



# THE CAPTAIN'S LOG

THE VOICE OF CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

@CNUCAPTAINSLOG WWW.THECAPTAINSLOG.ORG

VOLUME 49, ISSUE 22 April 4, 2018

## Celebrating C.J. Buechner



The Women's Lacrosse team played their annual game to raise money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. This year they decided to honor C.J. Buechner, former Men's Lacrosse Player who is currently battling cancer.

### CELEBRATING C.J. BUECHNER CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

(Left) Julia Golden helps defend (right) Cat Leighty who has possession of the ball. This annual game is always dedicated raising money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. **NICOLE RAMKEY/THE CAPTAIN'S LOG**

#### News 4

Summer South Africa study abroad trip will stay in Stellenbosch due to ongoing Cape Town drought.

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Notice large tour groups taking over campus? Read why, and how tour guides make the most of it.



# Where are they now: The Captain's Log Edition

BY MELANIE OCCHIUZZO  
MELANIE.OCCHIUZZO.13@CNU.EDU

Over the years The Captain's Log has produced many alumni that have gone on to do great things in journalism, public relations and several other types of jobs. While they may be spread out across the country, one thing still keeps them together — the CLOG life. The Captain's Log alumni say that they can draw a direct line between their time at CLOG and their career paths now. They say being a part of this organization has taught them valuable work lessons.

The field is vast for aspiring journalists. Each member of The Captain's Log that is featured here has chosen their career path based off of lessons they've learned and experience they've gained from working with this publication.

The alumni from 2013-2017 are our most recent class. This was the time period that CNU TV really got going and it produced at least two photo/video journalists. Other careers that came from those years revolve around social media, reporting and production. The list of jobs you can do go on for miles.

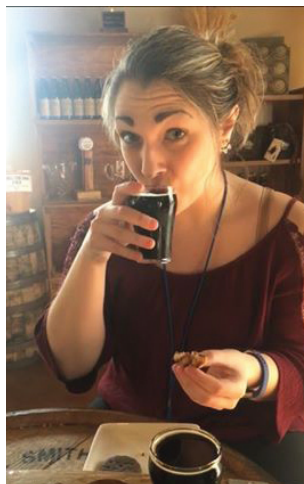
The alumni from 2007-2012 pursued careers in reporting, marketing and public relations, editing, and one even started her own business. Alumni from 1999-2003 also branched out from their CLOG days. Some took on jobs that let them travel the country, some took on PR jobs and some stuck to what they knew: editing and creating content. No matter what they ended up doing, CLOG helped them get there. ■

*All photos and information came from each CLOG alumni.*

## 2013-2017



**Josh Reyes 2013-2016**  
Then: Editor-in-Chief  
Now: Reporter at the Daily Press



**Victoria Lurie 2013-2016**  
Then: A&E Editor  
Now: Founding member of the Daily Press Social Team



**Bethany Pyle 2013-2016**  
Then: Lifestyle Editor  
Now: Production Editor at the Daily Press



**John Rector 2015-2017**  
Then: CNU TV Editor  
Now: Photojournalist at WTKR News 3



**Lydia Johnson 2015-2016**  
Then: News Reporter  
Now: Video Journalist for WSET-TV in Lynchburg, Va.



### Captain's Log Snapchat

Scan this image to add us on Snapchat! Follow our updates, watch us behind the scenes in the newsroom, and keep up with commentary on campus life.

## The Captain's Log Staff 2017-2018

**Melanie Occhiuzzo**  
Editor-in-Chief  
**Michael Innacelli**  
CNU TV Managing Editor  
**Matthew Scherger**  
Opinions Editor  
**Macy Friend**  
Photography Editor  
**Brett Clark**  
News Editor  
**Caitlin King**  
Sports Editor

**Morgan Barclay**  
A&E Editor  
**Katie Krynitsky**  
Lifestyle Editor  
**Kelsey Schnoebelen**  
Business Director  
**Brittany Thorburn**  
Ad Manager  
**Robert Smith**  
CNU TV Managing Editor  
**Jason Carney**  
Faculty Advisor

**THE CAPTAIN'S LOG** is the official student newspaper of Christopher Newport University. It is a public forum, which is published 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 7 p.m.

**WANT TO ADVERTISE?** Circulation inquiries, advertising rates and policies are available upon request via email at [clog@cnu.edu](mailto:clog@cnu.edu) or telephone at (757) 594-7196. For more information, visit our website at [thecaptainslog.org](http://thecaptainslog.org).



## 2007-2012



**Ryan Kelly 2007-2010**  
Then: News Editor, Photographer  
Now: Digital and Social Media Coordinator for a brewery, freelance photographer



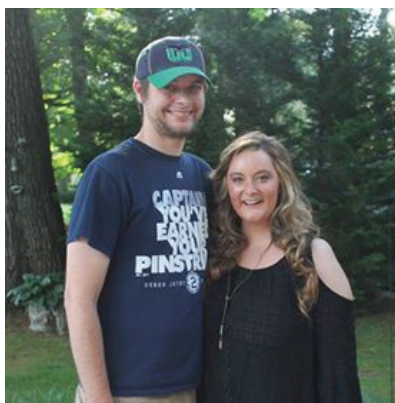
**Victoria Shirley 2008-2011**  
Then: Editor-in-Chief  
Now: Reporter at WBJ7 in Roanoke, Va.



**Cassandra Ambrosius 2008-2011**  
Then: Sports Editor  
Now: Content Manager at WAOW TV in Wausau, Wis.



**Corrie Mitchell 2008-2012**  
Then: News Editor  
Now: Content Coordinator at a non-profit in Manhattan called Hope for New York



**Billy Fellin (left) 2009-2010**  
Then: Sports Editor  
Now: Sports Editor for the Powhatan Today, Goochland Gazette and Cumberland Today



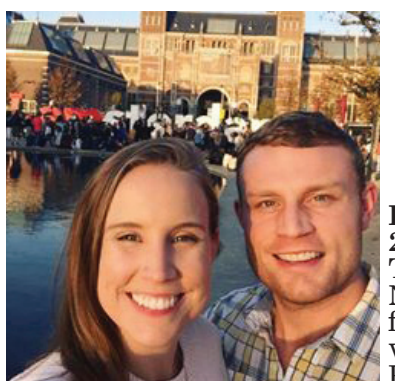
**Allison Throckmorton 2009-2012**  
Then: Copy Editor  
Now: Marketing Coordinator at Commonwealth Architects in Richmond, Va.



**Tim Krems 2010-2011**  
Then: Multi-Media Editor, Executive Producer of CNUTV  
Now: Commercial producer, director with The Snow Companies in Williamsburg, Va.



**Samantha Smith 2010-2011**  
Then: News Editor  
Now: Founded her own technology start-up in Charlotte, N.C. called Vishion



**Emily Cole Howard 2010-2012**  
Then: Editor-in-Chief  
Now: Production Editor for George Mason University Press, Mason Publishing

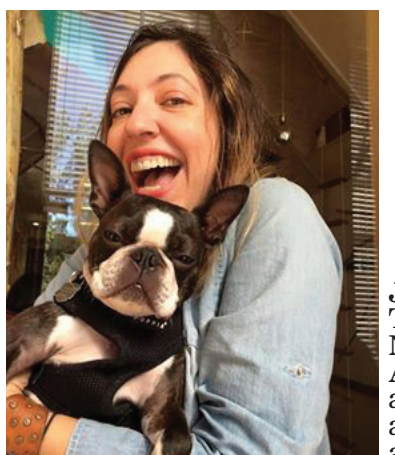


**Zach McCoy 2010-2012**  
Then: Copy Editor  
Now: Logistics Coordinator and Research Assistant at the William & Mary School of Education



**Sarah Sleem 2012-2014**  
Then: Social Media Editor  
Now: Proofreader, copy editor and fact-checker for The Daily Signal

## 1999-2006



**Jesi Owens 1999-2003**  
Then: A&E Editor  
Now: Working for Airbnb doing customer and vendor relations as well as VIP services and events



**Sean Kennedy (left) 2004-2005**  
Then: Sports Editor  
Now: Senior Digital Editor with The Virginian Pilot  
**Amber Kennedy (right) 2004-2006**  
Then: A&E Editor  
Now: PR Counselor for The Chrysler Museum of Art and STIHL Inc.



**Elliott Robinson**  
Then: Writer, Copy Editor  
Now: Assistant City Editor of The Daily Progress in Charlottesville



## Learning from Today's Leaders

Student Assembly hosted a panel from the Board of Visitors to speak to being a leader.

BY MELANIE OCCHIUZZO

MELANIE.OCCHIUZZO.13@CNU.EDU

Student Assembly hosted a brand new panel on leadership, pulling in the Board of Visitors CNU Alumni members.

This first joint session of Student Assembly and the Board of Visitors was a chance for students in Student Assembly to hear testimonials from the alumni members of the Board of Visitors and for them to ask questions of these community leaders.

In attendance from the Board of Visitors was Rector N. Scott Millar (Class of 1985), Secretary Brad Hunter (Class of 2004), Terri McKnight, CPA (Class of 1986), Steve Kast (Class of 1987) and Lindsey Carney (Class of 2001).

The panel opened up with Rector Scott Millar explaining what the Board of Visitors does for the CNU community.

This opening statement was a way for the Board of Visitors to explain who they were and why they thought being on the Board of Visitors was important.

While not all of the Board of Visitors members are alumni, CNU makes an effort to have alumni on the board to help keep the board's goals in focus.

Kenneth Kidd, President of Student Assembly, moderated the questions for the event.

He asked questions such as how the campus has evolved over time, how has being a CNU alumni helped them post-graduation and what they thought of the campus and its students.

Millar had a lot to say on the subject of student achievement on CNU's campus.

He says that there has been a change to the model of who goes to college when it comes to CNU's campus specifically.

When he and McKnight were students at CNU it was still primarily a commuter school so he has seen the growth of the campus and the kind of student that decides to come to CNU.

Carney says that while the campus has grown, "one thing that hasn't changed is the passion."

Carney is a partner within the law firm of Patten, Wornom, Hatten & Diamonstein Business Law Group and as a result of working so close to the campus has seen the evolution of CNU since her graduation in 2001. Kast, President and CEO of the Peninsula United Way, says that "the relationships that were made here have changed my life."

He says that he can't even go to a football game without running into someone who has a question for him about CNU.

After the board members finished answering the prepared questions, Kidd opened the floor up to other questions from the audience.

"The panel discussion was phenomenal. It was a fantastic opportunity for students to interact with the Board and I think that both groups walked away with a significant amount of important



Kenneth Kidd, President of Student Assembly, moderates a panel of five CNU Alumni from the Board of Visitors. Left to right: Lindsey Carney, Steve Kast, Terri McKnight, CPA, Brad Hunter and Scott Millar. **MELANIE OCCHIUZZO/THE CAPTAIN'S LOG**

knowledge that will help both the Board of Visitors and the Student Assembly achieve their missions respectively.

"I hope this becomes a tradition between these two governing bodies," says Kidd.

There was one message that kept coming up throughout the panel and it

applied directly to the title of the panel: Leadership.

Each member had something to say about how CNU made them the leaders they are today and that is why they are very grateful to be Captains for life. ■

## Spring 2018 CNU Farmers Markets

MARCH 15TH, 22ND, 29TH

APRIL 5TH, 12TH, 19TH

YORK STRIP, 3PM - 6PM

1000 UNIVERSITY PLACE, NEWPORT NEWS 23606





# Students to Stay in Stellenbosch, South Africa

To avoid water shortages in Cape Town, CNU pulled the trigger on moving the three-week program east of the city.

BY BRETT CLARK  
BRETT.CLARK.16@CNU.EDU

For three weeks this summer, 19 Christopher Newport students will be staying in South Africa along with Drs. Elizabeth Gagnon and Molly Waters.

The plans for the trip, which is being hosted by the University of Cape Town, is one that Mandi Pierce, the Director of Study Abroad at CNU and Provost Bob Colvin have been watching closely.

South Africa, like any country, has its dangers. Besides the constant racial tensions that command South African politics, a recent development in the African country is that its largest city and the CNU group's original destination, Cape Town, is running out of water.

Just in the past few days, city officials have announced the good news that "Day Zero" (when the water is expected to run out) has been pushed back to 2019.

Regardless of the good news, to be safe, Provost Colvin and Pierce had already decided to move the trip to a town called Stellenbosch.

Stellenbosch is 45 minutes east of

Cape Town, away from the coast, and is on a different water system, relatively unscathed by the pending distress in Cape Town.

While students tell all their friends and family about their upcoming trips all over the world through our study abroad programs, Provost Colvin and Pierce keep an eye on State Department warnings and updates.

For the safety of those going, CNU already cancelled the Cuba trip they were hoping to coordinate for this summer due to warnings by the State Department of nefarious on goings by the Cuban government in its treatment of U.S. citizens.

Cuba is not the first trip that's been cancelled before and South Africa isn't the first trip the school has decided to alter in order to avoid any and all public unrest, terrorism and the likes.

The students on the South Africa trip were moved to a hotel in Stellenbosch and when the parents and students were made aware of the change, none rescinded their decision to study abroad in South Africa.

All 19 students will be taking the Special Topics: Leadership 395 course on

"social justice," taught by Waters and Gagnon while in Stellenbosch. They have several excursions planned for the trip as well.

Despite the brevity of the class and the exotic locale where it is taught, the class is just as rigorous as any Leadership class at CNU and since it is being given by CNU professors, the grade

will transfer back to CNU and will have an effect on students' GPAs just like a class they take during the fall or spring semesters on campus.

If you are interested in studying abroad over the summer or for a whole semester, you can reach out to Mandi Pierce in the Study Abroad Office on the first floor of the DSU. ■



Drs. Gagnon and Waters have been to South Africa — a requirement of professors to teach abroad is to have already been at least once. PHOTOS COURTESY OF DR. WATERS





## After 79 Issues, Words Aren’t Enough

From an unexpected opportunity to a newfound passion, Macy Friend reflects on her years with the CLOG.

*The following continues a series that The Captain’s Log will have in the rest of the issues where CLOG seniors reflect on their time with this organization. The “-30-” at the end signifies the end of a story in journalism, and in the case of these students, the end of their time with The Captain’s Log.*

**MACY FRIEND**

MACY.FRIEND.14@CNU.EDU

I didn’t come to CNU planning on continuing journalism from the couple years of experience I had in high school. But one day freshman year, I was sitting in my dorm room in Santoro and I saw a campus announcement that The Captain’s Log was looking for a Photography Editor. Without hesitation, I applied and was interviewed. I remember going to the office for the first time for my interview, probably a little too prepared, with past yearbook samples in my arms—then Editor-in-Chief (EIC) Laura Faragalli never looked at them.

I was hired very shortly after and I was immediately thrown in (thanks, Ben Leistensnider, for being one of the first people to train me). I had no clue then that the next three and a half years with this organization would be filled with my favorite memories of my time at CNU.

Fast forward to a year later, Josh Reyes as EIC, and I was part of an award-winning newspaper. This was also the year that I realized I was prioritizing this publication over my academics, which wasn’t great for my grades then, but in retrospect, it was all worth it. I forged such meaningful relationships that year with people who have graduated a couple years ago, but we still interact and keep up with each other.

I’ve seen people grow immensely through this organization. I watched as our current EIC, Melanie Occhiuzzo, went from News writer to News Editor, to someone who’s written for every section and has handled several tough situations head-on. She’s gone above and beyond for this organization. I’ve met people that I look up to so much, and people that I continue to go to for guidance even though they’re graduated (and thriving in journalism careers).

If I pointed out what I love the most about working with and having worked with every person in this organization, I could fill all 16 pages of The Captain’s Log (not joking, the members of the CLOG are worth so much praise). Honestly though, it’s not possible for me to articulate my love for The Captain’s Log in a concise way that would do this organization justice (even after 79 issues, to date).

If you’ve spent some time in a leadership role, you know too well that it’s a time consuming thing. This publication has taken up the majority of my time compared to anything else I’ve been involved with since coming to CNU. There have been tough moments, frustrating circumstances and times when I was unsure if I could handle it all, but I’ve loved every moment. I’ve seen my photography staff grow so much since I began in 2015. I’ve made mistakes, I’ve

had to step back with my involvement in the past and I’ve been human. But the people of The Captain’s Log have had my back through it all through the years. It’s because of them that I was able to continue on with this organization in my beginnings when I was figuring out how to balance my schedules and stay sane at a very hectic part of my life this past semester.

Coming into college as a biology major, I imagined that one day I’ll work with wildlife, and I still do. I never imagined going into the journalism world, but lately I’ve wondered if I can make both work. That’s the beauty of this whole experience, though. I’ve been able to study science and learn about how to communicate with others through the platform that the newspaper has and I know one day, these skills will help me with whatever I want to do in life.

I’ve learned so much about journalism over the past three years and our messy room in DSU 393 (what else would you expect from a newspaper?) has become my favorite place to be on campus. It’s difficult to imagine leaving in May. Not only has it been an enriching experience, but it’s been one that has taught me as much about myself as it has about what it’s like to be a photojournalist.

When most seniors are approaching the end of their spring semesters, they’re counting down the days until they graduate and leave, but this publication is why it is going to be so hard for me to do that. It’s more than a job to me and it’s more than just words and photos on pages every week. The Captain’s Log is a family I didn’t imagine having in college but it has become my favorite part of my collegiate experience. No matter what I choose to do, I will always be grateful for the experiences I’ve had with this organization.

The Captain’s Log family has taught me so much and has made my time here fulfilling and enriching on so many levels. Goodbyes are going to be the hardest when you love what you do and who you do it with, but those goodbyes are opportunities to reflect and feel gracious for the time you’ve been given with the people you love learning from and growing with. I’m not ready to say goodbye to my time as an editor with this publication, but I know us graduating seniors are leaving it in capable hands.

I hope that everyone finds something that makes them feel this way during their time at CNU. Whether you’re a freshman or also a senior getting ready to graduate, cherish the time you have with whoever your people are on campus... because the time flies by, and unfortunately for me, there is no slowing down. ■

-30-



Macy Friend poses in the newsroom with her first issue of The Captain’s Log, which came out Feb. 11, 2015. HANNAH LINDENBLAD/THE CAPTAIN’S LOG

## 10 Reasons Why You Should Take an 8 a.m.

**KRISTEN ZICCARELLI**

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1. If you have any interest in passing class, you will get up and be more productive. I will admit, however, that half the battle is going to the library after class and not straight back to bed. If you’re up and have gone to an 8 a.m. and possibly 9 a.m., it will be easier to go right to the library and work following a class.
2. You can space out your day’s activities by doing homework in the morning, possibly for that class later in the day (yes, it actually allows you to procrastinate more if that’s possible).
3. Far less scheduling conflicts, as that fun CAB event will not be at 8 a.m. or likely anytime before noon. Basically, you know you will have less classes (if any) that conflict with that ~fun thing~ later on.
4. Less people up in the morning equals less distraction equals more work done. You choose.
5. You can admire the beauty of the lawn and Christopher Newport Hall in the early quiet hours of the morning while subsequently appreciating how productive you are for getting up.
6. Far more excuses to grab Einstein’s after that long morning of work.
7. Your class is out of the way, and hey maybe it was boring anyway so guess who isn’t moping around all day dreading it? You, because you already went to it and can’t complain about not wanting to go it all day (your friends will appreciate it).
8. More work done in the morning equals more fun and free time later in the evening.
9. You can relish the feeling of accomplishment when it is noon and you’ve already gone to class and done whatever you’ve done after that.
10. Carpe Diem — earlier rising equals more time in the day to seize the day, so go for it. ■



# A Letter to the Editor, No Really, to the Editor

It's not a war between writer and editor...  
quite the opposite.

MICHAEL INNACELLI

MICHAEL.INNACELLI.15@CNU.EDU

Editing is one of my favorite and least favorite things about writing. I love to edit other people's work and help them improve the story as well as improve as a writer themselves, but I cannot stand editing my own work. To be completely honest, that probably shows in a lot of my work. I just don't like reading stuff I write. It sounds insane, especially since I don't mind hearing my own voice, but it just irritates me to read what I write.

However, I know that the editing process is probably the most important part of writing. Without the editing process, stories can be disjointed. The reader expects a story to make sense, and without editors stories tend to be a jumbled mess of thoughts and ideas. In an article in Section 7 in the book "Telling True Stories," it is explained that there is a huge importance in having a good editor-writer relationship. This is huge in building and crafting stories. If the author and the editor don't get along it tends to damage stories and articles. The authors of this article, Mark Kramer and Wendy Call, quote Jon Franklin in saying; "I gave an editor a draft, and he said it was a piece of garbage. It's not that it wasn't true, it's that it wasn't helpful."

That line sums up most writer-editor relationships. In my line of work I know that editors are a bit tricky to deal with, myself included. We tend to get a bit snobby and think we can change stories however we please and say whatever we want. I know The Captain's Log has lost a couple writers due to our editors not being willing to work with the somewhat less reliable writers, understandably so. This is where the disconnect ruins stories and authors.

Some authors however can be unrealistic and want full creative liberty. That can be a huge issue for news publications and magazines as format is everything. The writer and the editor must work together to make sure that the authors vision is being realized. However, the product must also match the publication's parameters and requirements. That's where the issues pop up. Both parties must be willing to work with each other for this to be possible.

Furthermore, I believe it is the editor and the authors' duty to work together. They owe that to the reader. The best stories are written and edited as a team between the author and editor. These stories have the best flow, style and value in any publication. These are the kind of stories people want to read. These are the stories I want to write as a writer and an author. I have been very lucky in my writing for the Opinions section of The Captain's Log.

The editor that I have worked with most has been my roommate Matthew Scherger. Living together means at any point in time I can ask Matthew to review and edit my pieces. When we work together my articles end up flowing much better than if I didn't talk to him about the editing process.

Not everyone can live with their editors, but this is the relationship that needs to be built. Writers and editors should be friends and work as a team to produce the best content. One cannot exist without the other and it is time we as a writing community start acting like it. ■

**The Captain's Log is hiring!  
Interested in writing, design,  
photography, editing or  
marketing? Email Editor-In-  
Chief for The Captain's Log  
Volume 50, Morgan Barclay,  
at [morgan.barclay.15@cnu.edu](mailto:morgan.barclay.15@cnu.edu)  
for an online application by  
Friday, April 13.**

# Buzzin' Becky



COURTESY OF CLIPART LIBRARY

Well, here we are again. It's officially April which means everyone is scrambling to get things done. Whether you're a freshman eager to get home after your first year or a senior ready to be done but not ready to be a real adult, end on a good note. In a month you can lay in bed and watch Netflix, so get your work done now.

I know it's hard. The library will be packed soon with people trying to salvage their grades. The weather is going to be getting nice enough to go do fun things and your friends with no Friday classes are going to be going to the beach and the temptation will

be all too real. It's okay to say no. Tell them you'll meet them there after class if you need to, focus on what matters.

Seniors, you now have a month left to do the rest of what you set out to do. One month left of having your friends live a five minute walk away. One month left of the whole undergrad experience.

Soak it up now. Live it up while it lasts. If you're someone who's incredibly straight edge, YOLO something and be spontaneous. After this, how many chances will you really have with these friends to do something on a whim? Yes, school is important but you'll be thinking about the memories come 20 years from now. So, what do you wanna remember?

## My friend just got broken up with and she's overreacting. Any advice?

Breakups are hard. Some people cope with them in different ways but before you start to judge your friend, think about it. One day you have a set plan and things are going great, the next day it's shaken up and you could be scared and confused by this (maybe) unexpected action? Pretty awful.

Granted, I don't know the full story here. I'm lacking details that would guide this, but we can try different scenarios.

If they've been dating for a long time, of course she's "overreacting." That's a huge life change, especially if she's getting ready to graduate. That's the worst timing imaginable when so many big things are happening, in which case be there. Even if you think she's crazy she needs all the love she can get from friends and family surrounding her. Even if it was a two year high school into college thing, they spend a year long distance and I'm sure that was hard enough. Try and be sympathetic to how she's feeling.

Now here's where the idea changes a bit. If they were dating for about three months and she completely flew off the handle, then yes. She's overreacting. But in her defense, I'm sure it feels like the worst thing ever. It's probably not and she probably has and will face more difficult things, but in the moment you get caught up.

All you can do now is try to be there for her. Answer those frantic texts, hang out with her and try to provide someone to listen to. You may find it ridiculous but to her it'll mean the world. Good luck!

— Becky out

*\*Submissions have been edited for clarity and length.*



# SNAPSHOT

PAGE 8

The sisters of Gamma Phi Beta hosted their annual dance competition, raising \$14,500.37 for their philanthropy, Girls on the Run. If you missed it, check out our Facebook page with videos of each performance.



The brothers of Kappa Delta Rho performed last in the competition portion of the night. They came out of a lit tunnel while wearing glow in the dark glasses. The part of their performance that elicited cheers from the audience was when one brother spun in the center of the group (above) and the rest pushed up off the floor. Another popular part of their performance was when they tossed lollipops to GPhi sisters sitting on the sidelines. Their creative techniques won them first place. HANNAH MCCLURE / THE CAPTAIN'S LOG

## Gamma Phi Beta's Best Dance Crew

Pi Lambda Phi brought an out-of-this-world performance to the Field House. Opening with Katy Perry's "E.T." feat. Kanye West, they incorporated robotic movements throughout their performance.

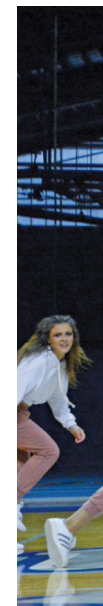
Their silver and blue aluminum-looking shirts with shimmering face paint gave the illusion of something extraterrestrial. HANNAH MCCLURE / THE CAPTAIN'S LOG



The sisters and gold



Delta G by 3OH!



The sisters perform





Members of Phi Mu placed second in the competition with their monetary theme. Adorned in dollar covered leggings and jewelry, these girls brought a lot of energy to their performance. **MACY FRIEND / THE CAPTAIN'S LOG**



Rachel Schnedzielos of Alpha Chi Sigma opened their performance with a chemical reaction that went awry. **MACY FRIEND / THE CAPTAIN'S LOG**



Members of Gamma brought early 2000s alternative rock back, with songs like Green Day's "American Idiot" and "My First Kiss" by Paramore. They won Change Wars, raising the most money via loose change. **MACY FRIEND / THE CAPTAIN'S LOG**



Zeta Tau Alpha's performance had a theme of women empowerment, with songs like Beyonce's "Run the World," TLC's "No Scrubs" and Ke\$ha's "Woman." **MACY FRIEND / THE CAPTAIN'S LOG**



Members of Alpha Phi placed third in the competition with their coordinated hip-hop/pop-oriented performance. They danced to songs like Rihanna's "Rude Boy" and the Pussycat Dolls' "Don't." **MACY FRIEND / THE CAPTAIN'S LOG**



The Einstein's crew showed us that they're more than campus baristas with their fitting mix of songs like Vanilla Ice's "Ice Ice Baby" and Rihanna's "Work." **MACY FRIEND / THE CAPTAIN'S LOG**



# CNU Golf Compete In Three Competitions

Men's and Women's Golf Teams engage in competition up and down the east coast.



(Above) Junior standout Kurt Funkhouser has competed in 15 rounds in three tournaments. (Below) Freshman Cameron Cook takes a swing. PHOTOS COURTESY OF TIMOTHY HOWARD

BY TARYN HANNAM-ZATZ  
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The Christopher Newport Men's and Women's Golf teams have both competed in three tournaments this season.

Both teams competed in the Callaway Gardens Invitational as well as the Jekyll Island Intercollegiate.

The Men's team then competed in the Camp Lejeune Intercollegiate and the Women's team competed in the Randolph-Macon Invitational.

At the Callaway Gardens Invitational, the Men's team placed 11 out of 18 and the Women's team placed 13 out of 14. The invitational was held in Pine Mountain, Ga. and both teams worked extremely hard.

In the Jekyll Island Intercollegiate, the Men's team placed 25 out of 30 and the Women's team placed 17 out of 23.

This tournament was held at Jekyll Island in Georgia.

The two teams worked hard to improve from the previous tournament and the newly formed Women's team was able to get a better place under their belt.

The Men's team then went on to com-

pete in the Camp Lejeune Intercollegiate where they placed 8 out of 30. This tournament in Jacksonville, N.C. was a huge victory for the team. They were very successful throughout the entire competition and were able to sweep the competition beating 22 of the other teams.

The Women's team went on to take part in the Randolph-Macon Invitational held close by in Richmond, Va.

They placed 2 out of 4, bringing home another big victory as the Men's team did in North Carolina.

Both teams will go on to compete in two different tournaments. The Men's team will head to Greensboro, N.C. on April 6 to compete in the DIII Matchplay Invitational, while the Women's team will head to Dickson, Tenn. on April 8 to compete in the Sewanee Women's Invitational.

They are both looking to continue improving and bring home another two major victories as they continue their season.

These will be the last tournaments for both teams before they will be competing in the Capital Athletic Conference tournament. ■





# Woodard Earns CAC Player of the Week Twice

The junior standout has helped lead the Captains to one of the best starts in program history.

BY PHOENIX HINES  
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The Christopher Newport Baseball team is having one of their best seasons in program history. The Captains are currently ranked No.7 in the country while riding a 14-game win streak. This win streak has propelled the team to a 22-4 record, including a perfect 6-0 record in Capital Athletic Conference (CAC) play. The outstanding play from junior Seth Woodard is a major reason why the Captains have been playing at such a high level.

Woodard has played in Newport News for some time now. Before coming to play for Coach John Harvell and the Captains, Woodard attended Woodside High School, which is a 15-minute drive from CNU. During his time at Woodside, Woodard pieced together an absurd career playing for the Wolverines.

The infielder helped his team win a District Championship and finished his career with a .408 batting average, nine home runs, 195 RBI and 113 hits.

Woodard's high school game translated to college pretty well. His freshman year, he attended Old Dominion University where he ranked second on the team as a freshman in slugging percentage with .450.

During his time playing for the Monarchs, Woodard appeared in 23 games and started 16 of them. In a solid freshman year, he hit 3 home runs, which

ranked third on the team his freshman year.

After Woodard's sophomore year, he transferred from Old Dominion to play for his hometown team.

"Christopher Newport University and the coaching staff here presented me with the opportunity to continue playing baseball and further my education. It is a beautiful place full of students who love their school and what's better than playing the sport you love in front of a hometown crowd?" says Woodard.

Woodard's play has made an immediate impact for the Captains. The third baseman is currently batting .404 to go along with 27 runs, a team-high 38 RBI's and five home runs.

Playing third base can be tough sometimes. Usually the hardest balls come that way, but Woodard actually enjoys the challenge of making a quick reaction play over a long run to take away a hit. The junior takes pride in his defensive game because he can change the course of the game with one play. Although his fielding skills are quite dominant, Woodard has a pretty strong bat that adds to the Captains' powerful lineup. When up to bat, he usually becomes more of a situational hitter who can get on base while also batting runners in and providing some occasional power.

Woodard's success has been developed from all the hard work he put in during the offseason. This past



Seth Woodard currently leads the Capital Athletic Conference (CAC) in Runs Batted In with 38 on the year. MACY FRIEND/THE CAPTAIN'S LOG

summer, Woodard played in the Valley Baseball League in the Shenandoah Valley which improved his game tremendously because of the tough competition he played against. Once summer ball was over, the team got back to work on campus. The Captains were in the weight room four times a week and practicing on the field three times a week.

Despite having a relatively average season last year, the Captains' upper-classman leadership has helped propel

this team to the next level. The majority of their team is returning starters and then a couple transfers, like Woodard. This leadership and experience has helped lead the Captains to gritty comeback wins and big hits/plays during crunch time.

All of the hard work and success has been evident in Woodard's play this year. He has earned CAC Player of the Week twice this season. ■

## CNU Women's Lacrosse Supports "CJ Strong"

The ladies of the Women's Lacrosse team dedicate annual Cancer Dancer game to Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.



(Left) Senior attacker Carly Wilson competes in a game against Randolph Macon. She got two goals and four assists. (Right) The Women's team sold these grey and orange t-shirts leading up to the Cancer Dancer game in support of CJ Buechner and others battling cancer. PHOTOS BY NICOLE RAMKEY/THE CAPTAIN'S LOG



BY CAITLIN KING  
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This year the CNU Women's Lacrosse team has chosen to support the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. In the past, the team has supported ovarian cancer in support of Debbie Cale, the mother of a former CNU Field Hockey student.

After consideration of other cancer organizations the team decided that this organization would allow them to support one of their own Christopher Newport Captains.

In January of 2018, senior CJ Buechner was diagnosed with and is now battling Acute Leukemia Cancer. He is close friends with members of the Wom-

en's Lacrosse Team and was a goalie for the CNU Men's Lacrosse team in his freshman and sophomore years.

The goal of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society is to find a cure and ensure access to treatments for blood cancer patients. This team dedicated their home game against Randolph Macon on Wednesday, March 28 to this

cause and sold t-shirts to raise money for the organization.

Altogether this fundraiser made \$1,200 to help those fighting Leukemia. ■

*Caitlin King is a member of the Women's Lacrosse Team.*



# Art, Music and Happiness

The second Lymphoma Art Exposition will promote a different perspective on living with cancer.



(Left) Occurring in Kathryn Scholefield's backyard, caricature portraits were one of the draws of the first event that will be present at the second event. (Center) Ryan Swindell prepares his guitar before performing at the first Lymphoma Art Exposition. Music will play an important role in the upcoming event. (Right) Swindell and Scholefield pose together in Scholefield's backyard at the first event. The next event will be happening on campus. (Bottom) The logo of the art exposition for 2018 shows the colors for Lymphoma awareness, lime green and purple. **PHOTOS COURTESY OF KATHRYN SCHOLEFIELD**

BY MORGAN BARCLAY  
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"Let's just do it"—this is freshman Kathryn Scholefield's reaction to planning an intercollegiate, community-based, art and music exposition to raise money for cancer research.

The Lymphoma Art Exposition is an art and music exhibition currently accepting submissions that will occur at Christopher Newport University on Saturday, Oct. 27. The event will feature art for sale made by the local community and students, as well as performances by local musical artists. A gathering of the community and survivors of cancer, the event will also raise cancer awareness and raise money for the American Cancer Society and the Lymphoma Research Fund. The second of its kind in the Hampton Roads/ Vir-

ginia Beach area, it is planned by the same individual: Scholefield.

She describes the experience of planning the stages for the event: "when I came to campus being in PLP and being involved I wanted to do something, but I wasn't really sure what." One day, Scholefield decided to have an art expo, simply stating, "let's just do it again."

'Again' is correct. After her boyfriend's diagnosis of Hodgkin's Lymphoma her sophomore year of high school, the 16-year-old Virginia Beach native, alongside her cousin, Cameron Hammer, and group of friends, decided to plan an art exposition as a "place to be happy" during her boyfriend's diagnosis and treatment.

"At first it was really hard for me to see him that way and deal with it, so me and my cousin got together and wanted to do something about it," Scholefield says. "We came up with the idea for an art expo, because he's a photographer and I am an artist."

With the help of friends and support from the Lymphoma Research Fund and a local country radio station, their project grew.

Spreading the word with news, radio and the paper, the backyard event garnered support from as far away as Glen Allen, becoming a full community event that raised over \$5,000.

Scholefield describes the previous event: "It was a good way for people to have fun. People were playing music. People were getting caricature drawings. People were buying art, making the artists feel good."

She also describes the importance of the event to her and her boyfriend, Ryan Swindell.

"Ryan got to play and not think about what was going on and I got to do my art,"

Scholefield says. "It was a really good outcome for something that wasn't so good in the beginning."

This feeling of happiness and joy is a common thread found in any discussion Scholefield has about the event. This directly contradicts some indi-

*"You can  
grieve, but  
pity isn't  
going to do  
a lot."*

*- Kathryn Scholefield*

what I was feeling and what I was going through when he was sick. Then, he came to me one day and said 'you don't have to feel that way.' He was the happiest person, he always is, it didn't even phase him, and he said 'you can talk to me about your emotions, you don't have to feel pity about it.' So, after that it became easier, not only for him, but for me because you were able to communicate these things and no one felt sorry for each other."

This lack of pity and emphasis on joy and happiness reflected in Swindell is something that she wants to extend to the rest of the community and to the rest of the survivors.

Although she does admit that the event has taken a fair bit of work, she feels extremely supported by campus.

Getting in contact with the Arts and Music Directors, as well as those involved in the Leadership Department, she has been able to get the word out about the event.

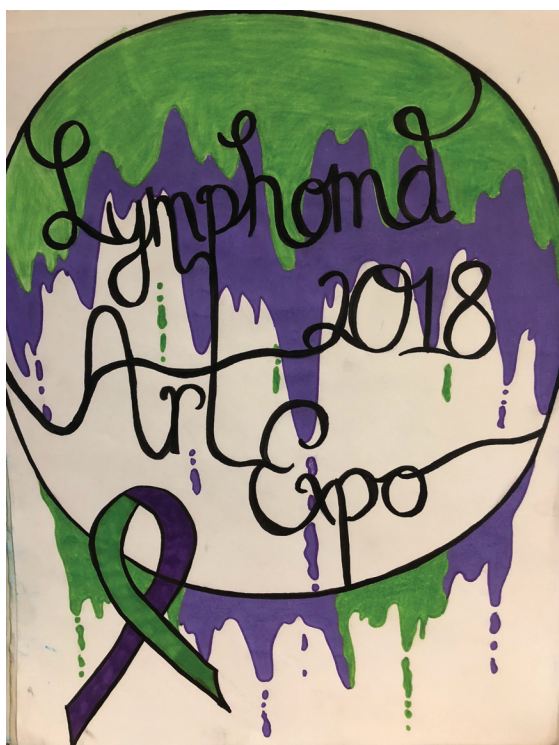
According to Scholefield, the best part of the planning process is the campus involvement with an initiative that is her idea.

"To see everyone coming together and doing things they love and being involved in it, making a really happy event... seeing that happiness come together in one place... It's such a nice stress reliever."

Only the second of its kind, Scholefield is hopeful that she will continue to have an event of this kind every year.

"It was a lot to plan the event [at] first, everyone was going through school, he was sick and it's not any less busy now, but now that I'm planning it again, it's making me so happy to realize how many people want to be involved in it... I'd love to do it again."

Still accepting submissions and volunteers for the event, Scholefield can be contacted at kathryn.scholefield.17@cnu.edu. ■





# The Current Progress of *Currents*

Accepting submissions from writers of all levels of experience, this year's literary magazine will focus on 'nostalgia.'

BY KRISTEN ZICCARELLI  
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CNU's Literary Magazine "Currents" prepares for their release party in early April, featuring their annual magazine with the overarching theme of 'nostalgia.'

With a behind-the-scenes team working to create the final product, "Currents" is on their final push, working to finish the layout and finally send it to the publisher.

Lead by Editor-in-Chief Michael Kasnic and Managing Editor Jack Fillaut, "Currents" requires various roles and editors to work throughout the year. With separate prose, poetry and online editors, the team also has a layout staff and readers that provide feedback on literary submissions.

According to Fillaut, their submissions reflect a diverse approach to the theme nostalgia. Although not all writers chose to follow the theme, pieces that did were given special consideration.

"Some people talked about specifically their childhood," Fillaut says. "I saw some

people work through some issues they're having through poetry, maybe taking the rose colored glasses off the past."

Fillaut added that there of course was "some classic nostalgia."

Currents PR Chair and Events Coordinator Roni Edwards expressed the multifaceted approach one can take to their theme, using it to convey positive or negative emotions.

"Typically it's fondness when looking back at a period of time in your life, usually associated with wishing to go back to the easier days," Edwards says. "For some people it can be remembering something hard for them so maybe then nostalgia is kind of on the sad side."

Although Edwards maintains the social media, she contributed to the literary side, submitting two of her own written works. She approached nostalgia through the lens of a cul-de-sac, focusing on how inanimate objects reflect stories and people that are very much alive.

"It was a nice way to reflect on my life but [it

is also] an interesting way of being nostalgic about what my life was," Edwards says.

Each year features a new theme, design and set of submissions. While "Currents" previously printed 800 copies of their magazine, they have lessened the amount to 250 or less, making the copies much scarcer.

The 2018 issue received more than 40 submissions. The judging process narrows down the most appropriate and creative pieces to publish, as not every single piece is automatically in the magazine. According to Fillaut, their goals center on increasing their submissions, as he encourages everyone to submit, regardless of their perceived abilities.

"Every single writer I know is embarrassed about what they write," Fillaut says. The judging process actually helps, because "either way you've submitted yourself and you've gotten over that threshold of fear."

Fillaut expressed other goals as the staff not only worked to develop a magazine, but also their presence and impact on campus.

"We want to take a more active stance on campus, especially interacting with the gen-

eral community," Fillaut says. "Also, building more of a rapport with our readers and trying to create more of a 'Currents' community."

As the PR Chair, Edwards says she brought back the "Currents" Twitter and created an Instagram.

"I definitely achieved my personal goals," Edwards says, adding that they could work on reaching out to English classes for submissions and initiating more efforts to fundraise.

Fillaut expressed similar sentiments. "Currents" does not have a grant from CNU to cover printing costs, as they are officially part of the English Department this year.

According to Edwards, who collaborates consistently with Kasnic and Fillaut, the team's diversity is an overall plus, as everyone "brings a different experience to the table."

Not everyone is an English major, and each editor has their own specialty and talent they add to the final product. This year will reflect not only a diverse staff, but also a diverse approach to their theme of nostalgia. ■

## Choosy Humanities Majors Choose Classes

With registration ending these next two weeks, these two pieces look into the choices available to Humanities Majors.

### Cross(dress)ing into the Final Semesters

BY KRISTEN ZICCARELLI  
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Reaching a senior seminar is a testament to success — you're near the end, having completed dozens of requirements and undoubtedly jumped through many hoops. As registration approaches, English majors will choose their capstone class, committing themselves to lots of reading, writing and a 20-page paper.

CNU English majors require a literature or writing concentration. The department also offers a variety of minors, such as 'Digital Humanities' and 'Medieval and Renaissance Studies.'

According to English Department Chair Dr. Mary Wright, the seminars are taught by professors focusing on a specific and often unconventional topic. Capped at 15 students, professors offer new and unique subject matter twice an academic year.

"Senior seminars are basically our opportunity to teach what we like that doesn't necessarily fit into other classes," Wright says. "It's the student's opportunity to demonstrate all that they have learned in a culminating moment in that class."

More than a year in advance, professors request to teach their specific seminar course, which must be within their expertise.

The senior seminars are largely literature-based, despite the two departmental options for concentrations: literature and writing.

Wright believes any prospective English major can benefit from the emphasis on writing with literary theory, especially the final term paper.

"I understand that if students perhaps have not taken a bunch of literature courses they haven't necessarily been exposed or

worked with literary theory," Wright says. "However, they are writing and reading [in the seminar] and those two are most prized in 490."

Wright also emphasized that the department "offers a variety of the form or genre that students can write in."

English Professor Dr. Sharon Rowley says senior seminar students can revise and develop a paper from another class, offering more variety for writing concentration majors. Rowley will teach a fall semester senior seminar entitled "Gender and Cross-dressing in Literature."

Referring to her seminar, Rowley explained that "it is a writing intensive course no matter what," but students could collaborate with her and previous professors to perfect and revise a paper from their fiction or nonfiction classes.

Students write the 20-page paper in a process that lasts the entire semester. According to Wright, the opportunity to construct one single paper instead of multiple smaller projects prepares students for anything from graduate school to private sector work.

"My role as I see it is to assist and shepherd them along through that process," Wright says. "The reward is working closely with my writer to develop ideas and help them figure out different ways of expression."

Remarking on the reward of the written product, Rowley expressed similar sentiments.

"The benefit of a small class is that you have time to work with everybody," Rowley says. "To see the person make good on their idea and form a sophisticated well-developed paper is the most satisfying thing."

For Rowley, the seminars are an opportunity for her to teach a specialized topic without the constraints of a prescribed format. Though Rowley's seminars often feature a gender-related topic, she created this new seminar specifically in response to informal survey results.

"I'm not locked in by a catalog description that says I have to teach x, y and z,"

Rowley says. "Because students were asking for more gender I thought this would be a really fun way to get into it and I've always been interested in sartorial style so I thought this would be great."

The fall semester's English senior seminar requirements will be offered by English professors Dr. Sharon Rowley and Dr. Ivan Rodden. ■

### The Money Myth

BY IAN BURKE  
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Tuition hikes have become commonplace in higher education, regardless of field. However, it seems some departments may have been hit harder. In order to clear up the issue, The Captain's Log asked two professionals from the Honors Program and English department for their perspectives on the shifting price tags and attitudes towards the Arts and Humanities.

Honors program director and former chair of the English Department Dr. Jay Paul believes that higher education is expensive regardless of career path. Everybody knows that there is either a large bill to pay right now, or after graduation. According to Paul's experience, the tuition for a program does not affect a student's choice for their major.

Paul addressed the dropping rates of English majors. According to Paul, removing journalism and creative writing as concentrations has prevented more people from attending the university in the first place. Many students, he says, are not keeping CNU on the radar for this reason, and choose to attend other schools with these concentrations.

That said, CNU is not missing individuals with an interest in these fields, even if they do not major in them. Paul explained that every field has great writ-

ers and terrible writers. During one of his creative writing courses, one of his best students was a philosophy major who avidly read literature.

Overall, Paul says these courses are important for the university, but that doesn't mean students outside of those majors will not develop comparable interest or skill in the arts as those with a humanities concentration, even if the rates do eventually drop.

Dr. Anna Teekell expressed similar sentiments. As a professor in the English department, she believes that the tuition hike is nothing really new; it is simply a continuation of the struggle in the humanities since the last generation. However, the argument is not necessarily a battle over a price tag.

Moreover, Teekell believes that it is a battle for relevance between the professional world and prospective students and their parents. Teekell believes that people in the Arts and Humanities have done a bad job at communicating the legitimacy of their degree. This failure has given rise to the "myth of usefulness," — that a degree in English has no real usefulness in the professional world.

However, Teekell resents this myth of usefulness, as the value of critical thinking and writing cannot be understated in a society where people communicate more through writing than we ever have before. Technology firms value this skill; firms hire English and writing majors because they have the thinking and writing skills that most STEM majors tend not to acquire during college.

As Teekell heard many times at career events, "we can teach you to do the tech stuff, we can't teach you how to think or write." Teekell does not agree with the expectation that a Bachelor's degree immediately translates into a job, as most jobs in STEM and even in the Humanities require degrees beyond a BA. Teekell values critical thinking and writing, and firmly believes that college is a time to learn about something you enjoy thoroughly and find a way to apply that area of study you love to a job. ■



## Massive Tour Numbers Flood Campus



Student Ambassadors, also referred to as tour guides, Lee Grinnan and Natalie Weber stand on the steps of Christopher Newport Hall to conclude their morning tour of prospective high school visitors and their parents. At the conclusion of each tour, the tour guides share a few unique aspects of CNU, such as the speaking tradition, and then close the tour with their CNU story, explaining why they chose to come to CNU, and why they have stayed. **PHOTOS BY KATIE KRYNITSKY/THE CAPTAIN'S LOG**

Throughout the weeks surrounding the Easter holiday weekend, you may have noticed larger, more frequent tours. During these hectic, busy times, Student Ambassadors stick together.

**BY KATIE KRYNITSKY**  
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As warmer weather this week encouraged students to play frisbee, study or just relax out on the Great Lawn, students, faculty and staff may have noticed massive groups and numbers of tours parading through campus.

Yes, there have been much larger amounts of prospective students visiting recently, and the answer is simple: high school spring break.

Although the Student Ambassadors seen leading these tour groups around are putting in a little extra work in the weeks before and after Easter weekend, they are proud of what they're doing for the school and visiting high schoolers.

"The sense of family, both around

CNU and within the office of admission is unreal during these weeks. Everyone is hectic and excited and busy, and we share in all of it because we all love our school and cannot wait to show it to those visiting," says James Duffy.

"We often become best friends with students that came on our tours and then decided to become Captains. Getting to be a part of this important aspect of these students' lives and see them become our classmates and friends makes the job so worth it," says Dayna

Scarberry.

Throughout the year, tours begin on the second floor of Christopher Newport Hall after an Admission presentation, and end back on the steps where the Student Ambassadors bring the

tour to a close. This past week, most presentations were held in Peebles Theater and tours were led out of the Ferguson Center due to large numbers of prospective students and guests.

"Throughout my time here at CNU, I have always looked forward to high school spring break weeks, because although it's busy, it's a time for bonding. Very few people outside of the Office of Admission fully understand what's happening during these times and how much work goes into it, so as tour guides we lean on one another for understanding. In my opinion, these two weeks mark the last opportunity to make relationships with your fellow tour guides count," says Katherine Mumaw.

Amidst the busy days, Student Ambassadors thrive off of their favorite aspects of being campus tour guides.

"Getting to share why I love this campus and community with the high schoolers visiting is the reason I wanted to be a tour guide, and I'm glad that I was able to show a new group of future Captains what CNU has to offer," says Jessica Farhan.

The group of Student Ambassadors relies on each other during hectic, busy times in the Office of Admission.

"We are a team, working for the same goal, but beyond that we are a

family. There is no one else I would get out of bed for on my day off," says Patrick Dealey.

"There's no bonding experience like high school spring break weeks. It's a time where the tour guides have a lot on their plate between giving tours every work shift, keeping up with school work, walking backwards more than usual, overusing our voices and creating a new class of Captains," says Shannon McWilliams.

Mass numbers of tours and little-to-no downtime in the office lead Student Ambassadors to grow a stronger bond with their co-workers.

"The best thing about these weeks are getting through them with the best co-workers possible. We help each other laugh and keep each other going through the busy times. If it wasn't for each other, we would not survive. This is also the time when you start to realize the senior tour guides are leaving, so we all soak up the time we have with them before they graduate," says McWilliams.

Captains hold doors, and Captains wave hello as we pass by one another on the sidewalks.

Don't be afraid to shout to your favorite tour guide while they are spitting out information in Luter, or to say hi to some of the families admiring our tall columns and green grass. ■



Katherine Mumaw shares her CNU story with prospective students.



# Kappa Sigma Auctions Off Brothers



(Left) Date Auction audience members in the Ballroom raise their bid cards for each brother they decide to bid on. (Right) Cam Corzine takes the stage to be auctioned off as a date to Jose Tequilas the following day to his highest bidder. **PHOTOS BY ASHLYN SISSON/THE CAPTAIN'S LOG**

Brothers of Kappa Sigma took the stage one-by-one, auctioned off as dates for an upcoming date function.

BY KATIE KRYNITSKY  
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Students gathered in the DSU Ballroom on Wednesday, March 28 from 7-9 p.m. where Sean Lynch, Tyler Yost and Troy Aitken emceed Kappa Sigma's annual Date Auction.

At the auction, students bid on each participating brother to accompany them to their Gatsby-themed date function on Thursday, March 29 at Jose Tequilas, only minutes down the road from campus.

Bids for brothers ranged from \$15 to \$140. Justin McClure went for the highest amount, and Logan Jones went for the lowest.

"I'd like to thank everyone who participated in our raffle and to all of the ladies who were generous enough to bid on our brothers. We all worked very hard to set up the event, but a special thanks goes out to brother Jack Beecy who, in my opinion, really made the event possible," says Sean Lynch.

In total, Kappa Sigma Frater-

nity raised \$1,250 from the auction. Money raised through the raffle tickets will be going to Fear2Freedom, and the money raised through auctioning off the brothers will be going to their philanthropy, Military Heroes Campaign, a cause that supports ongoing care for military veterans and their families.

Raffle tickets were sold at one for \$3, two for \$5 and five for \$10.

If students were not carrying cash, brothers accepted payment to their Venmo account.

Raffle prizes included \$50 Amazon gift card, \$25 Chipotle gift card, \$25 BJ's Brewhouse gift card, \$15 Starbucks gift card, \$15 Dunkin' Donuts gift card, \$30 Sephora gift card, Kappa Sigma rush shirt, Date Auction shirt and a gift basket.

"Our hard work paid off because we raised a lot of money for two great organizations, and then we were all able to have an awesome time at Jose Tequilas with our dates the following night," says Lynch. ■

## SDEC Panel Tackles Racial Conversations

Student Diversity and Equality Council hosted 'Being Mixed Race in America' discussions on Thursday, March 29.

BY ANNA DORL  
ANNA.DORL.17@CNU.EDU

"People ask me, 'What are you?' And I just say, 'Human - what are you?'" says Blakely Lockhart, looking around the circle of her peers.

CNU's Student Diversity and Equality Council (SDEC) hosted a panel on Thursday, March 29 in the Crow's Nest called "Being Mixed Race in America."

Panelists from various backgrounds gave their perspectives and spoke about their experiences being multi-racial in the United States.

The event was led by Shawn Toch, SDEC's Vice President of Operations.

The discussion was intimate and personal, punctuated by understanding nods and bursts of laughter.

There were only 10 students in the room at the most, all of different races, majors and classes. They all sat in a misshapen circle and looked each other in the eyes. SDEC had a few designated panelists but audience members participated as well.

All who spoke contributed to a larger conversation - what is it like to belong to multiple racial backgrounds in the United States in 2018?

Lockhart identifies as African American and Caucasian as well as part Native American.

She, along with the other speakers, shared her views on the challenges that mixed-race individuals face.

She told the group that she is often asked "what she is" in terms of her racial background, and that people often choose for her because they want to be right when they guess her ethnicity.

One popular topic in the conversation was the pressure to "choose" only one race that you belong to: fit into that specific box and act like people think someone of that race should act.

Victoria Herrold, a Hispanic American panelist, says, "You have to fit into a box or it's wrong. People say you need to be white to be the right side."

Evangeline "Eva" Campbell is African American and Native American, and her father is from Jamaica.

"[He] never uses his accent anymore. He was seen as just black and that's who he needed to become," says Campbell.

Campbell says the key to solving the problem of racial tension starts with education.

She told the panel that in school, children mainly learn history concerning white people without equal in-depth studies on Native Americans. Children are not taught history from all sides. "It's easy to become Americanized because that's what you're taught. There's a lack of representation in history books," she says.

When asked about negative experiences at CNU, Lockhart says, "The problem of racism on campus is [people] not understanding what racism is."

She told the story of someone making a remark to her that she and others around her viewed as distasteful, but the person who made the remark didn't understand that what he had said was offensive.

Lockhart also condemned the attitude of apathy that many people take with issues not immediately relevant to them or their specific race, such as police brutality. "People are being killed," she says. "This is an issue we



SDEC hosts a panel event in the Crow's Nest, discussing mixed-races. **HANNAH MCCLURE/THE CAPTAIN'S LOG**

should all care about."

SDEC's panel left both participants and audience members more educated about the struggles that mixed-race individuals face.

As citizens of the world and students at Christopher Newport, we grow more as we come to understand one another's struggles and come together to resolve them.

SDEC's panel about being mixed race in America opened eyes, ignited important conversation and encouraged continued inclusivity and equality.

To get involved with SDEC at CNU, contact [sdec@cnu.edu](mailto:sdec@cnu.edu) and be on the lookout for upcoming events. ■



# ***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 Melanie Occhiuzzo at [clog@cnu.edu](mailto:clog@cnu.edu)

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