

THE HAMPDEN-SYDNEY TIGER



February 16, 2018

The Comeback Issue

Volume XCVIII.7

Changes to Student Affairs, Pledging Requirements, Greek Life and More

Chad Pisano '19
Editor-in-Chief

It is no secret that over the course of this academic year there have been major changes to the school's administrative and functional structure. Many students are particularly concerned with changes related to Greek

life, which encompasses about 50% of the current student body. New hires and changes to the pledging GPA that were enacted this semester have given the Sydney rumor mill much to work with, and stories ranging from the imminent and total abolition of the sacred H-SC tradition of Greek Week to the shortening of the pledge period yet again ran rampant. In an attempt to clarify some of the murkiness regarding the

school's stance toward Greek organizations and their future, *The Tiger* sat down with the Area Coordinator for Room Assignments and Greek Life, Andrew Marshal '17, and Associate Dean of Students for Student Engagement & Judicial Affairs, Richard Pantele '13, to ask them questions about topics ranging from changes to Hampden-Sydney's rush program to planned changes to Greek Week.

Perhaps I am naïve, but when

Marshall's addition to the Student Affairs staff was announced, I had no idea what this title meant. Marshall clarified that this position, "as it pertains to Greek life, is to serve the campus as a residence life professional whose specialty is the residence halls on fraternity circle, in addition to the residence halls off-campus and on the south side of campus, such as Venable and the Blakes." When asked about his involvement

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Marshall (Photo: hsc.edu)

Senate Snapshot: Court Judgements

Keifer Pfister '20
Staff Writer

On 22 January 2018, the plurality of the Student Government met in Brown to settle the case of former Chairman Skyler Robinson and Justice Garrett Ramsey.

To understand this meeting's outcome and its gravity, readers must understand how things unfolded back in August. During the first couple of weeks of school in the fall of 2017, then-chairman

Robinson and Ramsey engaged in alcohol consumption in a freshman dry dorm. This action violated the student code of conduct. On the next business day both Robinson and Ramsey turned themselves in to the Office of Student Affairs.

Soon after turning themselves in, a letter of indictment, signed by high-ranking administration members, was handed down. Both Robinson and Ramsey were informed that they would no longer be serving in the student court, amongst other less publicly relevant penalties.

Robinson accepted the penalties; Robinson took issue with who was issuing the impeachment and made this dissatisfaction public.

Robinson believed that the decision had not been reached through the proper channels. Robinson argued that The Key suggested that the Student Senate held the responsibility to impeach him, not the administration. He expressed this view in an article published to *The Tiger*.

The Judicial Committee of the HSC Senate, which contained Senator Cullen '19, Senator Francis '20,

and Chairman Bloodworth '18, reaffirmed the administration's decision for suspension from the court with the potential for reinstatement after successful serving of alcohol probation. Interim Court Chairman Bobby George signed the Senate's sanctions on 17 November 2017.

The Senate meeting on 22 January 2018 concerned reinstatement for both Robinson and Ramsey to the general court. Chairman Bloodworth recused himself from the court proceedings to prevent a potential conflict of interest. Interim-

Chairman Francis led the proceedings. The Senate sat in a U shape facing Robinson on their left, student leaders on the right and a podium separating the two parties.

The meeting began with Robinson pleading his case for reinstatement. He began by admitting that he made a mistake last semester by drinking with freshmen in a dry dorm. He argued that he had served his sentence and learned from his experience. He explained his article in the newspaper and his appeals to the Senate not as self-

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INFO



The Hampden-Sydney Tiger

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by J. B. Wall '19

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The Hampden-Sydney Tiger is a student newspaper serving the community of Hampden-Sydney and operating independently of the College. *The Tiger* is printed, roughly, biweekly by *The Farmville Herald*.

The views expressed in 'Letters to the Editor' do not reflect any official views or policies of *The Hampden-Sydney Tiger*.

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Letter from the Editor

Chad Pisano '19
Editor-in-Chief

Hello readers, my name is Chad Pisano, and I am happy and honored to have to have been chosen as the newest editor-in-chief of *The Tiger*. I am a junior majoring in English and Government, and it is my goal to continue the growth of this publication into a vehicle of change for the student body. It is unusual and unexpected for one to assume this position in the middle of an academic year, so please excuse the long amount of time that it has taken to publish this issue. Fortunately, we are back on track as far as things at *The Tiger* are concerned. Regardless of the ease or difficulty each issue may present, our readers can rest assured that I will be doing my best to produce content that is interesting, relevant, and focused on matters both near and far to our campus.

The previous editor, Wes Kuegler, made some significant changes to the structure of *The Tiger*—namely the introduction of a pay scale that rewards authors for each article they produce, as opposed to the previous structure that rewarded authors with a lump sum after they had written something like three articles. I am planning on keeping this incentive, and while that may be bad for those of you who have exactly three opinions you feel particularly passionate about, it should serve as good news for the rest of the school's population. Whether or not you have one thing to contribute or a hundred, this arraignment can benefit both our newspaper and your wallets. If you feel angry,

happy, or curious about something, *The Tiger* would be glad to hear about it and broadcast your concerns across campus. Also, if you are interested in photographing, drawing, or contributing in any sort of way to our newspaper, simply email us or attend one of our frequent meetings and we will be certain to incorporate your content into a future edition of *The Tiger*.

More importantly than my vision for the pay scale, however, is my vision for the future role of *The Tiger*. In my three years of attempting to escape dead weekends at Hampden-Sydney, I have never visited another college or university that had students as knowledgeable, passionate, or opinionated about their school as ours. Our newspaper is remarkably independent and insulated from censorship by our administration. For better or for worse, this enables *The Tiger* to be a platform for change the student body wants to see.

We have a loudspeaker at our feet, a newspaper which we often forget about because of its tendency to produce sports predictions days after the game has been played or its love of old, reused comics. I would

like to change this during my tenure as editor. I have frequently given my two cents to anyone who would listen through this medium, criticizing everything from our lack of recycling to the changes made to last semester's schedule. Some of these opinions have fallen on deaf ears; some of these opinions have not. I know I'm not the only one with strong ideas, either. If I had a nickel for every time someone told me that this school was going down the drain, I would be a very rich man. If you truly feel that way about the state of affairs at our school, do something to change that. Question the actions that our school takes. Hold our college to a greater standard than a grumble and a shrug. Call nonsense or bullshit where you see it, and praise people when you believe they deserve it.

We have a standard to uphold at *The Tiger* and an obligation as a student body. The standard of *The Tiger* is quality, relevant, and factual news. The obligation of our students is caring enough to make a difference where you can. I will do my best to uphold my standard. I urge you to do your part.

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Thoughts on the School Websites

Brad Murawski '19
Staff Writer

Not too long ago, both Hampden-Sydney's main website, hsc.edu, and its student portal, tigerweb.hsc.edu, both got overhauls in terms of looks. As for the main website, the overall changes are immediate and obvious. The visitor is welcomed by a large video player of scenes that can be experienced throughout campus. Everything from football games, to walking to class, to an aerial view of the entire campus. This addition to the website is great because it gives website's visitor a sense of what they can expect when they visit our college. In addition to the video player, new menus were added on the left side of the screen that create a very modern feeling when the user clicks through the options in the menus. While viewing the website through a mobile device, the format of the website continues to look great and the menus remain easy to traverse. All in all, the changes to the school's website have been very beneficial to the visitor's experiences.

As for tigerweb.hsc.edu, the student portal was very much in need of a visual overhaul. Before the change, the website looked like it came out of the 1990s. While still remaining simple to use, the interface is much cleaner and more vibrant with a brand new header at the top of the screen. Each of the sections of the website have bright garnet and gray colors that pop out to the user. With the changes to these websites, both students and visitors of the college's websites should have a fresh and easy experience when it comes to using them online.

Chad Pisano '19
Editor-in-Chief

It is no secret that today's Hampden-Sydney College is seeking to propel itself into a more modern era. Administrative staff changes, a new student center, and a new communications center being built under the Pannill Commons are all just a few examples of the rapid-fire changes that have occurred on campus as the traditional H-SC begins to meld with the contemporary idea of liberal arts colleges. Over the summer, one of the most obvious changes was the rolling out of a new website for the school (hsc.edu) with a more modern and fluid feel that hoped to attract more prospective students. Unfortunately, this fluidity did not extend past the home page of the website. It was notoriously hard to navigate and left many students scrambling to find basic information, like what courses are required for their majors and minors. Over time, students have grown used to the new and very different layout, and the site administrators have diligently worked to fix any broken links or dead ends. Still, there are some questions that can be raised about the new design, such as the location of the online subscription to this newspaper. Instead of being located in the "Publications and Broadcasting" section of "Clubs and Activities," which contains information about the Tiger as well as the email and online archive of the newspaper, it is located in a totally different section of the website called "Communications Forms." A design like this does not give the impression of easy use, but of a labyrinth. Were my mom not

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Spring 2018 Club Allocations

| Club | Request (\$) | Allocation (\$) |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Chi Alpha Christian Fellowship | 930.00 | 900.00 |
| Film Club | 1,905.00 | 1,500.00 |
| Club Baseball | 2,300.00 | 2,000.00 |
| Society of Physics Students | 1,500.00 | 1,400.00 |
| Paintball Club | 3,000.00 | 2,000.00 |
| Outsiders | 7,700.00 | 7,500.00 |
| Baptist College Ministry | 700.00 | 700.00 |
| Ducks Unlimited | 2,000.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Boardriders Club | 1,500.00 | 1,350.00 |
| Chess Club | 950.00 | 750.00 |
| Math & Computer Science Club | 1,575.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Animal Rescue Club | 700.00 | 700.00 |
| Cycling Club | 6,470.69 | 6,000.00 |
| Tiger Radio | 2,904.00 | 2,900.00 |
| Tiger Athletic Club | 4,000.00 | 4,000.00 |
| German Club | 2,650.00 | 2,000.00 |
| College Republicans | 3,000.00 | 1,300.00 |
| Minority Student Union | 4,720.00 | 4,200.00 |
| Philosophy Club | 947.00 | 950.00 |
| Fly Fishing Club | 706.00 | 705.00 |
| Phi Beta Lambda | 1,200.00 | 1,200.00 |
| The Garnet | 1,800.00 | 1,800.00 |
| Angler's Club | 4,960.00 | 1,000.00 |
| CAC | 95,000 | 91,000 |
| Club Lacrosse | 7,000.00 | 4,000.00 |
| Club Soccer | 3,800.00 | 1,800.00 |
| Cogito | 3,000.00 | 2,000.00 |
| Club Golf | 2,004.00 | 2,000.00 |
| Senate | 17,897.00 | 15,000.00 |
| Pre-Health | 1,500.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Chess and Strategy Game Club | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Animation Society | 400.00 | 400.00 |
| Student Gov | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 |

Particularly severe apparent discrepancies between requested funding and funding allocated to a particular club can usually be attributed to the club being unaware of a large sum of money present in their account already.



Senate Snapshot Continued

ish actions, but rather as a moral stand against the administration's encroachment on student power.

Chairman Katowitz, the current Chairman of the Court, was the first to respond. Katowitz stated that he was not in favor of Robinson returning to the court. He suggested that Robinson's actions did not follow his narrative. Although Robinson claims his actions were taken for moral reasons, Katowitz suggested they seemed to follow more self-interested motives. He questioned why a man would want to return to the court when the court did not want him to return, citing potential resume motives as a reason. He also pointed out that Robinson's service to the court would be limited. 2018 graduates would only be on the court for a couple more weeks. Robinson's service would be limited, and he would bring serious baggage into the courtroom.

Bobby George, who served as interim Court Chainman after Robinson's suspension, was the second to testify. George also did not believe that Robinson should return to the court. He cited Robinson's dissent against the administration and characterized it as a selfish action to get a lesser sentence. He also took issue with the subversive attitude that Robinson took while under suspension, citing both a petition that Robinson promoted and rumors that he promulgated. In short, George accused Robinson of vainly and recklessly scaring the legitimacy of the court to for self-benefit, conduct unbecoming of a HSC man and unworthy of membership to the prestigious court.

President Murphy, who was the last of the student leadership to testify, also testified against Robinson's reinstatement. He focused his testimony on the future of the court, specifically on its public image. Murphy proposed that no matter who originally passed down the indictments, there would have been

virtue in accepting the punishment and stepping out of the public eye. By publicly rejecting things, Robinson not only abandoned this virtue, but also muddled the court. Murphy believed that the controversy that surrounded Robinson damaged his reputation too much for him to have any positive influence in the court.

The floor was then opened to the public to speak for or against the reinstatement. A senior member of the court asked for a clarification of a fact. A different senior member of the court spoke as an advocate for Robinson's defense. Another court member spoke as a character witness for Robinson. He pointed to the process and the various miscommunications as the object of Robinson's anger, not the institution of the students. When the final public witness finished his testimony, the Senate dismissed the chamber for internal discussion and voting.

After a good amount of deliberation, the Senate called the public back into the chamber. Senator Francis spoke clearly. He stated that the Senate had decided not to reinstate Robinson as a member of the court. The Senate cited con-

cerns that reappointing Robinson would compromise the integrity of the court within the courtroom and tarnish its reputation. Restoring him simply would not serve the court well, in the eyes of the Senate.

After the meeting Robinson gave a final statement. He said that he still firmly believes he was taking a moral stand against the administration's encroachment on student power. He understood that had he not taken that stand, the results of the Senate hearing may have been different, but he did not regret taking that stand. He held that he hopes future Student Government issues are handled within the Student Justice System. That being said, he stated that he absolutely accepts and respects the decision of the Senate, has no desire to appeal this result, and is glad to finally have closure.

The meeting then moved to discuss the reinstatement case for Ramsey. Ramsey himself spoke first on his case for reinstatement. He admitted fault for the charges and focused on his approach to the punishment. He used the time to look inward and focus on grades. He fully recognized, both then and

now, that he made a massive mistake and deeply regretted his actions.

George, Murphy, and Katowitz all spoke in favor of reinstatement for Ramsey. Each reiterating in his own words that Ramsey handled his suspension 'like a man'. He did not rebel, he did not appeal, and he humbled himself and trusted the administration. Ramsey's roommate spoke as a character witness in favor of his reinstatement.

The Chairman dismissed the room for discussion. After a long discussion the Senate called everyone back into the room and announced that Garrett Ramsey would be reinstated as a member of the Student Court. They cited his humility in accepting his punishment and potential to serve in future years as key reasons for their decisions. Ramsey said in a statement after the meeting that he is happy with the results and he appreciates the second chance. He intends to do everything he can to regain the student body's trust and continue to serve throughout the rest of his Hampden-Sydney Career.

In my opinion as a current student, the Student Senate made the correct decision. Robinson, even if

he was making a moral stand, has engulfed himself in controversy. The H-SC Student Court is not designed for controversy. I believe that Bobby George said it best, "We intentionally operate in the shadows. We don't drum people out like at VMI. If a student violates our honor he leaves in silence, so we can continue to operate our small school in the woods where values matter." The student court is not about the justices; it is about the honor of the student body. Robinson served the student body for two years, and we should remember him for that good service. However, going forward, Robinson's use to the court would be minimal and controversial.

No such controversy surrounds Ramsey. I believe he took his punishment 'like a man' and disappeared from the public eye, an action showing strength and humility. He will also potentially be able to serve the student body for an additional two years. Ramsey's use to the Student body is greater within the court than outside it. We must remember that the circumstances surrounding the suspension and reinstatement are what led to the difference in verdict, not the code of conduct infraction itself.

Join our staff!

Writers, photographers, cartoonists and critics are all welcome to join the *Tiger* family. Shoot us an email at newspaper@hsc.edu, or drop in on our next weekly meeting held Monday, the 19th at 5pm. No application or experience necessary.

The Hampden-Sydney Tiger



Changes to Student Affairs, Pledging Continued

with programs like rush education, which he occasionally sends emails out about, he said that “while I do assist Dean Pantele in administrative matters from time to time, he ultimately has the final say—he oversees the IFC and the administrative tasks of our office overseeing the fraternities. So my specialty lies specifically with the buildings and residents. I’m particularly here to be a resource for the students and anything pertaining to the house managers and the day-to-day functions of the fraternities.”

As a student, Marshall was not involved in any Greek affiliated positions, and thus “there’s been a learning curve. The organizations, the national offices and all the things that accompany managing fraternities is all brand new to me.” According to Marshall, this independent background has not hindered his ability to oversee Greek organizations—it has actually helped. It has “allowed [him] to view all the fraternities independently from one another. [he doesn’t] hold a bias towards any particular fraternity.” When asked if he felt qualified to deal with fraternity houses, he responded that “I wouldn’t say that I’ve ever felt out of my depth [in that role]. Our fraternity houses are just like every other residence hall on campus, with students just like any other who have the same views and the same needs as a student who is independent.” Ultimately, coming into a position that has required a heavy involvement with Greek organizations on campus has been something Marshall views as beneficial—he is “happy to be able to learn about this new side of Hampden-Sydney that [he] previously had no intimate knowledge of.”

When asked if there were other major changes or additions to the Office of Student Affairs, Dean Pantele said that “The only real changes have been that we added two new staff members to our res-life team, which has really been needed for



(Photo: hsc.edu)

many years... [who have] also served on the on-call rotation for emergencies on weekends. In that sense, having two extra people in that role has just been amazing, for weekend responsibilities.” He also highlighted the new Dean of High Adventure as an office that will soon be filled. This job would help organize the efforts of student groups like Beyond the Hill—“a service group who has gone all over [the world] and built [things such as] churches.” This director would help to expand the role of Hampden-Sydney’s charitable trips domestically among other responsibilities, which would include organizing other more recreation-focused trips. Ultimately, Pantele stated that “with a school our size we have seen tremendous success from having different aspects of student affairs siloed into different areas, and having one person you can go to for different sorts of issues... It’s a cohesive unit. It’s exciting and it’s all been good change for us.”

Changes to Greek life are perhaps one of the most contentious and well-known issues on campus. The only change (aside from increased house manager responsibility) has been the formation of a Greek Week Committee and a raise in the required grade point average to pledge,

according to Pantele. The elevation of the required GPA to pledge is a concept that “was born out of the IFC several years ago and has been talked about. Why it happened now is that we have started to notice that the national offices...have standards too. The rule of thumb is that you always go with whatever standard is more than the institution.” Pantele highlighted that most fraternities’ national originations require GPAs above 2.5 to be initiated as members. In fact, “Every single national office, expect one, requires a GPA of at least a 2.5. The highest was a 2.7, with KA, and the lowest was a 2.25 for Pika.” This change took many students by surprise, but “hasn’t really affected numbers too much. We’re looking... at 85ish pledges. We’re usually over 100 but by the time all is said and done we usually lose people because of drops in GPA during pledging. We also have some sports teams that don’t allow freshman to pledge, which is starting to add to that [as well].”

When asked why this change was implemented immediately, without having told freshman who were already rushing and planning to pledge with grades that were considered unacceptable by the new standards, Pantele responded that “I would have liked to see it done earli-

er... But the spring pledge class it was a good group to begin it with because there’s such a high interest in Greek life right now. I would have liked to do it a couple of years ago... now, it’s just one of those things where we don’t really have a choice. We weren’t meeting basic national office standards.” He acknowledged that the increase in the required GPA “was an administrative change. Where the IFC was involved is that they voted on adding expectations on a case-by-case basis. It was a unanimous vote both times... It was one of unpopular things at first but at the end of the day it’s really not going to change numbers.”

Dean Pantele also highlighted that this change is something that would benefit student retention—a known problem for the college. Although he acknowledged that retention during pledging may not have been an immediate problem in the past, he called attention to the effects that pledging had on students’ grades, and the risk that they pose to the academic scholarships many students rely on. In fact, he said that “nearly half of the pledges who had a 2.5 [or lower before pledging] had their semester GPA drop below a 2.0. That’s pretty significant. Obviously I need to see where numbers are at the end of this year to do some

comparisons... but it’s important we keep track of that stuff.” Because the new policy allows exceptions for those who qualified for the previous standard but fall short of the new one on a case-by-case basis, Pantele believes that it has allowed him to integrate students without the grades to pledge into other niches of the Hampden-Sydney social scene until they have the GPA and continued desire to pledge. Ultimately, Pantele stated that what he thinks is going to happen “is in the fall we’ll have a big pledge class—which is fine... We have about 50% of the student body in Greek life, which is very healthy.”

When asked about the risks posed by raising the GPAs required to pledge, particularly that of increased underground pledging, Pantele replied that “underground pledging is always a concern for me, because it’s of no benefit to anyone who’s involved. It’s a waste of time for the person pledging and a waste of resources for the fraternity... [Underground pledging has reduced in frequency in recent years because.] I think there are more people who care about a freshman’s experiences... we have more proactive academic advisors who letting me know if they hear about it. I think it’s been slowly but surely going away over the last 5 years.”

Addressing whispers of further plans to shorten pledging in the future, Pantele replied “No... I can’t imagine shortening it in the future... Four weeks is a good enough time.” Overall, he pledged his support for the Greek system in place here at Hampden-Sydney, saying that students have to consider the current national attitude towards Greek life and expressed his desire to preserve it. According to Pantele “Greek life has been a vital part of who we are for a very long time, and we need to have a little foresight to see where we need to be in 20 years to make sure it’s as healthy as we are now.” To this end,

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Introducing Police Reports to *The Tiger*

Chad Pisano '19
Editor-in-Chief

One of the community duties that a standard newspaper performs is publishing a police blotter, which is a compilation of what crimes and incidents the police of that town dealt with and reported. By bringing something similar to *The Tiger*, we hope to accomplish a few things.

The first is to show that crime actually does happen at Hampden-Sydney, even though the college is graced with a small amount of it. Although students receive occasional emails warning about leaving doors or vehicles unlocked, I personally know many of my friends tend to leave their doors unlocked for long periods of time, keep their car keys in their car, or act in other incredibly trusting ways. Hopefully, putting the evidence that we are still

affected by delinquency, just like the rest of the real world, in front of the general population of campus might help to inspire these kinds of people to be a little more aware of the risks that blind confidence in the trustworthiness of one's fellow man brings with it.

The second goal of publishing this information is to confront students with the reality that actions have consequences. In my two and a half years at this school, I have heard "you can't get pulled over on campus" hundreds of times. Unfortunately, there was a DUI last semester that campus police dealt with. Even though we go to a small, isolated, and fiercely independent school, our actions carry long lasting consequences if we make them quickly and carelessly—if it is possible see occasional evidence of this, perhaps some people will think twice before driving under the influence or smoking weed in their dorm room. By partially publicizing this information, we also take

on a sort of communal responsibility that might help create pressure to avoid shameful behavior. Peeing in the middle of fraternity circle suddenly becomes less funny when your grandmother asks you who was charged with the indecent exposure incident she saw in the newspaper.

The third effect that this activity report could have will be to make the facility and students realize that the police do more than write tickets and unlock doors. They are a constant presence on college grounds despite their small size and deal with unenviable situations almost every weekend. They actively police both drug and alcohol violations, something that many students will forget during the excitement and haze of the weekend. Maybe some proof of their vigilance will help to raise that of the entire campus, and in turn reduce the numbers that appear on these activity reports.

| Category | September | October | November | December |
|---------------------|-----------|---------|----------|----------|
| Alcohol Violations | 10 | 4 | 11 | 12 |
| Drug Violations | 6 | 7 | 2 | 3 |
| DUI | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Vandalism | 4 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Larceny | 1 | 3 | 6 | 1 |
| Assault | 1 | 0 | 4 | 3 |
| Fire Alarms | 9 | 12 | 5 | 5 |
| Room Unlocks | 21 | 17 | 17 | 19 |
| Vehicle Unlocks | 3 | 4 | 6 | 2 |
| Vehicle Jump Starts | 4 | 5 | 3 | 1 |

Deifel and Dunn Respond to DARPA Critics

An Open Letter to Hampden-Sydney:

We want to address the apparent growing concern around campus regarding the recent addition of an experimental biochemical lab that was installed in the basement of Bortz Library over the winter break. Although the billion-dollar lab is being funded by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), we want to assure the community that there is no reason to be alarmed. Allegations that the lab employs torture or engages in unethical practices are absolutely unfounded.

This project – like most DARPA ventures – is classified; therefore, we cannot share the precise nature of the experiments taking place. Please stop asking. Both of us, however, are excited about the research potential and are honored to have the lab located here at H-SC. DARPA's mission is simple: "To make pivotal investments in breakthrough technologies for national security." In this case, the potential benefits may well extend to humanity as well as our nation.

We know that there are concerns with the location of the lab and the lack of stringent security. This very lack of safety protocols surrounding the lab and the poor security should be ample evidence of how innocuous and benign the work going on in this lab really is. Seriously, there is no need for concern.

In regards to the unusual smells and the sounds emanating from the lab, we ask for your patience and understanding. The lab does use corpses and a variety of chemicals for research,

but the potential gains from this amazing research are well worth a few ripe smells. Low moaning or wailing sounds are the result of occasional off-gassing of the cadavers. They are not uncommon for biochemical research labs of this nature and should not be taken as cause for hysteria.

For those of you missing the old Escape Hampden-Sydney, whose space we now occupy, please be assured that the work we will undertake is far more important than the mere puzzles and games we have displaced. There are plenty of games available in the post office for those in need of diversion.

Sincerely,
Prof. Deifel and Prof. Dunn



Prof. Deifel working on government secrets (Photo: hsc.edu)



Changes Continued

Pantele and Marshall said that they have also been instituting rush education events, which many students have seen in email blasts this year. Pantele believes that “all of these programs are designed to be an introduction to all of those good things... It’s a comprehensive overview of issues associated with Greek life.” Marshall elaborated on this description, saying that “the mission behind the new member education plan for all of [the fraternity new members] are designed to enhance the ideals that come with being fraternity members. It’s important that our office take a proactive approach with things like [budgeting or etiquette]. We want them to get the most out of this experience.” They believe that this is another way for the school to display its support for Greek life at Hampden-Sydney.

Another major change that has occurred this year is the increase in responsibilities expected of house managers. This fraternity position was traditionally in charge of preventing and reporting damage to fraternity houses, receiving a salary to do so. New tasks were expected of the house managers in and off the circle this year. Andrew Marshall described these as being basically the same as those expected of standard Resident Advisors—“nightly duty shifts, 5 hour duty shifts [performed in rotation] every night of the week and dedicated residence life offices throughout campus, so that students knew they had a place to go to if they ever had a problem or... if they ever needed someone to assist them.” Because house managers perform “a very important role in our residence halls... next year [the school is] happy to announce that

house managers will have the same package as RAs, [meaning that they will have free room and board],” in addition to a salary. When asked whether or not these additional responsibilities have resulted in positive change on the circle, Marshall responded, “there’s been a drastic change in vandalism this year.”

Dean Pantele elaborated on this, saying that the huge drop in vandalism and broken glass has been immense. He thinks “a lot of that is just that with the duty rounds people have taken notice that they need to take care of their surroundings too. It’s not like fraternity circle is over there and the rest of us are over here. There are professors who live near

fraternity circle, who walk their dogs and actually care about these sorts of things. I think everyone else does too, and now people have started to take notice.” To this end, Marshall also stated that “people are starting to perceive fraternity circle, not just as a place to go do your social thing... break bottles, and then leave, but more as a residential community that we went away from for a while. With house managers [increasing their responsibilities,] the students are taking control of that space again... It’s really paid off, this year.”

Finally, the interview with *The Tiger* attempted to address the changes that many have heard about Greek Week. Dean Pantele, however, was hesitant to give away details that the newly formed Greek Week Committee may not be set on yet. He did say that “each house has a representative on that committee. The only thing I’ve asked them to consider is to have more philanthropic events. There will be something like that every night... Based off what I’m hearing... I’ve been very pleased with

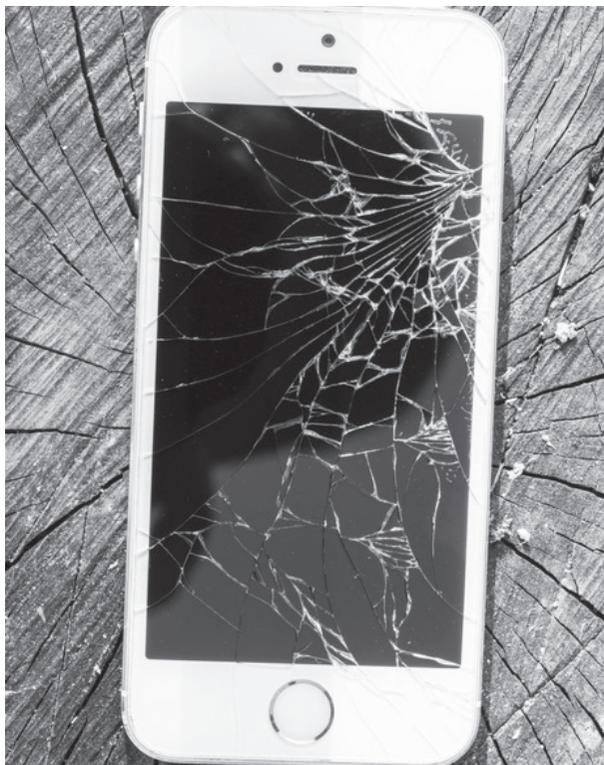
the work they’ve done.” Some of the changes he did disclose were that instead of allowing free reign for partying during the week, parties will be restricted to one per night, revealing that “Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, it’s not going to be every fraternity doing something... Every night of the week, they’re going to be the Greek Games, which we’re reviving, which was a huge deal back in the day in terms of having an event that every fraternity participates in... There’s going to be the Friday night chariot race... Thursday will still be the CAC concert, and on Friday and Saturday we’re even lifting the four [party] per night weekend ban.”

When asked if reducing on-campus events could drive parties off-campus and increase incidents of drunk driving, Pantele replied “I hope not. I know that off campus

parties happen anyway, [like the Shed Party]... The past couple of years we haven’t had any issues; they do a really good job planning that and the only thing we ask is that they keep that in mind and make sure that people aren’t driving drunk—which is always a concern... Our intention is not to kill the fun.” Hopefully at some point in the near future, *The Tiger* will be able to sit down with the Greek Week Committee and publish comprehensive schedule that students will be able to see and plan around.

Ideally this interview has provided some insight into what these new changes actually mean for students, while also clarifying the new positions’ roles. Students and faculty alike can only hope these changes will have their desired effect and increase the quality of Sydney’s campus in the years to come.

“House managers will have the same package as RAs...”



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REVIEWS



Album Review: *Revival* Eminem

After listening to Eminem's new album, *Revival*, the album's cover art exemplified the experience I had: face palm. The legendary rapper's latest project was a complete disappointment. *Revival* is his first project since 2013's, *The Marshall Mathers LP 2*, which was also received with mixed reviews.

Let's start with what was bad. The production of *Revival* was painful. Whoever had the idea to sample all of Joan Jett's "I Love Rock n' Roll" and have Eminem rap on it was not thinking clearly. "Remind Me" is the name of that song, and as soon as it started, I immediately knew this album was genuinely *bad*. In addition to the production of the album, Eminem's lyrics are noticeably low effort, and often cringe

worthy. On "River," Eminem speaks about women in his past and ties in a poop joke by saying, "she has what my ex lacks." We will leave it at that.

Granted, there is one song that stands out as being great, and that is "Castle." "Castle" is the 18th song of the album, which makes it the second to last. Unfortunately for the listener, he or she would have to listen to seventeen other songs before they got to "Castle," if they made it that far through the album. "Castle" sounds like classic Eminem. The song has a great beat, and Eminem's delivery is reminiscent of his best work in the past. In the midst of this disappointing album, "Castle" is one of the only tracks worth listening to.

Brad Murawski '19
Staff Writer

Website Continued

as persistent as she is, the Tiger would probably have about ten less subscribers. Fortunately, most of the initial issues with the school website were quickly resolved, and the search bar allows for most tabs and information to be easily found regardless of whether or not they are in a logical section. The updates that recently came to Tigerweb (tigerweb.hsc.edu), were rolled out in a much better way, but the frequent and crippling crashes that our campus wifi has experienced (on a very small college campus) this semester bring to attention the simple fact that our technical proficiency is not where we would like it to be as a school. One can only hope that in the future, steps will be taken to ensure that any new additions or necessary repairs to our websites, online infrastructure, and school wifi will be introduced in a way that is closer to seamless than it is crippling.

Movie Review: *The Post*

Both Tom Hanks and Meryl Streep are two of the largest names in the acting and movie businesses. When a movie puts the two together, it's bound to be something great. The *Post* is certainly not a movie with the most fight scenes. It will, however, thrill the viewer, and he or she will learn a thing or two about history in the United States.

The *Post* tells the story of how the Washington Post and the New York Times released classified information about the Vietnam War and revealed corruption within the United States government. Many of us have learned about these papers, which were called the Pentagon Papers. When learning about these documents in high school, the curriculum made it seem as if the papers were released and it was no big deal. The *Post* does a brilliant job at creat-

ing an atmosphere that truly shows the impact that the Pentagon Papers had and the intensity it created throughout American journalism.

The acting in this movie is fantastic, as expected with the two main roles being Hanks and Streep. The viewer can truly feel the intensity that these two create throughout the movie. As for speed of the movie, do not expect to be jumping out of your seat in excitement. This movie is genuinely slower, but I never felt bored because of the tense atmosphere that was behind the plot. The *Post* is definitely worth seeing mainly because of the information that can be learned from it. The movie is an informative piece of art that will have you feeling like you learned something important once it is finished.

Brad Murawski '19
Staff Writer

Game Review: Fortnite

You are dropped into a forest with a pickaxe in hand. Running around frantically, bullets whizzing overhead, you search for weapons and first-aid kits. This isn't the fantasy of some professors at Hampden-Sydney, but the popular battle royale game, "Fortnite." I downloaded "Fortnite" to review it for The Tiger, and I was happily surprised at the game's quality.

The battle royale genre revolves around groups of one to four people, vying to be the last standing. From a gameplay standpoint, this style is easy to learn and hard to master. But the appeal comes in the fact that you

can pop in a play a quick game, since they usually last between 15 and 30 minutes. The controls are fluid, and multiplayer works well on the school's Wi-Fi. In an era of pay-to-win features, this game stands out in only offering cosmetic touches for purchase. The market for these rotates stock daily, with new items are added frequently.

The real variety in the game comes in the building system rather than its gameplay. Each player has a pickaxe and can use it to demolish houses, cars, trees, and other objects in-game to acquire materials. These materials can then be turned

into walls, floors, and other building pieces. There are 3 materials – steel, brick, and wood – and each has a certain durability before breaking, respectively from strongest to weakest. Accordingly, steel is the hardest to obtain and takes longer to collect. The building system adds complexity to fighting, providing multiple strategies depending upon the player's preferences.

Ian R. McCrory '21
Guest Contributor

Movie Review: *Ingrid Goes West*

We often joke about the way many people approach social media. However, we frequently ignore the genuine problems that these new services have created for our society, including their ability to exacerbate mental health problems. *Ingrid Goes West* provides intelligent and compelling commentary on this phenomena in our society.

In the film, our protagonist, Ingrid, moves to Los Angeles to befriend an Instagram celebrity, Taylor. While this isn't the most exciting premise – perhaps it sounds like it comes right out of *Degrassi* – the movie goes far beyond what one might initially expect. At times it is

dark, at others lighthearted. Perhaps more than anything, the story feels honest and far more real than the adventures of the Avengers or tales from a galaxy far, far away. *Ingrid Goes West* is illuminating and very topical, discussing an issue that has been sidelined in our recent focus on the interaction between culture and politics without becoming a political movie.

It's a small film, but well worth a watch. Sunchase in Farmville does not show the movie, but it can be rented from Amazon for about six dollars.

Shelby T. Hanna '20
Opinion Editor