

Old Gold & Black

WAKE FOREST'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1916

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"Covers the campus like the magnolias"

Susan R. Wenté selected as WFU's next president

Wenté will begin her role in July, when she is set to become Wake Forest's first female president

BY AINE PIERRE & CATE PITTERLE

News Editors

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Susan R. Wenté was named the 14th president of Wake Forest on Sunday after a months-long international search process.

Wenté, a cell biologist by trade, is the provost and vice-chancellor at Vanderbilt University. She served as the interim chancellor of Vanderbilt from Aug. 2019 to June 2020 and will take on the role of Wake Forest's president on July 1, 2021. She will be the first woman to lead Wake Forest.

"I think it was both the most expansive decision-making process that Wake Forest has ever seen for selecting a university president or, indeed, any top leader," Provost Rogan Kersh said. "The breadth of consultation, the inclusion across multiple constituencies and the unprecedentedly strong faculty voice and academic leadership voice in this process is, I think, the way of the future for universities."

Wenté comes to Wake Forest with enthusiastic praise from all those with whom she has worked. Vanderbilt's vice-provost for academic affairs, Vanessa Beasley, said that in her five-plus years reporting to Wenté, she was most impressed by her boss's solution-oriented approach.

"She's very effective. She is very interested in 'what is the question? What is the problem? How do we solve it?'" Beasley said.

"She's a very good person to say 'here's the solution I propose' and then you walk through that with her."

Beasley also told the *Old Gold & Black* that one of Wenté's greatest strengths is her desire and ability to listen to viewpoints across the spectrum of any issue. She is also passionate about equity in academia, making sure every student who wants to learn can succeed.

"One of the things her record

shows is her commitment to diversity and inclusion among students," Beasley said. "And making sure that, for example, first generation college students and students from underrepresented or historically marginalized groups have room to be themselves, but also that they have a sense of community and adequate support on campus."

Wenté also brings an "everyone deserves a spot at the table" mentality to the academic sphere. She deeply appreciates the importance of both humanities and social sciences as well as the hard sciences and mathematics.

"From my perspective as a humanities professor, she might approach problems from her own perspective as a scientist, but she also realizes there are other ways to look at problems," Beasley said. "And frankly, [she] also understands that all those perspectives are equally valuable and that you need to have people representing those different paradigms thinking alongside you."

She said one of Wenté's strengths is her dedication to meeting students.

Virus spike means more restrictions

Tighter restrictions on social activities and movement could take effect as soon as Friday

BY CATE PITTERLE

News Editor

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After almost two weeks on campus, Wake Forest has recorded just under 100 COVID-19 cases among students and faculty, worrying administration.

The university plans to enact more restrictions after discussing on Wednesday, but deciding against, a move to Red status.

That step would have included a "significant reduction in contact between individuals and groups," per *Our Way Forward*. Red is the final step before Purple status, in which the university would suspend campus operations and send students home.

The university is "very concerned" about social activity on campus, including large gatherings at Campus Gas and within student organizations, including fraternities, according to Vice President for Campus Life Penny Rue.

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Students enjoy new recreation spaces

Administration created two new recreation areas, one indoors and one outdoors

BY EVAN DAANE

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With this semester's introduction of two new COVID-19 safe socialization spaces, there are now new and exciting options for students looking to relax and unwind.

Due to the university's opening in Orange status, administrators strived to create outdoor and indoor spaces in which students could gather while still being at a low risk for catching the virus. The addition of fire pits and chairs to the green space of the Manchester quad, which the university is calling Fireside on Manchester, creates a multipurpose socialization space for students outdoors.

"I'm excited to try out the new fire pits on Manchester while staying safe from COVID," said junior Gretchen Castellote.



Photo courtesy of Wake Forest University

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This column represents the views of the *Old Gold & Black* Editorial Board.

Fate of semester relies on students

Spring 2021 is the third consecutive semester in which Wake Forest has had its typical on-campus plans thwarted by the global pandemic. While that sentence may sound like something straight out of an episode of *The Twilight Zone*, it is sadly the reality we live in.

No matter how unfortunate that reality is, however, the students, faculty and staff of this school made a pledge to follow conduct rules and behave in a way that protects not only themselves, but the greater Winston-Salem community.

On Tuesday, Feb. 2, it was reported that there were 98 known, active cases

“Wake Forest's Honor Code is not a packet of suggestions. It is the cornerstone of this institution and should be regarded as such.”

of COVID-19 among the Wake Forest population. With 24 of these cases being reported this Monday and 26 on Tuesday, it is apparent that weekend social gatherings, both at Greek life social events and off-campus bars, are making the spreading of the virus even more rampant.

As the number of coronavirus cases among staff and students grows by the day, the risk of the university entering the red or the purple zone increases.

Students, however, should be motivated to make smart decisions regarding mitigating the spread of the virus with the health, safety and well-being of the wider Winston-Salem community in mind, rather than out of fear of the university imposing more stringent restrictions on campus life.

You would be hard-pressed to find one amongst our Wake Forest student body who does not wish life was back to ‘normal.’ But today, life is not ‘normal’ anywhere, for anyone.

Wake Forest’s Honor Code is not a packet of suggestions. It is the cornerstone of this institution and should be regarded as such. As students, we

must follow the health recommendations put forward by the university. To disregard them does a disservice to our peers, as well as the faculty and staff who come to work each day, keep our campus alive, and return home each night to families of their own.

Unless students begin to hold themselves and their peers accountable, this spring semester might end just as abruptly as it did last year when COVID-19 first reared its head.

On the 186th anniversary week of Wake Forest University’s founding, let us go forward and promote the spirit of Pro Humanitate — not only in what we say, but what we do.

Old Gold & Black

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF
WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY SINCE 1916

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COVID-19: More restrictions are coming

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“We are seeing transmission within student organizations at a pretty high level,” Rue said. “[The issue] appears to be social contact.”

Though some university officials were optimistic about a potential move to Yellow status last week, a record spike over the weekend upended that thinking. Now, officials believe that with the amount of students breaking public health guidelines, more stringent measures are in order.

According to Vice President for University Advancement Mark Petersen, measures like moving solely to grab-and-go dining, limiting hours and capacities for spaces like the library and gym and even taking measures to strengthen how the university supports the statewide 10 p.m. curfew are possible. Such measures are expected to take effect on Friday.

The next week will prove decisive in what the university does going forward, as cases are likely to continue trending upward. On Wednesday, officials were expecting around an additional 50 cases reported for the day. That would bring the total number on campus to around 150.

“What emerging data from both diagnostic testing and from our weekly asymptomatic testing is showing is that we are having a significant spike in the spread of the virus in our student population,” said Assistant Vice President for

Health and Wellbeing James Raper. “It’s still early, but I’m guessing we are still on an upward trend of positive reported cases.”

As case numbers continue to skyrocket, so do other numbers associated with the rising number of COVID-19 cases. The rate of positive cases in asymptomatic testing rose from 0.9% Wednesday to 5% the next day. For targeted testing — tests administered to student organizations and dorms considered hotspots — that number is 12%.

According to Petersen, university officials are particularly concerned about large social gatherings, especially those associated with the rush process, and with large numbers of students eating together. This comes at an unfortunate time of the semester, as well.

“Super Bowl Sunday couldn’t come at a worse time,” said Petersen. “I would be fairly surprised if there weren’t a lot of people who were thinking that this was a great opportunity for their unofficial rush activities to be anchored around something fun like the Super Bowl. That would be a very bad idea and would certainly [increase the likelihood of Wake Forest] going toward Red [status] next week.”

Despite the worrying trends, many officials are optimistic that students will be receptive to the new and current restrictions.

“We are all hoping that we can remind our students that they did a truly re-

markable job in the fall keeping us all on-campus and operating, and that we can get back to that place with a doubling-down on wearing a mask, waiting six feet [apart on lines] and washing

hands regularly,” said Raper. “Doing that will get us to the peak of the curve much more quickly.”

As of Tuesday night, the university has 98 active COVID-19 cases.



Katie Fox/Old Gold & Black

New restrictions could take effect Friday, including those on dining and study spaces as the university attempts to flatten the COVID-19 curve.

Some states ease restrictions as virus rages

As North Carolina keeps its curfew in effect, other states are easing lockdowns

BY SOPHIA TOMPKINS

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As COVID-19 continues to wreak havoc across the country — almost 26 million Americans have contracted the virus and five states have passed a death toll of one death per every 500 residents — states are adopting wildly varied approaches to combating the virus.

In the last seven days alone, North Carolina recorded just under 40,000 cases. Meanwhile, statewide restrictions rank as the eighth strictest in the country, according to D.C. finance group Wallet Hub. California was ranked as the most restrictive, while Oklahoma was ranked as the least.

One of the most notable policies is the curfew order requiring North Carolinians to stay home from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. The order, implemented in December, is set to remain in place until the end of February. North Carolina is one of only three states with curfews, the other two being Virginia and Ohio.

Some businesses adhere to this rule as well, shutting down before 10 p.m. Most enterprises, however, are only bound by this restriction, with a relatively long leash for other practices. Restaurants (both indoor and outdoor seating), retail stores, salons, gyms and

entertainment venues such as museums, bowling alleys and amusement parks are all open. Bars that exclusively serve alcohol indoors are the only businesses that are not currently allowed to open.

Across the country, state governments are still trying to enforce curfews and other restrictions, including mask mandates. However, many of the states vary in the strictness of these rules and their enforcement.

New Mexico and Oregon are the only two states that have most of their businesses closed while an additional 14 states are a mix of open and closed, like North Carolina.

While there may be options for places to go and things to do, there are still some restrictions to ensure these places remain open. Face masks are mandatory while within North Carolina borders; however, they are optional outside with proper six-foot social distancing. Sixteen states either do not require masks at all or only require them sometimes.

As reported by the *Seattle Times*, state epidemiologist Rachel Herlihy cautioned the public during an online news briefing that it could be a while before all of the COVID-19 restrictions will be lifted.

“It’s going to probably be until at least this summer that we really need to continue all of the strategies that we’re using,” Herlihy said.

Many states are already ahead of this schedule, however, which begs the question: why are any states easing up

when a new strand of COVID-19 is becoming more prevalent in the U.S.?

California plans on lifting the stay-at-home order, and several other states, including New York and Michigan are loosening up, too. In explaining the changes, many governors cite restlessness with the restrictions and are eager to return to “normal” life.

Others expressed concern with lifting these restrictions, however. Amesh Adalja of the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security is concerned over how people will behave once these restrictions are gone.

“Anyone who has been following this pandemic should not have this misconception that lifting the stay-at-home order means the virus is over,” Adalja told the *Seattle Times*.

There are other ways to stay safe during this time. Public health officials be-

gan distributing the vaccine at the end of 2020. As of Sunday, about 25.2 million vaccines have been administered. That leaves over 300 million Americans waiting.

Currently, North Carolina is still in Phases 1 and 2 of distribution which means only healthcare workers, long-term care staff and residents and individuals 65 and older can get the vaccine. The next phase includes frontline essential workers (Phase 3), then moves to adults with high-risk for exposure or severe illness (Phase 4) and finally everyone else (Phase 5). As of now, it is unclear when the next phase will begin.

To find when you are eligible for the vaccine in North Carolina, you can access the “Find My Vaccine Group” tool on the COVID-19 section of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services website.



Courtesy of Getty Images

San Francisco lays dormant in the throes of a lockdown imposed by Calif. Gov. Gavin Newsom, who lifted the order last week.

Deacon Profile: Nathan Hatch

BY COOPER SULLIVAN

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Dr. Nathan Hatch is the 13th President of Wake Forest and joined the university in July 2005 after nine years as provost of Notre Dame University in South Bend, Ind. As president, Hatch has overseen the construction of Wake Downtown, Farrell Hall and new residence halls, among other projects. Hatch has also helped clarify the university's overall strategic plan and was president in 2013, the year Wake Forest received its highest ranking in history, 23rd nationally. He received his Ph.D. at Washington University in St. Louis.

You have been at Wake Forest for 15 years and you're calling it the end after this semester. Which of your additions to the Wake Forest legacy are you most proud of, looking back?

I think there are several things. I think I am most proud of defining what Wake Forest is, its core mission, and being able to spread that word and then build on that. So a place of excellence, a place of personal attention and community, a place of service, a place where we take character seriously, educating the whole person in both intellect and character. It seems to me that we have unpacked that in a lot of ways.

We have expanded: expanded the student body, expanded the availability of a Wake Forest education and we have expanded campus through construction. Not only with Farrell Hall and Reynolds Gym, a new admissions building and several new residence halls and dining halls, but also just trying to make Wake Forest stronger on its core mission. I think what we did in the business school is significant. We had two small, underfunded schools, undergraduate and graduate — completely separate. There were separate faculties and we put those together which has made them both stronger. Now, we house them in the newly built Farrell Hall.

Our medical school has made great advances, as well. The most recent combination with Atrium Health gives it a long-term financial future. What we have done in the Office of Personal and Career Development sets a national standard under Andy Chan's leadership. That was something we took on. We recruited Andy from Stanford and he's built the model program to help young people discern not only "how do you get a good job" but "what kind of job should you have," "what are your gifts" and "what are your commitments." The

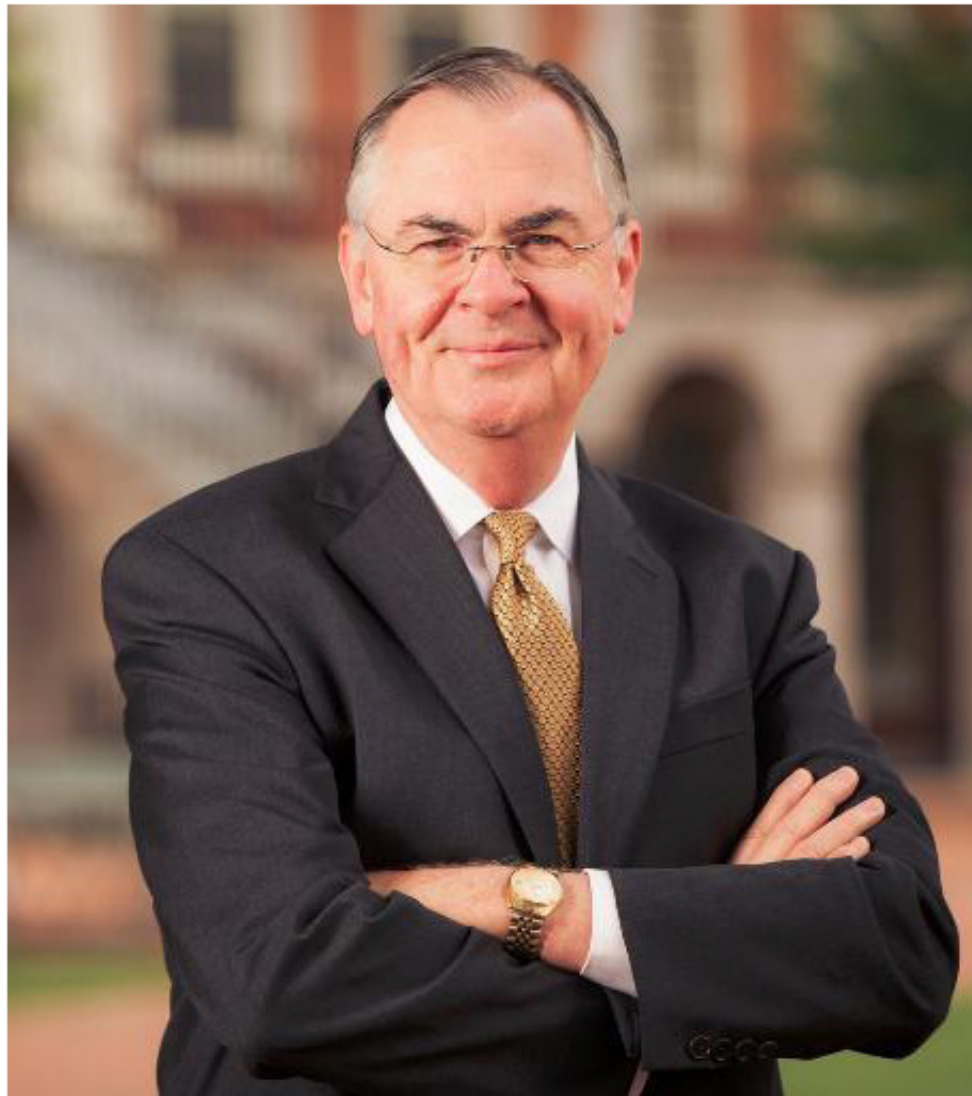


Photo courtesy of Nathan Hatch on Twitter

whole Leadership and Character program under Michael Lamb is fantastic, as well. It's one of the most outstanding programs in the country.

You mention these programs that help new alumni. Do you feel graduates are bringing the Pro Humanitate spirit of Wake Forest into their new communities?

After four years on this campus, I hope so. We are a living-learning community, which COVID-19 hurts. I think we are very faithful to our history. I have talked in the past about being radically traditional and radically innovative. There are certain core things about how we teach, how we build communities that are the same, but you always have to be thinking of new ways of how you can be innovative. Our new programs in engineering, new programs in biomedical science, Wake Washington, Wake West, and Wake Forest's program in Copenhagen expand opportunities for our students.

How much say do you have in picking your successor, or is that fully up to the board of trustees?

That's up to the trustees, so I have no say. That's just the way things need to be, and this is a broad committee. It includes a student, it includes faculty and they need to do that. They obviously asked my opinion and I've had briefings on where I thought Wake Forest was and what it needed, but once they began the search and started looking at people, that's not my responsibility.

What is the actual transition process from you to the next president? How much time are you devoting to making sure everything will go smoothly?

We work very hard. Our cabinet had a retreat last week and we did a lot of talking about how to best do this transition and to keep everything stable. I think this is the strongest leadership team that Wake Forest has ever had.

This is a collegial team and I think the strains and stress of COVID-19 has made us even stronger. We have had to act very collaboratively, we have had to share resources, we have teams that are in the university that could have never been imagined before and many people are doing different things. So in that sense, the stresses of COVID-19 make the university stronger moving forward.

You have had many positive impacts on Wake Forest, but there are some projects that you probably had planned out that didn't come to fruition. Is there anything that comes to mind?

Yeah, we had teed up, and we had hoped to begin by now what's called the College Academic Commons, a major new academic building. It'd be right there on Davis Field across from the library. It'd be home for the humanities, home for the Center of Leadership and Character. So when COVID-19 came, that just stopped that building in its tracks. Hopefully, that can continue, but that's the reality of what we face.

What are you going to miss most about being here?

It's the people. We are staying in the community so there are many deep friendships that we can sustain but it will not be the same kind of regular day-to-day contact with a lot of people. That's why I've loved being in higher education and its relation to students, faculty, administrators, trustees, alumni. It will still be some of that but it won't be my day-to-day 16 hours a day, and that'll be good.

Any advice on how to finish this semester out strong?

I think the danger for all of us is to let our guard down a bit. We are all tired of COVID-19, but it's as dangerous or more dangerous than ever. Because of new strains and the cold weather, we have to buy into what it means to be safe, and that's hard. We love to be together. We have to, until the vaccine becomes really prevalent, live a more disciplined life. But we did it successfully the first term so I'm confident that we can do it again. We have to keep reminding each other.

Editorial Note: This interview was conducted before the 14th president was announced and was edited for clarity and brevity.

POLICE BEAT

COVID-19 Violation/Underage Consumption

- Offender was found to have not gotten their flu shot before returning to campus. The report was filed at 10:39 a.m. on Jan. 27.
- An offender in Deacon Place was found to be in possession of cannabis and related paraphernalia. The report was filed at 8:20 p.m. on Jan. 27.
- Campus Police assisted WSPD in breaking up a KKG party at the Vintage Sofa Bar. WSPD was advised that the party was ending. The report was filed at 9:27 p.m. on Jan. 27.
- Several students were suspected of drinking underage in Magnolia. The report was filed on Jan. 27 at 10:24 p.m.
- A student fell ill after consuming alcohol in Dogwood and refused transport. The report was filed on Jan. 28 at 2:27 a.m.

- A student fell ill after consuming shots of vodka in North Campus Apartments and was transferred to Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center (WFUBMC). The report was filed on Jan. 30 at 12:27 a.m.
- An unknown student dropped off bags of alcohol to students quarantining at the Hawthorne Inn. The report was filed at 12:52 p.m. on Jan. 31

Miscellaneous

- An unknown subject removed two Rhino radios with chargers at the Hawthorne Inn. The report was filed at 3:37 p.m. on Jan. 25.
- Unknown subjects broke into a vehicle and removed property in Lot R1. The report was filed at 10:50 a.m. on Jan. 30.

Deacon Profile: Susan Wente

BY CATE PITTERLE & AINE PIERRE

News Editors

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Susan Wente will become the 14th president of Wake Forest on July 1. She is currently serving as provost and vice-chancellor at Vanderbilt University. Between August 2019 and June 2020, she served as Vanderbilt's interim chancellor. She received her Ph.D. in biochemistry from the University of California Berkeley. She will be the first woman to serve as president of Wake Forest.

What's your message to our student body?

I am truly looking forward to meeting students and learning more about the excellent work you are doing in classrooms, labs and studios; on the playing fields and with the broader community.

I believe in the combination of scholarship, research and creative expression. Through those three elements, we learn how to interpret and connect our society. The teacher-scholar model and the collegiate university model are very distinctive, and I believe we need to ensure these elements remain hallmarks of the Wake Forest student experience. Making bold decisions is also a trademark of Wake Forest, and I am excited about what bold steps we will make together for this university.

What first led you from the field of biology to academic administration? Can you describe your journey?

I love research and engaging in scientific discovery, but found I also enjoy collaborating, networking and organizing. When I joined the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine to chair the Department of Cell and Developmental Biology, I continued running a lab and mentoring students and expanded my scope to also recruiting and mentoring faculty. When I realized the enormous energy I felt from building and creating environments to support others' successes, serving as associate vice chancellor for research and senior associate dean for biomedical sciences and then provost was the logical next step.

What does being Wake Forest's first female president mean to you?

I think what has become very clear in recent years is the importance of



Photo courtesy of Vanderbilt University

representation. Much of my work has been toward building inclusive and equitable environments for people to thrive. At Vanderbilt, I was the first woman to serve as provost, and I think that opened doors for our institution to grow in new ways. I hope that my leadership and representation at Wake Forest will provide more opportunities for others and encourage women and underrepresented groups to see themselves in similar roles.

In a time of great division and inequality, what steps are you committed to taking to ensure all Wake Forest students are given the same opportunities to succeed?

I believe in the power of education and the power of opportunity, and to harness that power, I created the Office of Inclusive Excellence at Vanderbilt to focus on equity. Throughout the interview process for the presidency, I heard from the Search Committee that Wake Forest wants to be a national voice on

issues of leadership and character. They wanted to focus on embracing civility and meaningful discourse, as well as equity and opportunity for all. Those aspirations for Wake Forest reflect what I also embrace. I will continue to be a strong advocate for equity, diversity and inclusion, and to achieve those ends, I am going to work to provide the needed support for our students to thrive. Together, we can keep the momentum going.

Do you feel that your experience with biology makes you uniquely qualified to handle the university's COVID-19 response, and if so, what do you have in mind?

I am evidence-driven and especially in the COVID-19 response, I think that data is critical to making decisions. This also requires taking lots of disparate information, including most critically listening to experts and soliciting input so that we can distill the issues and craft action plans.

But what has sustained our successful efforts at Vanderbilt has been the commitment of the entire community to reducing the spread of the virus and to continuing the university's mission of education, research and discovery. For universities and for society, it is a time of change and of challenge. I have been impressed with the resilience, creativity and careful planning that are also at the heart of Wake Forest's response.

During his time as president, Dr. Hatch has been known for his emphasis on leadership and character. What do you value most?

Wake Forest is a special institution, committed to excellence with a tremendous ability to develop leaders of great integrity for our world. I am very impressed by and applaud Dr. Hatch's investment in leadership and character as a signature element of the Wake Forest mission and it is fitting given the commitment I have seen to our motto, Pro Humanitate. As I mentioned in my message to the Wake Forest community, I am committed to simple but profound guiding principles: trust, transparency and teamwork. I believe that through trust, transparency and teamwork, our cohesive community will make bold decisions together that will shape our pathway forward.

Can you comment on the legacy of your predecessor, Dr. Hatch, and how you hope to build on his accomplishments and build your legacy?

I have the utmost respect for President Nathan Hatch, and I admire how he has guided Wake Forest through many challenges and transitions. His leadership will be important during these next months of his tenure. I know that we can now build on the strong foundation that exists and write the next exciting chapter of the University's story through the partnership and teamwork of our outstanding faculty, staff, students and alumni. Wake Forest has a history of taking bold steps as a leader in higher education. We will have the unique opportunity to envision what the next bold steps forward will be, and in doing so I believe Wake Forest can be a transformational force for good in our world. This is tremendously exciting.

Editorial Note: This interview has been edited for clarity and brevity.

SG GENERAL ASSEMBLY

BY JESS SCHMIDT

Student Government Beat Reporter

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I. Executive Reports

President Miles Middleton welcomed Dr. Susan R. Wente as Wake Forest's 14th president. He also reminded students to take COVID-19 protocols seriously as cases spike.

Speaker of the House Ally Swartzberg reported the appointment of Dr. Warrenetta Mann to lead the University Counseling Center (UCC).

II. Committee Reports

The Diversity and Inclusion Committee shared the launch of the Safer Sex Express. The Public Relations Committee is excited about Academic Resources Awareness Week, which begins Feb. 8.

III. New Business

Dr. Tanisha Ramachandran, Director of Religion and public engagement, and Dr. Mir Yarfitz, associate professor of history, led a discussion about Wake Forest's cultural

diversity requirement. Ramachandran and Yarfitz are two of the faculty members working to change the requirement.

The new proposed plan would replace the old requirement with classes related to structures and systems of power, oppression and resistance throughout the world. The proposal was met with contentious debate, however, as some senators raised concerns over the language used in the proposal, at one point calling it incendiary, and possible political implications that students might associate with the proposal.

Senate Bill 8, easing restrictions on experience needed to co-chair a senate committee, was introduced and passed.

Gathering: New spaces attract students

Continued from Page 1

While the propane fire pits are only lit from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m., the space is free to use any other time, with the fire pits doubling as table space for anything from classwork to board games. The space is divided into a few sections, one of which has a stage and some seating area and is available for organizations and groups of students to reserve.

With the new space comes a line-up of events that will take place there, from movie viewings, to pop-up food stations, to this year's Wake Frost, a semi-annual winter dance. The hope is that Fireside on Manchester will become a new and easily accessible space for clubs and students alike to maintain a sense of community while keeping safe from COVID-19. So far the student reaction has been positive, and despite the freezing weather and its short existence, the space has seen a fair amount of use already.

The other addition to the recreational lineup on campus is the Wellbeing Center Game Room, which has been constructed in the cardio area of Reynolds

Gym. With nine different socially-distanced games to play ranging from darts to air hockey, it's designed as a space for students to play one-on-one games during their free time. The area has a capacity of ten people at once so each game can only be played for a maximum of one hour before the next group of students is cycled in. The space follows CDC guidelines, and hand sanitizer is required before playing any of the games. The space is open from 10 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Friday through Sunday.

"The new spaces are meant as part of the school's push to create a sense of community despite the global pandemic," said senior Mariana Rocha-Goldberg, a COVID-19 consultant for the university. The spaces will be closed if the university enters Red status, however.

If you're planning on going to either of these spaces, remember to follow university COVID-19 policies and CDC guidelines. More information on both of these spaces can be found on the "Our Way Forward" section of Wake Forest's website.



Katie Fox/Old Gold & Black

Students can play table tennis, air hockey and other games in the Recreation Room.

Semi-virtual learning goes to Washington

Even though most internships are virtual, the staff at Wake Washington looks to provide an enriching experience

BY JULIA OCHSENHIRT

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Despite the ongoing pandemic, the staff at Wake Washington looks to provide students with great professional experience and networking opportunities.

Wake Washington is a semester-long program in which students partake in internships in Washington, D.C. while taking two Wake Forest-sponsored classes. Among other organizations, students this semester are working with the Pentagon, U.S. Chamber of Commerce and U.S. Asia Institute. Participants find internships independently, allowing them to tailor the program to their professional interests.

Junior Sebastiano Tibolla is interning for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in the international affairs division.

"I applied to 25 places, and was lucky to have multiple offers," Tibolla said. "I chose my internship because of the international aspect. I've always been interested in international affairs and diplomacy."

Due to the pandemic, most internships will be online. To mimic a traditional work environment, online interns have their own offices in the Wake Washington Center.

"Part of the experience is showing students what a commute is like, and what it's like to work in an office every day," said Jennifer Richwine, the director of the Wake Washington Center. "We still want them to have that."

Junior Hannah Griggs is one of two students with an in-person internship. She will be interning for the Department of Defense doing legislative affairs work. Griggs was drawn to her internship because of her interest in homeland security issues as well as the in-person component.

"Being able to really speak with people, even if you're masked up, and read their body language is a lot different than talking over Zoom," she said.

In the fall semester, program organizers grappled with a lack of student interest. Only 5 students signed up, compared to the typical 16.

"A lot of students didn't want to do virtual internships, and we knew that'd be all we could do," Richwine said.

Traditionally, students attend in-person classes with

a Wake Forest professor two days a week. In the fall, program organizers decided not to invite a professor to teach. Instead, participants took virtual classes alongside students living on the Reynolda Campus.

The spring saw renewed interest in the program, with fourteen students signing up. Dr. Wei-Chin Lee will teach in-person courses and, if possible, take students to key sites like the Supreme Court building and the headquarters of the World Bank.

Wake Washington also provides enriching networking opportunities. Students meet weekly with assigned mentors, Wake Forest graduates working in their fields of interest, and have opportunities to connect with other alumni living in D.C.

"We've been grateful to have many alumni agree to meet students for coffee outdoors or go on walks with students," Richwine said.

Despite the strange circumstances, students are optimistic and excited for the semester. Griggs is looking forward to the independence of living in Washington.

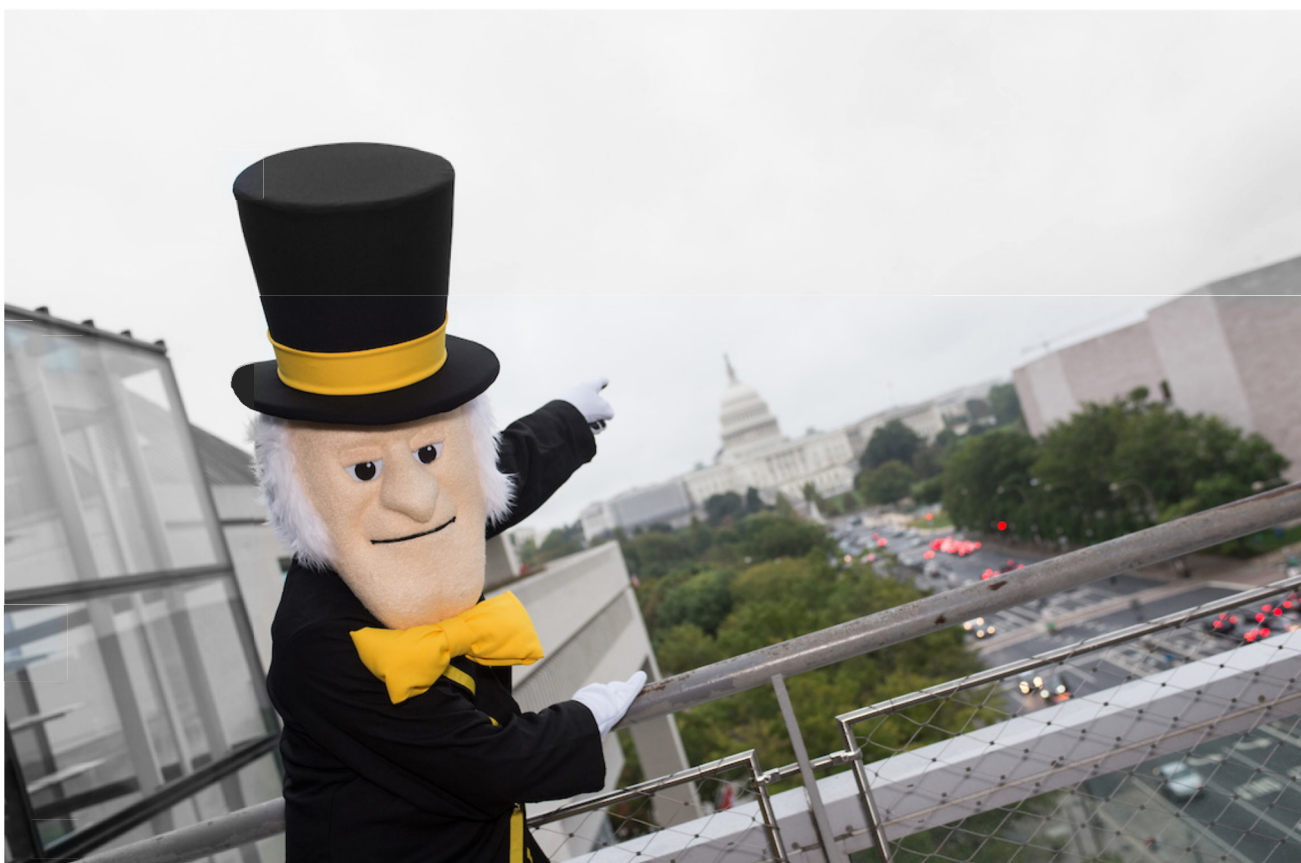
"We'll grocery shop and cook for ourselves, so it'll be a little like real adult life," Griggs explained. "It's nice to have that taste while still being around friends."

Junior Carol Arkalji, who is interning for the Brazil Institute of the Warren Wilson Center, is looking forward to working with an organization she is passionate about and to which she has a close personal connection.

"I'm from Brazil, and the other interns are Brazilian as well, so it'll be a little like home," she said. "Also, the Wilson Center just does such inspiring work. I'm really excited."

Wake Washington can be difficult, with students juggling full-time internships and classes. However, for students interested in politics, it is an incomparable opportunity.

"Many students tell us it's the hardest semester they take [at Wake Forest], but also the most rewarding," Richwine said. "If someone is willing to come and put in the work, they'll thrive here."



Courtesy of Wake Washington

Wake Washington students will represent the college at various D.C. organizations, including the Chamber of Commerce and the Department of Defense.

Wente: WFU names its first female president

Continued from Page 1

Wente encourages students to invite her to events and make an effort to meet her and get her involved with events on campus.

"At Vanderbilt, [Wente] went out of her way to spend time with undergraduates, said Beasley. "She spent time at first-year houses and had dinners, and that was really important to her."

Wente's colleagues are not the only ones with glowing reviews of the newly appointed president. Senior and Rhodes Scholar Savarni Sanka was impressed with Wente during her work on the Search Committee, on which she was the only student.

"We were initially impressed by her proven track record in areas of importance to Wake: she had ample experience managing medical center transitions, a demonstrated commitment to DEI and the teacher-scholar model, and a nuanced understanding of Wake's position as a liberal arts institution, just to name a few things," Sanka told the *Old Gold & Black*. "Then, as we had more opportunities to engage with Dr. Wente, we saw firsthand her warmth, genuineness, selflessness, and resolve. She embodies the spirit of pro humanitate and is uniquely poised to help the university seize the opportunities that lie ahead. I couldn't be more excited to welcome her to the Demon Deacon family!"

"She has a deep sense of values and integrity and a deep commitment to the work of academic excellence, inclusive excellence and leadership and character," Kersh said. "That is exactly what Wake Forest needs as we move into our third century."

Gerald Roach, chair of both the Board of Trustees and the Search Committee, sees Wente as the right leader for a moment fraught with challenge and opportunity.

"Dr. Wente is the right person to enable Wake Forest to seize the opportunities before it," Roach said in a Wake Forest press release. "Among a field of highly-qualified candidates, she stood out as a transformational leader and world-class academic who is

committed to the personal connection and engagement that Wake Forest values."

The *Old Gold & Black* will be providing updates on the presidential transition, so stay tuned for more articles.



Courtesy of the Vanderbilt Hustler

Incoming president Susan Wente currently serves as the vice-chancellor and provost of Vanderbilt University. She will transfer to her position as Wake Forest's president in July.

Multiple dorms experience shower woes



Katie Fox/Old Gold & Black

Students from halls on South Campus and on Hearn Plaza, including Poteat, have reported issues with the temperature of their showers. Despite work order requests, nothing changed.

Many students are still complaining of ice-cold showers in their dorms, despite multiple attempts at repair

BY AINE PIERRE

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The winter chill has permeated the entire Reynolda Campus, including, apparently, its showers.

From the first day that students returned to campus last week, Jan. 24, numerous reports of ice-cold shower water temperatures have been forwarded to

resident advisers (RAs). These reports keep piling up, with some coming in as recently as last night.

The shower problem seems to be ubiquitous on South and Mid Campus, with Hearn Plaza dorms Huffman, Taylor, Efrid, Kitchin and others experiencing the issue. South Campus dorms such as Collins, Johnson, Babcock and Luter have also had issues. Students in South and Poteat reported that there were no issues in their dorms.

"I haven't taken a shower that wasn't ice cold in over a week," Luter RA and senior Jackie Snell said. She also noted that a work order was placed and fulfilled, but there was no change in water temperatures.

Some areas of Luter have reported no issues with their showers, meaning that the problem could be localized in areas of other dorms. Similarly, some students in affected dorms reported to the *Old Gold & Black* that they had not experienced problems with shower temperature. It is unclear why these disparities between different floors exist, and the RAs have been given little to no information on the situation writ-large.

In Huffman Hall, RA Kat Pitchford put in two work orders for the showers to be fixed. One of their residents also put in a work order. As of Wednesday evening, two of the work orders have been fulfilled and one, the one Pitchford filed Tuesday night, is still in progress. Thus far, there has been no improvement.

"No one has given me any information about what's going on," Pitchford said.

The issues do not end there, either. Declan Sander, a sophomore living in Collins, told the *Old Gold & Black* that the water in his sink was calcified and did not clear up for a few days. Drinking hard water has been found to contribute to skin and hair issues, though it is generally not harmful to anyone's health.

In the Student Government General Assembly meeting on Tuesday, multiple senators placed constituent concerns about the shower temperatures. Multiple senators cited reports of cold or lukewarm water, including in the off-campus apartment complex Deacon Place as well as on-campus dorms such as Luter and Huffman.

The Facilities Department and the Department of Residence Life and Housing both did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

This is a developing story and will be updated on the *Old Gold & Black* website.

The views expressed in all opinion columns represent those of the article's author, not the opinions of the Old Gold & Black Editorial Board

Global Politics

Uganda shows democracy disparity

Western democracies must act to reverse injustice on a global scale



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How much do Western nations really care about democracy? Some would argue that democracy remains a system that needs global implementation, but I'm not convinced. The United States, the unequivocal leader of democratic nations, has been on quite the roller coaster ride the past couple of months. From the unbearable wait for election results, the many attempts of former President Trump to overturn the election, the Jan. 6 insurrection at the Capitol and the nation's attempts at moving past that dark moment in the new Biden administration, one thing has remained clear.

America wants to "protect democracy." For the entire election period up until President Biden's inauguration, phrases like

"While this nightmare raged on, the world's self-proclaimed protectors of peace have been daydreaming."

"preserving the soul of our democracy" and "safeguarding the temple of democracy" have been thrown out by politicians and reporters who fear democratic collapse. Though these appear to be their foremost worries — it is evident that this interest has not and likely will not be realized. Not when hypocritical western nations continue to turn a blind eye to several abuses of democratic systems around the world.

Uganda has suffered for decades under the leadership of Yoweri Museveni, who has ruled for 35 years via many undemocratic elections. His only opposition, musician turned-activist Bobi Wine, has rallied the people for years to fight the injustice of Museveni and strive for a better future under a more youthful leadership that better represents the population. Even through unjust arrest and near-death experiences, Wine has persevered.

A critical moment in Uganda's future arose on Jan. 14, when Wine challenged the in-

cumbent Museveni for the presidency. This was an opportunity to save Uganda's future.

Before and during the elections, Museveni committed crimes against his own people by arming the streets with military personnel, cutting off internet access to social media and attacking and placing Wine on an unofficial house arrest for days as officials tallied the results leading to the rigged outcome. While this nightmare raged on, the world's self-proclaimed protectors of peace have been daydreaming. Even the United States has ignored this plague of unjust elections that have pained the citizens of Uganda. No one can hear Wine's pleas to condemn Museveni. Organizations like the United Nations and the International Criminal Court might as well not exist if they're just going to ignore this attack on the Ugandan people.

This is not the first instance of frustrating elections or injustice around the world that has been ignored by Western, democratic nations. Only a few months ago, President Buhari of Nigeria was responsible for the deaths of many involved in a youth-led movement to stop police brutality and killings. No one responded.

If we look past the surface here and ask ourselves who benefits from dangerous lead-

ers like Museveni, we are led to those who fail to act when it is most necessary. In a Foreign Affairs article just before the election, Wine spoke out on this reality, "It pains me to say this, but the international community is part of our enduring problem in Uganda," Wine wrote. Museveni has managed to position himself as a military ally and development darling of many Western governments that look the other way when it comes to his horrendous human rights record."

By playing a decades-long role in the interests of the United States, Museveni has bought the blind eye of those powerful institutions and nations who should be the first to act. Again, this begs the question: does the West really care about democracy? High-level threats to democracy are experienced on a daily basis. Why does "protecting democracy" only start and end when it comes to the United States and its partners? All democracies are strategically important. Surely a democratic collapse would be easier if democracies aren't actively being strengthened around the world. Together we must turn our eyes to Uganda and to nations like it and by doing so, force the United States and the great democracies of the world to realize that the fight for preserving democracy is not only domestic, but global.

Social Justice

Wake Forest must rectify racist history

Wake Forest must commit to the remediation of past endorsements of racism



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The *Old Gold & Black's* Sept. 3, 2020 article exploring Wake Forest's history of racism makes explicit both the university's success in recruiting and graduating racist students as well as its propensity for embracing and celebrating a racist campus culture. What has resulted from the university's failure to combat racism on its campus is not only a stain on its history — it illustrates the extent to which the university actively contributed to reproducing racist institutions. The injustices perpetrated by the university and its student body require greater reparative actions than are presently being undertaken. President-Designate Susan Wenthe should commit to broadly expanding the university's social justice involvement.

The university's restorative and reparative obligation is remarkable because through-

"President-Designate Susan Wenthe should commit to broadly expanding the university's social justice involvement."

out the twentieth century the school funneled countless racists into the working world. The students portrayed in photos published in the *Howler*, Wake Forest's student-run yearbook, wearing blackface and performing minstrel shows graduated into the labor force. These alumni took up law, ran for public office, taught at universities, began medical practices and worked for powerful financial institutions. From these positions, their ideological perversions are not just shameful — they are disgustingly influential.

The attorney S.J. Bennett is one such example. Bennett completed his studies in law at Wake Forest College in 1912, where he was elected as president of his class. One month after his graduation, Bennett introduced to the Winston Board of Aldermen a proposal to segregate the neighborhood of East Winston, arguing that "the negroes who are buying property and moving to the Eastern part of the city are damaging the property of the citizens of that part of the city." After brief consideration the Aldermen passed Bennett's ordinance and soon expanded it to encompass the entire

town of Winston-Salem. The 1912 segregation ordinance was deemed unconstitutional two years after its passage. However, it prefigured later efforts to segregate Winston-Salem throughout the 1930s and 40s. Bennett's example illustrates how Wake Forest and its alumni have contributed to the institutions and ideologies that structured the racial and economic geography of Winston-Salem. My argument is not that the university graduated a single "bad apple" and is responsible for rectifying his behavior. What makes the university's responsibility for reparation so grand is that it systematically empowered people such as Bennett for decades, as exemplified by the century's worth of racist photographs preserved by the *Howler*.

So far as I can tell, the university's commitment to social justice — at least its student-catered agenda — consists of a retreat, a civil rights tour, a biannual seminar, a social justice incubator, a theme house and a book club. It has also undertaken efforts to examine its historic beneficence from slavery and commissioned a report concerning policy objectives for expanding diversity and inclusion on its campus. However, these programs strike me as insufficient, possibly even obfuscatory of the university's moral obligation to address damages remitted. Its responsibility for bestowing degrees to cohorts of unrepentant

racists — degrees which legitimized the views of those recipients and enabled their implementations by powerful institutions — is a wrongdoing that requires proportionate redress.

Assuming the attendees of the many blackface and "jungle" themed fraternity parties documented by the *Howler* left this university under the impression that their ideological persuasions were acceptable, it seems safe to assume that Wake Forest University, throughout the twentieth century, saw to the cultivation and professionalization of a multigenerational crop of well-equipped and highly stationed bigots. The downstream effects of this failed matriculation are unquantifiably alarming and clearly oblige a suite of reparative measures by the university.

Expanded investment in Winston-Salem/Forsyth County public schools, the implementation of policies to reduce the pernicious effects of the university's city-wide expansions, the amelioration of the damages already done by such expansions (such as to the neighborhoods it has razed and gentrified) and the initiation of substantive partnerships with both local nonprofits and local government agencies could represent steps in the right direction. It should be of utmost importance to Dr. Wenthe that these steps are taken throughout her tenure.

US Politics

Impeachment trial is a necessary measure

The Senate must move to hold former President Trump responsible for his actions



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The beginning of 2021 meant more than just the start of another year. For many, the end of 2020 signaled a renewed hope in stopping the spread of COVID-19. Millions of Americans were injected with a sense of optimism not felt since the beginning of the previous year, many others were literally injected with the vaccine. The start of 2021 also marked the final days of the Trump presidency. In a term defined by racism, economic depression and division, the end of Trump's tenure offered a sliver of hope that the nation could finally begin to address the wounds of our fractured republic and rebuild. With so much promise heading into the new year, the news pouring out of the US Capitol on Jan. 6 seemingly transformed any plans for unity into a pipe dream. What started as a protest against

“Trump’s impeachment trial will likely inflame the very emotions President Biden has tried to quell.”

the results of the 2020 election quickly descended into a calculated assault on the Capitol building and our elected officials inside. Thousands of Trump supporters and QAnon conspiracy theorists broke down doors, smashed windows, and defaced property at the seat of American democracy — all with the intention to stand tall alongside the now-former president.

Perhaps given the turmoil of the entire Trump presidency and the contention surrounding the 2020 election, the events that transpired in the nation's capital are not surprising. But the images that emerged during and after the insurrection at the Capitol left me with two questions: How did this happen? And how does America move forward?

I'd say the first is the easier question. It's not particularly challenging to find a video of former President Trump inciting violence. At one of his rallies in 2016, Trump encouraged his supporters to attack any protestor that tried to interrupt him, saying “knock the crap out of them, would you?” When a protestor interrupted his rally in Las Vegas, Trump yelled,

“I'd like to punch him in the face.” And when Trump spoke at the Save America rally, he promised his followers that he would march with them to the Capitol building to demand that the 2020 election results be overturned. So although the violence at the Capitol was jarring at first, analyzing the history of Trump's inflammatory rhetoric illustrates that he is at the center of this conflict and bears the blame.

This brings us to a broader, more challenging question to answer: how do we move forward? Thousands of American citizens gathered to protest the results of a free and fair election and hundreds stormed into a federal building, some defacing property while others moved swiftly through the hallways with zip-tie handcuffs and weapons in tow. The FBI has arrested several of the assailants, but the person who incited the attack, who encouraged his followers to rebuke the lawful transition of power, must also be held accountable for his actions. President Trump must be convicted by the Senate in order for us to move forward as a nation.

Impeachment is the very tool the Founding Fathers implemented to hold elected officials, including the president, accountable. The House of Representatives considers whether to impeach and

the Senate acts as a jury, eventually deciding whether to convict based on “treason, bribery or other high crimes and misdemeanors.” The articles of impeachment introduced by several House members argue that former President Trump used his power as commander-in-chief to incite an attack on the US government.

The grim reality is that Trump's impeachment trial will likely inflame the very emotions President Biden has tried to quell. But to move forward from the disaster that transpired on Jan. 6, Trump must be held accountable for his part in directing the attack on the Capitol. Just as impeaching the president sets a precedent, doing nothing sets a dangerous precedent — a get-out-of-jail-free card for future leaders who violate the Constitution.

In roughly a week, the Senate will hear the case against former President Donald Trump. The impeachment managers should call witnesses, so the American people can understand the level of involvement Trump had in the Jan. 6 insurrection. It's hard to say how America will recover considering the center of democracy was literally torn apart and ransacked by domestic terrorists. But convicting Donald Trump is a good start to uncovering the truth regarding what has transpired in the United States.

State Politics

Georgia serves as example for North Carolina

Georgia provides valuable techniques towards Democrat success in North Carolina



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The day after the runoff election that would eventually send now-senators Jon Ossoff and Reverend Raphael Warnock to Congress was a whirlwind. I had been phone banking for weeks in support of their campaigns, and went to bed the night of Jan. 5 feeling a somewhat unusual sentiment for this past year: hope. There was a palpable energy coming from Ossoff, Warnock, organizers like Stacey Abrams and Latosha Brown and the citizens of Georgia that outweighed the historical truths of the state, its history of voter suppression and the Republican representation that has defined it for decades.

Then, the attack on the Capitol happened. Amidst frantic coverage of the siege and interviews with congress members and journalists who called in from a “secure location,” decision desks called the final results: both Ossoff and Warnock would be heading to the Senate.

“Democrats can harness this knowledge and apply the lessons to our own state.”

So much has happened since then and the two Georgians are now officially legislating in the hallowed halls of the Capitol.

For many, any more analysis or conversation related to the 2020 election is migraine-inducing. However, not discussing the Georgia results in relation to North Carolina feels like a missed opportunity. The 2022 midterms are next year, after all. So, here goes it: a political science student's unprofessional and unsolicited take on what North Carolina Democrats can learn from the Georgia runoffs.

As we all know, Democrats lost big in North Carolina during the 2020 election. Yes, Governor Roy Cooper was able to hold onto his seat. Similarly, democratic incumbents Attorney General Josh Stein, Secretary of State Elaine Marshall and State Auditor Beth Wood held onto their posts. That said, Donald Trump won the state, Thom Tillis held his Senate seat by a relatively comfortable margin of 2% despite a formidable challenge in Cal Cunningham and all other state-wide offices were won by Republicans. Given that Barack

Obama won North Carolina in 2008, it wouldn't be too far fetched in thinking that our state would end up like Virginia — undeniably “blue.” This is obviously not the case and rather than dwell on why, Georgia can teach us a few lessons.

First, Democrats must organize. The best explanation for why President Joe Biden, Warnock and Ossoff won can be narrowed down to the hard work, grit and determination of those on the ground. Whether it be field organizers or volunteers, the behind-the-scenes work that went into ensuring that all Georgians were equipped with the knowledge and tools to successfully vote — not only on Nov. 3, but Jan. 5 — cannot be ignored. Abrams built up an organizing infrastructure that must be mirrored in North Carolina (not to mention the other 48 states). But let it be said that this also did not happen in the span of two months, so Democrats must start investing in and building up organizing opportunities across North Carolina now.

Second, demographics are important, but should not be all-defining. In looking at the data from the Jan. 5 runoff, turnout in majority-Black rural areas of Georgia was much closer to election day turnout than it was in majority-white rural areas. Although North Carolina has less-dense urban areas and a smaller Black population, it is necessary to pro-

duce a strategy that fully harnesses and elevates Democratic strongholds in the state. That said, I do maintain that politics does not need to be this reductive: Democrats can and should campaign in the most rural, white neighborhoods of North Carolina if they seek to represent all North Carolinians.

Lastly, Ossoff and Warnock absolutely obliterated their opponents when it came to messaging. When Republicans David Perdue and Kelly Loeffler made ads highlighting their innocence and “total exoneration,” it wasn't like Ossoff and Warnock had high bars to clear. Despite this, they were both extremely disciplined during stump speeches, campaign events and interviews: jobs, justice and healthcare. Over and over again, they hammered their perspective into voters and created clear and tangible reasons as to why they should win their support.

The outcome of the Georgia elections were definitely magical, but that does not mean it needs to be a unique, one-off historical event. Rather, Democrats can harness this knowledge and apply the lessons to our own state. Former State Senator Erica Smith and current State Senator Jeff Jackson have already announced their candidacy for the 2022 midterms. There is no “right time” or “perfect moment” to start building an infrastructure for change — North Carolinians must get to work now.

Fashion

Homemade fashion retains special value

Small businesses require vital attention during this destructive pandemic



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It is common knowledge that thrifting has been on the rise in recent years. It's cool to get cheap clothes that are unique and thrifting often serves as a pretty good aid for that. Upcycling, or the process of taking thrifted/used clothing and altering it, is also on the rise. Something even more specialized than that, though, is handmade and homemade fashion.

I run a (very) small business in which I crochet some wearable items, and it's a lot of fun. Of course, in order to promote my small business, I joined a couple of sites that I thought would help

“The problem is not that people don't want to wear handmade items, it's that they don't want to pay for them.”

me do that, the first being Instagram. Instagram's interface allows for creators to post pictures of their products and connect with other creators, as well as potential buyers. It's interesting when you start to realize that there is a great amount of supply and very little demand when it comes to homemade fashion.

The problem is not that people don't want to wear handmade items, it's that they don't want to pay for them. I spend about 15 hours of time with a hook in my hands crocheting each cardigan I make. If I paid myself the United States's minimum wage, this cardigan would be easily over \$100. If I add in the cost of materials, it's looking steep. So, why buy a cardigan for \$150, when you could go to H&M and buy one for \$20? There are a couple of reasons.

For one, handmade fashion is totally unique. Every single piece created by hand is a one-of-a-kind thing. So, in that sense, the “supply” is very low, which means the demand will likely be high — in theory. But it's not.

There's a predicament that I've come across on Instagram and Etsy in which I've had to choose to sell myself short, or not sell at all. Because I realize people won't drop big bucks on my work, I often make executive decisions to lower my prices. Yet, when selling on Etsy and, especially when advertising on Etsy, a lot of your profits go down the drain. It's a simple \$0.20 per listing that you decide to put up, and then a seemingly unexplainable amount of money is taken each time you make a sale. Don't even get me started on ads on Etsy (oftentimes, you are charged an obscene amount if you make a sale off of an ad).

So the pickle we're in is this: how do I support small business owners who are absolutely struggling during the pandemic and beyond without bankrupting myself?

First, I'd say that it's important to understand the value of a product. Think about the time that went into every stitch and all of the materials that came together to create a finished piece. Then, of course, you can decide if the product is worth spending on. If it's not, that is okay too. If you can understand the value of a product, but can't justify buying it, then show it some love.

Instagram's algorithm is getting increasingly different from its original “like” algorithm. Now, a “save” is the most powerful button on the entire app interface, followed by a “share.” Take time to read what creators have to say, because a lot of them are talking about Instagram's algorithm. It's free to save, share, comment, and like (in that order), as well as reach out to the small business and let them know that their work does not go unnoticed.

Thrifting, upcycling and creating clothing items will not be a fad that fades soon. If you're looking to help out a creator, consider their perspective and go from there.

American Politics

Rep. Taylor-Greene remains obstacle to peace

Rep. Taylor-Greene continues to incite racist supporters, wreaking chaos and disorder



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Battalions of soldiers manned barricades and camps in the streets of the nation's capital as the country was split by violent insurrectionists threatening the very tenets of democracy embedded in our constitution. A divided Congress tried to mend the divided nation and together voted to expel those who threatened the safety and sanctity of representative government. This was 1861, as 17 members of the house were expelled for their support of the nascent Confederacy.

One hundred and sixty years later, soldiers slept underneath plaques commemorating the volunteers who answered Lincoln's call to defend the United States. They defended the capitol from the supporters of the president who had rampaged through the sacred halls, chanting death threats to elected officials, murdering Capital Police Officer Brian Sicknick and brutally attacking other officers, attempting to stop the peaceful transition of

“The House must put aside partisan differences and take action to remove Marjorie Taylor Greene from office.”

power from occurring. These insurrectionists had been urged to fight, answering a call to “mobilize” from a newly elected congresswoman who is a great threat to the continuance of American democracy.

The House must put aside partisan differences and take action to remove Marjorie Taylor Greene from office. Greene, the newly elected representative from Georgia, believes in a fantasy world so detached from reality that it borders on insanity. The case has exceeded sedition and has arrived at treason. Greene has called the election of Muslim members of Congress an “Islamic invasion,” has filed articles of impeachment on the first day of President Biden's administration, subverted American democracy by echoing baseless conspiracies on election fraud and has intentionally endangered her colleagues by refusing to wear a mask while trapped in the capitol building.

Each day that Greene is allowed to continue as a legislator undermines the institution of American democracy. Greene's years of recent conduct sully the institution that she serves. Her baseless harassment of Parkland survivor David Hogg for

being an alleged “crisis actor” was a disgrace. Greene also espoused a ludicrous anti-semitic conspiracy that the fires that engulfed California were a consequence of a Rothschild-funded space laser.

Greene has time and time again shown us her true colors. Her social media rants display a deep hatred and anger at an America that no longer resembles her ethnostate ideal. In one post she questions the veracity of 9/11, saying “there's never any evidence shown for a plane in the Pentagon” and in another she called President Obama and his senior advisor Valerie Jarrett “Muslims” who were opening borders to orchestrate an Islamic invasion. When discussing Confederate monuments, Greene said she would be “proud” if she were Black and saw a monument. She also denied the existence of systemic racism and said that white men are the most discriminated group in America.

Unsurprisingly, Greene also subscribes to the disproven, anti-democratic conspiracy QAnon that originated on 4Chan in 2017. Greene has called the anonymous poster “Q” a “patriot” and “worth listening to,” implicitly endorsing QAnon's calls and predictions for mass arrests of Democrats and celebrities that are supposedly part of an international conspiracy to extract adrenochrome from children. Yet

despite the initial misgivings of Republican leadership, no true effort has been made at punishing or even censuring Greene. Instead, Representative Liz Cheney, the third-ranking House Republican, seems almost certain to be punished for joining Democrats in impeaching Donald Trump, the central figure in the lie of a stolen election.

Trump has called Greene, encouraging her to keep up her assault on the transition of power. Greene raved about this to her more than 300,000 followers, saying “The blood-thirsty media and the socialists hate America.” To her supporters, Greene is not a conspiracy theorist but a prophet. One supporter, when interviewed by an NBC producer, posited that “Noah was a conspiracy theorist himself when he built the ark, so who are we to say that it's true or not?”

Greene's ark is not one of salvation, but rather an ark that takes acts of violence and racial supremacy on board two by two. Her theories endanger the lives of her colleagues each day she continues to be allowed within Congress's halls, and her actions threaten to infect American democracy like terminal cancer. The choice is simple, impeach and remove Greene or be prepared for the next wave of white-supremacist, anti-democratic insurrectionists to be sworn in rather than storm in.

Super Bowl Preview: GOAT vs. MVP

Tom Brady and Patrick Mahomes square off in a battle of the old guard and the future

BY CHRISTINA DENOVIO

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On Feb. 7, Super Bowl LV will showcase an incredibly anticipated matchup between the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and the Kansas City Chiefs in Raymond James Stadium in Tampa Bay, FL. Veteran quarterback Tom Brady will lead his team in their home stadium against the defending Super Bowl champions, led by young quarterback Patrick Mahomes. This year will mark Brady's tenth Super Bowl appearance and his first Super Bowl appearance with the Bucs. Brady already has six rings from his time playing for the New England Patriots, and he looks to add a seventh against a team that beat the Bucs 27-24 during the 2020-21 regular season.

Mahomes, though less experienced than Brady, is considered the best young quarterback of his generation. The 2018 NFL MVP will be looking to win his second straight Super Bowl with a team that recently signed him to a 10-year contract worth up to \$503 million, the largest contract in sports his-

tory. Brady currently holds the title of most successful quarterback of all time, but due to Mahomes' talent and athletic ability, the Chiefs QB is seen as a threat to that claim.

Both teams featured in this year's Super Bowl had excellent regular seasons, as the Buccaneers went 11-5, and the Chiefs finished with a record of 14-2. Tampa Bay secured the Wild Card spot in the playoffs, as they finished No. 2 in the AFC South behind the New Orleans Saints. They went on to dominate the playoffs, and eventually beat the Green Bay Packers in the NFC Championship game on Jan. 24.

The Chiefs had the best record in football this season, making them the clear favorites to get to the Super Bowl. In the AFC Championship, the Chiefs beat the Buffalo Bills with relative ease to secure a spot in their second consecutive Super Bowl. Last year, Mahomes led his team to victory over the San Francisco 49ers in Miami, FL.

The real excitement around the upcoming Super Bowl comes from the matchup of two great quarterbacks in very different stages of their careers. Brady is 43-years-old and has a two-year, \$50 million contract with Tampa Bay. There is a strong chance he will retire after the 2021-22 season, so football fans are seeing him in what might very well be his last Super Bowl appearance ever. On the other hand, Mahomes still has at least nine seasons with the Chiefs ahead

of him. Brady left a team that went to ten consecutive playoffs to play for Tampa Bay, a team that had not gone to the playoffs since 2007. Similarly, Mahomes revived the Kansas City program, which had not won a Super Bowl since 1970.

Former Dallas Cowboys quarterback and CBS analyst Tony Romo commented on the matchup.

"This is like LeBron James facing Michael Jordan. Jack Nicklaus against Tiger Woods."

"In 30-40 years from now, I have a funny feeling this might be the greatest matchup [of all time]," Romo continued, "This could be one of the great matchups in sports history."

Brady is the undisputed greatest quarterback of all time for many fans, but Mahomes had the most accomplishments by any player under the age of 25 in NFL history.

After already obtaining a Super Bowl ring and an MVP trophy, Mahomes looks to become the first quarterback to win two Super Bowls before turning 26. Mahomes even has a shot at the MVP trophy this year, but he is up against Packers QB Aaron Rodgers, who finished with an astonishing 4,299 passing yards, 48 touchdowns and only five interceptions. Mahomes is still very much in the running, as he threw for 4,740 yards, 38 passing touchdowns and has a QBR of

82.9 and a passer rating of 108.2.

For those who are not true football fans and simply watch the game for the fun of it, something to look forward to is The Weeknd's performance during the halftime show. The Canadian singer spent \$7 million of his own money to ensure the greatness of the performance.

"We've been really focusing on dialing in on the fans at home and making performances a cinematic experience," The Weeknd said. "We want to do that with the Super Bowl."

While the matchup between these two great quarterbacks may entice regular football watchers, much of the American population will be interested in seeing what The Weeknd comes up with during halftime.

It's hard to predict the winner of this year's Super Bowl, as it comes down to more than who is the greater quarterback. Tampa Bay's talented wide receivers Mike Evans and Chris Godwin sweeten Brady's chances at another ring.

On the other hand, Mahomes has weapons like Tyreek Hill and Sammy Watkins to throw to. Both teams also have strong defenses. The last time the teams squared off, each defense impressively was able to hold the opposing team's superstar QB to under 30 points. Whatever the outcome may be, as Romo predicted, this Super Bowl will certainly be memorable for its epic QB matchup.

Men's basketball wins second ACC game

Wake Forest secured victory behind 16 points thanks to Davien Williamson

BY CHRISTIAN ODJAKJIAN

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Wake Forest secured its second ACC win of the season with a 66-54 victory over a shorthanded Miami Hurricanes team at home last Saturday. After an ugly start, in which the Demon Deacons (5-7, 2-7) missed their first 9 shots and found themselves down 7-0, shots started to fall and they took control of the game. Wake Forest captured a 14-13 lead and never trailed the rest of the game.

"We started to settle down," junior forward Isaiah Mucius said, "and understand that offensively we were going to be able to get anywhere we wanted."

The Hurricanes (6-10, 2-9) had lost three straight games entering the contest. They have been without their best player, senior guard Chris Lykes, for all but two games this year because of an ankle injury.

Miami was also without guards Earl Timberlake and Elijah Olaniyi, who average 9 points per game apiece. To add insult to injury, freshman and top-100 recruit Matt Cross was dismissed from the program earlier in the week.

Wake Forest hit nine of their 13 three-pointers in the first half, and held a 34-24 lead at the break. Five different Wake Forest players hit multiple shots from downtown, as the team shot a 44.8% clip from deep on the day.

The offensive rhythm was great, but Head Coach Steve Forbes was just as happy with the team's defensive performance.

"I thought we did a good job today of executing the defensive game plan," Forbes said. "We didn't let the ball get into the middle."

The undermanned Miami squad cut the deficit to 45-40 with nine minutes left on the clock, but the Demon Deacons answered with a big shot from Davien Williamson, who led Wake Forest's scoring with 16 points in the game. The sophomore guard caught a pass in the corner, got his defender soaring in the air with a pump fake, took one dribble to the side and buried a big three.

Another highlight of the game, courtesy of Mucius, came early in the second half on the defensive end. Miami's Harland Beverly was out in transition with a seemingly free run at the rim, but Mucius hustled back and leaped into the air to block the shot against the backboard.

"My legs were feeling really good today," he joked after the game, "I don't know if it was the tights I was wearing."

Carter Whitt, the late enrollee fresh-

man who arrived in Winston-Salem in mid-December, turned in his best effort as a Demon Deacon in this contest. The team's youngest player looked much more comfortable and under control in the ninth college game of his career, only turning the ball over once and providing a spark offensively. He scored 11 points and was perfect from the field, making all three of his attempts from behind the arc.

"I haven't shot it great this year, but making those threes today definitely helped my confidence," Whitt said.

"I think it will definitely help our team a lot if he can start making those consistently," Forbes said. "He's been staying after practice a lot and getting extra shots up," he continued. "We worked on his technique with his feet. The more he plays the more confident he is going to get. Pretty solid day for a high school kid."

Senior Kameron McGusty led the way for Miami with 17 points, hitting three three-pointers. Sophomore Isaiah Wong added 14, with four makes from deep, but went down late with an ankle injury and didn't return. In a game where Wake Forest made it rain from downtown, sophomore sharpshooter Ismael Massoud surprisingly didn't get in on the action. Only one game removed from his 31 point explosion in the win over Pittsburgh, Massoud played 12 scoreless

minutes and missed eight shots. The situation speaks to the depth and balance of this team and how different guys can step up on different nights.

Ten different players got minutes in the game for Wake Forest, and that depth should be increasing soon. Houston Baptist graduate transfer Ian Dubose is back to practicing after missing significant action due to undisclosed medical reasons, and he should be ready to suit up this week. Dubose's experience will surely be a boost for the Deacs and a great compliment to the youth on this roster. After a bad loss in South Bend against Notre Dame on Feb. 2, the Demon Deacons travel north to face Boston College on Feb. 10.



Photo courtesy of Wake Forest Athletics

Senior Isaiah Mucius scored 13 points in 27 minutes of action.

Women's basketball goes 1-1 on the week

Wake Forest wins against Florida State for the first time since 2014, but falls to Clemson

BY ESSEX THAYER

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Wake Forest 73 - Florida State 59

Led by a strong defensive performance, the Demon Deacons played some of their best basketball of the season on Thursday, Jan. 28, at home in the Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum, defeating Florida State 73-59. This was the first victory against the Seminoles for the women's team since 2014.

Wake Forest owned the boards for the majority of the game, led by senior Ivana Raca, junior Christina Morra and sophomore Alexandria Scruggs, who each grabbed six rebounds. In total, the Demon Deacons outrebounded Florida State 39-28.

Before the game, Head Coach Jen Hoover stressed the importance of rebounding to her team.

"I told them in the pregame you have to win your individual battles on the boards so we can win the war," Hoover said.

The first quarter was highlighted by a hot start for both Raca and freshman Jewel Spear, who combined for the Demon Deacons' first nine points. After starting 4-6 from the floor, Wake Forest missed their next three shots. A Raca two was able to break the Demon Deacons' cold streak, and a three from sophomore Olivia Summiel with nine seconds remaining gave Wake Forest a comfortable 17-11 lead at the end of the first stanza.

Wake Forest began their second quarter with shaky offensive play, but were able to maintain the lead over Florida

State through a strong effort on the defensive end. With 6:30 remaining in the first half, Spear kickstarted the Demon Deacon offense by knocking down a three, her second of the night. On the ensuing possession, sophomore Khai Harrison joined in with a strong transition, leading to an easy layup from senior Gina Conti. At the end of the half, Wake Forest found themselves up 35-24, much due to Florida State only hitting 34.5% of their shots from the field.

The Demon Deacons opened the third quarter continuing their prolific shooting, scoring the first seven points. Jewel Spear led the charge, scoring seven points in the first three minutes of action, forcing Florida State to call a timeout. After the break, Wake Forest forged ahead with a Conti three-pointer. With 6:32 remaining in the quarter, Spear drove in the paint for a basket and a foul, extending the lead to nineteen. The Seminoles appeared to mount a small comeback, scoring five straight points, but ended the quarter still trailing 54-42.

In the fourth quarter, Wake Forest hit cruise control, maintaining a reasonable lead throughout. Three and a half minutes into the final period, Raca found Spear on a spectacular cross-court pass, who then pump-faked a defender to open up space for a three. Raca once again displayed her dominance with just over two minutes left in the game, forcing her way through the Florida State defense for an and-one bucket, pushing the Wake Forest lead to twenty, the largest of the game.

The star of the night for the Demon Deacons had to be Raca, who finished the game with twenty-four points, one-off her season-high. Following a tough game against Louisville, Hoover was pleased to see Raca get back on track.

"That was a huge game for her. She did a great job getting her mid-range in a variety of ways."

Pleased with her ball distribution, Hoover also explained, "I thought she did a great job finding other people, because she's starting to see how much attention she's garnering."

Following a heartbreaking 63-65 loss to No. 1 ranked Louisville, Hoover was happy with Wake Forest's ability to hit the ground running.

"For us to bounce back ... I couldn't be more proud," she said.

Clemson 69 - Wake Forest 66

Just three days after a comprehensive victory against Florida State, Wake Forest regressed, losing to a debatably lesser team in Clemson. Wake Forest's offense continued to shine, but when shots missed, the Demon Deacons were not there to corral them, and on the defensive end, they gave up 11 offensive rebounds. After outrebounding Florida State by 11, Wake Forest turned around and lost on the boards 18-37.

"[I am] so disappointed in our lack of execution on boxing out," Hoover said after the game. "I wish I knew [what was different from the Florida State game] ... I knew that was [going to] be a difference maker in the game."

In the first quarter, early turnovers and four fouls in the first three minutes led to five points for Spear. With Wake Forest beginning the game strongly, Clemson was forced to call a timeout with the Demon Deacons leading 10-4. Out of the timeout, Clemson caught fire, rattling off seven straight points. Wake Forest went on to shoot seven of eleven from the field, ending the quarter leading 20-15.

Clemson began the second quarter on an 11-2 run, causing Hoover to call a timeout. The Demon Deacons came out of the timeout looking reinvigorated, scoring four straight points, including a Raca three-pointer with fifteen seconds left in the half. Clemson guard Gabby

Elliott came right back down the court to knock in a buzzer-beater shot for two, giving Clemson a 36-33 lead at halftime. They were piloted by guard Delicia Washington, who shot 70% from the field for fifteen points.

In the third quarter, Clemson was spurred on by a Morra turnover, which led to a Kendell Spray three-pointer. Spray went on to score the first eight points of the quarter for the Tigers. With 5:08 in the third quarter, Wake Forest looked primed to launch a comeback, with Spear knocking down a three to put the Demon Deacons within one point. At the end of the shot clock, Spear sent a contested three-pointer through the net with just over a minute left in the quarter, reducing the Clemson lead to 50-48.

Beginning the fourth quarter trailing 54-48, Raca hit a shot from behind the three-point-arc, decreasing the Demon Deacons' deficit to just three points. Wake Forest was also bolstered by three three-pointers by Spear in just over one minute. With less than a minute remaining in the game, Washington drove down the lane knocking in a massive bucket for Clemson, only to get overturned by an offensive foul. Down by three, Conti missed a layup, rebounded by Clemson, who called a timeout. With no timeouts left, Clemson struggled to inbound the ball, missing the pass and turning the ball over, giving the Demon Deacons one last shot. Spear missed a deep, game-tying three that would have sent the game to overtime, giving the Tigers a three point victory.

After a tough loss, the schedule only gets tougher for the Demon Deacons, who travel to Syracuse and Georgia Tech this coming week.

In her postgame comments, Hoover remarked, "This one is gonna sting for a day and then tomorrow ... you [have to] know that we're still the same team that has had better days."

Wake Forest faces transition at running back

Star running back Kenneth Walker has left Wake Forest for Michigan State

BY CHARLIE BENEDICT

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The 2021 roster of the Demon Deacon football team should be the most experienced team that Coach Dave Clawson has had. The Deacons return nearly every offensive starter and a number of defensive players. That being said, one position group where Wake Forest will be a little unproven will be the running backs.

Sophomore Kenneth Walker III dealt a significant blow to the team by announcing his transfer to Michigan State in early January. Walker III, a native of Knoxville, TN, rushed for 13 touchdowns in seven games in 2020. Walker III impressed many with his improvisational ability, his sharp cut-backs and bowling ball mentality. He found the endzone in bunches, with

three scores each in games against Virginia, Syracuse and NC State. In particular, his 75-yard scamper in the fourth quarter against Virginia on Oct. 17 put Wake Forest ahead for good. As a true freshman, Walker III was used more sparingly, but he still totaled 500 rushing yards and four touchdowns, including a 96-yard touchdown run against Rice.

Walker III was saved by Clawson & Co. from college football purgatory — Wake Forest offered him late in the cycle when he was committed to Kent State. Walker III's decision to transfer to Michigan State — a lateral move in terms of competitiveness — has to be disappointing for coaches and fans. It's upsetting to think that a player like Walker III, seemingly on the precipice of stardom, feels that Michigan State (a team with 16 wins in the past three years) is a better place for him to play than Wake Forest, but c'est la vie. Next man up.

The Demon Deacons will return Christian Beal-Smith, last year's lead-

ing rusher. Beal-Smith ran for north of 700 yards in 2020 with five touchdowns. Beal-Smith, a Winston-Salem native, will undoubtedly be the feature back for his redshirt junior season. He played sparingly, primarily on third downs in 2018 and 2019 behind Cade Carney and Matt Colburn. Beal-Smith is a capable receiver with screens and short passes, and he is also good in pass protection for a back of his size.

Returning alongside Beal-Smith in the backfield will be sophomores Justice Ellison and Quinton Cooley. Ellison played a bit in the second half of the season and showed flashes of talent, so it'll be interesting to see how he develops with another offseason of strength training and development. Cooley was rehabbing an injury for most of 2020, but he could see the field some in the coming season.

Wake Forest was active in the transfer-portal-turned-free-agency-market after Walker III's departure with the addition of Michigan's Christian Turner. Turner ran for 266 yards in

two seasons in Ann Arbor behind a talented RB room. He'll be immediately eligible for the Demon Deacons next season and is likely to see significant playing time. Turner is a native of Buford, GA, where he attended powerhouse Buford High. As a high three-star recruit, he received offers from the likes of Notre Dame, Florida, Michigan and Wisconsin. He'll have two seasons of eligibility and will hopefully be an impactful addition to the Wake Forest backfield.



Courtesy of Wake Forest Athletics

Wake Forest plans to replace Walker with Christian Turner.

Looking ahead to the spring season

BY JAKE STUART

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Nearly 11 months ago, the appearance of a virus completely re-shaped the planet as we know it. Ever since COVID-19 reared its head, nothing in life has been a guarantee. The little things that seemed necessary to life were put on hold, including sports, a pastime that means so much more than a number on the back of a jersey, or a mascot that represents a city. Everyone lies on a spectrum when it comes to how large of a role sports play in their lives, but we can all agree that they matter. For nearly a full calendar year, fans and players were kept away from their fields, courts, courses and arenas as games were put on hold with no timeline for return in sight. We could all look at the “break” as frustrating and unfair. But, let’s take a different approach and come together to appreciate our love for the game. Now, sports are back. Basketball, soccer, tennis, golf, baseball, track and field and volleyball! All in the spring season! Let’s break down some of the sports and make a few predictions on the way, shall we?

Men’s Basketball

Current Record (As of 2/1): (5-7, 2-7)
End of Season predictions: (10-11, 7-11)

A team full of spirit and short on experience, the beginning of the season for Wake Forest can be described as an encouraging start of the Steve Forbes era. Victors of two of their last three games, Wake Forest must find a way to win on the road. The next three games are all away from home, where Wake Forest is 0-5. Following a loss to Notre Dame, the Demon Deacons hope to take care of Boston College before playing a much better Florida State team. Wake Forest then comes home for three potentially winnable games against Duke, Clemson and NC State, who have gone a combined 2-12 away from their respective home courts. I see the Demon Deacons taking one of their last three games, with the arduous task of finishing the season against Virginia Tech, Georgia Tech and Pittsburgh. Wake Forest is trending in the right direction, and seven wins against formidable ACC opponents would be a success in the first year for Forbes.

Women’s Basketball

Current Record (As of 2/1): (8-7, 5-6)
End of Season Predictions: (12-10, 9-9)

In a season where senior superstar Ivana Raca has exploded (No. 4 in the ACC in scoring), the squad flew out of the gate with an impressive start, including winning four of their first five games. While they’ve lost three of their past four games, all the teams faced were at the top of the ACC standings. Playing Syracuse (7-2) and Georgia Tech (6-3) on the road is no easy task, but the schedule lightens up with Pittsburgh and a revenge game against Clemson coming up. I see Wake Forest losing the two road games but winning the following two games. Circle

your calendars for Feb. 18 when they go against NC State, winners of 11 straight. The final two games are split between Miami and Florida State. I believe the team can reach its most conference wins in history and sneak its way into March Madness.

Men’s Soccer

Fall Record: (7-2, 5-1)
Spring Record Predictions: (7-0, 6-0)

After suffering just one regular-season loss in the fall season to Clemson, Wake Forest was upset in the semifinals of the ACC Men’s soccer championship by No. 4 Virginia at Spry Stadium. With a less than ideal ending to the first half of the season, the Demon Deacons were rated as having the second-best 2021 recruiting class, according to an analysis by TopDrawerSoccer. It’s only fitting that this class joins the squad after four Demon Deacons were recently drafted to Major League Soccer: Calvin Harris, Mike Deshields, Justin McMaster and Andrew Pannenberg. Of the seven upcoming spring games, I see the Demon Deacons running into some trouble with Clemson and Notre Dame. Both of these games are away, and Wake Forest will hope to avenge their loss against the Tigers. However, I think Wake Forest will ultimately prevail and head to the NCAA tournament undefeated.

Women’s Soccer

Fall Record: (3-5-1, 3-4-1)
Spring Record Predictions (3-2-1)

The Wake Forest women’s soccer team will play a shortened spring season consisting of six games: two at Spry Stadium and four away from home. The team enters this spring with some momentum, after finishing out the fall season winning three of the last four games. This may be the toughest schedule to predict, as several of the opponents didn’t play any games in the fall. With that being said, look for Wake Forest to get resounding wins against Elon and Appalachian State, and couple that with a tie against evenly matched Louisville and a loss to a strong NC State team. The two games against SEC threats Tennessee and Georgia could swing either way. I see the Demon Deacons coming up with one win there, leaving Wake Forest with three wins, two losses and a tie.

Baseball

Spring 2020 Record: (10-8, 1-2)
Spring Record Predictions: (30-22, 19-18)

For a Wake Forest baseball team that has finished with a winning record in seven of the past nine seasons, the expectations are high this year. According to D1Baseball.com’s rankings, the Demon Deacons are slotted at No. 17 in the nation heading into the season. That rank will be put to the test as the squad matches up against six consensus top-25 teams in No. 5 Louisville, No. 13 NC State, No. 15 Georgia Tech, No. 16 Virginia, No. 21 Miami and No. 24 Florida State. The team plays 52 games this season, 27 of which are at Couch Ballpark and 25 of which are away from home. The team is both experi-

enced and hungry, as it came just short of making the NCAA Tournament in the 2019 season (there was no tournament in 2020 due to the pandemic). 2019 ACC Player of the Year and the nation’s leader in runs batted in, senior Bobby Seymour, looks to once again make his mark. The weakness during the prior season was pitching, as the Demon Deacons finished dead last in earned run average in the ACC. If they can get over this hump, watch out. I see Wake Forest taking care of its non-conference opponents for the most part, but the challenge lies in the competitive ACC. A few of my favorite must-watch series are: vs Georgia Tech Mar. 19-21, at Louisville Apr. 2-4 and vs NC State Apr. 30-May 2.

Men’s Golf

When talking about tradition in sports, look no further than golf at Wake Forest University. With Arnold Palmer, Webb Simpson, Jay Haas, Curtis Strange and Lanny Wadkins, where can you go wrong? It has been much of the same for the men’s golf team this year. Wake Forest finished second out of a whopping ten teams at the Seminole Invitational to open the season, and then followed that up with another second-place finish among 17 teams at the Arizona Intercollegiate. The attribute that sets apart this Wake Forest team from its competitors is organizational depth. Sophomore Mark Power led the team in the first tournament, tying for third with a seven-under-par finish to open the season, with seniors Parker Gilam and Michael Brennan not far behind, both tied for fifth. In the following tournament in Arizona, Brennan led the way finishing tied for second at two-under-par. Junior Alex Fitzpatrick finished in fourth place, while Power once again placed in the top ten. Looking ahead, Wake Forest will compete in five more tournaments before the ACC Championship, NCAA Regional and NCAA Championship. The most recent poll from Collegiategolf.com has the Demon Deacons at No. 17 in the country and atop the ACC with 165 points. Look for Wake Forest to get a first-place finish in one of their upcoming tournaments, with my money being on the Wake Forest Invite at Pinehurst at the beginning of March. With the way the Demon Deacons have been playing, there’s no reason to think that they can’t take home the ACC Championship and potentially make a run for the NCAA Championship title.

Women’s Golf

With the season just now kicking off, the Wake Forest women’s golf team looks to expand on its strong 2019-2020 season that was cut short due to COVID-19. The team was able to get through six official tournaments, in which they finished first place in three outings and second in another. The Demon Deacons also took home the East Lake Cup, their first-ever win in a match play event. The season kicked off with the UCF Challenge where freshman Mimi Rhodes finished tied for No. 15 after day one and was joined at the top by sophomores Rachel Kuehn (tied

for second) and Lauren Walsh (tied for sixth). Mark your calendars for Apr. 15-18, with the ACC Championship taking place in Greensboro. This could be a predictor of how the Demon Deacons will fare in the NCAA Regional and NCAA Championship.

Men’s Tennis

Current Record (As of 2/1: 3-1)
End of Season Predictions (21-6)

Be prepared for the Wake Forest men’s tennis team to continue its recent streak of excellent campaigns in 2021. Just three years ago the team won the National Championship against No. 3 Ohio State and followed this success with another championship run the following year, falling just short to Texas. The Demon Deacons have put on a show at home, going 60-1 at the Wake Forest Tennis Center in the past three seasons. Wake Forest was also ranked No. 3 in points to end the last season. This time around, the preseason top-25 rankings from the Intercollegiate Tennis Association had the Demon Deacons at No. 12 in the country. This season, Wake Forest will be without star graduating seniors Alan Gadjeiv, Julian Zlobinsky and Petros Chrysoschos. After the cancellation of their first five matches, Wake Forest fell short in its opening match against Oklahoma (four sets to none). Nonetheless, the team bounced back to win its next three matches by a combined 15 sets to five. Bar Botzer captains the squad as the only remaining player from the National Champion team, and he was riding a five-match win streak before last season was cut short. If the Israeli native can continue his A-game, alongside experienced players in junior Siddhant Banthia and redshirt senior Eduardo Nava, there’s no limit for this team.

Women’s Tennis

Current Record (As of 2/1: 2-2)
End of Season Predictions (14-7)

Suffice to say, there has never been a better time to be the Wake Forest women’s tennis team. Why, you ask? Well, prior to the pandemic the Demon Deacons were hot, as the team made it to the second round of the NCAA Championships tournament for the first time since 2006. Three of Wake Forest’s seven starters from the aforementioned team remain: juniors Saby Nihalani and Peyton Pesavento are joined by senior Eliza Omirou. Toss in freshman Brooke Killingsworth, the No. 27 recruit in the 2020 class, and you’ve got yourself a hungry team this season. Through four matches, the Wake Forest Women’s Tennis team is 2-2, with a statement win against No. 18 UCF already in the books. The Intercollegiate Tennis Association already has the team ranked as No. 16 in the country as of Jan. 27. I see the team finishing with 14 wins, enough to cement itself as a threat come tournament time. This team has as good a chance as any to make it past the second round of the NCAA Championships tournament for the first time since 2001.

Morin dominates role as WR despite size

Freshman Taylor Morin impresses CFB coaches and players this past season

BY JOHN MANOS

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It was late in the fourth quarter, and No. 1 Clemson was beating Wake Forest 37-6 when backup quarterback Mitch Griffis flicked a one-yard toss for Wake Forest's only touchdown of the game. The receiver was No. 83, Taylor Morin, and that catch would be the first touchdown on the Demon Deacons' season, as well as of Morin's career. Morin, however, is a competitor; he isn't satisfied with those kinds of statistics.

"Yeah, it was my first college TD... but I wanted a TD that was a little more meaningful," Morin said nonchalantly.

That's No. 83 for you — throwing personal stats to the wayside, team over self. That quality is what would come to define one of the most dangerous and potential-full wide receivers in the ACC this season.

Starting quarterback, Sam Hartman captured it best.

"He scores his first touchdown, and we lose. But the way he dealt with it, it was just different," he said.

Originally from Chantilly, Va., Morin is a redshirt freshman who comes in at 5'10" and 174 pounds. At first glance, he doesn't seem to be much of a weapon. But when he plays, it's a whole different story. This year, he had the third-most receiving yards on an extremely talented depth chart, as he claimed 25 receptions for 291 yards, an 11.6-yard average, and a pair of touchdowns. He had a 32-yard snag in there as

well. With the highly efficient Hartman under center and a corps of excellent receivers, it isn't easy for a guy like Morin to stand out on a team like Wake Forest. Because of his talent and hard work, however, he is able to do just that.

"He's smart, he's tough, he has all those tangible qualities that we look for," Head Coach Dave Clawson said.

This year, Morin has been standing out, and other ACC teams have likely picked up on the hint: not paying attention to Morin in high school was an awful mistake.

He didn't receive a single offer from another ACC school, including the two inside of his home state (colleges that Wake Forest went 2-0 against this year).

"Wake Forest was my only power five offer, which I carry as a huge chip on my shoulder," Morin said. That chip is cloaked by his humility, however, as he is known for keeping a level head and never getting cocky. Morin has a similar attitude to that of an underdog.

"He definitely knows he's good — he's never going to tell you that though," Hartman said.

Yes, he knows that he's good, but why he believes that he's good might come as a surprise. The average Division-I football player is three inches taller than Morin and over 60 pounds heavier. There's no doubt that he's an underdog when it comes to size, but Morin has his own theory on that. He doesn't look at his size as a disadvantage. Instead, he believes that he excels in many ways because of it. Morin thinks that maybe he's good, in part, because of how he's built. He's not wrong.

"Even though I am a smaller guy, I think it's a little tougher for bigger guys to cover me," Morin said. "I like Julian Edelman

[wide receiver for the New England Patriots], he's not the biggest guy in the room either." Hartman echoed these same ideas.

"Just like Greg Dortch, Taylor is going to make guys miss. He uses his size," Hartman said.

Not unlike Edelman or Dortch, Taylor makes the term underdog an oxymoron. He takes what is supposed to be a disadvantage, and turns it into an advantage. This helped Morin as a recruit as well. Knowing that he would be overlooked by a lot of people, he only needed one look from that big program that would take a chance on him.

"[In high school] I did everything in my power to show coaches that I had what it took to play at such a high level of football," Morin said.

Wake Forest took that chance, and it paid off nicely. While he does use his size to his advantage, it'd be outlandish to claim that he doesn't have to put extra work in. Simply put, it's just much easier to play WR if you're 6'10" and 220lbs. Morin's not — so why is he so darn good? Because of his drive.

"He's driven, no BS, and a leader by example," said former WFU slot receiver, turned player-coach, Willy Bemiss. "He's obviously a great athlete but it's his work ethic, coachability, and football IQ that sets him apart."

This is another point that Morin made about himself. Morin knows that regardless of his size, he can always work to expand his knowledge of the game. This intelligence that he is constantly building upon may also play a part in how he can make some defenses look downright stupid. His intense preparation is partly what makes QB1 so comfortable throwing to him.

"He's one of those guys that I know before the game, Taylor is ready to go — we're ready to go," Hartman said.

Always being ready to go is great. So are athleticism, IQ, speed, agility and trust. But is it all that Morin is? Not exactly. "A constant focus on humility, character and there being a purpose greater than ourselves" is what Bemiss said is most integral for excelling in Wake's program under wide receivers coach, Kevin Higgins. Morin has these qualities. He's humble, and he knows that he's a part of something much bigger. Having these thought processes is how he is always able to remain focused on the future.

"At the end of the day football will end for me at some point or another," Morin said as he explained why he chose to be a Demon Deacon. "I wanted to make sure that I had a meaningful degree that I could fall back on."

His constant focus on what's next and his preparation covers all the bases of what the journey to success looks like. Guys like Morin don't succeed because they're athletic, or smart, or shifty, because they have good hands or because they run a 4.47 40-yard dash. No. They succeed because of who they are. So who really is Taylor Morin?

Well, he's a player with a heck of a stat line. He's a receiver. He's one of Hartman's favorite targets. But at the end of the day, he's just a 19-year-old kid from Chantilly who will always outwork the next guy. No matter if they're taller, stronger, faster, smarter or all four — when they go head-to-head with No. 83, competitors will be outworked. And that's what makes Taylor, Taylor. "I want to be remembered as the hardest worker in the room," Morin said.

Exploring possible destinations for Watson

Watson searches for a new home after a disappointing stint with the Houston Texans

BY NICO PANOS

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Earlier this week, the football world was shocked by the news surrounding the disgruntled Detroit Lions quarterback, Matthew Stafford, finally getting his promise of greener pastures. The Los Angeles Rams scooped up the 32-year-old former Pro Bowler in exchange for two first-round picks, a third-round pick and the first pick of the 2016 NFL Draft, quarterback Jared Goff, in what might be one of the biggest blockbuster trades in recent history. With Stafford getting his wish, the football community turns to another quarterback looking to move out of a miserable situation.

Deshaun Watson has done many things for the Houston Texans over the past four years, beginning with the day he first got his chance to start. Even with an unfortunate ACL tear during a non-contact play in practice, his first three years highlighted his immense potential. His applauded scrambling ability and great accuracy were the focuses of many NFL writers. To many Texan fans, he was supposed to be the last piece in the puzzle that would

push this team towards Super Bowl contention, but now, all seems lost.

In the span of one year, Houston's front office and on-field coaching have found a way to frustrate their top asset. Looking back at some of the decisions, it has become clear why Watson would want this move. First, the catalyst to this entire saga starts with trading Watson's top receiver and certainly one of the best receivers in the game, DeAndre Hopkins.

With Head Coach and newly appointed General Manager Bill O'Brien taking the reins of the operation, the whole football community saw a team go from a divisional playoff game against the eventual Super Bowl champions Kansas City Chiefs to showing signs of panic and desperation with a ludicrous move. Additionally, tension ensued between the leadership and their star QB due to the lack of input Watson was allowed in reconstructing the front office of the organization, even though new Texas chairman Cal McNair promised to Watson that his voice would be heard. Finally, the overall success of the team has certainly been lacking this past year; O'Brien was fired after an 0-4 start the season, and the team was not able to turn the season around, and finished 4-12.

Watson's time with the Texans seems like a footnote in forgotten history as he now looks to find success in a different venue. One team that has been get-

ting the headlines, and now seems more realistic after the Stafford move, is the Miami Dolphins. In a similar situation to the Rams, the Dolphins have finally put together a roster with a strong potential to become Super Bowl contenders. But some wonder how much they trust their young quarterback, Tua Tagovailoa, especially when the possibility of getting Deshaun Watson is on the table. This trade could also help the Texans by getting their first-round pick back, which was lost when they traded for offensive tackle Laremy Tunsil.

Another prospective organization that seems to be in the running for the quarterback is fellow AFC East team, the New York Jets. People in the Big Apple are thinking the Sam Darnold era may be over as the Jets hold onto the No. 2 pick in the 2021 draft and are looking at all the possibilities including at quarterback. Also, the hiring of new Head Coach Robert Saleh is seen by the league as a refreshing departure from the questionable hires in the past, such as the hiring of Head Coach Adam Gase. While the Jets are obviously a struggling team, a move for Watson could put them in the driver's seat to complete their rebuild much sooner than what may have been previously expected.

A final potential destination for Watson is an NFC organization, the Carolina Panthers. Current Panthers signal-caller, Teddy Bridgewater, had a wonky 2020



Carmen Mandato/Getty Images/TNS

Watson in action against the Tennessee Titans in Jan. 2021

season several moments of great success. But concern arose about Bridgewater's ability to take the next step into becoming a higher-level talent. While not owning as high of a draft position as the Jets or Jaguars, the prospect of Watson working in an offense led by Joe Brady and Matt Rhule could prove to be dynamic. Furthermore, the team would have running back Christian McCaffery and an underrated receiving core with talents like Robby Anderson and DJ Moore. Certainly, the Panthers may be a favorable place for Watson to take his immense talent.

McGregor falls to Poirier in return to UFC

The loss is McGregor's first since 2018 vs Khabib Nurmagomedov

BY CONOR ROBBINS

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The most decorated champion in UFC history, Conor McGregor, is a man of many titles: "notorious," "champ champ" and to some, "the GOAT." Now, feel free to scratch "Mystic Mac" off that list after McGregor's promises of a first-round victory over No. 1 ranked lightweight contender Dustin Poirier went up in flames at the conclusion of the UFC 257 main event in Abu Dhabi.

Poirier, who has ascended to primary contention on the lightweight stage in recent years, avenged his 2014 knockout defeat to McGregor in a calculated and resourceful fashion. A series of early calf kicks damaged the Irishman's acclaimed stand up game and ultimately left McGregor vulnerable to a flurry of fight-ending strikes in the middle of the second round. In an event that was supposed to be all about the return of one of the most enigmatic

stars in sports history, Poirier walked away from Fight Island as the superior fighter and who is most deserving of a lightweight belt. That belt is on the fringe of becoming vacant, following the shocking retirement of current holder Khabib Nurmagomedov this past October.

Many will attempt to paint the results of the American's victory as a product of an unmotivated, even rusty opponent, as a means of keeping the discourse around the fight centered on McGregor. This claim could not be further from the truth, however, as Poirier's resounding victory was the product of a year-long rise, culminating on a grand stage against an outmatched opponent. This should be the ultimate takeaway from the bout, as the attention now turns to what's next for the respective fighters. At 32, the future has never looked brighter for Poirier as he sets his sights on becoming an undisputed champion for the first time in his decorated career.

The opposite can be said for McGregor, however, who now has to wrestle with the premise that a division which once hinged on his every word and punch has passed him by entirely. The "Pride of Ireland" has made it clear that he intends to com-

bat a long stint of recent inactivity by maintaining a frequent fight schedule in 2021, but whether these fights are for title contention or publicity-inducing legacy bouts is more in the hands of the UFC president, Dana White than McGregor, at this point.

Mixed martial arts casuals and die-hards alike have become accustomed to the Irishman's innate knack for talking the talk and walking the walk. This unique relationship between McGregor's press conference savvy and one punch knockout power has proved to be the main ingredient in

his journey to becoming the first simultaneous champion in the history of the UFC. He also was a part of the global pay-per-view record in his 2017 boxing match with undefeated champion Floyd Mayweather.

Following his loss to Poirier, however, McGregor maintained a calm and humble demeanor that had become commonplace in the build up to the fight. Is the "Notorious One" simply a shadow of his former self, or is he silently developing a new fighting spirit to stay a step ahead of his much-improved competition at the turn of the decade? Either way, you won't want to miss what's next.



Steve Marcus/Getty Images/TNS

After being out of the ring for a seven-month long retirement, McGregor returned to the Octagon to face Poirier.

Bubble no more: the NHL stumbles out the gate

Since beginning their 2021 season, the NHL has faced several challenges

BY CHARLES HORN

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In an empty Edmonton arena, usually home to tens of thousands of raucous Oiler faithful, the Tampa Bay Lightning celebrated a Stanley Cup victory like no other. This historic win followed a season that had stretched for nearly an entire calendar year. Sadly, there was no similar atmosphere of jubilation found at the NHL offices in New York, where increasingly dismal COVID-19 data had thrown the league's 2020-2021 season plans into disarray and the finances of the league's clubs into shambles.

Speaking before the start of the season, NHL commissioner Gary Bettman described the dire financial situation the league was in, given that the league earns 50% of its revenue from ticket sales. In comparison, the NFL relies on tickets for just 15% of its revenue, and the NBA 22%. Even the MLB, considered a ticket sale dependent league, only counts around 30% of its revenue as from ticket sales.

Only the Dallas Stars, Florida Panthers and Arizona Coyotes opened their arenas to a limited

number of fans, with the 28 other clubs unable (or unwilling) to seat fans. The Lightning chose not to welcome back fans amidst surging cases, making the decision independent of local health authorities and governments.

The NHL's adaptations have been additionally complicated by the seven teams that play in Canada. While the NBA's Toronto Raptors have relocated to Tampa, the NHL has created a Canadian division that eliminates all cross-border regular season travel. Along with the "North" division, the NHL has split the league into three other geographical divisions in an attempt to minimize travel. This has had the unintended consequence of creating significantly uneven divisions, with the Eastern division boasting most of the game's brightest stars and the west mired in mediocrity.

Unsurprisingly, the league's plans have required constant adjustment as positive tests and contact tracing have caused postponements and forced superstars to sit.

The Washington Capitals were fined \$100,000 after the positive test of goalie Ilya Samsonov prompted contact tracing that exposed that four players had been in the same room, a violation of strict rules that kept superstar Alexander Ovechkin out for ten days.

Elsewhere, the entire coaching staff of the Las Vegas Golden Knights was forced to quarantine

after an assistant coach tested positive, meaning the Nevada-based franchise met the St. Louis Blues under the coaching staff of their local minor league affiliate. The Golden Knights ultimately closed their practice facility and postponed a series of games, bringing the total number of postponements league-wide to 11 in under three weeks.

In the weeks before the start of this season, hockey fans around the world tuned into the World Junior Championships, an under-20

tournament that has long introduced hockey's brightest talents to a global audience. There, one of the most significant upsets in tournament history occurred as the United States defeated a Canadian team that boasted 20 first-round picks and had annihilated every other team. As these bright stars blossom into NHL regulars, the league will hope that they will soon be met by the cheers of returning fans, rather than the continued cavernous silence of empty arenas.



Tom Fox/Dallas Morning News/TNS

The Dallas Stars are one of only three teams to allow fans into their games for the beginning of the 2021 season.

Chainlink emerges as a promising cryptocurrency

Bitcoin faces competition as a new cryptocurrency enters the scene, Chainlink, and is gaining fast popularity due to its mass technological advances.

BY CONNOR MCNEELY

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For many, investing in cryptocurrency is nothing more than a gamble. Decades of development have led to a market that is driven mostly by speculation and bursts of legitimization rather than widespread acceptance from financial institutions, tech firms and other mainstream outlets. Billionaires like Mark Cuban deny the value of cryptocurrency. The popular economist and Nobel Laureate, Robert Merton, disagrees with the value of Bitcoin and has insisted that it "Isn't a real currency!" A majority of celebrity or established superhero investors don't understand cryptocurrency and a substantial number don't want to try to learn anything about it.

Yet even with heavyweight names like Cuban — who was once quoted as saying he would prefer “bananas over Bitcoin” — refusing to take any actual stake in cryptocurrency, interest in cryptocurrency soared throughout the course of the pandemic. Bitcoin continues to jump to record high price points as more American investors and companies accumulate vast portfolios and invest in cryptocurrencies in steadily increasing amounts. The crucial catalysts in Bitcoin's mainstream turn have been the financial tech giants Paypal, and the decision of their rival, Square to allow users to transact cryptocurrencies.

Disregarding the reactionary knee-jolts caused by Elon Musk's Twitter account and massive movements conducted by Redditors, there seems to be a tangible shift towards the authenticity of cryptocurrency. This is because of the necessity for digital currency during the pandemic, rather than material, in-person fiat money. The sudden market obligation for an alternative money has generated massive business attraction for the leading cryptocurrency Bitcoin. In addition to the expansion of Bitcoin onto recognized exchange platforms like Paypal and Square, Visa has allowed Coinbase to offer a Visa card when exchanging and making transactions in cryptocurrencies. With credit card companies like Visa adopting ways for cryptocurrency exchange, there is likely to be more wide-scale development for customer accessibility and ease of transaction in the financial sector.

This kind of headway into the marketplace of the average American is a huge sign of promise for the potential ceiling of cryptocurrency, whether the emerging currency is Bitcoin or an Altcoin. If you

ask any major player in cryptocurrency why they made a long term investment, they will tell you that they believe that cryptocurrencies will be a successful alternative to fiat money as traditional currencies continue their downward trends. Conversely, they might highlight the advantages of a decentralized financial network that is beyond the reach of government and bank authorities.

Though this can be a limitless benefit, there are also high risks that accompany this separation from the standardized financial system. There is evidence of a significant number of crimes that rely on cryptocurrency to avoid national sanctions and regulations. Without banks or government-enforced security, there is an increased risk of a breach into enormous stores of financial data — a problem that has always plagued the legitimacy of cryptocurrency.

But the technology of Bitcoin and the large array of Altcoins is rapidly improving and beginning to challenge big-time trusts, investors and government regulators. If you are particularly drawn to trading cryptocurrency, you might be aware of the emergence of Chainlink, a company that is leading DeFi applications and is projected by many experts to double in value within the next few years. Chainlink boasts many healthy accolades that could comfort average investors into a long term commitment. Swirling rumors of a Grayscale trust, a partnership with Google and a sizable market cap have boosted confidence in the company and their vision.

However, the main reason behind confidence in Chainlink is their technological advances in protocol. Chainlink is the only solid company that has achieved a technological innovation that will revolutionize the efficiency of cryptocurrency. With this development, cryptocurrency will have the capability to access real-world data. Before this protocol was optimized for widespread use, cryptocurrency couldn't evaluate or verify extraneous data that it based contracts upon.

For those who are unfamiliar with cryptocurrency, a blockchain is a digital ledger of transaction history that is open to the public. A smart contract is a computer program and an inflexible agreement on a blockchain that checks relevant information to the terms of the contract. Chainlink makes it possible for data outside the realm of the blockchain to be verified by smart contracts, thus significantly improving the accessibility of cryptocurrency and their progress towards becoming more fully implemented



Chainlink

Photo courtesy of VectorStock

Chainlink was created by Sergey Nazarov, a 32-year-old tech entrepreneur.

within major tech firms, financial institutions and the general marketplace.

Right now, Chainlink is racking up partnerships with DeFi and Crypto projects as well as other main-line corporations and tech firms that support cryptocurrency developments. The current performance of Bitcoin and the lack of a turnaround could spell out great news for Chainlink. Right now, Chainlink is trading in the low 20s and is looking to consolidate at around \$22 dollars at the time of writing.

This is not financial advice. Before anyone makes a long-term investment in Chainlink or any other cryptocurrency they should consider all the upsides and downsides that I've listed alongside every single non-issue that could possibly be connected to the infrastructure of Crypto projects. In spite of every single flashy nugget of business credit and technology that I've mentioned, cryptocurrency remains a bet with long odds against the government and the existing powers of the financial market. Everyone who trades Bitcoin or any Altcoin has money to lose in an extremely volatile market.

There is no ceiling for Chainlink if things turn out as leading players expect them to. They're gunning for cryptocurrencies to replace and remodel our way of life. While it may benefit them, there will almost certainly be a major economic crisis if their bet pays off. The existing middlemen — banking institutions and the federal government — would likely never let themselves be replaced by a decentralized, universal cryptocurrency. But if they did, there's no telling what damage that could cause to society.

Campus Life | College Transfer

Relocating universities amidst pandemic

Transferring college appears daunting, but is possible through dedicated effort

By Micah Porter
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While it may seem impossible that any student who has had the privilege of tasting pit pasta could even fathom eating something lower than the gold standard, there are those on campus who feel as though Wake Forest may not be the best fit for them. Since the beginning of higher education, transferring has been critical in drawing in new perspectives to campus and releasing the population of “pit haters” back into the wild. Whether it’s the lack of connection to campus, dissatisfaction with inconsistent North Carolina weather, or simply the prospects of a fresh, unfamiliar campus, college transfer has allowed many Deacs and Deacs—to—be the ability to experience a new, and hopefully improved college environment.

As COVID-19 continues its rampage through the lives of college students and job seekers, leaving hopelessness and confusion in its path, several Wake Forest students have taken this opportunity to re-evaluate their college experiences, causing some to realize that Wake Forest may not be the best fit for them. This is partially due to the fact that the online classroom setting has provided the time to reflect on what students appreciate about their current situation, and what continued values they hope to gain in the years to come.

In any case, the first step of the transfer process is evaluating whether or not the time and effort of transferring is worth the reward of a refreshed landscape. Having already been through the stress and sleepless nights of college applications, many transfer hopefuls find returning to this process daunting enough to suck it up and deal with their current schools. However, once the decision to transfer has been made, transfer applicants can begin their journey by deciding what schools have the majors, social environment, and resources that they long to see. With many Wake Forest individuals being naturally motivated, prestigious students, most Deacs find themselves ap-



Photo courtesy of VectorStock

plying to comparable schools, including: Vanderbilt, Georgetown, Duke and Tufts. And so long as Wake Forest’s grade deflation policy hasn’t absolutely tanked a student’s GPA, admissions should be smooth and painless.

Once a student has decided that transferring is the next logical step and has honed in on what school is offering what they seek, the transfer applicant may begin crafting the most essential aspect to their application: the personal statement. There is no one way to attack this portion of the application but it should accurately reflect the student’s experiences, personality and achievements in a concise and coherent manner. Admissions counselors are given the pleasurable task of reading thousands upon thousands of these applications, so writing an essay that stands apart from the others is essential.

One successful way of beginning the personal statement is by introducing yourself and the theme of your essay via personal anecdote. Whether the story is as fascinating as being chased through New Orleans by a band of angry musicians or as mundane as a first kiss, a story allows the reader to connect with the applicant on a personal level, providing insight into life lessons learned through experience and overcoming obstacles. Within this introduction, it is important to highlight the theme that will serve as a motif throughout the rest of the essay. It is also important to craft this essay to match the

persona and qualities of the students at the school to which they are applying, the admissions reader should be able to tell that the applicant has done their research and will assimilate into campus smoothly. After the application and personal statement are complete, applicants will have the opportunity to visit their desired campus, or complete an alumni interview, to demonstrate their commitment to receiving acceptance. During such an interview, it is critical to show up on time, dress for the occasion, and blow the interviewer away with charm, wit and no small amount of confidence.

With all these prerequisites completed, the only thing left to do is wait. For sophomore Patrick Crookenden, who transferred from Wake Forest to Vanderbilt, the change of scenery has been helpful.

“I applied just to see what would happen. When I got in, I realized this might actually be a good opportunity.” Crookenden said, “I initially applied because I was looking for a school in a bigger city, and I felt that Vanderbilt had a wider diversity of student body.”

Since transferring, Crookenden feels as though his adjustment to Vanderbilt’s campus happened seamlessly, having met several other transfers who share similar interests. Crookenden credits part of this ease of transfer to COVID-19, as the pandemic has caused a spike of transfers, and consequently put more students on his campus in his same position.

Another important component when considering transfer is whether or not credits will carry over. Luckily this process can most often be handled directly through administration. However, in some cases, courses will need to be retaken at the new college to ensure a student learns the information adequately. Applying for financial aid at the transfer university is also critical if finances play a role in college attendance. To secure financial aid, colleges recommend students apply early and inform financial services with updated, accurate information for an authentic aid package.

Transferring can be a daunting, lengthy process, associated with hours of essay writing, meetings and a host of application expenses. However, it can also be the gateway to a renewed college experience. And for those looking to take advantage of this ability to shift environments, transferring can be the portal to a home for the rest of one’s college life.

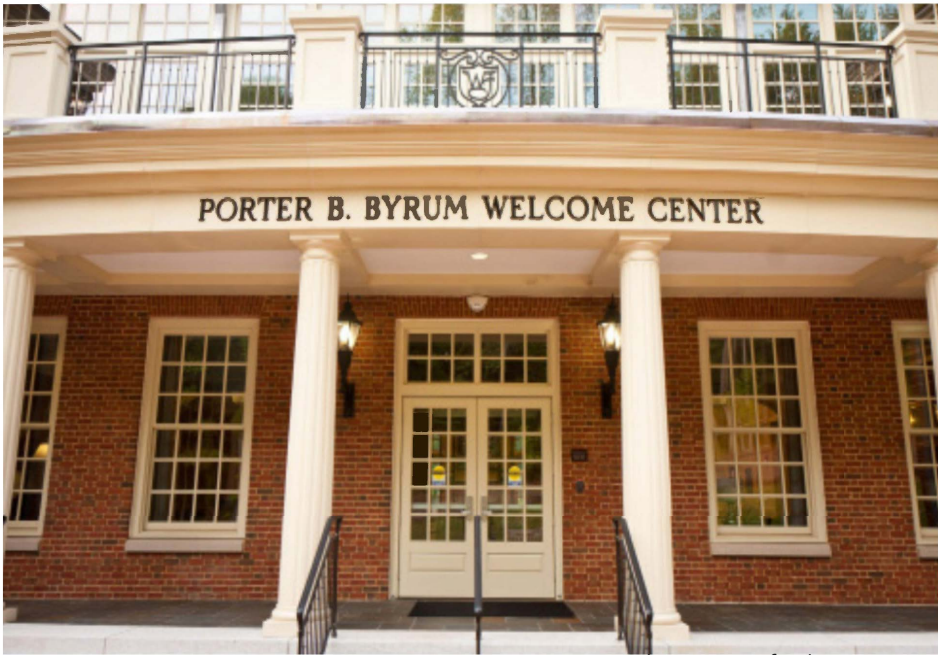


Photo courtesy of Wake Forest Review

THE HOT LIST

You know you’re a red-neck if...

By Micah Porter

1. Your set of salad bowls says “cool whip” on the side
2. You think a quarter horse is the ride outside K-Mart
3. Everyone thinks you’re a cop because you’re always around them
4. You think fast food is hitting a deer at 75 mph
5. You take your teeth out to clean them
6. You don’t clean your teeth
7. You use a toilet brush as a back scratcher
8. You missed 5th grade graduation because of juvy
9. The biggest city you’ve been to is Wal-Mart
10. Your working tv sits on top of a non-working tv

DRINK OF THE WEEK

Mai Tai

Is this a rip-off of a juice shop smoothie? Maybe...

- ¼ cup pineapple juice
- 2 tablespoons white rum
- 1 ½ tablespoons fresh lime juice (from 1 lime)
- 1 tablespoon (½ oz.) dry orange Curaçao
- 1 tablespoon orgeat syrup or simple syrup
- 1 teaspoon maraschino cherry juice
- 1 tabelspoon dark rum

Combine pineapple juice, rum, lime juice, Curaçao, orgeat, and cherry juice in a cocktail shaker. Fill with ice. Shake vigorously for 20 seconds. Strain into an ice-filled rocks glass. Top with dark rum, and garnish with mint, cherry, and pineapple.

21+ only please
Courtesy of Micah Porter

App Review | Productivity

Productivity app to revolutionize business

Versatile app, Notion, offers accessibility and productivity all in one location

BY JOECHO

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Finding the right work environment can be an ironically debilitating task for someone trying to squeeze every ounce of productivity from their system. Many people, including myself, have tried different methods and tools to bolster our work ethic, but all seem to eventually fall short of our expectations. After countless trial and error with Google Calendar, Microsoft OneNote, Evernote and even the old-fashioned paper and pen bullet journaling, only one service provided the quintessential experience of a comprehensive yet user-friendly workspace.

Meet Notion, an all-in-one productivity tool designed to consolidate daily tasks, weekly agendas, notes, collaborative projects and databases at the expense of only a few keystrokes.

Along with the modern aspects of automatic saves, cloud synchronizations and Android/iOS compatibility, this service helps users articulate their goals and tasks in a convenient manner. Less time-consuming to set up than bullet journaling and more accessible and integrative compared to OneNote, Notion streamlines most of the essential features of task management with a clean and lucid user interface.

With its sleek design and multifaceted templates, users can also create a workspace tailored to their productivity needs. For instance, I configured my Notion environment to prompt me with my weekly agendas, which includes tasks that are enveloped by “To-do” checkboxes for each day of the week. This helps me to keep track of my assignments and errands and replaces a physical planner. Notion also lets me add pages in addition to my landing page so that it can optimize space and declutter any items that do not find a home on the main screen.

Not only does this efficient task manager help my schedule clarity, it also suffices as a noble note taking medium. Given the paradigm shift of Zoom Uni-

versity, classes and lectures seem duller than ever. Yet somehow, Notion makes note-taking an addicting chore that fills the gap of boring write-ups. Basic text formatting functions such as headings, italics, bulleting and table of contents are all apparent, but this workspace in particular allows features like “Toggle” that show or hide content within its entity, and the ability to embed numerous mediums like pdfs, videos, audio, calendars and even websites. Hardcore users can even tinker with API compatibility content and capture code snippets for their erudite pleasure. For me, in this case, due to my STEM background, I mostly utilize Notion’s block or inline equation function that is powered by Tex typesetting language to obtain satisfying renderings of mathematical equations.

Did I mention to you that this app is collaborative? It is great for study groups because students can work together in real-time. Documents can be shared between parties to assess team projects, or if you’re someone like me, you can invite trustworthy friends to review your weekly progression, sort of like an accountability partner. Even productivity gurus

on YouTube, such as Ali Abdaal, Thomas Frank and Kharmia Medic heavily endorse the utilization of Notion for self and team success. And trust me, these YouTubers aren’t boasting about Notion for nothing, since two out of three mentioned are either a junior doctor or a medical student. The only caveat to this collaborative feature is that it requires a subscription to upgrade and equip the service. Currently, Notion offers four suites catered to its respective users, and three out of four promote free trials: free, personal, team and enterprise.

Fundamentally, Notion’s simple layout, easy-to-use interface and highly sophisticated task management functions are unmatched compared to other productivity apps. I strongly believe that this tool can ease the arduous task of decluttering life’s business into its core components and be broken down into bite-size pieces so that it will be easier to digest. It is a graceful workspace that I fully recommend experimenting with because it will pleasantly enhance your productivity and your mood, especially in a work-saturated environment like Work Forest.

Music Review | Remi Wolf

Student reflects on musical experimentation

I’m Allergic to Dogs! is described as a playful experience of sound and instrumentation

BY ELLY HONAKER

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Remi Wolf released her sophomore EP *I’m Allergic to Dogs!* in June of last year and in five songs, it encapsulates a kind of resiliency and ecstatic power only her special strain of funky-disco-pop can unleash. Her upbeat, excitable hooks meld with a powerful voice that feels like an antidote to the dreary time we find ourselves in. To put

on this EP is to enter a different world, one that shoots out in kaleidoscopic colors, where electric guitars dance like feet on hot pavement and where Prince is somehow still alive. Wolf seems to own this alternate universe, as she delivers a sound unlike any other Indie artist I’ve heard in recent years.

What I think separates Wolf the most is her sense of humor. She does not take herself seriously, though she certainly has the technical skill that would allow for that. The themes of her music stem from hilarious observations that are aided by kitschy background dings and bells, her own voice layers over itself endlessly and as the song

swells, all these elements collide with one another ensuring an ear worm that lingers long after you listen to it.

“Hello, Hello, Hello” depicts a girl suspicious of her lover cheating on her. She trusts her intuition, suspecting that he now gets up early to answer calls from the other woman. The almost samba-like guitar that lulls the song creates an air of “live and let live,” as this song does not seem to focus on any negative effects of being cheated on. It rather sees Wolf decide to leave the situation and regain her control. She creates humorous fantasies of her lover being vegetarian when “he’s with his other baby,” regaining a sense of self from a situation that could otherwise be extremely deflating. The whistling and dog-like panting in the background points to the title of the EP, as it feels as if she is coming to terms with being cheated on in a humorous way. This song has a fun and exciting sonic arrangement, but it also just feels refreshing to witness an artist capable of laughing at herself.

In *Disco Man*, my personal favorite song from the EP, Wolf has found new love in a suave man who has bewitched her. Her vocals ride along a bouncing beat that feels at moments sweet and soft but quickly rips apart into belts that seem to express the wide range of emotions that accompany the excitement of new love. It immediately transports the listener to a sunny place where all is new and exciting.

Wolf explores a new relationship that hasn’t experienced any hardships yet, and it feels like a moment of reflecting on the transcendent and powerful sensations that comes along with that. Using the imagery of a disco, or discotheque, puts us onto a dance floor where music blares loudly and all that can be felt is the booming of the music’s vibrations. What comes naturally is to dance as all senses become washed over with sheer embodiment. When the song devolves into repetition of “We’re on fire” along with her powerful voice sounding out — almost yelling — it becomes an embodiment of the feeling she is experiencing which seems better expressed in imagery and music than it could with words.

Not a single song from this EP is disappointing. Wolf’s observational tone when discussing love provides a uniqueness of lyrical composition that fits in perfectly with her quirky and happy-go-lucky reminiscings on old love. At the same time, she stresses living in the moment. Most important, she can sing.

Wolf’s voice at times expressing more than her lyrics are capable of. The overall sound of this EP nods to the past but presents something new, and Wolf has an earnestness that is infectious. Cure your winter blues and turn on this EP. Get out of this world for a minute.



Photo courtesy of Spotify

The unconventional album cover of *I’m Allergic to Dogs!* accurately reflects the playful, psychedelic nature of Wolf’s musical styling

Humor Column | *Best Western*

Student reflects on painful Best Western stay

At the Best Western, the days grow to be more dreary and mistifying

BY TOMMY MURPHY

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The clock struck 1 p.m. on my first full day quarantining at the Best Western. I created a schedule on a whiteboard the previous night so I could make great use of these two weeks away from campus. The problem with making a schedule, though, is that you have to wake up in order to do the things you planned. It is 1 p.m. and I just woke up. That was not on the schedule.

I hear three knocks on my door and pull my covers down. I drag my feet across the carpet to open up the door when I feel a slight pinch on my foot. I pull my foot to my face in confusion. There, a toenail sits lodged in my arch. I pause, letting disgust overtake me.

I have not cut my nails. As I pluck the toenail out of my foot, I think back to the long strand of blonde hair I found in my shower the night before. These incidents begin to trouble me greatly.

I open the door to my room and pull the lunch placed hastily inside. I sit down at my desk and reach into the slightly wet plastic bag pulling the white, soggy cardboard lunch bins out and onto the table. I applaud myself for checking lunch off my

schedule, but this is not what I had hoped for. As I looked back down at my food, I see them. Four ants slowly make their way toward my lunch.

In an instant, I take my napkin and splat! Splat! Splat! The fourth seeks cover underneath my lunch box. I lift the soggy cardboard into the air and smack the final ant with my napkin.

However, this high-octane movement comes at a cost. As mashed potatoes came splattering down onto the rug, I look up to find my soggy cardboard lunch box caving in on itself. I had pushed it too far.

By dinner time, the ants had found the mashed potatoes. By nighttime, I was in a different room.

Sunlight shines through the cracks in my blinds. I turn over attempting to hold on to my slipping dream of skiing with my dog and my dead great uncle for some reason. I've never even skied before. My tenth morning at the Best Western Plus has begun.

I have adopted a quarantine morning routine. I plop onto my uncomfortable, black office chair, pull back the curtains, and gaze out at the outside world. The four light posts, the white parking lines, the blue shed and the scattered trees all decorate the parking lot I gaze at every hour of the day. However, this particular morning, a patrol cruiser sits idly alone on my landscape.

"An intruder!," I think to myself, realizing what my life had come to. I see this man, the supposed defender of law and order, holding a cream cheese covered bagel



Photo courtesy of Studio Rendering

The Best Western is the premier destination for Wake Forest University Students that meet the fate of encountering COVID-19.

as he were Hamlet holding a skull. I cannot think of any reason a cop would park in my little lot. He must believe that he is alone. Maybe he wants solace from his uniformed duties. Perhaps he longs for the freedom to properly indulge in the glorified bread and cheese currently resting in his hands.

He brings the bagel to his mouth, and my own starts watering. And then, it happens. The bagel slips out of his hand.

My eyes widen as gravity takes effect. In vain, he attempts to catch his bagel as it falls towards his pants. Yet, it is hopeless. As he lifts the bagel back into the air, the majority of the cream cheese is missing. He tosses the bagel into a brown paper bag without ever being able to take a bite. I am three days into my second time quarantining at

the Best Western. This time they gave me a room overlooking the pool. Or, more specifically, the pool tarp.

I spend a lot of time taking note of the rainwater trapped on that tarp. It freezes at night. If it was not for that dark green covering, the collected raindrops would be able to join their acquaintances in the pool. I hate that pool tarp. Other hotel rooms are in my line of sight at this window. I glance up and see a light on in a room on the fourth floor. There is a figure standing at their window. I initially think that they are also staring at the pool tarp, admiring its cruelty, but they are staring at me. We lock eyes. They wave. I close my blinds.

I do not come to the window seeking companionship.

Album Review | *Evermore*

Taylor Swift releases album, *Evermore*

Taylor Swift shifts into a new indie folk era that differs from her classic pop style

BY AMANDA GAGE

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As if the anticipation of Christmas and New Year's was not thrilling enough, Taylor Swift surprised the world with *Evermore*, the sister album to *Folklore*, to save us once again. After spending most of the new decade in isolation, Taylor Swift

blessed us with an album that not only cheered us up, but made us forget our very own doomsday reality. Similar to *Folklore*, this album was a collaboration between Taylor Swift, Jack Antonoff (a visionary), Aaron Dessner and Joe Alwyn, who appears under the pseudonym "William Bowery."

In this project, Swift delves deeper into many of the themes and emotions *Folklore* had touched upon. Topics of regret, affairs, failed relationships, growing older, and in classic Swift style, romance. This new era has highlighted Swift's departure from classic pop into more folk-inspired music.

One of the songs that displays this new sound perfectly is "No Body No Crime" which features the sisters of HAIM. This song about a murder mystery is reminiscent of her old country days and build on her lyrical depth, showing her growth as an artist. In my opinion, it's the modern female anthem we have been waiting for.

Another song that stood out from the rest was "Cowboy Like Me." This song took a little bit longer to warm up to, but I can now say it is truly a masterpiece with its soft acoustics and heart-breaking lyrics about failed romance. My personal favorite is "Gold Rush," a song about a former lover that she holds very close to her heart. This song is the perfect marriage between her colorful pop that took place in albums like *1989* and *Lover* with her country roots. The chorus is one of the most beautiful melodies I have ever heard, hitting you right in the face with serotonin. A close second has to be "Ivy," a song about the triumphs and trials of infidelity. Not only does this song have one of the best bridges I have ever heard ("All Too Well" still remains the best), but it also contains some of Swift's strongest lyrics, opening with, "in from the snow, your touch brought

forth an incandescent glow, tarnished but so grand." Her lyrical complexity shines through as always with strong, gut-wrenching ballads like "Champagne Problems" (a fan favorite) and "Tolerate It." I won't judge you for crying during these songs. Taylor Swift has that effect on people. Despite gravitating towards different sounds, Swift continues to succeed on what she does best: storytelling. Taylor Swift does not just follow trends, but rather, she starts the trends. She has somehow built her own, unique sound in *Evermore* while maintaining her large and diverse fan base that has followed her through her country and pop days. The whole album is an ethereal vacation to a small cabin in the woods.

The reason Taylor Swift attracts such a large audience, despite changing genres several times, is because her stories continue to resonate with people. Writing every song herself, her authenticity shines through in her music, and her fans see this. Whether she is a country star, a pop icon, or a folk singer, Swift pours the same amount of love into all of her songs in order to tell stories that everyone can either relate to or dream of it coming true.



Photo courtesy of Spotify

Taylor Swift inspires audiences with her album, *Evermore*, a project that tells a story of heartbreak and personal growth.

LIFE [interactive]

TAKE THIS QUIZ TO FIND OUT WHICH SOUTH CAMPUS RESIDENCE HALL YOU ARE

1. What is your choice for dining on campus?

- A. Chick-Fil-A B. North Pit C. Shorty's
D. Moe's E. South Pit F. Forest Greens
G. Bento Sushi

2. When asked what's the best thing about where you live what is your typical response?

- A. "A place with a lot of mold but good company."
B. "We were supposed to be renovated."
C. "We have study lounges."
D. "We basically live in a hotel."
E. "Nobody talks about us."
F. "The people and the parties."
G. "We are the lamer Johnson."

3. What is your favorite TV Show?

- A. *Schitt's Creek*
B. *Bridgerton*
C. *The Last Dance*
D. *Friends*
E. *You*
F. *Rick and Morty*
G. *Glee*

4. What is your major?

- A. Politics & International Affairs
B. Undecided
C. Sports Management
D. Biology / Chemistry
E. Other
F. B School
G. History

5. What sport did you play in highschool?

- A. Baseball
B. Didn't play a sport in high school
C. Basketball
D. Soccer
E. Lacrosse
F. Football
G. Synchronized swimming

If you answered:

Mostly A's: Congrats, you are Johnson! The most superior residence hall may have the misfortune of poor living conditions but makes up for it in the bond and community formed.

Mostly B's: You find yourself as Luter, where no one has something good to say but also nothing bad to say, which isn't necessarily a bad thing. You are the middle ground!

Mostly C's: You may have a superiority complex, as you are South. You always do clean up nicely and look put-together, people tend to just expect a little bit of bragging from you.

Mostly D's: Angelou. You are revered and admired but honestly, nobody really knows someone who lives in Angelou so it may be that you tend to keep to yourself.

Mostly E's: Nobody really notices or talks about you, but mainly because you blend in really well. You are Collins — the friend that everybody knows.

Mostly F's: You are Babcock! The life of the party and the friend that everyone knows they can count on. You are laid back and loved.

Mostly G's: Bostwick, the least loved residence hall. You are the friend that has to walk in the grass while your friends walk on the sidewalk. You are the younger sibling living in the shadow of your older sibling.

WINTER OUTFIT SPOTLIGHT



Photo courtesy of Selinna Tran

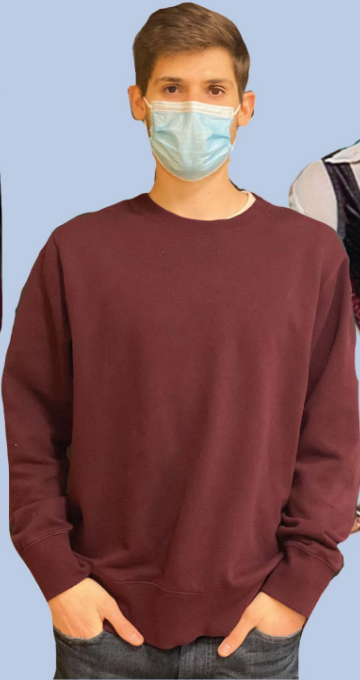


Photo courtesy of Roxie Ray



Photo courtesy of Roxie Ray



Photo courtesy of Selinna Tran



Photo courtesy of Maisy Armstrong

Photo courtesy of Sameer Rajan

