



# THE CAPTAIN'S LOG

THE VOICE OF CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

@CNUCAPTAINSLOG WWW.THECAPTAINSLOG.ORG

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Dr. Bitecofer addresses the press from the Judy Ford Wason Center. COURTESY OF DR. RACHEL BITECOFER

## Dr. Bitecofer named Forecaster for MSNBC

Bitecofer selected to be one of the political analysts for 2020 election

**COLT BRADLEY**  
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With the 2020 election approaching quickly, the news cycle has been dominated by the examination of candidates and their platforms by political analysts from across the country.

One of these analysts is none other than Christopher Newport University's Dr. Rachel Bitecofer.

Chosen by MSNBC to be the forecaster for the 2020 election, Bitecofer has been appearing on the network to give her predictions for the upcoming election.

Before going over those predictions, it is important to examine how Bitecofer obtained this position and what made her passionate about political science in the first place.

Bitecofer initially never had a

college degree; living as a single mother, she began attending classes at a local community college and later obtained her Bachelor of Science degree in political science.

She then went on to obtain her Doctorate in political science from the University of Oregon.

After completing her education, Bitecofer began working as a lecturer in political science at

Christopher Newport University.

When asked about where her interest in political science came from, she explained that she admired the MSNBC television host Rachel Maddow and how she talked about subjects that other networks didn't completely analyze.

In addition to this, Bitecofer began her collegiate career during the backdrop of the Iraq War and the 2008 financial crisis. The abil-

ity to cover these events and examine their political ramification was very appealing to Bitecofer.

After she explained her initial interest in the study of politics, Bitecofer was asked what the

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The Dead Sea Scrolls come to CNU. Check out the conference.

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Check out this killer review of "IT Chapter Two."

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The So Glad You're Here concert raised money for mental health.





## Weekly Pic

Delta Gamma came together at Psi Upsilon's event at Hidenwood Elementary School. The group welcomed back the students for their first day of school.

ASHLEY MCMILLAN/THE CAPTAIN'S LOG

If you have a photo that you would like to be featured in the "Weekly Pic" section, please send it to [clog@cnu.edu](mailto:clog@cnu.edu), along with your caption. We thank you for your submissions.



### CNU TV

Ryan is back on the lawn, but this year he has his very own lawn. Since he got a new lawn, he decided to go around and ask students what their new school year resolutions are.

## Happened

### September 5 Preacher Lawson

Comedian Preacher Lawson came to CNU and performed his award-winning comedy show in the Diamonstein Concert Hall. Students were able to attend the event thanks to CAB.

### September 6 Involvement Fair

Students gathered in the Auxiliary Gym in the Freeman Center check out all the clubs, research opportunities, and interest groups that Christopher Newport has to offer.

## Happening

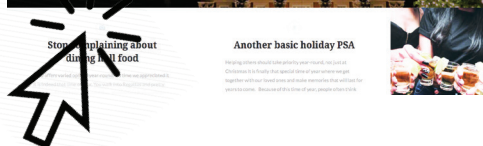
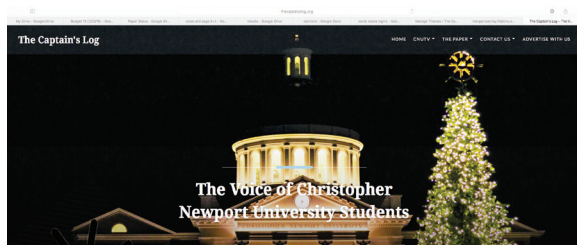
### September 13-15 Family Weekend

This weekend is Family Weekend 2019 at Christopher Newport University. A schedule of all of the events throughout the weekend is available at [cnu.edu/familyweekend/](http://cnu.edu/familyweekend/) for students and families.

### September 13 (9:00 p.m.) CAB Movie: 'Aladdin'

CAB will be screening the new 'Aladdin' movie for students on Friday, Sept. 13. The movie will begin at 9 p.m. in Gaines Theater.

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THE CAPTAIN'S LOG is the official student newspaper of Christopher Newport University. It is a public forum, which is published on Wednesdays throughout the academic year.

THE EDITOR welcomes letters from readers. Editors reserve the right to edit letters for length and AP style, as well as to refuse publication. An email with a ".doc" attachment is preferable. Reach us through:

- Email: [clog@cnu.edu](mailto:clog@cnu.edu)

- Drop off: The Captain's Log newsroom, DSU Suite 393

**JOIN THE STAFF** The Captain's Log is always open to students who are interested in writing, photography and editing. Editors assign stories every Sunday at 5 p.m.

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# Bitecofer

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process was like to become the 2020 forecaster on MSNBC.

She stated that there was no application process or navigable system to go after a job such as an election forecaster.

Bitecofer stated that she was picked by the network because she made herself known by doing research about how elections were being analyzed and how they were insufficient in the way they were being analyzed.

From there, she stated that she leveraged social media to get her research in the public sphere.

When asked if she could have controlled what network she went to, she responded that she liked MSNBC because of the previously mentioned reason of how the network dives into issues.

Additionally, she stated that she was not fond of how networks like CNN focus on “headline issues” as opposed to issues that affect more people.

She mentioned that she was happy to appear on the Fox network but currently has not received any offers.

She claimed Fox would not want to have her on because of her theory that the Democrats will do well at the ballot box.

After explaining the way she received her position, she was asked to clarify a previous comment about how she thought election coverages were insufficient.

She claimed that there were many ways in which election coverages were unsatisfactory. As Dr. Bitecofer explained many of “A list networks focus on the horse race.”

Additionally, she explained that many of these top tier journalism outlets have to rely on “rudimentary explanations for political phenomena” mainly because the individuals responsible for those explanations don’t have the proper training.

One of the biggest issues she said was that many of the theories used to describe what is happening in elections are outdated in explaining what is actually happening at the ballot box.

Lastly, she was asked what is was like working as a political analyst, having to constantly keep up with many different outlets of information, whether it’s social media, television or some other means.

Bitecofer stated that it was a constant grind, specifically with campaigns and elections, which are her specialty.

She went on to say that even those who have an interest in political science don’t typically have an interest or the stamina because of the consistent work that the job demands such as monitoring social media, conferences, and demographic data.

To see some of her work search her interviews on MSNBC on social media or the networks website itself. ■

[Bitecofer] was picked by the network because she made herself known by doing research about how elections were being analyzed and how they were insufficient in the way they were being analyzed.

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# Christopher Newport makes a splash in the Princeton Review

CNU received multiple top 20 rankings in the most recent Princeton Review

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The Princeton Review, a college admissions services company, earlier this year ranked CNU among the top 200 schools for value and return on investment (ROI) out of an evaluation of 650 schools across the country. The school also won an accolade for quality faculty and excellent residence halls.

Class of 2019 alumnus Robert Tabackman was more mixed in the same evaluation, saying that although the education is adequate, access to housing has deteriorated in recent years.

"On the one hand, my impulse is to say they deserve the ranking. They, in my experience, succeed at the most important aspect of their 'product' - the academics. My education there was spectacular, and my professors both enthusiastic and capable.

"On the other hand, the student population has been squeezing the dorms and other campus housing to the breaking point for years now, and I haven't seen anything about new work, aside from the tearing

down and rebuilding of the Crossing houses."

CNU currently has plans to build another dormitory at the intersection of Hiden Boulevard and Warwick Boulevard. However, no construction has occurred as of last July and the new residence hall would be reserved for fourth-year students.

Class of 2020 senior Vanessa Powers echoed similar complaints about campus housing.

"The housing is cramped, and the department you need to get help to solve problems is even more of a mess. They don't have enough space for all their students, and they don't have the resources to support the student body they have now, yet they accept more and more people every year."

Powers characterized CNU's online presence as inadequate for accessing resources for mental health. She also criticized what she saw as a tendency for CNU to overload their freshmen's class schedules, causing undue stress for new students in the midst of an already-difficult adjustment to college life.

"The resources CNU offers its students are outdated and obsolete. Other colleges in Virginia like VCU and UVA have a large online presence which allows students to access a variety of different resources for their mental health, library and so on...CNU also designs every first semester freshman's schedule, often putting students in 16-18 credits their first semester."

Senior Corinne Whalen approved of CNU's ranking in the Princeton Review, citing the difference in tuition price compared to nearby William & Mary College.

In-state tuition at CNU is about \$13,000, compared to \$21,000 at William & Mary College.

"I think CNU has really grown as a university and overall I think it's academically wonderful and has a beautiful campus. At first, I thought CNU was extremely expensive tuition-wise, but I looked into it and it's actually reasonably priced compared to other schools like William & Mary. I really do think CNU does deserve that award because it really has become such a wonderful university," Whalen said. ■



Christopher Newport Hall is one of the newest and grandest buildings on campus. PHOTO BY TARYN HANNAM-ZATZ / THE CAPTAIN'S LOG

## Rediscovering the Dead Sea Scrolls

A symposium looking into the past and future of the Dead Sea Scrolls

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What is a Dead Sea Scroll and why are people talking about it? Well, on September 3 the students at Christopher Newport got a chance to find that out. A group of highly esteemed professors, doctors and archeologists gathered in the David Student Union from 2-8 p.m. to talk to people about a set of ancient artifacts called the Dead Sea Scrolls. They held sessions on the archeological aspect, social media's role and the background on what they discovered and how it is still relevant today.

These scrolls were found in caves in Qumran, Israel, located next to the Dead Sea, hence the name. There were twelve caves in total, but over 25,000 fragmented artifacts were found in the first cave alone. Seven of the artifacts found were the actual scrolls that are now on display in Israel at

the Shrine of the Book Museum. These scrolls were the most preserved and complete artifacts, all written in the Hebrew language that have now since been dated back between 150 B.C. and 70 A.D. The Dead Sea Scrolls are not what we know now as the modern day bible, as there are so many translations out there, but they are sacred texts written down by the Hebrews that eventually made their way into their Hebrew bible. Most of the stories on these scrolls were not sent around for everyone to read, but instead told by word of mouth from person to person and eventually those stories were written down again in new forms.

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ON PAGE 5



A panel takes questions at the conference. PHOTO BY ALLISON WOOLLER / THE CAPTAIN'S LOG



# Dead Sea Scrolls

STORY CONTINUED  
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These texts, when compared side by side to the modern bible, align almost perfectly, even though they were discovered long after the first “official” bible was written in the late 1300s.

Dr. Richard Freund is a new professor at Christopher Newport and a renowned archeologist. He was able to organize this event for the school and bring many of the speakers together.

“It is all about the ‘re-’ in ‘re-discovering the Dead Sea Scrolls. The Dead Sea Scrolls are, simply put, the single greatest archaeological discovery of all time, and after more than 70 years we all realize that we are just at the beginning of a new frontier in Dead Sea Scrolls research,” Freund said.

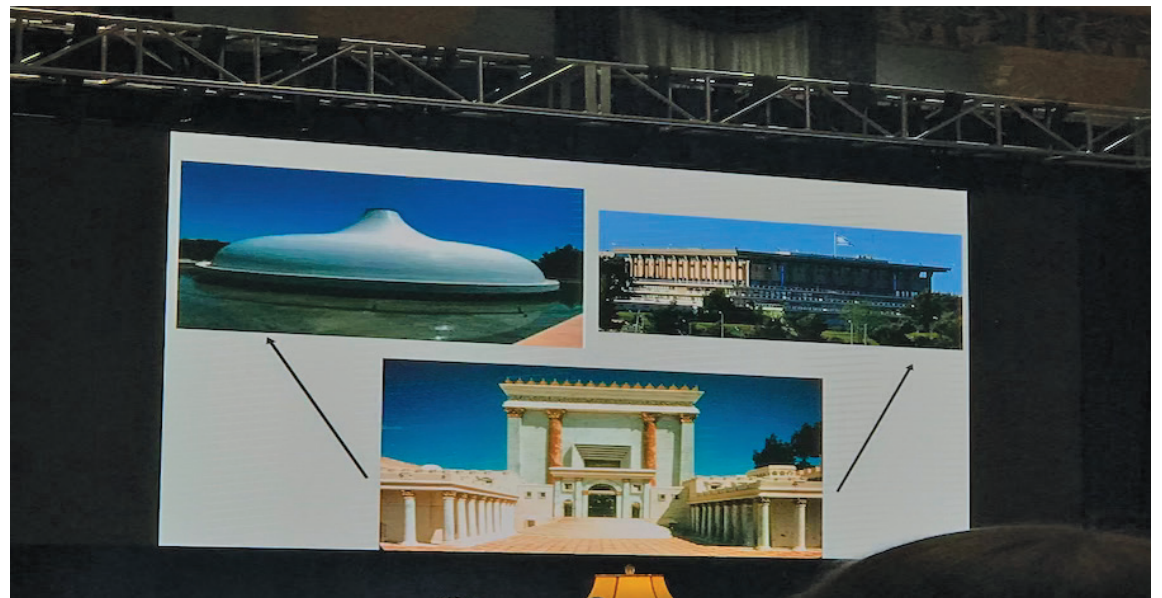
As a leader in Jewish studies, Freund is known for heading the extensive Judaic studies program at University of Hartford for over 20 years and has now given Christopher Newport the privilege of bringing his work here to enrich the minds of students in Newport News. Due to Freund’s connection to the world of Judaic studies he was able to bring Dr. Adolfo Roitman to campus to ex-

plain the fascination and history of these scrolls, as he is the curator who looks after the exhibit in The Shrine of the Book Museum.

Roitman was able to sit down for an interview before his keynote speech and gave some insight as to why the museum is so important and the goals the museum has for the public who view the exhibits.

In his explanation he said, “We try to present, in a coherent way, all this information to the general public. What happens is, you have two different groups, a modern sect of scholars that talk to each other [about the Dead Sea Scrolls] and then everyone else would have trouble understanding what [the scholars] are talking about. Therefore, my museum tries to build up a kind of bridge between people of science and regular people.” This “bridge” is made through different educational programs that The Shrine of the Book Museum has been able to establish, with the help of scholarship money, which allow them to present all this fantastic information in a coherent way, so visitors can understand the meaning and importance of the Dead Sea Scrolls.

During the keynote Roitman explained what it would be like to take a tour of his museum. He explains that there are three key parts to the experience and two of them do not even include seeing



Multiple photos to show The Shrine of the Book Museum. PHOTO BY ALLISON WOOLLER / THE CAPTAIN'S LOG

the scrolls themselves.

In the first room a guide will give a history of the culture and background information on why the Dead Sea Scroll were written in the first place, this room does not even have any artifacts on display.

The second room contains the first set of artifacts, such as pottery and photographs. This room allows visitors to get to know the people who were around during the time that the scrolls were written. Finally, the tour will

end in the third room, what Roitman called the “holy of holies”, it is where they keep the scrolls on display. The room is where the spiritual aspect of the scrolls comes into play. The display is ornate and meant to be admired and to provoke thought. It can almost take a visitor back in time and make them really think about what it would be like to live when the scrolls were written.

The whole afternoon was full of amazing people who do amazing work to advance our knowledge of

history. There were stories, laughter, inquiry and knowledge shared among so many amazing scholars and passed on to the young minds of Christopher Newport University’s students. This symposium was a great look into the possible future of the new Judaic studies program here at CNU and maybe one day, graduates who attended the symposium will go out and make a contribution to the advancement in knowledge of this world’s history, much like Freund and Roitman. ■

## Tailgate changes for the Captains

CNU tailgates are officially being moved to Lot H between ROTC and the baseball field

TARYN HANNAM-ZATZ

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Every year in September, the students at Christopher Newport University gear up for the football season, which means tailgates. For being a smaller school there is a big “tailgate culture” here at CNU.

Students wear blue and meet in the parking lot between Warwick River Hall and The Luter School of Business to celebrate. There is everything from dancing by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., to eating fried oreos to dancing and jumping on the beds of trucks.

Tailgates have become a tradition at CNU, and they are something that a majority of Captains look forward to every football season. This year there was a major change to the tailgates that no one anticipated. The tailgates have officially been moved from their original location to the lot next to the ROTC building.

“Student tailgating is being moved to Lot H between ROTC and the baseball stadium. This is being done to create a better environment for the students,” Chief Communications Officer Jim Hanchett said.

Rumors were going around about the change, but no one was completely sure if it would happen, so students had a hard time believing it when it was announced that the

tailgate for the home opener would be in Lot H.

“I was aware of the change only a few days before the scheduled tailgate, and I didn’t even want to believe it,” junior Justine Wright said.

There are many mixed emotions regarding this change. Of course the first tailgate of the season was canceled due to weather, so no one has experienced the new location yet nor been able to determine if it is better or worse.

“I’m not sure how I feel about it yet,” Wright said. “I’ve always known tailgates being in the Warwick lot, so I guess I’ll have to wait and see if ROTC is a better option.”

Of course there are reasons for this change in location. According to Hanchett, one of the major factors behind the change was to have students closer to the stadium and thus closer to the game.

Questions of what effects this will have on tailgates are still up in the air, and there will be a lot riding on the first actual tailgate this season.

“I think it will affect turnout if everyone shows up and decides they don’t like it,” Wright said.

The next scheduled tailgate is this Saturday, Sept. 14, for Family Weekend. Students will be able to experience this new location and kick off another season of fun tailgates. ■



The parking lot between Luter and Warwick River Hall will no longer be the location for football tailgates on Saturdays. PHOTO BY TARYN HANNAM-ZATZ / THE CAPTAIN'S LOG



## The lowdown on the housing lottery

### A student talks about the struggles of CNU's Housing Lottery

**CANA WILSON**

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When it pertains to housing at Christopher Newport University, it truly comes down to chance, especially with the beloved Housing Lottery. While freshmen do not have to worry about housing because the university handles room assignments, for second year students and beyond, the responsibility is all their own.

So, how exactly does this process work?

Picture this: A giant hat filled with slips of paper with time slots on them. These time slots determine the date and time the student will be allowed to select their dorm building and room. The assignment of times to students is determined by the student's academic standing. Individuals who are in either the Honors Program or the President's Leadership Program will have their names drawn first, followed by students who are in neither. Sounds fair, right? Wrong.

As a result of this system, it seems as though students who are in Leadership or Honors have a better chance of securing their desired housing. In fact, these students are told they are guaranteed priority housing. And that's what I was led to believe.

Flashback to spring semester. It's the morning we sign up for housing, and my future roommates and I are anxiously waiting for it to be 10:15 a.m., my assigned time. We had been told our time slot was right on the cuff, there was pretty much a 50/50 chance we would get into Warwick Hall, our desired location.

As I refreshed the page and logged in, we saw there were no available (whole) rooms in Warwick, while there were a few rooms with one or two vacancies of which we did not want to sacrifice living together just to be in Warwick. We froze, in awe, and finally someone said, "I guess we'll be in JR."

No offense to James River Hall, but it is nothing like Warwick. It's

the equivalent of comparing Santoro to York. Unfortunately, the majority of our friends would be living the dream, fortunate enough to have found rooms in Warwick.

Just to add salt to the wound, a group of our guy friends, in which only two of the six are in PLP and/or Honors, got a six-person suite in Warwick. To make matters worse, a few of them were on Academic Probation. In comparison, my roommates and I are all in PLP; three of us made Dean's list and two of them are college athletes.

In order for an individual to be accepted into the Honors program one must have earned a GPA of 3.7 in highschool and scored at least a 1310 on the SAT. Students in the President's Leadership Program earned a GPA of 3.5 and scored at least a 1250 on the SAT. While attending CNU, these students must maintain a certain GPA in order to stay in the program and qualify for their scholarships. While the system as it is now does favor these students, it does not guarantee priority housing to the deserving.

I propose that suites/roommates should be evaluated as a whole based on their GPA, standing with the university and applicable programs and then assigned times, rather than individual evaluations, which will eliminate the "lottery" aspect because it will be more structured with standards.

This will prevent groups of people who do not "deserve" to be in Warwick from being in Warwick. In the case that a student chooses to have a random roommate, they will be evaluated individually. As the system stands, if one student in a group has an early time due to their academic standing, the group can rest assured they will be placed in the hall they desire.

By eliminating the lottery system, PLP and Honors students will be guaranteed priority housing like the University claims to do. But for now, I will be in JR. ■

## A day to reflect: September 11

### A sobering day to remember and reflect on the impact of 9/11

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It seemed like a regular average Tuesday morning in New York City. There wasn't a single cloud in the clear blue sky. As many people went to work and dropped their children off at school, no one could anticipate what would happen next.

While everybody was doing their usual routine, American Airlines Flight 11 suddenly crashed into the North Tower of the World Trade Center at 8:45 a.m. Crashing through floors 93 through 99 of the building, many witnesses assumed that the airplane had made a mistake. Even multiple media networks originally reported the situations as a flight error. Then at 9:03 a.m., the South Tower was attacked by United Airlines Flight 175, targeting floors 77 through 82. In this building, the impact rendered two of the three emergency stairwells impassable and severed a majority of the elevator cables in this area, trapping many above the impact zone and inside elevator cars.

Later that morning, reports soon began flowing in that another plane had crashed into the Pentagon in Washington D.C. The plane in fact had crashed into the E-side of the Pentagon, killing everybody on board and multiple people in the federal government building.

Even with all the firefighters, police officers, and ambulances, there was a slim to no chance of being rescued. As a result, many civilians who were stuck within the upper floors of the Twin Towers were left with no choice but to jump from the buildings and try to survive the fall. For those that jumped, they not only left a scar in the mind of those who witnessed the act, but they failed to survive the fall.

After burning due to the airline fuel for nearly 56 minutes, the South Tower became the first to collapse at 9:59 a.m. Later on, it became apparent that the North Tower was slightly leaning and



PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

that it was going to come down very shortly. In fact, immediately after, at 10:28 a.m. the North Tower collapsed following in the steps of the South Tower.

343 firefighters died in the Twin Towers.; No one was able to escape the North Tower from the impact zone or higher due to the destruction of the emergency stairwells. In total, 2,977 victims died on September 11, along with 19 hijackers.

Public Opinion: The entirety of America was shook on that day. The world we once knew and comfortable in was gone. For a brief period, Americans were scared to even go outside of their homes. In fact, that same sentiment can be shared in modern society. In the digital age of iphones, social media platforms,

influencers and digital content, there's less trust in human interaction. We are living in a self-contained bubble of our own custom-made content. Any piece of brand new information can be twisted and altered for our own personal favor, diverting from the truth. You could say that the nation's current global problems started with the events of September 11 and its aftermath.

At the end of the day, 9/11 has forced us into our deepest and darkest fears and even though it's been 18 years after the monumental event, we are still hiding from our truth.

Flashing Back,

E ■



# A Society of Complainers

In a world full of complainers, I am here to tell them to shut up

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Everyone hates that one kid in class that never stops complaining. "It's too cold," "The reading was way too much," "I hate morning classes," and on and on and on.

You know who they are; they always sit beside you, and if you're this person: Listen up. I am about to knowledge all over you.

Complaining is an issue at our university, but even further than that, complainist culture is a problem with our generation. For too long we have been letting people get away with being annoyed with everything, and I am sick of that culture.

Think of popular media. How often are the teens and young adults on TV labeled as too big of complainers? Everyone can think of a complaining teen or young adult in popular culture; I can think of about 40-50 episodes of Drake and Josh where Drake complains the entire episode.

That was over 10 years ago; it has gotten much worse since then. This is a huge problem for society, and if we all perceive our generation as complainers then we will never, as a society, accept our generation as hard-working adults.

We are constantly seen as lazy, complaining kids, yet we are told to act as adults at all times. This double standard makes the problem even worse as it's easy to complain about things that seem unfair to us, and if we complain about this specific example, we will be

labeled as complainers.

This vicious cycle will continue until we break it. So, I urge you: Stop complaining about things that don't matter. Complain when it is important to complain, don't just complain to complain.

In the future we are going to run everything, so if we don't start figuring things out now, we are in trouble. We need to complain about things that we need to fix, not things that just annoy us in everyday life.

Shut up. We don't want to hear you complain about the weather and homework; complain about politics if you want. That's important.

Shut up. Complaining about how much work you have to do won't help anyone. Try complaining about sexism in America.

Shut up. Don't bother complaining about how you think it's unfair that we pay so much for college. Instead, complain about how no one in the government seems to really care that we are paying more than we will make in a few years just to get that underpaying job.

Shut up. Complain about all the wrong things with the world, not the things that only affect you.

I don't want to hear how your day was boring. News flash, no one wants to hear about your boring day, but I do want to hear what you think about the crappy political climate we live in.

If you think that's harsh, well, that's because it is. You know what, though? I need to be harsh in this situation. Nothing will change if I don't make this abundantly clear:

Shut up unless you have something important to complain about.

In 2012 Sandra Parsons wrote for the Daily Mail an article called "Why so many 20-year-olds are failing to grow up" accusing people in their 20s of being entitled and lazy. Yet in the entire article Parsons failed to bring up the fact that we have been working our entire lives for jobs that might not exist when we graduate college.

This kind of unfair labeling gets traction because, while our generation opposes and complains about these unfair accusations, we complain about too much, so no one listens. It's the boy who cried wolf lesson all over again.

It becomes hard to defend our own generation when other generations just think we're complaining like we always do.

## COMPLAINT DEPT.



PHOTO COURTESY OF NEEDPIX.COM

**Complain when it is important to complain, don't just complain to complain.**

Until we can complain about the things that truly matter, we will always be viewed as complainers who don't affect the world. This is a sad reality when we are the future. We have no bearing on what we are viewed as because we complain about everything.

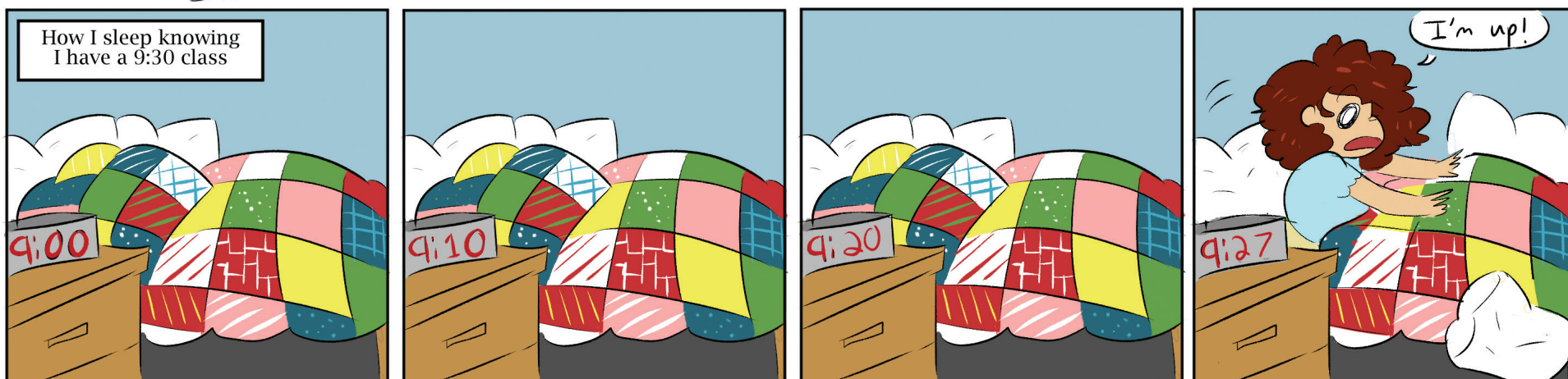
To that person sitting next to me in class complaining about everything, shut up! Complain about what matters, but if you don't want to do that, then be like everyone

else and stay quiet.

If you would like to complain to me about this article, feel free to reach out to me at the email listed above with my name. Just know that if you complain about this without making any valid points, I will do what the older generations do and write you off as just another complainer.

You aren't helping anything by complaining about nothing, so for the good of everyone, shut up. ■

CNU  
Blues



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## Involvement Fair 2019

Students gathered in the Field House on Sept. 8 in order to view all the clubs CNU has to offer



(Left) Unmanned Ariel Systems arrived at Involvement Fair with a drone for their table. (Right) Baking Club brought cookies to show off their baking talent.



(Left) Donned in the classic Mickey Mouse ears and a Stitch one. (Right) Knights of the Forces came prepared for the Involvement Fair.





Many organizations like Catholic Campus Ministries brought promotional items such as drink koozies, cups, magnets and buttons for students to take and keep after the Involvement Fair. **PHOTOS BY HANNAH LINDENBLAD AND DIANE FROLA / THE CAPTAIN'S LOG**



esie, the Disney Club members were excited to tell perspective members about their club. (Middle) Table Tennis went the extra mile and brought their own ement Fair with lightsabers and other gear to help illustrate that the force is with this club.



## UPCOMING HOME GAMES

Sept. 13 and 14  
Tennis  
CNU Fall Invitational

Saturday, Sept. 14, 2:00 p.m.  
Women's Soccer vs.  
Methodist University

## UPCOMING AWAY GAMES

Friday, Sept. 13  
Cross Country  
William & Mary Invitational

Friday, Sept. 13, 3:00 p.m.  
Field Hockey vs.  
Concordia University (Wis.)

# #16 Field Hockey looks to break into top 10

## The Captains took down another top 10 opponent over the weekend

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The Captains Field Hockey program looked to continue their season with another strong showing against their third top 10 ranked opposition just four games into the season.

An undefeated #5 Johns Hopkins showed up at Jennings Family Stadium to face the Captains and look to display their dominance after a Final Four run last season. With Christopher Newport ranking in at #16 and already falling in the season opener to a #4 ranked Messiah College, this matchup was set to be a demanding one.

The Blue Jays came out swinging, looking to set the pace early and hopefully catch the Captains off guard. An early penalty corner was the perfect opportunity for the Blue Jays to get on the board. After sending the ball in, #26 Maddie Brown-Scherer rattled off two shots that were stopped short of the goal line by Captains defender #23 Marcella Sabbagh, picking up two defensive saves in the process.

Undeterred, Brown-Scherer fired home her third try and

picked up her third goal of the season and the game's opener for an advantage just under five minutes in.

The Captains were not put off and responded less than a minute later by racing back down the other direction and earning a penalty corner of their own, this one to be taken by #10 Bailey "Bam" Miller. Sabbagh looked to do some work on the offensive side of the field as she sent the ball around to Miller who equalized with Sabbagh picking up the assist.

Strong defensive play by both sides stifled each other's attacks with the score remaining tied at one apiece as the first period closed.

A series of penalty corners arose for the Blue Jays towards the end of the second period, but they were unable to capitalize and only forced a pair of saves from goalkeeper #0 Olivia Davis. It wasn't until the third period when the Captains offense started to get rolling again, peppering #77 Jodie Baris who was tasked with being the last line of defense for Johns Hopkins. Baris was aided by her defense blocking shots as well as the Captains off target shooting and was only forced into 10

saves throughout the contest. #14 Courtney Fiest led the attack for Christopher Newport, sending seven shots, the highest total of the match, towards the goal with three on target, however, was unsuccessful in putting any past Baris. Despite the momentum the Captains brought in the third, it too was similarly scoreless.

After 45 minutes of action thus far in the unrelenting sun beating down on the players and spectators, everyone was hoping the game would end in regulation but with time winding down and the stingy defense on both sides, overtime was looking like a probability more and more. With just over six minutes remaining, a shot by #25 Abby Asuncion forced the tenth and final save out of Baris but was unable to alleviate the pressure completely.

Asuncion had one more shot to potentially put the game to rest and her opportunity came as she was able to recollect the rebound. Looking to seize victory on the day in that one moment, she was able to capture the go-ahead-goal slotting her shot past Baris at the far post. With what would prove to be the game winning goal, Asuncion scored the



#25 Abby Asuncion of Christopher Newport University approaches the Johns Hopkins Goal Keeper **COURTESY OF OCPR**

first of her college career. In the five final minutes remaining, the Blue Jays were unable to respond, and the Captains would hold off for the victory, bumping their win streak to three games. A trip up to

Mequon, Wisconsin is up next for the Captains where they will be taking on Concordia University as well as Centre College before returning home to host Washington and Lee University on Sept. 21. ■

# The unsung heroes of sporting events

## People who work behind the scenes for athletics deserve more recognition than they tend to receive on gameday



Emma Dixon of The Captain's Log and CNU Athletics films Light the Night **PHOTO BY ANNA DORL / THE CAPTAIN'S LOG**

EMMA DIXON

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Everyone is always celebrating athletes, as they should.

Athletes work hard. They train in their free time, practice every day and give it their all during games. I'm not trying to downplay their work or accomplishments at all.

However, there are a lot of people who put in work behind the scenes to make athletic programs possible. Whether it is college sports or professional sports, there is a team of workers who help produce live broadcasts of the games, keep records of the stats and announce over the live speakers.

There are people like Kenny Klein and Robert Silsby who spend their days attending games, keeping track of all the stats and serve as the PAs. There are students who work for Events

Staff who get the field ready before the game and chase after stray soccer or field hockey balls. There are athletic trainers who help athletes stretch out before games and take care of any injuries they may sustain.

There are athletic directors like Kyle McMullin who organize and oversee the entire athletic department.

And then there are students like me who film and commentate the games. In order to make a livestream happen, we often have to show up to games an hour or so early to set up and test all of the equipment.

Normally there are small problems and issues that we have to troubleshoot in order to get the stream up and running.

Then, we have to stand out in the extreme heat and cold alongside the athletes. While they play the game, we are working hard to make sure friends and family

who can not attend the spectacle in person can still watch their loved ones play. Once the game is over and the team gets to celebrate, we have to stay behind to pack-up all of the equipment and carry it back across campus to where it is kept.

And the thing is, we do it all year long. Whereas athletes get an on and off season, we are always on, covering every single sport.

I'm not trying to complain or whine. I love what I do. And I do it because I love it. That's why I gladly give up entire weekends and weekday nights when I could be studying to cover sports games. All I'm trying to say is that the workers who make the games possible deserve a little more credit. We do our best to make sure the sports teams get the coverage and attention they deserve, and we should get a little more recognition for all of the work we do. ■



# Football fails to overcome #5 North Central (Ill.)

## The Cardinals offense proves to be too strong for the Captains defense

**MICHAEL INNACELLI**

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After all the pomp and circumstance of Hurricane Dorian and how it missed hitting us, the Football team had their home opener, and had a tough time dealing with the Cardinals of North Central (Ill.) and their excellent offense.

Stat lines show that North Central College (NCC) had the run on the Captains all game long. It's hard to argue with a total yards stat that shows NCC had over double the amount of yards Christopher Newport had on the day.

Along with the superior stat line that NCC was able to show that they are in another class than the Captains. NCC started off strong in the first quarter by taking a 21-7 lead, and they never looked back.

The Captains never really got their offense going aside from one spectacular play early on to tie the game at seven a piece.

#14 Garrison Mayo was on the receiving end of a 78 yard pass play from quarterback #12 Jack Anderson. This play gave the Captains faithful hope that the home team could somehow take down the Cardinals, who coming into the weekend were ranked in the top five in

the nation with a fantastic offense.

Unfortunately for the Captains, the hope faded quickly after NCC gathered themselves and scored two more touchdowns to end the quarter. This coupled with a few miscues from the offense of the Captains meant that they would never fully come back from the deficit they found themselves in.

Meanwhile, NCC continued to dominate on the defensive side. The Captains could only come away with the one touchdown on the day. The game ended with a commanding victory for the Cardinals from Chicago.

On the bright side for the Christopher Newport University, several Captains had solid days of work against a very strong team. #10 Ben James had a very respectable seven tackles, two of which were sacks, to lead the defensive line.

On the offensive side of things Anderson had 17 completions for 202 total yards. Lastly, #89 Dylan Curran had two long range field goals at 41 and 48 yards.

Looking forward for the Captains they will be back in action at home this Saturday, Sept. 14, against Hampden-Sydney College for the Family Weekend night game at 7 p.m. at TowneBank Stadium. ■



#3 Nehemiah Harris leaps over the defensive line of North Central (Ill.) COURTESY OF OCPR

**For more information on all Christopher Newport sports action, go to [CNUSports.com](http://CNUSports.com)**

# #4 Women's soccer defeats Emory, ties Dickinson in the CNU Captain's Invite Tournament

## Eiser's saves keep Captains undefeated streak alive through five games

**MATTHEW SCHERGER**

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The Women's soccer team extended their undefeated streak to five games, ending a weekend of tough play with a 4-0-1 record. Weather issues delayed the games by a day initially, but by start time the Captain's were playing under a beautiful evening sky both nights.

Although the #4 Christopher Newport University did not put up the convincing offensive performances that their ranking would suggest, two freshmen added their names to the season score sheet, each picking up one of the three Christopher Newport goals of the weekend.

#00 Haley Eiser continues to be a star in net for the Captains - it took five games (and 406 minutes of play for those counting at home) for an opponent to find a

way to slip the ball past her. She still ends the weekend with a save percentage of almost 95 percent. The senior is well on her way to topping her standout performance last season.

Game number one of the weekend for Christopher Newport pitted them against Emory University.

The majority of the game was an exciting battle in the midfield for possession, with plenty of challenges to each side's defenses. Emory posted 23 shots (seven on target) to Christopher Newport's 17 (eight on target).

The Captain's made the most of their opportunities, however, especially freshman #25 Jessica Zimmermann. Zimmermann took advantage of an aggressive attempt from #10 Maddie Cochran and earned her first goal of her collegiate career.

The nearly-perfect play from

the Captain's backline and Eiser earned themselves their fourth consecutive shutout of the season. In addition to such defensive staples like #4 Shaye Doherty, #5 Keiley McCarthy, and #35 Lulu Manley, freshman #7 Jill McDonald also made her mark, enjoying considerable playing time in the match and earning her second goal in her collegiate career late in the game to seal the victory for Christopher Newport.

On Sunday, Christopher Newport faced the also-undefeated Dickinson College. An intense match between two defensively-minded teams, the scoring was sparse but the action was not.

Miscommunication and rough transitions from the midfield to the attacking third plagued the Captains throughout the match, however, and the few opportunities they were able to win were quickly shut down by a stellar defensive showing from Dickinson.

While it can hardly be said that the Captains played horribly, their team cohesion was lacking. #19 Riley Cook was left alone frequently amongst multiple defenders, and their few attacks through the sides did not have the results

spectators are used to seeing from a traditionally high-energy offense.

Luckily, Christopher Newport's defense continued their solid play through the first half and the game remained scoreless going into the half.

Less than two minutes into the second half Dickinson finally cracked the Christopher Newport defense and became the first team to get a goal past Eiser. Not deterred in the slightest, however, the Captain's offense was able to get a score of their own less than ten minutes later off the head of freshman #20 Molly Beegle. Sophomore #8 Emily Talotta won herself an assist on the play with a beautiful cross into box, and Beegle was there to finish. Beegle is the second freshman to score her first goal of the season this weekend, adding her name to the list of impressive freshman talent the Captains have manager to foster this year.

The half quieted down for awhile, with neither team winning meaningful possessions in the midfield. The Captain's attempted to close out the game with a flurry of shots in the fi-

nal minutes, but the Dickinson defense was able to hold on and send the game to overtime. These missed opportunities would come back to bite the Captain's in overtime.

The extra twenty minutes were not enough for either offense to find a way through the two lockdown defenses, and the game ended 1-1.

This is the second consecutive draw for Dickinson College, with their 1-1 match against Virginia Wesleyan University the night before.

Although the Captains escaped the weekend with their undefeated streak unbroken, they do break their four-game shutout streak.

Until the Captains can sort out their midfield miscues and find a more consistent way of attacking their opponents' defenses, they will have to continue to rely on dominant performances from Eiser and the rest of the backline. If the last five games are any indicator, however, it could be a recipe for success.

The Captains will host Methodist University on Sept. 14 at 2 p.m. before heading to San Antonio, Texas for their next two games. ■

**Want to write for the Sports Section?**  
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# "IT Chapter Two" did not clown around

## Pennywise is back for the reunion. Are you?

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The wait is over. The sequel to 2017's highly popular and critically praised "IT", based on the first half of Stephen King's 1986 novel, has finally arrived—and it doesn't disappoint. In fact, "IT Chapter Two" is a surprisingly thrilling, comedic and even heartfelt flick, with a fantastic cast and stellar performances to boot, even if it sacrifices some moments of emotional weight and drama in favor of silliness and the fantastical. Andrés Muschietti returns as director of the story that follows the reunion of the Loser's Club in Derry, Maine, set twenty-seven years after the original film, as the gang of childhood friends take on the eponymous shapeshifting monster for the last time.

If you enjoyed "IT" (2017), chances are, you'll have fun with this one, too. If you're a fan of the novel, I have been told that this sequel is incredibly faithful to the source material, despite criticisms that the first film deviated too much from King's original writing. The film is a great companion piece to the original—and I say this having watched both movies back-to-back.

It has the same remarkable genre ambiguity of "IT" from 2017 in that it deftly balances a healthy mix of terror, humor and character-driven drama. And, yes, it manages to throw in several 80's references throughout, despite its modern-day setting, if you're a lover of the nostalgic phase that the film industry seems to be caught in these days.

The movie is also pretty long, with a runtime of about three hours, but it doesn't feel too long, which I suspect is because it's so entertaining. If anything, the extensive film leaves you wanting more. It feels like some elements or plotlines had to be left out for conciseness, which occasionally makes the plot

seem hammy or rushed, but not so much that it ruins the story. Also, this movie has some amazing Easter eggs and references that will leave lovers of the novel with wide smiles.

The cast of "IT Chapter Two" did a great job all-around, but James McAvoy and Jessica Chastain are stand-outs among the cast as adult Bill and Beverly

For one thing, this movie is drawing from very detailed source material, which is to say, an extremely long book.

Because of that, some scenes, plotlines and thematic elements are regularly undercooked, especially during the first half, which takes a noticeable toll on some of the pacing of the film. Some things that hap-

**"The greatest sin of IT Chapter Two is one that is all-too common in the golden age of cinema—that every single movie tries to be a damn comedy."**

respectively. You will be stunned at how freakishly similar the actors in the film resemble their childhood counterparts from two years ago. Of course, Bill Skarsgård once again delivers an unsettling and simultaneously playful portrayal of Pennywise that will make viewers both chuckle and shiver at the edge of their seats. At this point, Pennywise the Clown is probably Skarsgård's most iconic role, and if he knows it, he certainly plays it up.

But it's longtime comedian Bill Hader's emotional and oftentimes outright hilarious portrayal of Richie Tozier (played by Stranger Things star Finn Wolfhard in the first film) who really steals every scene he's in. Hader has been uproariously funny for years, but here, as in HBO's "Barry", he proves his dramatic ethos is a force to be reckoned with. If you're a fan of Hader, the movie is worth seeing just for him.

This is not to say that the film is perfect. Honestly, most of the gripes that I had with "IT Chapter Two" were characteristic of problems carried over from the first film that were never properly addressed, and not all of that is on the fault of the director or his crew.

pen in the film are totally contrived and unrealistic, but aren't exactly unacceptable. The greatest sin of "IT Chapter Two" is one that is all-too common in the golden age of cinema—that every single movie tries to be a damn comedy.

But wait, hold on. I already praised the movie for its humor and for the wonderful Bill Hader. Well, it is true that the jokes land most of the time.

But sometimes, a dramatic moment or two would have tasted less sour if it had been left to marinate rather than immediately cut off by a poorly-timed quip or wacky one-liner. Especially when something otherwise considered serious is going on. I mean, there is a killer clown on the loose. (Yes, I know he isn't really a clown. Give me a break).

Ultimately, audiences are going to walk out of "IT Chapter Two" having had a good time. And though not all reviews have been as generous towards this film as I have, I stand by my opinion: "IT Chapter Two" is a frightening, comedic and thoughtful character study with surprising emotional depth that is definitely on par with its predecessor, and might even make you shed a tear or two. ■



OBTAINED BY FORBES

### CRITICAL RECEPTION

7.5 / 10



OBTAINED BY ALTERNATIVE PRESS



# “The Dark Crystal: Age of Resistance”

Netflix releases a prequel to the 80’s classic, “The Dark Crystal”

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In 1982, Jim Henson, creator of the Muppets, released “The Dark Crystal”, a dark fantasy world where an evil race of bird-lizards called Skeksis drain the life of the planet, but the only one to survive it was a Gelfling that must reunite the last piece of the Crystal of Truth back together again or else the Skeksis will rule the world. The initial reviews of the time were mixed, but over the years, it became a cult-classic.

“Dark Crystal: Age of Resistance” is a prequel series for the movie, exploring the world of Thra, the setting of “The Dark Crystal,” and how the story leads to the movie’s end.

Note that I will put minor spoilers of the plot in the review, but nothing too detail in case you want to watch it. In addition, I suggest you watch the movie first and then the series second as it gives the context for the Skeksis in the prequel series.

The series has ten one-hour episodes, each telling multiple stories at once, almost Game of Thrones-esque. The main group of stories are: Rian (Ree-an), a stonewood gelfling guard of the Crystal

Palace trying to prove himself; Brea (Like the cheese), a vapran gelfling princess wanting to learn everything she could; Deet, a grotten gelfling who must stop an evil power from spreading across Thra; Mother Aughra (Aug-gra), the “god” of Thra who must reconnect with Thra to help stop the harm the Skeksis are doing to it; and skekSil or Chamberlain, who wants to retake his position with the Emperor Skeksis.

Rian’s story is about proving himself. In the beginning he was arrogant, prideful and trying to prove himself to his father; however, losing his lover to the Skeksis caused him to rebel against their rule. He runs from the Crystal Palace and slowly builds a resistance against the birds with the seven clans of gelfling.

Brea’s story is about her learning the truth as well as her family relationship. Her mother is the queen of all gelfling, the All-Maudra, and she somewhat spoils Brea, giving her many books and ignoring royal duties. On the other hand, her sisters, mainly the second one, Seladon, grow with jealousy from the one-sided affection towards Brea. Her story sees the family split, only to come together near the end when their older sis-

ter, Tavra, sacrifices herself to save them from the Skeksis.

Deet’s story is the simplest one to understand. She was sent by her clan to unite the gelfling to stop the darkness from taking Thra. She is a fish-out-of-water since most of the clans she meets disregard her because of her clan; however, she was able to unite them with the help of Rian and found her answer to stop the darkness, but with a cost.

Mother Aughra’s arc is a redemption arc. The Skeksis gave her a device to let her see the stars, and in exchange, she gave them the Crystal of Truth, to protect, but she was fooled. Awakened by Thra in distress, she seeks to hear it’s song to help fix what she did.

Chamberlain, one of the Skeksis who rule Thra, is that of deceiving and lying his way to power. He’s always scheming and plotting in the background, trying to win the graces of his emperor. His actions eventually lead to what transpired in the movie.

The overall quality of the series is gorgeous with vibrant colors across the landscape the group travel. The soundtrack is elegant and foreboding with our cast of characters. Lastly, the character designs are fantastic. Even though majority of the

creatures and characters are puppets, their range of emotion and movement make them feel alive, better than most SFX can offer. Every gelfling feels unique with its own design and look; every creature feels cute and mysterious; and the Skeksis gives us some continuity with most of the suits are nearly identical to the 1982 version with more color to them.

Overall I highly recommend this series. Be it for the story, the world, the design or Game of Thrones ambience, we all have a duty to light the fires of resistance. ■



(ABOVE) IMAGES OBTAINED FROM NETFLIX

## A New Era: “Lover” album review

ELEANOR COSTIC

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In the digital age, where a week is a lifetime, is it even possible for someone whose career began more than ten years ago to stay famous? For Taylor Swift, the answer is a resounding yes. August 23 marked the release of Taylor Swift’s 7th studio album, “Lover.” The album has been a commercial success, debuting at No.1 on the Billboard 200 and becoming her sixth album to do so.

Swift makes it clear that “Lover” is different from her previous release, “reputation,” right off the bat. The opening track, “I Forgot That You Existed,” is a bubbly, flippant dismissal of the events and people inspiring the previous album. The upbeat track makes its message clear: Swift is done wasting her time thinking about others, and is ready to express herself. Nowhere is that self-expression more evident than on the album’s lead

single, “ME!” (feat. Brendon Urie of Panic! At the Disco), released on April 26, 2019. The song, full of horns, drums and of course, Brendon Urie, perfectly sets the tone for an album that can be described as a celebration of love. The celebration continued with the second single, “You Need to Calm Down.” The high-energy song continues to promote the message of self-expression, as well as being a celebration of all forms of love.

While some might think the album, with its pastel aesthetic and fun lead singles, is all sunshine and rainbows, what it truly demonstrates is an emotional depth, vulnerability and maturity rarely seen in Swift’s work before. The album is also characterized by simple instrumentals, letting the lyrics shine through. For instance, “The Archer” consists only of vocals and a simple synth backing, but features some of the most open and vulnerable lyrics on the entire album.

“Afterglow,” track 15, is about someone admitting their mistakes in a relationship and asking for forgiveness, backed by only heavy drums and synth. “Paper Rings,” while more upbeat and sweet, continues this theme with rhythmic drums and guitar under half-spoken vocals. A more playful interpretation comes in the form of “I Think He Knows,” a song about the early stages of flirtation. Starting off with nothing but a picked bass and finger snaps, the song builds to the final chorus, which features a more complex layering of vocal harmonies with other instrumentation.

Of course, the album isn’t perfect. At 18 songs, it’s the longest non-deluxe album Swift has released, and it feels a bit disjointed at times. One song that exemplifies this is “The Man,” track 4. While the song, in which Swift imagines life as a man, is excellent, it feels a little out of place on an album that is overall thematically different. The song

sounds as though it would fit better on “reputation.” Another example of this is track 13, “False God,” which is a slowed-down R&B ballad about an unhealthy way of viewing a relationship. The song isn’t bad, but considered in the context of the rest of the album, it just doesn’t quite fit. With lyrics such as “The altar is my hips/even if its a false god” and breathy vocals over a saxophone instrumental, it creates a sexual atmosphere that seems odd, especially considering its placement following the tender “Soon You’ll Get Better” (feat. Dixie Chicks).

The 12th track on the album is dedicated to her mother’s battle with cancer. The tender lyrics, mixed with a simple instrumental of piano, violin and acoustic guitar, makes for a song that ranks among the best on the album. The heavy acoustic guitar and feature of Dixie Chicks is a nod back to Swift’s country roots.



IMAGE OBTAINED FROM SPOTIFY

Overall, while it could be trimmed down, the album is an excellent collection of songs that showcase Swift’s talent as both a songwriter and a performer. If you want to enjoy it for yourself, the entire album is available to stream on Spotify, Apple Music, Amazon Music and Google Play, as well as available for purchase through iTunes. ■



## “We’re so glad you’re here”

### CNU’s Department of Communication hosts mental health concert fundraiser

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“We’re so glad you’re here,” little Emily “Mimi” Bartley sang cheerfully in a rendition of “So Glad You’re Here” by Imagination Movers as her sparkly sequin dress twinkled under the bright stage lights. “It wouldn’t be the same without ya.”

On the evening of Sept. 9, the Gaines Theater in the Freeman Center was filled with students and members of the Newport News community, coming together in a communal effort to support the arts and mental health care on campus and beyond.

These audience members had been lining up outside the doors before the event officially started, eager to see the show.

CNU students, alumni, employees and members from the surrounding community came together to perform in “So Glad You’re Here.”

The title of the event encompassed the overall message that the performers wanted to send to everyone in the audience that night, especially those dealing with mental health issues.

The event was comprised of two acts, during each of which cast members sang and danced to songs from popular Broadway musicals such as “Newsies,” “The Phantom of the Opera” and “Les Misérables,” as well as the titular song “So Glad You’re Here” by the popular children’s musical group Imagination Movers.

Dancers, singers and actors all had their chance to shine in the performance.

“So Glad You’re Here” was sponsored by Christopher Newport’s Department of Communication.

The proceeds for the event went to benefit Christopher Newport’s Office of Counseling Services to create more opportunities for students to receive mental health care on campus.

Admission was donation-based at whatever price audience members wanted to give to the cause.

The final song the cast performed for the audience was “You Will Be Found” from the musical Dear Evan Hansen.

As the cast sang, a projector screen came down from the ceiling, and across it came messages that included, “Globally, the WHO [World Health Organization] estimates 1 in 4 people affected by mental or neurological disorders,” “1 in 5 U.S. adults experiences mental illness in a given year,” and “Mental health needs to come out of the shadows.”

After the cast took their final bows as the show’s second act concluded, a talkback was held for members of the audience who were interested in learning about the inspiration behind the event and how to find resources for mental health support.

CNU faculty, staff and a student answered questions in a panel moderated by Dr. Danielle Stern, an associate professor in CNU’s Department of Communication.



The slideshow of mental health statistics during “You Will Be Found” concluded with this message.

**ANNA DORL / THE CAPTAIN’S LOG**

Summer Fitzpatrick, a senior Sociology major at CNU, is currently taking Dr. Stern’s class Mental Health and Popular Culture.

“For our special topics class, we

had to read an article about musical theater and the role that plays in starting conversations for mental health,” Fitzpatrick said.

“A quote I picked out was, ‘Art is one of the best tools for social change.’ It acts as a conversation starter: being able to watch something and being like, ‘Oh, I recognize that, I’ve experienced that, this person close to me has experienced that.’ The more we talk, the less stigma there is.”

Emily Giegrich, Executive Secretary of the College of Social Sciences Dean’s office, is a member of WATCH, which stands for Wellness Action Team for Captain’s Health.

WATCH exists to promote physical and mental wellness on campus.

“It’s aimed at joining students, faculty, staff, around the community enhancing wellness holistically, not just [with] mental health,” Giegrich said.

“This ties into a lot of our goals of promoting communication of and awareness about mental health and wellness among students, faculty and staff.”

“When you bring these issues to something like a musical, you bring it to the masses and you’re reaching people in a variety of different way,” said Dr. Gina Polychronopolous, Assistant Director of Assessment at CNU.

She has work experience in many mental health studies, community services and inpatient facilities.

“People in the audience are relating to all kinds of aspects on the stage, to characters, to moods and to feelings. It’s a way to bring it into pop culture and get it accessible to everybody.”

Dr. Linda Manning is an associate professor in the Department of Communication, and one of her teaching areas of interest is sustainability.

“When people think about sustainability, a lot of times they only think about the environment,” she said, “but sustainability is... the ability for us to live together as a community. We have to figure out how to support each other and understand that there are differences and different experiences that people have.” ■



Performers console one another during the singing of “Defying Gravity” from the musical “Wicked.”

**ANNA DORL / THE CAPTAIN’S LOG**

**“This ties into a lot of our goals of promoting communication of and awareness about mental health and wellness among students, faculty and staff”**



# A short drive to the Dive

## Guy Fieri's Dive and Taco Joint in Hampton delivers on atmosphere over quality

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From California to Vegas to New York City comes Guy Fieri's Taco Joint in none other than Hampton Roads, Va.

Only a short drive from CNU, the bright lights of both Guy Fieri's Taco Joint and Pizza Parlor (two separate establishments located right next to the other) beckon to highway on-lookers.

Few are unknown to the rowdy, hilarious and larger-than-life personality of Guy Fieri, with restaurants, cookbooks and a prime-time Food Network show that attracts millions of viewers each year.

Immediately upon entering, Fieri's restaurant exhibits a hip atmosphere with more than one option for one's dining experience.

The indoor bar at the Taco Joint complements the outdoor seating including options for cornhole in a large sandpit and brick stacking games on the table.

Because my group wanted a quieter setting, we sat outside on their porch overlooking the water and the highway in the distance.

Walking through the bar area, the liveliness and music nearly pulled us in - too bad we're under 21.

In expectation of some quality Mexican food, we ordered a variety of tacos, empanadas and burritos. The menu offers seven taco dishes of four tacos each, with options like Achiote Chicken Taco and Crispy Avocado Taco.

Besides tacos, the Dive offers burrito, empanada, quesadilla and soup options, but little else. With only a

I ordered empanadas, which were tasty and a little less expensive.

The type of food is comparable to Plaza Azteca but the quantity is far less and the price just as high.

In the words of one of my friends, it was "street food that we paid over \$10 for."

What the food lacks, however, is nearly made up in atmosphere.

The whole establishment is aesthetically pleasing and the servers are friendly and welcoming.

The tables are close enough to feel surrounded by lively conversation and fun, but not too close that it is uncomfortable.

There were families, older groups and students sitting outside and all seemed

to be having fun.

Overall, my group enjoyed the experience but agreed that we probably would not return.

For those that prefer simpler, low-priced Mexican food (which is mostly our preference), Guy Fieri's place might not be the best choice.

But if you're looking to try something different and enjoy a great atmosphere for a few extra dollars, be sure to check it out. ■

**"Immediately upon entering, Fieri's restaurant exhibits a hip atmosphere with more than one option for one's dining experience."**

page-long menu, dishes range from \$5.95 to \$11.95, with higher prices for the option of making a dish 'platter' to include some other sides.

While the food tasted good, I thought it was slightly overpriced for the portion size and overall quality.

The taco menu is a bit misleading, as it promises four tacos per order with no mention of how tiny each taco is.



An order of tacos, the highlight of the establishment. KRISTEN ZICCARELLI / THE CAPTAIN'S LOG



(Above Left) Empanadas from Guy Fieri's Dive. (Above Right) One of the burritos offered on the menu at Guy Fieri's Dive . KRISTEN ZICCARELLI / THE CAPTAIN'S LOG



# JOIN THE STAFF!

The Captain's Log is always looking for new members. If you're interested in becoming part of our team, email editor-in-chief Matthew Scherger at [clog@cnu.edu](mailto:clog@cnu.edu) or [matthew.scherger.16@cnu.edu](mailto:matthew.scherger.16@cnu.edu).

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