

THE CAPTAIN'S LO

THE VOICE OF CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

@CNUCAPTAINSLOG VOLUME 47, ISSUE 10 WWW.THECAPTAINSLOG.ORG NOVEMBER 11, 2015

NINE YEARS, NINE TILES

CNU's volleyball team continued its near-decade long conference undefeated streak as it took down Salisbury in the CAC Championship.



(Above) Members of the team hold up nine fingers, one for each conference championship. (Right) Senior setter Rachel Conway tips the ball over the net against Salisbury. PHOTOS BY BEN LEISTENSNIDER/THE CAPTAIN'S LOG.



Be sure to check out CNU TV's videos of the performances from last week's Stroll to the Polls on our Facebook page.

BY ROBERT SMITH

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It is undeniable. CNU volleyball kills it in conference play. In addition to being undefeated in the Capital Athletic Conference for the third straight year, CNU secured its ninth consecutive conference championship title when it won the CAC on Nov. 7.

Facing familiar foes in both rounds of the CAC tournament, the Captains took care of St. Mary's on Thursday night, a team they played in last year's semi-final round, three sets to two before sweeping rival Salisbury in three sets in Saturday night's championship matchup.

VOLLEYBALL CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

Sports 10
Stealing the show: a review of Opera
CNU's "The Old Maid and the Thief."

Lifestyle 14

The Force is strong with this one: a profile of CNU's padawans



PAGE 2

Weekly pic

Nassir Criss, Malik Johnson, Jordan Roach and Ekoue Edwin Lewis Folli were revealed as the new brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha at the fraternity's Neophyte Exhibition in the Trible Plaza on Saturday. Photo by Hannah McClure/The Captain's Log.



Online this week

Check out these videos on our Facebook page.



From 1 to 100: the history of CNU football

CNUTV intern and member of the football team Andre Toran chronicles the first win in CNU history and the team's 100th win earlier this season.



Stroll to the Polls

CNUTV recaps the biggest moments from the third annual stroll competition.



Student spotlight: Anderson Moore

Commonly referred to as Violin Guy on campus, CNU TV sits down with Anderson Moore, one of the more visible (and audible) students at CNU.

Corrections: The second seed in the CAC volleyball tournament was Salisbury, not York College.

Happened

Nov 6

Kappa Sigma's Military Appreciation Night

For the CNU Hockey vs. George Mason Patriots game, all active and retired military personnel and ROTC students received free admission. A portion of ticket sales were donated to the Military Hero Campaign.

Nov 6

The Improvocateurs: Walk of Shame

Last Friday at 8 p.m. in the DSU Ballroom, CNU's first all-female comedy group held their second show of the year titled, "Walk of Shame." They performed sketch comedy, improv, and stand up.

Nov. 6, 7

CNU Opera's Performance of "The Old Maid and the Thief"

Held both Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. in the M&T Hall, Ferguson Center, CNU Opera students performed in this one-act by Gian Carlo Menotti. Read more about the performance on page 12.

Nov. 10

The Refugee Crisis in the Mediterranean

In the M&T Hall, the Reiff Center and other departments held a panel discussion on the current refugee crisis. Panelists included CNU professors Dr. Tina Kempin Reuter and Dr. Andria Timmer, and Dr. Hanadi Al-Samman from University of Virginia.

Happening

Nov 11

CAB Presents... Diversity University

At 7:30 p.m. in the Gaines Theater, motivational speakers Monti Washington and Julia Garcia will come to speak to students on breaking through personal and external obstacles, rising above circumstances, and learning to be TRU to themselves.

Nov. 11

25 Years of German Unification-Panel Discussion

This upcoming discussion, tonight at 7 p.m. in the DSU Ballroom will center on the transformation of Germany in the last 25 years into a leading power in Europe. The panel discussion will be directed by Dr. Mario Mazzarella.

Nov. 9-13

Student Veterans Organization Veterans Week

This week, the SVO is honoring our nation's veterans through a range of events, such as a panel discussion, decorating the Great Lawn, an honor ceremony, ending with a guest speaker in the Gaines Theatre at 1 p.m. Friday.

Nov. 12

CAB Presents... Homegrown 2015

This Sat. from 8-19 p.m., CAB again hosts a show-case of CNU musical talent. Students with talent in all genres are invited to sign up to perform.

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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 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

- **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. in the Jefferson Room of the DSU.

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FROM THE FRONT PAGE

VOLLEYBALL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

After losing offensive leader Briana Sutton late in the season, the Captains were forced to make adjustments quickly. Head Coach Lindsay Birch, in her 14th year at the helm, has been efficient in finding a new lineup as post season fast approached.

"We've shifted our line up a little lately, trying to figure out where everyone was going to play, and we have really done a good job at using these matches to improve our play in this new lineup," she said.

A freshman out of Briar Woods High School, Josie Lucernoni made sure to emphasize that this is a team and said "one player does not make this team" while Ashley Rock reiterated the quality of her teammates both on and off the court stating that "we practice against a nationally ranked team in practice everyday."

This 'next man up' mentality and family atmosphere is what has gotten the team through adversity over the years.

While reflecting on their time at the Freeman Center, all three seniors, Abby McIntyre, Rachel Conway, and Ashley Rock took a moment to mention the family that they have gained in this university's volleyball program. Their chemistry is what keeps this team together.

The weekend that was.

CNU was lead offensively in the tournament by McIntyre who notched 30 kills highlighted by a 23 kill performance on Thursday night against St. Mary's.

Conway acted as a catalyst for the offensive production contributing 80 assists over the two matches, averaging an even 10 assists per set. Hannah Miller put together a high-quality match against Salisbury with 12 kills on 18 hits and added five blocks.

Rock was all over the court with six kills, four blocks and two aces on the day. Junior Maddie McCann put together a 25 kill tournament to round out the big offensive numbers.

Defensively it was the combination of Rachel Close, Evelyn Harper and Josie Lucernoni who took care of business in the back row. Close ended the weekend with 31 digs, Harper snagged 21 and Lucernoni finished with 12.

The fountain of youth

It was new faces like Lucernoni, Katelyn Newsome, and Maddie Wickens, who made the most of their first chances in CAC post season play. After securing an automatic bid in the tournament, Head Coach Lindsay Birch talked about the talent coming from her bench.

"I'm really thrilled that they now have the opportunity and



Rookie (no. 9) Katelyn Newsome provided four kills against Salisbury, including the game winner above. BEN LEISTENSNIDER/THE CAPTAIN'S LOG

that they are capitalizing on it," she said. "They are playing great and it is building their confidence so they can do it with greater regularity."

That regularity is slowly but surely becoming a reality for Newsome who ended the CAC tournament with 11 blocks, averaging 1.38 blocks per set. Newsome has not seen the floor much but is happy to finally get her chance.

"It's a privilege to play on that court, this is my dream, to be a college athlete. I just keep playing my hardest."

These contributions from Newsome and company did not go unnoticed by the leaders of the Captains' battery.

"Maddie (McCann) and Katelyn (Newsome) are playing new spots and are doing a good job stepping up to the challenge," Conway said.

What's to come?

This improved play has brought up the confidence of

the Captains as they look to continue a 17 game win streak going into the NCAA tournament next weekend.

This was the Captains' third year in the Capital Athletic Conference and much like the past two it was easy pickings for CNU as they exited the year unharmed through conference play, winning all 11 of their games against CAC opponents.

This coming weekend the Captains will be headed to Galloway, New Jersey, home of Stockton University, for the NCAA Regional round.

This tournament of eight teams will begin on Friday night for the Captains against a 23-13 team from Hunter College.

If they win, CNU will then play the winner of a Stevenson vs. Randolph-Macon bout which promises to be a thriller in and of itself. Should the Captains advance past that, it is likely that they will play the host, Stockton, in a regional final on

Sunday night.

After winning the conference championship in straight sets, the Captains were incredibly confident about what the rest of their season could look like.

When asked if they thought they could rally off another six wins to finish off the season with a National Championship, the answer was emphatic and positive, but Lucernoni knows it will take more than just skill.

"We are mentally prepared to go all the way, we want it and we are just going to keep pushing ourselves," she said.

The team accepts that some days are better than others, but prepares to bring their all to every match.

"We have every intention of winning 6 more matches, but we know we are not invincible, and that if on any day we don't play our best, we are going to lose," said Birch. "It keeps you on your toes and makes you give your absolute best every-day."



Overall Record: 23-13
2015 CUNYAC champions
Second straight NCAA bid
Three game win streak
Key player: Julia Connolly

Leadership students ship out to Spain

CNU students took part in workshops, lectures and a case study competition at a leadership conference in Spain.





Students were able to enjoy the area in their free time. Colleen Marshall (left) rock climbs while Dagney Palmer, Rachel Chalkey and Delany Downs explore the city of Barcelona. PHOTOS COURTESY OF COLLEEN MARSHALL



Courtney Leistensnider, Kerri Kraft, Rachel Chalkey and Dagney Palmer presented as a team at a case study competition at the leadership conference. Three teams from CNU advanced to the finals. PHOTOS COURTESY DAGNEY PALMER

BY SAM CAMILLETTI

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Captains crossed the Atlantic to visit Barcelona, Spain for a conference to learn about the finer points of leadership in a series of lectures and workshops in mid October. Students and faculty also found time to

The International Leadership Association's 17th annual International Leadership Conference, "Leading Across Borders and Generations," highlights one of the unique out of classroom opportunities CNU offers its students. Eleven students and four faculty members attended the conference.

[This conference] showed a connection between what you're doing in class and what it can look like in the real world, a connection between the theory and the practice," Dagney Palmer, a junior, said.

The conference consisted of multiple workshops and lectures on leadership as well as a student case study competition.

CNU sent three teams to the conference; all three teams competed in the competition.

"[Teams] were given a case two weeks before the conference," senior Mary-Kate Dodge said. "It mainly dealt with ethical problems within FIFA, and we were asked to come up with solutions."

Teams had to write an essay and present a poster

based on their findings. Three teams moved on to the finals, where they delivered a formal presentation. The team of Dodge, Julie Heins and Lizzy Wall, all seniors, made it to the final round of the competition.

'[Making it to finals] was crazy; we totally didn't expect it. We hoped for it, obviously, as we prepared for it, but getting to the finals added a whole new level of pressure onto the conference," Dodge said.

These types of conferences are also prime grounds for networking. "These conferences are a good opportunity to make professional connections," Dr. Brent Cusher, assistant professor in leadership studies, said. "That is, I think, one of the great advantages to attending these meetings: so as to meet like minded

Students arrived four days prior to the start of the conference to explore Barcelona. Students rock climbed and took bus tours of the city.

"I tried to see some of the sights in Barcelona — the best was Gaudi's Sagrada Familia, although I have to say that the Picasso Museum was also great to walk through," Cusher said in an email.

Gaudi's Sagrada Familia is a notable Roman Catholic church in Barcelona.

Cusher was also able to attend FC Barcelona's football match at Camp Nou. "That was a great experience," he said. "I'll never forget seeing the excellent [first] Neymar score four goals in one game!

Beyond academia, Dodge cited that this trip led her to a broader understanding.

"Going somewhere new and talking about things that are important to you, you're going to learn something," she said. "Whether it's good or bad, whether you were happy with it or dissatisfied or homesick the whole time or fell in love with the city, you're going to take something away from it."

Any student with the leadership minor is eligible

for this conference but must submit an application.

Because of this funding, students are able to attend the conference either without cost to themselves or at a significantly reduced total cost,"

The next conference will be held in Atlanta, Georgia from Nov. 2-6, 2016. Proposals for presentations are due by Feb. 1, 2016. ■

Getting students over the sophomore slump



Michael Bamisile said existing study rooms on East Campus are too small. MACY FRIEND/THE CAPTAIN'S LOG

Student Assembly explores upgrades to study spaces on East Campus.

BY RACHEL WAGNER

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Student Assembly hopes to help upperclassmen recover from the sophomore slump by installing study rooms in East Campus.

Junior Michael Bamisile, chairman of the Academic Committee and a resident of Monroe Hall, said the initiative is intended to promote academic collaboration and growth among students.

The committee wants to build a residence learning community similar to what freshmen and sophomores utilize.

"[The committee is] trying to think about the welfare of the student," Bamisile said. "[We want students to] perform at the highest academic level possible."

The current study rooms are small and few in number, resulting in underutilization of the spaces, Bamisile said.

The addition of study rooms is part of an overall plan to improve East Campus.

Bamisile and his committee say research into new study rooms is underway and a push for more water fountains is



Repairing uneven sidewalks is another improvement project suggested by students. MACY FRIEND/THE CAPTAIN'S LOG

being considered.

The committee is also interested in hearing what residents of East Campus want to see done to their residence halls.

Makenzi Davis, a junior, said sometimes the quality of East Campus construction is questionable.

"One thing that kind of bugs me about where I live is the uneven sidewalks," Davis said.

They are really bad in some places and it could be easy to trip if you aren't paying attention to where you are going," Davis said.

Megan Maclane, a junior, said, "I think that installing

lights in the bedrooms would be a huge improvement. It kind of sucks going into your room at night and flicking a light switch that doesn't turn on any lights."

Bamisile said that he hopes that research into new study rooms on East Campus is completed within a month.

Should Student Assembly approve the proposal, Bamisile said that the actual process of making the study rooms a reality will take an indeterminate amount of time, depending on what resources can be allocated to the initiative.

News analysis: Democrats sit down for debate forum

Bernie Sanders had a strong showing while Hillary Clinton was evasive.



The forum saw candidates have one-on-one conversations with moderator Rachel Maddow (left). **HUFFINGTON POST**

BY CHRISTOPHER GABRO

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The trio of Democratic nomination hopefuls sought to define their positions in the latest debate with varying success.

Bernie Sanders

Sanders answered his questions quickly and they were rooted with passion.

All policies he maintained were tied to his fundamental morals.

Sanders voted against banning guns on Amtrak trains to allow hunters travel throughout the states. Sanders noted firearms must be kept in baggage. He said as a nation, we have to "come together" on this issue.

Sanders attacked Obama's recent decision to deploy special forces to Syria to combat ISIS.

He stressed that he opposed the 2003 war in Iraq from the beginning—unlike Clinton.

Sanders wants a constitutional amendment that would make every American at the age of eighteen immediately eligible to vote.

Currently, citizens must register before they vote.

Sanders criticized campaign finance as well.

"I do not think it is good enough to just talk the talk on campaign finance reform—you've got to walk the walk. I am the only democratic candidate who does not have a super PAC," he said.

Sander has raised \$26.2

Sander has raised \$26.2 million from private donations and has refused any aid from super PACs.

Hillary Clinton

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton attempted to appeal to a wider audience of voters but remained ambiguous on virtually all of her answers.

When asked about police

brutality, she stated that it needed to stop but she never placed emphasis on her policies on how to combat the issues.

Clinton criticized Obama's weakness in negotiating with Iran.

She said she would "force them to the negotiation table" to obtain a better deal.

When Clinton was criticized for being too close to Wall Street bankers she defended herself by stating: "anybody who thinks that they can influence what I do does not know me very well. I went to Wall Street in 2007, to NASDAQ, and basically said you guys have got to ston it"

you guys have got to stop it."
This was one of the weakest answers in the debate.

Clinton's "intervention" did nothing to stop the crash that lead the Great Recession.

She stated that she is anti-Wall Street while her largest donors are banking corporations

Clinton's answers were riddled with weakness and ambiguity and came off as extremely impersonal

Martin O'Malley

Former Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley charged Clinton's recent opposition to the Keystone XL pipeline to be politically expedient.

The pipeline runs from Canada to Texas and has met resistance from environmental and public safety groups.

O'Malley said the move to

O'Malley said the move to for-profit prisons is "immoral" and denounced heavy sentences given for minor crimes.

While governor, he reduced Maryland's recidivism rates.

O'Malley's only issue is that his campaign is focused on being the shining image of a politician when the Americans are straying away from a refined politician.

The next Democratic debate will occur Nov. 14 at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa. It will air on CBS News. ■

DAGE 6

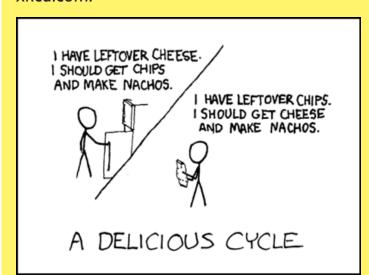
"The Captain's Log is free to write anything it pleases, and CNU fully respects the Freedom of the press."

CNU PRESIDENT PAUL TRIBLE

Speaker series: let's try some humor

- Creator of web comic xkcd.
- Won Hugo Award for Best Graphic Story in 2014.
- CNU graduate of the class of 2006.
- One of CNU's notable alumni, according to Wikipedia.

Below are a few samples of Randall Munroe's web comic, xkcd. All Munroe's comics are available for free online at xkcd.com.



Randall Munroe is a CNU grad who authors a popular web comic and lives out the school's focus on the liberal arts and sciences.



JACK JACOBS

The last decade of CNU's commencement speakers have drawn mostly from the worlds of business and politics. I think that inviting someone from the art world, for example cartoonist Randall Munroe, would be a nice change of pace. Munroe would make a solid speaker because of his unique, scientificinfused, creative career

and because he's closer in age to upcoming graduates than our usual speakers.

Munroe is the creator of the web comic xkcd, a comic with subject matter ranging from romance to mathematics to pop-culture references. Munroe's work is a marriage of the creative and the scientific, which mirrors CNU's emphasis on a holistic liberal arts education. This also puts him in a unique position to be engaging to any CNU student, regardless of whether the student spent the last four (or five or six) years in the Ferguson or Luter.

While I think students would respond to Munroe's background, I think his age would make him a relatable speaker too. At just 31, Munroe understands the mindset of the class of 2016 better than the older individuals who typically deliver commencement speeches at CNU.

I say this because of his work history. After graduating from CNU in 2006 with a physics degree, Munroe worked as a contractor for NASA at Langley Research Center in Hampton. Graduating on the cusp of the Great Recession, Munroe's contract with NASA ended in 2007 and

wasn't renewed. He went straight into writing xkcd full time.

While he would find success with his work, I'm sure he has a few thoughts about dealing with the fits, starts and failures that come with trying to get a career off the ground in a way our older commencement speakers may not.

Munroe is accomplished for his age. He's turned his web comic into one of the Internet's most high-profile series and is one of the few web cartoonists to carve out a living from his work

I think it's likely the kind of self-discipline and focus needed to reach his level of success in his creative endeavor would provide him some thoughts on the need for drive and hard work to meet goals.

Munroe won a Hugo Award, considered the highest honor for science fiction and fantasy writers, for Best Graphic Story in 2014.

He was also nominated for a Hugo Award for Best Fan Artist in 2011 and 2012.

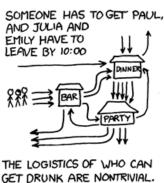
He's in prestigious company. Authors Kurt Vonnegut, Robert Heinlein and George R. R. Martin have also received Hugo Awards for their work.

If all that isn't enough, Munroe has amassed enough success to appear on CNU's Wikipedia page as one of the university's notable alumni.

Munroe isn't the conventional commencement speaker but I think this is a strength rather than a weakness. As a cartoonist with a scientific bent, he has a unique career that combines multiple disciplines that is sure to give him a perspective that students would likely respond to. The relatively small age gap would also help to make him more relatable to graduates. And if nothing else, his speech would probably be somewhat humorous.





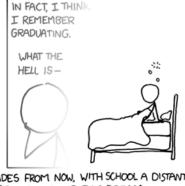


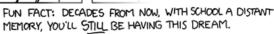


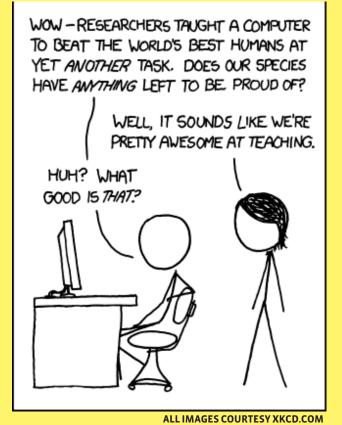












Don't be afraid of being offended

Trigger warnings fail to prepare us for the real world and limit people from speaking freely.



RACHEL WAGNER

In the past month, through my classes, guest speakers and even articles in this newspaper, I have felt bombarded with information on trigger warnings and microaggressions.

I'd like to preface the following argument with the fact that a year ago, I would have jumped on board with trigger warnings, and would have avoided microaggressions like the plague. However, as a result of the first semester of my college career, my position has changed. Though many might find microaggressions offensive, trigger warnings hinder

students from recieving a real-world education.

Yes, microaggressions can create an environment that makes large groups of people feel unwanted and unsafe. But, on the flip side, when we start branding certain phrases as microaggressions and attempt to eradicate them from our language and communication, we start walking on the fine line between creating a safe environment for all and censorship.

Similarly, I've heard advocates both for and against the use of trigger warnings. There are those who believe that trigger warnings help people who have struggled in the past to avoid situations or prepare themselves for tough conversations, and there are those who believe that trigger warnings predispose a certain connotation to conversation, or shut it down all together.

I believe that students have a right to feel safe on this campus. But, at the same time, I think we all need to remember that we are here for an education. A liberal arts education is based on developing not only skills, but the ability to think critically. It feeds not only the vocational aspect of life, but the soul. I am of the firm belief that in order to "feed the soul," we must be made uncomfortable. We must come to face things that are hard, that we disagree with.

I am aware of my privileges. I am a straight, white female from a middle class family, and I know nothing of the hardships that many of my peers have endured. However, I do know how much I want to punch the bigot who speaks negatively of my gay friends, or the chauvinist who acts as though, because I am a woman, I am worth less than him. I wish I lived in a world where I could ignore such comments; the fact is, that world does not exist.

I do not want to be warned, "this might trigger you," in the classroom. I want to feel emotions on my accord; I want to react genuinely, not because I am told that I should. Education should make us uncomfortable — it should offend us and it should make us question all that we have ever thought — for within that raw and naked state of being, we will be able to recreate our minds. We will be able to understand why we dispute the arguments we do; we will find a strengthened faith in our beliefs.

I hate racist speech; I despise anti-gay comments. Yet I do not wish for them to disappear. I've always believed that "crazy speech can only be met with sane speech." If we shut down arguments before they even occur, if we label conversations as "triggering," if we begin a war against "microaggressions" because words might offend our peers, we create an environment of shame. Students will be afraid to speak their thoughts in fear of offending others. Educators will have to prance around subjects in class to be "politically correct." The result? A lesser education.

Sometimes, you don't know what you stand for until you know what you stand against. Without hearing the crazy speech, without being offended, made uncomfortable, and stripped of our intellectual comforts, we will never know what it is we want to oppose. We can shelter our students and hide them in a "safe zone" where no one utters an offensive term or talks about topics which might make them uneasy, or we can prepare them for life.

Life is messy; there are no trigger warnings. There is no police against microaggression; there is no administrative force ready to protect the offended student. You only have the strength of your own convictions and the faith in what you stand for. So do we want CNU to be a "safe zone," or a place of learning?

I'm here to receive the best liberal arts education I can. I'm ready to be challenged; I'm ready to be offended. We can either continue to build walls against what might upset us, or we can look life straight in the face and say "bring it on." ■

Funny people before the fame

Watch CNU's entertainers now while you can do it for free.



A&E EDITOR

As a budding entertainment journalist, when I toured CNU in 2012 I did not go "oh, yes, this is the place for me; these halls will swarm with future stars."

If I wanted to ingratiate myself with the futurefamous I would have been better

off at Berklee or NYU. But because I didn't say it then, I'm saying it now—there are people on this campus who are going to be big, starting with those students who specialize in comedy.

At CNU we have three comedy groups: CNU Tonight (sketch comedy), a Troupe Called Quest (improv) and the Improvacateurs (both, plus standup).

There are people in those groups who deserve their own Netflix specials. There are people in those groups who will go on to write for the next Steven Colberts and Jon Stewarts. There are probably people in those groups who will *be* the next Colbert or Stewart.

And more often than not—just like

Colbert and Stewart—their comedic craft is secondary to whatever is going on their diplomas. This floors me because what is going on my own diploma is my only worldly talent.

And there's no one thing that makes them all funny; for some, their comedic timing is stellar, for others it's how they feed off the energy of the group. Beyond that, some campus comedians just know how to spin a yarn, or how to aptly mock pop culture. Some of them excell at all of the above.

It's a good decade to be a comedian, and your classmates' stars will rise fast and far, but you need not take my word for it—see for yourself. All three groups do multiple performances a year, for free. Don't put it off because each year, and sometimes each performance, is full of fresh faces that alter the group dynamic.

An easy way to not miss out is to go to every show that every group has. That is 12 evenings out of the next calendar year, and with 8 p.m. start times, you can attend the shows and still squeeze in your usual weekend festivities.

I aim to spend the rest of my life telling the world about celebrities and entertainment. I'd like to start now. Go support these groups. Go see your comedic classmates. Become a fan now before you have to start paying for the privilege.

A house controlled by big money

Corporate power continues to corrupt the political system.



CHRISTOPHER GABRO STAFF WRITER

Abraham Lincoln said in the Gettysburg Address that government should be "of the people, by the people, for the people." Then why is it that we have transformed into a government of the rich, by the rich, for the rich?

Harvard Law professor and democratic presidential candidate Lawrence Lessig withdrew from the 2016 presidential race. He was the leader of the campaign finance movement seeking to overturn Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission.

Essentially, the case resulted in a 5-4 ruling that said corporations are defended by the First Amendment to spend unlimited quantities in support for political causes. Alongside that, there was a rejection on contribution ceilings, which allowed a gateway for super-PACs to give superfluous sums to the presidential candidate of their choosing.

Super-PACs are supposed to act independently from the group they are funding—yet these groups often have stringent ties with their funders.

A recent Bloomberg Poll revealed that 78 percent of Americans are in favor of overturning the Supreme Court's 2010 Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission ruling. You would think an issue with more than three quarters of Americans taking the same side would receive some attention, but it has received virtually none. According to Bloomberg, national nightly news programs on the major broadcast networks of ABC, CBS, NBC or PBS have not aired any coverage of the issue. It has also received

zero coverage on Sunday morning political talk shows on ABC, FOX and NBC.

Lawrence Lessig was ostracized from the debates even though he polled at one percent nationally and funded more than one million dollars in just a month for his campaign. Both Lincoln Chafee and Jim Webb acquired similar standings and were allowed to debate when Lessig was not. Some polls that left out Lessig also included Vice President Joe Biden, who never declared his candidacy and recently announced he would not run for president.

Lessig was a single-platform candidate running to remove money from politics; unfortunately for him the debates receive money. The topic of money in politics has yet to be mentioned in the debates because the programs running them are a distinct part of the problem.

The Center for Responsive Politics reports that almost \$300 million dollars have been raised by Super-PACs for the 2016 presidential race. "In 2014, the top 100 donors to super PACs spent almost as much as all 4.75 million small donors combined," reports the Brennan Center.

In the United States, we have the elite rich select who we get to vote for; that is not what this nation was founded upon. The candidate who wanted to return to take big corporate money out of political campaigns was crushed by the system he was seeking to change.

We currently live in a nation riddled with wealth inequality. Now, the small margin of the wealthy wield the power of the presidency. Our democracy has decelerated to serve the interests and benefits of the few rather than the majority.

Comedian and social critic George Carlin once said on "Real Time with Bill Maher" that "Elections and politicians are in place in order to give Americans the illusion that they have freedom of choice. You don't really have a choice in this country."



After taking suggestions from the audience, junior Audrey Paduda and senior Kaliena Dimaano act out what it would be like to have kidney stones.



Members reenact students bringing their dogs to campus (using a toy lobster) and playing with them on the Great Lawn. Senior Gracie Peck sarcastically jokes about how male students who do this "don't have ulterior motives."



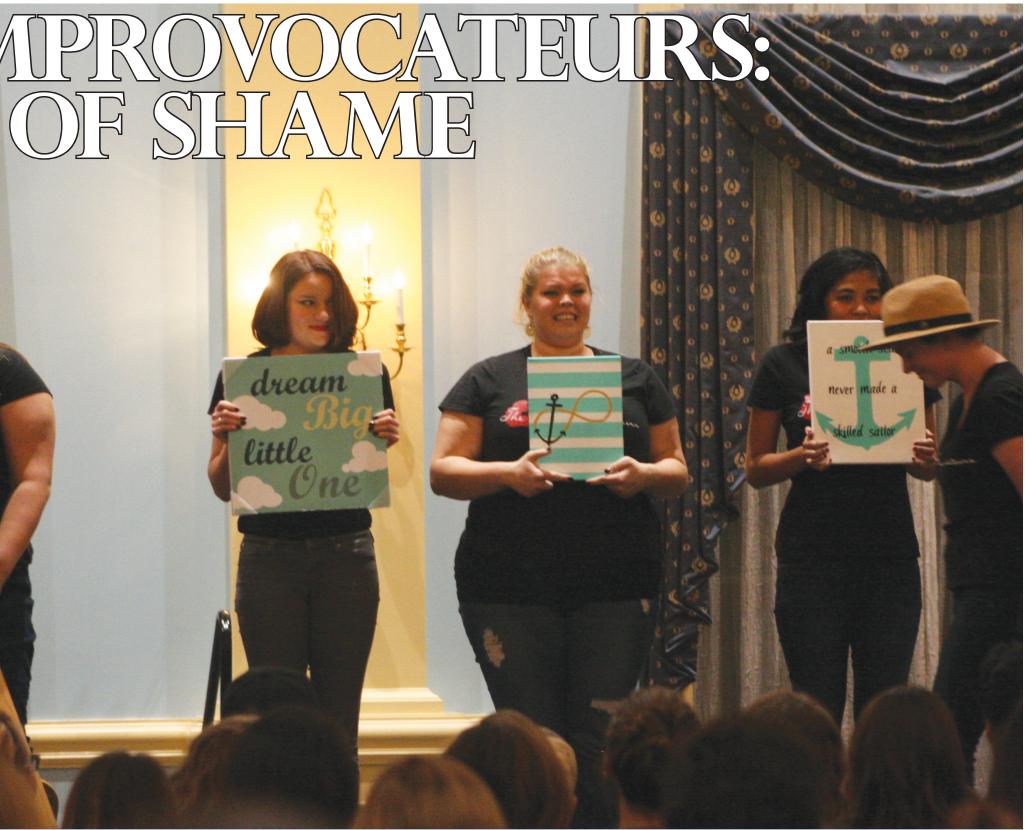
Junior Bonnie Newton and freshman Kensie Ward perform a skit about how women are equally as capable at mathematics as men. Bonnie portrays a male who suffers from nosebleeds when he gets nervous.



(Pictured left to right) Meg Morrill, Aree Coltharp, Ma



Members come together to perform a song at the end as seniors Victoria Banks and Angel Maimone step in "Hot in Herre" by Nelly on their kazoos.



ggie Hirst, Kaliena Dimaano and Caitlin Caplinger participate in "Big Boot Camp," presenting the artwork they crafted for their little sisters in a fictional sorority.



l of their show, to perform



In character as a pole dancing expert, senior Gracie Peck tells freshman Nick Barker, "redheads make more at the club."



On a knock-off Oprah Winfrey show, "Opal Winifred," members portray deranged UPS drivers who murder people. Other members who were in the audience asked for advice on how to murder people.

Looking to finish strong

The football team is hoping to win its third-straight game.

BY BEN LEISTENSNIDER

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After starting off the season 1-6, the Captains have started to mount momentum as they beat William Paterson 42-30 on Nov. 7 for their second straight win. With just one game left in the season, the Captains will have a good chance to end the year on a high note.

The Captains were coming off an explosive 51-39 upset over 18th-ranked Salisbury as they prepared to host William Paterson for their Senior Day.

That offensive effort continued over to the Paterson game as the Captains were able to score halfway through the first quarter following a one-yard touchdown run by senior quarterback Tyler Quigley.

Quigley had another incredible day, as he finished with two passing touchdowns for 314 yards. That accomplishment made Quigley only the second CNU quarterback to throw for 300 yards in back-to-back games.

Arsaiah Robinson, the team's other senior quarterback, also had a great performance with three touchdowns of his own: two on the ground and one through the air.

Each passing touchdown went to a different target: sophomore Kyree Burton, junior Josh Patterson and senior Taylor Loudan—who led the receiving corps with 179 yards and is now just one yard away from having 1,000 on the season.

The Captains offense was rounded out by junior running back Daquan Davis, who finished the game with 94 yards.

The defensive unit was highlighted by a pair of seniors: linebacker Mic Edwards and cornerback Cam Barlow. Edwards finished the day with eight tackles and a sack, while Barlow's two interceptions helped him become the all-time record holder for that stat.

Now that they have their first win streak of the season, the Captains will see if they can extend that as they travel to take on the 0-9 Southern Virginia University on Nov. 14.

Although nothing can ever be guaranteed, it is extremely likely the Captains will finish the season with a three-game winning streak.



(Above) Quarterback Arsaiah Robinson contributed to three touchdowns, two on the ground and one through the air. BEN LEISTENSNIDER/THE CAPTAIN'S LOG (Below left) Cornerback Cameron Barlow celebrates setting the school record for interceptions. MACY FRIEND/THE CAPTAIN'S LOG



Up Next

Southern Virginia

Overall Record: 0-9

Biggest loss: 91-7

Outscored: 452-75



Junior running back Daquan Davis was only six yards away from his second straight 100-yard game. HANNAH MCCLURE/THE CAPTAIN'S LOG

Basketball is back

The winter sports season officially begins with a doubleheader for CNU's basketball teams on Nov. 15.

BY BEN LEISTENSNIDER

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As the fall sport season comes to a close, CNU basketball is preparing for its year to begin this weekend in a Sunday doubleheader.

Women's basketball

The women's squad will take the court first on Sunday as they take on Washington and Lee at 2 p.m. Selected to finish second in a tight conference, the Captains retain three of their top four scorers, including forward Sam Porter. Porter, a sophomore, led all rookies in scoring averaging 9.3 points per game.

The Captains will have a tough time, however, in replacing the talents of Camry Green, who had an incredible senior season last year. Green was the backbone of the team and became the first Captain to average a double-double since 2008.

Men's basketball

Similarly, the men's team will have to rely on its returning players to account for the loss of a valuable player to graduation: Mike Cherry.

Luckily for the team, the Captains had a great rookie class last season headlined by forward Marcus Carter, who averaged 13.1 points per game. His 355 points led the team and was almost 30 points more than Cherry's numbers.

The Captains will close the doubleheader as they set to take on Lynchburg at 4 p.m. ■

Men's BB vs. Lynchburg



Last season's record: 17-10

Conference record: 9-7

Series history: 7-12 Lynchburg

Last time: 90-66 L (Nov. 23, 2014)

Women's BB vs. Washington & Lee



Last season's record: 16-10

Conference record: 8-8

Series history: 3-1 CNU

Last time: 51-50 L (Dec. 19, 2011)



Sophomore Sam Porter led all of CNU's rookies with 243 points last year and will look to continue to find scoring opportunities. BEN LEISTENSNIDER/THE CAPTAIN'S LOG





concerts

Student Recitals noon, M&T Hall

Slightly Stoopid 6:30p.m., the Norva

in theaters

"The 33" Rated PG-13 "My American" Rated PG on campus

Silent Sky

Build-a-Buddy 8 p.m., Studio Theatre

4 p.m. Freeman 201

OperaCNU's "The Old Maid and the Thief" offered plenty of laughs for audiences.

BY SAMANTHA CAMILETTI

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Aggrandizements, deceit in the name of love and the message to never be too serious were all themes in OperaCNU's "The Old Maid and the Thief" last weekend.

Sound sets the scene

The orchestra, directed by J. Lynn Thompson, demonstrated their usual precision in establishing the right tone of the opera early on. Long, cheery notes trotted through the first score and created the light atmosphere for the characters to operate in long before they actually made an appearance.

The setting and the characters were also established quickly. In a generic small, lonely town, spinsters Miss Todd (senior Emily Lindblad) and Miss Pinkerton (sophomore Kathryn Juliana) spend their days enjoying tea (with two sugars and cream) gossiping and, when nothing else comes up, talking of the weather.

Miss Todd also has a scheming maid named Laetitia (junior Jacquelyn Pileckas), who banishes the boredom when she convinces her madam to house a beggar named Bob (senior Conner Grieff). Eventually, both fall in love with this wandering dreamer because he breaks the cycle of smalltown living with his rugged handsomeness and stories from the road.

Though Bob is described as a bum, the orchestra did well to acknowledge the power and charm he wields over these women. Whenever Grieff entered the room, the music suddenly lurched forward and the audience was swept up in the broad current.

Acting accolades

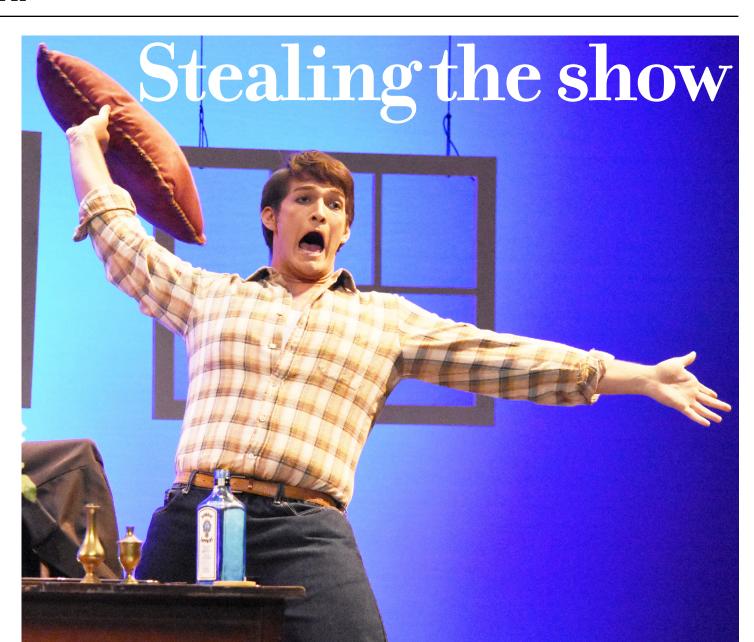
Pileckas and Lindblad portrayed an honest, but still histrionic, glimpse of the effects of love lost for too long. Their characters nearly disrobe Bob upon meeting him, and will lie, steal (from the church no less!) and break prohibition laws in order to keep him happy and with them.

Lindblad communicated with an excellent balance between the fragility and curtness that is unique to old age. In contrast, Juliana exuded a brazenness that provided a perfect foil to Lindblad's character; though her singing and untimely bombardments were essential to her character, Juliana communicated just as much from a few well-directed head nods. It was delightful to see them perform together. Pileckas was a pleasant addition to the story; her sweetness was disarming and eerily veiled her character's more devious intentions.

A complete but much needed delight was also provided by senior Joseph Kisiday, who played the Policeman. While he totaled only five minutes on and did not utter a word, his facial expressions and exaggerated movements clearly charmed the audience.

Vocal vibrance

In terms of the music, the cast had a



The eponymous supposed thief, Bob — played in the Saturday cast by senior Steven Field — drunkenly sways about on stage.Although a nomadic vagrant, Bob has the ladies of the production all hot and bothered. BEN LEISTENSNIDER/THE CAPTAIN'S LOG

solid performance. Pileckas was especially impressive in her range and the incredible amount of emotional appeal she brought to her character.

An example of this was seen in one of the opera's famous arias "What curse for a woman, is a timid man (Steal me, sweet thief)." The audience was able to understand that in Laetitia's mind any option was better than ending up like Miss Todd. Even after Miss Todd tells her that Bob might be a thief and a murderer, Laetitia responds: "To be killed by a man is better than living without

Lindblad also added an unexpected dimension to her character-vulnerability. Miss Todd, with "the bluest blood in town" and as "chairman of every committee" at first appears as hardnosed as Miss Pinkerton, but there is a tenderness in her voice that suggests otherwise. Underneath the blazer and sensible skirt lies a young heart; she jumps at any chance to prove that life is more than just broken promises

Though this opera was smaller and shorter than most conventional ones. it still left the audience laughing, immersed in the music and engaged with the characters as they made their way through the story. That's all one could ask for. Overall, the opera-which was written by Gian Carlo Minotti-was well-performed and the cast members should be very proud. ■



Friday cast's Old Maid (senior Emily Linblad) and Laetitia (junior Jackie Pileckas) banter, neither admitting to the other that she's in love with Bob. MACY FRIEND/ THE CAPTAIN'S LOG

Direc-

tor

Denise

Cast members discover the science behind "Silent"

TheaterCNU's latest production tells the story of a woman in STEM. To prepare, the cast immersed themselves in science.

77

BY SAMANTHA CAMILETTI

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"Silent Sky" follows the true story of a group of female "computers" at the Observatory at Harvard at the turn of the 20th century. The play mainly follows the career and personal life of Henrietta Leavitt, whose research aided Edwin Hubble in proving that our galaxy is, but one in a multitude of galaxies. "Thematically, and I think that is more important, "Silent Sky" is a dynamic exploration of science and religion, math and music, mortality and legacy," senior Shannon Farrow said. "It explores the theory of relativity by illustrating this idea of people being afar, but not apart, emotionally."

Farrow will be starring as the lead of Henrietta Leavitt. "I knew as soon as I read the script that I wanted to play Henrietta," Farrow said. "But there were lots of actor-doubts about whether I could carry this kind of role." A certain connection to Leavitt's curiosity and optimism spurred Farrow's determination in taking on the character, and she feels incredibly empowered and honored to portray such a little-known, but esteemed woman. "I had never heard of Henrietta Leavitt before reading this play," Farrow admitted. "Very few members of the audience will have ever heard of her either. We are all exploring an important woman's story together for the first time—reclaiming her place in history, and expanding our knowledge of the universe in a small, lovely wav.

For Farrow, preparation went beyond

the average amount. Because this was a real person, Farrow consulted letters, diary entries and biographies to discover Leavitt's character, as well as her career accomplishments. "Everything that history and the playwright tell us about her points to the fact that she was zealously devoted to her work, and I hope that is the aspect of her that comes through most clearly in my performance." In addition to the character research, all five of the "Silent Sky" actors got assigned a research topic and taught each other aspects about the subject matter of the shownamely astronomy and other scientific pursuits. Dr. Anna DeJong, an astronomy professor here at CNU as a planetary physicist, also demystified the scientific aspects of the play. DeJong

answered questions

on astronomy, the

attitude toward

at the time and

even current

to help foster

in the actors a

female scientists

physics questions

greater understanding and appreciation of what they were portraying.

> Gillman. producing a science and historical fiction play was surprisingly straight-forward. Gillman first found out about the play after a recommendation by scriptwriter and friend Laurie Gunderson "I immediately fell in love with

it," Gillman said. "It was a magnificent story about these incredible women and they were much involved in astronomical discoveries.'

"...I thought it would be a wonderful play for our students to do because it's set in an academic environment and it's about the pursuit of knowledge.

Gillman hopes that through this play, audience members will strike a balance between hard work and leisure. That's one of the lessons that Henrietta learns, that even though vou were passionate about what vou want to pursue. you must take care of your relationships with your friends

and your family

too; we can't be so single-minded and single-focused on one thing. We also have a personal life."

The cast clearly values this balance. When asked what her favorite part of the play was, Farrow responded: "Any time all five of us are on stage together." Through this experience, these five cast members have solidified as a family. "We laugh so much in rehearsal that we never get through our to-do list," Farrow said. "The play is a challenge for every person. So we support each other, give a lot and goof off to stay sane. I feel incredibly grateful for the four of them and for our incredible stage management team that is always one step ahead of us but still laughs at our stupid jokes.

Beyond that, this play also serves as an inspiration for all. "I wish we would see more things like this. It's a great way to teach both young boys and young girls what it's been like in the past," DeJong said. "The more that we can get it out there too, because even society as a whole needs to be more accepting of female scientists. Because we can do it, we want to do it, so you might as well get used to it."

> "Silent Sky" showtimes Nov. 13-14, 8 p.m. Nov. 15, 2 p.m. Nov. 20-21, 8 p.m. Nov. 22, 2 p.m.

> > PHOTO FROM POLYVORE.COM

MOVIE REVIEW: SPECTRE IS SLICK

The latest installment from the Blond Bond is a "solid film."

BY CHRISTOPHER GABRO

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Over 50 years ago audiences were dazzled by "Dr. No," the first incarnation of James Bond and now audiences are graced with the 24th incarnation of 007 in "Spectre."

Coming off the heels of the critically acclaimed "Skyfall," "Spectre" had big shoes to fill and it succeeds—for the most part. This is the fourth time Daniel Craig has embodied the titular character and it is in this narrative that audiences see Craig harken to the classic James Bond themes.

The film opens with an elongated tracking shot in a festive Mexico City during a Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) celebration and the shot is truly remarkable. It is perhaps the greatest tracking shot of the year—I have no idea how it was all coordinated. In true Bond fashion, this scene was followed by a seat-gripping helicopter fight, and James Bond sets the plot in motion searching for a shadowy mastermind behind the supreme organization known as Spectre.

After the opening, audiences are welcomed to the classic James Bond opening credit sequence that is played with an original song. The credits foretell the story of the film, and it chilled me to the bone. The same can

not be said about the song, Sam Smith's original "Writing's on the Wall"—It is overly somber for a James Bond film.

The acting, as always, was great; we're four films in, so I would not expect anything less. Craig is top-notch in the role, Christoph Waltz (Oberhauser) is great for what little screen time he is given, Léa Seydoux (Madeleine Swann) works splendidly as the token "Bondgirl." Ralph Fiennes (M) fits well picking up the mantle of the head of M16, Ben Whishaw (Q) is as witty and clever as ever, and Monica Bellucci (Lucia) is outstanding for the few scenes she is in.

The biggest thing restraining "Spectre" from being outstanding is the script. Choosing to focus on subplot that has exceeded cliché; a plot such as this has been beaten to death in recent spy thrillers. The villain, Oberhauser, has enough scenes that I can count on one hand, when this subplot is beaten over the head to the audience. I wish the entire subplot was eradicated from the film and the script instead focused on further developing Bond and Oberhauser as characters

When I say that this film harkens back to the Bond of old—I mean it. Bond is using more gadgets when in the previous Craig films he has strayed away from them. In Craig's first incarnation of 007 "Casino Royale" when asked if he wanted his martini "shaken or



Daniel Craig returns to the big screen for a fourth Bond movie in "Spectre." IGN.COM

stirred?" Bond responds, "does it look like I give a damn?" Now, in this film we finally see him order it stirred. It's been nice having a Bond who has been off the beaten track for three films but it is refreshing to see a Bond returning to his roots.

Is this the best Bond movie? No. Is it the worst? No. It is a solid film that is almost as good as it's predecessor and what it lacks for in character development it makes up for in incredible action and stunning film making.

If I could, I'd rate this movie 007/10. alas, it won't fit the customary Captain's Log movie review formatting.

RATING:



LIFESTYLE PAGE 14



Members of the Star Wars club pose with their lightsabers after a battle. The club usually meets in public places across campus. PHOTO COURTESY OF SEAN MARKLAND

New Star Wars club allows CNU Jedi and Sith to share their common love of the films.

BY KATHERINE GITTMAN

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With next month's release of the first film of the new Star Wars trilogy, "The Force Awakens," a few CNU students have taken the opportunity to start a new club on campus for any Star Wars fanatic. What started out as a simple plan for a Halloween gathering gave

a few students the motivation to start a club where they can share their stories and common love of Star Wars.

Last year, sophomore Sean Markland, along with senior Jeremy Breese and sophomore Adam Kyle, was inspired to start the gathering of Star Wars fanatics. They reached out to other people to see if there was any interest in starting an actual club. "There were only four of us, but we wanted to put it together for fun. This year, it wasn't so much inspiration, rather dedication to making it a fun, enjoyable way to express our love of Star Wars with fellow students," Markland said. What started as a group of four has now grown to a club of 14 members.

While the club members discuss their different interests, they also use the time to talk about future plans for the club. In addition to planning and sharing stories, this club also partakes in dueling battles with the infamous Star Wars lightsabers. The group can be seen on the Great Lawn working on their lightsaber duels and they even take the time to choreograph their own battles to add a more theatrical approach to their combat.

The upcoming release of the new Star Wars film may have played a publicity role for the club. Current member, sophomore Ami Coyle said, "the film may have had an influence on the club because now people are paying more attention and they'll say 'Oh yeah, I love Star Wars, I love lightsabers.'" The Star Wars club usually meets once a week and welcomes any student to join. "The Force always holds a future for both Jedi and Sith. We will all reveal ourselves once again in another battle for the ages on campus soon. All are welcome to join us and meet fellow Jedi and Sith alike to share our love of Star Wars. May the Force be with CNU," Markland said. ■

Korean fusion

From bulgogi-burritos to Korean fast-food.



The new restaurant is located on East campus next to Subway. MACY FRIEND/THE CAPTAINS LOG

BY KELSEY RIPA

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The Japanese Sushi & Spice restaurant that graced the strip of East Campus suddenly closed last year without notice.

In its place stands a Korean barbecue restaurant named Bob Bob Korean Grill & Kitchen. The once plain white walls are now a colorful turquoise, holding a more modern appeal that attracts customers to the restaurant.

In late August, Mr. Lee (as the employees affectionately call him) began looking into the empty venue that was a ghost of the old sushi place.

After two months of hard work, and the hiring process throughout September, Bob Bob opened for business in early

One possible question when hearing about this new restaurant is, why call it "Bob Bob?" Shift manager Kayleigh Flynn explains, "bob means rice in Korean, so it's 'rice rice,' and it's just catchy and easy to pronounce."

Flynn was hired in September and has embraced the comfort-style food that Bob Bob has to offer.

'We're kind of like an Americanized Korean restaurant. So. we're trying to appeal to what Americans like while still keep ing the Korean vibe.'

That vibe is reflected in their dishes such as "cupbob," which is a form of fast food in Korea where rice is served in a cup covered with some meat and veggies on top, as well as their "bulgogi burritos."

Flynn said, "bulgogi is just

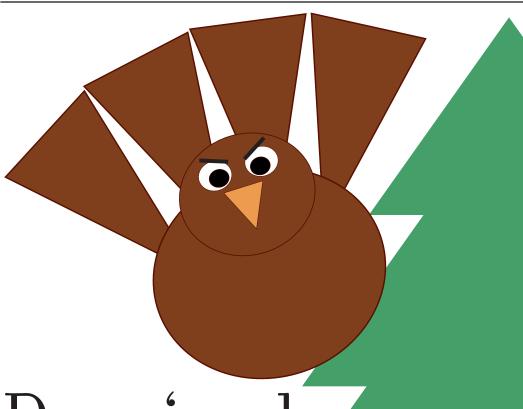
the way the meat is marinated... what college kid doesn't love a burrito?'

Flynn, along with the general manager and the owner, has been working through all of the technical systems as well as enhancing the restaurant's online presence.

So far, the restaurant has a Facebook page set up for people to check out its hours, look at the menu and call the phone number to order a meal and pick it up later.

The staff is also adjusting the system so that it will be able to accept Captain's Cash soon, a special perk for any CNU student.

Check out Bob Bob at https:// www.facebook.com/bobbobkitchen/ to see all the unique food options they have available. ■



Dowe 'need a little Christmas. right this very minute?' ILLUSTRATION BY BETHANY PYLE/

THE CAPTAINS LOG

Some students welcome early Christmas celebration while others call for more thought to be given to Thanksgiving.

BY KATHERINE GITTMAN

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Halloween has only just ended. For some people this means eating leftover candy and thinking about upcoming Thanksgiving plans, but for others it means bringing out the Christmas clothing, music and decorations.

Every year, the consumer market encourages customers to buy the latest holiday items right after Halloween which has resulted in people celebrating the holidays earlier. Because Christmas is a holiday that almost everybody enjoys, many want to take advantage of every opportunity they can to celebrate. But others want to wait until after Thanksgiving to really get into the Christmas spirit.

When stores start to promote the holidays by playing all sorts of Christmas commercials, displaying Christmas trees and lights galore, we are tempted to indulge in celebrating the holidays as soon as decorations are displayed. Each year, stores open earlier on Thanksgiving Day to help people get the latest deals which can either make others feel disgruntled, since people want to take the time to celebrate Thanksgiving, or happy that the Christmas season is in full swing.

For some, celebrating Christmas earlier takes away from Thanksgiving and spending time with family members. "Black Friday shopping has gotten out of hand, having stores open on Thanksgiving, because people take time away from their families on one holiday in preparation for the next, sophomore Emily Craven said. Senior Nathan Whipple added by saying, "Thanksgiving doesn't get enough love and maybe that's a good thing. If it started becoming more commercialized. it's just going to be Christmas 2.0. It's good to have a day where everyone can come together.'

Though Christmas can seem like it takes over Thanksgiving, it doesn't take away from the Christmas magic for most. "I love seeing the Christmas stuff up so early, junior Jonathan Holcomb said, "Christmas is my favorite holiday and it makes me really excited to see the decorations go up and hear all the Christmas music starting to play." Some even use the holidays as a stress reliever. "I decorated for Christmas because I need a break from stress and just seeing the Christmas decorations that my suitemates and I put up makes me so much happier every day. Also we have a Christmas countdown and a winter break countdown so it's nice knowing we can get through these next couple of weeks of finals, papers, and projects and will soon be celebrating Christmas and not worrying about classes," Craven said.

Despite whether some may think that Christmas starts too early or not, it doesn't stop people from enjoying the holiday. Even if the holidays do seem to come earlier, people will still take advantage of the Christmas music and décor.

"I think the bottom line is to do what makes you happy, but everything exists in moderation," Whipple said. ■

Coffeehouse confessions

A chance encounter with world travellers.

BY KELSEY RIPA

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If there's one thing I believe, it's that every single person has an interesting story to tell, no matter how small or unimportant they think it may be. Even in a small coffeehouse like Aroma's, people from all walks of life gather to this urban watering hole, and each of them brings their individual experiences.

Although there was a musician softly playing acoustic 80's tunes in the café, my attention focused outside. I stepped out the side door and looked past a table of three women and saw a middle-aged couple sharing a table over a Bud Light and a cup of

They saw me walking towards them, and I was already greeted with friendly smiles; their smiles turned to looks of surprise when I asked if I could join them for a conversation. The couple invited me to sit and I soon learned their names were

When I started asking them a few questions about themselves, Tammy laughed and said, "I have nothing interesting to share. Her husband said differently, "Come on, you got lots of big

Tammy and Andy have been happily married with no children for eleven years now. Andy says they came to Aromas that night to simply have a cup of coffee, later saying "I spent a couple years in Italy, so I drink a lot of coffee."

That caught my attention.

"Yeah, I loved it there, I'd like to take my wife there sometime. I was born in Germany, so I took her there," he glanced over at his wife, smiling a bit, "Eh, you didn't like Germany too much, did you?

'It was okay."

He later explained that he spent two years in Naples, Italy for business as a military contractor for the Navy. Arriving there, he said it was a huge culture shock for him, "Different people, different things to do...you know, at 2 a.m. you could still see people walking around."

Throughout all the business he was conducting, Andy said he still managed to find time to enjoy himself, and was even lucky enough to meet a family who owned a restaurant that wanted to cater to Americans. "One time I brought like fifty of my friends there to the restaurant and [they] were still able to feed every one. They really loved me for that.

Andy told me he'd basically traveled the world, going all over Europe, Guam, Japan and Korea. Looking over to his wife, I ask if she's ever been out of the country besides Germany. "When I was little, I was in Spain since I was an Air Force brat and my dad was stationed there." She said if they ever got the chance, one place they'd like to go to is to the Caribbean, preferably on a cruise ship. Even in the dim outside lighting, I could see her eagerness to replace her purple sweater with a light sundress.

This week, I met a couple whose "non-interesting story inspired the wanderlust traveler inside of me. Everyone has a story to tell, we just have to nudge the door open and talk to someone. Who will walk through the door next?



Tammy and Andy pose at Aroma's. KELSEY RIPA/THE CAPTAINS LOG





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