

Old Gold & Black

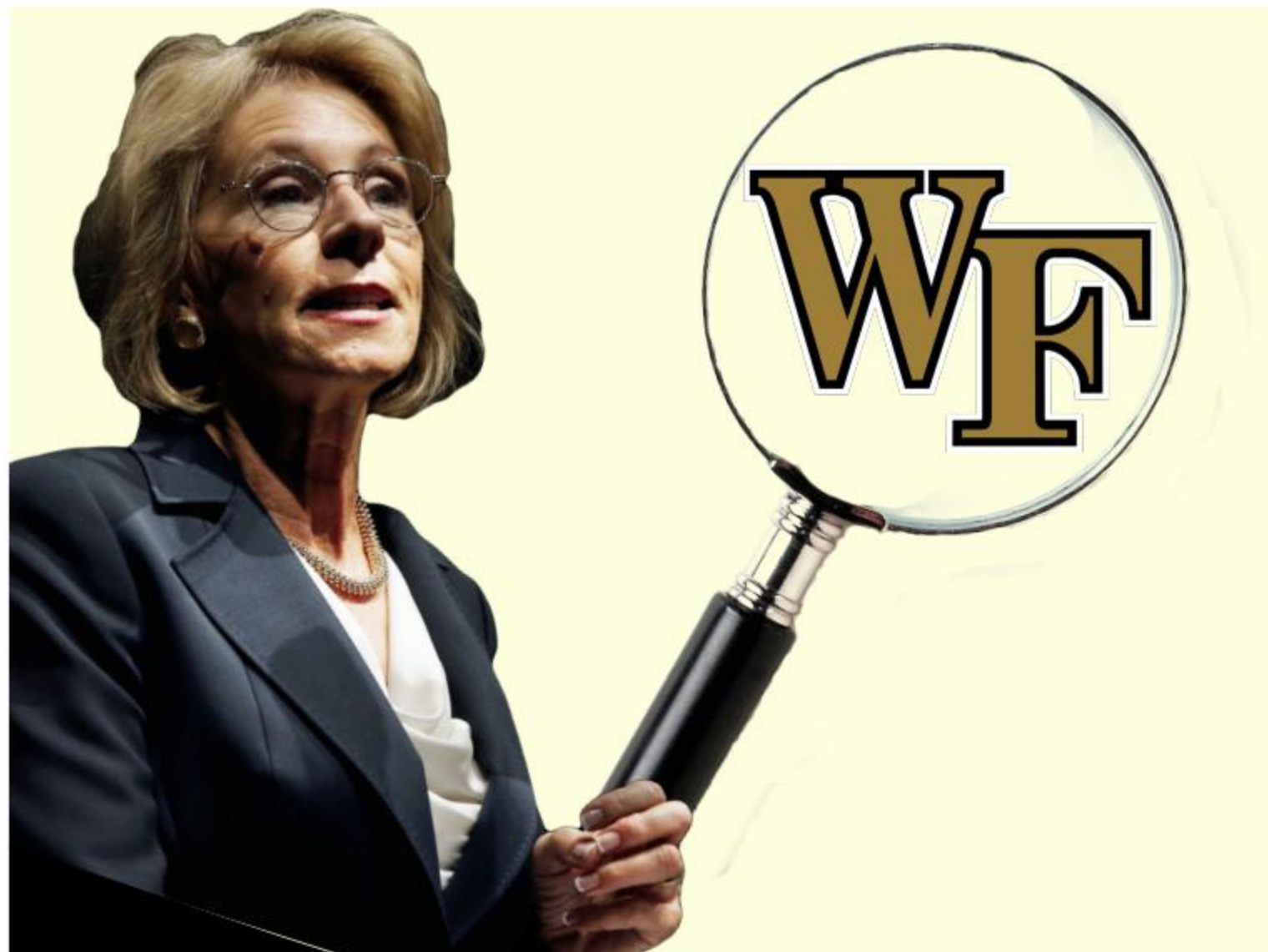
WAKE FOREST'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1916

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"Covers the campus like the magnolias"

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Olivia Field/ Old Gold & Black

The Department of Education is currently investigating Wake Forest, along with seven other universities, due to its involvement in the "Operation Varsity Blues" scandal. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos condemned the actions of those accused.

WFU under federal investigation

U.S. Department of Education will investigate Wake Forest following admissions scandal

BY ELIZABETH MALINE
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Federal education officials notified eight universities involved in the college admissions scandal, including Wake Forest, last Monday, March 25, that the U.S. Department of Education is conducting a "preliminary investigation" into university admissions procedures.

Politico broke the news about the new investigation on the evening of March 25.

A statement provided to the *Old Gold & Black* by President Nathan Hatch confirmed that Wake Forest was one of the universities to receive a letter from the U.S. Department of Education.

Letters were also sent to the presidents of other universities involved in "Operation Varsity Blues," including Yale, the University of San Diego, Stanford, Georgetown, the University of Texas at Austin, the University of Southern California and the University of California, Los Angeles.

According to *Politico*, the investigations are being led by the department's Student Aid Enforcement Unit, which has the power to issue subpoenas.

The unit is meant to police fraud taking place in higher education and was created during the Obama administration in response to illegal behavior at for-profit colleges. The department is headed by education secretary Betsy DeVos, who has denounced the entire scandal as "disgraceful."

"According to the letter, the Department of Education is focusing its review on the

universities involved to ensure there were no violations of laws and regulations governing Federal student financial aid programs related to the admissions scandal," said Hatch in his statement.

It's possible, according to *BuzzFeed News*, that the investigation includes searching for employees or other people involved with the university who may have committed fraud, misrepresentation or other illegal behaviors as it relates to financial aid programs.

"The allegations made and evidence cited by the Department of Justice raise questions about whether your institution is fully meeting its obligations," the Education Department official wrote in the letter addressed to the president at The University of Texas at Austin.

See Education, Page 6

Mesfin wins SG presidency

Mellie Mesfin defeated Walter Jackson in a runoff election that took place on Thursday, March 28

BY OLIVIA FIELD
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After a close race resulted in a runoff for Student Government President, junior Mellie Mesfin was elected to the position on March 29. She collected 56 percent of the vote, or a total of 1,093 votes, defeating junior Walter Jackson, who collected 44 percent of the vote, or a total of 834 votes.

Mesfin was the only one out of five candidates without previous experience in Student Government. However, she is a Campus Kitchen intern and is an active member with the Social Justice Incubator.

"I'm excited to build new relationships and find ways to get a more diverse range of students involved with Student Government. I want people to know what we're doing and what we can do for them," Mesfin said.

Ferguson pleads not guilty

Head volleyball coach pled not guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit racketeering

BY LILLIAN JOHNSON
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Head Volleyball Coach Bill Ferguson appeared in federal court in Boston on March 25, where he pled not guilty to a charge of conspiracy to commit racketeering.

Ferguson was indicted during the national college admissions scandal last month. Prosecutors allege that Ferguson accepted a total of \$100,000 dollars in order to designate a student as a volleyball recruit to secure their admission to Wake Forest.

The *Chicago Tribune* first reported that Ferguson, among several other athletic coaches who are involved in the scandal, pled not guilty.

See Ferguson, Page 4

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

Use good judgment when posting online

Several of the gender and race-related controversies that have rocked Wake Forest's campus over the past year found their origins online and on social media. At the beginning of the spring 2018 semester, a freshman admitted to using a racial slur in reference to her Resident Advisor in a video on her "finsta" (fake Instagram) account. Last semester, the Sigma Chi fraternity came under scrutiny when emails featuring misogynistic and vulgar language circulated widely around campus. In the past weeks, outrage on the campuses of both Wake Forest and Winston-Salem State (WSSU) resulted after an Instagram story for a fake Student

Wake Forest students must remember that nothing is ever truly anonymous online, and everything posted online should be treated as permanent."

Government campaign directed racist language towards WSSU.

It is the belief of the *Old Gold & Black* Editorial Board that too many students use the false anonymity of social media to make hateful and racist statements that they likely would not make in person.

Wake Forest students must remember that nothing is ever truly anonymous online, and everything posted online should be treated as permanent. If you post something sexist,

racist or otherwise derogatory online, you should expect to be ultimately held responsible.

Many of the posts that sparked the previously mentioned controversies were screenshots and circulated widely in GroupMes, eventually reaching the majority of the student body. Finstas and other restricted-access accounts can easily lead to an erroneous sense of privacy, but anything can be screenshots and widely shared.

Of course, controversy arising from social media posts is not a trend isolated to Wake Forest's campus. In 2018, multiple MLB players found themselves under fire for anti-LG-

BTQ and racist Twitter posts from their adolescent years, and an insensitive Kevin Hart tweet caused him to lose his job hosting this year's Oscars.

In short, facing repercussions for online misbehavior will not cease to be an issue once students leave Wake Forest, and properly conducting oneself online will become continue to be important while social media continues to pervade our daily lives.

Finally, in order to be good Internet citizens, we all must do what we can to erase the comfort some people have in posting hateful comments online. We must fight bigotry in all of its forms, including those found online.

Old Gold & Black

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WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY SINCE 1916

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Deacon Profile: Roberto Fernandez & Nae Edwards

BY CAROLINE WALKER

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Roberto Fernandez and Nae Edwards, two sophomore members of the Wake Forest Debate Team, recently placed third in the 73rd National Debate Tournament, which was held this past weekend from March 21-25 at the University of Minnesota. This is the highest level of placement that any sophomore pair has achieved in the history of the Wake Forest Debate Team.

What was involved in preparing for the National Debate Tournament?

Roberto Fernandez: The National Debate Tournament (NDT) is the grand finale to a whole year's worth of debates, so we always try to bring our best arguments to the tournament. We spent the entire spring break on campus practicing every day in order to bring the best new arguments to the tournament. The process involves a lot of practice debates, evidence production and predicting what we think our opponents will do at the tournament that they haven't done before.

Nae Edwards: Most of the preparation for the NDT was less about doing the actual work of practice and more about developing arguments and strategizing. Throughout the year, we'd already developed a lot of the stuff we wanted to use, but we wanted to perfect them. Our goal was to make the best versions of our argument that could answer anything our opponents came up with, which sometimes traded off with practicing those strategies. We knew, however, that we could execute them if we knew what the perfect iteration of the argument was.

What were some challenges you faced and how did you overcome them?

RF: It's always difficult being a young team at the NDT — the stakes are much lower for us than they are for other teams. It's less of a factor during the regular season, but it's hard for judges to vote against a team whose career could end as a result of their decision. That said, it's our goal to eliminate any and all ambiguity in a debate so that judges can't use that vagueness to facilitate a decision against us. We spent a lot of time working on our execution going into the NDT so that we could write the judges' ballot for them in our final rebuttals.



Photo courtesy of Roberto Fernandez

Sophomores Roberto Fernandez and Nae Edwards placed 3rd in the National Debate Tournament.

NE: I think the biggest challenge was the time. We were trying to use a lot of spring break and the time before then to get everything we wanted to do done. Our prep timeline didn't really shake out like we wanted it to, but everything came together towards the end of our time before the tournament.

Did you have a favorite debate during the tournament?

RF: My favorite debate by far had to be our quarterfinals debate against Emory. We'd beaten this team a couple of times during the regular season, but the NDT committee ranked them above us going into the tournament, and Nae and I felt snubbed by that. We beat this team, in the third round of the tournament as well, so I felt that winning this debate would prove something. We also executed our strategy perfectly and left Emory in an unwinnable position, so I was really happy with our performance.

NE: Our octofinals debate against Binghamton. They're very good friends of ours and seniors, so it

was their last debate at the NDT. It was a very serious debate because of that, and I really appreciated how engaging and intellectually challenging the debate was.

How do you feel after placing third in the NDT and making Wake Forest Debate Team history?

RF: To be honest, I felt incredibly unsatisfied. I'm very grateful to my coaches, team and Nae for putting in all the work that helped us go so far, but losing by one ballot of five in semifinals hurts a lot. However, I'm still very glad that Nae and I were able to make Wake Forest Debate history two years in a row, and I'm really excited for next year.

NE: It was bittersweet. We really felt confident that we could win the whole thing this year, so we set winning it all as our goal. As the tournament progressed, we only become more confident about our ability to win it all. Given that, it was very nice that we got to semifinals, but upsetting that we couldn't win it all like we wanted.

Based on your experience, have you formed any new goals for debate?

RF: The goal has always been to win the NDT and be the best team in history. Even after this year, that goal is still a possibility, and I plan on moving forward with that in mind.

NE: No. My goal is still to be the best and win as many debates as possible. We're just going to do that.

Looking back, how do you view your progress? What piece of advice would you have given to your freshman selves about debate?

RF: I think we've progressed immensely since our freshman year, which is a relief because we set the bar so high last year. If I had to tell my freshman self anything, it would be that I shouldn't be scared to take a deep breath when I need to. Debate is incredibly stressful, and this year I've learned from my wonderful mentors that my success means nothing if it means losing myself in the process.

NE: I would tell myself to be as confident as possible and make sure you have a reason to be confident. Continue to work hard and work off that confidence. When you aren't intimidated by anyone, you can win any debate.

POLICE BEAT

Miscellaneous

- Offender's vehicle was stopped on Wingate Road for being overcrowded. A verbal warning was issued. The report was filed on March 27 at 11:57 p.m.
- Offender was cited after cursing at WSPD officers as he passed them on Reynolds Boulevard. The report was filed on March 28 at 7:17 p.m.
- A burglary occurred in Poteat. Victims were sleeping when two males entered their room. The males were identified. The report was filed in Carswell on March 29 at 10:17 p.m.
- There was a noise complaint in Martin. Loud music was reported from an authorized party in the lounge. Music was turned down, and the majority of the attendees had already left the area. The report was filed at 1:14 a.m.
- WSPD responded to loud music on Brookwood Drive. WSPD cited offenders for violation of noise ordinance. The report was filed on March 30 at 3:49 p.m.
- WSPD shut down a party on Wakefield Drive. Offenders were issued citations. The report was filed on March 31 at 12:55 a.m.
- A disturbance was reported in Davis. The victim wanted to report her room-

mate's boyfriend for staying in her room, and she did not want him there. The report was filed on March 31 at 2:40 a.m.

Underage Consumption/Intoxication

- Students were involved in a verbal argument. The offender was found to be intoxicated underage. The report was filed in Poteat on March 19 at 7:51 p.m.
- Officers responded to a report of someone knocking on another student's window in Taylor. While the officers were leaving, an odor of marijuana was detected coming from the floor below. The area was searched and drug paraphernalia was in plain view through an open window. The report was filed on March 30 at 3:30 a.m.

Larceny

- Unknown subject(s) removed pills from victim's room in Piccolo. No known suspects. The report was filed on March 25 at 8:17 p.m.
- Unknown subject(s) removed victims personal items from the women's locker room in Manchester. The report was filed in on March 31 at 12:50 p.m.

Ferguson: Coach pleads not guilty

Continued from Page 1

Liz McCarthy, the public affairs specialist in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Massachusetts, confirmed in an email to the *Old Gold & Black* that Ferguson was arraigned on March 25 and pled not guilty. This status also appears on the web page for the investigation.

One of the attorneys representing Ferguson, Shaun Clarke, believes that Ferguson is innocent and will have his name cleared.

"Bill Ferguson is not guilty of the charge against him," Clarke said. "Two weeks ago, the U.S. Attorney [spoke of] a litany of abuses. Phony test scores, unqualified applicants, falsified athletic profiles. I

can't talk about what happened at other schools, but not at Wake Forest University. No one, no one was admitted to Wake Forest who didn't earn it, as a student and as an athlete."

Dane Ball is also representing Ferguson along with Clarke; they are both white-collar defense lawyers. Clarke and Ball are partners at Smyser, Kaplan & Veselka, a law firm in Houston, TX. According to Texas Lawyer, they have handled and won other prominent white-collar cases. They came to represent Ferguson as Clarke has a child currently enrolled at Wake Forest.

According to the *Chicago Tribune*, the defendants could face up to 20 years in prison and significant fines. The indictment seeks the forfeiture of \$50,000 from Ferguson.

The twelve defendants, all of whom had been indicted in the investigation, appeared in court last Monday afternoon before Magistrate Judge Page Kelley. The *Chicago Tribune* reported that they appeared in groups of three in a "brisk sentencing lasting about an hour," as all pled not guilty.

This group included other coaches and athletic directors at elite universities, such as Gordon Ernst, former tennis coach at Georgetown, Donna Heinel, former senior associate athletic director at University of Southern California, Jovan Vavic, former USC water polo coach, Laura Janke, former USC assistant women's soccer coach and Jorge Salcedo, former men's soccer coach at University of California, Los Angeles.

Many of the parents, including celebrities Lori Loughlin and Felicity Huffman, have also appeared in federal court in Boston over the course of last week and this week.

An initial status conference for Ferguson has been scheduled for June 3 of this year.

Clarke explained that first, the government is required to give relevant evidence to the attorneys and then the attorneys will attend the status conference.

"The status conference is two weeks after that and is to discuss with the lawyers if there's any questions about what we got and to discuss a potential trial date," he said.

Athletic Director Ron Wellman said that he is following the case, but has no further comment. Ferguson remains on administrative leave as the case continues.

Student invents bra for breast cancer patients

Freshman Leah Wyrick's personal connection to the cause drew her interest to starting this business

BY JORDAN SMITH
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Freshman Leah Wyrick learned to overcome adversity at a young age. After watching her mother struggle with the pain of breast cancer surgery in 2016, Wyrick wanted to find a way to improve post-mastectomy experiences for other women.

Her goal: invent a better post-operative bra tailor-made for mastectomy patients. Wyrick is calling it the Resilience Bra. Her solution: create a company to develop, patent, produce and market the Resilience Bra. Wyrick named it the Three Strands Corporation after a Bible verse she feels encompasses the strength that breast cancer patients have when fighting their battle: "A cord with three strands is not easily broken." Wake Forest's StartUp Lab is helping her do just that.

"We want to give these women something so that they don't have to go through the same complications as my mom," Wyrick said. "If she'd have had The Resilience Bra, she wouldn't have had such an uncomfortable experience."

Wyrick got her inspiration for the Resilience Bra from her mother's surgeon and longtime friend, Dr. Samuel Roy. The morning Wyrick's mother went into surgery, Roy shared his idea for a bra that he wished existed — a bra that would take pressure off of his patients immediately following mastectomies.

"It was then that I realized I had to make this product," Wyrick said.

It was critical that the bras contain the functional aspects needed

to prevent infection and at the same time adapt to the unique shape and size of each patient's body. Despite the consistent complaints that Roy received from his patients, he had not been able to find a bra on the market that could fill this need. It was no surprise to him when Wyrick jumped at the opportunity to make a difference.

"She cares about what's going on with her family and at the same time has the drive to fix something and make it right," Roy said. "You can't teach that. It's innate. You're born with it."

With the combination of Roy's experience with the current problematic bras and Wyrick's newly developed sewing skills, the team created a bra that contains features unique to the needs of patients and reduced the risks of complications after surgery. Although the bra's specific features must be kept confidential while their patent is pending, Wyrick said the Resilience Bra addresses the maintenance of the surgical drain to prevent infection in patients while still accommodating differences in body type.

After actually producing her first prototypes in high school, Wyrick sought to take her company to the next level. Within weeks after arriving at Wake Forest, she brought her product to the Center for Entrepreneurship's "Pitch Over Pizza" event where she was encouraged to apply to Wake Forest's StartUp Lab. The lab has given her goals each week to get her company off the ground and provided her with tools to network. As a result, Wyrick has found contacts to help her develop additional prototypes for the bra and received grants to obtain a temporary patent.

"They have really good speakers who come in and are always willing to work with us," Wyrick said.

Although she sometimes feels uninformed as the only freshman in the lab, Wyrick believes her work will be more than worth it once her product is able to help women in the same situation as her mom. Wyrick and her mother maintain a close relationship that has only grown stronger since their experience with cancer. While witnessing how hard the disease can hit a family, Wyrick admires her mother for her strength and grace throughout the process.

"She has inspired me by how strong she was, and she's my best friend," Wyrick said.

When Wyrick saw her mother lose a part of herself through the mastectomy, the mental process was tough — for her mother and herself. But Wyrick's mother was always making sure that her family was okay. She maintained a positive outlook, with her focus on the bigger picture.

"If I had to go through what I did in order to help millions of women, it will all be worth it," Wyrick's mother said.

Currently, Wyrick is working to develop additional prototypes and, with advice from Wake Forest's lab, is seeking investors to help her file for a permanent patent, develop a marketing plan and raise sufficient capital to launch full-scale production. After gaining as much business knowledge from her education at Wake Forest as possible, Wyrick plans to distribute the bra to private practices and eventually sell it in bulk to hospitals to give patients after surgery. For more information on the Resilience Bra and Three Strands Corporation you can visit ThreeStrandsCorp.com or email Wyrick at threestrandscorp@gmail.com.

"We can't make a mastectomy any better," Wyrick said. "It's going to be tough, regardless, but we can try to



Photo courtesy of Leah Wyrick

Freshman Leah Wyrick invented the resilience bra before college.

help as many people as possible by making it a more comfortable situation. If we can help even one woman through this product, it will be worth it."

Faculty pass anti-racism resolutions

A number of faculty in the group Wake Forward presented four resolutions at the March meeting

BY OLIVIA FIELD

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Wake Forward, a group of self-described progressive faculty, are currently awaiting the administration's response to a set of four resolutions that were written by faculty and passed at the March 18 faculty meeting.

The resolutions condemn the administration's response to instances of "white supremacist language and imagery" in the *Howler*, support the Wake Forest University Anti-Racism Coalition's demands and further call upon the university to present tangible progress addressing these issues at the next faculty meeting on April 8.

"Racism on campus is an issue many Wake Forward members have been discussing through this group since its founding — and, of course, many Wake Forward members have been discussing and working on campus racism well before the group was created," said Michaelle Browers, a member of Wake Forward and professor in the department of politics and international affairs.

Of the requests made in the resolutions, the university has only addressed the need for a space specifically for the Black Student Alliance. The group hopes to see additional progress, but are unsure if it will happen officially.

"Wake Forward has been given time on the [April] agenda to continue this conversation. We do not know if the administration will respond to the resolutions in an official capacity," said Kristina Gupta, a member of Wake Forward and assistant professor in the department of women's, gender, and sexuality studies (WGS). "To my knowledge, they have not officially committed to any of the other things requested in the faculty resolutions. Faculty will continue to push to see these resolutions implemented."

According to an email sent to the members of Wake Forward, the vote occurred through a secret ballot with the tally coming out to 130 in favor, 16 against and five abstentions. The resolutions are signed by a group of 65 faculty members ranging from the English and WGS departments to the biology and math departments.

According to Browers, the resolutions were the product of both multiple in-person discussions, including ones with the student-led Anti-Racism Coalition, and conversations through email and a Google Doc to which the members had access.

"The faculty assembled decided that the first matter was to support the efforts of the [Anti-Racism Coalition]," she said. "However, we also wanted to think about not only how we could serve to lift up their voices by endorsing their demands, but what else the faculty might want to see as part of an effort aimed at addressing anti-black racism and white-supremacy at Wake Forest with the urgency, boldness and broad-based institutional focus these matters warrant."

The first resolution discusses the fact that "former students," who are now "prominent leaders of the Wake Forest University

community," are pictured in photos that are part of a larger theme of "white supremacist language and imagery" in the *Howler*. Although the text does not directly name them, this resolution is alluding to the images of Dean of Admissions Martha Allman and Associate Dean of Admissions Kevin Pittard standing in front of confederate flags in the 1982, and 1983 and 1984 issues of the *Howler*, respectively. The resolution proceeds to "condemn the Wake Forest University administration's response to these revelations thus far as inadequate."

"We believe that a) the responses offered were delayed to the point of negligence; b) the ongoing silence of college and university leaders is unacceptable; c) the responses are wholly insufficient as apologies, redress for harms done, or commitments to policies and programs that would transform the university; and d) these events are consistent with previous failures by university leaders to address anti-black racism and white-supremacy at Wake Forest with the urgency and transparency that they warrant," the resolution stated.

Directly mentioning the Anti-Racism Coalition, the second resolution endorses their list of nine demands — which include a zero tolerance policy to white supremacy, transparency in bias reporting and more.

The third resolution calls for the university to "engage in a substantive and independent process of Truth and Reconciliation." By referencing efforts made by Brown University and Georgetown University, it requests that the administration provides a plan to address its "[historical] and present support of white supremacy."

"We need to shine a bright light on Wake's history with slavery and racial segregation, and on its struggles with anti-black racism in the contemporary period. We request that the Wake Forest University Administration provide a plan for a Truth and Reconciliation process at the April 2019 College Faculty Meeting," the resolution stated.

Also calling for more information at the next meeting, the final resolution asks that the Office of the Provost reports back about progress made with the "Community in Progress" project. This project accepted recommendations from communities across campus, and commissioned a Campus Climate Implementation Team to respond to and implement the recommendations.

Provost Rogan Kersh did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Overall, Gupta expressed the need for larger institutional changes that aim to address the problem of white supremacy and racism on campus.

"I think it is vital for students to understand that this is a bigger issue than just the yearbook photos," Gupta said. "White supremacy is embedded in Wake Forest as an institution, in everything from building names, to the lack of faculty, students and upper-level administrators of color, to the legacy system, to the curriculum, to the athletics system, to the employment of low wage contract laborers who are mostly people of color. Addressing these broader issues will require an institutional commitment to systemic and systematic change, which is what the faculty resolutions call for."

Editor's note: Faculty advisor to Old Gold & Black Phoebe Zerwick is a member of Wake Forward.

Res Life & Housing closes dorms for Fall 2019

Palmer, Piccolo and Efrid were not available for Fall 2019 housing registration

BY RENSCHMITT

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Last week, the Office of Residence Life and Housing opened housing registration to students. Though the majority of the available options were familiar to students, Palmer, Piccolo, multiple Polo Road houses and Efrid were notably absent from the list of residence halls, as they will be offline during the fall 2019 semester.

One factor influencing the decision to keep these dorms offline is the increased number of students who intend to study abroad during the fall 2019 semester. Though Wake Forest students annually study abroad in droves, the Office of Residence Life in housing reports that this year saw especially high numbers of students intending to spend their fall semester elsewhere.

"The university is seeing a larger number of students applying to study abroad during the fall 2019 semester," the Office of Residence Life and Housing said in an email to the *Old Gold & Black*. "We are

actively planning for those students to return to campus in spring 2020."

Additionally, since the university acquired Deacon Place, the need for housing directly on campus is less urgent. Deacon Place adds hundreds of beds to the list of available options, freeing up space on campus for students returning from abroad. Though taking three dorms offline would have been unusual last year, the Office of Residence Life and Housing intends to test its new housing arrangement in light of the addition of Deacon Place.

"[Deacon Place] adds 328 additional beds to our available inventory, creating the need to evaluate how we approach occupancy management across our communities," the Office of Residence Life and Housing said.

Though no permanent decision has been made, the Office of Residence Life and Housing informed the *Old Gold & Black* that it intends to make Efrid and the Polo Road houses available during the spring 2020 semester.

One group that could be adversely affected by the decrease in residence halls is the Resident Advisor (RA) staff, as the decreased number of dorms naturally creates a decreased demand for RAs.



Photo courtesy of Residence Life and Housing

One of the dorms that will not be available for the Fall 2019 semester is Piccolo, which is located next to Palmer behind Reynolds Gym.

"Anytime we close a community, that impacts the number of RAs needed across campus," the Office of Residence Life and Housing said. "We will continue to staff in such a way that allows our RAs to effectively work with and engage our communities."

In an email sent to RAs on February 21, the Office of Residence Life and Housing stated that it "tentatively [planned] to keep Bostwick offline this fall," but they eventually decided to retain Bostwick as a space for first-year students.

Education: Department reviews admissions

Continued from Page 1

The department is demanding that the universities turn over information about their admissions standards, policies and procedures within the next 30 days. This includes recruiting tactics for students recruited to athletic teams since Jan. 1, 2009, marketing and promotional materials, official records of any student admitted under fraudulent circumstances and statements made to organizations that rank schools, such as *U.S. News and World Report*. Department investigators also asked the universities to identify the names of all students mentioned in the allegations raised by the U.S. Department of Justice and to report any disciplinary actions taken against employees charged by federal prosecutors.

Hatch said the university is currently in the process of gathering the request for information.

If it is discovered that Wake Forest or any of the other universities violated any federal education regulations,

they could, at the most extreme, lose access to grants and student loan money. Universities receiving federal student aid for grants, loans or work-study programs must demonstrate "administrative capacity" and have proper procedures and policies to administer federal money, according to an article by *BuzzFeed News*.

Similarly, in order for universities to continue participating in any Title IV or Higher Education Act programs, they must demonstrate that it is "adequately administering" those programs in accordance to the law, according to an article by *NBC News*.

An email from Hatch directly following the news of the college admissions scandal stated that the university is being considered by the U.S. Department of Justice as a victim of fraudulent behavior, and that the indictment does not allege misconduct by the university or any of its employees.

"In no way has it been suggested that the university was involved in the deceitful practices, nor were any employees, other than [Head Volley-

ball Coach Bill] Ferguson, accused of wrongdoing," said Hatch in his email.

While Hatch claimed the university has not committed fraudulent behavior, he made it clear that Ferguson has been accused of accepting a payment to influence the admission of a student who had been placed on the waitlist. However, Ferguson pleaded not guilty at an appearance at a federal court in Boston.

Several schools have already fired head coaches and employees for accepting bribes to help students gain admission, as well as rescinded admission to students accepted under fraudulent circumstances. Ferguson remains on administrative leave, and the student admitted to Wake Forest remains enrolled and unknown. Hatch has stated that the university has no reason to believe the student was aware of the alleged financial transaction that helped them gain admission into the university.

Unlike with the news of the indictment against Ferguson, the university

did not send out a community-wide message regarding the letter from the Education Department.

"We did not send a message about the letter specifically because the university routinely responds to requests for information from state and federal entities, elected officials and accreditation bodies," said Katie Neal, assistant vice president of News and Communications for Wake Forest. "This seemed like an iterative step following the Department of Justice's indictment. We responded to media inquiries to confirm that Wake Forest received the letter."

Hatch also stated that the university is continuing to cooperate with the Department of Justice in its ongoing investigation and will do the same with the Department of Education's review.

"The impact of the review remains to be seen," said Neal. "We are not aware of a timeline for the Department of Education to complete its investigation."

WAKE IN A WEEK

Entrepalooza: A Celebration of Entrepreneurship

Time: Thursday, April 4 from 4:30 to 7 p.m. and Friday, April 5 from 8:45 to 11:30 a.m.

Location: Scales Fine Arts Center

Entrepalooza is the hallmark event of the year for the Center for Entrepreneurship. Wake Forest students will pitch their ideas and startups to a live audience made up of entrepreneurs, investors, students, faculty, staff and community members. The keynote address is Diana Kander, author of the *New York Times* bestselling book *All In Startup*. There will also be Deac Tank, modeled after Shark Tank, where students will pitch their ideas in front of live judges in hopes of gaining valuable feedback and monetary prizes. Refreshments, appetizers, and panel discussions are also on the agenda.

Campus Kitchens Project Pregional Conference

Time: Saturday, April 6 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Location: Wake Downtown

The southeast regional conference will bring together Campus Kitchen member schools from southern Virginia, North Carolina and Georgia for a day of student learning and action. There will be student speakers and workshops throughout the day.

Crazy Rich Asians

Time: Friday, April 5 at 8 p.m.

Location: Pugh Auditorium, Benson University Center

The Student Union Film Series provides screenings of popular films on Fridays throughout the semester. This Friday, they will be screening *Crazy Rich Asians*, and there will be free popcorn at the event.

Men's Baseball Game vs. Virginia Tech

Time: Friday, April 5 at 6 p.m.

Location: David F. Couch Ballpark
Head over to the David F. Couch Ballpark to support the Deacs as they face off at home against the Virginia Tech Hokies.

Fit for Business 5K

Time: Saturday, April 6 at 9:00 a.m.

Location: Farrell Hall

Join Wake Forest School of Business students for the fourth Annual Fit for Business 5K race. The event will benefit Junior Achievement of the Triad. The race is open to all students and the public.

A Garden Party in Honor of Dr. Maya Angelou

Time: Sunday, April 7 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Location: Bailey Park

This community event will celebrate renowned poet, writer and former Wake Forest professor Maya Angelou's 91st birthday. There will be food trucks, poetry readings, music, lawn games, and more. In case of inclement weather, the event will move to Turbine Hall inside the Bailey Power Plant across the street.

Hubert McNeill Poteat Lecture — Speaker Ellen Miller

Time: Tuesday, April 9 at 6:30 p.m.

Location: Potter Byrum Welcome Center, Kulynych Auditorium

Ellen Miller is a professor of physical anthropology at Wake Forest. She specializes in paleoanthropology and will give the 2019 Poteat Lecture. The lecture series is designed to recognize and celebrate the many achievements of Wake Forest faculty research and scholarly and creative work. Her lecture is titled, "Decoding Messages from the Past." A reception will follow the lecture in the conservatory and on the patio.



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Students celebrate Earth Week on campus

Many student organizations joined together to host sustainable events this week

BY CAROLINE WALKER

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This year's Earth Week celebration, which is themed "Food for Thought," will center on an environmental justice approach to the issues of food access and insecurity. The Office of Sustainability and the Office of Wellbeing partnered with 13 different student organizations and campus offices to organize the nearly 15 different events that are taking place during Earth Week from March 31 through April 6.

Wake Forest began preparations for Earth Week on March 29, as various student organizations and campus offices gathered in Tribble Courtyard to paint banners that artistically expressed their connection to this year's theme and environmental justice. These banners are now displayed around the Quad facing Wait Chapel and will remain for the rest of Earth Week.

The Communications and Event Coordinator for the Office of Sustainability, Erin Stephens, commented on the informational impact and

unifying effect of these events.

"It's amazing to me what public awareness and art displays can do for the week," Stephens said. "I think it's really nice and important that we try to create those types of events that bring the community together like banner painting ... to get attention in a more organic and community-oriented way, rather than just social media."

People gathered again on March 31 at the Campus Garden for the Earth Week kick-off and celebration of Tu B'Shevat, the Jewish New Year for Trees.

In addition to planting three apple trees, the festivities also included the performance of local band "Bad Cameo," fresh and compostable food and drinks provided by local businesses, farm animals such as lambs and chickens and a station where people could decorate seed cups for growing rosemary and other small plants.

As one of the interns for the Office of Sustainability, senior Peter Schlachte explained the significance of gathering as a community to celebrate the commencement of Earth Week.

"There's something very joyous about having devoted time to gardening and working in the dirt with my close friends — it's a wonderful



Photo Courtesy of Wake Forest Office of Sustainability

Students from all different organizations on campus showed up for 15 different events that each support protecting the earth in various ways

symbolism of the unity that Earth Week supports," he said.

Other Earth Week events also focused on forming support for environmental justice through interactive events to inform the community about the aspect of more sustainable food choices, like the environmental justice approach to reducing the carbon emissions of the industrialized food sector.

This component of environmental justice involves informing more people about the benefits of plant-forward diets that contain more sustainably produced, plant-based foods.

Events focusing on plant-forward diets included a Gold Apron Iron Chef Cookoff in the Pit that featured Executive Chef Jordan Rogers and Chef de Cuisine Justin Garcia in a competition to cook the most appetizing dish from plant-based ingredients, as well as a scavenger hunt that challenged students to cultivate a nutritionally-balanced meal from plant-forward dining options available in the Pit.

Sustainable dining intern and junior Nathan Allen explained the benefit of these interactive events in regard to the focus on food and environmental justice.

"Teams had to assemble their plates with mainly plants, with animal products making up only about an eighth of the plate," said Allen.

"I thought the event was so great because it brought some wonderful people together and contributed to the university's dining initiative to promote the greater consumption of plant foods for your health and for the environment."

As another primary focus of Earth Week, many events also focus on the local issues of food access and inse-

curity, especially in regard to how it impacts North Carolina and local communities. Among these events are a Call to Conversation bringing people together for a discussion of the importance of environmental justice and a screening and panel discussion on *The Farmer that Feeds Us*. These events create awareness about the challenges faced by many impoverished communities, where food-insecure residents lack access to the food necessary to fulfill their basic nutritional needs.

Office of Sustainability content development assistant and senior Lauren Berryman commented on how Earth Week improved her understanding of food insecurity.

"To me, 'Food for Thought' means being aware of what we eat, how much we eat and where the food we eat comes from," Berryman said. "Learning about the 21 food deserts in Winston-Salem has made me even more conscious of the food I consume ... At Wake Forest we can sometimes get carried away with the unlimited access to food in the Pit, but when you take a step back you become more aware of the issues that affect our community."

Other Earth Week events will also celebrate the natural resources that the Earth provides through organized events to clean up local parks and trails. There will be an opportunity to participate in the Wake Forest community's efforts to beautify the cross-country trails and the area around the Barn, as well as the city-wide initiative to clean up the Washington Park in Winston-Salem.

"We hope events throughout this week spark conversation and give people some food for thought when thinking about environmental justice, food systems, urban farming and land rights," said Stephens.



Photo courtesy of Kellie Shanaghan

During the Earth Week Kick-off Event, students gathered at the Campus Garden to plant three new apple trees and celebrate Tu B'Shevat, the Jewish New Year for Trees.

Cultural Commentary

Donald Trump humanizes our post-literate culture

Our culture-at-large is a post-text, digital wasteland, and Donald Trump epitomizes its shortcomings



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The harangue from Trump supporters listing the laudable qualities of our celebrity president are myriad and borderline mystical. To wit: Trump is an outsider who cuts through the political pablum, speaking in a no-nonsense, New York vernacular; Trump's personal fortune extricates him from the influence of big donors, authenticating his ideas; Trump's rough-hewn, business impulse creates a bottom-line presidency dedicated to crude (and sometimes cruel) efficiency.

These qualities that some say are admirable — simplistic language, self-sourced ideas and a fast-twitch, business instinct — find their anti-intellectual inception in what Marshall McLuhan calls a post-literate society, now epitomized by our post-literate president. The notion that

“While the image shuffles through a series of proffered ideas and egos, text creates an extended imagined community.”

Trump's mind is not an austere, calculated intellect as much as it is a barren landscape where life struggles to take root becomes less insulting (sadly, not less worrisome) when we read it as a cultural inevitability. Claimed to be a materialization of the anti-elitist, anti-politico ache, Trump really remains a product of a televisual culture fixated on the image. His degenerate language skills and self-promoting ethos stem from a post-text society in which a kaleidoscope of images massages thought into an empty elevator pitch.

The seemingly-ancient typographic culture I speak of was one that produced a democracy tutored, at least in part, in critical thought. In contrast to the proffered multi-media image, a text's chosen “image” is the inter-imaginary one conjured by the word on the page and the reader's imagination. Text not only forces a creative negotiation, but reinforces habits of thought and interchange. Neil Postman puts it well, claiming, “when an author and reader are struggling with semantic meaning, they are engaged in the most serious challenge to the intellect.” The epistemo-

logical distance between reader and writer allows an interpretive, critical dance that does not close, but instead mediates their distance through eventual synergization. While the image shuffles through a series of proffered ideas and egos, text creates an extended imaginary community. It is the difference between an image merely existing and an image wrought into creation. Donald Trump, professionally reared by televisual celebrity, not only gravitates towards images and their intellectual shot-in-the-arm, but sees them as the only logical and personal means to success. It makes sense that Trump would scour the television for information; yet the information itself establishes a wasteland of tumbleweed images and thoughts. These soaked-up ephemerals have little to no staying power, manifesting in the president's doltish rhetorical mistakes or barely-parseable ideations.

Jean Baudrillard, in his 1981 book *America*, wrote about this especial American obsession, claiming our constant visual craving as “the mindless luxury of a rich civilization, and yet of a civilization perhaps as scared to see the light go out as was the hunter in his primitive night.” He goes on to say that we have no such thing as restorative boredom, that our desire for unfettered progress disallows for any unraveling interchange or thoughtful reverie. While our president seems

to have no problem retreating to his chambers, his retreat is towards the hypnotic glow of images, that instantaneous reel of thought and flash-punditry that gives and takes ideas at a vicious pace.

Ideas actualized in televisual flux make Trump a man of immanence, not imagination. As Baudrillard says, images “do not...feed the romantic or sexual imagination; they are immediate visibility, immediate transcription, material collage, precipitation of desire.” Trump's superficial gratification feeds back into the image's self-preservation as a standard of intellectual adrenaline, allowing him to exist in a harmful symbiosis. His cursory tendencies find their mate as he appropriates flipbook ideas and talk-show sound-bites as cogent theses. But the issue with borrowing is that it makes you only average; to steal thought, one must annotate and synthesize, not just regurgitate. Ideation becomes memorization, and the more complicated a story, the more likely we are to forget and forgo many of the details. Trump craves an instant intellectual grasp, which is impossible, but not, as we have seen, unimaginable. As Postman says, television raised “the interplay of image and instance to an exquisite and dangerous perfection.” Trump didn't vitalize the concept fully, though, since there's nothing beautiful about it.

Social Systems

The admissions scandal illustrates systemic flaws

A mere flashpoint of a larger issue, the admissions scandal represents a weighted system



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The Justice Department's revelation of a widespread conspiracy to augment the college admissions of certain ultra-rich children sparked conversations about access to higher education. The numbers were apparently enormous; hundreds of thousands of dollars paid to a University of Southern California athletic director, millions to a Georgetown tennis coach and a handful of wealthy parents who shelled out ludicrous sums to either manipulate testing conditions or enroll their child as an illegitimate student-athlete.

The story permeated the Internet, spawning angry memes and nasty comments in a cathartic rage against the villainous super-rich. A tweet posted by *Fox Business* host Trish Regan effectively articulated the angsty proletarian anger emboldening the web: “this #collegeadmissionscandal is the pinnacle [sic] of #HollywoodPrivilege and elitism.”

“The systemic inequality which keeps many communities chronically poor while enriching the wealthiest among us shapes the demographics of college campuses.”

For many, the college admissions scandal seemed injurious to their right to a fair shot at college admission. In an idyllic meritocracy, the superfluous wealth of a sub-optimal candidate's family wouldn't supersede the suitable qualifications of a less affluent candidate. That a *Full House* star could seemingly buy her unimpressive child into a prestigious school seemed to signify the fundamental unfairness of the college admissions process.

But while the criminals exposed by the Justice Department investigation illegally offered or accepted bribes, wealth has legally shaped university applicant pools for centuries, systematically disadvantaging those from chronically low-income communities and advantaging the wealthy.

If her shocked condemnation of “#Hollywood-Privilege and elitism” is genuine, Regan's criticism of the role of wealth in college admissions is certainly hypocritical. Regan attended high school at Phillips Exeter Academy, one of the most prestigious and exclusive prep schools in the country, where yearly tuition, accounting for boarding, reaches nearly \$50,000. The incomparable access to top-notch teachers, abundant academic

resources and well-structured curricula Regan gained from her enrollment at Exeter undoubtedly contributed to her admission to Columbia University. While she was apparently angered by the privilege exercised by the wealthy parents at the center of the scandal, Regan failed to account for the role of her own familial wealth in financing her elite high school education. While Regan's parents didn't bribe a football coach to enlist her as a make-believe punter, they did pour hundreds of thousands of dollars into her pre-collegiate education. Why would they have done so if not to advantage her?

The systemic inequality which keeps many communities chronically poor while enriching the wealthiest among us shapes the demographics of college campuses. Poor communities almost never boast a successful school system, as underfunded schools are forced to cut the valuable extracurriculars which enthrall and inspire young students, and well-qualified teachers are unlikely to seek employment in low-paying districts. Conversely, wealthy families are likely to settle in districts with successful school systems, and their affluence provides for the arts programs, clubs and sports which engage the minds of their children while attracting the nation's best teachers with good pay. When public schools don't meet expectations, wealthy families can often afford private schools with specialized teaching strategies, or extracurricular resources such as tutors and test-prep courses.

In the United States, community boundaries and their apparent wealth disparities are often highly racialized; post-segregationist government policies and housing practices explicitly limited the neighborhoods available to black, Latinx and Asian families throughout much of the twentieth century. *De facto* segregation, headed by nominally progressive gestures such as the 1968 Fair Housing Act, exacerbated existing racial tensions propagated by whites and ensured white privileges in social positioning, employment and access to important social and legal programs. As a result, disparities came to exist in the quality of education offered to white and non-white communities, precipitating a garishly disproportionate demography of students at selective universities today.

Lori Loughlin should not be the face of college admissions inequity. White students of Non-Loughlin descent are systematically afforded advantages based on the historical systems which ensured the successes of whites and the contemporary policies and narratives which implicitly maintain them. Those viscerally shocked by the admissions scandal should consider support for sweeping affirmative action plans in college admissions offices across the country. Offering distributive justice to those disadvantaged by the legacies of chattel slavery, Jim Crow and *de jure* and *de facto* segregation, among other explicitly and implicitly harmful conditions, is necessary if privilege and elitism is to be effectively confronted in college admissions and elsewhere.

Economic Interests

Partisan hacks do not belong at the Fed

Stephen Moore's track record of ill-conceived economics could hurt long-term U.S. interests



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Small-d democrats that we are, Americans are not often impressed by technocrats. One institution is a necessary exception — the Federal Reserve (the Fed), where coldly apolitical policymakers manage the U.S. money supply with integrity, common sense and the best data analysis available. It is a credit to the country that Fed policymakers are able to follow objective evidence where it leads and to put aside ideological beliefs and *a priori* suppositions.

Enter Donald Trump. It is no secret that the president has chosen many unqualified partisan hacks for key positions in the government. Almost universally, economists of all stripes have criticized his most recent appointment, campaign adviser and conservative economic commentator Stephen Moore, as manifestly unqualified to serve on the Fed's Board of Governors.

Why? If your goal is to stabilize the macroeconomy, then Moore's policies put you on exactly the opposite course. If instead your goal is to conduct monetary policy based on the direction in which the political winds are blowing, then his policies make perfect sense.

The U.S. Congress gave the Fed, the world's most powerful financial institution, the dual mandate to promote maximum sustainable

“If your goal is to stabilize the macroeconomy, then Moore's policies put you on exactly the opposite course.”

employment and low, stable inflation along with moderate long-term interest rates. Especially since the tenure of Paul Volcker, who served as chairman of the Fed in the 1980s, the Fed has also worked hard to earn the trust of financial market participants to operate with strict, aseptic political independence.

Politicians almost always have the incentive to push for lower interest rates, especially leading up to elections. Easy-money policies squeeze out extra growth and reduce unemployment in the short run, which give incumbent candidates a leg up, but if left unchecked, they can lead to inflation, especially in an already “hot” economy. It is for this reason that we need experts divorced of any political agenda to take away the punch bowl when the party gets started, or else we could be carting around wheelbarrows of cash à la Weimar Germany.

Herein lies the reason why a Moore appointment would damage the Fed's Board of Governors: he is a political operative and as committed a Trump sycophant and spin doctor as they come. During the Obama administration (when price indices were actually falling due to the Great Recession), he was an inflation truther who claimed that hyperinflation was right around the corner. Now, despite clear empirical evidence to the contrary, he claims that price indices are falling and that the Fed must apply immediate monetary stimulus. Both policy views are transparently politically motivated and also precisely opposite of what any of my colleagues on the Wake Forest College Fed Challenge team would recommend.

Moreover, Moore simply doesn't know his economic stuff, and neither does he let reality get in the way. Economists across the political aisle all agree about how loose he plays with the facts. Greg Mankiw, a mainstream conservative economist and advisor to George W. Bush and Mitt Romney, called Moore's approach to policy “over-the-top,” “bereft of nuance” and largely offering “simplistic, misguided advice.” Paul Krugman, left-leaning winner of a Nobel Prize in economics, said in a *New York Times* column that by appointing Moore, the Trump administration tends towards both kakistocracy — rule by the worst — and hackistocracy — rule by the ignorant and incompetent. And Justin Wolfers, faculty member at the University of Michigan and a senior fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics, said, “More than possibly any other economist in modern America, he has a track record of getting the big issues wrong. Not just occasionally, but time after time.”

Indeed, Moore has been wrong about almost everything. In 2014, he wrote an op-ed for the *Kansas City Star* about the superior economic performance of low-tax states that was so jam-packed with erroneous numbers that the editorial page editor vowed to never again accept an op-ed from him. But even that case is nothing compared to the terrible ideas that drive his views on monetary policy. Recall that Moore's agitation for looser money is motivated by his entirely false claim that the U.S. economy is experiencing deflation. There are three major metrics of price changes used by credible economists: the consumer price index, the personal consumption expenditures (PCE) price index, and the “core” PCE price index (which excludes food and energy prices, which can add volatile and irrelevant “noise.”) Currently, all three show slow but steady year-over-year increases.

Moore explains this away by arguing that the Fed should focus on commodity price changes (i.e., things like the price of oil) rather than the above indices, and he cherry-picks certain commodities with weird, anomalous fluctuations in price that are certainly driven by shocks, so they tell us almost nothing about whether there is actually too little money chasing too many goods or the other way around. For example, Moore cites the steep decline in U.S. soybean prices as evidence of economy-wide deflation. But as most thinking people are aware, the reason that U.S. soybean prices are down is because of Trump's self-made trade war — China has decreased its purchases of U.S. soybeans in retaliation for the recent slew of tariffs. Should the Fed, a steadfastly independent entity, cut rates to prop up soybean prices as damage control for the White House's blundered trade policy? Moore seems to think so. Worse, Moore doesn't even understand the genesis of his own dreadful ideas — he tried to dignify his advocacy of tying interest rates to commodity prices by calling it “the Volcker Rule.” But that is nothing close to the real Volcker Rule (named after the respectable former Fed chairman), which was actually a regulation prohibiting banks from engaging in certain investment activities with their own accounts.

Trump has floated the notion that he will appoint to the world's most powerful central bank a man who is incapable of using the correct data to make the simplistic determination of whether prices are going up or down, and who, by his own admission, “will be on a steep learning curve about how the Fed operates.” But the scariest part is that if the White House's maladroitness economic policies precipitate another recession, we might not have a Ben Bernanke or Janet Yellen at the wheel. If Trump ousts Jerome Powell, it could be Moore.

**Want to write for the Opinion
section for the OGB?**

Contact Kyle Ferrer
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Ideological Exclusion

Leftist trends can't categorically dismiss dissenters

Liberals tend to exclude conservative opposition on the grounds of an indefensible president



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Sometimes, when I want to get my monthly fill of pretentious long-form magazine reading in, I'll go to *Harper's Magazine* website and peruse the recent articles. Generally, I expect to read long-winded left-of-center diatribes against some political idea or policy I already know I don't like or perhaps explore the history of something interesting that doesn't have any implication on my life. For example, in this most recent edition, I really enjoyed reading "Destined for Export: The Troubled Legacy of Foreign Adoptions." I am not adopted. None of my friends or family members are adopted (at least that I know of), and I do not currently plan on adopting a child. Nonetheless, I enjoyed the read.

When I finish reading an article in *Harper's Magazine* or any other literary equivalent, my appetite for pretentiousness is generally sated, and I am embarrassingly proud of myself that I spent my time doing something other than binge watching Netflix's flavor of the month. Sometimes, albeit rarely, an article will affect me in a more profound manner than

"We are not better than our counterparts as soon as we forget that there are smart people on the other side of the spectrum."

most. The most recent article to have had such an impact appeared in *Harper's Magazine* January 2019 edition. It was called "Donald Trump is a Good President: One Foreigner's Perspective." Penned by the famed French novelist, filmmaker and poet Michel Houellebecq (a man described by *The Guardian* as "France's biggest literary export and, some say, greatest living writer"), it offered rather shocking and unusual praise for a man that is almost universally painted as a barbaric, oafish tyrant in these liberal periodicals.

I think that before I continue, it is important to note that Houellebecq did not fundamentally alter my opinion on our president. As I have rather routinely noted in this opinion section, I am no fan of Donald Trump. In fact, I tend to agree with his far more common descriptors in these magazines. I think he is barbaric, oafish and tyrannical. Houellebecq's article was not so notable to me because of the ideas he presented, but because of what they represented. Namely, it reminded me that some smart people really do still support this president, and they cannot simply be discounted.

I am from a wealthy Jewish suburb of Los Angeles. When I go home, it is hard to remember that anyone still supports the president, let alone almost half of the country. I routinely have to remind my parents that I actually know Trump

supporters in Winston-Salem, and, in fact, I think that many of them are decent people with atrocious political opinions. Immediately after reading Houellebecq's piece, I searched for reactions on the Internet. Many people, including well-known journalists, questioned why *Harper's* would even consider publishing such brazen praise for the evil orange man that runs our country. This criticism of the magazine is cowardly and anti-intellectual. *Harper's Magazine* would be failing its readers if it refused to publish the piece. Houellebecq, though less notable in the United States than Europe, is still a bona fide A-list cultural critic. Subscribers of the magazine are privileged to read his opinions, even the terrible ones. Moreover, he is without a doubt a bril-

liant man who has proven his worth many times over. To deny him a seat at the court of public opinion would be a shirk of the magazine's duties.

I am liberal, though it is becoming more and more embarrassing to admit to my left-of-center attitude. We liberals often call climate-change deniers and creationists anti-intellectuals. Many are. However, we are no better than our counterparts as soon as we forget that there are smart people on both ends of the spectrum. It should not be shocking that *Harper's Magazine* published Houellebecq's piece. Rather, it will be outrageous when the anti-intellectualism that has afflicted the left seeps so deep that Michel Houellebecq can no longer see his work printed in *Harper's Magazine*.



Photo courtesy of MCTCampus

Sports Mantras

College football teams should run an offense suitable to them

Although various offensive schemes exist, not every team can utilize all of them



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As my loyal readers know, I love talking politics, but that gets boring sometimes. So let's talk football. In the aftermath of Clemson kicking Alabama in the rear, I've had countless college football theories and hot takes rattling around in my head. One of the topics that weighs so heavy on my heart is the offensive debate. Is it ideal to run a classical, Single Back offense or a fast Run-Pass-Option (RPO) style? How about a tricky Wing-T (triple option) or Urban Meyer's very own "Power Spread?"

Let's start with the father of them all: the Single Back. Growing up a Georgia fan, of course I'm extremely biased, but let's just act like that isn't the case for right now.

Football is about grit. It's about lining up against the other side and pounding them back every yard. This is exactly what the Single Back offense is. The idea of it is the set up:

"Is it ideal to run a classical, Single Back offense or a fast RPO style? How about a tricky Wing-T (triple option) or Urban Meyer's very own 'Power Spread?'"

five linemen, one tight end, four wide receivers, one quarterback and one running back. Removing the excessive fullback, the running back often has to isolate a linebacker or defensive end himself. The offense is predicated on the run and makes the linebackers and defensive backs constantly guess which side to cut off, deciding if it's a trap or not. This is also a very pass-friendly offense in the sense that when the ball is run 30 times a game, the defensive backs are forced to cheat up. This then opens the quarterback up to pass to four routes, and possibly two more with the tight end and running back. The constant rushing also makes the play action (fake run) extremely effective. Notable teams who use this are Alabama, Michigan, Michigan State and other teams who like to win.

Now, let's talk about RPOs. There is a very heated debate as to whether RPOs are an offense or just a type of play. It used to be just a play (the run-pass option); however, now an entire playbook has morphed from this QB-choice style. Teams like the always suc-

cessful Wake Forest, Clemson, Florida and Oklahoma use these frequently. Essentially, two plays are called at once. Based on the defensive set, which way the linebackers go and how overconfident Trevor Lawrence is at that moment, determines a run or a pass. If you think that these can't work in the next level you probably were born post-2018, after Nick Foles won the Super Bowl solely using the RPOs. They work, trust me. Wake Forest beat Duke 59-7 with them.

More popular than the RPO offense is the Triple Option (TO), known by most 65-year-old high school coaches as the Wing-T. The best way to describe this is that there are three people in the backfield who all can run the ball. Who will it be? This offense is a series of trickeries, fakes, tosses, read options and mostly outside run plays to exhaust the defense. Coupled with a no-huddle, this can be extremely fast paced. In the long run, it is a recipe for success if you want to go 6-6 on the season. Winning dynasties like Air Force, Navy, Army and Georgia Tech use this offense for their countless Alamo Bowl victories.

Finally, the spread offense. Take the Single Back O, move your QB back three steps, add another running back, back your tight end up and you're golden. You now have a spread O. The crucial points to this offense are having dynamic offensive linemen, a smart QB

and recruiting really fast WRs that make Lane Kiffin look like a good play caller. Really, the idea of this offense is to spread the defense out and use athletic ability to play the whole field. Usually, when a certain back or receiver is talented enough, the offense plays away from their side and gives them space. In the past two years or so, it has gained a lot of popularity. So has eating Tide Pods, though, so don't look too much into it. Teams that use this method include Ohio State, Texas, Houston, Vanderbilt, UCLA and many others.

At the end of the day, every football team should have an offense that best suits their talents. Teams like Georgia play to the side of their running backs always, while more Texas-A&M-style teams rest on their QB's athletic ability. Recently, the passing spread has gained popularity, garnering a kind of "run around the defense" mentality. With two new-age offenses like this, match-up can sometimes begin to resemble a soccer game. Personally, I miss the old ways. I miss the Bo Jacksons, the Herschel Walkers, the Brian Bosworths, the Thomas Davis', etc. Ironically, I was only alive to see one of them actually play. After watching him, I'd still rather get hit by a mail truck than take one from Thomas Davis. That's how a player should play. That's my idea of the perfect style of football.

Women's golf rewriting history book so far

The Demon Deacon demolished the field in their last competition, winning with a 32-stroke lead

BY SAMANTHA WEXLER

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After a dominant performance at the Tar Heel Classic at Casa de Campo in the Dominican Republic, the women's golf team came back to demolish the field again at the Bryan National Collegiate to grab the victory and cement themselves in the top five nationally.

In the Dominican Republic, the then-No. 12 ranked Demon Deacons were one of just two teams to finish the tournament under par. The team's 14-under final round was the best single round in program history. The 23-under par three-round total also broke the previous 54-hole scoring record of 13-under.

The team then took the Bryan National Collegiate by storm, with senior Jennifer Kupcho and sophomore Emilia Migliaccio sharing the top medal at 12-under-par. The Demon Deacons shot 34-under-par to win the event by 32 shots at the Bryan Park Champions Course in Browns Summit, N.C.

A host of records were shattered with the dominant victory. The 34-under

total set a new ACC 54-hole scoring record, while also coming in at the seventh-lowest 54-hole team score in NCAA women's golf history. The victory was the second-straight event where the Demon Deacons broke the previous school record. It also beat the Bryan National Collegiate scoring record of 13-under. The Deacons' 14-under-par final round tied the school record for 18-hole scoring set earlier this season.

Individually, Kupcho and Migliaccio shared the individual title at 12-under-par, each shooting a final round 68. This was Kupcho's second-consecutive victory and her ninth career title. It was Migliaccio's second win of the season and her third career title. Kupcho extended her school-record streak to six-consecutive rounds in the 60s.

She also tied the NCAA career record with her 34th career round in the 60s on Sunday. Migliaccio's streak of four straight rounds in the 60s is tied for the second-longest in program history, and her total of 15 career rounds in the 60s is second in program history, behind Kupcho.

The entire team was at the top of the leaderboard, with all five golfers in the top 10 and four in the top four. Freshman Letizia Bagnolishot finished in third place at 5-under. Junior Siyun Liu finished in a tie for fourth at 4-under-

par. Freshman Vanessa Knecht finished in a tie for eighth to round out the Demon Deacons. It was the first time in program history that all five players in the lineup shot under par in the same round and the first time in program history that all five players in the lineup finished a tournament under par.

Now, Kupcho and Migliaccio will participate in the inaugural Augusta National Women's Amateur, featuring the top 72 amateurs in the world. As a team, the Demon Deacons will return to action at the ACC Championship at Sedgefield Country Club in Greensboro in two weeks.



Photo courtesy of Wake Forest Athletic Communications

The women's golf team, under first-year Head Coach Kim Lewellen has taken the ACC and NCAA by storm so far this season.

Wake Baseball mid-season status report

The preseason top 25 Diamond Deacs have had an up-and-down season as they entered ACC play

BY JOSEPH RAFSHOON

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The first half of the season has been hit or miss for Wake Forest baseball, literally and figuratively. The Deacons were ranked 17th in the country starting the season. Now, Wake Forest sits at a record of 15-14 and 5-7 in ACC play. It seemed as if the Deacons were moving in the right direction through the first three ACC series. After losing the series openers against Boston College and Duke, the Deacons won the next two games handily.

Sophomore slugger DJ Poteet reiterated that sentiment to the *Old Gold & Black*.

"Early on we struggled a little bit, but I mean, that was expected," said Poteet. "Once everybody started to play pretty well, we won our last two ACC series."

The problem is that the Deacons were on a four-game losing streak that included being swept by their ACC opponent Louisville. Even with their struggles, the players feel confident for the second half of the season.

"We feel good; we haven't played up to our potential yet, but we feel good, and I think we are moving in the right direction" said sophomore pitcher Jared Schuster.

With a 15-14 record, the Deacons have slim hopes of making an NCAA tournament appearance. However, the Deacons still hope to make noise at the end of the season.

"The Goal is always Omaha, not just to get there but to win it," Poteet said. "We have seen we are capable of doing that and hope to continue that success."

Wake Forest's starting pitching has struggled all year, and it is a big reason the Deacons may not be vying for a tournament spot. Junior ace Morgan McSweeney has not played up to his high potential, with just a 4.54 ERA. In the first half of the season, it was hard for the Deacons to succeed with their No. 1 pitcher struggling. In addition, Schuster had a great start to the season, but he has not continued his outstanding work with consistency. After being named ACC Co-Pitcher of the week and one of the Collegiate Baseball National Players of the Week after his 12-strikeout performance against Furman, Schuster has struggled. Schuster has a team leading 57 strikeouts but also a team leading 27 earned runs.

"I think starting pitching has struggled a little bit; we need to do a better job with that because our hitters are really picking us up right now," said Schuster.

While the bullpen has been the Achilles heel, the bullpen has picked up the slack. Led by sophomores Antonio Menendez and William Fleming, the pen has been unbelievable as of late. Against their rival Duke, the Deacon bullpen allowed no runs in their last 11 innings of the series. The incredible work is not going unnoticed by the starters.

"It's incredible. If they take me out in a [high] leverage situation, we can throw Will [Fleming] or Tony [Menendez] or Bobby Hearn in, and we have confidence to get the job done and get us out of tough situations," Schuster said.

The depth of Wake Forest's batting order has also been remarkable. Led by junior Patrick Frick at .378, there are four players batting above .300 and only one starter batting below .200.

The catalyst of the offense has been sophomore outfielder Chris Lanzilli. The slugger leads the team with seven home runs, and he broke a Wake Forest record with 10 RBIs in one game against Duke.

"I mean, personally, I have struggled but a lot of other people like Frick and Lanzilli, Bobby Seymour have hit really well, especially with two outs and runners in scoring position," Poteet said. "We have got a lot of hits, and that will make or break us right now on the offensive side."

The Deacons need to turn it around if they want to make a regional. Wake Forest has played good ball but not with the consistency fans were hoping. The second half of the season will be a test for the Deacons as they face nationally ranked Clemson and NC State in big ACC series.



Photo courtesy of Wake Forest Athletic Communications

Batting struggles seem to come and go for the Deacons, who are sometimes explosive at the plate.

Wake Forest football spring camp notes

The football team holds practices twice a week in the spring, culminating in the annual spring game at BB&T Field

BY RAFAEL LIMA
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Wake Forest football is on its way to wrapping up another season of spring football. The team hosted its 12th practice of spring camp on Tuesday, and with the spring game set to happen Saturday, fans will have the opportunity to have a first glimpse of the 2019 roster. Here's what you should look forward to on Saturday's game.

The battle between sophomore Sam Hartman and redshirt junior Jamie Newman for the starting quarterback gig has been in full swing over the past few weeks. Newman started over the last four games of the 2018 season, leading the Deacs to an impressive 3-1 record over that stretch, including a victory against a ranked NC State squad in Raleigh and winning the 2018 Birmingham Bowl against Memphis.

Hartman, on the other hand, has been showing improvements throughout spring camp, including a strong showing during the first scrimmage practice of spring camp held at BB&T Field on Friday. Hartman finished the day with 10 pass completions on 15 attempts for 149 yards and two touchdowns. Both touchdowns were in connections with slot receiver Jaquarii Robertson. Expect this battle for the starting quarterback spot to drag down all the way through fall camp. Last year, Head Coach Dave Clawson only made a decision after Newman went down with an injury that prevented him from playing the first few games of the 2018 season.

Another big debate heading into the 2019 season is over who is going to be the starting slot receiver

in place of Greg Dortch, who opted to leave the program early to declare for the 2019 NFL Draft. It seems unlikely that any player will have as high of a usage rate as seen from Dortch in 2018; rather, Clawson will probably look to take a committee approach with the position in 2019.

"I really think we have three or four [slot receivers] who are capable of playing and helping us win," said Clawson after the scrimmage practice. "You'd like to keep the first two healthy, but if it's a typical season, then at some point we'll need three or four."

Robertson had an impressive first scrimmage with five catches for 55 yards and the only two touchdown receptions of the day. Another player to keep an eye on is former four-star recruit Nolan Groulx, who enrolled earlier this semester and has been getting reps at the slot. Redshirt senior Kendall Hinton, who made the transition from quarterback to receiver last season, is also an interesting option given his athletic abilities. Losing a player of Dortch's caliber is never a good thing, but the slot position is full of exciting options heading into the 2019 season.

However, the same can't be said about the safety position. On top of losing last year's starters in safeties Cameron Glenn and Chucky Wade — both graduated — the Deacs will enter the spring game with four players injured at the position.

"Right now, we're so thin in the secondary. I looked up before practice, and I see Coby Davis, Zion Keith and Nasir Greer [out]. Those are three of your top four or five safeties. Then you have Peyton Woulard out too. We're just so thin," Clawson said. "We're trying to get as much work as we can, but we didn't want to extend the scrimmage. We didn't want to risk injuries, and we want to have a spring game."

Last season, the Deacs faced a similar problem at the linebacker position with redshirt senior Justin

Strnad as the only player healthy at the position throughout the season. One can't help but think if the bad luck will strike again, this time at safety.

"We're at a point at linebacker and safety where we're not going to be able to have a traditional spring game," said Clawson on the current injuries on defense. "It's going to be more of a spring scrimmage. We'll work some special teams in there. It'll be offense versus defense."

Regardless of the format, this should make for a fun showing by a Wake Forest football team with high expectations for the 2019 season. The spring game will occur on Saturday, April 6 at 3 p.m. at BB&T Field.



Photo courtesy of Wake Forest Athletic Communications

Sophomore QB Sam Hartman impressed, throwing for two touchdowns during scrimmage practice on Friday night.

Sea Eagles honor victims of terrorist attack

Terrorist attacks in Christchurch, New Zealand, inspired a rugby match to honor the 50 victims

BY JP MELINSON
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On March 15, two despicable terrorist attacks shook Christchurch, New Zealand, fueled solely by hate and intolerance for people who simply sought to exercise their basic right to practice their religion. Fifty people lost their lives. Last weekend, in a mission to help the community heal, rugby returned to the South Island.

The New Zealand Warriors, the only non-Australian team to compete in the National Rugby League, ordinarily play their games in Auckland, the largest city in New Zealand. This past weekend's match against the Manly Warringah Sea Eagles had been scheduled to be played in Christchurch for some time. It is not uncommon for the Warriors to play one or two games a year elsewhere in the nation, but it has been a while since a game was contested within New Zealand's "Garden City." If there was ever a time that Christchurch needed something to bring the community together, even for a seemingly trivial cause like a sporting event, this was it. The Sea Eagles, who travelled to Christchurch from their home ground on

the Northern Beaches of Sydney, visited one of the mosques affected by the horrific attacks during the week leading up to the game. Led by New Zealand native Martin Taupau and club captain Daly Cherry-Evans, the Manly team presented a wreath of flowers in order to pay their respects to the innocent individuals that had their lives taken far too soon. In another effort undertaken throughout the week to bring some light to a broken city, the Sea Eagles spent some time with local youth rugby players in Christchurch.

When asked about the experience, Sea Eagles halfback Kane Elgey had the following to say to Sporting News AU: "Obviously [with] what's happened, it's been tough [for the Christchurch community]. Just for us to come out here, as a sporting team, it's a good feeling."

Elgey went on to describe the opportunity to help lift the spirits of the children of Christchurch as "one of the best perks of playing. It makes me feel good, and I'm sure it makes them feel good. It's not only a sport, so I think it is a positive thing."

The work that the Sea Eagles did to help the community in Christchurch echoed the message of the hashtag emblazoned on the jerseys of the Sea Eagles and Warriors for the match last Saturday: #TheyAreUs. A reference to the words of Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern of New Zealand, the campaign calls upon New Zealand and the world as a whole to come closer together as a community in an effort to stop hatred and bigotry.

As Americans, it can seem hard to feel connected to a community that is so far removed from our own. However, with the increasing globalization of the world, now is the time to become more educated, tolerant and connected to the people around us. There is not room for prejudice today, tomorrow or ever.



Source: NRL Photos

Sea Eagles halfback Kane Elgey (left) during match against the New Zealand Warriors.

Spotlight: Ron Wellman

BY SAMANTHA WEXLER

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Since being named the fifth Athletic Director in Wake Forest's history in October 1992, Ron Wellman has helped to shape the athletic teams of Wake Forest's campus on and off the field. Four national championships and 20 ACC titles have been achieved since Wellman took over. Three-straight bowl victories and nonstop victories in Men's Soccer are some highlights in the recent past.

The most notable improvements to passersby are definitely the new athletic facilities on campus. McCreary Field House opened in January 2016 for the football team and other sports teams. New practice fields at the Doc Martin Football Practice Complex were also installed in 2016. The baseball team opened a new \$14 million Baseball Player Development Center at David F. Couch Ballpark. Construction projects continue with the Sutton Performance Center and Shah Basketball Player Development Center, both due to open in 2019. Additionally, the new Wake Forest Tennis Complex opened and hosted the 2018 NCAA Championships as well as the annual Winston-Salem Open. Off the field, Wellman has stressed overall development and growth to the whole student-athlete. He has aspired to attain coaches who worked with the assets of the university and hold athletes to the highest standards while preparing student-athletes for life after college.

His children and their spouses have a combined eight degrees from Wake Forest, and one of his children works here. In retirement, Wellman looks to cheer on the Demon Deacon teams that he has shaped through his time here and also spend time with his ten grandchildren, who range in age from 4 to 13.

Samantha Wexler: Looking back at your time at Wake Forest, what are some of the things that you are most proud of?

Ron Wellman: The people in our program, the quality of the individual and what their values are. The coaches, the way they coach their student-athletes and the way

they care about them beyond their athletic ability. I just think that we've got a bunch of folks who really understand and support the values, the standards and ideals of Wake Forest and for that reason, I think they are very successful in what they are doing.

SW: What did your decision to retire look like and how is the transition period so far?

RW: When President Nathan O. Hatch and I talked about it, we thought that this would be a good time. I didn't want to retire and announce it in November and be here for another six months or whatever. I don't think that I would function that well as a lame-duck Athletic Director for that period of time. This period of time, just seven weeks, is more reasonable. Hopefully, I can get a lot of things done and make the transition easier for John Currie, too.

SW: Under your influence, the non-revenue sports have really risen to prominence. Can you speak to the development of those programs?

RW: It's always the coach-

es; the coaches establish the ceiling for the program. Our ceilings are very, very high for our programs right now because of the caliber of coaches that we have. We have taken the view that our non-revenue sports are just as important as our revenue sports. Those athletes are just as important. We want them to have the same experience as the revenue athletes, so we want to make sure that they have the opportunity to compete for championships, and we've tried to support them in the same manner as we do the revenue sports.

SW: I know the Danny Manning decision was controversial for the fan base. As you mentioned that the current coaches really represent what the university stands for, is that a main reason that Manning is staying on?

RW: Yeah, I believe that he is the best person to get us on the right track next year. We need stability in our program, and we need to be a veteran team to be good. We are going to have an experienced veteran team next year. I think that he is going to take full advantage of that and produce a product that everybody is going to be pleased with.

SW: Do you have any plans for when you won't come to Wake Forest every day to work?

RW: I'll still be around. These are my teams, and I love to follow them and go to games, so we will certainly be doing that. In addition to that, we have ten grandkids that live in this area from 4 to 13, so they're in all kinds of activities and we will be following them around and being a nuisance to them, undoubtedly.

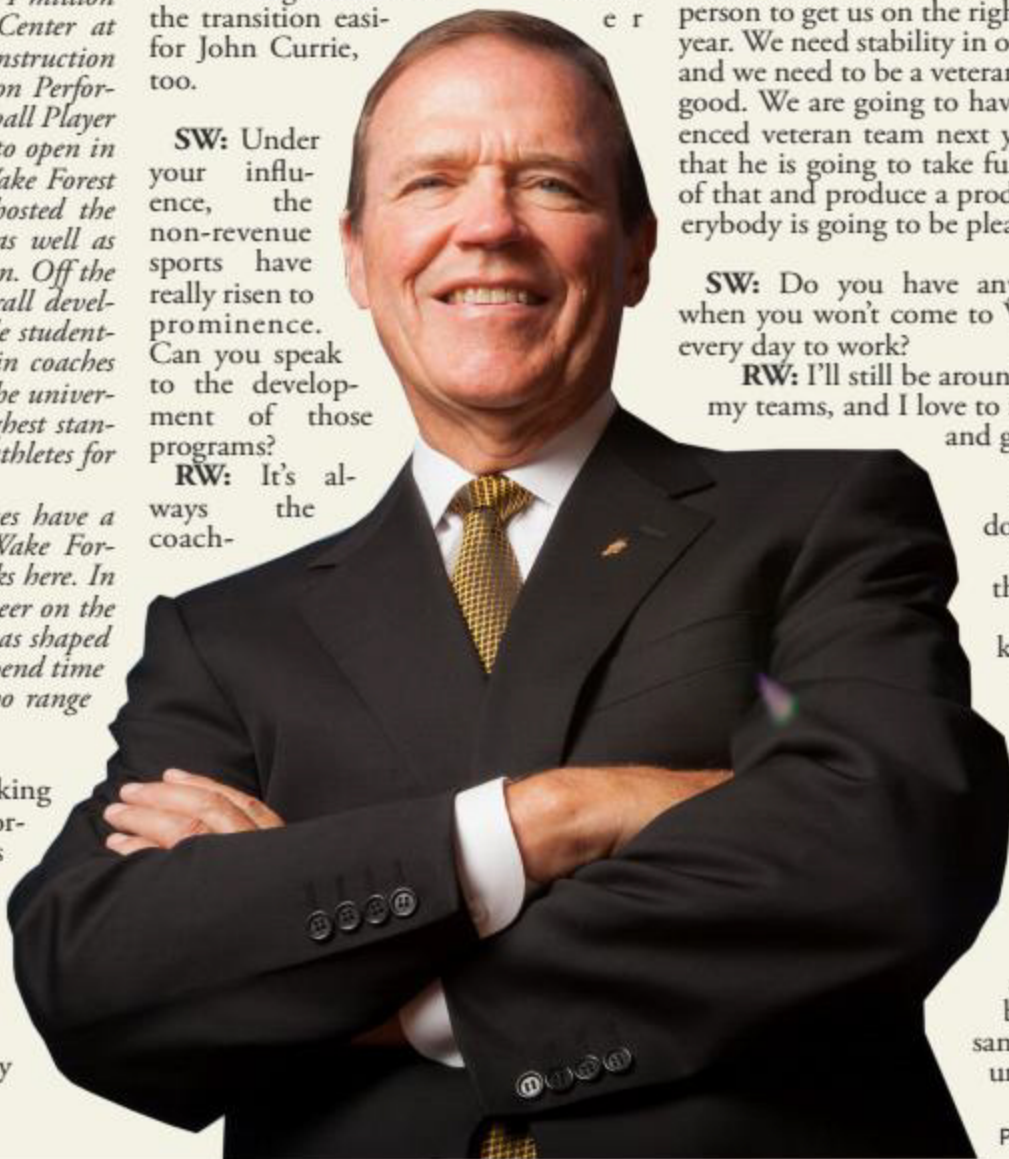


Photo courtesy of Wake Forest Athletic Communications

Personal Profile

College: Bowling Green State University

Years at Wake Forest: 27

Past Roles:

- Athletic Director, Faculty Member and Coach at Elmhurst College

- Head Baseball Coach at Northwestern University

- Athletic Director at the University of Minnesota, Mankato

- Athletic Director at Illinois State University



Photo courtesy of Wake Forest Athletic Communications

Deac Notes

Cameron Young named ACC Player of the Month for March

Senior Cameron Young was named the ACC Men's Golf ACC Player of the Month for March. He had two strong performances in March for the Demon Deacons, as the team climbed to No. 3 in the national rankings. He won the individual title at the General Hackler Championship in Myrtle Beach. The next week he finished fourth to lead Wake Forest to the title at the Valspar Collegiate.



Photo courtesy of Wake Forest Athletic Communications

Jennifer Kupcho named ACC Co-Player of the Month for March

Senior Jennifer Kupcho was named ACC Women's Golf Co-Player of the Month for March. She was the individual runner-up at the Darius Rucker Intercollegiate and won the Tar Heel Classic in the Dominican Republic, helping lead the Demon Deacons to victory in the event as well. She then shared the title and led Wake Forest to the ACC 54-hole scoring record at the Bryan National Collegiate.



Photo courtesy of Wake Forest Athletic Communications

MLB: One week into the season

One week into the 2019 MLB season, here are the storylines to follow for this year

BY BEN REMIS

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In football, seven games in would be practically halfway through the year. Thankfully, we still have five months to go in the MLB season. With all-stars like Clayton Kershaw and Francisco Lindor still yet to debut and playoff races already heating up, there's lots of fun to look forward to. Here's a recap of what has happened so far.

Lots of fastballs

With multiple injuries depleting the Milwaukee Brewers bullpen, Josh Hader has been leaned on heavily in the early stages of the season — and so far, he has delivered. He has appeared in four games so far this year, and only two batters have reached base against him. Through four games, he has struck out 10. Hader won the award last season for the best reliever in the National League, but somehow he might be better this season. The most amazing thing about Hader's dominance this season, however, is that he has almost exclusively thrown fastballs. Everyone knows it's coming, but he is still unhittable.

Harper watch

The spotlight has been on Bryce Harper since he was a high schooler on the cover of *Sports Illustrated* in 2009, but it is shining brighter than ever after he signed a 13-year mega-deal this offseason. Phillies fans have not been disappointed. Harper hit three home runs and drove in five runs. In his return to Washington, D.C., this week, Harper hit one of those home runs off former teammate and CY Young Award winner Max Scherzer. Most importantly, the Phillies started 4-0. It's early, but so far so good for the new kid in Philadelphia.

First impressions

Besides Harper, lots of big names changed teams this offseason. Paul Goldschmidt was traded to the St. Louis Cardinals and has already hit four home runs, good for second in the MLB. Andrew McCutchen has two homers of

his own, along with five runs scored as the new lead-off man in Philadelphia. On the other hand, new San Diego Padres 3B Manny Machado has struggled to adjust to his new team. Machado was batting a paltry .217 this season through six games, and the Padres are 3-3. No one wants to overreact, but Manny needs to prove himself sooner rather than later.

Back at it again

Reigning NL MVP Christian Yelich was pegged by many as a candidate for regression this season after his breakout 2018. Yelich clearly wasn't listening, as he tied a record by hitting a home run in each of the first four games he played this season. That number leaves him tied for second in the MLB. The Brewers are starting strong at 5-1, and Yelich is leading the way.

Struggling favorites

The Boston Red Sox and New York Yankees were supposed to run away with the AL East and battle it out in the playoffs as World Series favorites. Neither team is starting strong, however. The Yankees were 2-3 to begin

the year and have added Giancarlo Stanton and Miguel Andujar to an already overflowing injured list. The Red Sox, on the other hand, were 1-5, and seem to have forgotten how to pitch. To make matters worse, the Tampa Bay Rays look like a legitimate threat that will last the whole season. They say every game counts, so these slow starts may come back to haunt these playoff hopefuls.

Making us all feel old

The first player born in the 2000s was drafted by the St. Louis Cardinals last season, and now the first player born in this century has made his debut. Toronto Blue Jays pitcher Elvis Luciano made his debut this week at 19 years old, pitching one and a third innings against in a game against the Tigers. What did you do today?

Anyone hiring?

Two of the top free-agent pitchers remain unsigned. Even as multiple teams suffer injuries and struggle with their pitching, no one seems to be interested in Dallas Keuchel or Craig Kimbrel. This might last all the way through June, when the draft

pick compensation attached to signing either of these players goes away, but contending teams shouldn't wait to make offers. Every team is in need of another starting pitcher, so Keuchel is an option for anyone. Look for the Braves, the Red Sox or a surprise contender like the A's or Rays to make a play for Kimbrel.

Home runs

Home runs have been increasing across baseball for the last few years, and the Los Angeles Dodgers have one of the strongest line ups in all of MLB. However, it was still quite shocking to see the Dodgers hit eight home runs on Opening Day. They are tied for first in the league at the moment with 17 home runs so far this year. The other team tied with them is the Seattle Mariners, who also boast the best record so far this season. At the other end of the spectrum, the Indians, Rockies, Tigers, Angels and Twins have one home run each, and except for the surprising Twins, none of them have winning records. A small sample size, for sure, but it looks like once again the long ball will determine the winners of a lot of games this season.



Bryce Harper's new deal with the Phillies headlined the offseason, as his new deal set a new standard for MLB contracts for years to come. He looks to lead the Phillies to a World Series title.

Drew Hallowell/Getty Images/TNS

MLB: Extensions reflect a fear of free agency

As the market for free agents shrinks, players have signed more and more premature extensions

BY REN SCHMITT
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After another offseason that saw veterans on the wrong side of 30 struggle to find lucrative contracts, players have demonstrated an increasing wariness of free agency. As players adjust to the new spending landscape in baseball, they have increasingly realized that their best shot at a guaranteed payday is signing an extension.

The past two months have featured countless contract extensions, some to players hitting the free agent market this winter and some to players with limited MLB service time. Rookie outfielder Eloy Jimenez, for example, received his extension with the White Sox before he had even appeared in a game in the big leagues.

Though fans and teams should be happy with these extensions, as most of these contracts seem like they will save payroll space in the long run, the trend could be troubling to some players. Though the recently-extended players all secured their financial future, the reality is that many of them left money on the table.

From the perspective of players — a perspective that will matter when the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) expires in 2021 — the current system grossly advantages teams. Teams have contractual control over their players for their first six years of service time, forcing some players to hit free agency for the first time in their late twenties or early thirties. During the period of team control, players are paid the league minimum before reaching their arbitration years, during which teams negotiate a salary for their controlled players.

The market in the last two offseasons demonstrated a lack of interest in guaranteeing long-term money to aging players, regardless of their previous success. Because players are

under control for six years, many spend their prime years under contracts negotiated through arbitration, a process that boosts player salaries, but falls short of paying them what they would have received as young free agents (like Bryce Harper and Manny Machado).

Thus, players find themselves in a risky predicament. They can wait through three seasons of league-minimum salary and three seasons of arbitration-negotiated salaries before testing free agency, or they can sign an extension, which guarantees them a greater short-term sum.

When weighing extensions as an option, players certainly consider their potential for injury or regression in on-the-field performance. Many players received small signing bonuses as prospects and received even smaller minor league salaries, so the promise of an immediate raise carries increased appeal. After watching players like Jose Bautista sign minor league deals after dominating the league just two

years earlier, the risk of testing free agency looms larger. Sure, nearly every player would like to see a Bryce Harper-sized pay day, but when offered an eight or nine-digit contract as a young adult, turning it down feels ludicrous. Why switch teams several years down the road in free agency or risk never getting that blockbuster contract when a guarantee of \$50 million or more is right in front of you?

Could 21-year-old Ronald Acuña, Jr., have eventually doubled the eight-year, \$100 million extension he signed in free agency? Yes. Is he also aware of his potential for life-altering injury or reduced success? Yes.

The victims of recent free agency disasters weigh heavily on the minds of players when considering their financial future. The value of financial security cannot be understated, and even if it means losing out on some money, players seem to be saying that they would rather have a guarantee now than roll the dice later.

NOTABLE MLB EXTENSIONS

PHI Aaron Nola	4 yrs, \$45 million	BOS Chris Sale	5 yrs, \$145 million
NYN Luis Severino	4 yrs, \$40 million	STL Paul Goldschmidt	5 yrs, \$130 million
NYN Aaron Hicks	7 yrs, \$70 million	HOU Justin Verlander	2 yrs, \$66 million
COL Nolan Arenado	7 yrs, \$234 million	NYM Jacob deGrom	4 yrs, \$120.5 million
STL Miles Mikolas	4 yrs, \$68 million	BOS Xander Bogaerts	6 yrs, \$120 million
HOU Alex Bregman	5 yrs, \$100 million	CHI Kyle Hendricks	4 yrs, \$55 million
LAA Mike Trout	10 yrs, \$360 million	COL German Marquez	5 yrs, \$43 million
CWS Eloy Jimenez	6 yrs, \$43 million	ATL Ronald Acuña Jr.	8 yrs, \$100 million
TB Blake Snell	5 yrs, \$50 million	TOR Randal Grichuk	4 yrs, \$47 million

Ren Schmitt/Old Gold & Black

NCAA Tournament: Top seeds forced out

Duke, Gonzaga and UNC all lost, leaving the University of Virginia as the sole top-seed to enter the next round of the tournament

BY DAN PACHINO
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After a highly uneventful opening weekend of the NCAA Tournament, this past weekend of Sweet 16 and Elite Eight play undoubtedly delivered. After an opening round that went almost entirely chalk, it made for an exciting second weekend with a number of the top seeds squaring off against each other.

Among Thursday and Friday's Sweet 16 games, Purdue's showdown with Tennessee, Duke's narrow victory over Virginia Tech and Auburn's dismantling of North Carolina were the most exciting games. On Thursday night, Purdue got out to a massive early lead against Tennessee. They led the No. 2 Volunteers by 12 at the half and extended their lead to as many as 18 in the second half. Tennessee, however, would not go down without a fight, as their stars Grant Williams and Admiral Schofield led the Vols all the way back from down 18 to take a two-point lead in the game's final seconds. But with about five seconds remaining, Purdue inbounded the ball to its star Carsen Edwards who was fouled on a 3-point attempt. Edwards converted two of the three free throws and sent the game to overtime, where Purdue won easily after Williams fouled out for the Vols.

In perhaps the most shocking result of the Sweet 16, the Auburn Tigers tore apart Roy Williams' No. 1 UNC Tar Heels. The Tigers rode the strategy they have all season, playing with tremendous pace, gunning and knocking down shots from the perimeter and playing suffocating, opportunistic defense. The Tar Heels had no answer for Au-

burn defensively in the second half and were unable to keep up with their phenomenal three-point shooting (17-37 as a team). The bad news for Auburn, however, was they lost one of their star players in forward Chuma Okeke who tore his ACL late in the game. They had to play without him in their Elite Eight win over SEC-rival Kentucky and will again be without in their Final Four matchup with Virginia.

Speaking of Virginia, the Cavaliers' Elite Eight matchup with Purdue was perhaps the game of the tournament so far. Both teams were unconscious offensively, especially in the second half. Purdue was led all night by Edwards, who had his second 42-point game of the tournament, and UVA was led by Kyle Guy who had been slumping all tournament. Edwards was phenomenal the entire game, scoring 42 of Purdue's 75 points, and Virginia's famous defense simply had no answer for his shooting. Every trip down the court it seemed Edwards was pulling up from farther and farther from the basket and still making everything. Every time it appeared UVA was going to pull away, Edwards would drill one of his 10 3-pointers of the night to keep Purdue in it. With five seconds remaining, UVA's Ty Jerome was at the line trailing by three, when he made the first free throw but missed the second, Virginia was able to tip the ball back out toward mid-court, where Virginia guard Kihei Clark grabbed the loose ball, took two dribbles and threw a half-court pass to Mamadi Diakite, who hit a miraculous floater as time expired to force overtime, where Virginia pulled away for an 80-75 victory.

The final memorable game of the weekend was Michigan State's shocking victory over No. 1 overall seed Duke. This was a game of big runs, especially in the first half. Michigan State jumped out to a big first half lead, but Zion Williamson and R.J. Barrett went on a run to regain the lead before allowing the Spartans to close the half out on 13-0 run while Williamson battled foul trouble to head into halftime up 34-30. The second half was a non-stop back-and-forth between the two teams. Every time Duke would go on a

small run, the Spartans and Cassius Winston would have an answer, and vice versa. The story of the game in the second half, however, was the turnovers. Michigan State turned the ball over just seven times to Duke's 17, and Duke did not score a single fast break point, which was a key for them all season. Trailing by one, Michigan State ran a perfect out of bounds play out of a timeout that resulted in what became the game-winning 3-pointer. Duke attempted to tie the game, but Barrett's free throw woes that troubled him all season were what cost them as he missed the first of two shots at the line that could have tied the game, and Duke fell by one, 68-67.

This past weekend of the tournament was as memorable as any in years, and even with a number of the top teams gone, the Final Four should be very interesting, with Virginia facing a red-hot Auburn team and Michigan State facing Texas Tech's vicious defense.



Kevin C. Cox/Getty Images/TNS

Zion Williamson and the Duke Blue Devils were not able to get past the Michigan State Spartans.

The Beach Bum ends up just blowing smoke

Despite Matthew McConaughey's substance-soaked performance, *The Beach Bum* never emerges from its haze of hedonism

BY KYLE FERRER

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Moondog, the besotted writer-radical at the center of *The Beach Bum*, is the spiritual sibling of many men before him. Played with a sort of inevitable alacrity by Matthew McConaughey, Moondog's hedonistic bliss borrows from Mickey Rourke's pathetic and disturbed Henry Chinaski from *Barfly*, the mythos of Hunter S. Thompson and perhaps most heavily from Jeff Bridges bumbling burnout, The Dude, from *The Big Lebowski* — except Moondog subtracts the pitiable profundity of Rourke, the schizophrenic productivity of Thompson and supplants The Dude's postwar chill with a larger social allergy. McConaughey's amalgam exemplifies, above everything, the cosmic mirth of a bottom-feeder genius, forgoing most all seriousness in favor of bohemian excess.

Written and directed by Harmony Korine, *The Beach Bum* satirizes our desire to blend chemical with existential addiction. *The Beach Bum*, though, hardly ever bleeds into the paranoid world of a film like *Trainspotting*, where slapstick eventually curdles into an eerie fatalism. Instead, the film prefers to ground itself in a sort of Belfortian excess achievable by all, mixing personal abdication with spiritual liberation, forming a positive film with a only a light layer of satire.

The film follows Moondog, a poorman's Hemingway, living in Key West, subsisting on drugs and women and maintaining local celebrity status as the writer who's



Photo courtesy of imdb.com

tired of civilization. Lewis, Moondog's agent, played with Southern flamboyance by Jonah Hill, implores Moondog to reach into his dormant genius and write them both a check. Soon though, after more than a few minutes of deflecting and imbibing, Moondog is drawn out of his sun-soaked bender by his wife Minnie (Isla Fisher), an extremely wealthy woman living in Miami with her gangster paramour, Lingerie (Snoop Dogg). Moondog motors his tiny skipper from the Keys into high-society as his daughter Heather's (Stefania LeVie Owen) wedding day approaches. Upon arrival, despite the blatant infidelity, Moondog and Minnie fling themselves into sexual union, showing their mutually exploitative relationship to be germane to both parties. Heather's husband-to-be should have heeded the warning from Snoop Dogg that "this family is f*cked up." He should know.

The Beach Bum starts (and continues) with montage after montage of Moondog's slurring serenity as he gets blitzed, tells Lingerie about the time he plagiarized D.H. Lawrence and then flashes into a melic frenzy with the homeless. After a passionate, post-wedding jaunt, deeply saturated and framed by Korine to show the two's gush of substance-fueled symbiosis, Minnie dies, and Moondog mourns her death as both a human and financial disaster. In order to claim his half of the fortune, Moondog must publish his once-anticipated (now by most considered belly-up) book of poetry. This is supposed to be the fulcrum of the adventure-to-come, as if the build hadn't been a thorough-enough soaking, and the rest of film involves bit players like Flicker, Moondog's rehab escape-partner, played by Zac Efron, who, in attempting scuzziness still came out overly-buffed, and Captain Wack, an aiding-and-abetting ship-head played by with maximum voltage by Martin Lawrence.

Like *Spring Breakers*, Korine's 2012 feature satirizing an American value system that warrants our annual orgy down-south, *The Beach Bum* seems to have some sort of cultural target in mind, but its more occult nature (the intelligentsia and their fetishization of the tortured writer) leaves Korine to lavish in style and excess to the point of superficiality. *Spring Breakers*, with its "Girls Gone Wild" ethos, exposed a paradigm and hyperbolized the sex, drugs and violence endemic to our escapism. Through super-saturated, impression-

istic scenes, Korine gave us slashes of experience that mimicked the lurid content itself. By placing us in a sleaze-o-sphere of stylized madness, Korine created a singular film that isolated the tragically entertaining, endlessly provocative energy behind one of American college students' oldest traditions. One does not soon forget the looney brilliance behind James Franco's impassioned cover of Britney Spear's "Everytime" because of the incisive totality of the film itself. The excess, in a way, proved salvific. But *The Beach Bum* portrays a sort of flattened madness, as if Korine himself didn't have much artistic energy left, eeking out a pandering parody, wallowing in the shallows and capitalizing on big-name actors who rightly enjoy the chance to be demonstrable. The cultural critique central to *The Beach Bum* seems to come from an exhausted film-maker, one whose fading vision takes aim at a barely salient subject, and an over-wrought one at that.

Sort of like Martin Scorsese's *The Wolf of Wall Street*, where audiences walked away from a cautionary tale whooping for Belfort, appropriating his ethos instead of absorbing the metaphor, few people will come away from *The Beach Bum* realizing what Korine is doing. Instead, they will see Moondog and his lifestyle of profligate pleasure as one to be, if not mimicked, at least to be laughed at. Thus is the problem with satirizing lazy writers; they can infect the camera, especially with an actor as talented as McConaughey. It's no fault of the actor's if the film itself becomes a voyeuristic trip, entranced so deeply by its subject that its art becomes artifice.

The Beach Bum ends up with little moral texture, grinning at audiences as McConaughey stumbles into drink, orifice and even occasional profundity. It becomes a pointless parody without legs, skating on the actor's ability and film's inherent entertainment value. Unlike *Spring Breakers*, whose excess and absurdism evoked warranted critical excitement, *The Beach Bum* relishes in its excess to the point of critical abandonment. It represents its brand of cinema as a desensitizing experience devoid of potential message or potency. While good satire floats just above inundation, or weathers the deluge with a kind of eloquent absurdism, *The Beach Bum*, with its boilerplate blowouts and throwaway theories, never even gets off the ground.



Photo courtesy of imdb.com

Album Review | *WHEN WE ALL FALL ASLEEP WHERE DO WE GO?*

Billie Eilish produces genre-bending album

The new album addresses several dark themes that plague Eilish's generation

BY MADISON ZEHMER

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It's safe to say that Billie Eilish Pirate Baird O'Connell, known by her stage name Billie Eilish, is taking the music world by storm. Known for her dark and striking lyricism, hushed vocals, layered harmonies, sparse production and unique style and attitude, Eilish has been making waves in the music industry since the release of her hit single "ocean eyes" in late 2016. Her highly anticipated debut album, *WHEN WE ALL FALL ASLEEP, WHERE DO WE GO?*, released on March 29 currently has an 80/100 on Metacritic, based on 16 reviews by critics.

I've been following Eilish since "ocean eyes," and so I was very excited to listen to *WHEN WE ALL FALL ASLEEP, WHERE DO WE GO?*. However, a few tracks fall short, most notably "wish you were gay" and "8." As a whole, the album is an impressive and bold musical statement that solidifies Eilish's status as an artist to watch.

The first song, "bad guy," is the closest Eilish has ever come to a club banger. Eilish's declaration "I'm the bad guy ... duh!" is both cynical and endearing.

Staying true to her brand, "xanny" finds Eilish lamenting her friends' drug use and includes some of her sharpest lyricism: "I can't afford to love someone / who isn't dying by mistake in Silver Lake."

"you should see me in a crown," an excellent, dark and intimidating song, opens with the sound of sharpening knives, which is a perfect example of Eilish's willingness to experiment with her music. In "all the good girls go to hell," Eilish defies conventions as she declares, "even God herself has enemies." "when the party's over," a stand-out track, features gorgeous layered harmonies and beautiful, moving lyrics.

The album begins to take a darker turn with the excellent "bury a friend," which is disturbing and yet completely enthralling. "i love you" is sad, moving



Photo courtesy of amazon.com

The album features 14 unique songs that all evoke an array of emotions.

and absolutely gorgeous. The line "The smile that you gave me / Even when you felt like dying" sums up the underlying message of the album: life is confusing, exciting and full of despair. I was particularly impressed by the clever closing track "goodbye," which includes one line from each of the previous tracks in backwards order.

One common thread running through the album is Eilish's willingness to tackle several issues facing her generation, including drug use, peer pressure, depression and suicide. In the beautiful but concerning "listen before I go," Eilish sings what sounds like a suicide note. Although the track is certainly well-written and produced, one wonders if Eilish is bordering on romanticizing suicide. Should we view tracks like "listen before I go" and "bury a friend," in which Eilish sings "I wanna end me" over and over, as cries for help? Of course, Eilish doesn't give us any answers to the significant questions she poses; she's only 17 and still figuring things out.

Eilish is a one-of-a-kind talent, and I'm very excited to see what her bright future holds. Overall, the genre-bending *WHEN WE ALL FALL ASLEEP, WHERE DO WE GO?* is a success that balances fun, silliness, darkness and thoughtfulness. Eilish and her brother Finneas O'Connell, known mononymously as Finneas, who co-wrote and produced the album, should be commended for a job well done.

Sexual Health Column | Consent

Giving, receiving consent is important in all situations

In light of the upcoming weekend, it's important to understand consent

BY LILY WALTER

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Consent. It's a simple word, one that seems quite easy to understand at first. It is a word that has been in our collective vernacular for years. It is used to explain any kind of permission we give for something to happen or to acknowledge an agreement between two people. We sign consent forms for medical procedures; parents sign consent forms so their kids can go on field trips. It isn't hard to understand.

Consent happens between two parties. One individual can choose to either consent or decline, and the other individual can decide to respect the other's decision or ignore it.

Understanding consent means understanding the responsibility each of us has for our own actions. Signing a consent form or a waiver for skydiving means you personally must acknowledge the risk you are taking by willfully jumping out of a plane. On the other hand, if you refuse to sign the form and the pilot pushes you out at 3,000 feet, they have to take responsibility for their actions and accept the consequences

that come from disregarding another human's autonomy.

Although the skydiving example seems extreme, it demonstrates just how important it is to respect another person's decisions. It comes close to capturing the weight consent has, especially in regard to sexual activity. When someone says yes to a consensual sexual relationship, they have to be ready to bear the consequences of their choices, whatever they may be. Likewise, if someone decides to ignore their partner telling them "no," they must be ready to suffer the consequences of taking away another's autonomy.

While the conversation surrounding consent always matters, it merits another conversation in the weeks leading up to Beach Weekend, a favorite Wake Forest tradition. So often it seems that the intersection of alcohol and sex can muddy the waters of consent, so let us clarify this.

Consent isn't a chain reaction. Saying yes to a kiss on the dance floor isn't an automatic yes to kissing in the bedroom, or removing clothing or anything that follows. An accepted invitation to Beach Weekend isn't a guarantee of consent for anything that follows, nor is accepting an invitation to Beach Weekend a requirement to go along with whatever the other person wants.

There is no transaction that buys someone's consent to any and every action people may partake in. Sex is

not contingent on decorating a cooler, buying beer or spending the weekend together. It exists as an independent decision. Just because a girl said yes to Beach Weekend does not mean she is saying yes to sex.

Finally, alcohol isn't an excuse to ignore the desires of another person. You cannot say, "I didn't know what I was doing, I was drunk." Plenty of people know not to get behind the wheel of a car after a certain number of drinks — why is sex different? Don't get behind that wheel if you can't keep yourself from hurting other people once you do.

Be safe this weekend. Treat each other with respect. And when someone says no, stop.

CONSENT



Freely Given
Reversible
Informed
Enthusiastic
Specific

Planned Parenthood

Photo courtesy of Planned Parenthood

A simple way to remember how to give consent is by remembering F.R.I.E.S.

THE HOT LIST

Top 10 Wake Forest Meme Accounts

By Jack Portman

In light of all of the newly emerging meme accounts, here are 10 that you should definitely check out.

1. @fake_worest
2. @wfustarterpacks
3. @prohumemeitate
4. @wakeforest_memes
5. @wfu_subway
6. @wfmooes
7. @wfugets
8. @waked_afraid
9. @barstoolwakeforest
10. @wfuniversity



DRINK OF THE WEEK



Apple Cider Mimosas

- 2 oz. Apple Cider
- 4 oz. of your favorite champagne
- Apple slices to garnish

Mix the apple cider and the champagne in a glass and garnish with the apple slices.
Serve and enjoy!

Courtesy of instrupix.com

21+ only

Book Review | *The Friend*

The Friend explores the depth of grief

In her novel *The Friend*, Sigrid Nunez creates a profound portrait of loss and love

BY ANDY KILLEBREW

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The Friend by Sigrid Nunez, winner of the 2018 National Book Award, is an elegiac, probing and unapologetic masterpiece of modern fiction. Nunez's eighth book, *The Friend*, is primarily a story about the attempts of a writer to deal with the sudden death of her longtime friend and writing mentor, complicated by the presence of his estranged Great Dane Apollo (the narrator remains unnamed). Aside from Apollo's immediate threat to the protagonist's tenure in her rent-stabilized New York City apartment, the narrator is also forced to care for an animal caught in the throes of mourning. As the novel moves along, the unlikely pair come to rely on each other more and more for their respective wellbeing. The two are forced to brave a world suddenly absent of their shared best friend and retreat into each other for consolation in their shared books (she reads aloud to Apollo, believing it soothes him) and walks.

The prose of *The Friend* is remarkable in its sparsity, poetic in its ambition. The novel only spans 200 pages, made even shorter by the ample space between paragraphs and page breaks between chapters. These absences let the writing breathe,

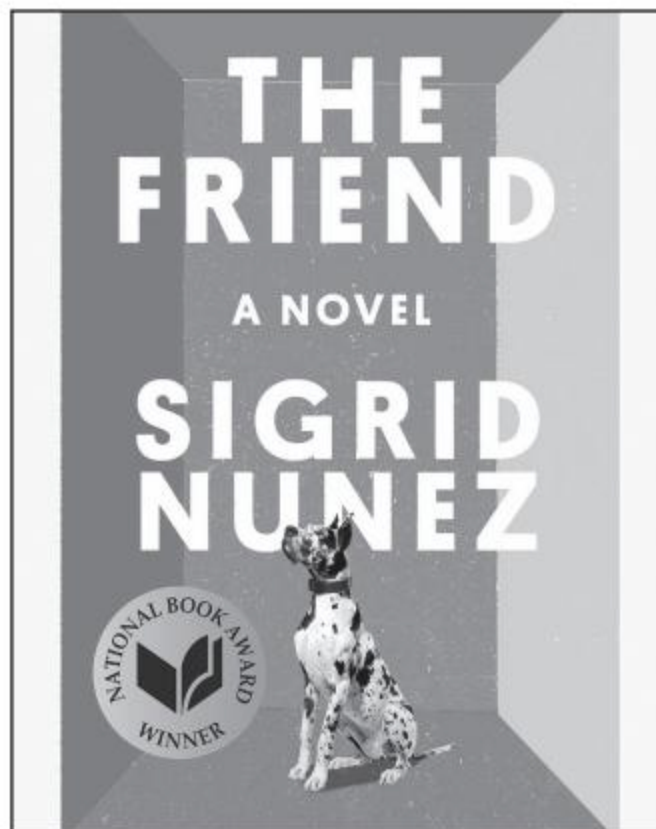


Photo courtesy of amazon.com

Author Sigrid Nunez finds widespread success in her elegant, modern fiction novel.

giving the reader ample opportunity to reflect on the abundance of life within each paragraph. *The Friend* eschews traditional novel expectations at every turn, alternating between memoir and let-

ter, fiction and nonfiction (one of Nunez's friends passed during the writing of *The Friend*, leaving the irresistible temptation to read the novel as Nunez's personal account of grief). It's hard to pin the novel into any box, and its individuality yields it an undeniable sense of truth and authority. Nunez's prowess as an author is present at every period, every word; she is an accomplished writer who is entirely in control of her narrative toolbox.

Though the majority of *The Friend* is focused on the relationship between dog and master during trying times, the novel also devotes significant attention to the current state of the literary world. Nunez says writing appealed to her because it was "something that she could do alone," and this perspective comes through with the book's unabashed cynicism regarding the field. She pulls no punches in attacking writers and the publishing industry at large, even going so far as to compare writers to vampires. It's interesting to see how Nunez puts these thoughts into dialogue with the canine-human relationship that occupies most of the book, and both subjects are handled with grace and wit.

While *The Friend* is difficult to distill into a brief review, it is a revelatory literary experience for any lover of fiction, writing or dogs. It's the sort of read that lingers with you even after the last word; it's hard to keep either Apollo or his new, grieving master out of mind. Nunez has long been a hidden gem within the literary world and her break into relevance is a gift for any reader. *The Friend* is an absolute must-read for its scope, power and beauty.

Cartoon



Cartoon by David Ajamy

It doesn't matter what kind of situation Wake Forest is in (good or bad), President Hatch knows how to spin any and all situations with his elegant emails that he sends days later. He uses magnificent rhetoric to convey his messages and the entire audience hangs on every word Hatch composes.

HerCampus chapter chosen to host *Times* event

Wake Forest students gathered to watch a *New York Times* live stream of an interview with model, author and entrepreneur Ashley Graham

BY CATHERINE REGEN

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As female students from all across Wake Forest's campus gathered to watch "Get With The Times: Reshaping Beauty with Ashley Graham," the model herself documented her preparation via Instagram. The event got off to a great start, as anything catered by Chipotle goes. However the live-stream premiere was a little rocky when Joanna Nikas, Fashion and Style editor for *The New York Times*, and moderator for the event called us "West Forest." I'm pretty sure the entire building could hear the collective groan that came from Benson 401. After that first hiccup, the interview began and Graham seemed game for any question thrown at her.

The interview started with some background provided by Graham herself. She discussed how she was discovered (in a shopping mall), why she moved to New York City to pursue a career in modeling (she didn't want to go to college) and how terrible financial decisions almost sent her back to Nebraska (she spent her entire paycheck, not realizing she needed to save for taxes). Graham addressed the specific struggles of being a plus-sized model within the fashion industry. She was constantly told she was too big for gigs, or if she did book something that she was expected not to speak or give opinions. She called herself a glorified mannequin. She also noted the exact moment she knew things needed to change. It was when her agent told her,

"Put the Snickers down, Ashley, it's time to get serious."

In order to change the toxic culture surrounding fashion, predominantly the issue of inclusion of diverse women in both size and race, Graham stated her conscious change in approach, specifically kindness. In addition to using kindness as part of her motivation for improving the industry, Graham also changed how she looked at herself. Instead of focusing on the constant pressure to be a smaller size, or to change her appearance, she focused on humility, asking herself, "How can I be better?" The rest of the interview focused on this mantra, with Graham dispensing advice based on all her experience:

1. On recognizing her own role, and how she could turn that into a business: "People know me for this, let me make that for them."
2. On getting yourself noticed by larger companies and being taken seriously: "Fake it 'til you make it."
3. On getting screwed over and learning from your mistakes: "You have to understand every part of your business; don't be afraid to ask questions."
4. On being a conversationalist: "Anyone can do a podcast, all you need is a microphone and a place to publish," (Graham's own podcast is called "Pretty Big Deal").
5. On building a brand: "Use your platform and use it wisely."

The overarching message she conveyed with her advice was to simply have enough confidence in yourself and your work to put yourself out there. Oftentimes, when celebrities and public figures give their story of how they became who they are, it seems more like a serendipitous series of coincidences and opportuni-



Catherine Regen / Old Gold & Black

ties than a roadmap to success, but Graham consistently emphasized that anything can be achieved with enough effort.

A common theme throughout the interview was Graham's candor; she took no pains in talking about her flaws, struggles and mistakes. Her candid responses made the conversation seem more personal — that despite the screen, she could be sitting right in front of you, telling you to your face exactly what she thinks. At one point she even criticized one of the questions being asked, saying that she hated being asked it and then refused to answer it. Graham also, unsurprisingly, didn't avoid sensitive topics, calling for more diversity and calling out the double standards in her industry. "We don't judge men based on their size," she said.

The interview was concluded with a question-and-answer portion, during which she was asked which brands are displaying exemplary policies on diversity and size inclusion. She cited her own campaign as an ambassador for Revlon with the slogan "Lipstick doesn't have a size" and commended designers Nike,

Dapper Dan within Gucci, Michael Kors and Christian Siriano for their inclusive efforts. She also briefly touched on the issue of tokenism in media and her campaign to challenge brands not to tokenize race but to be consistent with having diversity in their advertisements. Graham concluded the interview by asking her audience "What do I want my legacy to be on this Earth?" As a revolutionary figure in the beauty community, Graham is inspiring a new generation of changemakers, one panel at a time.

The event was hosted by the Wake Forest chapter of *HerCampus* led by President Katina Porras and Vice President Taylor Knupp. *HerCampus* chose the Wake Forest chapter to host this event and stream the interview, including marketing the event themselves. When asked their motivation for wanting to host this event, the women stated that it was encouraging women and young girls to embrace their size. Especially with the summer months approaching, women often feel pressure to have a "bikini body," but Graham's message works to help lessen that pressure.



Catherine Regen / Old Gold & Black

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5/20/19

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READY
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