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Itching to be on The Green: The effects of spraying pesticides

KACIE BRANDENBURG
Staff Reporter

The brilliant sun warmed both temperatures and spirits on the last day of February, beckoning students to trade in their layers for hammocks, blankets, slacklines and Frisbees.

As temperatures rose to 66 degrees Fahrenheit, juniors Lauren Romeo and Shannon Toth sprawled across a Turkish blanket with their shoes off, picnicking on the grass outside of Sharp Lab as they listened to the calming, unmistakable sound of a ukelele in a Jack Johnson song.

"I like this break from the frozen tundra that's been happening the last few weeks," Romeo said. "But The Green is unnaturally green. Most grass is usually brown and kinda gross in February."

What Romeo, a junior marketing major, did not know was that The Green had been sprayed with pesticides — some of which are causes of skin irritation, linked to kidney damage or potentially carcinogenic — just a few days earlier. This was due to the unseasonable weather, according to an email from Students for the Environment, an environmental group on campus.

Sophie Phillips, a junior environmental science major and Students for the Environment's "Green the Green" chair has been working with Grounds Service department in Facilities for about a year.

She said they have already begun to explore organic lawn care, and are working to increase transparency between grounds and the university community. For now, grounds service, and the private contractors they work with, continue to spray pesticides and chemicals on campus property — especially in high-use and iconic areas like The Green.

"We've been working with grounds a lot, and part of our partnership includes them telling us what and when they spray chemicals," Phillips said. "They were resistant to tell me what they were spraying, but eventually told me that they were spot treating with PowerZone."

PowerZone's label says that it is used to quickly and effectively control weeds, showing signs of damage to weeds within a few hours and killing the weed entirely within seven to 14 days. The label explains that the chemicals degrade in the sun. This means that the time between spraying and the lawn being safe for humans and animals varies depending on the degree of sun exposure.

Michelle Bennett, the university's sustainability manager, has been working with different groups on campus on this issue. She helped to establish the relationship between grounds and Students for the Environment.

Bennett said that the university's grounds team puts signs up when they apply fertilizer or pesticides to the grass. She also said that someone from grounds takes the signs down, but only after the chemicals in those pesticides and herbicides have enough time to sufficiently break down.

"The guys working out there know what they're doing," Bennett said. "A lot of their job includes health and safety assessments."

Maxwell Turf and Supply Company's PowerZone specimen label explains that, as a whole, the product causes moderate skin and eye irritation, and is harmful if absorbed through the skin or swallowed. It also states that those who come in contact with the product should wash their hands before eating or drinking anything, rinse skin immediately for 15-20 minutes and change and wash their clothing thoroughly.

Those who apply the chemicals are advised to wear long-sleeve shirts, socks, shoes, pants and chemical-resistant gloves as personal protective equipment (PPE). It also says to "wash PPE separately from other laundry" and that clothing and PPE "must not be reused until it has been cleaned."

While the chemicals that grounds uses on campus property are listed on their webpage, specific information regarding protection and the effects of those chemicals is not available on the university's site.

"If you see that the signs are up and you're uncomfortable, give it a few hours," said Bennett. "Then you can go hang out with your friends on The Green without worrying."

According to its label, PowerZone is made up of a host of chemicals like Carfentrazone-ethyl, MCPA, Mecoprop-p acid (MCPP-p) and Dicamba acid. The EPA classifies chemicals based on Toxicity Categories, with Category 1 being the most toxic and harmful, and Category 4 having the least negative effects.

MELISA SOYSAL/THE REVIEW
University facilities typically leaves the "professionally treated area" signs on areas for a few hours or days, but traces of the chemicals can still be found in the soil for an average of two weeks after spraying.

The EPA classifies Carfentrazone-ethyl as toxicity categories 3 and 4. According to a 1998 study done by the EPA, found that Carfentrazone-ethyl is toxic to algae and invertebrates, and moderately toxic to fish. It was found to break down relatively quickly in the environment, but can still impact aquatic wildlife.

The same study of Carfentrazone-ethyl cited that high exposure could result in "alterations in hematological profiles and/or in increased urinary porphyrin levels," in mammals. This means that exposure to Carfentrazone-ethyl could result in changes in hemoglobin -which carries oxygen on red blood cells -levels in blood and elevated porphyrins in urine. As of now, studies have not found that Carfentrazone-ethyl causes cancer or changes in nervous systems or genetic material.

Mike Loftus, assistant director of grounds services staff, said in an email that the chemicals used "to maintain the campus landscape are all applied as directed by the manufacturer and all are approved for use by the government."

One the other hand, another PowerZone ingredient, MCPA, is

SEE GREEN ON PAGE 4

STEM, GPAs and Biden: A Monday night with Faculty Senate

COURTESY OF PATRICK BICHÉ
Students volunteering on two Habitat for Humanity UDaB trips. More on page 3.

WILLIAM KEBBE
Associate News Editor

A round of applause and a few audible cheers indicated the Faculty Senate's pleasure over what Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs Matthew Kinservik deemed a "blessedly uneventful" St. Patrick's Day weekend.

And with that, last night's FacSen meeting took off.

Concerns over the rally for former Vice President Joe Biden, which is set to take place on the North Green this Friday, were vocalized from John Jebb, an assistant professor of the English department. His worries included what security protocol would be in place upon the Vice President's arrival and whether or not pre-existing strategies for such occasions would be used.

Biden's security detail, Kinservik said, has diminished in size, with fewer staff members and protocol measures than he maintained during his time in the White House. Procedures like sweeping buildings for weapons and closing off windows will not apply for this week's event.

Following the discussion, two resolutions, both aimed at creating two STEM-focused majors, were brought to the floor. The addition of a Construction Engineering and Management degree, as well as the addition of an Applied Molecular Biology and Biotechnology degree, echoes university president Dennis Assanis' mission for the school in the coming years.

In last month's interview with The Review, Assanis spoke of plans to bolster STAR campus with the construction of a new 10-story building to house interdisciplinary programs in fields such as nutrition and physical therapy. In the unveiling of his plan, Assanis highlighted his vision to renew and invest in the university's science and technology resources with intentions to make the university a canvas to "make the world."

The debate over the importance of STEM related education and involvement has received national attention as well. In January 2016, former President Barack Obama asked Congress to invest $4 billion in training modules for teachers in order for them to teach computer science courses to elementary, middle school and high school students. Likewise, current President Donald Trump recently signed legislation promoting the inclusion of women in the sciences, asking NASA and the National Science Foundation to encourage female participation.

At last night's meeting, the Faculty Senate began their own debate over the future of increased STEM education at the university with mixed results. The senate's debate over the implementation of a Construction Engineering and Management major saw little deliberation, and the resolution was passed smoothly.

The addition of a Applied Molecular Biology and Biotechnology major, however, sparked a back and forth among the representatives. Dean Kathleen Matt from the College of Health Science offered her opinion on the prospective program, having coordinated with other senate members on the proposition.

"I think biotechnology has been growing at the university, and I think this is the first of probably many programs that actually will be offered in biotechnology," she said.

Despite being approved by the curriculum and coordinating committees, the resolution had some representatives concerned over claims of false advertising.

"There seems to be some concern about the title already

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Students pay it forward on UDaB volunteer projects
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The movie industry is not stopping at Beauty and the Beast.
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PENCIL IT IN

TUESDAY, APRIL 4

ABCs of Diversity, 10 a.m., Perkins Collins Room

Spring 2017 History Workshop, 12:30 p.m., Munroe Hall Room 203

Academic Management, 3:30 p.m., Center for Academic Success

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5

Blue Hen Bounty Pickup, 12:30 p.m., St. Thomas' Parish

Well-Being Wednesday, 6 p.m., Harrington Commons

Wellness Speaker Series: Josh Robbins, 8:30 p.m., Bacchus Theater

THURSDAY, APRIL 6

Understanding Unintentional Bias, 10 a.m., Perkins Collins Room

Perkins Beverage and Jam, 5:30 p.m., Perkins Concourse

LSAT Strategy Workshop, 6 p.m., Gore Hall Room 204

FRIDAY, APRIL 7

Free Lunch Friday, 11 a.m., Horn Program and Venture Development Center

Save the Date: Biden on the Green, 12 p.m., Central Green

SATURDAY, APRIL 8

"Hurry Up and Slow Down!" Exhibit, Taylor Hall Room 101

SCPAB Presents: La La Land, 8 p.m., Trabant Theatre

SUNDAY, APRIL 9

Study Abroad Interest Meeting, 5 p.m., Purnell Hall Room 325

Rachmaninoff and Beyond: Pianist Jon Kimura Parker, 3 p.m., Center for the Arts Gore Recital Hall

UD Ballroom Dance Team Public Dance Classes: Swing, 6:30 p.m., St. Thomas' Parish

MONDAY, APRIL 10

ECE Spring Seminar Series, 11:15 a.m., Evans Hall Room 204

Note-Taking Workshop, 3:30 p.m., Center for Academic Success

Faculty Jazz, 8 p.m., Center for the Arts Gore Recital Hall

#TBT

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The battle over electronic-mail heats up

University professors complain students' use of e-mail defies code of respect, erodes professionalism

BY KRISTIN VORCE

It's finals week. Flopping down at her desk to check e-mail, anthropology professor Karen Rosenberg starts her messages opening one from a student. The e-mail was sent to the entire class and addressed to Rosenberg.

"The student said, 'I don't know if it's kind of a waste of time to study for the final exam since the last one was so in part of the material. Well, there's no way I'm studying. I'm going to Mag Night,'" she says.

Rosenberg was dismayed both at the student saying "Yeah, I guess it's gone and."

Oops.

It's not unusual to have poorly written e-mail sent to professors, but in the age of e-mail, students often have professors in unfamiliar situations. While many professors have discovered a frustration with the volume and informality of student e-mails, others enjoy the increased communication.

History professor Claire White says he is most irritated by e-mails from students who don't properly log in to their accounts before sending messages. "I mean, if you haven't got the stylistic guts to leave the answer out the picture. You're so cowardly," he says.

Some faculty members say some classmates worry they will fall behind if they aren't immediately connected with the e-mail. Those

E-mail Etiquette

Tips for proper Internet interaction with professors

Treat e-mail as a last resort – Attempt to contact your professor via phone or office hours first, unless the professor has indicated e-mail as a preferred method of communication.

Maintain a tone of respect – Don't use e-mail as a way to express anger, frustration or bewilderment with your professor. Don't say anything you wouldn't say to him or her in person.

Keep it brief and to the point – Have planned discussions and your thesis.

Try to obtain notes or review materials with classmates before contacting your professor.

"I think they are sending me things that they'd never tell me face-to-face," he says.

Another area where faculty is often complicated questions through e-mail.

"I like when somebody asks me a question in the class like a whole paragraph," he says. "Then you can see the person's face and you can see if they're confused."

History professor Julia Hall says he does not have an issue with e-mail, but is frustrated by students' lack of experience. Students have grown

mail manners. He recalls only one example of an unprofessional e-mail.

"I had one student who just addressed me as John," he says. "He didn't even use 'Dear John.' Just John. I mean enough of his grandfather so I thought it was rather odd, but I didn't chastise him or anything."

He chuckles at the situation, saying the student was probably a freshman.

Robinson says a few of her professors announced at the beginning of the semester they won't respond to e-mails. Even those who do respond often give unsatisfactory answers, she says.

Sometimes with other professors I'll write a really long message and they'll just reply 'yes' or 'no,' Robinson says.

Senior Joseph Feng says it takes him 30 minutes to write a professional e-mail.

"I just make sure it's perfect," Feng says. "I look at it from different angles to make sure that I don't say anything to offend it."

Feng says discussions on web-based message boards for assignments and web quizzes require a response.

He shrugs and says, "I guess I don't mind it enough I guess."

Two-factor authentification: a security measure or just an attempt by professors to put an end to the erosion of professionalism?

CORRECTIONS

No corrections this week.

The Review staff is dedicated to accuracy and fair representation of all sources. If you notice a factual inacuracy in a story, please email a correction to eic@udreview.com.

EMILY BRYMER/ THE REVIEW

Will Bernie's College For All bill overcome Devostation? Stay tuned.

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"Bill Nye The Science Guy" rocks the Carpenter Center with science and politics

ELLIE HALFACRE
Copy Desk Chief

A chant rung out in the Bob Carpenter Center on March 21, mimicking the opening sequence of the Emmy Award-winning PBS show, "Bill Nye the Science Guy." Students and community members called in a united cheer: "Bill, Bill, Bill, Bill!"

When Nye came on stage for the event, presented by the Student Centers Programming Advisory Board (SCPAB), he was met with the applause of around 3,100 audience members. Joining him was McKay Jenkins, the moderator for the night's discussion. Jenkins is a professor of English, journalism and environmental humanities at the university.

Nye set out his intentions at the beginning of the event.

"I don't want everyone to be a scientist, and everyone to be an engineer," he said. "The fashion catastrophes alone would be a setback to society."

Instead, he said he wanted citizens, regardless of field of study or profession, to be scientifically literate. The discussion on the importance of STEM education has now expanded to include the arts, he noted, as well as design.

"They call it STEAM, and then STEAMD," he said. "Pretty soon we're gonna call it 'school!'"

The beginning of the event focused largely on Nye's biographical background. Nye went to Rehoboth Beach every summer with his parents, who raised him to appreciate the sciences, public service and the liberal arts. His father, a prisoner of war in World War II, used science as a way to sustain his spirit and tell the time of day while in captivity, and his mother was a codebreaker. Together, they would write limerick poems at the dinner table.

When he graduated from Cornell University and began working as an engineer in Seattle, Nye found that "what I loved to do was inspire people." He quit his job on Oct. 3, 1986 "to influence generations ahead."

As Nye pursued this mission and tried out stand-up comedy, the head of the NBC affiliate in Seattle was looking to produce a science show.

"I took the opportunities as they came," he said.

One such opportunity was the "Bill Nye the Science Guy" television show, popular in classrooms when university students were in elementary school.

For them, Nye's show seems to represent a certain nostalgia. One audience member remarked that it was nice seeing Nye somewhere other than on the television that teachers would roll on a cart into their classrooms.

"I definitely watched his science videos when I was in class," junior Alison Gibney said. "I think he means a lot to people our age, because we all kind of grew up with him. He was like our first experience of science in a fun and exciting way."

"I love him," Francesca Speranza, a junior chemistry major, said. "I'm here because my apartment Wi-Fi is 'Bill Wi the Science Fi.'"

Neither presenters shied away from more serious, political questions. As a pair, "one person representing science, one person representing journalism," Jenkins said that he and Nye represented two groups "which are under attack at the moment."

"We live in a culture that is often reputed to be disinterested in science, or if you live in the White House, against science," Jenkins said.

At one point, Nye mocked President Donald Trump's mannerisms, and later he told the audience that he didn't know who the president would be in two years' time.

MACY OTERI/ COURTESY OF SCPAB
Bill Nye spoke at the Bob Carpenter center. The event was moderated by professor McKay Jenkins and hosted by SCPAB.

"His business with people who are adversaries of the United States, this is a serious business," Nye said of Trump. "Built into the U.S. system is change, so whatever is going on right now, it's going to change — and let's hope that it changes for the better."

Cassidy Nalbone, a junior marketing major and the vice president of variety for SCPAB, said that the group was scared that the event would be too political. The initial proposal for the event was a slideshow presentation on climate change.

"I thought the whole thing didn't overstep any boundaries," Nalbone said.

Nye was also addressed controversy about creationism and evolution, a topic he famously debated with Christian speaker Ken Ham in 2014 and subsequently wrote a book about, titled "Undeniable."

"They used me to raise money," Nye said of Ham and the other young creationists who organized the event. "Adults can believe what they want, the tragedy for me is the kids."

Children were visible in the audience, and one asked the first question in the Q&A portion. "We have a question from a very small person here," Jenkins said.

A child, escorted to the microphone by an adult, asked "How do germs spread?"

"That was probably the highlight of my night," Nalbone said.

Nye responded by explaining the definition of a germ, and also addressed the rise of the anti-vaccination movement in the United States.

"To the anti-vaxxers out there, I love you as a fellow human," Nye said, "but you are wrong." Without vaccines, "you are going to become a Petri dish of death," he said.

The conversation also turned to the topic of extraterrestrial life. Nye is the CEO of the Planetary Society, an interest group for space exploration.

"You will all be alive when evidence of life is found on Mars," Nye said. He said that this proof of life will likely be a fossilized bacterial mass, and if found, its discovery would "change the course of human history."

However, Nye does not endorse the colonization of Mars in the case of this discovery.

"You cannot freaking live on Mars," he said. "We have to be optimistic, we have to make a stand here."

He recommended that students get outside, reduce their carbon footprint, go to the March for Science in Washington, D.C. and celebrate Earth Day on April 22.

He also asked them to tune in to his new show, "Bill Nye Saves the World," premiering on Netflix on April 21, and "binge away" on its content as they work toward creating a more sustainable, scientifically literate world.

"We can do this people, let's go!" Nye said. "Get 'er done!"

Not voluntourism: UDaB talks community engagement and social justice

NATALIE WALTON
Senior Reporter

Instead of going to the beach or taking advantage of the opportunity to sleep in, many students approached March 25 with a different spring break goal in mind — volunteering.

Through the University of Delaware Alternative Break (UDaB) program, students had the opportunity to volunteer in a variety of locations across the East Coast. 20 trips in total were offered and each trip focused on a certain issue such as community rebuilding, autism awareness, rural poverty or female empowerment. They ranged from 12 to 50 participants, and each participant goes through an interview process before their selection and assignment.

The program is primarily student operated, run by more than 50 students working on either the executive board or as site leaders.

As part of training, site leaders — who guide participants during the trip — are taught the importance of social justice. Part of this is learning how to avoid "voluntourism," which is when volunteers end up causing more harm than good to the community they're working with.

Senior Maggie Kmetz, the co-program coordinator for UDaB, explained that avoiding voluntourism can be done in a few ways. She said that considering the way volunteers post about the community on social media and talk about the community off-line are two ways this can be achieved.

"The biggest part of the education process for our executive board and our site leaders is understanding the communities that we're working with," Kmetz said. "They're not these helpless, degraded, random communities. These are real people with real problems."

She said that one of the primary focuses of UDaB is teaching and learning the importance of volunteering.

Senior Shivam Patel said that, as a site leader, he acts as a "bridge" between program participants and the community he is working with.

He was primarily drawn to the fact that UDaB was about engaging with the community.

"In high school and college, when people talk about service they advertise as it as 'let's make this card, or bracelet, or home decoration, or let's just donate money' and that never really sparked my interest," Patel said. "I always had qualms about that because I don't know if that's what the community actually needed."

Patel explained that, through UDaB, he was able to get to know the people they're helping and felt that the training helped make sure volunteers wouldn't go with the wrong intentions.

Senior Connor Bydlon, who led a trail building trip to Tennessee, asked himself, "how do I educate myself on those issue areas but also educate the people who I will be leading on the trip?" while going through training.

He referred to UDaB trips as "very rewarding and eye-opening."

"It changes your perspective a little bit and pushes you out of your comfort zone," Bydlon said.

Part of the UDaB experience is student reflection, where site leaders and participants talk about their experiences as volunteers and contextualize it in broader social justice issues.

"Reflection is a huge part of what makes UDaB unique, and it's why [UDaB] is so meaningful for a lot of people," senior Ellen Barber, who is a site leader trainer, said.

Barber also explained that UDaB can help people find something that they are passionate about.

She primarily wanted to become a site leader trainer because it gave her the opportunity to teach site leaders and participants about meaningful service and motivating them to continue to do community service for the rest of their lives.

"I love doing service and I love the friendships that I've made," Barber said. "It's had a positive impact on my college experience and I wanted to give that experience to someone else."

Bydlon echoed with this sentiment.

COURTESY OF PATRICK BICHÉ
Through the university's alternative break program (UDaB), students volunteer their time to help with issues like community rebuilding, autism awareness, rural poverty and female empowerment.

"A lot of people who have gone on a UDaB trip will say it was one of the best experiences that they had in college," he said.

As co-program coordinator, senior Patrick Biché hoped to share this mindset with those who are considering applying. During spring break, he visited four different local sites and worked on putting together a promotional video for UDaB.

"Ideally, we'd love to be able to reach just about every student on campus and grow to become one of the biggest service organizations in the country," he said.

He also explained that the program nearly doubled in size this year.

For those who are unsure about applying, Bydlon said they should just go for it.

"It gives you so many opportunities to meet new people, both at UD and in the community that you normally wouldn't be exposed to," he said.

Editor's note: Several Review staffers, including Editor in Chief Meghan Jusczak and Associate News Editor William Kebbe are involved with UDaB, but were not involved with this article.

GREEN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

also categorized as levels 3 and 4 in toxicity, but has much more damaging impacts. A 2004 study conducted by the EPA showed that although MCPA has a low acute toxicity, it is a dermal (skin) sensitizer.

The study also found that the chemical is nephrotoxic (damaging to the kidneys) if exposed through the skin, hepatotoxic (damaging to the liver) if inhaled, and results in testicular toxicity if absorbed orally. It is also harmful to aquatic organisms and has been classified by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) as possibly carcinogenic to humans.

Some symptoms of exposure to MCPA include headache, nausea, redness of skin and abdominal weakness, according to the CDC. The PowerZone label also cautions, "individuals with chronic skin disease" should either avoid using the product or "take strict precautions to avoid contact."

Ella Tomko, a junior marketing major, has experienced these symptoms.

"It was just like small red bumps, itchy," Tomko said. "I had to shower and put Aveeno on it to make it go away."

She has only gotten rashes from grass on The Green and the Cedarbrook Country Club's golf course in Pennsylvania.

MCPA is also frequently found as a cause of groundwater contamination, which is problematic for the university. Bennett explained that grounds uses integrated pest management, spot treating and regulated stormwater management practices because stormwater runoff from the university flows down to South Campus into local aquifers that refresh local wells.

She explained that many private wells remove some contaminants from the water, but they cannot filter everything. Because of this, the stormwater — and everything in it — can end up in people's drinking water.

MCPP-p is also frequently found in contaminated groundwater, but it is more toxic than MCPA, according to a 2007 EPA study. While MCPA falls under categories 3 and 4 in the EPA's Toxicity ratings, MCPP-p falls under category 2 overall. Dermal and oral exposure puts MCPP-p in category 3, but contact with eyes is category 1.

Furthermore, the Cancer Assessment Review Committee classified MCPP-p as "suggestive evidence of carcinogenicity," but did not have sufficient data to assess human carcinogenic potential.

MELISA SOYSAL/THE REVIEW

Students still experience symptoms of PowerZone, the chemical used on The Green, even when the signs are not on the lawn.

Emily Kaplan, a sophomore exercise science major, explained that she has seen the signs around and avoids those areas, but still experiences symptoms when the signs are not on the lawn. Kaplan explained that she frequently gets rashes from sitting on The Green, but is fine when sitting on her lawn at home in Freehold, New Jersey.

"It sucks," Kaplan said. "I get crazy itchy all up the back of my legs and sometimes they're pretty big hives. The redness doesn't go away until I shower and take Benadryl."

Kaplan explained that she has searched for some information on what grounds uses on the grass throughout the university's property, but could not find anything on their homepage.

"I wish they would send us an email with information on it so I can find out what's irritating me," Kaplan said. "It wouldn't have to say 'danger' or anything, just something like grounds is treating the grass today' and then give a link for more information about what they're using."

Dicamba acid, another ingredient in PowerZone, has a low toxicity rating, but can produce effects of dizziness and nose irritation if inhaled according to a 2006 EPA study. It is also a skin irritant, can cause skin burns, and is moderately toxic to eyes, occasionally causing swelling. Dicamba does not bond to soil particles, but is highly soluble in water, which also makes it mobile and able to contaminate groundwater, according to a 1993 Cornell Pesticide Information Project study.

The study also found that its typical half-life (amount of time it takes for the chemical to reach half of its strength) is around 1-4 weeks, with an average half-life of 2 weeks. This means that traces of chemicals can still be found in the soil for an average of 2 weeks after spraying.

Grounds typically leaves the "professionally treated area" signs on areas for a few hours or days, but never weeks after spraying.

FACULTY

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mentioned," Ismat Shah, professor of material sciences, said.

Shah said that his labratory work emcompasses the use of biotechnology, and that the purposes of this new major should be expanded upon so that prospective students understand the particulars of the coursework. Jeffry Fuhrmann, professor in the Plant and Soil Sciences Department, said his concerns were with the title as well, claiming it to be "openly broad."

After about 30 minutes of discussions, the resolution eventually passed.

The debate then moved onto GPA requirements. A resolution that would drop the 2.0 GPA requirement for entry into unrestricted majors was introduced, with Rusty Lee, chair of the undergraduate studies committee and assistant professor of civil engineering, as the first member to offer his support.

"We are working on how to make students successful here," he said. "We end up with students who may get off to a bad start, and what happens is that...they can't move to another major because their GPA may below a 2.0. So as we say in the resolution, they are stuck without a good home."

Lee added that this resolution would not change the 2.0 requirement for graduation, and that majors that have pre-existing restrictions on entry would still be able to impose those measures.

In the rows of senators, one voice become apparent for its opposition to the resolution.

"I think this is a major, major mistake," Steve Hastings, professor and associate chair of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, said. "I understand the problem of getting off to a bad start. But, I also see more examples of kids who are just not applying themselves, regardless of their major."

He added: "I don't want a student coming in with a 1.5, or a 1.2, or a 1.0 coming into our majors."

Immediately responding to Hasting's comments was Mark Parcells, a professor of avian molecular virology. He suggested that departments with hesitations over this measure can self-impose their own restrictions, and do so with ease.

"If a department has an aversion to this, they can make a restriction, and that's all they have to do," he said.

Parcells also added that this resolution does remove stumbling blocks for students who want to switch from, say, engineering to business, rather than have the student struggle until they can make the change.

In an impassioned plea with the Faculty Senate, Dean of Students Jose-Luis Riera stamped his support for this resolution, letting the senate know the issues students with a low GPA who wish to change their degree face.

"This is a significant, systemic issue at the university, where students spend semesters in a neverland of trying to figure how to move from one college to another," he said. "I believe this really poses us to help students be successful, and I would urge you to support this resolution."

The resolution passed with 37 votes yes, two no and one abstention.

Q&A: McKay Jenkins talks "Food Fight," his book on the GMO revolution

KRISTA WEBSTER
Staff Reporter

Environmental journalist and university English professor Mckay Jenkins recently published his new book: "Food Fight: GMOs and the Future of the American Diet." The book aims to open a discussion about the recent development of genetically modified organisms, also known as GMOs, and teach average consumers how it affects their lives on an individual and societal level. This week, The Review sat down with Jenkins for a few questions that highlight the main points of his book and help students understand more about the food industry — an industry they play a part in every day.

Krista Webster: I've read that your book "Food Fight" mostly focuses on the controversy over GMOs. In your lifetime, how much have GMOs changed the way food is processed? Do you think GMOs have impacted culture?

McKay Jenkins: It's in (your) lifetime, because GMOs have really only been around for 25 years. Before World War II, people either lived in the city or worked in a farm. But afterwards, large interstate highways were developed and Americans moved to the suburbs in mass waves. People still had to eat, so food production moved out to the West in huge expanses and was, and still is, constantly transported into the suburbs. What can those big farms grow? Corn, soybeans and wheat.

Nowadays, people can find around 40,000 types of food in every grocery store. But almost all of them are sourced from the three same crops: corn, soybeans and wheat. They say 30 percent of meals are eaten in a car nowadays. These meals are prefabricated, not made locally or organically. Technology was developing along the lines of mass food production for years before GMOs existed, but GMOs have just made it easier. Since the mid-1990s, something like 15 percent of corn and soybeans were GMOs. Now it's increased to around 95 percent.

KW: Would you consider GMOs to be the biggest issue surrounding the food industry? How closely tied are GMOs with environmental problems such as climate change?

MJ: It's really the food manufacturing system that causes environmental problems, and GMOs are just one tool in the whole process. The transportation of food and the creation of artificial fertilizers use the most fossil fuel and make the most direct negative impact on the environment. In fact, GMOs can actually remedy climate change. There are two types of GMOs: herbicide GMOs and insecticide GMOs. BT corn is an insecticide GMO corn type, so it reduces the need to spray insecticide. Some people say the net result is less pesticides, but in my studies I've found the opposite. Farmers just use more herbicides and reverse the positive effect.

KW: In your opinion, are companies with a reputation for being organic and healthy, such as Trader Joe's and Whole Foods, honest to their consumers?

MJ: They are. But I'm also aware of the cynicism because they're so expensive. They take advantage of consumers anxiety to be healthy and have less of an impact on the environment. Whole Foods has been important in making organic, healthy foods "mainstream." Trader Joe's doesn't do as well with produce, but does better with making more organic processed foods.

KW: 17 countries in Europe have subscribed to a ban on the cultivation of GMOs. What is your opinion on this? Do you think the US should subscribe to a similar policy?

MJ: This is a much bigger question. The reason that Europe doesn't have GMOs: Europe has kept the separation between farms and cities for thousands of years. Even small cities are surrounded by small farms. Each one of these small farms grows more specialized crops that are characteristic of their region. Europeans don't eat as much corn and soybeans. They don't want these giant companies coming in and ruining their traditional way of eating — the way they've been eating for hundreds, if not thousands of years.

Really, it's a question of food culture. They don't want their small farms bulldozed to have a 100,000 acres of corn.The U.S. now has nowhere to go to expand their agribusiness. Europe won't let these huge companies in. So, they've moved to South America, where they're currently taking down thousands of acres of rainforest to put in huge lots of corn. This has become a huge issue — the last thing the world needs is more corn and less rainforest.

KW: As a college student and consumer, what do you suggest college students do to eat clean? Should we avoid GMOs or freely eat them?

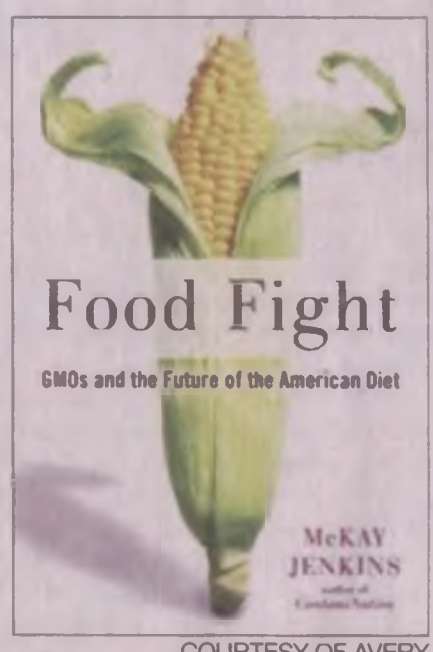
MJ: College students have it a little tougher, because they have less money. If you're a college student, you go to McDonald's and buy a really cheap hamburger. It's everything you don't want: it's bad for you, the economy, the environment...but it's cheap. Whereas, Homegrown, which is locally sourced and employed by residents of Newark, is so much better. Sure, it may be more expensive, but the food wasn't grown on a giant plot or slaughtered in a factory, and it was prepared minutes before consumption. My recommendation for anybody is to eat as locally and as nutritiously as possible.

Aramark, the company that supplies food to our dining halls, has a contract with the university so that it must use the food from Aramark instead of local produce. Unfortunately, this makes it harder for students to eat locally and gives them less choice.

KW: Recently, there has been an enormous increase in the amount of people who declare themselves "vegan." In your opinion, is this a healthy lifestyle? Does it lessen the impact of climate change?

MJ: Yes. there is no question that meat contributes enormously to your carbon footprint. Especially beef — that takes an enormous amount of energy to produce. Meat consumption is not only an ethical issue, but also an issue of the environment. It takes something like 7 times the amount of corn to feed a cow than it does a human, so the caloric efficiency to create meat is much lower than that to grow just plants themselves. By not eating meat, it means your food takes a lot less energy to produce and is less impactful on the environment.

This Q&A has been edited for clarity and brevity.



COURTESY OF AVERY PUBLISHING

"Food Fight: GMOs and the Future of the American Diet," weighs the controversy surrounding genetically modified foods.

KEN CHANG/THE REVIEW

Expert panelists discuss the culture of distrust amongst journalists, public relations professionals and the government at the "Fake News Blues" event on Monday night.

Honoring Matt Rosin through new Student Centers award

JESSICA LEIBMAN
Staff Reporter

The Rosin Rising Star Award will be presented at this year's University Student Centers' annual YoUDee Leadership Awards ceremony on May 11 in honor of Matthew Rosin, who passed away last year in a tragic bike accident.

The award will honor either a freshman or sophomore who demonstrates tremendous leadership and makes an effort to produce campuswide programs. Some qualities that the award will recognize, according to the university's website, are leadership growth and development, campus involvement and organizational support.

The former president of SCPAB, Craig Levergood, formed the idea of honoring Rosin with an award. After he graduated, senior Maria Barriga took over as president and continued Levergood's efforts to make the award a reality. Originally, there was a money value to the award, but it was eliminated due to lack of funds.

Barriga said the goal for the award is to recognize the students who do not normally get awards. The recipient will be someone on the way to becoming a student leader and someone who exhibits many of the same qualities Rosin had. In order to receive the award, a student has to be nominated. In the nomination statement, the student must be connected to Rosin by sharing similar qualities which Barriga said will carry on the memory of Rosin.

"We wanted to recognize people who are not the full-out leaders because [full-out leaders] are the people who usually get the awards every year," Barriga said. "The Rising Star Award is basically an award to recognize people who are becoming more involved and have a lot of passion for what they're doing."

A plaque will also be placed this month next to the SCPAB office in Perkins. Barriga said that the plaque is a good way to honor Rosin because once everyone who knew him has left the university, his legacy will continue.

Barriga described Rosin as very passionate and involved in SCPAB. He was very passionate about putting on events that "made people happy" and allowed students to enjoy their experience at the university. Barriga got to know Rosin when they were both selected as programming chairs. Because they both did not know many other people in the organization, they programmed events together including Quizzo every week and Perkins Live.

"He loved SCPAB," Barriga said. "He put everything in it."

SCPAB continues to honor Rosin in other ways like the Biannual MattyRo Student Music Show. The music show was the first event that Rosin took on when he became a programming chair for SCPAB. After Rosin's accident, the music show was renamed to honor him. This semester's show was held on Thursday, which was also the one-year anniversary of his death.

"Fake it 'til you make it": Alums share their secret to startup success

SHANNON MURPHY
Senior Reporter

Not long ago, the founders of GrandArmy, an award-winning, multi-disciplinary creative agency that has worked with a variety of brands, from Beyonce to ESPN to the United States Postal Service, were sitting in the same Smith Hall seats as the audience they presented to the week before break.

Founders Eric Collins, Joey Ellis and Larry Pipitone all graduated from the university Visual Communications program. The team presented their company's history, development and their creative endeavors to university art colloquium students.

Collins, Ellis and Pipitone started their careers working at agencies. However, they felt unfulfilled and wanted to do more with their creative power.

Their graduation also coincided with the economic crash of 2008 and from both the nation's and their personal discontent, GrandArmy was born. After long days at their full-time positions, the three artists would work into the early hours of the morning on their pet project.

Eventually, they were able to take on GrandArmy full time, and the company officially launched in 2008. The team has since expanded to 16 employees, based out of an office in New York City.

The artists at GrandArmy told the audience a set of three core rules by which they run their company.

Their first rule: "fake it 'til you make it." The team spoke candidly about their experiences while the company was just starting off. Beginners in any field can relate to the feeling of not always knowing what you are getting into, but Collins stressed the importance of just going along for the ride.

"Imagine where you would want to be and just work toward that," Collins said. "You may always feel like you're faking it, but I feel like that's a good thing."

The founders also explained their company's name with a brief history lesson. The name stems from the French Grande Armee, led by Napoleon in the nineteenth century. This army is now recognized as one of the greatest in history, highly successful in their conquers. However, Napoleon committed a tactical blunder by invading Russia, revealing imperfections in even the strongest of armies.

"We had to have a name that would make us seem how we saw ourselves, the kind of designers that we wanted to someday be," Collins said. "On its surface, people thought we were making this boast, but we were really terrified, we didn't know if it was going to work. 'Fake it 'til you make it' is even built into our name."

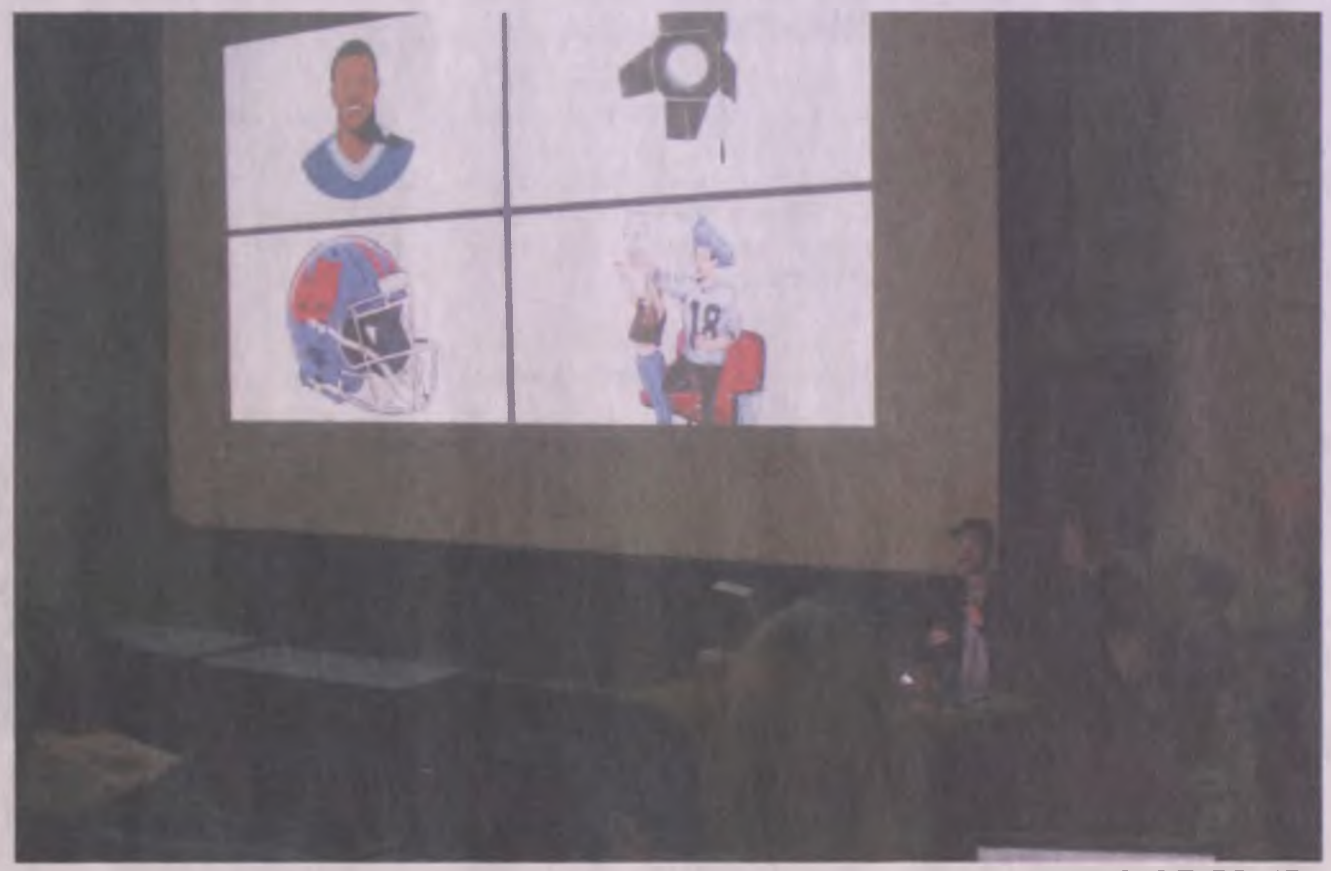
The second of the team's rules is: "do stuff you care about, for stuff you care about."

While working in the agency world, the team found themselves unhappy because they were unable to control the brands they were creating for.

"You can find yourself in these conflicts about what you're doing and whether or not you're using your superpowers for good," Collins said.

Now that they work independently, the artists are selective about which brands they work with.

"You never want to be in a position where you have to tell a fake ad or story," Pipitone said. "It makes our lives much easier when we can tell the truth about a brand, a truth that we believe in."



MINJI KONG/THE REVIEW

Creative agency GrandArmy was founded by university alumni following the economic crash of 2008.

For example, one of the brands GrandArmy works with is sweetgreen, a "fast-casual foodspace" founded in 2007, now with more than 60 locations. GrandArmy designed a typeface for sweetgreen. The team presented the audience with examples of the previously used typeface compared to the new sets of characters, citing how subtle changes in crossbars and loops can make a big difference in overall appeal. The artists explained how typeface relates to brand identity, such as how a handwritten style of type can signal natural foods to a consumer.

The final GrandArmy company rule, is to not have a style. While this may seem counterintuitive, the team believes that to define one specific style or image is limiting. Since GrandArmy works with a diverse client base it is crucial for the company to adapt to a wide range of aesthetic demands.

"On a given day we might work for a film production company in hollywood, then a startup in Silicon Valley and we might also work for Comedy Central," Collins said. "We pride ourselves on how radically different our work is from client to client."

In 2016, the artists tested the boundaries of this rule in order to blend together two seemingly dissimilar brands. A collaboration between KITH, a streetwear fashion label, and Cap'n Crunch cereal led to the creation of an ad video series featuring the founder of KITH, Ronnie Fieg, and the animated Cap'n Crunch himself, as well as a promotional line of limited edition cereal and merchandise.

Bringing the tie between the university and GrandArmy full circle, the team recently hired Ben Gallegos, a 2015 graduate in visual communications, as a creative for the company. He met the team while on a trip to New York for the major and got an internship with the company.

"I was sitting there my freshman year watching these guys speak and it's crazy to be working with them now," Gallegos said.

Norton lecturer questions morality and the law of killing during a war

MADIE BUIANO
Senior Reporter

According to Victor Tadros, there is a divergence between what the law permits and what people are morally capable of.

On Wednesday afternoon in Gore Hall, Tadros, a professor of criminal law and legal theory at the University of Warwick, explained how to converge the morality of killing during a war and the laws surrounding it.

Tadros is the author of "Criminal Responsibility," "The Ends of Harm: The Moral Foundations of Criminal Law" and "Wrongs and Crimes," books that examine the theories behind why the democratic state imprisons thousands of offenders every year.

As a part of the Norton Lectures, Tadros began by drawing a distinction between morality and the laws of war.

He told the audience that morality generally prevents people from killing combatants fighting on the justifiable side of the war. On the other hand, Tadros said that just or unjust, the law permits the killing of all combatants no matter what side they are fighting for.

"It's a bad thing when the law suggests to people that they are allowed to do things that they morally ought not to do," Tadros said.

The Norton Lectures aim to present speakers who offer their perspective on philosophical discussions, relevant to today's events. Tadros has dedicated much of his career to studying the morality of war. The Oxford University graduate holds a three-year research fellowship for his project on just war theory.

Tadros said that people fighting on the justifiable side of the war are typically fighting to serve an important goal.

"It better be a really important goal because, after all, you're deciding to enter into a practice which involves killing people and you better have a damn good reason to do it," Tadros said.

Tadros said the most common reason people choose to enter into a war is to prevent other innocent people from being killed. In turn, combatants fighting on the just side of a conflict believe they should maintain their right not to be killed.

The conventional argument is that combatants on both sides of the war fight permissibly.

"Who really thinks that people who fought for the Nazis in World War II acted permissibly?" Tadros asked. "I don't think this is the conventional view, I think that the conventional view is if the war is wrong, don't fight in it."

Tadros then launched into a discussion on the argument that people are granted permission by their government. Tadros stressed the importance of not being a tool for someone to exploit.

"If you're a person that is good at firing guns don't go join the mafia because chances are they'll use you for the wrong kinds of ends," Tadros said.

Tadros summed up his lecture by stating why he feels considering morality and the laws surrounding killing people during war would be beneficial.

If the law states that combatants must only kill people fighting on the just side of the war, assuming people will follow the law, Tadros said people won't need to do something that goes against their moral predispositions.

"When we tell people to do something and they comply with the law then they don't do something which is a grave moral wrong," Tadros said. "Wouldn't it be good if we prevented people from doing something that is gravely morally wrong?"

Q&A: Karyl Rattay, Delaware's Director of Public Health

RAAJ SINGH
Staff Reporter

For Karyl Rattay there is no such thing as a typical work day.

As the Director of the Delaware Division of Public Health, Rattay is responsible for health inspections of restaurants like Deer Park Tavern, responses to infectious disease outbreaks and the regulation of mattresses and pillows. In a position where anything can happen, Rattay said she's always on her toes.

Rattay received her medical doctorate degree and after practicing pediatrics for a few years decided to switch paths and get more involved with public health and preventive medicine. Today, she oversees 700 employees and works with politicians and a wide variety of private companies on a range of health issues that affect the entire state.

Raaj Singh: Is there anything about your personality that you think makes you successful at your job?

Karyl Rattay: I think I have a personality and strengths that allow me to merge together the science, politics and interactions with people in a way that helps bring it all together. I just get excited about so many things in a positive way, like our mission of improving and protecting the health of Delawareans. It's a mission that drives me, but sometimes...sometimes you gotta get other people excited.

RS: What does a typical work day look like for you?

KR: There is no such thing. Usually it involves meetings with staff within our agency but also many with partners such as other state agencies, health systems, transportation planning units, it can be a wide variety.

RS: I read that you majored in zoology in your undergraduate studies, is there a story behind that choice?

KR: Well, I knew I wanted to be a pediatrician and I was interested in biology but where I went to school there wasn't a biology major so you could either pick zoology or botany. I was pre-med but I really loved the animal stuff.

RS: What led you to switch from pediatrics to public health?

KR: There was a time when I was in practice and I was observing all these children and youth who were overweight and obese. I'm passionate about physical activity and nutrition so while I was diagnosing them with type 2 diabetes, which is known as adult onset diabetes, I was thinking "I need to learn how to get a better handle on this."

RS: Is there any one particular issue you've been working on recently?

KR: Right now I feel like I'm spending about 75 percent of my time focusing on the opiate crisis. It really has taken over everything. All of our programs are overwhelmed.

RS: Would you say that's the biggest issue facing the state right now?

KR: Yeah, I would. It wasn't on my radar when I started this job eight years ago but probably a year and a half into being in this role I saw our overdose deaths and it was the clearest picture of an epidemic that you could see. It showed how dramatically it's increased. At that time, it was at about 100 deaths per year and for 2016 there were just over 300 deaths.

RS: What do you think have been the biggest obstacles in trying to bring down the number of opiate overdose deaths?

KR: 80 percent of all opiates are prescribed in the United States, and Delaware is the highest prescriber of high-dose opiates. Changing those practices has not been easy. There's such a demand out there now that new pill mills set up as soon as you get one shut down. And then treatment access has also been very difficult to expand, we'd like to have substance use disorder treatment available to people as much as needed.

RS: Is there a point where you shift your focus away from one issue and move onto the next one?

KR: It's very hard in this job to stay focused on any one issue because we cover so many affairs. We're responsible for safe drinking water, for safe restaurants, for chronic and infectious diseases. This is the best job ever, it's a lot of fun because you never know what to expect, there are just so many opportunities to learn every day.

RS: So after eight years in the position, you still get surprised by your work?

KR: Yeah I do, but less so now. There are always changes politically so those dynamics keep you on your toes. But I remember I was four years into the job when I learned that we regulate mattresses and pillows and I was like "what?"

Although Rattay oversees public health for the entire state, she is no stranger to the university's campus. She is an affiliated professor in the College of Arts and Sciences and has spoken at a chapter meeting of Phi Delta Epsilon, the university's pre-medical fraternity. Newly-elected Gov. John Carney has asked Rattay to remain in her position, so Delaware is in for at least four more years with this public health director who "loves her job."

This Q&A has been edited for clarity and brevity.

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EDITORIAL

Given recent legislation, 2FA might not be a bad thing

MADISON BACON/THE REVIEW
With the decision of the House of Representatives to repeal internet privacy rules, 2FA may be a blessing to students.

Recently, logging into university-affiliated websites has become even more of a hassle than usual. The university's switch to the two-factor authentication system (2FA) has been the source of extended eye rolls and frustrated sighs for many because of the recurring reminders that pop up before logging into these sites. However, 2FA— as eye roll-worthy as it may seem — provides an additional layer of newly necessary online security for students. 2FA requires students to have a password, username and another piece of information solely provided to each individual user in order to log in. It's also necessary for accessing the university's virtual private networks, or VPN software, when students and members of the university community are off campus. This proves especially, and unfortunately, relevant in light of recent legislation passed by the House of Representatives attacking internet privacy.

As of this week, ensuring responsible internet usage has become a pressing issue affecting anyone who even dares open a personal laptop — likely applicable to the entire university population. The legislation, which repealed the Federal Communication Commission's (FCC) internet privacy rules previously requiring broadband companies to request consent before sharing or selling your personal information, now deems browsing history, location and app usage data and content communications legally up for grabs. Meaning, large internet companies, like Facebook or Google, could collect data without users' permission. This kind of permissible access to personal information and the online habits of users have a tendency to favor the interests of companies vying for consumer insights rather than the privacy and security of individuals.

One way of countering this blatant attack on internet privacy is to install VPNs. VPNs are a sort of private network and internet connection, which encrypt your network and secure your connection. Usage of such makes it especially difficult for internet service providers to keep track of a user's browsing history and other telling information. VPN usage ultimately serves to directly counteract the efforts on behalf of the House of Representatives to sell your private internet information to whomever requests it. The university, offers a VPN software that students can download which will give them the same protections off campus that are available on the on-campus servers.

This recent legislation, is part of an unraveling precedent that could potentially allow companies to take advantage of personal data without user consent. Given the current political climate, this legislation and the uncertainty of internet privacy, this is a software and a university service that students and university members — especially those that do not reside in on-campus housing — should seriously consider taking advantage of.

The Review's editorials are developed by The Review staff led by Editorial Editor Alex Eichenstein.

Information regarding the installation of the university's VPN software can be found on the university's IT site.

Reflecting on mountain sound

In April of 1992, Chris McCandless reached his final stop of what was the greatest odyssey of his life. Only steps onto the Stampede Trail, a gateway into the Alaskan wilderness, the goals of his two-year pilgrimage had been realized. The recent college grad who inspired "Into The Wild," the grand tale about his cross country journey and eventual death, had found his mountain song.

He had spent months on the road, where nothing stopped him from fulfilling his heart's desires. He floated in raging currents down the Colorado River, using his arms and legs to navigate the riptide. He lived in a trailer park village, in the sun kissed desert of northern California, with those who dreamed of wandering with intention, like he did. He dropped himself in Carthage, South Dakota, unacquainted with the locals, their way of life, and yet, he embedded himself in both work and companionship.

Wayne Westertberg, the man who employed Chris when he was in South Dakota, shed many tears when he received word of his friend's death.

So did Ronald Franz, and both Jan and Bob Burres. So did many of those intimately initiated with his adventurous spirit. In him, they saw someone who basked in the untethered bounties of freedom. They saw someone who planned little, surviving off of much less than what he probably could support for himself. What could have been seen as foolishness, a mockery to the expeditioners of the nation's ancestry, shared little comparison with such an ideal in actuality.

Chris was in search of his life's purpose, to accumulate more intrinsic value from experiences and journeys rather than the latter, which was a desensitized prescription to the normalcy of everyday life.

When I read about him, I found much of what he did on his way to Alaska drenched in dangers and insanity. Indeed, there was a radiant joy blossoming from inside when he encountered perilous situations, ones that would override the common sense of anyone with just a hint of his grandiosity. A woman or man, much less driven than Chris, would have called it a day.

And when hunters found his dead body 19 days after his death, there was a quest by those with a vested interest in the man to explore the extremities of his journey. Finding an uncanny recklessness throughout his odyssey, some mistakenly understood this to be a suicide mission. Yet, Chris was more than a disillusioned wanderer. We share more in common with his journey than not.

Like Chris, there's a magnetized pull emanating from ourselves and latching onto our own version of an odyssey. Whether it comes from a lackluster perception of our futures, or a need to venture into unknown worlds, or the idea that life is fuller when it's lived nomadically, the goals we have are often opaque, in dire need of certainty, and teeming with faith in the process.

Traveling fills the soul with the necessary pieces to our ever-growing puzzle. Our complexities evolve and require different sources of satiation as time passes, but what will always give that satisfaction to the spirit is a backpack and a foreign destination. A map might serve one well, but in reality, the art of getting lost is a beautiful one.

Being stuck to our own devices presents an opportunity to test the outermost boundaries of our limitations. Chris exceeded his, which he began to understand after spending 100-plus days in the Alaskan wild. In search of food one day, he found a plant that he read about in his guide on backcountry eating. Little did he know that the plant had become laced with natural toxins. Still, we live without the exact root of his demise, the natural mechanism that brought him down, but we do know that Chris left this world a happy man.

"I have had a happy life and thank the lord. Goodbye and may God bless all."

To live a happy life, one full of illustrious destinations in both location and soul, brings joy to our lives. That is why we travel. That is why we wander. When exposed to new places, the heart becomes full. To live nomadically means to continue a journey, finding places that make the body grow weary in delight.

Chris was 24 when he died, and surely, the death of any person still in their youth brings a specific kind of sadness. Chris had potential. Chris was meant to do big things. All wonderful reasons to mourn his loss.

Except, Chris had reached a point in his life where his journey, not his age, defined his passage of time. The world he saw was bigger and more dynamic than conventional wisdom would tell. By the age of 24, he had seen and taken more in from the world than most do in a lifetime.

I look to him and many others who associate with his kin as to why movement across state and country lines is important. I look to the fullness of their lives, the happiness they feel, as reasons why we continue to seek our own odysseys. Out there, somewhere, lies our version of a mountain song. Perhaps one day we will be lucky enough to find it.

— William Kebbe is an associate news editor at The Review and a senior at the university. He can be reached at wkebbe@udel.edu.

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More air, please: Oxygen bars, the new de-stress trend

MACY OTERI/THE REVIEW
The effects of oxygen bars may not be as real as everyone thinks.

ALLISON HAGEMAN
Assistant Mosaic Editor

Coconut, chamomile or even vanilla-flavored air could possibly relax, energize and cure you of a hangover — at least according to oxygen bar vendors. As the latest trend in college relaxation, it could just be the new puppy therapy or yoga retreat session.

A press release from oxygen bar company Airheads, which has been renting the bars out since 1998, says the products can help students meditate, relax and find relief from stress. They also say that colleges are using these bars for Homecoming Weekend, Greek life events, student orientation and concerts.

Recently, the Student Programming Advisory Board (SCPAB) had an oxygen bar on campus - during midterms, a peak time for student distress. Ilana Valins, sophomore programmer for SCPAB and communications interest major who helped put on the event, says the idea was to help relax students before spring break.

When she tried the oxygen bar, she was surprised.

"You put little things in your nose, and I expected it to shoot air in your nose," Vallins says. "But you actually just smell the scent that you pick, and it's really just relaxing."

Lawrence McNutt, a sophomore, also tried the oxygen bar. He sampled the coconut and serenity flavors, and says he felt calmer afterward.

"Then I saw people with the respirators in their noses and I was like, 'Oh my god, what the heck are they doing?'" McNutt says.

Senior Daniel Polo tried the beach flavor. The international relations major says it felt dumb at first, as he did not initially feel any effects. However, he says the oxygen gradually hit him after about five minutes at the bar.

"I had a headache before, and now it's not as bad, it's kinda like you feel more relaxed," Polo says. "Maybe it's like a placebo effect."

In fact, an article by Everydayhealth says the effects of the oxygen may be in users' heads. Dr. Edelman, cited in the article, is the senior scientific advisor for the American Lung Association, as well as a professor of preventative medicine, internal medicine, physiology and biophysics at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. He says the only people who need more oxygen are athletes doing vigorous exercise.

The article also said there is no correlation between oxygen and relief from hangovers.

A potential risk of receiving pure oxygen for 24 hours is "shock lung," but the oxygen bars only offer air at 40 percent and are administered for no longer than five to 20 minutes. Too much oxygen can also cause those with emphysema to stop breathing.

Although there appears to be no real health benefits from using an oxygen bar, all three people who spoke to The Review after SCPAB's event said it was fun, and they would do it again.

"I would say if people are putting on a type of relaxation event or they are in a place that has an oxygen bar, I would say try it," Vallins says. "It's definitely a unique thing you are not going to find everywhere."

MACY OTERI/THE REVIEW

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Works by Victorian authors and artists exhibited at the university's Special Collections Gallery
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NO-HITTER AND NOT A QUITTER
The noteworthy achievements of hurricane Brandon Walter.
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Satire: Student Health saves life by prescribing Gatorade

CALEB OWENS
Senior Reporter

This work is a piece of satire. All individuals and scenarios included are fabricated.

When student Hector Smith staggered into Student Health Services last Monday, Dr. James Wilson was short on time and options. The student collapsed upon entering the facility, and his heart was not beating.

"It was one of those moments when, as a medical professional, there's really no clear solution," Wilson said. "You have to go with your gut, and sometimes that means being a little unorthodox."

It was upon reaching this conclusion that Wilson gave the student Gatorade.

Just one sip of the miraculous elixir was enough to resuscitate the student. Previous Gatorade treatment studies have shown promising results, but most have been conducted on dehydrated Little League baseball players. This was the first successful use of the treatment in a near-death, clinical setting.

"I felt like Michael Jordan," Smith said. "Everything suddenly got better. My eyes opened, my heart started beating again and I just wanted to work out."

Although Student Health generally hesitates to prescribe Gatorade, Dr. Wilson said they might rethink their approach.

"In medicine, you always have to be on the lookout for new treatment methods," Wilson said. "We knew Gatorade had clinical promise, but we didn't know that it could revive people like this. This could have implications for the entire medical world. It's huge."

The university released a statement applauding the use of Gatorade to treat severe illness.

"This is yet another moment that captures the Blue Hen mission," a university spokesman said. "We hope for our student health services to continue to be at the forefront of medical innovation."

COURTESY OF GATORADE

Restaurant review: An afternoon at Deer Park

JACK BEATSON
Senior Reporter

RACHEL CARDWELL/THE REVIEW
Deer Park Tavern provides a diverse experience for a college attendee.

"Excuse me," an older gentleman in a green cap tapped my shoulder. "Are you with anyone?"

I did not recognize the man, but got to know him over the next hour as I sat at the bar next to him. He was a local, a regular at the bar. He was friendly, and talked my ear off about typical "old people" things: how much the times had changed, how he missed the old days, etc., etc., etc.

He meant no harm, of course. The man was nice enough, albeit a little too talkative (he began to get a little bit more personal than I was comfortable with), and was certainly more pleasant than a number of the other people that made up the eclectic and bizarre crowd at the Deer Park Tavern.

As expected, there were a handful of students there, getting their "day drink" on. Many of them probably came from their homes on Cleveland Avenue, and I'm sure some rolled in from campus after getting out of class early. The man sitting next to me was not the only old dude in there — in fact, there was a plethora of senior citizens crowding the bar and sipping their Stella Artois. In fact, I think they outnumbered the students.

The older customers were, for the most part, decked out in camo hunting gear. They were boisterous in their own right, although not particularly obnoxious. They all talked to each other like old friends, laughing and yelling over one another. It was as if they'd been coming to the tavern together for years — just like my neighbor in the green cap.

The interior of the building is cozy and warm, a dimly lit setting that makes you feel like you're at home, or in some place nostalgic. Some patrons were sitting down in the dining area just to the right of my position at the bar, laughing and enjoying the tavern food. I took a sip of my drink, and stopped to think about the broad demographic that the place attracted. It was not that common to see such a variety of people at a bar in a college town — especially when I'd had quite a few experiences at bars where everyone there had seemed to put on their best Vineyard Vines shirt and khaki pants.

It was refreshing to be exposed to a different crowd — sure, some of them were a little rough around the edges. At times it got difficult for me to concentrate on my observations as the various customers got more and more inebriated, and conversation topics began to get more lewd. Some of the patrons were unpleasant, and I found myself grimacing as I overheard certain conversations. However, as with all places, I encountered friendly and open people here as well.

In the end, an hour proved to be more than enough time for me to get the vibe of Deer Park. It attracts a diverse crowd, as it's currently the oldest bar on Main Street. Many of the people I was surrounded by seemed to have been coming there quite a while, although there were a lot of my peers there as well. As I said earlier, it was a refreshing experience for me to be placed into an environment that I wasn't used to spending much time in. I learned a lot, and had a very interesting time observing the patrons of the Deer Park Tavern.

Food for Thought: Beauty and the Dumpling

ASHLEY GRAEF
Food Columnist

There is nothing I love more than cheap, mouthwatering street food. Every time I ask my friends to grab food with me, they assume they're going to break their bank account because to get good food, you have to spend a wad of money. Especially in Newark, this is false.

There's delicious food everywhere, and you don't have to blow $50 to find it. Exhibit A: The Wandering Chef Catering Cart, known to most students only as "the dumpling cart." Wander no longer, because if you hit up this cart, you will find dumpling bliss.

The Wandering Chef Cart has practically become as much of a component of the university as Kirkbride Jesus. They're known for their dumplings, and if you've seen students walking around with little styrofoam boxes, that is probably what they're filled with.

While standing in line to try the Wandering Chef's fare for the first time, April Beard says she was excited to sample something new.

"They [friends] kind of explained everything and I was like, I have to go, I gotta try it," Beard, a graduate student, says.

For $5, a customer at the cart gets six to seven dumplings bursting with flavor.

Let's have a little chat about these dumplings.

One bite of these and the Wandering Chef will have your heart. Filled with savory pork, these dumplings are covered in soft, pan-fried dough. After they are pan-fried, they are doused in two different sauces. One, a tangy, vinegar-based sauce and the other cream-based. The two balance each other out so well you'll think you've hopped on a one-way flight to paradise. I'm not kidding you when I say these dumplings feel like they melt in your mouth.

Senior Katherine Navarro says she enjoys the flavor combination of the dumplings' sauce.

While the dumplings are the clear winner among students, the Wandering Chef offers frequently-rotated specials. Fan favorites include the dumpling burrito and the quesadillas.

The cart's owners, Michael and Lauren Blovad, have developed a close relationship with the students at the university.

"Most of the students, they do know that if they're out on their luck or if somebody forgot their wallet, they know to come to us because we will still feed you," Lauren Blovad says. "We don't want you guys going hungry."

Unreal food coupled with a down-to-earth, family-run business ... are you in line yet?

COURTESY OF MICHAEL AND LAUREN BLOVAD
At the Wandering Chef Cart, students can find mouth-watering dumplings.

Déjà vu: remakes in the movie industry

RYAN THORNTON
Senior Reporter

"Beauty and the Beast" shattered movie records with $170 million in ticket sales in North America during its opening weekend. The film is expected to make $1 billion for Disney as it continues to attract audiences worldwide, according to The New York Times. That's right — Disney is going to make $1 billion on a script they first released in 1991, that became one of the top-grossing animated films in Disney's history, according to Forbes.

"The Mummy," "Jumanji," and "Baywatch" are all set for 2017 releases, according to IMDb, as Hollywood continues to push remakes and reboots.

Film professor Thomas Leitch says movie producers find less risk in a remake that has a built-in audience attached to it.The built-in audience already has a connection to the remake as fans of the original film, and they are likely to see a new adaptation.

"That's the lure of the remake," Leitch says. "That it's a pre-sold property."

There is more risk in making a movie than ever before as the movie industry competes with television and streaming services like Netflix and YouTube, Leitch says. It costs more to make a movie today, and in many ways the core audience for movies is smaller than it's ever been, he says. As the risk goes up, movie producers feel safer remaking a film they know was successful in the past, with fans that want to see a new film.

Leitch says the goal of a remake is to combine three different audiences: people who have fond memories of the original film, people who have heard of the original film but have not seen the film and people who think that modern technology could make an old movie much greater. He says getting these three different audiences in the same theater does not guarantee the success of a film — remakes, such as "The Lone Ranger," fail all the time — but producers feel better about knowing that they have an audience before their film is released.

Leitch says movie lovers are attracted to familiarity. He says when people see a horror movie, they do not look for originality, but savor the familiar experiences of fear and excitement that they felt while watching previous horror films. In the same way, viewers of a remake are attracted to the familiarity of the new movie as they think back to the enjoyment they felt from the original film.

"Every audience wants to have new experiences and old experiences when they go to the movies, but not every audience wants those two mixed in in the same proportions," Leitch says.

The impulse to recreate art is nothing new, Leitch says. Greek tragedies like "Oedipus the King," "Agamemnon" and "Medea" were all based on stories that people had heard before, Leitch says, and just because the stories are not original does not mean the reproduced versions are not valuable.

"One thing that remakes prove, is that just because you're telling an old story, or a familiar story, doesn't mean that you can't make great art," Leitch says.

He added that the Greek tragedies are still powerful and films like Christopher Nolan's "The Dark Knight" have taken a familiar story and made something fresh and original.

COURTESY OF WALT DISNEY PICTURES

The future of movies could end up being like "Star Wars," where the majority of films will be part of long-running franchises that generate a lot of money, as one movie is essentially an advertisement for the next movie, Leitch says. While we are not at that point yet, he says it is very possible the movie industry will lean that way, and remakes could be at the forefront of that movement.

"Infatuation with remakes isn't something new," Leitch says. "It's a return of something very old, and it could be that it's a return that will swamp the industry and will define its future, but it's too early to know that yet." Landry says he could read the attendees' mood at the initial opening.

"Every day when I go to work in the cinema, I see the people come in and I see the looks on their faces, whether they're up or down, based on what's going on in the world," Landry says. "Today's a good day."

Unexpected connections: Morris Library's exclusive look into Victorian England

ALEX KARLESSES
Senior Reporter

"Victorian Passions: Stories from the Mark Samuels Lasner Collection" has everything from portraits of Charles Dickens taken by his daughter, to first-edition works of Victorian literature. There is even a lock of hair that belonged to Elizabeth Siddal, who was a model and muse for many artists during that time period. She eventually died from an overdose of drugs.

Lasner donated his collection of more than 9,500 works by Victorian authors and artists to the university's Special Collections in the Morris Library. While it is located just on the second floor of Morris, the pieces in the collection offer a window into the past.

"These pieces are filled with strings of connections of how writers and artists link up to each other, and how the whole group of these outsiders, in many cases because of their politics or class or origins as the children of immigrants got together," Margaret Stetz, the Mae and Robert Carter Professor of Women's Studies and the curator of the exhibit, says. "They formed these networks and moved from the margins to the center and changed British culture."

Siddal's husband, Dante Gabriel Rossetti, found her and was so upset by her death that he cut off a lock of her hair and buried poems that he had been writing with her.

"Turns out that was the only copy and years later had second thoughts and he had her dug up and he used that copy for the creation of the manuscript," Stetz says.

A version of this manuscript can be seen inscribed by Siddal's husband, Dante Gabriel Rossetti, to another feminist writer of that period, Barbara Bodichon, who also happened to have painted a portrait of Siddal earlier.

"Everybody is connected to everybody else in that period," Lasner says. "All the creative figures, even if they didn't know each other personally, they knew of their work, they're writing letters, going to parties. It's this wonderful world that I like very much. For each person that I find, it connects to another person. There is a sense of unexpected connections."

Lasner wanted to donate his work to the university so that it can be enjoyed by students, faculty and anyone who happens to walk by.

"It's the right place for it," Lasner says. "The collection will be looked after and it will be available to anybody who is interested and it will be a catalyst for the university to do more with its material culture studies."

English faculty from all over the country attended a two-day symposium honoring the collection, hosted by the Morris Library the week before break.

Margaretta Frederick, the curator of the Delaware Art Museum, says the landscape of Victorian artist May Morris increased knowledge and potential study of her. She also says that one of the other focuses of the exhibit, Bodichon, will also be featured at the Delaware Art Museum in the near future.

"The exhibition is just the tip of the iceberg," Lasner says.

For Lasner, it was destiny that he began accumulating such a vast collection. He grew up with his grandparents in the 1950s, where he met their friend Mrs. Hayes, who knew Robert Browning, William Morris, and other Victorian figures.

Hayes ended up giving him his first piece of the collection — hand-painted tiles and a tea set that had been her parents' wedding present from Morris.

"That's why I love collecting these things because it makes me think of my childhood," Lasner says. "It feels now like destiny that I was meant to collect these things."

XANDER OPIYO/THE REVIEW
The university offers a look into the past.

He does not want people who lack knowledge of the Victorian culture to shy away from the exhibit.

"You don't have to be an expert in literature to enjoy the collection," he says. "Part of it is just pointing out the stories behind them and the connections that they make."

While he could not name a favorite of his from the exhibit, it usually is the latest object that he bought.

"If you think of these fictional characters that everyone knows, if you think of the late 19th century and start with Dickens and Dracula and Sherlock Holmes, even if you don't know the books, you know the movies," Lasner says. "And they're upstairs, they're in the exhibition. They are very accessible things."

The "Victorian Passions" exhibition can be found on the second floor of Morris Library in Special Collections and will remain on display until June 2.

Bluetracks: Middle School Basketball

SARA SAJER/THE REVIEW

SARA SAJER
Music Contributor

Forget the pomp and circumstance of the net cutting by the winners of the Big Dance. At that point, it's all said and done. The buzzer has sounded, sport journalists who look petite next to the players swarm onto the floor and the newly minted t-shirts have been passed out. GAME OVER. Relief.

Now, I'm going to take a shot (toeing the three-point line) and say there might be purer, unbridled energy found at the start of the competition, in the rush out of the locker and onto the court for warm ups. It's adrenaline in the upswing as the limbs loosen and the dribbling gradually gets louder and louder. It's anticipation and positive vision. I'll even go a step further to say that there is no greater glory than the glory a team of seventh-grade ballers imagine they grasp when rolling in some warm up layups to a playlist of clean edit rap songs.

Seventh graders know all about maintaining blind optimism as puberty lays merciless blows on them; they always think themselves winners, cooler than they are. I mean, look at the prerequisites of a middle school basketball game: thick, shiny reversible jerseys down to the mid-thigh, the same ball fake before any sort of dribbling, your dad running the scoreboard and celebratory walking tacos for walking less than five times in one quarter. Somehow we emerged champions and finally caved and traded camis for sports bras.

Here are ten predictable tracks you loved in seventh grade. Because what's more predictable than tweens and what's more glorious than a middle school basketball warmup playlist?

T.I. "Bring Em Out"
Fort Minor featuring Styles of Beyond: "Remember the Name"
Kurtis Blow: "Basketball"
Kanye West: "Stronger"
Soulja Boy: "Crank That (Soulja Boy) Travis Barker Remix
Darude: Sandstorm
Shop Boyz: "Party Like A Rockstar"
High School Musical Cast: "Ge'tcha Head in the Game"
Fergie: "Fergalicious"
Queen: "We Are The Champions"
As Tired As When I'm Waking Up"
Sharon Van Etten: "Every Time the Sun Come Up"
Sparklehorse: "Gold Day"
The Beatles: "Dear Prudence"
Lucius: "Dusty Trails"
Voxtrot: "The Start of Something"
Hop Along: "Sister Cities"
Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young: "Carry On"
Paul Simon: "The Obvious Child"
Kanye West: "Father Stretch My Hands Pt. 1"

Student combats booth tanning one spray at a time

HOLLY CLAYTOR
Managing Mosaic Editor

With the winter months dragging on and the sun nowhere in sight, one student has been able to keep students bronzed and ready for the summer. Junior Alyssa Mocci runs her own spray tanning business. Traveling from house to house, Mocci offers completely customizable spray tans in the privacy of her customers' homes.

With about five different solutions, Mocci's spray tanning business, Bee Bronzed, is able to create custom tan shades anywhere from "a super light glow" to "as dark as possible."

Mocci was inspired by a friend who has a similar spray tanning business in Charleston, S.C. After completing her spray-tanning license from Aviva Labs, an online school, Mocci was able to purchase their wholesale spray tanning products.

"I went into extensive research on the solution I use because everything makes me break out," she says.

Mocci went on to say that the engineers who formulate the tanning products are from Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard University. It is completely hypoallergenic, fragrance-free, alcohol-free and oil-free.

Mocci is a communications and marketing double major. She says that with Bee Bronzed, she hopes to educate her peers on the harmful effects of bed tanning by encouraging them to instead opt for a healthier spray tan.

The most difficult part about running her own businesses is getting over the stereotypes associated with spray tans, Mocci says. She says most people have a predetermined misconception that they will turn out blotchy or have too much of an orange tint to their skin after completing a spray tan. This issue, she says, has made it hard for her to effectively advertise to other students.

In order to combat this, Mocci says she uses her roommates as her "guinea pigs." She tries all her new tanning products on them and has them act as her main advertising platform.

COURTESY OF ALYSSA MOCCI
Student creates her own customized at-home spray tanning business.

"It's just so sad that everyone goes tanning. It ruins your skin," Mocci says. "I'm from the beach, and I've always lathered on sunscreen. Even in the summer I'll spray tan myself just because it's so much healthier and you feel so much better."

A typical Bee Bronzed tanning session usually lasts between ten and fifteen minutes. Mocci will arrive at the customer's own home, accompanied by her portable booth and a case filled with tanning formulas and an airbrush machine.

If a customer is nervous about receiving a spray tan, Mocci will start with her lightest shade, "Winter Glow," and gradually get darker from there. After a couple of layers are applied, the customer is able to check the tan out in the privacy of his or her own home.

Mocci says that she understands her main target market is broke college students. Because of this, she charges significantly less than her competitors. A typical at home spray-tanning session could cost about $40, but Mocci charges $30, and will at times discount it to $25.

Bee Bronzed receives most of its business through direct messages on Instagram, @beebronzed, and group parties typically contact Mocci at beebronzed.tan@gmail.com.

Mocci plans to continue to publicize her business and hopes that more students on campus will become aware of her spray tanning services. When she graduates, she says she will most likely hand the business down or sell it to someone because it is based out of Newark.

"It's actually more fun for me than anything," she says.

Free Will

Out the window

WILLIAM KEBBE
Associate News Editor

COURTESY OF BARNYZ

Writing about nature can be kaleidoscopic, and those who write about it tend toward descriptive mannerisms. Nature writing, both beautiful and fluttering in detail, allows for both the reader and writer to connect with a place, to observe a natural niche and all of its intricacies, to boulder past common observations and give animation to the inanimate. But nature writing usually comes from those places where we expect nature to be pretty — the views from a mountain peak, the brush of wind pushing and pulling on grasslands. Seldom has anyone been swayed into delightful allusions, and rarely has anyone been transfixed by simply looking at the natural surroundings out their bedroom window.

I look outside from my second story window to get more than just the casual glimpse that I've become accustomed too. I looked outside because never have I truly observed the natural occurrences of college-town suburbia, and never had I even considered it to be level with the beauty of a mountain's peak or a valley's depth. So today, I nestled my head onto my interconnected palms, the perfect place to rest my head. And I just watched.

I live where people seldom go, except for musicians. I live on a part of campus where you hear the vibrato of a trumpet's horn, or the flare of a marching band snare drum. Yes, I live next to the music building. Eighteen months later and I'm still sane.

Today was silent, the off-season for the band just beginning. They were put through another torturous year of Delaware football, where expectations are always exceedingly higher than the game-day results. Some unlucky souls of the band stick through the basketball season, where a similar fate of male sports mediocrity is met.

Looking straight down from my window, I saw the front door of a coffee shop swing open every few minutes or so. A diverse crowd of couples, solo-adventurers and frantic caffeine addicts walked in and out of the store. I find their idiosyncrasies fascinating — each one walking into the establishment with their own pallet, their own preferences, their own schedules. Each person that walks in might not have any idea clue as to what the person behind them in line might be thinking, or where they could possibly be going, or how, in any facet, they could be connected to this person. I find this interesting obscurity like that of a flowing river and its contents.

Irrespective of the stream's flow and movement, there is always an abundant amount of organic matter, whether it be the most feeble branch of a tree or the diminutive stature of a shrub. The matter comes together, unaware of its existence and connectedness to the other wonders surrounding it.

They fall into the same stream and join together their energies, yet their knowledge of the other is scant. Little do they know of the other leaf, or the other twig. And little to they know, much like the unaware human, of the possibility they their lives are intertwined, that their stories are not so different then one might expect them to be.

I continue looking and find that in the background, a purple haze is setting nicely onto the horizon and a cold breeze is distorting these colors in the most magnificent way.

My attention ceases with the setting of the sun. As I turn away, I notice my room is now painted with the same purple glow, as if the outside world desires to look at me from the very same window, sharing the same interest in what lies behind the normalcy of this barrier. We share a common interest in the other, yearning to understand the existence of our counterpart.

Out the window I look, and in the window comes a trove of puzzling, resplendent joys of this natural world — the mundanity of this becomes the delight of my eyes. Time slows down, the way it does 10,000 feet up in the air, from the floor of my bedroom. A rush of serenity floods my senses. Nature has few boundaries.

Out Loud: A humanities girl in a STEM world

KATHERINE NAILS
Senior Reporter

MINJI KONG/THE REVIEW

I am not by any stretch of the imagination a Science, Technology, Engineering or Math person.

I would rather stick pins in my eyes than have to solve another equation in my lifetime, and the science lab I took at the university made me sweat more than I'm proud of.

Despite my borderline debilitating aversion to calculus and biology, I was compelled to attend Bill Nye's university appearance on March 21 at the Bob Carpenter Center.

I had always loved his videos in elementary school, but beyond being entertained by his onscreen jokes, I could not force myself to really care about the lessons behind them.

Many years later, watching Nye quickly negated my own preconceived vision of the nerdy, middle-aged science whiz with crooked glasses, a shiny forehead and faded, unevenly pleated dress pants.

Bill Nye was cool. He was funny. Figuring out what to include in this article was challenging because he was just so quotable — if I were saying this out loud you'd hear a note of awe in my voice.

Before he taught kids that "science rules!," Nye was a stand-up comedian and an ultimate frisbee player. His mother and father helped to decode the enigma code and survived a World War II Japanese prison camp, respectively. He studied under Carl Sagan and when decrepit television carts graced the front of my generation's elementary school classrooms, it was his face that we were elated to see on the screen.

He also likes martinis.

What's more is that Nye harbored an unwavering faith in the millennial generation's ability to positively impact the world.

He told us that he saw us as a part of "...the better future."

To hear this from a baby boomer such as Nye is so incredibly rare in my experience — I, the loather of logistics, was almost ready to apply to be an environmental engineer. Almost.

He also encouraged his audience, which was made up mostly of college students, that it was important to view the world with a childlike innocence.

"If you lose that sense of adventure, check out people — take the black capsule," he said.

Whether he was talking about the migration of butterflies or making passive-aggressive (yet frighteningly accurate) comments about our president, there was one theme that I noticed kept appearing.

In Nye's own words, this overarching concept was to "... play the cards you're dealt."

He used examples from his own life and even his parents' lives to tell his audience to take serendipitous occurrences and use them in conjunction with their personal abilities to build lives for themselves.

This go-with-the-flow attitude surprised me coming from the Science Guy. I loved it.

Literary Lens: "All Grown Up"

ALANA STEWART
Senior Reporter

Empathy is a key aspect of human nature. When we look for a potential partner, friend or source of comfort, we automatically reach out for the person that can offer us the most understanding and support.

In the 2017 novel, "All Grown Up," Jami Attenberg introduces us to Andrea Bern, a single woman in her late 30s living in an NYC apartment. The novel follows Andrea through adulthood and a spiral of self-pity. A tortured former artist and graduate school dropout, Andrea faces drug addiction, self-loathing and crumbling family ties.

Andrea, stuck in a job she hates, has an extraordinarily cynical view of the world. In each chapter, she recounts people and events that shape the timeline of her life. The novel focuses mainly on her 20s and 30s but the chapters are not numbered, nor are they in chronological order.

The chapters read like different short stories. Some of the chapters have recurring characters, like her family members and close friends, but she also talks about people who have come and gone in her life. In each story, whether the person is a friend, family member or lover, Andrea often chooses to let the relationship end on poor terms and falls into a spiral of self-pity and despair.

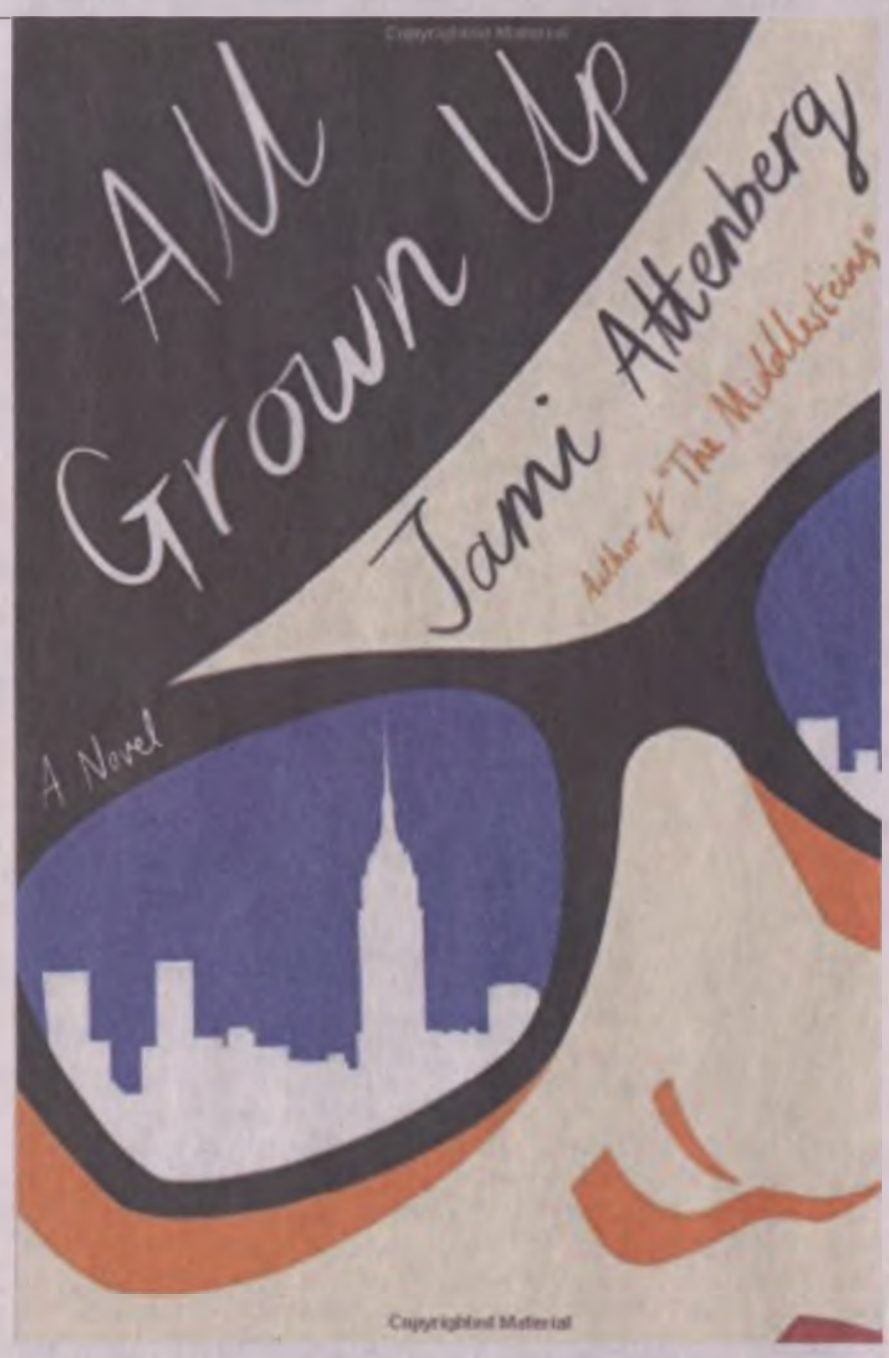
The novel is a fast-paced, easy read. For me, the unorthodox structure kept it engaging and interesting and pushed me to keep reading during the periods in which I found myself disliking Andrea. It was difficult not to grow tired of her selfish and self-deprecating comments in the face of others' tragedies.

Early on in the novel, you learn that her brother has gotten married to a beautiful magazine editor, and the couple has a baby who is terminally ill. The baby will only have a few years to live. Anytime her family delves into just how bad their reality is shaping out to be, Andrea only draws further into herself. Rather than focusing on the illness of her niece and the pain this must cause her brother and sister-in-law, she loathes her brother for leaving her and moving out of the city into a New Hampshire home.

Despite the often tiresome selfishness and immaturity of Andrea, there is something morosely relatable about her character. Harboring the memory of her father's overdose from when she was a child, and the level of poverty she endured growing up, I sometimes came to sympathize with her sociopathic behavior. To an extent, she exemplifies the darker, more selfish part of all of us. The part which, at times, doesn't want to hear or empathize with anyone else's problems but our own.

Andrea also glorifies other people's lives, concluding that hers is the most devastating. All she chooses to see is her her brother and his beautiful wife. She has viewed them as being so perfect that she hardly absorbs the fact her brother's beautiful wife has lost her career and has to cope with the terminal illness of their daughter. Through Andrea's own obliviation, Attenberg makes the point that no matter what your journey is, your education, your career or your spouse, nobodys life is perfect and everyone has to face tragedy at one point or another.

There were times I struggled with reading through Andrea's consistently narcissistic behaviors. Ultimately however, I thought the novel was a great commentary on the methods in which different people grapple with devastation in their own lives, as well as the lives of others. Empathy is a quality which not only exemplifies maturity, but is essential to surviving your own hardships as well as sympathizing with others. Attenberg makes this concept clear in what her main character lacks in the novel, "All Grown Up."



COURTESY OF HOUGHTON MIFFLIN HARCOURT
Jami Attenberg's newest novel tells the story of a self-deprecating antihero, but still manages to be an entertaining read.

Small-screen sound-off: "Crashing"

COURTESY OF FOX 2000 PICTURES

"Crashing" hilariously highlights the ups and downs of stand-up comedy.

RYAN THORNTON
Senior Reporter

Comedian Pete Holmes brings his real-life experiences as a struggling stand-up comedian to his new HBO comedy series "Crashing." With the help of executive producer Judd Apatow ("40-Year-Old Virgin," "Girls,") Holmes creates a character one can't help but feel sorry for as he tries to cope with his wife leaving him, while also trying to break out as the next big stand-up comic.

"The best way to get over bad comedy is to turn it into an HBO show," Holmes says during an inside look into the show's first episode. Holmes says "Crashing" is a love story to suffering, as almost every one of his bad comedy experiences come together for something funny in the show.

Holmes, who plays himself, believes his comedy is his last hope to move forward after catching his wife cheating on him. His wife has grown increasingly frustrated with his failing comedy career, which Holmes equates to a student in medical school who needs to pay his dues before making the big bucks. After his wife's betrayal, Holmes finds solace in a comedy club in New York before being tossed onstage to fill in for a comedian who was late to the club, only to be heckled during an awful attempt to find humor in his wife's infidelity.

It is here that the viewer gets a sense of the camaraderie between comedians who know how difficult the job can be. Holmes is approached by comedian Artie Lange, who, after joking about how awful Holmes' set was, consoles the young comic and offers advice about his relationship problems. Lange, struggling with some semblance of sobriety, admits his own life is nothing to brag about, and allows Holmes to "crash" at his apartment after reminding Holmes that stand-up comedy is not as great as it seems.

This lesson is one of many Holmes learns throughout "Crashing" as comedians like Lange and T.J. Miller show him the ropes of comedy. Their insights are a refreshing look into the stand-up comedy scene, and their natural ability to stay funny keeps the show moving at a perfect pace. "Crashing" provides a glimpse into the darker side of comedy as the viewer sees how comedians struggle with issues like drug addiction and obsession, all while using comedy as an outlet for their issues.

Throughout the show, the comedians consistently remind Holmes that stand-up comedy is something they have to do. For the comics, stand-up is more than a way to make money. Stand-up is the only thing these comedians know how to do, and they have no options other than to get on stage and find the humor in their imperfect lives.

Seeing the comedians open up to peers about their lives creates a sense of family for the viewer and helps people understand that the confidence they see from stand-ups on stage does not necessarily transfer to the real world. It is a humbling experience to see someone who appears to be successful reveal themselves to be just as screwed up as anyone else. But the beautiful ability of a comedian to see the world in a different, more humorous light inspires the viewer to tackle the issues in their own life and keep laughing along the way.

"Crashing" has already been picked up for a second season by HBO, and viewers will enjoy the likeable characters and introspective minds of the comedians who give life to the show. Crash on the couch and settle in.

becomes a story about the lies we tell ourselves and one another about relationships. It is a hyperbolized interpretation of our society — so many of us feel as though we have to fall in love. We are afraid of loneliness more than we are afraid of death. Yet those who have loved and lost are often so bitter they adopt the dogma of a lifetime of loneliness, denouncing the idea of love forever.

"The Lobster" toys with our normal ideas of film analysis. Modern film is rarely stimulating in an intellectual way, and appeals only to our most basic and comfortable needs — those of escapism and entertainment. But "The Lobster" throws curveballs; expectations are constantly in need of reevaluation. The film succeeds most in its ambiguity. It forces a different kind of analysis, a re-construction of expectations to suit its own world.

It is a profoundly different film and one that managed to make me, at least, question the very way I think about film. The world seemed brighter and warmer after my first viewing, and all I could think was "thank God my world isn't like that." The fact is that for some people, the fear of being alone is of considerable magnitude. So, that the world in "The Lobster" seems both so alien, yet so familiar, is simply the mark of brilliant satire.

Chicken Scratch

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ERIN ERSKINE/THE REVIEW

NATIONAL ACCLAIM AND A NO-HIT BID: WALTER SOARS IN HIS SECOND YEAR

TEDDY GELMAN
Managing Sports Editor

While pitching a no-hitter is a rare yet noteworthy achievement, Delaware sophomore pitcher Brandon Walter -- who threw several of them in high school -- said "it's really not that big of a deal."

The Hodgson Vo-Tech graduate, who is the Blue Hens' number-one pitcher in his second year with the team, was on his way toward another no-hit performance in a March 18 game versus Penn State -- until he allowed a hit in the seventh inning. This went on to be the only hit he gave up in eight innings, striking out a career-high 17 batters.

"I didn't even know I had a no-hitter until the fifth inning and then I realized nobody was talking to me," Walter said. "That's something you do in baseball, when a guy's got a no-hitter, you kind of just leave him alone, so I sat down on the bench, realized there was no one around me and then I looked up at the scoreboard and realized they had no hits."

Walter's 17 strikeouts, which are the second-most ever recorded by a Delaware pitcher in a single game, vaulted him up the CAA leaderboard, now leading the conference in strikeouts, while pitching the third-most innings among CAA starters.

His 44 strikeouts through six games are 10 better than Walter had through six outings last year. He credits the increase in strikeouts to the addition of a changeup and slider to his pitching repertoire.

"In high school I had just a fastball and curveball," Walter said. "I worked on a changeup my junior and senior year, and didn't really throw it much. Last year, Coach Walker [pitching coach] helped me with a changeup and a slider, worked it in slowly. I think by the end of last year, I was able to throw any of them at any time and then it just rolled into this year the same way."

After gathering CAA All-Rookie team honors last year, the 20-year-old was expected to be a top contributor to the Blue Hen's pitching lineup this season. While his Earned Run Average (ERA) rose above 3.0 after a subpar outing against James Madison last week, the lefty is beginning to receive more than just conference recognition.

Following his performance against Penn State, Walter was named one of eight NCAA Division One baseball players of the week. This is the first time he's received this award.

As he moves into the spotlight, Walter admits that he misses hitting "all the time," but once college baseball became a realistic destination, he realized that pitching was his calling card.

"My whole life I've been pitching and hitting," Walter said. "Throughout high school, I played my first two years, started getting looks from colleges for pitching and not hitting, so I said 'I guess I'm better at that' and then my junior and senior year, I got a lot of awards for pitching and started to realize, that's my future."

These awards, which consist of three first-team All-Blue Hen Conference selections, 2014 and 2015 first-team All-State selections and 2015 Blue Hen Flight B Conference and Delaware State Player of the Year awards, were accompanied by the state record for career strikeouts (333) and a 0.83 cumulative high school ERA.

"I remember in high school it was kinda easy -- you ever walk somebody, that's alright, you just strike out the next guy, lineups weren't really that strong," Walter said. "Here if you give up two hits in a row, you can't panic or can't get all mad, you just gotta stay focused and get the next guy out, minimize their runs."

COURTESY OF DELAWARE ATHLETICS
Delaware sophomore Brandon Walter had a career performance on March 18, recording 17 strikeouts and allowing only one hit in eight innings pitched.

According to Walter, this mentality will be greatly important to the success of him and his fellow pitchers through the homestretch of this season. Delaware pitching ranks third in the CAA through 22 games; last season they were ranked sixth out of nine teams.

Walter leads a rotation that backs what is currently the best hitting lineup in the conference. For a team with NCAA tournament aspirations, offensive and defensive consistency will be crucial.

Coming off of his career performance, Walter is one player who will be heavily relied upon to help get them there.

"I had text messages from everybody, just a lot of people saying, 'Congrats, that's awesome,' just a lot of support from family friends from high school, my old coaches," Walter said. "It's cool when guys can recognize that."

BLUE HENS WINGMAN CHIVARSKY CORBETT TO TRANSFER

BRANDON HOLVECK
Assistant Sports Editor

A year after being successfully re-recruited by Martin Ingelsby, Chivarsky Corbett will end his Delaware Blue Hen career prematurely after all.

The 6'7" wingman has been granted his release and will transfer before the start of next season. After starting in the first 12 games of the season, Corbett's playing time diminished by season's end. In February, Corbett averaged just 6.8 minutes per game in seven contests. The redshirt-sophomore appeared in 28 games overall, starting 15 and averaged 6.4 points, 3.0 rebounds and 0.5 assists.

Last spring, following the firing of former Blue Hens Head Coach Monté Ross, Corbett announced that he would be transferring to University of Texas-San Antonio. When Ingelsby was brought into the fold in May, Corbett decided to return to Delaware. He was one of several Blue Hens, including Cazmon Hayes, Skye Johnson and Eric Carter, who were granted release from their scholarships, but decided to return under Ingelsby.

Coming off an ACL injury just four games into the 2015-2016 campaign, expectations were high as Corbett entered his third season with the Blue Hens. Heading into the 2016-2017 season, he was named CAA All-Preseason Honorable Mention after earning a spot on the CAA All-Rookie team in his freshman year. That season, Corbett averaged 8.8 points and 4.2 rebounds as Delaware's sixth man.

Following Delaware's loss to UNCW in the second round of the CAA tournament, Ingelsby said Corbett, like many other Blue Hens, would have to "compete" to earn more playing time. The Blue Hens' stable of options on the wing, Corbett's primary position, include CAA Rookie of the Year Ryan Daly, Anthony Mosley, Darian Bryant, Jacob Cushing and incoming freshmen Ryan Allen, Chyree Walker and Kevin Anderson.

Corbett has not yet announced where he will be playing for the 2017-2018 season. Corbett will have to sit out his third season of eligibility due to NCAA transfer rules, and will therefore only have one season of eligibility with his new team.

COURTESY OF DELAWARE ATHLETICS
After averaging 6.4 points this past season in a limited role, Delaware forward Chivarsky Corbett has been granted his release and will transfer.

The Blue Hens now have three open scholarship positions. Ingelsby has expressed interest in adding a graduate transfer student, who would be eligible to play immediately. Ingelsby has also said that he would like to keep one spot open to have flexibility in coming seasons.

Weekly Roundup

The Blue Hens baseball squad defeated William & Mary, 5-4, in 11 innings on Sunday, their first extra-inning win since Feb. 21, 2016.

PENN STATE TRANSFER TO BOLSTER BLUE HENS OFFENSIVE LINE

BRANDON HOLVECK
Assistant Sports Editor

COURTESY OF UD REVIEW ARCHIVES
Reports indicate that Delaware will receive a major boost to its offense line with the addition of Penn State transfer

Noah Beh, a former standout high school offensive line prospect, will transfer from Penn State to Delaware for the upcoming football season.

An elite prospect on the national scale, Beh was considered a three-star recruit by many ranking organizations as a high school senior in 2013. He was ranked as the 14th-best player at any position in Pennsylvania and the 45th-best offensive lineman nationally.

The 300-pound, 6'6" Beh did not play in 2016. He entered the season as a projected starter, after playing in 13 games the year prior as a redshirt freshman, but was suspended indefinitely for unspecified reasons.

The transfer was first reported by 247sports.com, after Beh was not on Penn State's spring football roster. Beh's status has not been formally acknowledged by Penn State or Delaware.

Beh joins a Delaware offensive line unit that returns starting center Brody Kern and left tackle Jake Trump. Steve Robinson and Jethro Pepe, who combined to make 10 starts across the offensive line also return. However, the Hens will have to replace graduating seniors Will Lewis, the team's starting left guard, and Connor Bozick, an All-CAA selection who saw time at tackle and guard.

Beh will have two seasons of eligibility left. The News Journal reported that Beh will finish the academic year at Penn State and will therefore not join Delaware for spring practice. Delaware begins spring practice today.

SPRING HAS SPRUNG: DELAWARE FOOTBALL BEGINS APRIL PRACTICE

COURTESY OF UD REVIEW ARCHIVES
New coach Danny Rocco and his team begin spring practice this week.

HANNAH TRADER
Staff Reporter

The spring tends to bring thoughts of weather warming, flowers blooming and summer approaching. For a specific group of athletes at Delaware, it means one thing: football.

Delaware's football team is gearing up for spring practice, which starts Tuesday, April 4. With a new season brought a new head coach, Danny Rocco. As he begins his reign at Delaware, Rocco views the spring as a new opportunity.

"Everybody has a fresh start," Rocco said. "Everybody has a new beginning. Those guys who have been in the starting line up, they're probably going to roll out there on Tuesday and be in the starting lineup. Their peers recognize a good number of them as being the right guys. But, for everybody, them included, it's a fresh start, it's a clean slate."

In Rocco's time at Liberty University, he immediately turned the team around from a 1-10 record in 2005 to a 6-5 record the following year, his first at the school. He saw the same success at the University of Richmond, where he took the Spiders from a 3-8 season in 2011 to 8-3 in 2012. This instant improvement can be attributed to Rocco's philosophy.

"Going into this spring, starting at a new program, I don't believe in the idea of rebuilding because I feel like that minimizes the senior classes opportunity to be successful," Rocco said. "My outlook for every team I've coached, first year or not, is I owe it to everyone, especially the seniors, to make the decisions necessary to give us the best chance to win. If a player can help the team win now, then playing them now is my obligation to this team."

In terms of filling positions and encouraging competition among the players, Rocco's philosophy is to "put it on tape." Starting in the spring, everything gets filmed and every play is evaluated. What the spring brings Rocco is a special opportunity because the seniors have graduated and the freshman have not arrived yet, resulting in a smaller roster, allowing more looks for the returning players.

Rocco is not the only one looking forward to this spring. Junior linebacker Troy Reeder is excited to get back out on the field. Transferring from Penn State University before the start of last season as a sophomore, he will be moving on to his third spring practice with his third new head coach.

"The last month or so we've been really focused on the mental side," Reeder said. "Now it's time to start preparing physically. We're embracing a whole new system and whole new language. A big emphasis starting this spring will be competing everyday at practice. We've felt the pain of close losses and with a lot of returning leadership from the team and Coach Rocco, we're hoping to be on the other end."

Returning quarterback Joe Walker is looking to use this spring to perfect the new systems Rocco is introducing.

"With spring practices starting we get to work on putting the ball in the best players' hands," Walker said. "Whether it's myself needing to know exactly where to put the ball or receivers knowing where to make the best catch, going into this spring we're just looking to get smarter and sharper."

The quarterback said Coach Rocco's history at previous schools shows the confidence he has in the Blue Hens. He knows Coach Rocco's capability of getting teams underway along with his "do it right now" mindset will offer a new and exciting vision.

Senior offensive lineman Jake Trump has high expectations for his final spring practice and final season. As a senior and starter, he is ready to help lead the team.

"I'm extremely excited about this spring. It gives us a great chance to review the plays and just get to talk everything out," Trump said. "It's the time when players start to step up."

With an overall record of 4-7 for the 2016 season, the Blue Hens have been anxiously waiting to step out on the field and get back to work.

"We're back outside, we're teaching, coaching and playing football," Rocco said. "Every part of the job's important, but we're starting the phase we all really enjoy and I couldn't be more excited."

sports commentary

Why it's time to treat the college kids like the pros

DAN ROSENFIELD
Staff Reporter

Anger, hatred, shame, disappointment: these were the emotions felt by Oklahoma City Thunder fans, and any other NBA supporters besides those of Golden State when Kevin Durant bolted to the Warriors. The backlash he received from fans was astounding as jerseys were burned, tears were shed and a lot of expletives were said. Everyone was appalled that he left to try to have a better shot at winning a championship. Meanwhile when Wendell Carter Jr. signed his Letter of Intent with Duke, no one blinks an eye.

The similarities and differences between the college recruiting process and NBA free agency are astounding. In both cases, a player gets to choose where they want to play.

Most top recruited high school players will go to the best college programs in the country -- rarely will you see a top-10 recruit go to any placer other than Duke, Kentucky, Kansas, UNC or any other prominent program in a big conference that is accustomed to success.

On the other hand, us mid-major programs, such as Delaware, would go bananas if we could land a five-star prospect. However, we just don't have the resources, program history or fanbase to make that happen, just like most mid-major programs.

NBA free agency also gives players free reign of where they want to go. Although one key difference here is that NBA players are actually making millions of dollars instead of just receiving a scholarship. Most players either stick with their team that drafted them or chase a place that can give them the most money. So when a player like Kevin Durant leaves for the Warriors, or when Lebron bolted for the Heat in 2010, why is there so much backlash? And why does this backlash not appear in the high school recruiting process?

Perhaps this is because NBA players play on the biggest basketball stage in the world. High school players on the other hand, are an enigma. There's no way to know how good they are going to be until they arrive on campus. NBA players are established and constantly control the nature of the NBA.

So maybe that's why everyone was so flabbergasted by Durant's move. They were frightened that the Warriors would just be too good for the rest of the league and there would be no competition. What's wrong with a player wanting to win? In fact, I think we should praise these types of moves. Look at Carmelo Anthony, for example. He chose to stay with the Knicks because he trusted Phil Jackson, but more so because the Knicks could offer him the highest amount of money. It seems he will never even be close to winning a title unless he moves on from New York. Durant, on the other hand, will be in contention for years to come.

We should applaud players for wanting to go to places where they will be most successful, as opposed to criticizing them for chasing the money and putting their career legacy in jeopardy. If high school players can freely choose to go to the best college programs in the country without any backlash, then NBA players should be able to go wherever they please as well.

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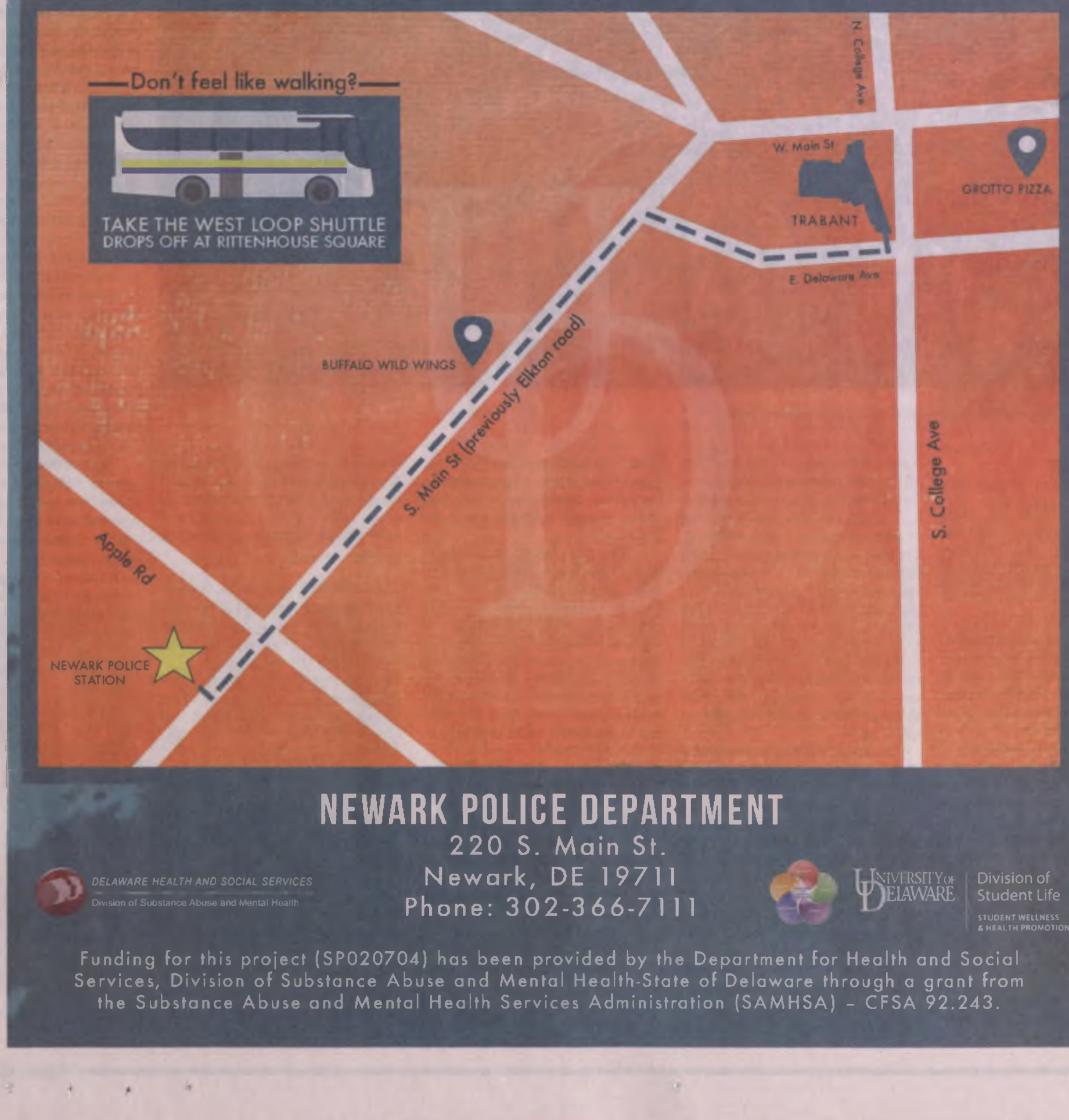

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220 S. Main St.
Newark, DE 19711
Phone: 302-366-7111

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