

CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT UNIVERSITY

On the Move!



WINTER 2017

CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT UNIVERSITY

On the Move!

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A photograph of a university campus. In the background is a large, multi-story brick building with white columns and a prominent dome. The name "JOSEPH W. LUTER" is visible on the building's facade. In the foreground, there is a green lawn, a large green tree, and a flowering tree with pink blossoms. Several students are walking on the lawn and near the trees.

ACTA

Perfect "A" Rating

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT

*5th among public universities in the South
14th among all regional universities in the South*

THE PRINCETON REVIEW

*No. 2 for "Best Dorms"
No. 15 for "Best Science Lab Facilities"
No. 8 for "Most Engaged in Community Service"*

FORBES

*One of the top five medium-sized
public colleges in the South*

KIPLINGER'S PERSONAL FINANCE

*One of the Top 100 Best Public Colleges and
Top 300 Best College Values*

BLOOMBERG BUSINESSWEEK

Top 100 Undergraduate Business Schools

University Recognized for Excellence

SEVERAL TOP PUBLICATIONS and organizations have honored Christopher Newport, giving CNU top marks for the high-quality education our students receive.

Once again Christopher Newport is the nation's only public institution to earn a perfect "A" rating from the nonprofit American Council of Trustees and Alumni (ACTA). A perfect score indicates that a school requires all seven subjects deemed essential to a quality education: literature, composition, economics, mathematics, foreign language, science and American history/government.

U.S. News & World Report ranked Christopher Newport fifth among public regional universities in the South and 14th among all regional universities in the South.

The Princeton Review named the University to its list of American's Best 381 Colleges. Christopher Newport also ranked high in several categories, placing No. 2

for "Best Dorms," No. 15 for "Best Science Lab Facilities" and No. 8 for "Most Engaged in Community Service."

Forbes magazine recognized CNU as one of the top five medium-sized public colleges in the South on its list of America's Top Colleges. *Forbes* ranks colleges based on a calculation that determines each school's return on investment by looking at the satisfaction of current graduates, current graduation rates, student debt levels and job placement rates.

Christopher Newport was designated by *Kiplinger's Personal Finance* as one of the Top 100 Best Public Colleges and Top 300 Best College Values.

Bloomberg Businessweek included the undergraduate program at CNU's Joseph W. Luter, III School of Business among the Best Undergraduate Business Schools, ranking Luter one of the Top 100 undergraduate business schools.



CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT welcomed 1,225 freshmen to campus in August – another outstanding class of young women and men.

With an average high school GPA of 3.8, this is academically the strongest class to enter Christopher Newport. These students earned an SAT middle 50 percent range of 1070-1240 (Critical Reading and Math) and a GPA middle 50 percent range of 3.5-4.0. Thus, 25 percent of them achieved a high school GPA above 4.0 and an SAT above 1240.

Nearly 400 freshmen participate in the President's Leadership Program (PLP), and 122 are enrolled in the Honors Program. Remarkably, one-third of our freshmen are enrolled in the President's Leadership Program and/or Honors Program.



Move-In



Bell Ringing

ON THE MOVE!

FRESHMAN



Setting Sail



PLP Summer Leadership Adventure



Community of Scholars Convocation



Hall Brawl

SNAPSHOT



Day of Service



Crew Leader Show

THE GREGORY P. KLICH ALUMNI HOUSE had a grand opening on February 24, 2017. The 12,000-square-foot building features a reception hall with a grand staircase, a conference room and two sitting rooms on the first floor. Offices for Alumni Relations are located on the second floor, and memorabilia representing the rich history of Christopher Newport will be displayed throughout the building.

The Alumni House represents the first campus building to bear the name of an alumnus. A Hampton Roads real-estate developer and investor, Gregory Klich earned a degree in governmental administration. In 1997 he received the University's Distinguished Alumni Award. Two years later, in 1999, he endowed the Klich Award, a \$5,000 cash prize given at each commencement to the graduate with the highest grade-point average. In 2016 Klich made the leadership gift toward the construction and furnishing of the Alumni House.

You, too, can leave an enduring mark on the Alumni House. Visit giving.cnu.edu/leaveyourmark for details.

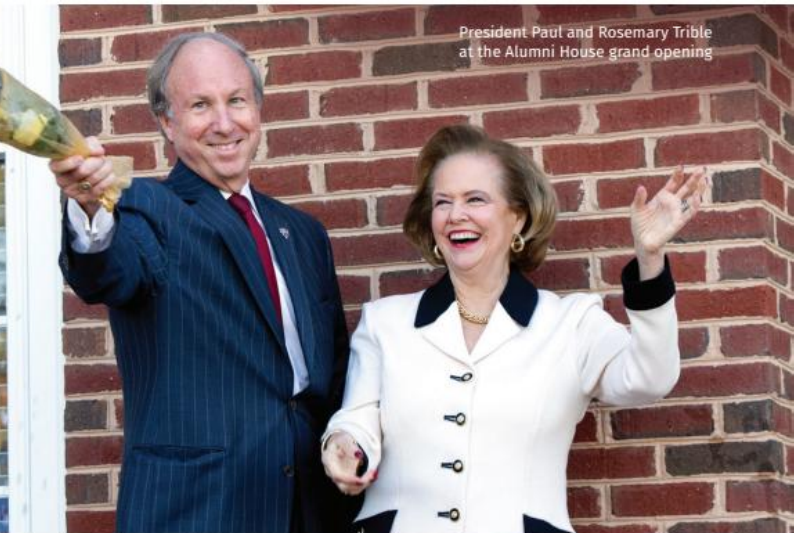


WELCOME HO



ME, CAPTAINS

welcome home, *captains*



President Paul and Rosemary Triple
at the Alumni House grand opening



Gregg Klich joined by his daughter,
Hannah, and Captain Chris at the
grand opening of the Alumni House



ON THE MOVE!



GREGORY P. KLICH ALUMNI HOUSE GRAND OPENING REMARKS

FOR IT IS OUR VISION AND OUR SINCERE BELIEF THAT IT IS HERE, IN THIS ALUMNI HOUSE, WHERE FUTURE GENERATIONS OF CAPTAINS WILL LEARN THAT LEADING A LIFE OF SIGNIFICANCE MEANS MAKING A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF OTHERS.

IT IS HERE WHERE CAPTAINS WILL STRIVE FOR EXCELLENCE AND HONOR IN ALL THAT THEY DO WHILE RESPECTING AND VALUING ONE ANOTHER.

IT IS HERE WHERE CAPTAINS WILL COME TO DEVELOP DEVOTIONS TO BELIEFS AND CAUSES GREATER THAN THEMSELVES.

AND IT IS HERE WHERE CAPTAINS WILL REALIZE THAT NOT ONLY CAN THEY MAKE A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD, BUT THAT AS CAPTAINS, THEY HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO DO SO.

IT IS HERE WHERE FUTURE GENERATIONS OF CAPTAINS WILL BE INSPIRED TO HAVE GREAT DREAMS FOR THEMSELVES AND THE WORLD AND TO BE RELENTLESS IN THEIR PURSUIT OF THOSE DREAMS.

IT IS HERE WHERE CAPTAINS WILL LEARN TO BE LEADERS – AND WHERE CAPTAINS WILL DEMONSTRATE THAT A PURPOSE-DRIVEN LIFE IS A LIFE OF HONOR AND COMPASSION.

IT IS HERE WHERE CAPTAINS WILL BE ENCOURAGED TO CARE ABOUT ONE OTHER, TO ENGAGE AND TO REACH OUT TO ONE ANOTHER RATHER THAN TURN AND WALK AWAY.

IT IS HERE WHERE CAPTAINS WILL DEVELOP A PASSION AND A DEEP AND ABIDING UNDERSTANDING THAT IN ORDER TO CHANGE THE WORLD, WE MUST CHANGE BOTH MINDS AND HEARTS.

AND IT IS HERE WHERE CAPTAINS, COLLECTIVELY AND WITH ONE VOICE, WILL ANSWER THE CALL, WHERE THEY WILL SUSTAIN THE VISION AND WHERE THE FUTURE OF OUR GREAT UNIVERSITY WILL BE CULTIVATED AND NOURISHED AND REALIZED.

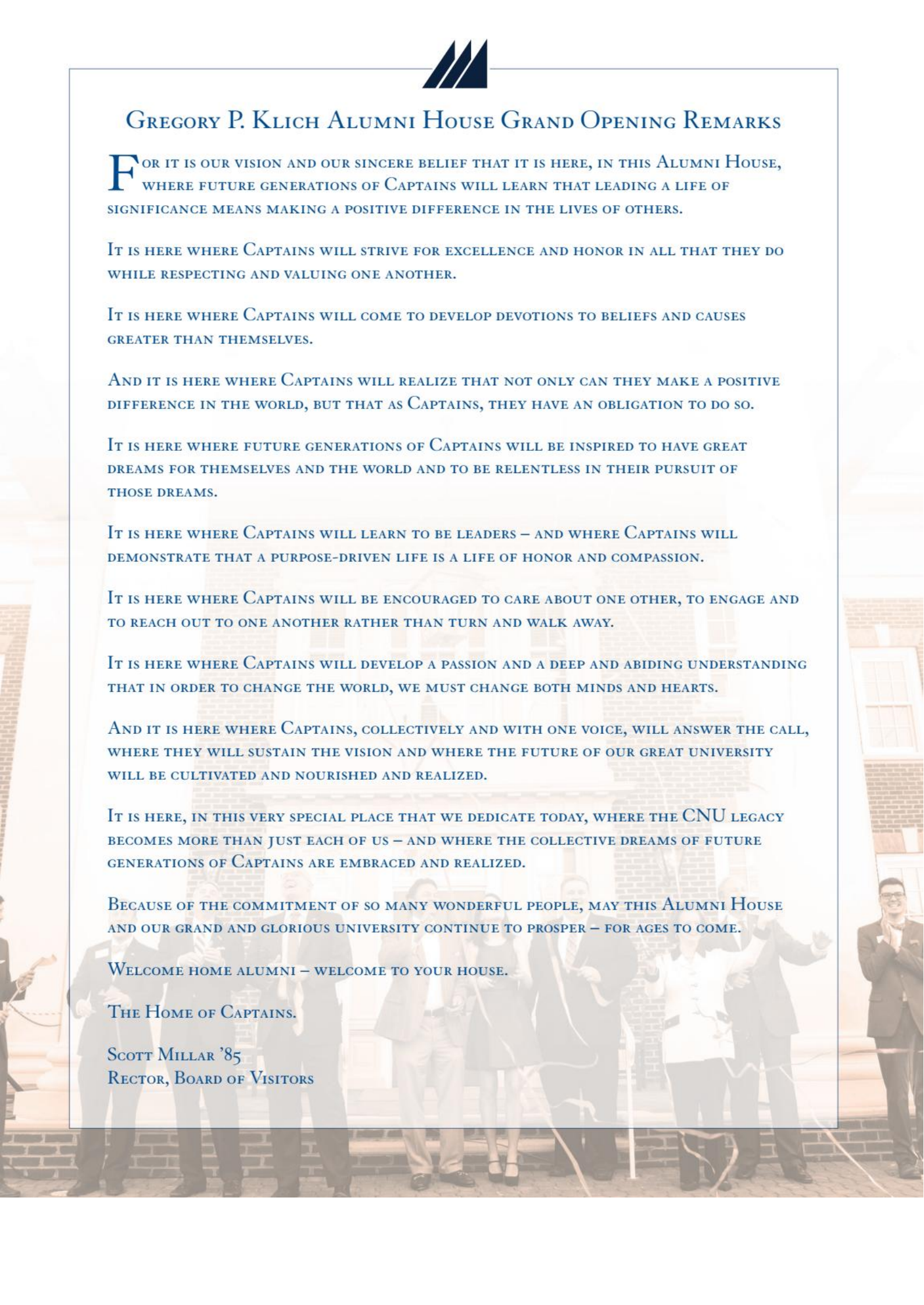
IT IS HERE, IN THIS VERY SPECIAL PLACE THAT WE DEDICATE TODAY, WHERE THE CNU LEGACY BECOMES MORE THAN JUST EACH OF US – AND WHERE THE COLLECTIVE DREAMS OF FUTURE GENERATIONS OF CAPTAINS ARE EMBRACED AND REALIZED.

BECAUSE OF THE COMMITMENT OF SO MANY WONDERFUL PEOPLE, MAY THIS ALUMNI HOUSE AND OUR GRAND AND GLORIOUS UNIVERSITY CONTINUE TO PROSPER – FOR AGES TO COME.

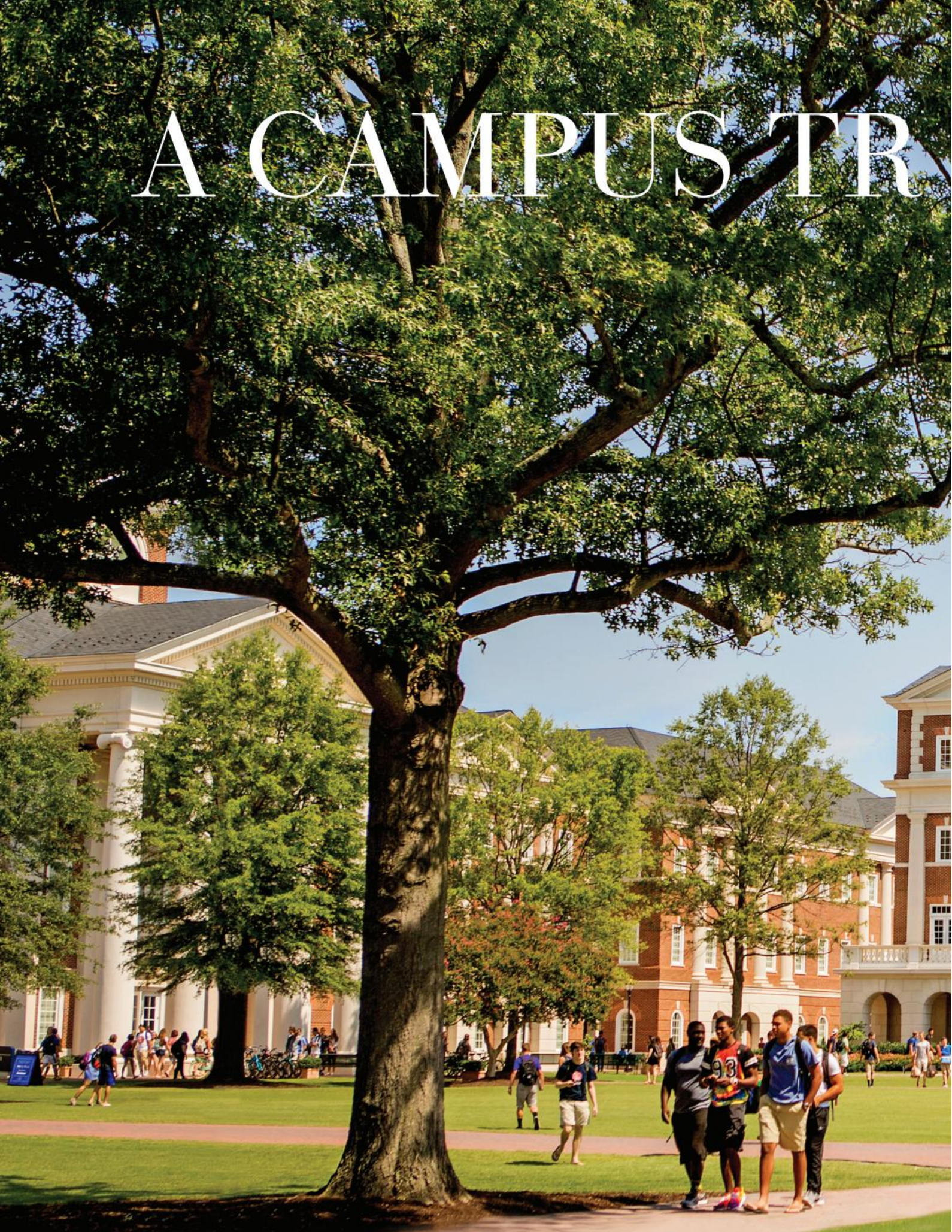
WELCOME HOME ALUMNI – WELCOME TO YOUR HOUSE.

THE HOME OF CAPTAINS.

SCOTT MILLAR '85
RECTOR, BOARD OF VISITORS



A CAMPUS TR





ANSFORMED

GREEK VILLAGE

CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT recently opened the first phase of Greek Village. Three sororities and one fraternity – Alpha Phi, Alpha Sigma Alpha, Phi Mu and Sigma Phi Epsilon – now call the Village home. Each house includes 25 beds in single and double bedrooms, a full kitchen, study rooms, elevators, a chapter room, and outdoor social and recreational spaces.

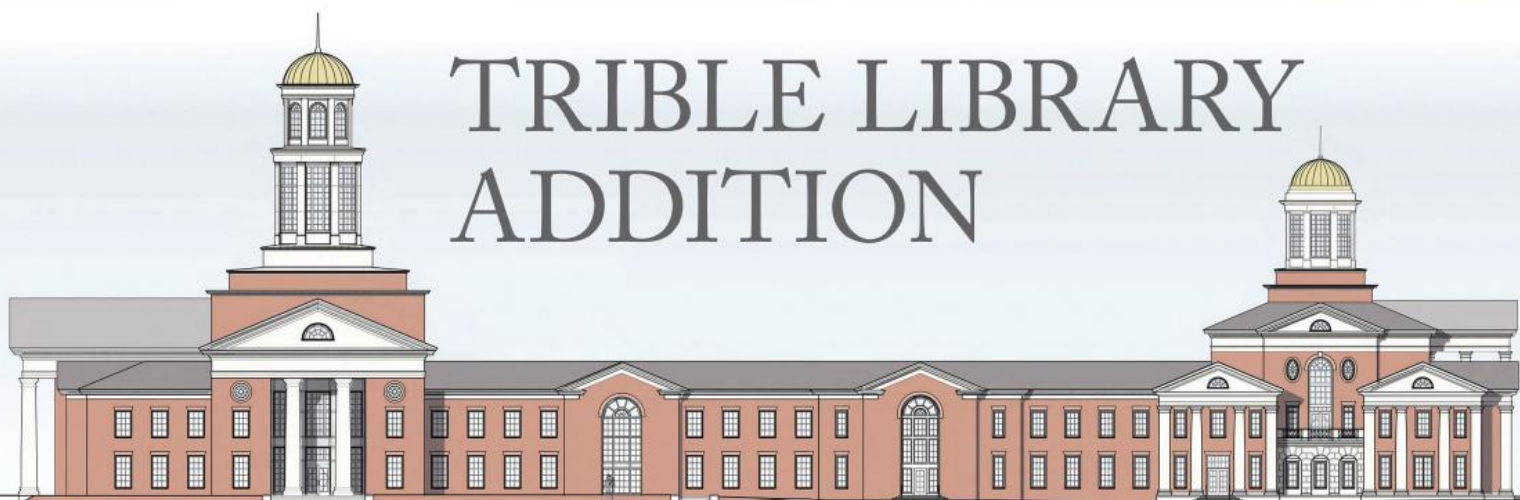


ON THE MOVE!

EXPANSION OF THE Tribble Library will provide state-of-the-art technology to support teaching and learning excellence, research, and creativity; two classrooms; a special collections center; a 100-seat lecture hall for library programming; and 800 additional seats to accommodate our students and faculty.




TRIBBLE LIBRARY ADDITION



CONSTRUCTION BEGAN last summer on the expansion of Regattas. The project will increase the number of dining stations and add 200 seats in a two-story dining room and mezzanine, plus a new entrance from the Great Lawn. The expanded facilities will be fully operational when students return for classes in fall 2017.

REGATTAS EXPANSION



***"I love the fact that I can
bring people together, where
families make memories and
friends for a lifetime. I love
building community."***

JAY EPSTEIN '76

Building the Future – *Today*

*A passion for sustainable homes
runs in the family.*

ON THE MOVE!

Jay Epstein's dream of becoming a developer began in his student days. The president of Health-E Community Enterprises, he builds ultra-energy-efficient houses designed to use up to 80 percent less energy than a conventional home.

THE BUILDINGS ARE CUSTOMIZABLE and feature high-quality construction and exceptional indoor air quality. His latest "zero energy" homes in Richmond are so revolutionary that the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) took notice and awarded Epstein a 2016 Housing Innovation Award. It's the latest in a string of awards Epstein has won, and Health-E Community was the only builder in Virginia recognized by the DOE last year.

When Epstein began building, he noticed most contractors had little interest in new methods or innovative materials. "I saw a gap in the marketplace," he says. "There were homes being built, affordable housing, first-time buyer properties. But they weren't energy efficient, and they didn't have enhanced indoor air quality. That's what I wanted to focus on."

After much research and development, Epstein hit upon a way to build the new Richmond development that was so energy efficient and "tight" – minimal air movement into and out of the house – that, when combined with a rooftop solar array, effectively meant an electric bill of \$0 for the homeowner. "That means your house is going to have an average of a zero utility bill over the year, except for service charges and taxes," says Epstein.

Another advantage of such tight construction is superior air quality, a boon for those who suffer from respiratory ailments like asthma or COPD. "We're bringing in the air we want and take it out through the exhaust system," Epstein says. "Very moderate pollutants are coming in."

The homes are a safe haven for families with young children, or for those who have allergies or asthma. "It sounds too good to be true, but I'm an asthmatic, and once you're involved in this living experience, you see that it works."

In addition to these benefits, Epstein views his approach as good business. He cites growing government involvement in construction, such as incentives to use recycled materials and other sustainable methods. "In 2025 this is the

way all homes are going to be built. But let's do what's right now," he says. "We can build the future home today. The technology's here. It's available."

Epstein's passion for green building and healthy air doesn't stop with him. Health-E Communities is the family business, and two of his five children work side-by-side with him. They followed in his footsteps in another way as well. Each graduated from

Christopher Newport. Morgan '14 is the office manager, and Robert '03 is a superintendent. Epstein's youngest daughter, Jordan, is a current CNU freshman. He looks forward to the business growing in the years ahead and to the next generation showcasing the homes of the future.

"I'm enjoying myself when my dreams become a reality. Fulfilling that dream, I build solar-powered homes with enhanced indoor air quality for middle-income buyers. It's an opportunity for my children and a way to educate the public about what I consider a new beginning in home building," says Epstein. "A developer is the ultimate optimist. I love the fact that I can bring people together, where families make memories and friends for a lifetime. I love building community." ♦



(Left to right) Robert, Jay and Morgan Epstein



For more on how Health-E Community homes are built, visit tinyurl.com/Health-E-Community-Homes.



Katie Whitcomb
enhances her
education through
undergraduate research.

ON THE MOVE!

The *Quest* for a CURE

First biomedical funding for CNU awarded to interdisciplinary research group.

A group of Christopher Newport researchers are the recipients of the 2016-17 Alzheimer's and Related Diseases Research Award Fund.

THIS INITIATIVE OF THE Virginia Center on Aging awards grants to researchers in Virginia to support work in different aspects of dementia, a group of diseases – including Alzheimer's – that impair cognitive function and memory.

The CNU project involves four faculty and a dozen undergraduates. "This grant gives us the opportunity to pursue important questions that will ultimately help scientists better understand Alzheimer's disease," says Dr. Lisa Webb, Associate Professor of Biochemistry and Chair of the Department of Molecular Biology and Chemistry.

The team includes faculty and undergraduates in chemistry, neuroscience, applied physics, and cellular, molecular and physiological biology. Dr. Darlene Mitrano, Assistant Professor of Neurobiology, is a co-investigator on the grant. "It is significant because it's the first time we've gotten funding like this for a biomedical problem," Webb says.

Alzheimer's is a particularly malignant disease, and few families escape its cruelties. According to the National Institute on Aging, as many as one in three seniors dies with Alzheimer's or other dementia. Over 5 million people suffer from the disease, and it is a leading cause of death in the United States – some estimates placing it third behind heart disease and cancer. As the plaques and tangled proteins that are the disease's physiological signature spread through the brain, patients are slowly robbed of their memories and abilities until they ultimately cannot remember loved ones or perform simple tasks.

"I have an uncle with Alzheimer's, so it is very personal," Webb says. "When you work on something that touches so many people, even though what we're doing won't have any affect on my uncle, it will for somebody else." Students often line up at Webb's door, asking to join her lab team. "Students come up and say, 'I know somebody with Alzheimer's. Do you need any help in the lab?' They are deeply interested in this work."

The team uses genetically altered mice to determine if the decline in cognitive function and changes in blood biochemistry

present in humans with Alzheimer's also show in the mice. "Our model describes disease-related changes in behavior and biochemistry," Webb says. "We study spatial memory, blood composition, sense of smell and brain structure over the life span of the mice – all of which are understudied areas."

To collect behavioral data, the researchers use the Morris Water Maze as well as a buried food test. In the maze, which resembles a tiny hot tub, the researchers repeatedly place each mouse in water and then time how long it takes it to swim to a submerged platform and climb out. Eventually, they remove the platform and time how long the mice spend in the area where it had been. "The time decreases if their memory is intact," Mitrano says. "That's how we measure their spatial memory." An increase in the time it takes to find the platform means the mice are suffering the effects of Alzheimer's.

They chose the buried food test to see if they could detect in the mice with Alzheimer's a loss of smell observed in some human studies. They hide food in a cage, place a mouse inside and then time

how long it takes it to find the food. Mitrano also studies the brains of the mice to see if there are any abnormalities in the olfactory bulbs as compared to normal mice. The undergraduates on the team chiefly perform these behavioral tests, running the maze and conducting the hidden food tests.

One of them, Katie Whitcomb, is a biochemistry and applied physics double major. "This work is very important," she says. "The number of people diagnosed with Alzheimer's is increasing, and the disease affects not only those who suffer from it, but also their friends and families. Our work with the mice will hopefully help us better understand how the disease affects people."

The group hopes its study will lead to the development of new treatments for Alzheimer's patients. Mitrano says, "We're comparing our mice to mice that are not modified at all. If we see these effects across the board, then we can't necessarily extrapolate that to humans. But if there's something specific to the Alzheimer's mice, then that could set a stage for future studies by drug developers."

Mitrano, who also has seen loved ones struggle with the degenerative condition, adds, "It's a pervasive disease. We have to keep going at it and see if our model can help." ♦



(Left to right) Dr. Lisa Webb, Katie Whitcomb and Dr. Darlene Mitrano

A CAPTAIN *Goes to* Washington

James Dennehy reflects on his summer as a White House intern.

When James Dennehy became a Christopher Newport Captain, he never imagined becoming a White House intern as well.

"I TELL MY PARENTS that the day I walked into the White House was the day I grew up," says the junior political science and American studies major. "I had three seconds to freak out about where I was – and then a half-second to figure out what I was going to do."

Dennehy hails from Ashland and is pursuing minors in both leadership studies and human rights and conflict resolution. He discovered the internship opportunity through a friend's mother who works at the White House and then applied during his sophomore year. After a six-phase process he landed a summer post in the Office of Public Engagement and Intergovernmental Affairs. There he assisted with initiatives geared toward the disabled, the aging and federal agencies.

"The one we focused on heavily was the disabled population because I have a disability," Dennehy says. He spent considerable time monitoring public opinion, hearing peoples' concerns and exploring how various issues could be addressed. He also assisted with special events, including some highlighting the intersection between different population groups.

Dennehy notes, "We did an LGBT disability event. That was interesting because you don't typically put those two categories together. It broadened my image of how different groups interact and are related to each other." He particularly enjoyed an event marking the anniversary of the Americans With Disabilities Act that highlighted technological advances in products assisting the disabled. "I talked to many people and saw how meaningful it was

to them that the White House took time to focus on a piece of legislation that impacted their lives," he says.

Then, on Dennehy's final day, President Obama addressed the intern class – the perfect closing to an incredible experience. "The White House internship was a lifetime dream. I never thought I'd get to do something like that so quickly," says Dennehy, who is now considering graduate school for public policy.

"I've been interested in social issues since late middle school and did a lot of volunteer work in the inner city throughout high school," he adds.

Born in India, Dennehy is one of 13 children – 10 of whom were adopted, including himself at age 2. Based on his own experience, he hopes to one day work in adoption advocacy and human rights around the world. "Orphan justice has had a significant impact on my life," he says. "It's played a big role in who I am. My family just adopted a little boy from China a few months ago."

Christopher Newport has also made a positive difference in Dennehy's life. "I never looked at schools based on how accessible they were," he says. "I forget I don't have arms sometimes because it's just so natural. This is how I've been my entire life." In fact, he notes, the University first reached out to *him* regarding accommodation needs.

"The school has come up with things I didn't think I would need. Then when I do come up with things, they are so accommodating and work with me," Dennehy states. Recently the University changed his suite door to a special lock. This allows him to keep his ID in his backpack side pocket and simply touch the ID against his door to unlock it.

"CNU has been amazing," he says. "I have friends who go to other schools who have disabilities, and it's not the same experience." ♦





CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT
Captains, family and friends came together December 10, 2016, for the festive 20•40•70 Celebration. This unforgettable evening honored President Paul Tribble for his 20 years leading Christopher Newport, his 40 years serving the Commonwealth and his 70th birthday. While reflecting on a lifetime of achievement, the event generated great enthusiasm for Tribble's continued leadership and the exciting work that lies ahead for the University.





20.40.70
celebration



(Left to right) Barrett Peters, Mary Katherine Tribble Peters, Paul Tribble Jr., Rosemary Tribble, Paul Tribble III and Brit Tribble



Rector Scott Millar '85, Board of Visitors



Emily Egress '17

ON THE MOVE!

20·40·70 *celebration*



"The Silver and the Blue" performed



Glenn Oder, emcee



Senior Class Council gift presentation



The University Orchestra



The Honorable Bill Whitehurst and Bobby Hatten



Captains Pursue Medical Careers

STUDENTS IN Christopher Newport's Pre-Med Scholars Program (PSP) continue to gain early admission to both Eastern Virginia Medical School (EVMS) and the Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM). Successful applicants are guaranteed admission to EVMS or VCOM after they graduate from Christopher Newport, as long as they meet the requirements of the program(s). Students admitted to VCOM do not have to take the Medical College Admission Test. The program offers scholarships, intensive advising and mentoring, informative seminars and workshops, and rich clinical and service-learning opportunities.

Rocovich Scholarships are awarded to incoming freshmen who are either from rural Virginia or the surrounding Appalachian region, an underrepresented population, or a low-income family. They participate in the President's Leadership Program and PSP.

"I gained valuable mentoring and medical knowledge from the physicians and had experiences most pre-med students do not have before entering medical school."

ELIZABETH PIWOWARSKI

Riverside Medical Group Scholars (RMGs) are selected from incoming freshmen and upperclassmen who receive \$2,500 or \$5,000, respectively, from Riverside Health System. Recipients participate in monthly shadowing opportunities at Riverside Regional Medical Center and are offered a paid internship at the hospital during the summer following their sophomore year.

"The Pre-Med Scholars Program has helped me prepare for medical school by providing action plans for courses and extracurricular activities, and presentations by medical students and health-care professionals," says senior Elizabeth Piwowarski. "I had a paid internship in the emergency department at Riverside, where I rotated working with six physicians and observed their conduct, demeanor and decision-making processes. I gained valuable mentoring and medical knowledge from the physicians and had experiences most pre-med students do not have before entering medical school."

For more information: premed.cnu.edu

A Launching Pad for Legal Careers

STUDENTS SEEKING bright futures in law find essential support through Christopher Newport's Pre-Law Program. CNU prepares students across all majors for admission to the nation's top law schools. Courses in constitutional law, logic and legal reasoning immerse undergraduates in jurisprudence, while the constitutional studies concentration in the American studies major and the philosophy of law minor enhance students' legal acumen.

The University provides a solid foundation for law school success through academic and career advising; workshops, seminars and guest lectures; networking opportunities; the Phi Delta Alpha professional pre-law fraternity; Law School Admission Test preparation; and more. Dr. Michelle Kundmueller, Assistant Professor of American Studies, now serves as program adviser and looks forward to sharing her vast knowledge and practical experience.

"I enjoyed Notre Dame Law School and my five years in private practice in Chicago. It was exciting and intellectually rewarding, and I worked daily with some of the most intelligent people I will ever know," she says. "At the same time, teaching is a true calling for me. Part of my vision of myself as a teacher – part of what made me leave the practice and head back to Notre Dame for my doctorate in political thought – was the desire to share my enthusiasm and knowledge about law with undergraduates who were trying to determine how to get into a good law school and whether it would be a good choice for them."

Senior Lili Samios plans to attend law school after graduating in May. So far she has gained acceptance to the University of Virginia, Georgetown, William & Mary, Boston College, and the University of Richmond. She's awaiting a few more decisions before finalizing her choice. "I plan to focus on public interest law," she says.



Senior Lili Samios (left) and Dr. Michelle Kundmueller of the Pre-Law Program

"Part of my vision of myself as a teacher was the desire to share my enthusiasm and knowledge about law."

DR. MICHELLE KUNDMUELLER

"It is incredibly important to me to work toward a positive change in the world, and I want to do this by being an advocate for people who do not have a voice."

An American studies and economics major, Samios is also pursuing minors in political science and leadership studies. "The Pre-Law Program

helped me prepare for the law school application process. CNU has provided me with so many opportunities, such as the chance to gain experience with research work," she says.

As CNU's pre-law students work toward their professional goals, Kundmueller underscores the University's strengths in preparing them. "Small classes are ideal environments in which to learn, in which to practice your budding oral advocacy skills and in which to receive feedback from professors in order to make your undergraduate years a time of continual improvement," she says. "Christopher Newport also provides a culture of engagement and leadership, and this translates into key opportunities to grow as a speaker, communicator, negotiator and leader. All of these skills are integral to the practice of law."

Learn more: prelaw.cnu.edu

Serving Through SONG

Drew Poplin '16 uses his musical talents to comfort and encourage others.



While most students typically spend four years in college, Drew Poplin '16 has been on campus for a large part of his life.

"MY MOTHER, BROTHER AND SISTER all went to CNU at the same time while I was in kindergarten," he explains. Because Poplin's mother had to watch him during classes, he spent much of his life at Christopher Newport, which gave him the opportunity to see the University evolve. "I learned to tie my shoes here, ate meals here, sat in classes with my mom, and when I came back during high school there was this ultimate feeling of nostalgia and being back home. I have basically been here 21 years."

Once in college himself Poplin majored in music performance with a concentration in classical guitar performance. Dr. Mark Reimer, Director of the Department of Music and the George and Mary Torggler Professor of Music, took Poplin under his wing. "I heard him play every semester," Reimer says. "He was very good at writing, particularly in conducting class."

Poplin excelled academically and kept a journal as part of his assignments. Notes Reimer, "I discovered not only what a great writer he is but how wise and introspective."

For years Poplin has shared his talents to serve others. "I started singing in nursing homes as part of a children's ministry around fifth grade and continued throughout middle and high school, as well as college," he says. When his father was

a senior adult Sunday school teacher, Poplin would play and sing for students who visited his home. "Serving senior adults through music and simply talking and listening to them has always been a part of my life, whether through hospice care visits or nursing home visits," he says.

At Christopher Newport Poplin continued serving through his songs. "Dr. Reimer sent me to play guitar for a man with severe dementia," he explains. "It was amazing that someone who does not remember his own name could remember all the words to these songs." Poplin ultimately committed himself to visiting hospice patients, playing a wide variety of music for them.

Reimer reflects, "Most people my age aren't even visiting hospitals, let alone spending time with dying people," says Reimer. "It showed a very mature outlook."

Poplin offers a unique perspective:

"My view of success is how many people have I loved and how many people truly love me. It's not about me; if we're all made equal then why would I be better than anyone else? I've been afforded the opportunities to love others from my time at Christopher Newport, and I will continue to give back to CNU and people in need."

Poplin finished his studies in December 2016 and has enrolled at South Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary, hoping to become a missionary. He also exudes deep gratitude for Christopher Newport. "There is no undergrad music degree in this state quite like CNU's, in my opinion," he says. "Traditions, honor code, the values, they are better than anything I could have imagined." ♦

"My view of success is how many people have I loved and how many people truly love me."

DREW POPLIN

The WORLD in *Our Backyard*

Exuding passion for the local community, a Christopher Newport team made a positive difference by aiding refugees in need.

DURING CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT'S annual Day of Service several years back, Dr. Christopher Loy, an anthropologist and lecturer in the Department of Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology, volunteered with a local resettlement agency. There he met refugees originating from Bhutan who were relocated to this area.

Loy conducted needs and community-skills assessments alongside Dr. Diane Griffiths, also a lecturer in the Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology Department. With the help of several students, they sought to identify areas of greatest need within the population.

Results indicated that the Bhutanese were struggling to adapt to their new surroundings even after living here several years. "We discovered that they still had serious needs in terms of their language skills," Griffiths says. "Additionally, employment was still a huge issue, and there were mental-health needs we felt could be better addressed." Ultimately, the lack

of opportunities to develop English skills proved detrimental to gaining and maintaining employment, preventing the refugees from fully acclimating to local life.

Out of the assessment findings, the University launched two programs. First, an incoming Bonner Service Scholar at CNU would create an English-language program to help the refugees improve their speaking and writing skills. Second, Griffiths and Loy would organize an employment workshop to provide local connections and opportunities.

Abigail Yoder, a CNU Bonner Service Scholar, chose the Bhutanese refugee project to fulfill her Bonner program requirements. With Griffiths' supervision and the help of Michelle Grau, who teaches Spanish as well as English as a second language, Yoder developed and led the project — enlisting student volunteers to teach and work with the Bhutanese population to help improve their English skills.

Volunteers completed training to teach English as a second language and began visiting the Bhutanese twice weekly in their homes.

"Professor Grau has a specialty in TESOL, Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages, and she works with many master of arts in teaching students interested in working with English Language Learners. Her expertise helped us develop helpful curriculum and methods," Yoder says.

"The No. 1 need we saw was helping the women in the population who are often stuck in their homes with children or who don't have transportation," Griffiths explains. Because many refugees hadn't had regular contact with native English speakers, their exposure to the language was limited, making them feel isolated.

"They may not have understood everything, but they tried," Yoder says. "That was the most encouraging part. They just wanted support and to know someone cares and wants them to succeed. Part of our obligation to be global citizens is to make a commitment to service and giving back." The team also worked with the refugees on information needed for the U.S. citizenship test, as many were interested in working toward that goal.

With funding from the Ferguson Foundation, the University hosted an employment workshop specifically for the Bhutanese. Local employers — including private farms, Riv-

erside Health System and Habitat for Humanity — discussed requirements, skills and certifications required to work in areas where the refugees demonstrated a base skillset.

"This was very much a community effort in a way that beautifully linked the University with all of Newport News," Griffiths says. "Christopher Newport is a place where all worlds intersect in a lot of ways. Service, leadership and being a valued member of the community are all part of our mission. This kind of service project is the essence of what Christopher Newport is all about."

Today, many of the Bhutanese refugees have now relocated to Ohio. And while this particular project has come to a close, Yoder continues to intern at the local refugee resettlement agency, Commonwealth Catholic Charities. Other Christopher Newport students also seeking to make a difference join her in this significant work. ♦



"Part of our obligation to be global citizens is to make a commitment to service and giving back."

ABIGAIL YODER

facultynews



Biology Professor Co-Authors Study on Fish Populations in West Africa

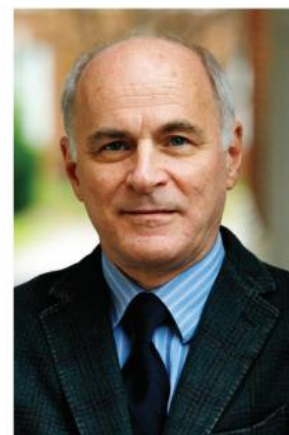
Assistant Professor of Organismal and Environmental Biology Dr. Heather Harwell co-authored *Red List of Marine Bony Fishes of the Eastern Central Atlantic*. This large, collaborative research effort is the first comprehensive documentation of the presence, status and level of extinction risk for more than 1,800 marine species in the Eastern Central Atlantic Ocean.

"The results of this five-year study will help transform the current state of knowledge regarding coastal and pelagic fish populations in West Africa and will increase capacity for regional stakeholders to identify and enact marine conservation and research priorities," Harwell says.

Harter Authors Study on Foucault and Leadership

Nathan Harter published *Foucault on Leadership: The Leader as Subject*, an examination of French philosopher Michel Foucault's insights on leader development, most importantly that a leader must first become a subject – an autonomous agent who authors his or her own life by countering power with truth.

"Not many in leadership studies are aware that the most cited scholar in the social sciences spent the last three years of his life researching leader development," says Harter, a professor in the Department of Leadership and American Studies and director of the interdisciplinary studies program.



Rose Publishes Book on Religious Contemplative Practices

Dr. Kenneth Rose, Professor of Philosophy and Religious Studies, is the author of *Yoga, Meditation, and Mysticism: Contemplative Universals and Meditative Landmarks*, which explores contemplative practice and experience across religious traditions, religious studies, philosophy, neuroscience and the cognitive science of religion.



Office of Teacher Preparation Awarded Virginia Department of Education Grant

Dr. Marsha Sprague, Professor of English and Director of the Office of Teacher Preparation, was awarded a grant from the Virginia Department of Education to continue CNU's clinical faculty program in partnership with

Newport News Public Schools. The \$24,000 grant provides special training for cooperating teachers in Newport News on how to better supervise teacher-interns, including candidates in the Master of Arts in Teaching Program, as they gradually assume all duties of a teacher in the last semester of their preparation program.

"This program has provided a pool of highly involved, effective cooperating teachers who welcome their Christopher Newport interns each spring," says Sprague.



Computer Science Lecturer Awarded National Institute of Aerospace Grant

Keith Perkins, Visiting Lecturer in the Department of Physics, Computer Science and Engineering, received a two-year, \$60,000 grant from the National Institute of Aerospace for his work with high-powered lasers, which have a wide range of commercial and research applications.

"Currently, viewing an otherwise invisible laser beam requires cumbersome equipment, which is inconvenient, time-consuming and encourages unsafe behavior," says Perkins. "This project will develop an enhanced eyewear system that will allow an operator to safely see a laser beam in real time while also providing freedom of movement."



Silverman Edits 'Game of Thrones' Essay Collection

Philosophy and Religious Studies Professor Dr. Eric Silverman is lead editor of *The Ultimate Game of Thrones and Philosophy*, a collection of 30 essays on political power, morality and other philosophical questions as presented in the popular TV show.

Reimer Elected Vice President of Pi Kappa Lambda

Dr. Mark Reimer, the George and Mary Torggler Professor of Music, was elected vice president of Pi Kappa Lambda national music honor society. Founded in 1916, Pi Kappa Lambda recognizes and encourages musical achievement and academic scholarship in the nation's colleges, conservatories and universities.

"I am honored to have been appointed three years ago as an associate regent of Pi Kappa Lambda and have thoroughly enjoyed my work with such inspiring and dedicated colleagues from across the country," Reimer says. "I am delighted to be elected to this leadership position, serving an honorable organization that recognizes the talent, scholarship and achievements of the students in our nation's collegiate music programs."



Allison Publishes Text on American Indians and Energy Development

Assistant Professor of History Dr. James Allison published *Sovereignty for Survival: American Energy Development and Indian Self-Determination*, which details how American Indians leveraged their possession of valuable energy resources during the 1970s to expand tribal sovereignty and participate in global energy development.

"This story of tribal resistance and shifting tribal identities demonstrates the interplay between the environment, law and culture and should make major contributions to the histories of American Indians, the American West, and energy and the environment," Allison says.



Skees Awarded Best-in-Show at 'Virginia Artists' Exhibition

Studio Art Lecturer Kristin Skees' large-scale photography portrait of artist Greg Henry won this year's Best-in-Show award at the Virginia Artists Juried Exhibition at the Charles H. Taylor Arts Center in Hampton. The exhibition, one of the largest of its kind in Virginia, showcases over 100 works from artists across the state.

Nearly \$7,000 in prize money is at stake for the winners in drawing, printmaking, painting, photography, crafts, watercolor, mixed media and sculpture. For Best-in-Show, Skees took home \$1,500. "It's always an honor to have my work recognized by curators and fellow professionals in my field, like Jeffrey Allison from the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts," Skees says. "This award is special because it comes with the opportunity to exhibit a solo show. And I'm excited to use the award money to create a new body of work to show at next year's exhibition."

Steven Uses VAS Grant to Study Plant Diversity

Dr. Janet Steven, Assistant Professor of Biology, received a grant from the Virginia Academy of Sciences to study plant species composition in nearby Mariners' Museum Park. The loss of surrounding farmland, the introduction of invasive species and greater human usage, among other factors, may have caused significant changes in the park over time. Steven and CNU graduate student Kelli Shelton will catalog the current plants and compare them with a list compiled in 1934 to gain a better understanding of the changes.

"Comparing the plant species present in the Mariners' Museum Park in 1934 with the species there today provides unique insight into changes in vegetation that typically go undetected in natural areas," Steven says. "The particular species that have appeared and disappeared can help us identify the factors that lead to vegetation changes in forests set aside as nature preserves or protected areas."





DeJong Wins \$150K From National Science Foundation

Assistant Professor of Physics Dr. Anna DeJong received a three-year \$150,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to support her research, as well as that of two students. DeJong's research involves the upper atmosphere and how it affects activity in Earth's magnetosphere – the region of space where charged particles are controlled by Earth's magnetic field. Specifically, she will study the ability of electrical currents to flow during different types of energy transport in the magnetosphere.

"By better understanding how ionospheric feedback affects the magnetosphere, we will improve our ability to understand and predict space weather," DeJong says. "Better predictions will also help protect our technology from damage due to space weather phenomenon."



Cartwright Receives \$270,000 Project Grant

Dr. Kelly Cartwright, Professor of Psychology, was awarded a four-year, \$270,000 grant from the Institute of Education Sciences for a project called Language, Executive Functioning Skills, and Reading for eNgagement (LEARN). The project is a collaboration between Cartwright and colleagues from the University of Maryland; it will track factors that contribute to the development

of successful reading comprehension in English monolingual students (EMs) – native English speakers – and English learners (ELs) – students for whom English is a second language, in first through fifth grades. The grant will also support undergraduate researchers at Christopher Newport.

"English learners have particular difficulties with English reading comprehension," Cartwright says. "Although executive-functioning skills and engagement contribute to EM students' reading comprehension, little research has examined the roles of these elements in ELs' reading comprehension development. Findings from this study will provide critical information about potential reading comprehension interventions, particularly which factors might be important to target in future research."



Chemistry Professor Awarded \$70,000 Grant

Assistant Professor of Chemistry Dr.

Joshua Patterson was awarded a \$70,000 grant from the American Chemical Society for his work on asphaltenes – a major component of petroleum.

"Petroleum is one of the most complex and critical chemical resources to the world," says Patterson. "Methods of extracting petroleum disrupt the stability of asphaltenes, resulting in clogged equipment, and affecting cost and efficiency." His research will examine chemical inhibitors used to prevent asphaltene destabilization and provide a framework for new inhibitor design and improved performance.



Professors Awarded Virginia Foundation for the Humanities Grant

Professors Diana Obeid and Hussam Timani received a grant from the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities to hold a one-day symposium on the Middle East this past October at Christopher Newport. Geared toward K-12 teachers in Hampton Roads, the program informed area educators on Middle Eastern cultures and societies.

"Informing our educators on issues related to the Middle East helps them communicate accurate information in the class and understand the culture of the growing Middle Eastern and North African communities in the Hampton Roads area," Obeid says. "Newport News is home to refugees from Iraq, Syria and other parts of the Middle East and North Africa whose children attend our area schools."



Moran Publishes Book on Aztec Food and Ritual Practice

Dr. Liz Moran, Associate Professor of Art History, published *Sacred Consumption: Food and Ritual in Aztec Art and Culture*, which analyzes how foods were

transformed into sacred elements within particular Aztec rituals, and how food in turn gave meaning to the rituals performed. "My project on food and ritual in Aztec art is the first integrated study by an art historian and explores the everyday and ritual as intertwined aspects of life, a point of view keeping with Aztec philosophy," Moran says.

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A male athlete, Grayson Reid, is shown in a blue CNU cross-country jersey with the number 421. He is running on a grassy field with other athletes in the background.

CROSS COUNTRY

Grayson Reid

For the first time in program history, the Captains qualified for the NCAA Division III national championship in back-to-back seasons, doing so by winning the 2016 South/Southeast Regional title for just the second time. The team has been led by two-time CAC individual champion Grayson Reid, who was named the United States Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association South/Southeast Athlete of the Year. A junior, Reid became the third runner in school history to win the regional championship. Head Coach Matt Barreau was also named the region's Coach of the Year after guiding the Captains to their first regional title since 1994.

On the women's side, senior Emmie Schmitt was named CAC Runner of the Year after winning the individual conference championship while freshman Jessica Lee collected Rookie of the Year honors. The Captains finished second in the CAC and third in the South/Southeast Region Championship. Four CNU women collected All-Region honors.

A female athlete, Rachael Allshouse, is shown in a black field hockey jersey with the number 14. She is wearing pink socks with 'STX' on them and is in a dynamic pose, holding her field hockey stick. The background is blurred, showing other players and a grassy field.

FIELD HOCKEY

Six members of the field hockey team earned All-Conference honors this year, including first-team selections for sophomore Rachael Allshouse, senior Bailey Lien and junior Alexa Weaver. Lien wrapped up the most successful career for a goalkeeper in program history, establishing career records for wins, shutouts and minutes played. The Captains featured a suffocating defense that ranked sixth nationally in goals-against average while posting nine shutouts. CNU finished the year with a 14-5 record while climbing as high as 14th in national rankings.

Rachael Allshouse

fall sports *roundup*

FOOTBALL

Justin Palimore

Prior to this season, Head Coach Matt Kelchner announced that 2016 would be his final on the sidelines. The Captains made it memorable with the finest turnaround in program history. After finishing 2015 at 4-6, the Captains went 7-3 and saw time in the national rankings. CNU was the only team to defeat nationally ranked Wesley College, blowing out the Wolverines 42-28. The team featured a stellar defense and ranked second in program history in total offense allowed. Junior linebacker Brennan Gary set a program record in tackles for a loss and also led the team in total tackles with 83. Offensively, CNU was led statistically by a record-breaking campaign from senior wide receiver Taylor Loudan.

Junior quarterback K.J. Kearney also had a strong year, twice setting the program's single game passing record while Loudan broke school records for receptions in a single season and a career.



Link Named Head Coach

CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT welcomes Art Link as the new head football coach. Link spent the last three years as defensive coordinator and linebackers coach at Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania, and succeeds Matt Kelchner.

GOLF

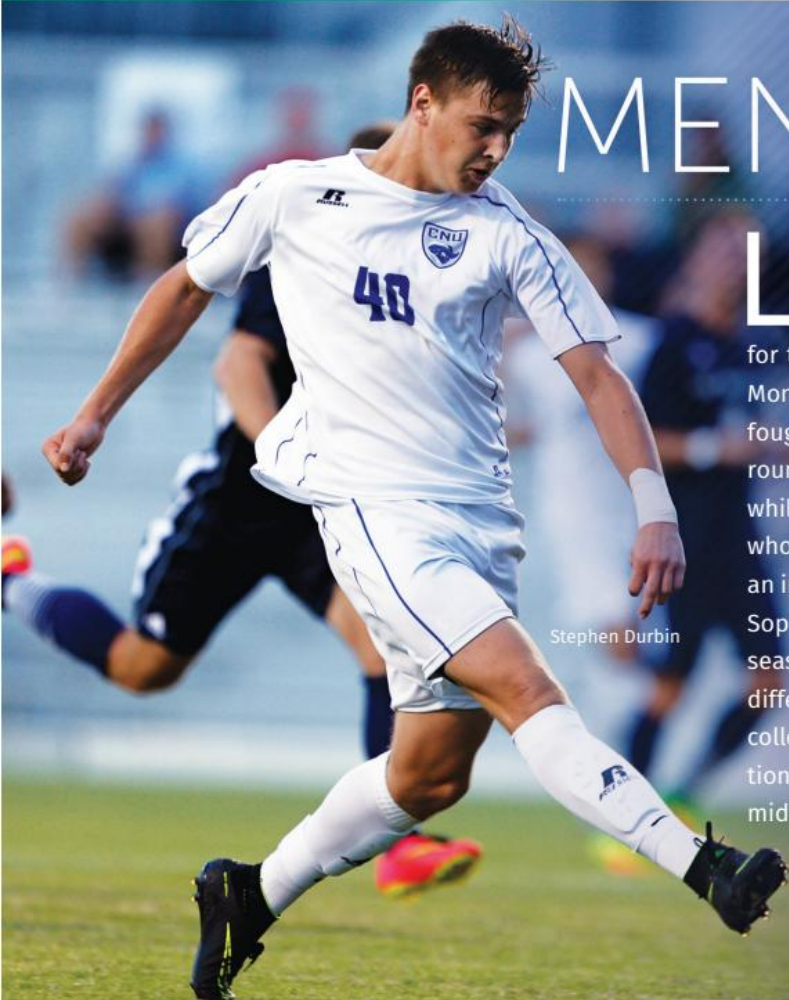
Sophomore David Rabil played one of the finest seasons in program history this fall, helping lead the team to wins in two of the four events entered. Rabil broke the league and school single-round scoring record with a seven-under par 64 at the Golfweek Fall Invitational. Then, at the VSGA Intercollegiate Championship, he tied the program record for low tournament score and set the mark in relation to par with an 11-under performance. He earned CAC Co-Golfer of the Week honors for his terrific run and wrapped up the fall slate with a 71.8 stroke average, shattering the previous record of 73.24 set by Brian Jaeger in 2013. The Captains won the VSGA Intercollegiate Championship and also repeated as the Bay Creek Invitational champions.



David Rabil

MEN'S SOCCER

Led by CAC Player of the Year Jimmy Grace, the nationally ranked Captains won the league regular season and tournament championships and returned to the NCAA tournament for the 10th time. In the postseason, the Captains rolled past Montclair State, 5-1, in the first round before suffering a hard-fought setback to fourth-ranked Messiah, 2-0, in the second round. CNU concluded the season with an 18-3-1 overall record while featuring one of the top offenses in the country. Grace, who returned to the team after missing all of last season with an injury, led the league with 13 goals, six assists and 32 points. Sophomore transfer Stephen Durbin had a sensational debut season with 28 points on 11 goals and six assists while seven different Captains finished in double-figure scoring. Six players collected All-Conference honors, including four first-team selections. Grace and Durbin were joined on the first team by junior midfielder Andrew Gogolin and senior defender Harry Nodwell.



Stephen Durbin

A photograph of Victoria Perry, a women's soccer player, in a blue jersey with "CAPTAINS 12" on it, dribbling a soccer ball on a grass field. The background is dark and out of focus.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Victoria Perry

In the fourth season under Head Coach Dan Weiler, the Captains recorded one of the finest seasons in program history. The team broke program records for wins in a season and best winning percentage while becoming just the second team to advance in the NCAA tournament. The Captains won their first CAC tournament championship, earning the automatic bid into the postseason. In the first round CNU toppled nationally ranked Rowan 3-2 and advanced to face 12th-ranked Johns Hopkins in the second round, where the season would end in a 4-0 loss.

Along the way senior Victoria Perry became the program's all-time leading scorer, with 109 points, while also setting the record for most career assists with 31. She ranks second in career goals, with 38, and helped lead one of the most dangerous offenses in the region. Six Captains were honored as All-Conference selections, including freshman defender Keiley McCarthy who earned CAC Rookie of the Year honors. Weiler was named CAC Coach of the Year for the second time after guiding the Captains to a program-best 17-3-1 overall record.

A photograph of two female sailors, Samara Leith and Alexis Edwards, on a white sailboat. They are wearing blue life jackets and caps, sailing on a body of water under a blue sky with clouds.

SAILING

Prior to the start of the year, three Captains earned MAISA All-Academic team honors: juniors Hanna Halleck-Pinkleton and Benjamin Kempton, and senior Laura Kilgore. The team continues to make strides toward becoming a power among the nation's elite, qualifying for the Women's Atlantic Coast Championships for the second-straight year. Senior Austin Powers had one of the best singlehanded seasons in program history, winning the 2016 Laser Elimination and qualifying for the MAISA Conference Championship regatta. CNU won three events this fall, including the Navy Small Keelboat Invitational, MAISA Laser Qualifier and Colony Cup.

(Left to right)
Samara Leith
and Alexis Edwards



TENNIS

Rookie Johanna Ranta-aho headlined the tournament action by playing deeper into the championship draw at the ITA Southeast Regional Championship than any CNU player ever has. She led the team with six wins this fall and reached the semifinals of the championship draw as a true freshman. For her efforts she was ranked 36th heading into the spring season. As a team the women are ranked 32nd to start the year. On the men's side junior Justin Cerny led the way, earning CAC Player of the Week twice before collecting the first national ranking of his career, at No. 49. The team is ranked 28th heading into spring, led by Cerny and fellow junior David Reed who are ranked regionally in doubles play.



Johanna Ranta-aho



Senior Hannah Miller earned AVCA All-American honors for the third time in her career, capping off another successful season for CNU volleyball. Nationally ranked, the Captains reached the NCAA tournament for the 10th consecutive season, earning an at-large berth for the first time in program history. Miller became just the second player in CNU history to earn All-American accolades three times, doing so after collecting honorable mention honors this season. She capped off her career by ranking second in the CAC with 1.09 blocks per set, which is the seventh-best mark in program history. She also ranked fourth in the league in hitting percentage, with a .291 mark, while putting away 2.79 kills per set. Miller and fellow senior Maddie McCann each earned first team All-Conference honors while rookie Riley Garrison rounded out the All-CAC honors with a second team selection. The season ended for the Captains with a 25-10 overall record.

(Left to right) Hannah Miller, Riley Garrison and Maddie McCann

VOLLEYBALL

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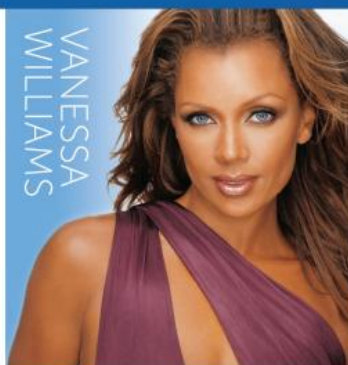
MARCH

- 3** Virginia Symphony Orchestra "Pictures at a French Exhibition"
- 4** The Manhattan Transfer & Take 6 Present "The Summit"
- 5** Russian National Ballet Theatre: Cinderella and Romeo & Juliet
- 11** Vanessa Williams
- 12** National Symphony Orchestra
- 16** Hal Holbrook in "Mark Twain Tonight!"
- 17** Virginia Symphony Orchestra Chorus Verdi's Requiem
- 24-25** Saturday Night Fever - The Musical
- 25** VSO Chamber Orchestra "Mosaic Duo"
- 26** Celtic Woman: Voices of Angels

APRIL

- 2** Piano Battle: Combat on the Keys - Classical Smackdown
- 7** Virginia Symphony Orchestra Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 5
- 19** Clay Jenkinson as Thomas Jefferson
- 23** Ben Folds
- 29** The Drifters, Cornell Gunter's Coasters and The Platters

All dates, times, artists and programs are subject to change.



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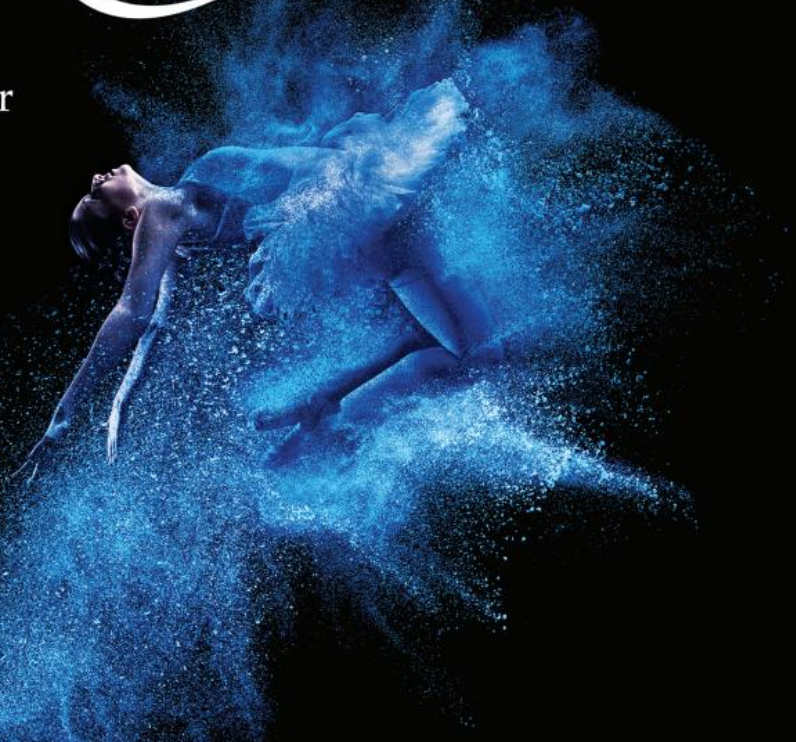
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