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"The big bad wolf of drug culture"

Inside the Delaware heroin epidemic

JACK BEATSON/ THE REVIEW

After nearly $500,000 worth of drugs were discovered in Delaware, it is evident that there is a heroin epidemic present in the state.

JACK BEATSON
Staff Reporter

On Feb. 17, The News Journal announced that 48,000 bags of heroin had been seized from a total of five Newark and New Castle area residents. This amount, worth $488,000, is the largest seizing in the state's history.

Delaware's heroin epidemic has exploded in the past couple of years; the drug took 180 lives in 2015 and has continued to work its way into circulation in both the downtown and suburban areas of Wilmington.

Nineteen-year-old Wilmington resident James Thorton, whose name has been changed, has had more than his fair share of experiences with drugs. He has seen the effects of heroin firsthand and fought against its addictive properties not once, but twice.

"I was very fond of pot," Thorton said, sitting across from me on a couch in my apartment's living room. "Smoking pot was my thing. At least, so I thought."

Thorton and I have been fairly good friends, as well as classmates, since we were young. Throughout his teenage years, Thorton dabbled in many different areas of drugs —everything from psychedelics to narcotics, including experimental research chemicals, such as MXE, a drug which functions primarily as an antidepressant. Thorton did his best not to discriminate when it came to the use of drugs, but even for him, heroin was off limits.

"It's the big, bad wolf of drug culture," Thorton said. "It's like...not even the potheads will do this!"

However, when Thorton was 17 he found himself caught up in the middle of some heroin users. They were not people with whom he generally hung out around, but shortly into their time together, the group began using. Thorton recalls an initial intent to stay away from the substance, but as he continued to be exposed to its usage, a desire began to creep over him.

"I was dealing with terrible depression - it was extremely bad. And so I thought, 'you know what? F—k it!'" he said.

His friends, after confirming that he knew what he was in for, got him all set to go. Thorton, in his current state of mind, was not very concerned about the long term effects of the drug. As he had once kicked an addiction to Oxycodone, a commonly abused painkiller, he convinced himself that he could beat heroin, that it would be a one-time thing or, at worst, something he did on occasion.

"The first time doing that stuff was pure euphoria," Thorton said. "I honestly couldn't have cared about anything even if I wanted to."

A month later, Thorton tried heroin for the second time. This time he began to seize and his friends drove him home while he was vomiting.

"I didn't really think that it was a problem at the time," Thorton said. "I thought 'oh, I just did too much.'"

His usage only continued to get more frequent from there. It got to the point where he was snorting the powder as much as he possibly could, said Thorton. He often found himself nodding off during his classes, and was overwhelmed with a feeling of general apathy.

"I wasn't really feeling much anymore at that point," he said.

After two months of his bingeing, a group of his friends confronted him about his usage and told him it had gone too far. Thorton realized that they were right and quit cold turkey, he said.

For eight months he once again enjoyed a heroin-free life and he had no temptations to go back to using, Thorton said. That is, until one day when he was shoveling the snow from his driveway and began to develop terrible back pains.

As the pain got worse, Thorton began to think more about returning to using. He sought out one of his friends, purchased a bag, usually containing 100 milligrams of heroin, for 10 dollars. Thorton's relapse lasted for five days.

Thorton was high on heroin at virtually every minute of those five days, he said. He was hardly home during this time, and was mixing depressants with stimulants constantly as well.

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Armed robbery may be drug-related

SARAH GIBSON
Senior Reporter

On Feb. 27 at approximately 1:20 a.m., three still unidentified men armed with handguns robbed a home on the 200 block of E. Main Street.

The robbery allegedly was drug related and the home may have been specifically targeted, according to police. The suspects stole the victims' cell phones as well as money, identification documents and drugs. There were three victims in the home. None of them required medical attention.

According to the home's resident, a 21-year-old university student who has yet to be publicly identified, was at home with two friends when the suspects knocked on his door. When he answered, the suspects struck him in the face, possibly with a handgun.

A friend of the victims, who wished to remain anonymous, was not at the house during the robbery. However, they said they knew more about the robbery than the press release told.

"It was a random robbery, but everybody is fine," they said. "They got some money taken from their wallets and their phones taken."

They said the victims found their phones outside the house after the robbery took place.

Victims described the suspects as, "light-skinned black males, approximately 18-22 years of age," according to a police press release. All three suspects were wearing dark colored sweatpants, sweatshirts with the hoods up and bandanas obscuring their faces.

Police have no more information on the suspects.

Newark crime trending down

JILLIAN HAMMOND
Staff Reporter

During the past six years, the university has seen a decrease in crime on and off campus with new technology sources, programs and methods used by the University of Delaware Police Department (UDPD) and the Newark Police Department (NPD).

Between the years of 2010 to 2015, the UDPD has reported an overall 44.87 percent decrease in "Part 1" offenses, which includes aggravated assault, theft and robbery.

The UDPD has implemented new programs and technology sources that have allowed it to track crime more efficiently than before.

In 2010, the police department started with 35 video cameras in the field. Over the last five years, nearly 430 cameras have been accounted for, according to university police Chief Patrick Ogden and Captain Jason Pires. This advantage has allowed dispatchers to notify officers and prevent crimes Ogden said.

The UDPD has added another detective who focuses on crime analysis. This detective sees when, where and what time crime happens. This then allows police to deploy resources to a scene, Ogden said.

Unlike previous years, the UDPD has more officers in the field. Ogden said they have officers on bikes, on foot and ones in plain clothes.

Chief Ogden assures that adding these different officers will only help make the university community safer.

"The people who commit these robberies are looking for an easy target," Ogden said.

The LiveSafe app has also helped, Ogden said. It allows students to submit tips anonymously and receive instant feedback from dispatchers. Since the app has been created, there has been more help from students reporting crimes, Ogden said.

The goal for the UDPD, Ogden said, is to not just arrest away problems.

"Our mission is to get out in front of the problem," Ogden said.

The effort from the UDPD and the NPD has been able to decrease crime in the city of Newark. The NPD specifically has reported an overall 48 percent decrease in "Part 1" offenses since 2006.

Since Chief Paul M. Tiernan joined the NPD in 2007, many changes have been made to decrease crime.

The department has been focusing on its Street Crimes Unit and Fall Suppression plan, which places officers in spots with high criminal activity. This has helped with prevention, Tiernan said.

A grant helped the NPD with its Special Operations Unit. These officers only focus on quality of life issues, Tiernan said.

With robberies down and clearances up, this allows officers to have the upper hand on offenders.

"I think word goes out if you get caught in Newark, you have a good chance of getting picked up," Tiernan said.

New surveillance cameras and license plate readers have allowed officers to solve crimes and follow up on previous crimes. Social media has also helped with sending alerts according to Lt. Bill Hargrove.

Both departments hope to connect with the public through things like the "Copline Bling" video and the "HugACop" event. UDPD has also added two new officers who will walk and talk with students to build a rapport with them.

Students have their own views. Sophomore Olivia Roclore said she felt students received more UD alerts last year. They are not as frequent now, she said.

Freshman Sarah Harlan said she has never felt threatened but does notice consistent UD alerts for a specific location.

"That's the only thing I feel like I've been getting alerts about, is stuff happening on Cleveland Avenue," Harlan said.

Senior Brad Wolak has noticed a decrease. He remembers freshman year, getting three alerts a week for Haines Street. Though Wolak sees alerts have decreased, current alerts have described more violent offenses.

"You can't get it to zero," Wolak said.

The UDPD plans to continue the use of their new programs and remain open to new methods.

"It's extremely safe, but we try to figure out ways to make it safer," Pires said.

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PENCIL IT IN

TUESDAY, MARCH 8

- City Year Information Session, 4 - 5 p.m., Gore Hall 114
- Project Sunshine's UDance Chipotle Fundraiser, 5 - 9 p.m., Chipotle Mexican Grill
- Harlem Globetrotters Performance, 7 p.m., Bob Carpenter Center
- USC Quizzo: TV Series with 5+ Seasons, 7 - 8 p.m., Perkins Student Center, West Lounge

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9

- Employer Mock Interviews, 1 - 4 p.m., Career Services Center, Workshop Room
- UD Writing Center Spring Workshop Series, 3:30 - 5 p.m., Morris Library, Room 017
- REP Presents: "To Kill A Mockingbird," 7:30 p.m., Center for the Arts, Thompson Theatre

THURSDAY, MARCH 10

- Annual Paul R. Jones Lecture, 4 p.m., Center for the Arts, Gore Recital Hall
- LGBTQ Caucus Hangouts, 4 - 5 p.m., Home Grown Cafe
- UD Students for Justice in Palestine Presents Journalist Chris Hedges, 6 p.m., Purnell Hall, Room 118

FRIDAY, MARCH 11

- Free Lunch Friday Speaker Series, 11:10 - 12:10 p.m., Venture Development Center
- SCPAB Presents: "Spotlight," 8 - 10 p.m., Trabant Theatre
- Perkins Live: WVUD Open Mic, 9 - 11:30 p.m., Perkins Student Center

SATURDAY, MARCH 12

- iMusic IX Concert, 5:30 p.m., Mitchell Hall
- Weekly Blues Dance, 7 p.m., Central Perk
- Trabant Now NSBE Fashion Show Afterparty, 10 p.m. - 3 a.m., Trabant MPR

SUNDAY, MARCH 13

- Sit-In & Study Sunday, 2 p.m., Purnell Hall 236 & 116
- Baseball vs. Birmingham, 1 p.m., Bob Hannah Stadium

MONDAY, MARCH 14

- SGA Presents: Voter Registration Drive, 12:30 - 2:30 p.m., Trabant University Center

#TBT

Mar. 6, 1990

Students in a convertible drive down Main Street before the rigid parking rules that are enforced now.

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TL;DR

English 110

There is a lack of consistency within English 110. While it is a required class, all students have different experiences.

John Ernest, the chair of the English department, said he knows English is a complicated subject. There are 200 sections of English 110 for 4,000 students a year, which is a real logistical problem.

Ernest said it's hard for students to care about a required class, and the English department understands that. Therefore the program has been going through revamping for a few years now, he said.

Main Street rent

Main Street's storefronts have experienced a surge in rent pricing.

Rich Dudek, a listing agent for Patterson-Woods Commercial Properties, has represented many Main Street properties. He said within the past 10 years, Main Street has begun to thrive like never before—it has become a destination of sorts.

To date, Dudek's biggest transaction remains the Main Street Court apartments, which he sold for $9.75 million. He said part of the reason it has become such destination is the amount vehicular and pedestrian traffic on Main Street everyday.

Many of the vacant spaces ready for leasing on Main Street have high mortgages, often much more than their estimated worth.

Book Bandit

A student startup has cut out the middleman in the secondhand textbook market on campus.

Jim Jannuzzio, a junior, launched his book selling app, BookBandit, in January. Available online, in the App Store and on Google Play, BookBandit allows university students to sell their used books directly to other students to avoid getting undercut by bookstores.

The university is the primary market for the app right now, but every college in the Unites States is also available on the app. It is currently in use at schools such as the University of Arizona, Clemson University and LaSalle University.

In order to register with BookBandit, a university email must be provided and a Facebook account must be linked, Jannuzzio said.

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

REDWHITE AND BLUE

SOPHIA MOORE/ THE REVIEW

Another week of politics, another week of bull.

Sunday night's Democratic debate saw more heat thrown between the last two candidates standing, Bernie Sanders and Hillary Clinton. Sanders, who has remained relatively bulletproof, if unexciting, during the debates may have made his first misstep while answering a question about racial poverty issues.

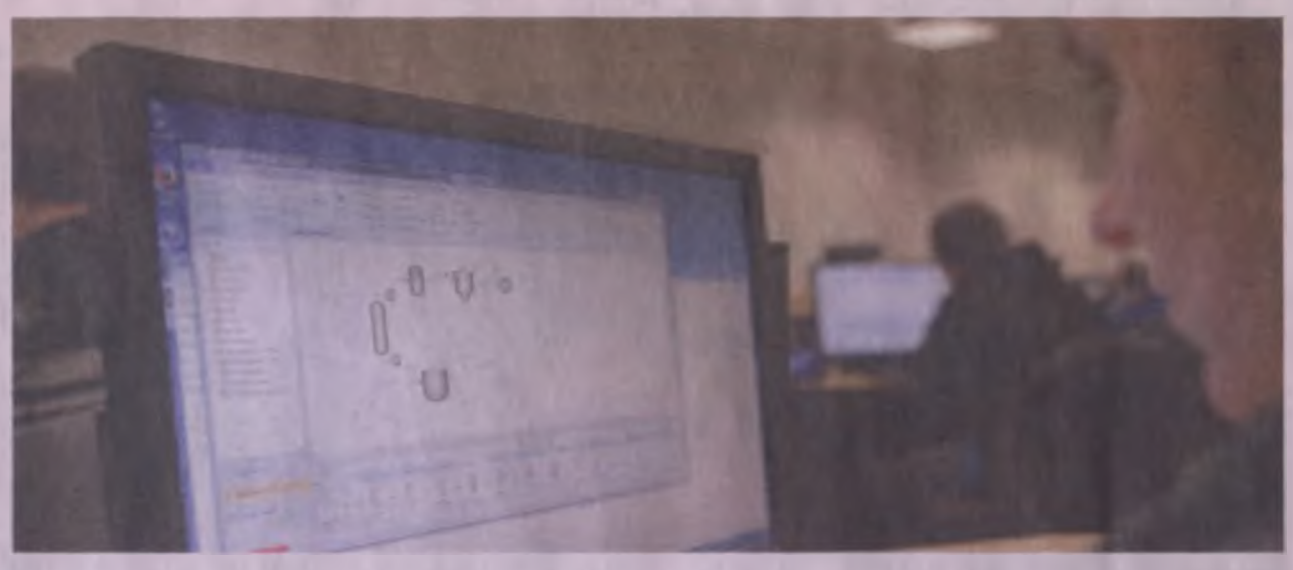
"When you are white, you don't know what it's like to be living in a ghetto, you don't know what it's like to be poor," Sanders said.

Uh. Yikes.

The implication that only black people could experience poverty set off a social media firestorm following the debate. Sanders has run a pretty spotless campaign thus far, and his insistence that Wall Street is a swirling black vortex of greed and hate is not only somewhat accurate but also has resonated strongly with people still angered by the financial crisis. Essentially, if "The Big Short" became sentient, that's Bernie Sanders.

Will it matter that much? Hard to know now, but Clinton was already blasting Sanders among black voters despite Killer Mike's ringing endorsement, so maybe not.

University improving STEM minority issue



KIRK SMITH/ THE REIVEW

The university is increasing minorities presence in STEM on campus.

EMILY RUFO
Staff Reporter

The National Science Foundation (NSF) is making strides toward a more diverse STEM workforce and the university is heading in the same direction.

Last week, the NSF launched a new initiative called NSF INCLUDES, which stands for Inclusion across the Nation of Communities of Learners of Underrepresented Discoveries in Engineering and Science. The initiative focuses on broadening participation to underrepresented communities, which include women, people of color and persons with disabilities.

The NSF will award 30 to 40 institutions with roughly $300,000 each to help test innovative ways of broadening participation in STEM.

Diversity in STEM majors has been increasing, not only in the classroom but with the professors as well. According to Joshua Zide, an associate professor in the engineering department, there have been four recently-hired professors in the College of Engineering—two are women and one is a Hispanic man.

"For faculty, our diversity has been improving pretty steadily," Zide said. "As for the diversity in the classroom, I don't have hard numbers, but it seems like improvement."

It seems the issue of diversity in STEM has a much deeper root. The problem, Zide said, comes from the lack of communication and schooling for students at a younger age. Referred to as a "leaky pipe," the opportunities for children to become educated in STEM begins to drop off before high school.

"Focusing on making sure that everyone that is capable of succeeding has the resources they need to succeed is another really important part of the puzzle," Zide said. "If you don't fix the leaks in the pipeline, then at best you can do minor improvements."

Thanks to platforms like the UD K-12 engineering program, these concerns are being addressed. Programs like this help to present younger students with the resources and tools they need to thrive through college and beyond, Zide said.

Faculty and staff across campus are beginning to come together in hopes of availing themselves this opportunity with NSF INCLUDES. Since this is a limited submission initiative, only one proposal per institution is allotted. On April 15, preliminary proposals are due to NSF, giving the university a short amount of time to choose one proposal to submit.

"We run an internal competition first at the university, so we select what we think is the strongest one," Charles Riordan, the deputy provost for research and scholarship, said. "Choosing only one can be a difficult task."

John Pelesko, a professor in the department of mathematical sciences, said he hopes the proposal he has been working on is the one that is selected.

Pelesko and his team of colleagues from numerous departments are in the preliminary stages of creating a program to increase STEM education by collaborating with the Boys and Girls Clubs of Delaware.

The Boys and Girls Clubs of Delaware has a mission to inspire and enable children, most of which are underrepresented, and give them a place to realize their full potential, flourish and become responsible and successful adults. There are currently 44 locations in Delaware that all together serve more than 30,000 children annually.

The proposal Pelesko and his team will be presenting to the university is based on providing training for the teachers who work at the Boys and Girls Clubs. The program will involve bringing those teachers to campus for training by faculty here, so that they can increase the level of STEM education for the children.

"We are in the stages of fleshing out exactly what that will look like," Pelesko said.

While focusing mostly on computer science education, this program will increase the desire to study STEM during the most vital time for these children, and with luck, this program will help fix the leaks in the pipeline, he said.

This program is a small step forward in solving the issue of increasing underrepresented groups in STEM.

HEROIN

Continued from page 1

"Your body is not supposed to constantly be in a state of physical depression like that," Thorton said. "So you keep that up for a certain amount of time, and your body doesn't quite work properly."

In addition to snorting heroin, Thorton was already doing cocaine and abusing the ADHD medication Focalin, as well as other dextroamphetamines, he said. During this time, he was so out of it – both physically and mentally – that he did not even protest while being mugged, he said.

While driving around on the fifth night of his relapse, Thorton noticed he was being tailed by a pair of police officers, he said. After pursuing him for quite a while, they finally pulled Thorton over, opened his door from the inside, and slammed Thorton against his own car.

Thorton demanded to know what he had done while being placed in handcuffs and into the back of the cop car. For the next twenty-five minutes or so, the cop's partner searched Thorton's car, he said.

"I had a bunch of crazy s— in there," Thorton said. "I had a machete – who the f— knows why I had a machete? – a ton of spray paint, and about sixty empty bags or something like that."

The officers, assuming Thorton was a homeless man, had not followed procedure in their detainment of him. This allowed Thorton to get off with probation for minors, his only requirement being periodic drug tests. Otherwise Thorton would have been tried as an adult and faced up to 40 years in prison, he said.

Thorton's encounter with the law had awakened him to just how serious his addiction had become and, as a result, he once again quit cold turkey. This time, however, he did not look back, not even once, he said.

Thorton is an example of someone who has faced the juggernaut of heroin addiction and emerged victorious. However, there are many just like him who have not been as fortunate. Although the heroin initially comes in through poorer, inner-city folk, the main demographic of users are middle-class white kids, Thorton said.

According to Thorton, much of the heroin which is circulating in Delaware is impure, mixed with other opiates, such as fentanyl. This also means that it's easier for users to get hooked on. As it's difficult to tell the difference between pure and impure, many users of

impure heroin can mistakenly take pure heroin, which is substantially stronger, Thorton said.

When people who generally use impure heroin take the same amount of pure heroin, they will more than likely die by overdosing. This is heroin's most common way of killing, he said.

A veteran officer with the Wilmington police force, who wishes to remain nameless, can attest to this. The officer has spent most of his 18 year career on the streets, watching the epidemic unfurl.

"Once that s---'s here and it's on the street, we've lost," he said.

The officer has spent the past few years working in prisoner processing, and says that all of the drug-related cases he sees come through are all heroin-related.

"You can look at somebody and you can tell. I mean heroin does that to you."

As Thorton said, the officer confirms that the dealers are not the ones who are doing heroin. While the dealers are moving hundreds or thousands of bags, they're not using. The officer describes a recent case in which a man, who was already on parole for dealing, was found with 800 bags of heroin in his car.

According to the officer, the only way that the police can usually bust dealers is due to them receiving anonymous tips. Even when they are caught, dealers usually don't have their entire supply on them. For all of the heroin that is seized from each dealer, there is sure to be more out there somewhere.

"If they've got 10,000 bags, there's probably still 100,000 out there," the officer says. According to him, the Wilmington police force gets calls relating to heroin on an almost daily basis.

Even though police are doing what they can to tackle the situation, it seems to be impossible for the flow of heroin in Wilmington to be stopped. The lives of all kinds of Wilmington residents who get sucked into it continue to be placed in danger by the drug's presence.

"I feel like anybody who has an idea of what heroin is and still wants to do it has a death wish," Thorton said. "It f---in' changes people man. It's a s---ty time."

Tow-away zone: A day in the life of a Parking Ambassador

PATRICK WITTERSCHEIN
Senior Reporter

The black S.U.V. pulled into the lot and stopped in a no-parking zone, blatantly disregarding the bright yellow fire lane it was obstructing.

Just in time to witness the violation was Lo Decker, who called the suspect back to the scene of the crime. In a busy parking lot, she stood on the edge of the curb and explained the problem.

"I saw you park your car, look right at me and then walk away," she said. "That's a $75 ticket for blocking a fire lane."

Defeated, the man got in his car and drove away.

"If you're not a fire truck, you're not in a fire lane," Decker said, shaking her head. "He knows better."

Decker is a Parking Ambassador for the City of Newark, a ticket printer on her hip and a portable radio on her shoulder. She walks and talks with the swagger of someone who's seen it all, or at least all that could happen on Main Street. Violators have been warned and scolded by her severe Philly accent for 30 years, and she shows no signs of stopping anytime soon.

Her work uniform and tools are strictly functional: tactical cargo pants and heavy-duty work boots; a portable printer and radio on her belt and an iPhone with a stylus. In the winter she wears a thick jacket and hat. She said in the summer she sometimes wears shorts.

Her job is to keep the streets of Newark safe and free from congestion, and she takes that job very seriously. She deals with angry drivers, ignorant violators and drunk students. Her job is one of the least respected and least understood in the public eye.

Decker said most people have a twisted idea of who is actually making the rounds checking meters and keeping traffic flowing.

"We are good people, we're not mean, we're not out to get 'em," she said. "We're not hiding to get them. They're just there at the time that we're there."

"It's like a hit or miss thing, and you just happen to be there," she said.

It takes a special type of person to deal with the hostility and disrespect that parking ambassadors receive every day. She is regularly accused of hiding, waiting for meters to run out and even deliberately trying to ruin someone's day.

These stereotypes are a stark contrast to the qualities that Decker believes make a good ambassador: patience, understanding, physical fitness and consideration.

"I just try and keep my mouth closed and do what I have to do and move on," Decker said. "The less said the better when they're rude like that."

For Decker, the job is about more than forcing violators to pay up. She said she's even willing to cut people a break from time to time — especially if they are willing to talk to her and fix the problem.

"I'm not here to bust anybody's chops," she said. "I'm just here to keep everybody paying and everybody moving."

The highlight of Decker's career came when she faced off with the eternal adversary of traffic cops everywhere: the scofflaw. In one day, she was able to call in tow trucks for 11 cars with outstanding parking fines.

In this town, Decker is the law. Anyone foolish enough to double-park, stop in a loading zone or shortchange a meter will soon enough pay the price.

Between 8 a.m. and 1 a.m., one of the seven city parking ambassadors takes a turn walking Main Street for four hours at a time — the other four hours of their workday are spent driving the rest of the city's streets.

At $1.25 per hour, downtown parking is a significant source of revenue for the city. In 2014, Newark collected over $500,000 in parking violation fines, while it budgeted over $1.5 million in revenue from meters.

A typical ticket can run anywhere from $15 for an expired meter to $75 for parking in a fire lane. For Newark drivers, an expired meter is almost a good deal — the same ticket is $36 in Philadelphia and $40 in Wilmington.

In a typical shift Decker can expect to write about 50 tickets and encounter a host of disgruntled drivers unfamiliar with the intricacies of Newark's parking regulations. She said there are about 60 different violations on the books.

Some people are so desperate to avoid a parking ticket that if they see Decker they jump in their car to drive away — which won't help because the city can find a violator's address from just their license plate number. Decker said sometimes they get away, but no parking ticket is worth getting hurt over.

Still guarding the fire lane, Decker paced back and forth with a watchful eye. In her element, she is a force to be reckoned with, dedicated to defending the streets from scofflaws and enforcing regulations for everyone.

She couldn't step out of the lot before another car brazenly pulled alongside the bright yellow curb. Decker placed one hand on her portable printer and moved toward the car.

"The tickets come right to you," she said, as she leaned toward the driver's window. "You don't even have to walk to them."

PATRICK WITTERSCHEIN/ THE REVIEW

Lo Decker writes a ticket in downtown Newark. Decker has been a city Parking Ambassador for 30 years.

Students and faculty weigh in on English 110

KIRK SMITH/ THE REVIEW

The department hired two experts, Melissa Ianetta and Joseph Harris, to tackle the organization and structure of English 110 and to ensure the best professors are teaching the classes.

RAQUEL MORRIS
Staff Reporter

The English 110 program is not standardized for everyone. Every student has a different experience and that can be a major problem in the long run.

Juliette Lynch, a sophomore biology education major, is not one of those students. She is in the honors program, where students get to choose which English 110 class they want to take, unlike non-honors students who are randomly placed in their sections. Lynch said she took a class on YouTube videos and learned that it is possible to analyze any online video like a written piece of work.

Honors students also take a colloquium class, which is not an English class, but requires a great deal of reading and writing. Lynch said that even though it was not specifically an English class, she got a lot out of it because the professor was a hard grader and cared about the students' writing, rather than content.

"I think writing isn't valued enough," Lynch said. "Everyone is pushing math and science. No matter how good at math and science you are, it's really your writing that shows your intelligence. How well you write is how well you communicate and form your ideas."

Lynch said she wishes the university required researched-based English classes, because that's what she will need in the future. She said science is about presenting research and explaining the thought behind an experiment. Without the ability to convey the thought behind their research, scientists won't be successful, she said.

John Ernest, the chair of the English department, said he knows English is a complicated subject. To put it into perspective: there are 200 sections of English 110 for 4,000 students a year, which is a real logistical problem. Ernest said it's hard for students to care about a required class and the English department understands that. Therefore the program has been going through revamping for a few years now, he said.

The department hired two experts, Melissa Ianetta and Joseph Harris, to tackle the organization and structure of English 110 and to ensure the best professors are teaching the classes.

Professors and students alike have talked about the benefit of mixing different skill levels in the classroom. Ernest believes students at a lower skill level can benefit from the help of someone more advanced. Meanwhile, other parts of an advanced student's skills could be tested, such as their editing abilities. He also mentions that there is no easy way to evaluate writing, like there is with math and science.

"[It's] everybody's job to teach someone how to write," Ernest said. He says that it is not only the English department's job to teach and hold students accountable for their writing. If other departments focused on students writing too, then it would make for more successful alumni in the future.

"No matter what profession you go into, an English major thrives," he said. "The difference is working for other people versus people working for you. One's career is going to change three to four times in a life and you're going to need a lot of the skills of an English major."

Even though Ernest is the head of the department, he knows writing is tough.

"No one likes to feel foolish," he said.

Social media makes it so that people are writing all the time, but not in a formal way. It's becoming harder to differentiate between the two styles, he said.

His advice is to "get over that and learn how to write," he said.

Iron Hill may leave Main Street due to parking issues

MELISA SOYSAL/ THE REVIEW

Owners of Iron Hill Brewery said they may not renew its lease due to parking issues in the city.

Iron Hill Brewery owner Mark Edelson said in a Newark City Council meeting last month that the long-time Newark staple may not renew its lease when it is up in a few years. Despite its 20-year history on Main Street, Edelson said the lack of parking in the city has the establishment considering other locations.

According to the Newark Post, the Traders Alley parking lot behind Iron Hill is often full, as students take advantage of the free parking. This leaves little space for customer parking, Edelson said. For years, there have been proposals to build a parking garage behind Traders Alley, which houses Iron Hill and the surrounding establishments. Last month, however, the planning commission said the project would not "improve the area."

Ricky Nietubicz, Downtown Newark Partnership administrator, told the Newark Post he does not want Iron Hill to leave Newark, as it was a major contributor to the revitalization of Main Street. He said the future of the parking garage, and therefore Iron Hill, depends on city politics.

BookBandit app finds textbook steals

COURTESY OF JAMES JANNUZZIO

The BookBandit app allows students to sell books to each other instead of buying used textbooks through bookstores

MICHAEL HENRETTY
Senior Reporter

A student startup has cut out the middleman in the secondhand textbook market on campus.

Jim Jannuzzio, a junior, launched his book selling app, BookBandit, in January. Available online, in the App Store and on Google Play, BookBandit allows university students to sell their used books directly to other students to avoid getting undercut by bookstores,

BookBandit has been downloaded more than 1,200 times since launching. The university is the primary market for the app right now, but every college in the Unites States is available on the app. The app is currently in use at universities such as the University of Arizona, Clemson University and LaSalle University.

In order to register with BookBandit, a university email must be provided and a Facebook account must be linked, Jannuzzio said.

"We want students to know who they're buying from and selling to," Jannuzzio said. "By linking to Facebook, the app can show you a picture and how many mutual friends you have with the person you're dealing with."

Jannuzzio said he believes the app's process is a simple one. When you go to list a book for selling, the app presents you with the average selling price of the book when it's both new and used. Jannuzzio said this assures sellers can set a fair price, usually lower than the retailer's average.

The second step in the transaction is the actual meet-up and exchange of books and payment. After the exchange occurs, both parties involved are presented with a bill of sale and are able to rate the transaction from one to five stars.

Student Center Program Advisory Board President Craig Levergood said he has saved money by using BookBandit to purchase his textbooks for this semester.

"The fact that the website is so accessible is what really sets it apart," Levergood said. "It presents you with the prices of 15 different well-known vendors, which really lets you see just how big the separation of prices between them really is."

Sophomore Valerie Dorsey said in her sorority, Phi Sigma Sigma, all the members have downloaded the app and used it to buy some of their books.

The app boasts a chat feature, which allowed Dorsey to set up a meeting to purchase a book for an accounting class from another student on campus. Dorsey said she needed the book without the access code and that both Barnes & Noble and Lieberman's only sold the book new with the access code included.

"I ended up getting a $200 book for literally $10," Dorsey said. "I met the guy selling me the book at El Diablo, handed him a $10 bill and he handed me the book. I didn't have to wait for the book or pay for shipping and handling."

Jannuzzio has made it a point to take his newfound success and use it to help the community around him. He's doing just that this semester by holding a contest to benefit UDance, in which sororities, fraternities and other RSOs will compete to see which group can download BookBandit the most times.

BookBandit will donate $250 to the team that gets first place in the contest, $150 to the second place team and $100 to the third place team.

"I'm using this as a means of a promotional expense, but more importantly we're trying to help kids out," Jannuzzio said. "Cancer is very familiar in my family, my father passed away from it when I was 15 years old. It's always good to give back to the community in any way that we can."

Rent on Main Street sky high

DEIRDRE MCANDREW
Staff Reporter

Prospective students and Newark newcomers admire the hustle and bustle of Main Street, while the long term store owner of Abbott's Shoe Repair reflects on simpler times when the only restaurants were the Post House and the National 5 & 10.

Eric Mayer of Gilbert Holding Company has struggled to sell 92 East Main St. for almost two years at an approximate value of $200,000. Store owners leasing this space have not been informed when it is predicted to sell, leaving them with uncertainty of when they will need to close or move elsewhere.

Abbott's Shoe Repair, located at 92 East Main St., is closing after 65 years of business. Regardless of when the building sells, Abbott's will close in mid July. Owner Phil Abbott shares that his choice to close his shop is unrelated to Gilbert Holding Company's decision to sell 92 East Main St. Abbott feels he is putting too much time into a job all on his own.

"It's because of my age," Abbott said, wearing a brace on his right hand. "My hands don't work like they used to and my knees are shot."

Abbott has noticed major differences in Main Street compared to the earlier years of his family business. He has noticed an increase in rent, many vacant properties and an influx of new business. These trends have never affected Abbott's Shoe Repair, since rent has never been an issue for him.

"My rent is comparatively cheap," Abbott said. "Most landlords can get away with charging $2,500 a month but not mine."

As a long-term resident, Abbott describes his love for Main Street during simpler times when he would ride his bicycle from his home in Brookside to his father's shop. At this time, the store was located in the back of the building with a plumbing company in the storefront. When he began working for his father at 15, the only two places to eat on Main Street were the National 5 & 10 and the Post House.

"Newark is a great town to work in, my customers have been wonderful," Abbott said.

"Downtown Newark remains one of the most desirable areas for commercial real estate in the State of Delaware and the market value of rental property reflects that," City Communications Manager Kelly Bachman said.

While Main Street is a desirable place to lease, the price tag that comes with operating a business there is a hefty one. The price of leases are based on what property owners and landlords believe is fair market value. However, store owners and Newark citizens tend to disagree with these rates.

"We are committed to keeping the lines of communication open and working with storeowners to ensure they are successful at helping maintain a vibrant, welcoming downtown," Bachman said.

Abbott's storefront neighbor, Bloom, is an eclectic specialty boutique owned by Mimi Sullivan. After years of traveling due to her studies and career in fashion and design, she found Newark in 2004. Sullivan refers to herself and fellow store owners on Main Street as the "first floor community."

"I love Newark," Sullivan said. "The atmosphere, the older feel and the sense of community among store owners and customers."

The old bungalow storefront that Bloom currently resides in adds to the bohemian flare of Sullivan's inventory. She worries that when the building sells she will not be able to find a storefront with a similar style and price on Main Street. Throughout the early stages of her pricing process, Sullivan noticed that the most reasonable prices are located in commercial shopping centers or outside of Newark.

Sullivan had a storefront in Center City, Philadelphia at one point. She was confident that location would be the most expensive lease. However, rent inflation has caused the Main Street location in Newark to exceed Philly's costs.

Sullivan's favorite aspects of Bloom's current Newark location include the amount of foot traffic the store gets and the variety of customers that visit the store. After 12 years, she still looks forward to new residents and students.

"My clientele changes every year," Sullivan said. "Having UD right around the corner has been fantastic for business and gives me a larger demographic."

Sullivan has noticed that her Newark location attracts a wider age range of patrons than her Wilmington store's location.

"I love Newark, and the rent I am currently paying, so moving will definitely be difficult," Sullivan said.

MELISA SOYSAL/ THE REVIEW
As an increasingly desirable place to lease, price tags on Main Street businesses have skyrocketed in recent years.

Veg Club hosts animal rights talk

MORGAN BROWNELL/ THE REVIEW
The Humane League is an animal rights organization that was brought to the university by the Veg Club to educate students about vegetarianism and veganism

KELSEY LATTA
Staff Reporter

Animal rights organization The Humane League describes the problem with factory farming in three parts: animals are confined indoors for their entire lives, they're together in close confinements and they receive no individual veterinary attention.

The Humane League, brought by the university's Veg Club on Tuesday night, has offices across the country, in local cities like Philadelphia, Baltimore and Boston. Its purpose, as stated on its website, is "to reduce animal suffering by creating change at all levels."

Rachel Atcheson, the Senior Director of Campus Outreach, previously worked at the organization's Philadelphia office to enact Meatless Mondays in the Philadelphia School District. She also educated students about factory farming, vegetarianism and veganism.

Atcheson said factory farming accounts for 37 percent of the methane emissions produced. She also said 200 million male chicks are killed by the U.S. egg industry each year.

"Animals are smart, unique individuals," Atcheson said. "There's no one-click solution to fix this problem."

Atcheson also shared a video from another animal rights organization, Mercy For Animals. The video documents Cody Carlson, a writer in New York, going undercover and filming inhumane practices that are featured in most factory farms.

"I thought it was a good balance of information and gore," Tara Woodbury, a senior nursing major, said when she came to check out the event. "It had more education for people who have no idea what's going on."

Clarke' Snell, president and founder of the Veg Club, said her RSO is one that focuses on education, activism and outreach.

"We liked the idea of campus outreach events like this one," Snell said. "It teaches people about different ideas like Meatless Mondays and other events to attend."

Atcheson showed the attendees different things that they could do in order to help with the movement besides handing out leaflets on the issue, trying to talk to friends and family about what the problem is or immediately jumping straight into becoming a vegan or a vegetarian. However, Atcheson said eating vegetarian leads to lower cholesterol, lower heart rate and an overall healthier lifestyle.

"You can start with Meatless Mondays, and then move to cutting out poultry and other meat and dairy products," she said. "It's a social justice movement that happens three times a day: breakfast, lunch and dinner."

Human error plagues hospitals, speaker says

ANNIE RUDOLPHI
Staff Reporter

In January 2001, 18-month-old Josie King was admitted to the Johns Hopkins Hospital as a result of suffering third degree burns from a hot bath. Within weeks she healed and was scheduled to be released. Two days before Josie was scheduled to go home, the young toddler died as a result of careless human medical error.

On February 29, Josie's mother, Sorrel King, spoke at the university about human medical error. Through the Josie King Foundation, King has been able to promote greater awareness of medical error in hospitals through the story of her daughter.

This case shows that healthcare in the United States is not as safe as it should be. According to two major studies, as many as 98,000 people die in hospitals every year as a result of human medical error. High error rates are found in stressful medical environments such as intensive care units, operating rooms and emergency rooms.

One of the main reasons for medical error is the lack of patient integrated care. Patients see multiple different doctors over the course of their stay in the hospital, none of which have access to a patient's complete file. This in turn, makes it easier for doctors to make mistakes, causing the loss of thousands of lives every year.

In the case of Josie King, the hospital staff failed to recognize that Josie was severely dehydrated. Days before Josie's death, her mother described her daughter as being extremely thirsty. When given a bath, Josie sucked frantically on the washcloth and cried at the sight of a cup of water.

As days passed, Josie's eyes rolled back in her head and she developed a fever and diarrhea, both common causes of dehydration. Despite constant questioning by Josie's mother, the toddler died of dehydration in one of the most renowned hospitals in the world.

Following Josie's death, Sorrel King and her husband took steps in order to sue Johns Hopkins Hospital. Months later, the couple decided to settle, taking Hopkins money in order to start a foundation for their daughter. The foundation takes Sorrel King all over the United States to speak to health care professionals about Josie's story and medical error.

"The way I see it is that I have an hour to reach an audience of 500 caregivers and I am going to use every second of that hour to inspire them to fix the culture and to really think about patient safety," Sorrel said. "I tell myself how lucky I am that hundreds of caregivers want to hear Josie's Story."

Mary Kate Griffin, a graduate of the university nursing program, is currently employed by a hospital in New York. She states that she personally witnessed medical error within her first year of work.

Griffin said a resident on her unit made a careless error on one of her patients. The resident used a contaminated syringe and flushed fluid into the bladder of a patient.

While this specific incident didn't kill the patient, this type of mistake can cause patients to develop urinary tract, bladder or kidney infections, which can lead to death.

"Now it's something we put emphasis on in my unit," she said. "We have new protocol for labeling which syringe is for each."

Jess Madiraca is a nursing professor at the university. Madiraca recalls 10 to 12 different medical errors that she witnessed during her practice. Additionally, she describes one mistake she made herself.

"I administered the wrong dose of a medication to a patient through a careless error," Madiraca said. "I thought the syringe someone handed me was the dose I requested but it was actual five times more than prescribed. Luckily the patient did not have any adverse reactions but I became more aware of my environment."

Human error is something that will continue to be prevalent among hospitals, but King hopes for improvement.

"I hope for a future in the healthcare industry where patients and their families are really listened to," King said. "Where there is openness and transparency, where teamwork and communication continues to improve, a culture where no one is afraid to speak up."

In order to reduce error, medical staff needs to take appropriate measures to provide a safer hospital environment, Madiraca said.

"No matter how good of a hospital, while there is room for improvement, humans are not perfect and it will never be an error-free world," Madiraca said.

Main Street thrives as business destination

ALEXA GAHAN
Staff Reporter

From bars to boutiques, the store fronts that inhabit the university's regaled Main Street spots have experienced a surge in rent pricing.

There are some staples on Main Street that seem to operate on an almost eternal basis. The fashion boutique Grassroots has been open for nearly 41 years; it moved to its current storefront on the corner of Main and Academy Streets in 1997. The National 5 & 10 has been providing customers with everything from wigs to notebooks since 1911.

However, there are a few venues that are not as enduring. Kildare's Pub, located above the beloved Grotto Pizza, closed in August with little warning to customers and employees. Sushi bar Mizu and neighboring SAS Cupcakes also closed its doors over the summer as well.

Rich Dudek, a listing agent for Patterson-Woods Commercial Properties, has represented many Main Street properties. He said within the past 10 years, Main Street has begun to thrive like never before—it has become a destination of sorts.

"The summers used to be pretty quiet around here, and you had to get all of your work done in nine months," Dudek said. "Now, it's a year-round business."

To date, Dudek's biggest transaction remains the Main Street Court apartments, which he sold for $9.75 million. He said part of the reason it has become such destination is the amount vehicular and pedestrian traffic on Main Street everyday.

"There [are] a lot of people walking by your store," Dudek said. "Landlords are able to set a price that they believe is fair, and there is always going to be someone who is willing to pay that price."

Many of the vacant spaces ready for leasing on Main Street have high mortgages, often much more than their estimated worth. As reported by FindtheData.com, 45 E. Main St., the restaurant space that formerly housed Kildare's Pub, has an estimated worth of approximately $1.63 million. Meanwhile, 74 E. Main St., home of the new Dairy Queen, is mortgaged at $2.5 million with an estimated worth of $141,426, Dudek said.

"Downtown Newark remains one of the most desirable areas for commercial real estate in the State of Delaware and the market value of rental property reflects that," Newark Communications Manager Kelly Bachman stated in an email message.

Bachman said rates have gone up due to property owners and landlords. She said it is up to them to set what they believe to be fair market value for the properties they own.

Though the cost of Main Street has steadily crept higher and higher, it is evident by the thousands of students who flood its bars and inhabit its apartment buildings that it will remain a prime location for a long time.

"It's basic economics 101: supply and demand," Vice President of Lang Development Group Chris Locke said. "The demand for locations on Main Street has increased dramatically over the past seven to eight years and therefore value goes up."

Students review misconduct cases

LAURA LYMAN
Staff Reporter

Junior Vaughn Renner found his way to the Office of Student Conduct for a noise violation. After his sanctions were filed he chose to appeal them through the Appellate Board.

The appellate board is the final reviewing body for cases that have gone through the Office of Student Conduct. It is made up of a group of students whose job is to determine if the grounds for appeal are met.

By incorporating a student into the appeal process, the university allows room for the student perspective. The board is set up so that there are an odd number of people voting on the case. The final vote goes with the majority, which makes the student's voice just as critical as all the others. A chair officer — who does not get a final vote in the process — presides over the board to orchestrate the meeting and makes sure every talking point is discussed.

"We find out the person's name going up for appeal beforehand so that if we know them, we can remove ourselves from that case," Matthew Conrad, a senior on the appellate board, said. "This way, it is not biased."

Conrad became involved with the board after hearing about it during one of his resident assistant training classes.

"I was looking to go to law school and thought it was cool to use the code of conduct and be able to apply it to actual cases going on at the school," he said.

To qualify as a member of the student for the board, applicants must first go through a two-step interview process.

"It is very important that the person understands the student body and has experience in being engaged as a college student," Holli Harvey, assistant director in the Office of Student Conduct, who oversees the work of the appellate board, said when searching for new members. "They must not be afraid to share their opinion even though it may be different from the other two people on the board that day."

Once selected, the student must attend several hours of training where the conduct book is reviewed and discussed. A copy of the code of conduct is always in the room when the board meets in case they need to reference it.

Renner's appeal didn't end on a happy note. In his opinion the sanctions were too extreme and harsh for a noise violation.

"I'm not a bad kid, and I am being punished as if I am one," Renner said. "Nowadays, I feel like I'm walking on thin ice around campus."

RANDI HOMOLA/ THE REVIEW
The appellate board is the final reviewing body of students who determine the outcome of conduct code violations

VolHENteer newsletter connects students with opportunities

ANDREW KUCZMARSKI/ THE REVIEW
SGA and BHLP connect students with volunteer and community service opportunities like UDance through their new initiative

LEANNA SMITH
Staff Reporter

The Student Government Association (SGA) and the Blue Hen Leadership Program (BHLP) launched their first edition on Monday of VolHENteers, a bi-weekly community service newsletter aimed at informing the student body of volunteer opportunities available.

This service is the brainchild of Ellie Halfacre, SGA student affairs senator. She was inspired to make volunteer opportunities more accessible to students after working as a site leader at the university's MLK Day of Service, she said. She heard peers complain about having difficulty finding volunteer opportunities on campus.

The problem is not the university's lack of service opportunities, as there is an abundance of service RSOs, fundraisers and one-time volunteer events on campus, but rather a lack of a streamlined method of informing the public about these resources. Halfacre began researching the organizational strategies of approximately 20 other colleges and universities and found that a majority of them had databases, listservs or newsletters dedicated to community service initiatives.

Halfacre spent months working on developing an interface for a community service e-newsletter as well as on an instruction manual on how to maintain sustainability, though she struggled with trying to find someone to run the program in the future.

"The service was a lot of work to develop and the prototype was essentially good to go, but I couldn't do it alone," Halfacre said.

A group of sophomore BHLP students, Kanak Chattopadhyay, Shannon Burke, Marissa Timoner and Cassie Benzenhoefer, was working on their "Tier 2" project and collaborated with Halfacre because they were interested in supporting student service.

The group was excited to learn about Halfacre's volunteer e-newsletter service because they wanted to create a similar project, Chattopadhyay said.

Before learning about the newsletter concept that Halfacre discovered through her research, the group had difficulty pinpointing the best method to distribute information about volunteer opportunities campuswide, Burke said.

"These like-minded, service-oriented, passionate people were the perfect group to help get things in motion," Halfacre said.

Having the prototype filled with campus partners after months of preparation and emails was a rewarding feeling for the group, Burke said.

The team wants VoHENteers to be an aid for both students looking for volunteer opportunities as well as RSOs and other service organizations who are in need of volunteers.

"I think we'll know that VolHENteers is successful on a numbers basis if we can really boost the involvement on Student Central and if we get feedback from students that appreciate having a one-stop place to hear about opportunities and participate in them at their own leisure," Chattopadhyay said.

Moving forward, the group aspires to expand the scope of volunteer opportunities in the newsletter. For now the team is trying to gain more subscribers through publicity events and having an increased social media presence.

"Expansion is our main goal right now," Burke said. "We hope to partner with new groups and more Greek organizations and eventually get the entire UD community aware of and in support of this program."

Subscribers to the first edition of the e-newsletter can expect to see information about UDance, local fundraisers and Stand for Freedom, Halfacre said.

Students interested in this bi-weekly e-newsletter can sign up via Student Central. In the coming weeks, PDFs of archived newsletters will be available on the VolHENteers Student Central page.

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EDITORIAL

Editorial: English 110 needs reform

LORRAINE COOK/ THE REVIEW

English 110 is a requirement for every student at the university. Clearly, improving the critical reading and writing skills of incoming freshmen has been named a priority. However, the structure and format of the English 110 class mandated by the university has not been similarly prioritized.

Every freshman is forced to take the class by the end of his or her first year, yet there are dozens of different professors that teach the class, and professors can take radically different approaches in their teaching methods and choices of material. Many of these professors are not even full-time faculty, but instead, adjunct professors and graduate students.

That is not to say adjunct professors and graduate students cannot be excellent instructors. However, this reveals a discrepancy in what the university says it prioritizes and what it actually chooses to invest time, effort and money into. By mandating English 110 for all students as a university requirement, the university has made the statement that every student should experience a college-level writing course in order to lay a comprehensive foundation in the subject. But if the university considered this course a priority, logic follows that the course would be taught by the most capable and qualified full-time professors.

This could be the first time many of these graduate students are teaching a course, yet they are put in charge of a section of what is arguably one of the most important classes that students will attend in the course of their undergraduate career. Between these graduate students and the adjunct professors recruited to teach sections of the course, it is nearly impossible to standardize what course material is taught, let alone how the material is taught.

Ultimately, the value of the class is limited by a student's prior writing skill. In any given English 110 section, there will be students who struggle with writing and those who excel. For those who walk onto this campus as freshmen with a strong background in writing, this course has little to no value as the professor has to spend time on the basics they have already mastered. At the same time, when students that struggle with writing are placed in the same course as those who excel, they might be less likely to admit their struggles or ask questions, limiting their ability to improve.

After all, those required to enroll in a mathematics course freshman year are placed into the appropriate level by a placement test. If somebody only has a background in statistics, he or she is not going to be placed in a calculus course. Likewise, if students who took advanced placement calculus in high school are placed into a lower level course such as pre-calculus or statistics, they are less likely to learn anything they do not already know. It is only when discussing English placement that we are reluctant to divide students by skill level. By ignoring the chasm in skill level between those in the same class, we reduce the value of the class for everyone.

If the university truly does want to prioritize critical reading and writing as skills that are essential to the success of undergraduate students, then it has to address the fact that the required English 110 class does not provide students a reliable foundation. It is poorly designed for those who struggle with writing and would benefit from the class, and it is quite frankly a waste of time for those with a strong background. It is time for the university to face this issue head-on and embrace reform.

Editorials are developed by The Review's editorial staff, led by editorial editor Jacob Orledge, who can be contacted at orledgej@udel.edu.

Trump shows true colors in last debate

Donald Trump proved that he is not a true conservative at the most recent Republican Debate held in Detroit.

The debate began with Florida Sen. Marco Rubio condemning Trump for his stances on many important issues, including his support of Planned Parenthood.

However, the most significant attacks against Donald Trump came from Texas Sen. Ted Cruz. In a litany of very specific charges, Cruz accused Trump of contributing to many Democratic campaigns, soliciting political favors to benefit his businesses and switching his stance on many key principles.

Cruz listed the Democratic campaigns that Trump has supported, including those of liberal stalwarts Harry Reid, Nancy Pelosi, Jimmy Carter and even Hillary Clinton. These campaign contributions are part of the public record. Cruz angrily stated to the audience, "For 40 years, Donald has been part of the corruption you're angry about."

Cruz asked, "If Trump formerly supported Hillary Clinton, how can he be trusted to run against her?" Trump looked uncomfortable when Cruz listed grievances against him and responded to this criticism by calling Cruz a "liar."

Debate moderator and Fox News host Megyn Kelly asked Trump many detailed questions about his supposed flip-flopping on issues that are core principles to many conservatives. Trump struggled to formulate coherent responses to these inquiries.

Kelly asked Trump about switching his stances on the war in Afghanistan, immigration and the Syrian refugee crisis. The network played clips from interviews where Trump said one thing and reversed his stance, sometimes within 24 hours.

Trump attempted to interrupt Kelly during these attacks, but to no avail. Kelly continued to list instances in which Trump changed his policy views on issues that are important to Republican voters.

In addition, moderators Brett Baier and Chris Wallace questioned Trump on his "flexibility" on policy issues. Specifically, they asked about an off-the-record interview with the New York Times during which Trump allegedly took back many of his previous statements regarding immigration policy. Furthermore, Trump supposedly admitted that many of his most reliable applause lines are merely political rhetoric.

While Trump did not deny the existence of an audiotape of this interview, he refused Cruz's request that he permit the newspaper to release the tape and allow the voters to judge for themselves.

Throughout the course of the debate, Trump touted his flexibility on issues like immigration and healthcare. When asked about his ability to compromise, Trump stated, "There's always give and take. We need give and take in government, you're never going to agree on anything."

In the coming weeks, Republican primary voters will have to sort out candidate Trump's numerous contradictory statements and decide whether or not he should be the party's standard-bearer in November.

While the conventional wisdom has been that Trump is a right wing extremist, his crude personal insults, past support for liberal causes and candidates and current unwillingness to disavow groups like Planned Parenthood provide ample reason to doubt whether there is merit to those claims.

-Katie Mazur, freshman
kmazur@udel.edu

It's easy being "green," so why aren't we?

JACK MCMAHON
Political Contributor

When it comes to saving the planet, environmentalists just aren't getting the job done.

That's not just my opinion either. Landmark environmental bills have been passed in recent years, but progress is nowhere near the rate it needs to be at in order to create a sustainable future. Only about one-third of materials end up being recycled in the U.S., and since our economy runs on oil, renewable energy only accounts for about 10 percent of all energy use. Also consider that we are a world leader in renewable energy use. Expansionary models predict that by 2040, renewable energy use will still be below one-fifth of the total amount of energy used. The outlook does not look good. However, new methods of engaging the public take a different look at things, which may ultimately make a difference.

Traditional methods of encouraging sustainable energy aren't working. It's hard to convince people to use renewable energy when it's often more expensive, and they may not believe in manmade global warming in the first place.

The point of this article isn't to critique that argument itself. While I disagree with climate-change deniers, their actions are more important than their ideology.

Recently, there have been new ideas about how to spread sustainable energy use that completely side-step the climate change argument, and these have the potential to change the game. That is because they focus on a much more universally agreed upon topic: jobs. Here, I think we have stumbled onto something which has the potential to further advance the spread of renewable energy forms. Jobs are the most important factor in the economy in the minds of most American voters, and so by focusing on them, you are much more likely to create a base which actively supports the growth of the alternative energy industry.

Those who watched the State of the Union Address by President Obama this year may have noticed his section on the environment did not spend much time on the environment itself. Instead, he focused on a very particular set of facts. An increase in domestic renewable energy depletes dependence on foreign oil, thereby reducing the national debt. The oil industry is losing jobs, while the renewable sector is gaining them. Jobs in renewable energy tended to be higher paying jobs than the equivalent options in the traditional energy sector, while not necessarily needing higher levels of education as long as workers passed certification training.

I always love the idea of getting bills passed by focusing more strongly on what would appeal to detractors. And that is exactly what this take on the renewable energy debate does. Touting your reasons for liking your own idea are unlikely to gain you much support among those with whom you normally don't agree. However, people have a hard time debating their own arguments. In politics, they won't be able to disagree if you only focus on how a deal falls on their side of a few key arguments. If a candidate is still unwilling to support your idea after that tactic, you know it is more likely that their unwillingness is based on something petty, like partisanship or personal dislike. And most politicians worth their salt know that while it isn't dangerous to disagree for those reasons, it is dangerous to get caught doing so.

Jack McMahon is a junior. He can be reached at smahon@udel.edu.

University's SAT optional pilot program a good idea

For some lucky Delaware high schoolers applying to the university, the SAT is not longer necessary. Beginning fall 2017, the university will pilot a four-year study, making SATs optional for in-state students to see if they should open up the program to out-of-state students as well.

I was the first group in the state of Delaware to take the SAT for free my junior year. Since then, the state pays all juniors to take the SATs once, for free, during school. For many students, this was the only time they took the test. For me, it was just the beginning.

I took that test three times along with two subject tests, probably trying to prove more to myself than a university, that I could earn a score "high enough"—whatever that means. 1840. to this day, is a number I've still let define me in terms of aptitude—especially my dismal math score—despite everything else I've achieved thus far.

For Christmas that year, I received an SAT prep book, 800 pages of teaching you how to take a test. My personal favorite was the page teaching me how to bubble in my answer.

I remember the neatly stacked set of No. 2 pencils, my Ziploc bag of complex carbs and protein filled "brain food" snacks and a water bottle. I sat in a chilly, dimly lit random public school cafeteria on an unreasonably early Saturday morning more than once.

It's an experience nearly all of us share at this school, the misery of the SAT. This pilot program could open doors to many students once hindered by test anxiety, general bad test-taking skills or not enough preparation. Delaware, the small wonder that it is, will actually be able to accurately measure the relationship between college performance and taking the SAT versus not taking it. Delaware, the small wonder that it is

According to Delaware Online, since all Delaware juniors in public schools take the SAT once free, the university can have access to all those scores and can compare the performance of students who submitted the scores to those who didn't. This study also will show if SAT optional applications attract less qualified applicants, as the criticism goes.

The fact that the university wants to actually research this decision is a very level-headed approach to such a sacrilegious decision to make SATs optional.

By giving students the option of sending in test scores, the high performers can still send in the score they're proud of, while the displeased performers can shrug it off and focus on enhancing their application in other ways, such as volunteering. After all, not everybody can afford to take SAT prep classes and exams multiple times.

Interestingly, Delaware Online reported most students still choose to provide their SAT score. Success doesn't always correlate with a single number. Success is working hard, persevering and being up for a challenge. If a student can demonstrate his work ethic, not just his ability to take a test, the university's applicants will be better prepared for college anyway. I applaud the university for daring to be the first to do this, and for recognizing that predicting future success shouldn't be determined in a test that takes a few hours, but many years of hard work.

- Bethany LaChance, senior
bchance@udel.edu

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COURTESY OF HARRY LEWIS

'TIL IT HAPPENS TO YOU: HOW STUDENT ACTIVISTS STOLE THE OSCARS

MATT MOORE
Senior Reporter

Editors' note: Due to time constraints, The Review was only able to provide a brief recap of Lewis and Carson's appearance on the Oscars in last week's issue. In efforts to convey their experiences more completely, we followed up with them this week.

With fists clenched and arms outstretched, Sage Carson and Harry Lewis stood onstage with popstar Lady Gaga and 48 other sexual assault survivors at the 88th Academy Awards on Sunday, Feb. 28.

While each survivor stared straight ahead, Gaga pounded on an all-white grand piano, singing "Til It Happens to You," the Oscar-nominated song she co-wrote for "The Hunting Ground," a documentary on rape culture on college campuses.

As more than 3,000 people watched from their seats inside the Dolby Theater in Los Angeles and 34.3 million watched from home, the survivors held out their arms, displaying words such as "Survivor," "Not Your Fault" and "You are Loved," written in dark ink.

A week later, Carson, a junior anthropology and women & gender studies major and intern at the Office of Equity and Inclusion sits tucked back behind a desk in the corner of her office in Hullihen Hall. Lewis, a sophomore political science, art history and women & gender studies triple major, is across from her.

"I was thinking about my grandma...and how that's the first time she was gonna know [I was assaulted]," Carson says. "She knew that I was doing activism, she knew that I was going out there, but didn't know why."

Last year, after a panel discussion and screening of "The Hunting Ground" on campus, Carson and Lewis met the film's producer, Amy Ziering. They both remained in contact with Ziering, and Carson even went on to speak at premieres of the film in Philadelphia and New York City.

Lewis says Ziering called them both a week before the Oscars, asking if they wanted to join Lady Gaga onstage during her performance. The two students agreed, and days later, they were in Los Angeles.

On Friday, Carson and Lewis reported to the theater for rehearsal. There, they met the other survivors, all ranging in age from 19 to 35. They discussed their mutual hesitance in being a part of such a spectacle, noting how often media sources exploit the stories of survivors.

Despite their qualms, they began with what Carson and Lewis describe as a rough and emotional run-through of the song with Gaga's choreographer.

"All of a sudden, I look and there's tiny little Gaga, and she's sobbing," Carson says. "She just started giving us all hugs, saying, 'Thank you so much.' You could feel the relief. It felt O.K. to be uncomfortable."

As rehearsal continued, Carson and Lewis note the astounding pain Gaga appeared to be in as she slouched over the piano with messy hair and no makeup, wearing just a pair of jeans and a baseball tee, weeping and straining to hit the notes. Lewis says her vulnerability allowed the performance to feel more like a combined effort for everyone involved.

By Sunday night, they were on stage, facing bright lights, cameras and celebrities.

"I was like, 'My perpetrator is watching this right now—I have to do this just so he sees me and can look at me,'" Lewis says. "So while I was up there, I consciously made an attempt to stare him down in some sense."

After the performance, Carson and Lewis decompressed backstage for the duration of the show, until they were told that Joe Biden, who introduced the performance earlier and promoted the sexual assault prevention initiative "It's On Us," wanted to meet them.

In a daze, they walked through the aisles to meet the Vice President of the United States.

As Carson approached Biden, she broke down in tears. Taking hold of her hands, Biden put his head on hers and repeated, "It's not your fault, I'm so sorry."

Pulling her feet onto the chair and wrapping her arms around her legs, Carson rests her head on her knees and looks down.

"Growing up, Biden was always my inspiration," she says. "I had always dreamed of meeting him for doing work—not because he had to tell me that he was sorry. And I just lost it because I was small. I didn't meet him for my work at school. I met him because something horrible happened to me on this campus."

The next morning, they headed back to the East Coast, having to process the weekend through phone interviews with local media outlets.

"The activist in me feels very proud, the activist in me feels good," Carson says. "The person in me feels a little beat up."

"There is a lot of struggling that I am still doing—about what this means, and how much of this is me projecting my own ego and how much of this is me saying you can't homogenize survivors' narratives," Lewis says. "There is so much more to survivorship than just one experience. Making it into one narrative hurts survivors because it means that you can't recognize what happened to you was actually an assault and a crime."

Pausing for a moment, Lewis furrows his brow and sighs.

"I would say I'm glad I did it," he says. "Regardless of where I stand on it personally, there are people that have been positively affected by it and thought, 'This is powerful and I am not alone.'"

COURTESY OF SAGE CARSON

"The activist in me feels very proud, the activist in me feels good," Carson says. "The person in me feels a little beat up."

Betty Who's Facebook bio reads, "I just like to make people dance." Wednesday night, SCPAB hosted the Australian-born pop singer for its winter concert. Betty had Mitchell Hall grooving to her songs like "Somebody Loves You" and "Glory Days."

She gave a shout out to her opening act—and biggest fan—junior Marielle Kraft, who Betty says comes to all of her shows and "always makes her feel like a queen." Kraft is a guitarist and singer who performs around campus.

A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE
A liberal reporter's take on a conservative political convention in Maryland.
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BRUNCH-ING IS BACK
From omelettes to waffles to croque madames, here are some options for a Sunday brunch on Main Street.
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SURVIVOR TO ATHLETE
Elijah Conte's story of defying the odds from cancer to college lacrosse.
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CROSSING THE AISLE:

A LIBERAL AT CPAC

WILLIAM KEBBE
Assistant Sports Editor

Inside the glamourous Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center this past weekend the annual Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC) provided both young and old conservatives hope for a future where their voices would no longer be marginalized.

At least, that was the message I heard with every talk I attended. Every speaker I heard spoke with powerful rhetoric, trying to ignite the most passionate and demonstrative sector of the voting base into action.

There were members of Congress from far and wide, each giving a condensed lecture on topics ranging from the threat of terrorism to economic freedom to the EPA and climate change. Top conservative journalists shared their insight from the campaign trail and offered their views of the candidates. Speaking of the candidates, each of them walked into the Potomac Conference Room of the hotel and spewed their predictable talking points to the audience.

I sat through many lectures. I sat through many pundits and journalists who made their attempt at partisan politics, doing their best to be unbiased. Having been fully immersed into conservatism this past weekend, I gained insight as to how the "right-wing" of our country works.

Valuable lessons on economic freedom and the power of the individual were thrown my way, and I appreciated the perspective these folks had.

However, many of these talks came with a heavy dose of realism. I realized that as a liberal-leaning ideologue, our country isn't on its way to a more unified future. Or at least, not any time soon.

Candidates and experts alike were evoking images of fear and anger to an audience of wide- eyed believers. As I sat through most of these talks, I got the sense that there is no approach to politics that can accomplished by joining forces with Democrats. People of CPAC, for the most part, see only one way in accomplishing their goal of controlling the White House: crushing Hillary Clinton and dismantling Democratic principles.

Every NRA spokesperson and pro-life supporter I talked to used the rage from the speakers and transferred it into their stump speeches. They spoke of Clinton and the Democrats with little respect. They painted the "left" as "liars" and "takers," and people "who don't know what's best for our country". At one point, there was grand applause for Senator Ted Cruz when he accused the Obama administration of being weak on foreign policy, even going as far as to accuse Obama of spreading the reign of ISIS.

In a chair, hunched over in disbelief, I sat next to my fellow Americans as they supported this nonsensical talk. These are my neighbors, classmates and future colleagues, I thought. How can they support someone who radicalizes half of our country, turning the liberally-minded into the enemy?

And it wasn't just Cruz; Marco Rubio spoke down upon Democrats as much as anyone else I heard.

It amazed me that at this beckon of ideas, this conference that was supposed to promote a pragmatic path to making our country great again, there were such incendiary talking points. I get it: we are close to an election and fear-mongering brings out the devotion in people. Voters rally behind the candidate who presents himself as strongest, but there was little strength to be found in evoking those as ideological with such negativity.

First off, in order to create a more perfect union, there needs to be more in unison with both our peers and those who think differently. Not everyone who I listened to this weekend was so devotedly against the opposite side, but I came around to the idea that modern conservatism isn't as uniformly level-headed. Some, like Cruz and Rubio, want their supporters to think Democratic principles means giving up on your conservative beliefs. Leaning one step too far to the left is almost unacceptable.

WILLIAM KEBBE/THE REVIEW
The Review attends the annual Conservative Political Action Conference in Maryland.

While fear-mongering and divisiveness prove to be powerful agents for uniting people, these ideas crumble when the reality of the situation is accepted. Pew Research Center conducted a study and found that 24 percent of people trusted the government in 2014. That number has not gone above 25 percent since 2007. It's not hard to imagine why this number has remained so low for so long.

Conservative and liberals alike indeed need to accept the reality of our times. No one benefits from candidates speaking so heavily against the opposing side. For Cruz, Rubio and all of the other candidates in this election, to try and create deep ideologically different factions of people does not promote strong values. It hinders progress.

We don't need to make America great again, as some people might say. Trust, patience and collaboration with our fellow Americans, no matter what their stance, is needed in order to make America uniform again.

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

ZOOMER DELIVERY BRINGS JOBS AND FOOD TO STUDENTS

COURTESY OFZOOMER

ALLISON HAGEMAN
Senior Reporter

Residents of Newark have been using Zoomer whether they know it or not, Justin Goldman, Zoomer Delivery co-founder and CEO, says.

Nearly half of all food deliveries in Newark are done via the app, and orders from Wings to Go, California Tortilla and Home Grown Café are delivered by Zoomer, Goldman says.

Zoomer is a business-to-business service that was launched in Newark in June 2014 from a rented apartment on South Main Street, before relocating to Philadelphia. It provides restaurants with drivers who work as independent contractors, and customers with an app to track their food order.

Essentially, when an order is placed at a restaurant, Zoomer drivers are notified, go to pick up the order, and then drivers can be tracked on the app in real time, Goldman says.

"It's really simple, just like if you were tracking an uber driver coming to pick you up on the map," Goldman says. "Zoomer offers the same thing for your food delivery."

Driver Nathan Harlan, a junior plant science major, says he found out about the job from his driver friends and then applied online. Now, after three months of working for Zoomer, he enjoys the flexible hours and making his own work environment. The only downside to the job is spending a lot of time in a car by yourself, Harlan says.

"I love the freedom of it, it's cool because you get to build relationships with people in restaurants," Harlan says. "And in a way, you feel like the people in the restaurants are your co-workers."

Drivers communicate with their "area leader" via the app Voxer, pick their own shifts and do an optional stand-by shift where they sit near their phone until an order comes in. Drivers are paid an hourly rate regardless of order frequency, and this way they do not find themselves dependent on tips, Harlan says.

During training, area leaders accompany the drivers and teach them each restaurant's preferences for food delivery. For example, China Garden prefers drivers to come through the front door, while Mad Macs wants drivers to come through the back door to the servers area while the food is being prepared, Harlan says.

From the customer perspective, Katie Grover, a senior international business major, says she gets food delivered about three times a week and never knew her food was being delivered by Zoomer until her roommate became a driver. Then she downloaded the tracker app, and started to follow food deliveries.

Grover says she would recommend the app to a friend, and likes it because the drivers are consistent and sometimes faster than the time on the tracker.

In fact, speed and consistency are Zoomer's core values, according to Goldman. He says the company was created to help restaurants beat the headache of dealing with delivery, in instances when the driver calls out sick or gets into an accident.

"Zoomer is a lot faster than a typical restaurant—when we deliver, we average just over 30 minutes per delivery in Newark," Goldman says.

Goldman says that it is difficult for a restaurant delivering on its own to compete with Zoomer, which provides the best delivery service. It enhances customer experience with the driver tracker, allows drivers to make more money than other delivery places, and takes the worry of delivery away from restaurants.

Since Zoomer was launched 20 months ago, Goldman says it has been one crazy ride for him and his associates. Now, after the initial testing period, the app has expanded from Newark to its new headquarters in Philadelphia, and numerous cities in the Northeast and Midwest, Goldman says.

"Newark will always remain close to our heart, as that's where it all began," he says.

MOSAIC TRIES SOMETHING NEW:

FENCING

ZACH ADAMS/THE REVIEW
From a first fencing practice to "fencing prom," reporter Sarah Gibson shares her first experiences with the university's fencing club.

SARAH GIBSON
Senior Reporter

Last Saturday, I found myself in a situation I wouldn't have foreseen even two weeks ago—standing in Perkins, wearing my old prom dress, holding a foil weapon in one gloved hand and a fencing mask in the other. Let me explain.

It all started when a news story led me to the university's fencing club. While writing about how the Registered Student Organization (RSO) funding manual prevents the purchase of any safety equipment, a discussion with two of my best friends who are avid fencers led me to interview members of the fencing club, a group that needs protective masks, jackets and gloves to do their sport.

Before I knew it, I was at the group's annual fencing prom, which occurred Saturday night.

After my article came out two weeks ago, some club members encouraged me to try fencing. They were all so enthusiastic, and after researching the sport and talking to so many fencers for my story, I was intrigued to see it for myself. So last Thursday, I put on sneakers, sweatpants and a sweatshirt and nervously walked to the Little Bob.

I had no idea what to anticipate at the practice. I didn't have any of my own equipment, and fencing had always seemed like such an intense and violent sport to me. The idea of stabbing people with swords was not something that I thought I would ever like. However, I couldn't have been more wrong about what fencing actually entails.

What I didn't know about fencing, at least with the foil weapon that I used, is that it's closer to dancing than fighting. Everything from the "en garde" stance to the graceful lunging and retreating motions to the quick but calculated weapon movements is done carefully and with purpose.

Even the more aggressive saber style of fencing is still a much more elegant activity than I was expecting. After all the reading and research I did for my article, it was amazing to see the equipment in use and the different styles of fencing all being performed in front of me.

Everyone at the practice was so warm and eager to explain the gear and the jargon, and my friends as well as other club members were all trying to help me understand the sport and how to do it. I felt so welcome that I decided to go back and try it again the following week. Soon after, I was invited to attend the group's annual club event: fencing prom.

As it turns out, fencing prom is a special tradition for the university's fencing RSO. Once per year, members all ditch their sweaty cotton uniforms and put on fancy clothing, go out to dinner and return to the university for an evening of fencing in formal attire in Perkins.

Unlike the practices, which are lighthearted but focused on improving everyone's skills, fencing prom was a much less serious event. The women in heels and dresses and the men in ties and suit jackets were all attempting to fence, and everyone was much bubblier than they had been at practice — there was more laughter, an abundance of goofy photographs and playful (but mostly gentle) fencing.

Even with my extraordinarily low skill level at the sport, I still had an incredible time fencing with everyone, both at practice and at prom. And, since I will be returning to practice this week, I would consider this experiment to be a resounding success.

STEPPING UP FOR SUSTAINABILITY:
STEPHANIE MILES

"I'M JUST TRYING TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THIS LITTLE TINY CORNER OF THE WORLD."

COURTESY OF STEPHANIE MILES
(ABOVE) Although she may be busy, university student Stephanie Miles is dedicated to helping the health of our environment.
(LEFT) Miles says her seventh grade social studies teacher inspired her to pursue protecting the environment.

RACHEL CURRY
Staff Reporter

At 11:30 p.m., with eyes wide and mind alert, Stephanie Miles was finishing up a board meeting and getting ready to delve into a pile of work.

The 21-year-old senior, who is working toward a degree in energy and environmental policy, was busy writing two thesis level papers, both of which deal with sustainability.

Miles spends most of her time working to benefit the environment, a cause she is utterly passionate about. She is president of Students for the Environment, the university's largest and oldest registered student organization.

"We make change on campus," she says. "That's where the activism part comes in."

Two years ago she fought against the power plant the university planned to build on campus. The school ultimately terminated its lease, proving a success for advocates like Miles and propelling her motivation as an environmental leader. She now leads Green the Green, a committee within Students for the Environment that is working to persuade the university to transition to natural lawn care.

As for Miles' prospects for the university's future, she maintains hope for a healthier, more sustainable future.

"They did make the right decision before," Miles says about the university's choice to cancel plans for a campus power plant. "I believe they can do it again."

Miles says that although Students for the Environment has a faculty advisor, the students are the ones who make the difference.

With graduation right around the corner, she is excited for what is to come.

Miles landed a position with Green Corps, which she says is the country's top training program for environmental policy makers.

"I'll be traveling around the country," Miles says. "I'm leaving in August, but I won't know until July where I'm going."

Although she knows that the government is needed to put policies into place, Miles avidly believes that individual actions can make a difference.

She recalled her seventh grade social studies teacher, the one who joked about running for president and was the first to teach her about environmental issues.

"He had all these grand ideas and, as a kid, I was in awe of him," she says. "He talked about climate change, and it was the first time I had ever heard of that. It sounded so urgent."

Although working for a sustainable future engulfs the majority of her time, Miles finds ways to enrich her other passion.

"I love playing the drums," she says, lighting up at the thought of the steel band, a group she has been a part of since she began college. "I wanted to double major in music. I was really serious."

Miles works closely with many environmentally-active faculty members as well, including McKay Jenkins, a journalism and environmental humanities professor. Jenkins is the advisor for Students for the Environment and recently spoke at one of the group's events, discussing the harmful effects of herbicides and the pressing need to transition to natural methods of grounds maintenance.

"I'm really pleased to be able to work with students like Stephanie," Jenkins says. "Stephanie knows our campus is a microcosm for the world at large, and that changes we make at UD can ripple out to the rest of our community."

With all that Miles does on campus and in the community, she says her concern for the world is what motivates her the most, rather than the need to land a good career.

"I think that the science is there, but people still aren't doing anything about it," she says, adding that she constantly wonders what keeps people from making sustainable decisions. "What motivates me is to organize people to make change in their own lives."

She says that even busy students can make a difference by doing things like biking to class and lowering the heat — which saves a few bucks, too.

Well past midnight, Miles was still running on caffeine, working on plans for a possible state-funded initiative.

"For now," she says, "I'm just trying to make a difference in this little tiny corner of the world."

GRAIN'S RECIPE CONTEST IS INSPIRING THE EXTRAORDINARY

HOLLY CLAYTOR
Senior Reporter

COURTESY OF GRAINONMAIN.COM

Serving a chocolate cake towering over one foot tall and one foot wide, Newark's Grain Craft Bar + Kitchen is all for taking its menu to unthinkable limits. The rustic-style pub aims to create a social and exciting atmosphere.

"We're all about creating reasons for people to get together," restaurant owner Lee Mikles says.

This semester, the restaurant developed the idea to tie in its menu with the university's Hotel, Restaurant and Institutional Management (HRIM) program, particularly the HRIM201 class titled "Food Principles."

Mikles explained how Grain has developed a strong relationship with students who have been involved in this class, and wanted to incorporate their skills into his business. With this in mind, the owners and chef of Grain decided to host a recipe contest for the current students in Food Principles.

On our end, it was: how can we get that class involved?" Chef Bill Wallen says. "So we decided we were going to put whoever's dish I picked onto our menu."

Food Principles focuses on what goes into the physical composition of food and its preparation. As a class project, the students' only requirement was to invent their own entree. The details of the dish were completely up to the student.

"Students very rarely get to see their work in the classroom go out into the real world," co-owner Jim O'Donoghue says. "It will be very cool for them to see it actually translate."

The owners and chef will read each recipe that the students have submitted and judge them based on what would work well incorporated into their menu and made in a reasonable amount of time. Wallen will then prepare the top four or five dishes, while the students work with him to reflect their vision. These top entrees will then be judged to determine the winner.

"I told [the students] we were looking for higher-end entrees—something crazy and out of the ordinary," Wallen says. "I want them to feel like it's their dish, 100 percent."

Once the top dish is decided, it will be featured on the new menu, which will be available on April 4, Wallen says.

According to its website, the restaurant also hosts live music Wednesday through Saturday, as well as several other events like "Cards Against Humanity" on Mondays and "Brains at Grain Team Trivia" on Tuesdays. Grain's aim has been to create an entertaining ambiance that brings in all parts of the community.

With this recipe contest, the restaurant has now been able to take that communal feel and incorporate it into campus, Mikles says. The owners and chef of Grain say they hope to make this contest an annual occurrence.

"I would love if we discover a new take on some entree that the student brings that surprises us and delights us," Mikles says. "I would love for the student be able to take their family here and say, 'That's mine.'"

BRUNCH-ING IS BACK

ANNA STATZ
Senior Reporter

COURTESY OF ELLIE HALFACRE
Brunch is back, and with these Main Street restaurants' menus, it is better than ever.

I recently had a conversation with a friend, also from the New York area, who often wondered the same thing I did—although the mealtime known as "brunch" is popular back home, does it even exist here in Newark? After this conversation, I set out on a quest, determined to see if there was anywhere actually decent to have brunch on Main Street. I then reviewed all brunch menus available and now present to you the three best brunch menus that you should try next Sunday.

Home Grown Cafe

This is a popular spot on Main Street, especially for the 21-and-over crowd, with live music accompanying a delicious (and vegetarian-friendly) menu. Its brunch menu does not disappoint, with plates ranging from the Croque Madame to Buffalo Chicken and Waffles (never heard of a better combination). Leave the Rodney omelette line behind and try some of Home Grown's amazing omelette combinations, like the Garden Veggie, a mixture of fresh veggies topped with cheddar jack cheese. For those feeling a bit more adventurous, try the Tex Mex omelette, made with pico de gallo, black beans, cheddar jack cheese and topped with guacamole (after all, who doesn't want guacamole on everything?)

There's even an entire section of the menu specifically reserved for eggs and hollandaise. If that's not brunch genius, I don't know what is.

And what brunch menu would be complete without an extensive cocktail list? Enjoy a build-your-own mimosa bar, choosing from a variety of fresh fruit, juices and herbs (refills included). Bloody Marys are also customizable—choose between a red or green tomato blend with either herbs and spices or a mix of garden fresh vegetables.

Caffé Gelato

If someone ever offers to take you to Caffé Gelato, take it as a compliment. If they treat you to Sunday brunch at Caffé Gelato, take it as an even bigger compliment. This high-end Italian eatery on Main Street boasts an impressive and extensive brunch menu. The starters themselves are complex dishes like lobster gnocchi and sweet potato fries with truffled honey sauce. Each dish in the omelette selection (the staple of any brunch menu) is a masterpiece in itself—the Lejon, for example, is made with sauteed shrimp, crumbled bacon, scallions, mozzarella cheese and homemade horseradish sauce. The omelettes are just the start of the wide egg selection—they serve farm fresh eggs made any way you like, or get your choice of poached egg, served over a toasted English muffin with Hollandaise sauce, roasted potatoes and a small vanilla gelato with granola and berries. Wow.

Sweet or savory crepes, intricately-made French toast and pancakes, a Spanish paella and paninis on fresh-baked focaccia are also all options for the more voracious (and adventurous) of brunch-ers. And let's not forget the drink selection (for those over 21, of course): choose from a long list of available wines, whiskeys, cognac and craft beers or enjoy specialty drinks like the Gelato Cosmo or the Caffé Gelato Old-Fashioned.

Klondike Kate's

There's no denying that Kate's is certainly one of the more renowned spots on Main Street. And its brunch menu, although perhaps not as exotic as Caffe Gelato's, is one that anyone can enjoy. Take your pancakes, Belgian waffle or French toast to Kate's Krazy Toppings bar.

Enjoy specialty omelets or a variety of two-egg breakfasts like the Two Egg Powerhouse, the Egg White Powerhouse or the Lumber Jack. Or go a different route with the Angus Steak and Eggs, Breakfast Quesadilla or Egg Nachos. And don't forget about an incredible selection of poached eggs, like the Eggs Benedict, Eggs Chesapeake or Huevos Rancheros. (Yes, there are a lot of eggs on this menu.)

Craving something a little simpler? Try one of Kate's many breakfast sandwich options, like the Hangover Helper, which might be the call on a lazy Sunday morning. And if you're up to it, pair that with a $3 Bloody Mary or mimosa to keep the feel of the weekend going.

GIRL SCOUTS STATIONED OUTSIDE GROTTO PIZZA

ALEXANDRA STRAUSMAN
Assistant Mosaic Editor

LORRAINE COOK/THE REVIEW
Are the values on display on a Saturday at Grotto's the ones we want to impart to Newark's Girl Scouts?

Girl Scouts have been sitting wide-eyed, eager to sell cookies outside Grotto Pizza on Main Street for the past few weekends. Rewind.

Known for the "Saturdage," the university's local bar, Grotto Pizza, houses around 350 people at max capacity. So, let's think about the amount of drunk students crowded inside and in line for the Grotto's day drink. Let's assume Grotto's is surrounded inside and outside with approximately 375 to 400 students.

Now let's take a handful of badge-wearing, integrity-driven Girl Scouts and place them right next to this overcrowded rowdy bar for some good sales action!

Don't get me wrong. I love Grotto's on Saturday, but what parent made the executive decision that cookie sales were more important than a safe environment for these young girls?

The Girl Scout mission is to "build girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place," their national website states. So what kind of character-building is this? What badge does this merit? Manipulative sales tactics?

It irks me that the very foundation that wants to create high-achieving, well-rounded girls is stripping the purity of this program with the location of their cookie stand. More offensive is the way that everyone is making this seem okay.

This is disturbing the ideals of these impressionable young girls.

These young girls are now grouping being drunk and being happy in the same category. I mean, why wouldn't they, right? Girls as young as five years old are witnessing this behavior as a good thing. So now what? Are these young girls going to grow up wanting to mirror the image of the older "cool" kids they witnessed on Main Street?

You have to think that they will. Saturday has come and gone once again. Rewind and reevaluate next week's sales tactics, parents.

SEASON ONE OF ABC'S "QUANTICO" CONTINUES

ALEXANDRA STRAUSMAN
Assistant Mosaic Editor

COURTESY OF TV GUIDE
ABC's drama "Quantico" has returned to television with plenty of suspense to keep viewers watching.

Welcome back, Quantico! Season one continued this past Sunday night on ABC, catching viewers up with the FBI's emergency command center, which was attacked by terrorists as its team was trying to find the perpetrators of a prior Grand Central Station bombing.

Let's refresh our memory. Before the season's break, Elias Harper (Rick Cosnett) took his own life right before the emergency command center was bombed. The attack killed 32 agents, one being Clayton Haas (Mark Pellegrino), father of Caleb Haas (Graham Rogers) and lover of Caleb's ex-girlfriend Shelby Wyatt (Johanna Braddy).

The episode ended with an ominous statement: "One agent will die."

Now let's unpack the drama. Throughout the episode, court hearings took place over whether or not Elias had been acting alone or working with others. Alex Parrish (Priyanka Chopra), after being pinned as a terrorist mastermind in the earlier half of the season, took the stand and said that Elias acted alone, even though she believed him to be part of a team.

The series takes place in the present and future, flashing back to when the FBI agents were just trainees. Each episode, they go through tasks and exercises to become better agents. In this episode, they trained in an FBI color war against trainees that were a month more experienced than them—the losing team having to send five players home.

Spoiler: the teams tied in different wins, taking them into a game of overtime: hostages versus agents. With the more advanced agents playing the trainees we have grown to love, the two teams became one—moving into each other's rooms.

Viewers can only anticipate the excitement from possible romance and drama with this added batch of new characters.

There seems to be something up with Miranda Shaw's (Aunjanue Ellis) son Charlie Price (J. Mallory McCree). Last we knew, he is being kidnapped by four unknown men his age, ending in his beaten, barely-stable self somehow situated on his front door step. His stubborn exterior seems to mask his manipulative, shady interior, almost as if he is plotting something. His mother, being the assistant director of the FBI, appears to be successful in every aspect of her life, except for understanding her son.

Now—the romance. Ryan Booth (Jake McLaughlin) and Parrish's lost love serves itself in painful reminders, as his necklace appears in flashbacks and his actual self shows up to her door in present day—not in a romantic way but with a way of purpose, fathering her and encouraging her to do and say what is right.

We're left wondering what the rest of season one will hold as Parrish receives phone calls from the same anonymous callers that took the lives of Elias and others long before their actual deaths.

The episode ends with Parrish taking an anonymous call under a deserted bridge. Colleague Natalie Vasquez (Annabelle Acosta) reveals herself, not as the caller, but decorated in explosives. She and Parrish exchange looks of absolute fright before the credits roll.

Looks like it's going to be a season full of suspicion, threat and desperation to solve who is behind this—who is the terrorist?

literary lens

"Rogue Lawyer"

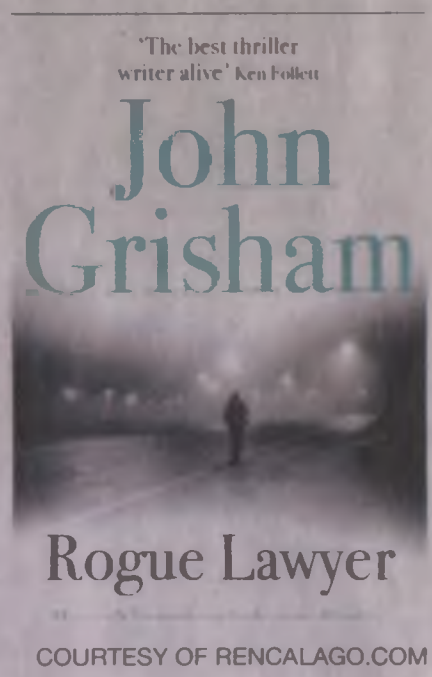
John Grisham's latest novel, "Rogue Lawyer," offers a fascinating twist on the author's popular legal thrillers. The rogue lawyer in question is Sebastian Rudd, an attorney who takes the dangerous cases and clients that no one else will represent.

The Washington Post described Rudd as an "equal-opportunity offender" in the story, when describing how many people the fictional lawyer had upset. This is the reason that Rudd no longer has an office or a public phone number, and has to carry a gun and wear a bulletproof vest under all his clothing.

Rudd is a character with a dark sense of humor who recognizes the risks of his career choice. He knows that by choosing to represent unpopular defendants, he puts himself at risk. At one point, Rudd says, "I'm not aware of any case in modern times in which a criminal defense attorney was gunned down while entering the courthouse in the middle of a trial. Nevertheless, I have resigned myself to the likelihood that I could well be the first."

That realistic yet fatalistic way of thinking stays with Rudd throughout the book. Grisham did a wonderful job of capturing the almost cynical view of Rudd while still portraying him as the protagonist and a character who wants to change the world.

A good parallel for Rudd is the character of Sherlock Holmes in the 2009 film starring Robert Downey, Jr. Like Holmes, Rudd is rough around the edges and always expects the worst, yet he uses his intelligence and insight to get out of bad situations in the nick of time. Like Holmes, one of Rudd's main hobbies is cage fighting—but he prefers to watch rather than participate. However, the similarities only extend so far; Rudd is a truly distinctive character who really makes this book.



COURTESY OF RENCALAGO.COM

The first few chapters of the book each cover a different character's legal case, all represented by Rudd. At first, "Rogue Lawyer" could be mistaken for a collection of short stories, but as the novel progresses it becomes apparent that Rudd ties all of these self-contained cases together.

Grisham definitely set this novel up to be the beginning of a new series featuring Rudd, and the great character development and the unique, captivating plot insure that it will be successful.

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

unfiltered commentary

Filling blank pages

Life goes on.

It's true. We are written in chapters. We are holding pens, carving memories through blank pages. We begin again at each new chapter — savoring our last ending and staring nervously at new blank pages waiting to be filled. We move through life with adventurous restraints. We hype up the unknown and hide from it — we are lost in the present by wondering of future possibilities. And still — sometimes I yearn for the past.

It is almost unimaginable that life goes on. Not in a dramatic way, but in the way of world systems. High school went on without you and the people you knew, almost flawlessly. Soon, college will do the same, adopting new faces to carve out new memories for corners and cafe hideaways you once called your own.

New faces will replace old faces. It is the way we allow for others to have at it, filling their blank pages.

I wonder about the streets I call home once I leave them — how new faces will replace the ones I have grown to love and if the shops I love will still act as hideaways for them, too.

I wonder of Newark. I wonder if years from now I'll walk onto Main Street and I'll see it as a stranger or if it will be preserved as it is now — I'll walk into my favorite sandwich shop and they'll still know — avocado on focaccia — as if no time has passed.

As graduation dinner reservations are being made I wonder of all the things I'll miss most and of all the things I won't ever think about again. I think of all the people I know but was never close with that I'll never see again. I wonder if I'll remember to miss them like I am reminded now with random run-ins.

So what now? We go on. That's what. It's scary and simple and exciting and nerve-wracking all at once. But what chapter wasn't? They all were. And still, life goes on. We go headfirst, thrust into a new environment time and time again.

It makes me confident that we've got this.

The blank pages are in front of us now. I have been staring at them since September wondering who will be there to write about — who will help me fill them. For now, I am finishing writing out this chapter. My hand is aching; the memories are carved so deep.

For now, my roommates and I are taking all our memories, writing them on note cards and putting them into a jar. We are going to watch the jar fill up and at the end of this chapter, we are going to sit around, open the jar and remember all the bits and pieces that made it so easy to fill the pages that were once so blank.

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A COMPLETELY MESSY PORTRAYAL OF "LOVE"

HOLLY CLAYTOR
Senior Reporter

Extraordinarily lethargic and delirious after a night of too much Ambien and breaking up with her drug-addict ex-boyfriend for the umpteenth time, Mickey (Gillian Jacobs) has her first encounter with an equally hungover and heartbroken Gus (Paul Rust) in a mini-mart.

Netflix's new series, "Love," aimlessly wanders through the lives of "nice guy" Gus and "cool girl" Mickey, yet these characters prove to be far more complex than their cliches. Right off the bat, Gus's "nice guy" attitude is slapped in the face after he offers to buy Mickey's coffee and cigarettes at the mini-mart, to which she replies, "Don't be a f—ing hero."

With his awkwardly-proportioned facial features and quirky hobby of writing theme songs for movies that don't already have them, Gus is a clear oddball.

His problem is that he has labeled himself as the guy that every girl should feel bad for, which continually backfires at him. Proclaiming to be a nice guy doesn't automatically earn Gus the title—in fact he proves to be quite a jerk.

At one point he even tells Mickey that he's not just some nice guy she can have sex with in order to make her feel like she's getting her life together. He continues to yell at her and says, "Just because you're O.K. with f—ing up your life doesn't mean you can come in here and f—up my life."

Mickey's "cool girl" attitude is no more genuine than Gus's "nice guy" façade. Continuingly battling addiction throughout the series, Mickey's character is far more cynical and self-destructive than Gus wants to believe.

In the first episode, Mickey clearly expresses her pessimistic view on love.

"You said earlier that if you ask for love, the world will send you love back," she says. "But I've been asking and asking, and I haven't gotten f—ing anything. Hoping and waiting and wishing and wanting love...hoping for love has f—ing ruined my life."

The series continues for 10 episodes at a frustratingly slow rate, which made binge-watching slightly difficult at times. It seems that each time the characters find themselves together, one of them manages to screw things up completely. Despite its title, the show displays the most unromantic view on love, focusing on the confusing and infuriating side of opening up your heart.

Even when the unstable duo attempt to have a romantic night at Gus's favorite fancy magic show, Mickey manages to insult the performance and curse out the security officers before being kicked out.

The cycle of ups and downs between Gus and Mickey continue to rotate until they both explode their emotions that they have been shoving away. Mickey tells Gus what he has needed to hear the entire series: "You pretend to be nice...I am who I am. I'm not pretending to be anything."

Portrayed with a grungy vibe and an excessive amount of cursing, "Love" ends with Gus and Mickey meeting up at the exact gas station mini-mart they first saw each other. Both characters begin to realize they each have their own issues to figure out before ever having a normal relationship. Even a pair of unstable people can't fix each other; they both have to do that on their own.

At least each of them can be reassured that they are just as messed up as the other.

"Dude, I am the queen of eating s—," Mickey comforts Gus. "You should never be embarrassed."

COURTESY OF YOUTUBE
Netflix's new series, "Love," shows the intertwined lives of two distinctive and rather pathetic characters.

critical reality

"Making a Murderer"

In the United States, one of the worst nightmares anyone could ever imagine is being the victim of a wrongful conviction, much less being a victim twice in the same county. For Steven Avery, his multiple run-ins with the Manitowoc County Police have caused nothing but pain and suffering for everyone involved.

"Making A Murderer" centers around the life of Avery and his battle with the legal system in Manitowoc, Wis. The 10-episode documentary has garnered much attention across the country and has sparked a lot of debate.

In order to understand the primary case that is the focal point of the majority of the episodes, the filmmakers take us back to 1985 when Avery was falsely accused and imprisoned for a crime that he did not commit. He served 18 years for that crime before he was released from prison.

As the documentary shows, there were a few things wrong with Avery's 1985 case. One, he was already being pursued by the Manitowoc police for an alleged crime his cousin reported against him. Two, when the police were informed of the actual perpetrator of the crime, they completely disregarded that piece of information until they could no longer ignore it.

Following his release, Avery sued the Manitowoc County's former police sheriff, Thomas Kocourek, and its former district attorney, Denis Vogel, for the damage caused due to his wrongful conviction. But, things begin to fall apart again for Avery when he is arrested in 2005 for the murder of Teresa Halbach.

Debates have begun across the nation: some in support of Avery's innocence and others believing that he committed the murder. His wrongful conviction plays a huge role as to why many do not believe he could have committed this murder. But it is also the way the prosecution has presented its case and evidence against Avery.

Two important questions to think about while watching the documentary are: how and why was Avery convicted despite an inadmissible confession and faulty evidence?

COURTESY OF TV LINE

Avery's case isn't as cut and dry; there is a complex issue present that looks at the unjust treatment Avery faced from the beginning. Based on the documentary's angle, he never had the "innocent-until-proven-guilty" belief long held in the United States.

The most interesting thing about the documentary is what it says about the need for judicial reform. If this could happen to Avery, then it could happen to anyone, which is very bothersome. Prior to the release of the documentary, I knew nothing of Avery, his family or the crimes he was accused of committing.

Just recently, Avery's ex-fiancee, Jodi Stachowski, came forward to tell of the abuse she suffered at the hands of Avery, which leads her to believe that he did commit this murder. Letters from Avery to Stachowski show the nature of his character toward women, but is that still enough to prove that he murdered Halbach?

I have learned a few of things from watching "Making A Murderer." First, a lot needs to be done in order for a change to actively be made in our legal system. We don't want what happened to Avery to happen to anyone else. Second, the judicial system in Wisconsin didn't give Avery the chance to tell his side of the story.

Every story has three parts: side one, side two and the truth. Although a great documentary, I don't believe we got every side of the story. But that doesn't mean there weren't any mistakes being made on the part of the prosecution.

I'm not sure where I stand but I do know one thing . . . there is still room for improvement in our judicial system.

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Chicken Scratch

Join The Review as a weekly cartoonist for our comic strip "Chicken Scratch."

Go to udreview.com/join to apply.

LORRAINE COOK/ THE REVIEW

ALL PHOTOS: MORGAN BROWNELL/THE REVIEW
Friday's game against the College of Charleston in the CAA Finals was one of the worst statistical games in Delaware history. Of the se[illegible] total attempts in the game, only two of the [illegible] throws [illegible] successful.

BLUE HENS ROUGH SEASON ENDS WITH LOSS TO CHARLESTON IN CAA TOURNAMENT

TEDDY GELMAN
Staff Reporter

A season that will statistically go down as one of the worst in Blue Hens basketball history came to a close Friday night. Delaware fell to the College of Charleston by a score of 67-63 in the first round of the CAA Tournament in Baltimore, Md.

Despite a fantastic 30-point effort from sophomore guard Kory Holden, the Blue Hens committed 18 turnovers, missed seven free throws, and received only two combined points from starters Anthony Mosley and Devonne Pinkard.

"We were just leaning so heavily on Kory and then it got to the point where Skye got going so we were leaning so heavily on both of them and we just needed to get more contributions from other guys," Head Coach Monte Ross said.

The Blue Hens played without senior forward Marvin King-Davis, who missed the game with a hamstring injury. In his absence, sophomore forward Skye Johnson had his best game of the season, finishing with 15 points and five rebounds.

"I definitely felt like I had a role to fill," Johnson said. "I mean obviously I can never fill Marvin's shoes, but I was definitely gonna try. Every time I step on the court I just want to make a contribution, whether it's filling in for Marvin or just coming off the bench.

Holden and Johnson scored 45 of Delaware's 63 points while the other three starters were only able to add a combined nine points.

Facing off against a Charleston team that entered the game ranked ninth in the nation giving up only 61.8 points per game, Delaware's offense struggled heavily early in the game, committing 11 turnovers in the first 10 minutes of action. Down the stretch, Holden kept Delaware in the game with five three-point shots and had a chance to tie the game at 65 with under 25 seconds to play, but his layup attempt was blocked, which sealed it for Charleston.

The loss concludes a season in which the Blue Hens set a school record for consecutive losses with 15 and won only two conference games. However, the development of Holden is a lone bright spot.

"I learned how to be more patient, how to become a more vocal leader," Holden said.

Ross recognizes the talent that the second team All-CAA member possesses on and off the court and considers him a major asset for the team moving forward.

"Now, this is Kory's team," Ross said. "As we move forward, he understands that it's a big responsibility when we say it's your team because he will dictate a lot of what goes on. The team will take on his personality and he's earned it."

Despite the loss of King-Davis to graduation, the team will be boosted by the additions of sophomore players Chivarsky Corbett and Eric Carter who missed the season with injuries as well as transfer guard Darian Bryant.

Beyond Holden, there are many question marks, but with pieces in place, Ross understands that his team has room for improvement next season.

"The thing about Kory is that he's not afraid to put them to work," Ross said. "We have to go to work and this development process starts right now."

KING-DAVIS SHINES IN SENIOR SEASON

CONNOR MILLIGAN
Staff Reporter

The Delaware men's basketball 2015-16 season did not go as planned, finishing with a 7-23 record overall and going 2-16 in conference play. Despite the disappointing season, one aspect the team could count on game-in and game-out was the solid play from their fifth-year senior, Marvin King-Davis.

The 6-foot-7 forward from Richmond, Va. started in 29 of Delaware's 30 games this season, logging career highs in points per game (14.8) and rebounds per game (9.0).

Coming out of high school, King-Davis was recruited by Delaware Head Coach Monte Ross. In his senior season at Meadowbrook High School, King-Davis was named a McDonald's All-American finalist, averaging 22.6 points, 11.8 rebounds and 3.5 blocks per game.

"During the recruiting process, the coaches at Delaware really seemed interested," King-Davis said. "Then I visited the campus and really liked it, which also helped my decision."

Jarvis Threatt and Larry Savage, two of King-Davis' AAU teammates in Virginia, also committed to Delaware during the recruiting process, making his decision to become a Blue Hen that much easier.

King-Davis decided to sit out his first season at Delaware as a redshirt, allowing him to maintain his eligibility as a freshman. Over the next three seasons, he saw a gradual increase in minutes, points and rebounds per game. During his junior year, he started in 23 games, averaged 9.7 points per game and lead the team in rebounding at 5.7 per game.

But King-Davis' improvement as a player didn't come without challenges. His biggest was staying healthy.

"I'd say overcoming injuries has been the toughest thing," King-Davis said.

Two years ago, he battled a stress-fracture in his foot while last year a hamstring injury forced him to miss six games. This season, however, King-Davis has managed to remain relatively healthy, missing just one game to injury.

Although King-Davis made contributions in his first three seasons as a Blue Hen, this season served as his true breakthrough season. He was a model of consistency as the team's second leading scorer, scoring in double figures in all but six games. The athletic forward ranked second in the CAA in rebounds per game, trailing only Hofstra's Rokas Gustys. He was one of two Delaware players to be named to the All-CAA team, earning third team honors.

King-Davis' development as a player didn't happen overnight. Plenty of hours were spent practicing and working on his game in the gym, not just during the season but in the off-season as well.

"I think the extra conditioning and just working on my game over the summer helped me a lot," King-Davis said. "I worked on my game on my own a lot."

King-Davis attributes a lot of his growth as both a player and as a person to Ross.

"Coach Ross has helped me a lot, he's a good person and a good coach," King-Davis said. "He will challenge you on and off the court, and he pushes you to be better."

In his four years playing for Delaware, King-Davis has certainly been a part of some great experiences. From being named to the All-CAA team his senior season to being a part of the 2013-14 team that earned the school's fifth ever NCAA tournament berth, it's safe to say he has left his mark on the program.

"As a player on the court, I'd say the hard work has paid off, and I've accomplished all that I wanted to," King Davis said. "There's been a lot of ups and a lot of downs, but these years here have been a great experience."

MORGAN BROWNELL/THE REVIEW
Marvin King-Davis' final season as a Blue Hen will mark one of the highest-scoring seasons of his career. Despite this, his final season will also be noted with a loss against the same team that beat Delaware in the first round of the 2016 CAA Championships, the College of Charleston.

WEEKLY ROUNDUP

.247 Batting average of Delaware's opponents this year, good for third best in the conference and helping them to a 6-4 start.

.451 Sophomore Mariah Kondravy's batting average through 16 games of the Hens' softball season, good for fourth among starters n the CAA.

4 Home runs for Anna Steinmetz, a freshman utility soft-baller, tied for the lead in the CAA.

CANCER SURVIVOR CONTE DEFIES THE ODDS

COURTESY OF ELIJAH CONTE

Elijah Conte's childhood illness hasn't slowed him down. Beating a survival chance of 15 percent, Conte is now a fifth-year member of Delaware's lacrosse team and continues to contribute on and off the field with the Hens.

BRIANNA CIOCCA
Assistant Sports Editor

Not many people would guess that Elijah Conte—captain, fifth-year member and four-year letter winner as a defensive midfielder on Delaware's men's lacrosse team—was once told that there was only a 15 percent chance that he'd beat his childhood cancer diagnosis. Now a senior at the university, Conte continues never to take a day for granted.

"I've set a couple goals for myself this year, being that I do have the opportunity for an extra year," Conte said. "I've set a goal for myself to put in as many extra hours as I can and see how good I can get. I want to stay healthy and set a very high example for these guys."

Although Conte was sick as a child, he always loved sports and was chomping at the bit to play any sport that he could. He started playing lacrosse in the fourth grade when his dad came home with a lacrosse stick.

As Conte reflects back on his time in the hospital and his treatment, he mentions that he tries his best to put that time period behind him. However, his experience makes him appreciate how lucky he is to be alive.

"It makes me take a step back at certain points during the day and just say 'wow,'" he said. "I realized how lucky I am and to have the opportunities that I've had after such a life-threatening illness has definitely humbled me."

Conte is cancer-free, but continues to give back as much as he can to families who have the burden of dealing with cancer diagnoses. He led the team and was among national leaders in fundraising for the HEADStrong Foundation, an organization for cancer patients and families, helping them by providing essential programs and services to improve quality of life.

Over the last two years, Conte has raised nearly $10,000 for the HEADStrong Foundation. He set his first goal at around $1,000. Within 72 hours of fundraising, Conte raised close to $2,500 — a feat that still amazes him.

"It just shows how many really good people there are out there," Conte said. "I don't take it as an individual goal — it's just a credit to everyone who really put their foot forward and donated to help a lot of families that need it right now."

Conte had almost 100 people donate over the course of the past two years, which he said is a honor to be a part of something that special. In addition to being a part of the HEADStrong Foundation, Conte has also joined forces with the Andrew McDonough B+ Foundation. With this charity, Conte has adopted his own hero and initiated adopting a hero for the men's lacrosse team as well.

Since day one, McDonough has told Conte, "Listen, you're the light at the end of the tunnel for these parents. You're what they're looking for and if you can meet as many of these families as you can, you're going to give them some hope."

His work with the B+ Foundation directly correlates to the kind of culture he has in the locker room with his team, Conte said.

His own hero for the B+ Foundation is his best friend, Will. Battling cancer left Will with physical limitations, whereas Conte avoided any lasting physical problems.

"I know Will says that I'm his role model, but he's actually mine," Conte said. "Obviously, he can't do a lot of the things athletically that I can do, but from an attitude standpoint, he's 100 times a bigger man than I'll ever be."

Despite being in the clear from cancer, Conte remains humble about his journey and wants to do as much as he can for children going through the same situation.

"You find something that you love more than anything else and if for one second someone tells you you're not going to be able to do it, you need to put your foot down, chase it and never stop chasing it," Conte said.

"NON-PROFIT NIGHT" A HIGHLIGHT FOR DELAWARE 87ERS

JACK RODGERS
Managing Sports Editor

The Delaware 87ers donned blue jerseys with yellow stars in honor of their non profit night, benefiting the university's largest student-run philanthropy, UDance. UDance raised over $1.28 million in 2015 alone and has donated over $3.56 million since its inception in 2007. The 87ers would go on to lose their non-profit night 114-106.

Ticket sales went toward The B+ Foundation, which is the benefactor of UDance's annual fundraising campaign. Larry Meli, president of the Delaware 87ers, was excited to set aside a night specifically for the charity.

"For three years, the 87ers have been honored to partner with UDance and The B+ Foundation," Meli said. "Pediatric cancer remains the most underfunded of any cancer research in our country [...] this night not only gives us the opportunity to raise money and awareness for kids affected by cancer, but to honor the B+ Heroes and their inspiring fight."

Joe McDonough, president of The B+ Foundation, also noted the importance of the 87ers' non-profit night to his charity.

"We greatly value the partnership that we have with the Delaware 87ers," McDonough said. "The team has embraced The B+ Foundation, UDance and our B+ Heroes. The 87ers are helping us fight childhood cancer and put smiles on the faces of our B+ Heroes."

Friday's game also noted the call up of Christian Wood by the Philadelphia 76ers. Wood has appeared in 26 games with the Sevens this season, averaging nine rebounds, as well as 16 points on 52 percent shooting in 27 minutes per game. Thirteen-year NBA veteran Baron Davis, who was acquired by the 87ers (17-22) several days before Friday's game, recorded eight points, four assists after replacing Wood.

COURTESY OF NBA.COM

Baron Davis, an ex-New York Nick, got his first start as an 87er last Friday, noting an impressive dunk along with eight points shooting three for 11 from the field.

sports commentary

Slapshot: The journey through nationals

Time is winding down on the clock. The away team has five goals and the home team has one. The clock hits zero and the Blue Hens win the ACHA (American Collegiate Hockey Association) National Championship.

Fast forward four years.

The Blue Hens had a dismal finish in the ESCHL (Eastern States Collegiate Hockey League) playoffs, yet blaze on into this year's ACHA National Tournament sitting at 14th in the league. Hope was bleak.

Last Thursday, the Blue Hens pulled off an emotional win in the first round of the playoffs against Mercyhurst University.

The Blue Hens were first to score, 11 minutes into the game with a goal from forward Cole Zucker. Two minutes afterward, defenseman Justin Hoch scored to make it a one-goal game.

However, the second period was quiet. With the Blue Hens failing to convert on their three power play chances, and Mercyhurst unable to score during their two chances, it was still a 2-1 game going into the third period.

Early on in the third period, Mercyhurst tied the game on a power play goal when forward Vincent Zingarelli drew a penalty for tripping. After another 17 minutes of play, the Blue Hens and Mercyhurst went into the second most anticipated period of a hockey game: overtime.

Players on both sides hoped for the chance to be the hero for their team, making a final overtime shot, but goalies Adam Goss and Dylan Troiano had other plans. Both kept the game scoreless after another full overtime period. This led to the most anticipated period of a hockey game: double overtime.

Don't even talk to me about triple overtime.

Overtime is a tough obstacle to overcome, physically and mentally. Each shot could be the last, so that means every movement, hockey stop, transition and hit has an effect on every second that passes by.

The Blue Hens needed to end it; and that is just what they did. Off of a pass from Zucker, Zingarelli put home the game winner and the rest of the team blew a sigh of exhaustion as they came onto the ice to celebrate.

Lindenwood University was next on the schedule. Sitting at number three overall in the ACHA, the Blue Hens had a tough battle last Friday.

Three goals came for Lindenwood in the first period alone without an answer from the Blue Hens. Zucker started the scoring on a power play for the Blue Hens in the second period, only to be answered by Michael Lozano making it a 4-1 game going into the third.

In the third period, Blue Hen defenseman Nick Ustaski put away two, but Lindenwood responded back with two of their own. One would be an empty-netter.

The Blue Hens lost control of their sticks and mouths in the third period, which gave Lindenwood an astounding total of 10 power play opportunities. The Lions happily scored on only two of those chances.

In the end, the Blue Hens suffered a 6-3 loss at the hands of Lindenwood. And that is how it will end for the Blue Hens this season.

Players will graduate and new players will cycle in. The Blue Hens will start to focus on the mountain in front of them and not the missed chances in the past. Life and the hockey program at Delaware will go on, but the next clinch of another national championship remains out of reach.

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