixing This," declared the New York Daily News. I understand the hurt and the anger these people must be feeling as more people lose their lives in meaningless violence. The creators of this message are justifiably angry, but directing their anger at those who pray for San Bernardino is just as senseless.

The argument is that prayers are simply vague platitudes which don't help a situation, and that those who pray aren't doing anything to combat the plague of gun violence, which kills 32,000 Americans a year. What these people neglect considering is that the United States is one of the most religiously-developed nations, and for most religious people, prayer is a very tangible action. In the eyes of people of faith, prayer is more than just words. Prayer propels the fulfillment of religion and propels people of faith to care about a broken world. It drives us to take action when we see injustice and brokenness in the world. I'm not saying prayer is necessary to be empathetic or passionate about a cause, but it helps motivate people of faith and turns their sympathy into action.

We live in a climate of political stagnation where gun control issues are a main contributing factor. If you truly feel that legislators' prayers are only stated to avoid doing actual work on gun laws, then calling them out on their hypocrisy is a good thing, but belittling faith won't contribute either. That general criticism silences religious members of society, and likely makes people less willing to compromise. Tearing down prayer as an acceptable response to tragedy takes away the method in which some people may be brought to the table in order to discuss this situation. We need more people willing to discuss and compromise. Allowing left-wing or right-wing views about religion to interfere with compromise is unacceptable.

This conversation is not an easy one, the solution is not straightforward and no changes are going to be universally accepted. In searching for reasonable, constitutional methods of prevention, all viewpoints have to be heard, considered and evaluated. That being said, proper legislative change is hard to identify. You can't make the already illegal use of guns more illegal. Knowing who is and isn't going to abuse the right to have a gun is impossible.

Then the question arises: how can we prevent someone with no criminal history and no history of mental illness from illegally obtaining weapons, without infringing on civil rights? I'm sure there are those who believe that since that man is of a certain religion often misconstrued as violent and terroristic, that he is wholly incapable of owning a gun. While the man and woman who committed these actions should not have had access to these weapons, the basic civil rights of their non-violent, non-terrorist co-religionists do not preclude them from gun ownership when they go through legal channels. There are definitely times when the situation feels hopeless, like there is nothing we can do.

Prayer, for some, is designed to help comprehend those feelings of helplessness in response to situations such as San Bernadino, or Sandy Hook, or Columbine, or Virginia Tech. We live on the other side of the country from San Bernardino. We are not able to offer immediate help or relief to the grieving of those affected.

One of the primary drivers of religious belief, at least in Christianity is the idea of a broken world, which does not exist how God intended. Angela Yu, a sophomore, articulated the idea in her own terms.

"If we look at the world in which we live, it's clear that brokenness surrounds us," she said. "As a result, events like San Bernardino occur. It doesn't mean that God isn't going to 'fix' the situation, or that He's distant, or doesn't care—but as a follower of Christ I believe in God's promise of using suffering to draw us closer to Him, and that one day we will see a day of no more pain."

For many people of faith, whether they be Christian, Jewish, Hindu or Muslim, there is no perfect answer to a broken legal system, or a broken world, that can be separated from their religious identity. Criticizing their belief systems doesn't change that. If anything, it perpetuates a culture of blame and of hatred. We have a right to be angry, but if you choose to blame anyone, blame the two people who decided to kill innocent civilians. Do not blame those who are processing grief; in their grief they use their prayers for San Bernardino to envision the better world which may come after it.

Jack McMahon is a guest contributor. He can be contacted at smahon@udel.edu.

Early childhood educator wages: An unappreciated workforce

DANA COPELAND
Guest Contributor

Every student has at least one teacher that has made an impact on his or her academic experience and possibly, overall life. Specifically, early childhood educators shape the way in which you learn for your continued educational experiences.

Did you realize that these early experiences shaped your development throughout life? As you transition into parenthood, you hope your children are impacted by their teachers just as you were. We hope that your educators were engaged, knowledgeable and positive. We are confident that every parent wants the best for their children today. However, teachers are underappreciated in our society and that lack of morale is affecting our children's education.

Early childhood educators are responsible for the development of each child's foundational social, emotional, physical, cognitive and language skills. Why does our country still look at early childhood teachers as babysitters rather than qualified professionals? The problem is that the education wage system is set so that all teachers earn an equal amount regardless of time spent in the profession or additional certifications and degrees. Simply put, the pay is too small for what is expected of them. If we believe that our children are the future of science, technology, art, mathematics and literature, then we need to support and motivate the teachers that begin their path.

Everyone wants our nation's children to be healthy and successful with opportunities to achieve from infancy into adulthood. If we want the best for our children, we need to look into the quality of their teachers and the incentives given to motivate their work. According to a new report released by the Economic Policy Institute in early November, early child care workers' median hourly wage is $10.31, which is 39.3 percent lower than the median hourly wage of workers in other occupations. The report states that only 15 percent of childcare workers receive health insurance from their jobs, and only 9.6 percent are covered by a pension plan from their job, both statistics drastically lower than workers in other occupations.

In an article written in 2003, preschool teachers made an average annual salary of $21,332, which is less than half of the salary than that of a kindergarten teacher. Even more shocking, that average salary is less than the salary of janitors, secretaries and other jobs requiring only a high school diploma. Do you believe that an educator who is responsible for molding the minds of the future, should be valued less than a janitor?

A study on early childhood educators looked at whether teachers experienced an increase in wages and benefits after obtaining higher degrees. It also noted if an increase in pay and benefits maximized job satisfaction and a teacher's intent to remain in the profession. The results showed "teachers and providers felt they did not receive recognition as a professional." Although many participants felt that their job is meaningful and important, "external rewards and recognition of their professional roles and responsibilities was missing." Most importantly, higher compensation was not provided. Due to these results, "many teachers said that low wages were a reason to consider finding other work." It is important to note that requiring or even encouraging early childhood educators to obtain proper training and qualifications is not addressing the issue of low wages. As a society we should strive to have highly-educated teachers caring for our youngest children, but the fact that they are some of lowest paid professionals are driving them away.

To make a change, here's what can be done: policy makers can educate themselves and others on the issue and advocate for policies that support higher benefits and compensations for educators. There is a lot of research being done on the topic and policy makers need to stay aware of the current findings and use it to effectively advocate.

Teachers can educate themselves on their own qualifications and experiences to ensure that they are receiving a comparable wage to that of other professionals in the workforce. Teachers should be in communication with other teachers and their administration to understand more about their salary to voice their concerns. Teaching candidates: when you are considering a job offer, make yourself aware of the school's benefits, pension plans and salary.

Remind yourselves of your own qualifications after earning this degree and how important that knowledge is when shaping the minds of your future students.

Dana Copeland is a guest contributor. She can be contacted at danacope@udel.edu.

Sports Correction: Last issue it was mentioned that the Georgia Bulldogs won the Thanksgiving Classic over Cal State Northridge. While the Bulldogs did win their Thanksgiving Classic, it was not the same classic Delaware was involved with.

AUTHOR MAUREEN JOHNSON DOESN'T BELIEVE IN GHOSTS,

AND OTHER THINGS WE LEARNED FROM TALKING TO THE ALUM

COURTESY OF KATE TESTERMAN
Author Maureen Johnson (right) and her literary agent Kate Testerman (left) have been friends since they met at the university.

LISA RYAN
Managing Mosaic Editor

Author Maureen Johnson describes herself as "a stumbler", stumbling into new opportunities, like writing young adult (YA) fiction. While she may profess to stumbling into things, she seems to always end up just where she needs to be.

A graduate of the class of 1995, Johnson majored in English at the university before going on to work in theater and write novels like The Blue Envelope series ("Thirteen Little Blue Envelopes" and "The Last Little Blue Envelope").

"Delaware really is where a lot of my really fond memories are from," she says. "Every single day was exciting."

A member of both the E-52 and Harrington Theater Arts Company (HTAC) theater groups, some of Johnson's favorite places on campus included Bacchus Theater and Wolf Hall, where shows were once held.

She also remembers the beauty of the campus in springtime, and the way she and her friends would joke about the brick walkways, which seemed to be under constant construction.

"We used to say that every time the university got a dollar, they spent it on a brick," she says.

The Scrounge was the best place to meet up with friends, Johnson says. Her friendship with her current literary agent, Kate Testerman of KT Literary, began there.

Although Johnson and Testerman knew one another through student theater, their friendship really formed toward the end of their time at the university.

When they realized they both wanted to participate in the BUNAC program, in which Americans could obtain permits to work in the United Kingdom temporarily, they decided to go together after graduation.

In England, they shared one room in a larger flat, with other boarders in other rooms. Not only did they need a key to get into the apartment, but also a key to get into the bedroom. Rather than using the clunky, ornate old keys, Testerman says she and Johnson often climbed into the apartment through the window— it is one of her favorite memories.

Testerman, who also graduated in 1995 with degrees in English and history, says her friendship with Johnson "adds a fun depth" to their work together.

"When a situation pops up that there's some history to, we can say, 'Hey, this is like XYZ something when we were working on a theater production doing E-52,' or 'This is like when we traveled together in England,'" she says. "It's a shorthand. I mean, having 23 years of friendship to draw on gives us a better relationship as business partners."

It was Testerman who encouraged Johnson to write YA fiction, while the pair was once again living together, this time in New York City.

"... I was like, 'Well, that's a dumb idea, I would be terrible at that, because I went to high school in a Catholic convent and I was never allowed to do anything, and most of my teenage years I spent trying to dig an escape tunnel in the backyard,'" Johnson says. "'What would I even write about?'"

She wrote a few chapters of a YA novel to prove to Testerman that she couldn't write YA. Instead, she earned a book deal.

She wrote a few chapters of a YA novel to prove to Testerman that she couldn't write YA. Instead, she earned a book deal.

Inspiration comes to Johnson, in some cases, from real life: from her Catholic-convent high school, or from the mouths of British tour guides.

While researching a different project in England, Johnson took a historical tour of Parliament. As someone who does not believe in ghosts, she found herself annoyed when the tour guide kept proclaiming various historical sights "haunted."

From this annoyance, the "Shades of London" series about a secret, anti-ghost police force was born.

"I just had this idea that I wanted to write something that was about an American—because it's fun to write about Americans that comes over (to England)—and experiences a ghost that could do a lot more," Johnson says. "So it was largely written in response to me being incredibly irritated by the fact that these ghosts were being included on a historical tour, and that they were so bad at being ghosts. If the most a ghost can do is knock your pen off the table, that is unfortunate."

After being ill last year, Johnson says she is now writing multiple books. She will announce a new, forthcoming series of books in the New Year, and there will be new additions to both the "Shades of London" and "Scarlett" series.

Although Johnson has been writing throughout her life, her passion for theater led her to enroll in a theater MFA program at Columbia University, in order to network and gain the skills needed to work in theater. During this time, she also studied writing.

According to Johnson's website, her later work as a dramaturge inspired the "Scarlett" series, about a young woman and her theatrical family.

Johnson's advice to those who want to be authors? Never be discouraged by the word "no."

"My advice is—it's similar to advice that a lot of people give, but it's true," Johnson says, "Do not be in any way confused or dismayed by a lack of success."

Your writing will not be great when you first start out, but like anything else, it improves with time, experience and study, she says. As a writer, she says she is always trying to learn and improve.

"Writing is all I do, it's just what I am," she says. "I think that a lot of us have a thing that, you might not find it right away, but that thing like 'This is what I do.' I've always done this, from the time I was small, so my answer is 'I have no other skills, this is me.' This is all I've ever done. I don't know why it's what I do, I just know it's what I've always done."

STUDENT ACTIVIST
Harry Lewis, vice president of MAN, describes his drive and motivations.
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LEAH'S FAREWELL
Assistant Mosaic Editor and frequent contributor reflects on her time at The Review.
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BEST OF A BAD SEASON
Matt Butler looks back on the highs, lows and soul-crushing moments of the football season.
/ PAGE 15

STANDING UP:

THE UNYIELDING DRIVE OF HARRY LEWIS

MATT MOORE
Senior Reporter

KIRK SMITH/THE REVIEW
From challenging unhealthy perceptions of masculinity with the Men's Action Network (MAN) to starting new registered student organizations, Harry Lewis strives to make changes.

Sitting atop the steps of Old College and looking onto the seamless symmetry of the red brick and parallel trees lining the walkway, Harry Lewis adjusts the thick rims of his glasses and sighs.

"It feels like there is an image of what a man at UD is supposed to be like," he says, eyeing the passing bodies on campus, walking briskly in and out of buildings. "He's the guy with the tank top and tight pants, holding a beer in one hand and girl in the other. And it's not that people who embody that image are bad people—that just shouldn't be the expectation. Just because you don't fit into a certain image doesn't make you any less of a man, or any less of a Blue Hen or any less of a person."

Throughout the past year, Lewis has become a prominent student activist on and off campus. When he is not online, tweeting to his 2,100 followers, he can be found on campus, buried in a textbook, talking with faculty and other students about social injustices or taking part in a protest.

A sophomore political science, art history and women and gender studies major minoring in Spanish and Black American studies, Lewis also invests a large portion of time in his role as vice president of the Men's Action Network (MAN)—a student organization focused on defining and promoting healthy masculinity.

"We want to educate, engage and empower men to understand that there are expectations that society has for them of who they're supposed to be as men that aren't healthy," he says. "It's this idea of embracing the entirety of yourself rather than trying to suppress certain traits or behaviors because they don't fit in a stereotype."

With MAN, Lewis has spoken at several forums as well as to different fraternities, presenting programs such as "Men Can Stop Rape." In April, he will present an essay he wrote at the American Men's Studies Association's 24th Annual Interdisciplinary Conference at the University of Michigan.

"Looking at the culture we have as men, there is a lot of pressure to look a certain way, to act a certain way, to have a certain skin color, honestly, and to have a certain sexuality and certain prowess that comes along with that sexuality," he says.

Lewis says these expectations are prevalent in specific settings, such as college campuses and the LGBTQQIA community.

"There is a lot of femmephobia within the gay community," he says. "A lot of times, people assume that just because we're in a community that all of those prejudices and stereotypes get erased, but they really permeate deeply within individuals."

At 19 years old, Lewis speaks with a type of urgency and pace that is striking, making each subject he centers on feel weighted—like something that must absolutely be said and heard. Even in the briefest conversation, Lewis appears to be advocating for someone or something.

Born and raised in Moorestown, N.J., Lewis cites his family as a factor that has contributed to his identity, naming his grandfather, mother and sister as prominent influences.

One of Lewis' most vivid memories from his childhood happened when he was 8 years old and his mother brought home Britney Spears' Greatest Hits album.

"I remember being in my Boy Scout uniform, dancing to 'Toxic' and being like, 'I can't ever do this again, this isn't okay,'" he says with a laugh.

Six years later, he started high school, became an Eagle Scout—the highest rank in the Boy Scouting program—and asserted his sexual orientation.

"I came out a week before I got my Eagle," he says, smiling.

Within his first month on campus, sexual harassment allegations against Professor Tranby were published in The Review, prompting a protest held on the steps of Memorial Hall, with students calling for transparency in the university's handling of sexual assault.

Lewis regards attending the protest that day as a formative moment in his development as a student activist.

"Just being a part of that, I felt the immense power of being in a group like that—sharing personal stories and being engaged in something bigger than myself," he says.

In addition to his involvement with MAN, Lewis says he is now working with various levels of campus administration on starting four new registered student organizations. Lewis said each group is designed to address specific groups within the LGBT community, including minorities, allies and peer educators.

It is his conscious awareness of himself in relation to others that Lewis says has become a vital part of who he is today, and self reflection is something everyone should embrace.

"Ultimately, that's what I think it's really about—it's about how do we as people validate each other and make each other feel like we're actually a part of a community," he says. "No one is saying that being self-reflective and checking your bias is easy—if it was then everyone would be doing it. But, it's necessary to be a compassionate, empathetic human being."

Looking over the sprawling campus, Lewis looks forward and nods.

"For whatever reason, I think I have this notion that there is something bigger than just me. To acknowledge that and to be a part of that is what it means to be a person."

I DID IT—I WAS IN A MOVIE

ALEXA GAHAN
Staff Reporter

I woke up much earlier than any other day and was ready to go by 6 a.m. I was a ball of nerves.

I was about to be in a movie.

I had attended an open casting call one month prior looking for 18- to 24-year-olds to play high school students in a feature film called "Central Intelligence." I went mostly out of my own curiosity, partially because I could use the extra money.

After learning I'd been cast and going to a costume fitting, all I had to do was take a coach bus to set at 7:30 a.m.

There were four big tents set up on the baseball field opposite the school. The other extras and I were told to form a line and say goodbye to our cell phones. A girl with long auburn hair sat next to me and asked if she could borrow my pen.

"I'm Nicky Fox by the way," she said. "Nicky with a 'Y' and not N-I-K-K-I because my parents thought that looked like a stripper name."

After introducing myself, we realized we were both placed in the Blue Group—each of the nearly 400 extras had been assigned a color—and breathed a sigh of relief.

We quickly became friends and dressed in boho '90s costumes that went with the scene's 1996 setting.

After wardrobe, Nicky and I headed to the craft services tent for an unlimited food buffet. I had thought it was mythical, but this proved me wrong.

After grabbing one of everything, we attempted to find seats. It felt like an exercise, as I truly felt like an outcast high schooler with no one to sit with in the cafeteria.

Nicky then spotted a couple of guys she had met at the open call, and just like that, we were a clique. Josh wore a black and white tribal print shirt and Sean wore bright colors. With no cell phones and an ample amount of scrunchies, I thought this may be the closest I would ever come to 1996.

The head production assistant greeted us: "Welcome to Central Intelligence."

We would be shooting a pep rally scene that would open the movie. Kevin Hart's character will give a speech, do a backflip and then Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson's character will slide out on the floor, completely naked. We will laugh at him until he runs out the door. End scene.

We were told never to speak to the actors unless spoken to first.

In the gym, Nicky and I sat together in the front row. I noticed a commotion at the end of the gym and then a strange hush fell over our fake high school class. Kevin Hart had just walked in.

The crowd broke into cheer and Kevin waved hello to everyone before sitting in a director's chair off to the side.

As everyone around me began to rehearse, I realized how out of my element I was. I was acting as an actress, which apparently only works until you actually have to act.

The director, Rawson Marshall Thurber, came over, introduced himself and set up the first shot. We proceeded to shoot for the next five hours. We laughed until our stomachs hurt and cheered until our faces felt frozen. We shot for an hour in silence, only pantomiming the entire scene. I was exhausted, but I tried my best to hide it.

After lunch, they told us they were shooting a quick private scene in the gym. I don't know if it was the exhaustion or my newfound actress ego, but I decided to sneak onto set. The head production assistant spotted me and said I could watch, but only if I was quiet.

I poked my head through the door and just at that moment, they turned on a gigantic wind fan. My hair flew up, blowing my cover. The director saw me. I was caught. The production assistant's walkie talkie buzzed and he told me to leave.

The rest of the day went around in circles. We would shoot an angle, take a break, shoot an angle, take a break. Just when I began to nod off—yes, I fell asleep during a major movie production—the production assistant said, "Look alive, honey, you're the star of this shot!"

I noticed the crane-mounted camera behind him and tried to wake myself up. I think I forgot over the course of the day that I was actually going to be seen on the big screen.

At 11:30 a.m., we wrapped the day. I would return at 8:30 a.m. the following day.

The second time around, I had the getting ready process down pat. I was topping my waffle with cherries in the craft service tent by 9:30 a.m.

We shot Kevin Hart's backflip in the gym, and one by one, Rawson Thurber announced a wrap on each actor in the scene. We weren't told prior that although this was the first scene of the movie, we would be wrapping the entire shoot. Kevin Hart grabbed a microphone and gave a speech thanking the cast and crew for all of their hard work.

"And that's a wrap on Kevin Hart," Rawson said through a megaphone.

With that, Kevin asked us if we wanted to be on his Instagram. We did, of course, and all piled into the shot.

We took a few more takes before we were wrapped. Nicky and I looked at each other, noting the bittersweet feeling in the air. I couldn't believe it was all over.

As the bus pulled away from set, it felt strange to leave behind my pretend high school, my pretend class and my pretend high school best friend. Nicky and I hugged each other goodbye with promises to keep in touch. Even though I had just worked 40 out of the past 48 hours, I already wanted to do it all over again.

unfiltered commentary

The back of the line

"All Jews should go to the back of the line," she said.

My ears perked up. I am Jewish.

The Grotto's line, she meant. The back of this college bar line located inside a mini-shopping mall that probably holds no significance on any large scale level as an exciting bar; but suddenly this bar stuffed next to a bookstore and make-your-own-salad place in the middle of Newark, Del. became this—Jews to the back of the line.

This was the first firsthand anti-Semitism I had really experienced in an adult setting, with someone who knew what they were saying, and how they were saying it.

"All Jews should go to the back of the line."

She went on to her friend about the girl in the Hanukkah sweater in front of her. The back-of-the-line insister was dressed head to toe in Christmas decorations and an elf hat. My friends and I were too, even though we were somehow less than her in this overheard conversation—we felt.

Young minds are not taught hate, I thought, as this girl stood in front of me with the same number of years on Earth and the same holiday cheer as me.

It felt necessary to say something. Not as a lesson—but child to child—I wondered why do you try to hate me, try to reprimand me, try to categorize me and understand my personality based on my religion—all without knowing me?

Calmly, my roommate interrupted, "You should be careful of what you're saying, you're in a mixed crowd."

Calm and collected, I wonder how wars start. I wonder how people who had childhoods—who had opinions and values decided to take up hobbies of hate in a world full of so many opportunities and instances of love. I wonder how so many people turn themselves dark even as morning and morning again light pours in through cracks in the shade. And I wondered how this college sports bar in Newark, Del. could suddenly hold such hatred after showing me such love throughout weekends full of tossed hugs and mixed drinks.

I wonder how the girl, instead of apologizing, fired back, "You shouldn't get involved in a conversation you know nothing about." And then, "I'm friends with someone who's Jewish."

After realizing that she was a humanitarian, I calmly reminded her: "We're in America... in the 21st century. You should just be conscious of what you are saying."

Offense was taken on both sides. Her rude rebuttal offended me, and she was offended that I tried to undermine her freedom of speech, which made me feel less free.

And I wondered about my freedom, and even her freedom.

"I'm not even from America. I know," she horribly attempted and failed to defend herself. "You must be Jewish since you're offended by this."

Yes, but that's not why I took offense.

The line moved, she got inside and we caught glimpses of her death glaring us, Jews, throughout our night of tossed hugs and mixed drinks.

Sometimes it's uncomfortable to remember that people don't share your liberal worldviews and that theirs might be some of hate. It's comfortable to remember that discrimination has no pointer finger at YOU specifically but at YOUR culture, YOUR category—at YOU indirectly but so directly that YOU feel threatened by the world around you.

Last night it was uncomfortable to realize that this girl was ready to take her fist to my face because we decided to remind her to choose love instead of instant hate for just a moment somewhere in between a bookstore and a make-your-own-salad place.

Last night it was uncomfortable to realize that violence is sometimes people's first line of defense.

Last night I did not go to the back of the line. Last night I stood up for something bigger than myself—I stood up for all of the YOUs that should never have been you, you and you.

Last night, like all nights, I chose love.

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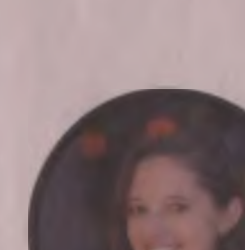
vinyl spin

Best Albums of 2015

With the end of 2015 approaching, there comes the inevitable listing of bests. As with all biased compilations of this nature, there are vocal dissenters who vehemently disagree with what's on it, so feel free to tell me my choices are an offense to good taste, or as my parents would insist, to "turn down the noise."

In no particular order, here are my top 10:

1. "Currents" by Tame Impala



The psychedelic rock darlings from Perth, Western Australia habitually garner acclaim for the pairing of their hazed-out melodies with singer Kevin Parker's darkly introspective lyricism. While past albums "InnerSpeaker" (2010) and "Lonerism" (2012) exist firmly in conversation with psychedelic rock pioneers of the mid 1960s, "Currents" marks a departure for stronger synthpop structures and elements of R&B. In doing so, Parker draws listeners into a densely layered soundscape. Song highlights: "Let it Happen," "The Less I Know the Better"

2. "b'lieve i'm goin down..." by Kurt Vile

"Pretty Pimpin," the first track from Kurt Vile's latest album, trails dust behind it. By the second track, Vile declares himself an outlaw—one that embodies all the glory of every Neil Young song recorded. He continues to explore the boundaries of folk-rock, incorporating all of the new-wave and indie rock sounds acquired from his time spent with The War on Drugs. Song highlights: "Pretty Pimpin," "Stand Inside"

3. "Run the Jewels 2" by Run the Jewels

Including this album on a "Best of 2015" list is cheating. I would be sitting on a throne of lies if I told you it came out this year, so I'll say, with a clear conscience, that it was released Oct. 24, 2014. I'm putting it here anyway because the reverberations following its release have certainly lasted to the present. After awkwardly meeting Killer Mike and El-P (both of whom are lovely gentlemen) at the Firefly Music Festival this summer, I delved into the harsh, politically fueled realm of this album and the one preceding it. One can arguably learn more about language from these songs than they can from any text. Song highlights: "Close Your Eyes," "Lie, Cheat, Steal" (For time well spent, please explore the glory of "Meow the Jewels.")

4. "Pageant Material" by Kacey Musgraves

Hailing from the bustling metropolis of Golden, Texas (pop. < 300), Kacey Musgraves has appeared on this column in the past. She's gained recognition beyond the world of country music for songs that simultaneously challenge and embrace the communities in which the genre thrives. Her vocals consistently deliver clean and perfectly executed melodies so that her albums are always refreshing to hear. Song highlights: "Dime Store Cowgirl," "Fine"

5. "Are You Alone?" by Majical Cloudz

Devon Welsh and Matthew Otto produce lullabies of heartbreak and isolation. As the title of the album might imply, the songs of "Are You Alone?" continue to explore the sorrowful themes that Majical Cloudz have come to master. Song highlights: "Control," "Downtown"

6. "Another One" by Mac DeMarco

The fluid, relatively upbeat haze of the opening track "The Way You'd Love Her" deceives the listener into thinking the album will contain the same strange humor that Mac DeMarco's music has in the past. Released at the tail end of summer, "Another One" embodies all the hopelessness and loss of a seasonal romance that's reached its end. Song highlights: "No Other Heart," "Without Me"

7. "Short Movie" by Laura Marling

At the tender age of 25, Laura Marling has crafted five perfect albums. Unparalleled as a lyricist, her songs have progressed from the candor of "Alas, I Cannot Swim" to the guarded complexity of "Once I Was An Eagle." Released in March, "Short Movie" is the first album Marling has written on the electric guitar (her father's Gibson 335 to be exact), which remains consistent with her progression into a larger acoustic sound on her previous album. Lyrically, "Short Movie" consists of personal reflection that's generally uncommon, but as a whole, this album is a stepping stone to something bigger. Song highlights: "False Hope," "Short Movie"

8. "The Epic" by Kamasi Washington

Jazz saxophonist Kamasi Washington gained recognition for his contribution to Kendrick Lamar's "To Pimp a Butterfly." Of course, only a sound knowledge of music theory could produce a passable analysis of this album, so all I can tell you is that it was a joy to listen to. Song highlights: "Change of the Guard," "Clair de Lune"

9. "I Love You, Honeybear" by Father John Misty

Since his departure from Fleet Foxes, Father John Misty has taken the indie rock world (and the world of awesome beards) by storm. "I Love You, Honeybear" explores life and love in a wickedly humorous way, but some tracks are pointedly dark just beneath the surface. Song highlights: "Chateau Lobby #4," "The Night Josh Tillman Came to Our Apt"

10. "How Big, How Blue, How Beautiful" by Florence and the Machine

Florence Welch's Ophelia-esque persona reaches new heights with "How Big, How Blue, How Beautiful." Her vocal range continues to astonish, and with the large, dramatic scope of what's essentially a breakup album, she thrives on powerful sound. Song highlights: "What Kind of Man," "Mother"

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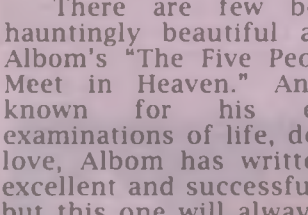


literary lens

"The Five People You Meet in Heaven"

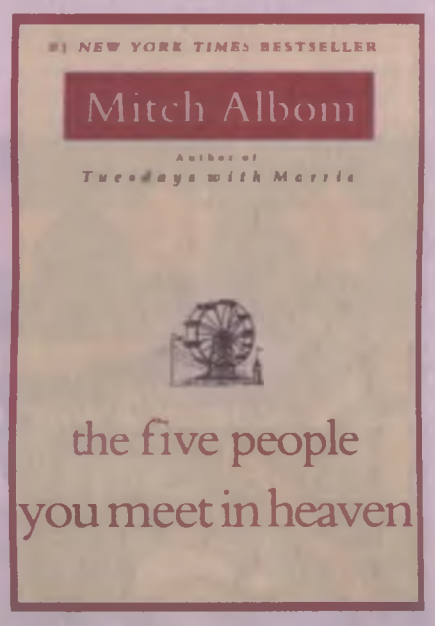
There are few books as hauntingly beautiful as Mitch Albom's "The Five People You Meet in Heaven." An author known for his exquisite examinations of life, death and love, Albom has written many excellent and successful novels, but this one will always hold a special place in my heart.

I picked the book up from the library years ago, and as I opened the cover and began to read, I honestly wasn't expecting much. Knowing only that it was a book about some old man and his afterlife, the concept failed to intrigue me. However, as I began to read, more out of boredom than interest, I was quickly wrapped up in the novel. This book became one of my all-time favorite stories, and I believe that anyone who gives it a chance can feel that connection due to Albom's extraordinary story, creative characters and touching prose.

The novel begins with the main character, Eddie, a crippled veteran who works in an amusement park. On his 83rd birthday, Eddie tries to save a little girl when a ride malfunctions, but at the cost of his own life. The subsequent story follows Eddie as he goes to heaven and meets five people, all chosen to show him new things about the life he lived and to teach him lessons about his past actions.

The book transcends time as it shows the connections between Eddie's life—people he thought he knew—and complete strangers. Whether you believe in an afterlife or not, I think that most people's concept of heaven is that you spend the rest of eternity with loved ones from your time on Earth. Albom takes this in an entirely new direction by introducing Eddie to five people, most of whom he didn't even know, but who played instrumental roles in his life as he did in theirs—for better or for worse. Albom makes his point very clear: "It is because the human spirit knows, deep down, that all lives intersect. That death doesn't just take someone, it misses someone else, and in the small distance between being taken and being missed, lives are changed."

Essentially, Albom's novel provides ideas about a common question—if there is an afterlife, with whom do we spend it? By showing readers the chain of people who Eddie affected unintentionally, Albom gives us the answer to a much more relevant question—what happens after death does not matter as much as our actions during our lives. Eddie finds this out the hard way, when he witnesses after the fact how insignificant actions in his life had the power to irrevocably disrupt the lives of others around him.



COURTESY OFHACHETTEBOOK-GROUP.COM

No matter what your beliefs, this novel has a strong unifying factor that makes it appealing across genders, ages and other defining factors. While it is a story of sadness and loss, it is also a story with an air of positivity, and it shows the interwoven elements of humanity. The heartbreaking and graceful messages of this story are paired with Albom's elegant prose. The story's metaphors and bits of advice could almost border on cheesy if offered by a less talented author. It is truly a special novel.

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WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU'RE (PRETENDING TO BE) EXPECTING

MADISON GOEBEL
Senior Reporter

As I stood in my room looking at myself in the mirror, I rubbed my midriff and thought about how surprisingly cute I felt wearing the giant fake pregnancy belly I had strapped under my sweatshirt with my matching baseball hat. When I walked out of my dorm to class and almost immediately into the first judging set of eyes on the sidewalk—my mood shifted entirely and with it my hand—to my phone—to call mom.

I know you weren't expecting that, but apparently I was. Expecting, that is.

Let me explain.

For a class writing assignment, my journalism professor encouraged us to delve into a "We Tried It" piece. The idea was to do something out of your ordinary routine that felt a little uncomfortable. As my classmates pledged to put away their cell phones or try the Paleo diet for a week, I was silently simmering on something a little bit bigger. Like eight months bigger.

I called my local Planned Parenthood and told the giggly secretary about my project over the phone. I asked if they had an "empathy belly" I could borrow. She said they did, and the next day I went in to pick up what really was a dismally tan stuffable vest from the 1980s. It velcroed in the back and had an alarmingly triangular set of padded fake boobs which I had to remove to even kind of make the contraption seem believable under my hoodie.

I wore the belly for three days to places around campus where I thought I would be seen by the most freshmen: The Green, Pencader Dining Hall and North Campus. I shifted my typically quick, purposeful pace to a slow, painful waddle to stretch out the amount of time I was seen outside.

Not everyone stared at me, but at least nine out of 10 passersby looked up, saw my bloated bump and looked away immediately. Some went as far as to shift their gaze to my ring-less left hand before turning to find something very interesting to look at wayyyy over there.

A girl I went to high school with avoided making eye contact with me as she walked right past me on the very narrow sidewalk, and a guy I know from middle school pointed at me from the passenger seat of a car while I crossed the street.

When I was stopped waiting for the light to change by the Trabant Student Center, two girls walked up behind me. When they got about a foot away, I saw one give her friend a nudge with her elbow and nod in my direction. Their brief, oblivious snickers prompted my hand to go instinctively to my stomach, as if the imaginary human I was growing was going to be offended. Then I realized how incredibly alone this must make women my age feel.

Or does it? Was I being paranoid? Those girls could have been laughing at anything.

Was I just conditioned to feel this way because of what I knew from personal closeness to this situation?

I am the result of an unplanned pregnancy. My parents were young bartenders just out of college, and they were not married or even engaged when I came along. I lucked out. I've had an incredible life full of opportunities, but that all started after my mom went through nine months of intense social isolation. Her crime: getting knocked up without a rock on her left hand in the '90s surrounded by a predominantly Catholic community.

As I experienced my mini round of public indecency, I thought about how ready I was to take the belly off for the night so I could go for a run without getting the evil eye.

My mom never had that option. She told me on the phone that she was proud of me for wanting to do this assignment, but that it was a little unsettling. She felt ashamed and embarrassed when she was pregnant with me, and related to my discomfort when I told her I was being stared at.

"I was wearing a big red 'A' on my chest," she said.

Clearly, having an unplanned pregnancy is not ideal, but being pregnant is arguably one of the most incredible times in a woman's life. Any mom will tell you that her role as a mother is her most important one. When a financially stable 30-year-old with a husband gets pregnant, everyone is elated. When a young, unmarried student gets pregnant, campus goes crazy.

Both will become mothers, stay up late with their children when they're sick and work hard to give them the best lives they can. The student will likely be more stressed out by the financial uncertainty of her child's future, so why do social pressures have to add to that woman's experience of being pregnant?

In my room, I daydreamed about a shower, maternity clothes to show off my belly and bringing my child to kindergarten someday.

MADISON GOEBEL/THE REVIEW
For three days, Madison wore an "empathy belly" as part of an assignment for a journalism class.

As I walked around campus, I felt like those experiences would be different for me than if I was older and married.

They were certainly different for my mom who remembers being embarrassed to go to her own baby shower, and uncomfortable showing off her physical developments as a pregnant woman.

In line for food at the dining hall, as I was trying to avoid looks that said, "I'm so glad I'm not her" from practically every female in the room, my friend Antonina accidentally elbowed me in stomach.

"S—! I'm sorry!" she said.

Her hand flew to the belly-shaped T-shirts I had stuffed into the empathy vest. We looked at each other and laughed. Of course she knew I wasn't really pregnant.

When I looked up, the face of the older lady behind the counter read horror. She clutched the large mashed potato serving spoon like a club with wide eyes.

A lot may have changed since my mom's experience in the '90s, but elbowing your unborn child is probably still pushing it.

I grabbed my not-so Paleo food and sat down to eat (for two) in silence, reflecting on how having moms, being a mom and becoming a mom could quite possibly be the scariest parts of the human experience.

Maybe I should have just done the diet.

KNOW YOUR BARTENDER:

STONE BALLOON

ABBIE SARFO
Managing Mosaic Editor

Aaron Smith's middle name is Quinn. He was named after a Bob Dylan song—"Quinn the Eskimo (Mighty Quinn)." He thinks that's pretty cool.

When not sharing fun facts about himself, Smith is bartending at the Stone Balloon, where he has worked for a year and a half. He first entered the service industry as a barback and fell in love with the unique energy behind the bar.

Though college kids are notoriously bad tippers, Smith still enjoys serving them. He says it's all about how you treat them. (But the bigger the crowd, the rowdier they get, he says).

"I like college kids," Smith says. "They're just a lot of fun, they like to joke around, they're here to have a good time and enjoy themselves. That's what everyone wants to do anyway. It's just fun to be a part of that atmosphere."

Apart from drunk kids, the Stone Balloon's clientele is pretty low-key. Not too many crazies pop up, though Smith recalls one memorable customer:

"There was this one guy just listening to music by himself, just getting really drunk and banging on the bar. It's not that type of place, ya know?"

ABBIE SARFO/THE REVIEW

Aaron Smith, from Landenberg, Pa. bartends at the Stone Balloon. He enjoys the fun atmosphere of working in a college town, and the energy of the bar itself.

A MOSAIC EDITOR'S FAREWELL

LEAH RODRIGUEZ
Assistant Mosaic Editor

Dear readers:

A typical Sunday at The Review office consists of the following:

1. Making desperate attempts to finish an article that was due several hours beforehand, where you proceed to promise people pure genius. Often, the finished product is not pure genius.

2. Mad rushes to Dunkin' because the evil men within don't open it until 2 p.m.

3. Cursing the grammar gods because you can't remember finer details of correct punctuation and AP Style, which usually results in a slew of profane language.

4. More profane language. It's a newsroom.

5. Realizing during the budget meeting that you're guilty of all the things on the Dukabi list.

6. Thinking about pitching stories on fish migration because you're out of ideas. (There were worse, but some low points are left unspoken.)

7. A hankering for Mexican food.

8. Discussions of "Mad Men," the merit of Michael Jackson's "Thriller," silver foxes, writing, unemployment and sleep.

9. Sitting around a table caked with crumbs, coffee spillage and the detritus from newspapers past because we're slobs.

10. Laughter. Because we think we're funny.

Time well spent.

About a month or so ago, Abbie Sarfo and I had a more in depth discussion about writing—one that wasn't fraught with the mania of Sundays.

One of us brought up how difficult it is to sit down and write, a process that's often more painful than it should be.

There is a fear that everything worth writing has already been written by those with the capacity to do it better. The writers that brought us to journalism—Hunter Thompson, Joan Didion, Tom Wolfe—remain untouchable. We lamented that, as much as we try, we cannot command language and convey thought the way they have.

Depressing ruminations aside, nothing pulls you out of that fear like writing for a newspaper. You get over it, and do what you must to put out a story. If the writing is poor, people will see it and comment on it—harshness breeds thick skin.

Still, the feeling of having written remains invigorating. All the thoughts of inadequacy are still there, but we can say, with some confidence, that we have produced a story worth reading.

During my time at The Review, I've seen staffers tackle sexual assault and misconduct on campus, the university's lack of diversity, protests, Harker's departure, Assanis' entrance and a series of other occurrences that they've covered with acuity and great care.

I've also seen Matt Butler boldly defend us from Katie Pavlich's unsolicited diatribes, an event that, in retrospect, I would have hated to miss.

As a Mosaic staffer, I've seen the section's creativity grow tremendously. Of course, some weeks are better than others, but Lisa, Abbie, Alex, Kayla and the incomparable Matt Moore have honed it into a force to be reckoned with—something no longer overlooked.

It's been a good run here in this office above Perkins. I've seen that the paper's strength these past few semesters will carry it forward.

In parting, no one but Thompson could have said it better: "Walk tall, kick ass, learn to speak Arabic, love music and never forget you come from a long line of truth seekers, lovers and warriors."

The views reflected in this column do not necessarily represent those of The Review.

REEL CRITICISM

"The Night Before"

SAM RICHTER
Film Columnist

4 out of 5 stars

'Tis the time of year for lackluster Christmas feel good comedies. This is when comedies following multi-generational casts as they get into all manner of holiday hi-jinks find their place, and families flock to theaters with one another. Such films span everything from "Christmas with the Kranks" to the most recent "Love the Coopers."

Indeed for every "Christmas Story" or "Home Alone," there seem to be 10 mediocre money-machines. It is with this in mind that your correspondent went into the holiday-themed "The Night Before" with some reservations.

Yet this film does not follow the usual Christmas formula.

"The Night Before," instead, is a stoner comedy gone rogue into the realm of holiday cheer. It moves with rapid pace from one joke to the next. The outcome is almost always sheer hilarity.

Indeed, the story is much more like "Harold and Kumar" than "A Christmas Carol."

Our harrowed protagonist Ethan (Joseph Gordon-Levitt) experienced having his parents both die in a tragic car crash on Christmas eve while he was in high school some 15 years ago. His friends, Isaac (Seth Rogen) and Chris (Anthony Mackie), comforted him in the aftermath with friendship, as well as a booze and pot-fueled night that went from the Rockefeller Center, Chinese restaurants and the piano from "Big."

Every year since, they have done the same. After all, in the wake of tragedy Isaac and Chris became "Ethan's family."

Yet, Ethan has moved at a glacier-like pace in life ever since. He spends his time as a failing musician who moonlights as a an elf for a catering company, dispensing shrimp to the more successful. His relationships have failed because he refuses to meet girlfriends' families, owing it to his past trauma. He still seems to live for his now more-successful friends and their annual night of debauchery.

But this is the last year for the reunion. Ian is a successful lawyer with a baby on the way and Chris is a rising NFL star. They simply no longer have time to nurture and protect their failing friend.

This year is special, however, as Ethan has stumbled upon tickets that he has long lusted after to the best party in New York, the Nutcracker Ball. Just as in "Harold and Kumar," we move from one setback to the next as our beloved characters seek their El Dorado that proves all-too elusive.

Yet, the film is not completely set on relegating itself to being a drug-filled joyride fueled by slapstick comedy. We quickly learn that underneath their successful facades, Ian and Chris are grappling with fears and hidden foibles.

Ian, in a darkly hilarious cocaine-and-shroom driven rant on his phone, reveals that he hates the idea of becoming the father and hurls expletives at his unborn offspring. Chris, meanwhile, is lusting after fame and recognition from various stars, going so far as to use steroids to boost his performance and distancing himself from his former friends.

The set of montages of the friends going through potential trivial hardships thus becomes a vehicle for collective discovery. But that, dear reader, is not why you should go to the film. It is the absurd jokes, the sight gags, the cheerful mocking of classic Christmas film all along the way to the mysterious Nutcracker Ball.

One could be a Grinch and object that the entire plot is all rather trite. However, this film is not intended to answer questions about life, the universe and everything else. It is intended to entertain. Specifically it is meant to intend college students like us. This might not go down in the annals of christmas movie classics that one gathers round with the family, but it is a great comedy and deserves to be cherished in its own right and for what it is.

The views reflected in this column do not necessarily represent those of The Review.

COURTESY OF FATGUYMOVIE.COM

SATISFY YOUR HUNGER WITH LUNCHBUNCH

KIRK SMITH/THE REVIEW

LunchBunch, an app created by three alumni, allows users to connect, coordinate and make faster meal plans with friends. With the app, its hope is to make mealtimes more social for students.

ABBIE SARFO
Managing Mosaic Editor

As a student, 2015 graduate Matthew Hoffman found making lunch plans to be unnecessarily complicated. After talking it over with Brandon Trautmann, another fellow 2015 university graduate, the two computer science majors decided people were hungry for a simpler way to make meal dates.

"I realized there are probably other people on campus who wanted to go to lunch but didn't know who else was available," Hoffman says. "So I realized there was a need there."

Hoffman and Trautmann shared their idea with Ryan O'Dowd, a friend and 2014 alumnus with his own company. Together, they created LunchBunch, an app that enables users to make faster meal plans.

"Instead of sending out a mass text or email," O'Dowd says, "You could log on and see who's available immediately."

With the LunchBunch app, users connect with friends and organize them into "bunches" or different groups—classmates, team members, etc. In-app features like invitations and direct messaging make it easy to coordinate plans.

LunchBunch launched its first version last month, with a new version expected to come in the next few weeks. Right now, Hoffman says, the team is focused on ironing out basic features and incorporating feedback from early users.

"We've had several real-life cases from people who've used it for the first time," Hoffman says. "I have some friends who've downloaded the app and used it to get dinner one night, which was cool."

Hoffman and O'Dowd plan to keep up the positive momentum—they hope to expand their team, and ultimately turn LunchBunch into a success.

"It'd be great to have it grow into something where it's useful for people," Hoffman says. "People on college campuses and in the workplace can use it to have a better experience and ultimately have more social lunches and lunches with friends."

simply stylish

Stylish gifts

The holiday season is my favorite time of year. Whether it's hot chocolate on a cold day or an evening of gift swapping with friends, this season always has a special kind of warmth to it.

With only two more weeks left before the semester is over, there might be gift swaps in the near future with friends or family. Since finals are the most hectic time of the semester, shopping might be the last thing on your mind.

When on a budget, it makes gift shopping more difficult. Here are a bunch of affordable ideas that are chic enough for anyone.

Winter Hats

Do you have a friend who always worries about the cold walk to class? Winter hats are a cozy and stylish option for a gift that can be used all winter long. American Eagle Outfitters offers a number of different styles for under $12.

Initial Necklace

Whether it is gold or silver, it's a small personal necklace that can be worn every day. Urban Outfitters carries every initial for $16.

Portable Charger

There is always a small panic when your phone is about to die in class or at a party. Avoid freaking out with a fashionable portable charger that can fit in your purse or backpack. There are a ton of options available on Amazon.com, ranging anywhere from $9.99 to $30.

Classic T-shirt

A classic striped T-shirt is a wardrobe staple. So it is a smart gift for a friend. They will thank you for adding this basic to their closet. J.Crew's "painter boatneck striped tee" for $39.50 is a great choice.

Skin Care Essentials

Sephora offers a great Clinique skin care mask sample kit. It comes with four different facial masks for under $10.

Blanket Scarf

An extra long scarf is great to wrap around your neck a couple of times for those cold morning walks to class. Target offers different options, including a reversible blanket scarf for $21.

Calendar

Start the new year off right. Organization has proved itself to be a key factor in success for college. So, walk to the Barnes & Noble on Main Street and find the perfect one for your family or friends.

S'Well Water Bottle

They are not the cheapest stainless steel water bottles—$42 and up. However, they are insulated, so drinks stay cold for 24 hours and hot for 12 hours. One S'Well water bottle reduces the use of plastic water bottle consumption. Not only are they eco-friendly, but the shape is as chic as the countless patterns they come in.

Cosmetic Brushes

Ulta Beauty is the store that you can find anything you need for a cosmetic gift idea. The "Eco Tools" five-piece brush set can be purchased for $14.99.

Cute Clutch

You can never have too many clutches. It's something your friend can carry all of their essentials in whether you are going to the bar or dinner.

If you have the time, take a quick trip to the mall and find your friends and family the best gifts. Believe it or not, some of the best gift exchange gifts cost the cheapest.

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critical reality

"Empire"

This week, I decided to catch up on "Empire" and see what the Lyon family has been up to since the start of the show's sophomore season. The show focuses on the fight for power and control over the music company that Lucious Lyon (Terrence Howard) has built from the ground up. For those of you interested in the world of music, "Empire" is the show to watch.

A lot takes place in the first season with Cookie Lyon (Taraji P. Henson) getting out of jail to find that Lucious has moved on without her. She struggles to find her place in the family while actively trying to encourage her middle son, Jamal Lyon (Jussie Smollet) to pursue life as heir to Empire Entertainment.

At the end, Lucious goes to jail for the murder of his friend, Vernon Turner (Malik Yoba). But, it was actually Rhonda Lyon (Kaitlin Doubleday) who killed Vernon because he was beating Andre Lyon (Trai Byers), the eldest son of Cookie and Lucious. It is apparent that it was Lucious' own family that set him up to go down for the murder, based on all of the things that went down during the first season.

Fast forward to season two—Lucious is still in jail, but not for long. His lawyer gets him out on bail; the only catch is that he is not allowed to run Empire Entertainment. The first half of the season shows Lucious working his way back to the head of the company only for him to lose the company because of Hakeem (Bryshere Y. Gray), his youngest son.

"Empire" has a lot of depth, with the intensely growing family drama that pervades the Lyon family. One of the things that struck me in the entire the show is how Anika Calhoun (Grace Gealey) is treated by the Lyon family. She is betrayed by everyone including Hakeem, who is the father of her unborn child.

For most, family is the most important thing in world. They are the people that should always be on your side. Unfortunately for Lucious, his entire family turned against him for the mistakes that he has made.

"Empire" is more than just a show about music—it shows what power can do to a family. Power turns everyone against each other at the time when it is crucial to be on everyone's side. Power destroys families.

Besides all of the drama on the show, the music is pretty good too! The show's dramatic elements mixed with rousing music and long-term familial themes make it an engaging watch week after week.

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DAVID TINSLEY REFLECTS ON FOOTBALL AND INJURIES

JACK RODGERS
Managing Sports Editor

In 2014, senior defensive lineman David Tinsley tore his bicep for the third time in Delaware's season opener against Pittsburgh. The pain was sudden and sharp, as Tinsley's muscle detached from his bone and shifted toward his shoulder.

He immediately thought back to his redshirt freshman year, the first time his arm was bruised and bulging. As he waited for medical attention, Tinsley began to wonder if the last moments of his career would be spent trotting off the field gripping his bicep.

"I kinda knew exactly what happened," Tinsley said. "I tried to stay in and play a couple more plays, but I ultimately ended coming out in the third quarter."

Throughout the year, Tinsley remained with the team traveling and supporting Delaware from the sidelines. Tinsley knew the motions of his rehab, returning to repetitive strengthening exercises after his third surgery in an attempt to get back on the field.

This season, Tinsley was voted to be Delaware's lone captain by teammates, making him the first solo captain since Dan Mulhern in 2002. Returning to the team after his third injury was a difficult decision for Tinsley.

"It being the third time I tore my bicep, you kind of have to decide whether or not it's worth it to come back," Tinsley said. "More of the risk of having a fourth surgery. But watching those guys go out every week and play and battle, I knew that I had to give it one more shot if my body would let me."

Tinsley's season as a captain was a positive one, recording over 40 tackles on the season, including three tackles for a loss. In addition to this, Tinsley also recorded a sack, forced a fumble and broke up a pass. Tinsley was an effective pass rusher and run stopper for the Hens.

Football is one of many things Tinsley is interested in. Fishing and playing the saxophone are both things that interest the Florida native, having played in his high school team's band before trying out for football. As a freshman, Tinsley played under Head Coach K.C. Keeler, making him one of several Hens who played for both Keeler and Brock, noting differences between the humor and seriousness of the coaches.

With his final season, Tinsley has accepted the finality of his football career with grace.

"For the first time, I felt like something was missing while I was injured," Tinsley said. "Ever since our final game of the season, I've felt at peace with my football career. I'm more relaxed than I've ever been, I've accomplished everything I've wanted to accomplish in football. I feel great."

ABBIE SARFO/THE REVIEW
David Tinsley, a Florida native, has had multiple tears to his bicep. After returning this year to full-contact play, he reflects on his final season at Delaware. Tinsley is one of the first solo captains since 2002.

HENS SUCCEEDING EARLY DESPITE KEY INJURIES

RYAN BARWICK
Senior Reporter

It was over once the walk-ons took to the court in the final minute on Tuesday. Senior Sean Locke hit his first career three, hitting the jugular of Bradley University, and sealed the victory as the clock wound down. The Delaware bench proceeded to leap 12 feet in the air and mimic the latest dance crazes in celebration: Blue Hen basketball is back.

This week the Hens brought two straight wins to the Bob Carpenter Center, pushing the team's home record to a golden 3-0. After football's putrid season, the Blue Hens deserve to sip the sweet nectar of victory, even if the season has just begun.

It's too early to say this team is going all the way. It's too early to say this team will win the conference. It's even too early to say this team will make the playoffs (one can dream). But, it is just about the time to make it a point to take the journey, to cross the bridge, to find parking, to claim your free ticket (and most likely free shirt) because this team is worth your time.

The Hens are fun to watch.

The front court, made up of sophomores Kory Holden, Anthony Mosley and junior Cazmon Hayes, is quick and agile, combining for 44 points and 12 assists against Bradley University Tuesday. Since Chivarsky Corbett went down with a season ending ACL tear, the Blue Hens haven't missed a beat, replacing him with Mosley, who was commonly used off the bench last year. Three times Mosley cut the top of the post with his shiftiness, administering one of the dirtiest left-handed reverses the Bob has ever seen, completely taking advantage of his time in the starting line-up.

The Hens were up by 12 points going into halftime, 31-19. You could tell the team was frustrated they weren't dominating as much as they could have been.

With 13 minutes left in the second half, Barnett Harris came in off the bench and perfectly timed a killer swat, sending the leather deep behind the hoop and into the pep band section. Of course, the players cleared the bench in celebration, of course the stands went wild and of course Harris shot steam from his nostrils, playing his remaining time on the court like a live wire, with a seven-foot wingspan.

Minutes later both Holden and Hayes netted threes and the game was solidly in the bag.

Both Marvin King-Davis and Skye Johnson, the Hens' two big men, looked a little uncomfortable during the game, missing defensive assignments and easy layups. While they finished with a statistically sound game, it wasn't until Thursday against University of South Florida that they came alive and dominated the game.

Against the Bulls the Hens had a hard time shooting, going 30.9 from the field, but the free throws fell (Holden going 11-14 from the line) and the boards were obliterated. King-Davis had a career showing, bringing down 18 rebounds and 16 points for a double-double. Coming off of a 84-63 beat down by Kentucky, South Florida could have used Delaware as a tune-up game, but alas, this was not the case. An ugly bruiser of a game, Delaware took home the win, 67-58.

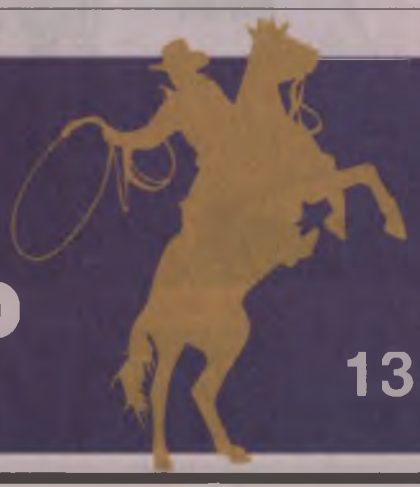
At the beginning of the season, Head Coach Monté Ross reminded the media that the offense would run through Holden. He was not lying. Holden played all 40 minutes against South Florida, with both Mosley and Hayes playing 39 plus. This early in the season, Ross is just trying to get the squad in shape, but if the Hens start to rely on this kind of time commitment, Holden's going to need help walking off the court.

Hopefully, these games won't just be anomalies. Conference play doesn't begin until January, so the Hens still have time to continue to learn and get better

With a spitfire front court and an aggressive attitude down low, what could go wrong? The team is lacking in consistency, and there's plenty of time for that.

KIRK SMITH/THE REVIEW
Delaware has been powering through injuries, beating two teams by large margins last week. As Delaware looks ahead facing stronger opponents, Cazmon Hayes looks to continue to contribute after injuries.

WEEKLY ROUNDUP



9.0
The Hens currently have four players averaging nine points per game and above: Kory Holden, Cazmon Hayes, King-Davis and the now-injured Chivarsky Corbett.

-18
Point differential for the Hens in the second half this year, perhaps showing some early fatigue with high-minute totals for certain players as a result of injuries.

13.7 & 9.7
Marvin King-Davis' points and rebounds per game. With MKD averaging a double-double, the Hens have been able to get by despite an onslaught of injuries.

MELISA SOYSAL/THE REVIEW

Despite a poor record, the young Hens showed flashes of promise, including an uncharacterstically stout defense and a dominant running game returning four starting caliber backs.

BEST OF: FOOTBALL SEASON

MATT BUTLER
Editor in Chief

BEST GAME: UD 31-14 UNH
The Hens brought their best game of the year for Parents and Family Weekend, beating a New Hampshire team who they had not beaten in regular season play in 12 years, piling up 284 yards rushing and holding UNH under 200 total yards of offense. It came at a convenient time for the team as well, who *had hit what* can probably fairly be considered the nadir of Coach Dave Brock's tenure during a 20-0 loss to University of Rhode Island. Of course, the enthusiasm from the UNH game was short-lived, as the Hens were promptly shut out by Towson the next week. But perhaps the victory over the Wildcats was a glimpse of things to come down the road.

BEST PLAYER: This is a tough one. There's an easy argument to be made that Thomas Jefferson, the team's breakout running back star, was the best player. But he is also going to win (spoiler alert) the best rookie award later. So this one is going to sophomore linebacker Charles Bell, who seemed to undertake the nucleus role of a rejuvenated Hens defense and finished with 96 tackles, 3 tackles for loss, an interception and a forced fumble.

BEST UNIT: This isn't a tough one. The defense was stellar all season, turning in one impressive performance after another. Led by seniors David Tinsley and Vince Hollerman, the otherwise youthful D finished high nationwide in rushing defense and scoring defense. Simba Gwashavanhu, Nasir Adderley, Ray Jones and Blaine Woodson are going to be studs for a long time.

BEST ROOKIE: What more can be said about Thomas Jefferson? Thrown into action after Wes Hills and Jalen Randolph both went down early, Jefferson made an effective argument that he should be next year's opening day starter. He was named CAA Offensive Co-Rookie of the Year, and came up big during the team's hardest tests, rushing for 163 yards and 174 yards in consecutive weeks against North Carolina and William & Mary, respectively.

BEST SOUL CRUSHING MOMENT: They really got shut out by the Rhode Island Rams, didn't they?

WHY DO BASEBALL PLAYERS CHEW TOBACCO?

EMMA SILLS
Staff Reporter

RANDI HOMOLA/THE REVIEW

Chewing tobacco use in baseball is something that fans have grown accustomed to, but the tradition is one that has gone back for decades. Understanding the marketing and the effects of tobacco helps us understand why the habit is decreasing in today's game.

The rules of baseball were written in 1845, about the same time that the tobacco trade in the United States was on a the rise. As both started off as new fads, tobacco companies began using baseball as a way to market their product by advertising it at games and eventually making it the face of tobacco products.

Players had used chewing tobacco up until the 1950s, as a way to keep their mouths moist in the hot sun and dusty ballparks. Other benefits of tobacco included the production of more saliva so that they could moisten their gloves with spit in hot weather; a tradition that is still around today.

Many players began switching to cigarettes as their form of tobacco before discovering dip in the 1970s. Dip is another form of tobacco that instead of being chewed or smoked, it is packed in the lip. Tobacco companies began giving off the illusion that smokeless tobacco or "ST" was a safe alternative to cigarettes. Therefore, in 1992, the Surgeon General of the United States urged the use of the term "spit tobacco" so that people did not misinterpret the product.

"Dip is used the same way gum is used," Kevin Kerrane, English professor and longtime baseball writer, said. "It's just something to keep the players occupied in the dugout."

For years, Major League Baseball has discouraged the use of smokeless tobacco because of the many health risks associated with it. According to the National Institute of Drug Abuse, chewing tobacco and snuff contain 28 carcinogens. Smokeless tobacco is known to cause cancer of the lip, tongue, cheeks, gums, as well as the floor and roof of the mouth.

"Not a day goes by that I'm not at the baseball field and don't see dip," minor league player Chad Martin said. "The league tries to scare us into not dipping by using the dip police."

The dip police are a group of people that take pictures of minor league baseball players and then determine if they are dipping through the picture. If they are caught dipping, then they are fined $1,000 dollars.

Likewise, Joe Garagiola, a former MLB catcher, used to go around with pictures of mouth cancer and rotten teeth to scare fellow players into stopping their addiction to dip.

Dip is commonly used in other sports as well. Tyler Barbarich, a lacrosse player at the university, said he and many other players on the team frequently dip off the field. Players use the tobacco because of the nicotine infused with the product. According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, smokeless tobacco delivers a greater dose of nicotine than in cigarettes.

Dip is used differently among players. Some use it only when they are playing and some use it only when they are in the dugout. For some it works as a legal performance enhancer, while others just use it to pass time. It is a traditional part of the game of which players have a hard time letting go.

sports commentary

Delaware basketball: A new beginning

Sometimes I find myself wondering why the Delaware football scene is so lackluster. I find myself comparing the merits of our team to those from across the country, and above all, one glaring issue presents itself.

We are just not that good.

This past season, the football team finished 4-7 with losses coming at the most inconvenient times for potential fans. Losing the opening game to Jacksonville, as well as the Homecoming game against Albany, was an omen to everyone: Delaware football is not what it used to be.

It's tough to be passionate about your school—wanting it to perform well—and not getting the results. The performance, or lack thereof, of the football team is directly correlated with student excitement. The worse our team does, the less inclined we feel to fill the Cockpit.

However, I can say with confidence that there is a team generating buzz, and everyone should take notice.

I sat in attendance at last week's men's basketball team's home game versus notable underdog Bradley. I watched as our young back court, headed by Kory Holden and Anthony Mosley, ripped through the defense and scored acrobatic layups. I watched our defense outperform every attack Bradley had to offer. I watched Barnett Harris, the team's electric spark, block the living daylights out of the basketball, igniting the crowd into a frenzy.

This team is young, with no seniors in the starting lineup. The team's struggles last year as an inexperienced group are over. The team's skills are refined and honed in order to make a run in the deep CAA.

Although the team's record stands at a mediocre 4-3 after a tough loss to Columbia, there is a palpable sense that this year will be better. Fans of basketball should hold no reservations about Delaware despite the rest of our big name sports teams underperforming.

This team has beaten quality opponents like South Florida, who is part of a tougher conference, the American Athletic Conference. The team will showcase its skills against more quality opponents like Villanova, a nationally ranked basketball team in the coming weeks.

The results should not dismay us to sit on our couches and read about the games the next day. We should take notice of this budding team, their immense talent and their ability to captivate an audience.

Delaware basketball is back.

WILL KEBBE
Copy Editor

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The roadtrip of the summer

LEADS TO FIREFLY

music festival

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TWO DOOR CINEMA CLUB • LUDACRIS • THE NEIGHBOURHOOD • EARTH WIND & FIRE • GROUPLOVE
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