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From the desk of President Tribble

1 message

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Christopher Newport University

March 2013

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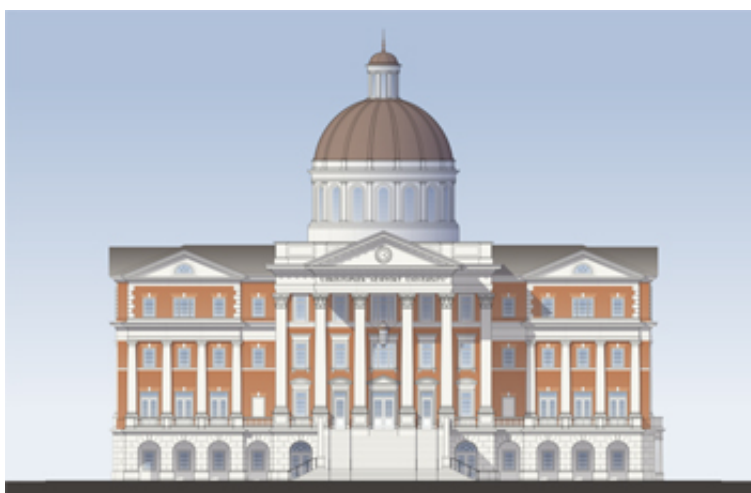
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Great News from Richmond



Construction of Student Success Center to begin this summer

The capital budget for higher education approved by the General Assembly on Saturday advances three important projects for CNU.

Over \$42 million is appropriated for the construction of a student success center on the site of the current administration building. We will co-locate in one building

student services that promote and support student success, including the offices of undergraduate admission, academic advising, the academic learning center, registrar's office, financial aid, business office, housing, parking, the President's Leadership and Honors Programs, and the Center for Career Planning. Construction will begin in July 2013.

The General Assembly also authorized us to proceed with detailed planning for the next phase of our library. This action supports the construction of an 80,015 square foot second-story addition and expansion to the Tribble Library. The project provides spaces for instruction, reading, group and individual study, technology, and lectures. It will increase the number of seats from 250 to 1,100, add a technology center and information commons to support excellence in learning, provide a special collections center, add two classrooms and create a 100-seat lecture hall for library programming and special lectures. We hope to begin construction of this next phase of the library in summer 2014.

Finally, the General Assembly approved preplanning to construct modern spaces for the fine arts and a rehearsal hall and storage for the university's bands and musical ensembles. This action will position us to begin construction in summer 2015.

CNU has greatly benefited from the capital process adopted by the General Assembly in 2008. The process is designed to authorize projects for preplanning, then move them to detailed planning and finally to the construction phase, thus providing a manageable and reliable capital outlay program. We are one of only a few schools that have a project included in each of the three queues - preplanning, detailed planning and construction.

Pope Chapel Opens



Over the past 16 years we have completed over \$1 billion in capital construction at CNU. We build buildings of civic proportions and beauty without apology. Our job is to instruct and inspire our students and nothing does that more powerfully than

great art and architecture.



Mary and Larry Pope

I am pleased to announce that Pope Chapel officially opened on February 18. This \$8 million, 10,000 square-foot building, named in honor of our dear friends Larry and Mary Pope, stands at the entrance to the University and will enrich the life of our campus by providing a beautiful venue for religious activities, lectures, musical performances, weddings and other special events.



Pope Chapel Celebration Hall

The main celebration hall is an open and inviting space that can seat up to 325 people, and is adorned with a gorgeous stained glass window. Also featured are a bride's room, a conference room and a quiet room, open to all for reflection, meditation and silence. Pope Chapel is outfitted with the latest in audio-visual equipment designed to be unobtrusive while capturing the precious memories that will happen here.

I am pleased to report that 14 weddings have already been booked, with the first taking place in May!

Spring Sports Success

Our CNU student athletes continue to excel. Four of our teams are among the top ranked teams in America.

- No. 5 Baseball
- No. 6 Softball
- No. 17 Women's Basketball
- No. 19 Women's Lacrosse



Women's basketball

The 17th-ranked Captains put the finishing touches on another season last week, capturing a fourth USA South Conference championship in the past five years. Junior Tia Perry has led the way for the Captains this season, scoring nearly 14 points a game. The first-team All-Conference selection earned tournament MVP honors, and sophomore Camry Green is averaging nearly a double-double for the year, grabbing 9.9 rebounds per game to go with 11.3 points per contest.

The women's NCAA tournament begins tonight in the Freeman Center as CNU will host first-round games beginning at 5 p.m. The Captains will play in their 15th NCAA tournament against the Quakers from Guilford College at 7 p.m.

Men's basketball

CNU wrapped up a 15th conference title this season, and enters the NCAA tournament already with 21 wins on the season. The Captains are led by junior team captain Tra Benefield, scoring 19.5 points per game and hauling in 8.2 rebounds per game. Tournament MVP Nik Biberaj has caught fire of late, posting three straight double-doubles in the conference tournament and averaging a team-best 8.8 boards per game.

CNU will host NCAA tournament opening round action Saturday beginning at 4 p.m. in The Freeman Center. It is the 19th appearance in the NCAA's post-season tournament for the men's team.



Baseball

The Captains are off to an 11-2-1 start with an 8-1 record against conference opponents, and are ranked fifth nationally. Junior Justin Weaver is hitting .412 with a team-leading 17 RBI and eight extra-base hits, while five different CNU players are hitting over .300.

On the mound, CNU hurlers boast a remarkable 2.83 ERA through the first 14 games, and are led by a dominant bullpen. Sophomore Adam Emerson and seniors Richard Lindsay, Matt Verdillo and Ryan Fleischmann have seen the bulk of the action out of the pen, combining for a 0.98 ERA and 49 strikeouts.



Softball

Ranked No. 6 in the nation, the Captains have begun the 2013 season with a bang, sweeping an opening day doubleheader. Last year's USA South Player and Rookie of the Year Sabrina Hill returns to lead the offense, while all-region senior Whitney Haller looks to resume last year's dominance in the pitching circle. Captains softball continues their season this weekend in the Beach Blast Tournament in Virginia Beach.



Tennis

Both men's and women's teams opened their home seasons with victories. In a preseason coaches' poll, the women's team was picked to finish third in the USA South, while the men's team is predicted to finish second.



Women's lacrosse

The women's lacrosse team has broken into the national rankings for the first time in program history this year. CNU's No. 19 Captains feature a well-balanced attack and have started the season with a 2-1 record. The men have also begun well, posting a 2-1 record. In a remarkable start to the year, sophomore John Thompson currently has 11 assists after only three games, good for sixth on CNU's all-time single-season list.



Track and Field

Both track and field squads keep right on going, with both the men and women's teams wrapping up conference titles. Six Captains recorded top-10 performances in CNU history as the teams competed in the two-day CNU Pentathlon/Heptathlon at The Freeman Center last week. Freshman Jennifer Westerholm and sophomore Enuma Ezenwa are ranked in the top 30 nationally.



Cheerleading

The cheerleading team won the 2013 Capital Athletic Conference (CAC) Cheerleading Championship, the first CAC championship in CNU history! The Captains competed in the event after receiving an invitation by the league head coaches. CNU officially joins the CAC as a full league member in July.

Visit CNUsports.com for complete team stories, schedules and ticket information. Go Captains!

Atlanta Alumni Gathering



The Atlanta alumni gathering

On February 20, we hosted our first out-of-state alumni and friends gathering, CNU On the Move: Atlanta. More than 30 guests attended the event, including a wide range of alumni from the class of 1979 to the class of 2010. We thoroughly enjoyed visiting with these alums and hearing their stories, as well as sharing the good things that are happening here at CNU. We are excited by their enthusiasm for their alma mater and we look forward to starting an official alumni chapter in Atlanta!

Three additional CNU On the Move dates are scheduled for this spring. We hope to see you there!

Charlottesville – Farmington Country Club
Thursday, April 4, 2013
6 p.m.

Richmond – The Jefferson Hotel
Monday, April 8, 2013
6 p.m.

Springfield – Springfield Country Club
Monday, April 15, 2013
6:30 p.m.

[Click here](#) for more information or to RSVP for one of the events.

Please send us your news and keep us up to date by submitting a [class note](#).

Forever a Captain



We mourn the loss of our dear friend and colleague, C.J. Woollum, who passed away Wednesday, February 6, at the age of 64. As the leader of our athletic department for 25 years, and men's basketball coach for 26 seasons, C.J. set a standard of excellence and established a winning tradition rivaled by few. His accomplishments are many, but he will be most remembered for his kind spirit and the difference he made in the lives of thousands of student-athletes, coaches and colleagues.

The CNU family joined us in the Freeman Center as we came together on the basketball court named in C.J.'s honor for a stirring tribute to his life and spirit. Many whose lives he touched were on hand to share their memories and say goodbye as we celebrated his immeasurable contributions to our University.

As a way to keep C.J.'s memory alive, and to honor his work as a coach and educator, we have established the [C.J. Woollum Victory Fund](#). The Fund will support the mission of providing a championship experience for our student-athletes, and will ensure that CNU's athletic programs always compete among the nation's very best. Memorial contributions can also be made in C.J.'s memory to any cancer organization.

The Month in Photos

To share our campus spirit with you, each newsletter includes a link to a [photo gallery](#) featuring images of exciting events from the past month. Enjoy!

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5/20/2015

Christopher Newport University Mail - From the desk of President Triple

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