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VIRGINIA

SUMMER 2025



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Liberty Corner, Circa 1790 • $7,175,000

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1840 FENDALL AVENUE
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HISTORY REIMAGINED IN S. ALBEMARLE



3470 OLD LYNCHBURG ROAD • $1,385,000

This prominent historic property built in 1800 was at one time a civil war general store & is set on 6.86 private acres w/ small stream that meanders through the property. Comprehensively renovated classic home w/ antique beams, vaulted ceilings, 5 stone fireplaces, beautiful hardwoods, large porches & bluestone courtyard. Add'l "log cabin style" guest house. Located 10 miles to Charlottesville & within minutes to wineries & restaurants. Reidar Stiernstrand (434) 284-3005. MLS# 663188

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MID-CENTURY 5 BED W/ PERIOD CHARM



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Sleek, mid century 5 bedroom offers period charm at every turn, gorgeous sunset views & glam new kitchen. Walkable to Fry's Spring Beach Club, restaurants & shops. One-level living w/ 3 beds and lower level efficiency kitchen & laundry. Walkable proximity to UVA Grounds. Many windows flank the back of the home on both levels to view sunset mountain views in the heart of the city! Gleaming oak floors throughout, 2 fireplaces, and porches & patios overlooking the views. MLS# 663320

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105 CHESTNUT RIDGE ROAD • $1,825,000

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Charming 1940's cottage located in the coveted Lewis Mountain neighborhood and tucked away on Thomson Road. Impeccably maintained with functional floor plan, this quintessential home offers fully renovated gourmet kitchen with granite countertops, dual wine fridge, island with copper sink and instant hot/filtered water, gas range & natural light. The cozy dining room overlooks the lush fenced in backyard & opens up to a deck. Large stone wood-burning fireplace completes the family room. A 2009 addition added a 1st floor bonus room. Steps away from The University, O-Hill trails and minutes to Barracks Rd. & the Downtown Mall. Liz Raney (434) 242-3889. MLS# 663272

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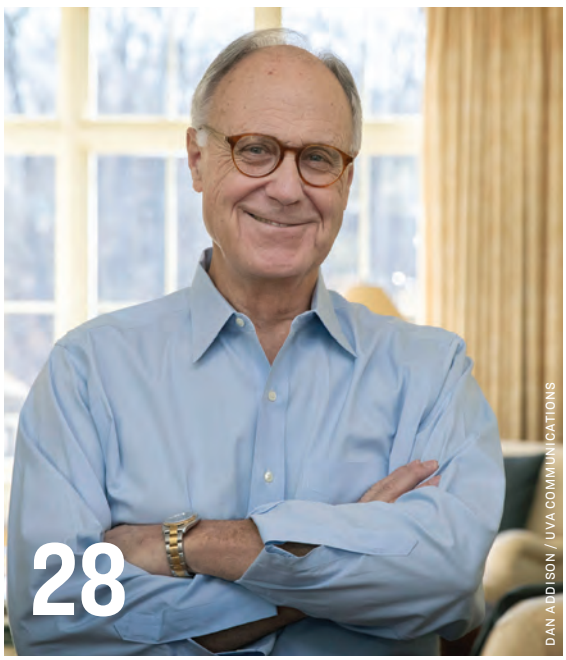
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In This Issue



Virginia's Visionary

Longtime president John Casteen set UVA on its modern course.

BY ED MILLER







JAY PAUL

Research's New Unknowns

UVA grapples with uncertainty in the federal funding landscape.

BY MICHAEL GAYNOR

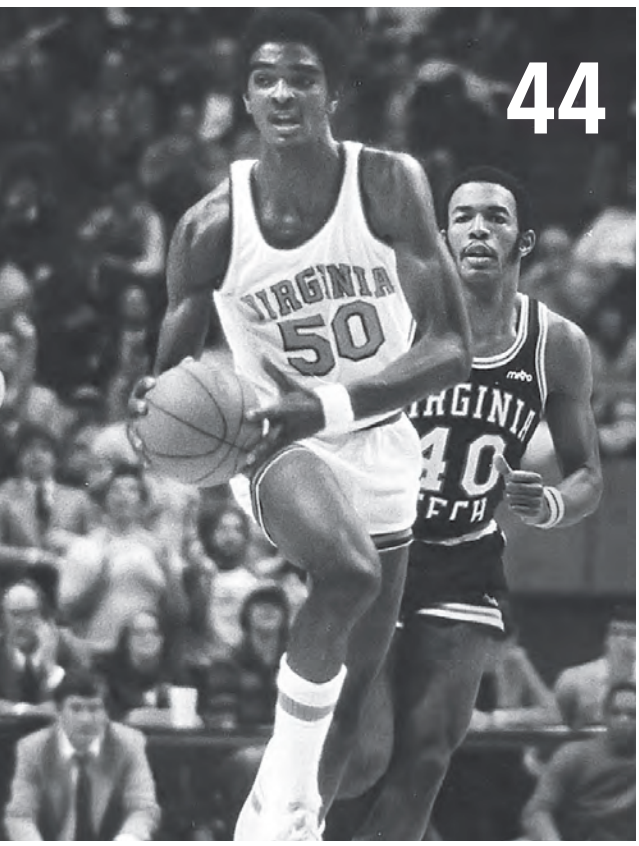


VICTORIA BORGES

The Empty Plate

UVA experts in the field of hunger discuss the growing crisis.

BY ELLEN RYAN



VIRGINIA ATHLETICS

The Best of the Best

Here's our entirely arguable, semi-objective list of UVA's top athletes of all time.

BY ED MILLER AND SARAH LINDENFELD HALL

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ON THE COVER: Ryan Olbrysh photo illustration

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VOX ALUMNI

Letters



BRIDGING THE DIVIDE

I found great joy in reading about the bridge between UVA and the Charlottesville community, especially as a former Lawn resident who has been married for 44 years to Renae Shackelford, a former resident of the Prospect public housing development, thus creating our own personal bridge. I recall a fellow UVA student telling me, back in the 1970s, that all the "townie" girls were floozies. Interesting. The townie girl, a Charlottesville High grad whom I married, went on to teach sociology, African American studies and other areas at numerous universities. She gave the greatest lecture I have heard, at Trinity Church in Charlottesville, based on our co-authored book *Urban Renewal and the End of Black Culture in Charlottesville, Virginia: An Oral History of Vinegar Hill*. After excitedly reading President Ryan's brave column and Ed Miller's breathtaking cover article, one of my concerns is that the opportunities for Black people now will be mainly service-oriented, which in most ways is better than nothing, but in other ways is located on a continuum that has its roots in slavery and mid- to late-20th century service-oriented work that has substantially kept Charlottesville and UVA going since the days of our founder, Thomas Jefferson.

James Saunders (Col '75, Grad '81)
Plainfield, Vermont

I read with great interest your article on UVA's recent efforts to be a good neighbor to the greater Charlottesville community.

As the clearinghouse for UVA student volunteerism in Charlottesville, Madison House has been serving at-risk communities throughout Charlottesville for over 50 years.

Madison House is not only a good neighbor; it also creates future good neighbors. Maybe a story for another day.

Michael Connors (Col '85)
Charlottesville

UVA should absolutely be making payments in lieu of real estate taxes. Among other services, Charlottesville provides police and fire protection and maintains the paved roads in and around the campus. Charlottesville also provides public schools for the children of the many Charlottesville residents who work at the university.

Tim More (Law '70)
Providence, Rhode Island

I'm glad to see that UVA finally (in 2020) implemented the $15 minimum wage that students, staff and community members had been advocating for more than 20 years. If memory serves, $15 was also about what Bodo's was offering to entry-level employees when I was on Grounds from 2000-02.

My late cousin Kevin Bewley was involved in this campaign as an MBA student at Darden. I can still remember the big orange "Fight for $15" button he wore. But it doesn't take an MBA to recognize that $15 in 2000 would have been worth $22.50 in 2020 (and $27 today). The university can and should continue improving the relationship between UVA and Charlottesville by paying staff competitively. Local employees, then as now, deserve a living wage.

Guli Fager (Col '02)
Baltimore



A CENTURY OF MEM

Memorial Gymnasium was very much part of my undergraduate experience at UVA in the 1960s. Registration, phys ed, ACC basketball and great concerts.

Although it wasn't mentioned among the artists who performed, Joan Baez gave a memorable solo performance, circa '62 or '63. After singing several songs, she gently asked if anyone would mind if she took off her shoes before continuing and, of course, no one did. Thanks for the trip down memory lane.

Burnett Trueworthy (Col '66)
Woodville, Virginia

Regarding the names of performers who appeared in Memorial Gym during the '40s, '50s and '60s, I remember attending a performance, during my final year (1962-63) at the university, by the Chad Mitchell Trio along with folk singer Josh White Jr. Not long after their performance in Mem Gym, one of the singers in the trio left and was replaced by a then-unknown singer-songwriter named John Denver. They were a popular group, appearing in many venues, including colleges/universities, radio and TV.

Robert Gibson Corder (Engr '63)
Midlothian, Virginia

Your list of artists appearing in Memorial Gym did not include two spectacular shows from my era. During my first year, the London Symphony Orchestra under Sir Georg Solti performed to a full house and made great music, even with the windows open and the traffic on Emmet Street. I believe they had a return engagement a couple of years later. And on another occasion, the great James Brown put on one of his trademark shows, also to a packed house.

Thomas S. McCaleb (Col '67)
Tallahassee, Florida

Regarding "Bridging the Divide" and "A Century of Mem," my perspective is a little of both as I graduated from Lane High School in Charlottesville and then matriculated in 1963 into UVA.

As a high school student, I was certainly aware of the university up there, but it made no particular effort to connect with my school. But I was accepted, and I relished all four years at the university. Any connections being made today certainly would be worthwhile for both the university and Charlottesville.

My memories of Memorial Gymnasium span the gamut of good stuff, from my first concert in spring of '63 with my future wife to see the Kingston Trio; Ray Charles; Peter, Paul and Mary; and every concert at big weekends for four years. And my late-night handball games in the basement courts plus a year of running cross-country (badly) using the athlete's-foot-inducing locker room. I'm really enthused to know my gym will live longer and prosper for all of us.

Dale VanZant (Col '67)
Longmont, Colorado

Here is one more tidbit of Mem Gym history. In November of 1974, when Bruce Springsteen played in Mem Gym, he was relatively unknown and could not fill that small venue. Nevertheless, a famous guitarist slipped into the back of the gym to check out Springsteen. It was Joe Walsh of the James Gang, who already had major hits and would soon join the Eagles. That night I was covering the Springsteen show for the *Cavalier Daily*, recognized Walsh and talked to him briefly. He told me he heard about Springsteen but had never seen him and wanted to see what the hype was all about. I understand Walsh is still doing concerts. Maybe he should be invited back to Mem Gym, but this time to do a show.

Jimmy Fama (Col '75)
St. Petersburg, Florida

Not included, but not to be forgotten, was a concert of bluegrass music performed by Lester Flatt and Earl Scruggs with the Foggy Mountain Boys. These wonderful musicians played to a full house in Memorial Gym in '64 or '65. This concert was sponsored by a group of medical and nursing students. I still have a framed, treasured copy of the program with an article and "artwork" by yours truly, and that's autographed by all of the musicians, hanging on my home office wall.

Richard L.M. Coleman (Med '65, Res '70)
Staunton, Virginia

'HOO'S YOUR UVA BESTIE? [TIME CAPSULE]

I was quite moved to read the stories of best friends developed at Virginia.

I had friends in the dorms, my fraternity, Navy ROTC and classes. My fraternity brother was the best man at my wedding. I enjoyed attending many other Virginia alumni weddings and celebrations over the years. In the years since graduation, I have met many other UVA alums whom I call friends. I cherish each who wore the orange and blue.

During reunions, I met old friends and new. My sister never attends, so I work on her every so often. I recommend you do the same with friends and family. I last attended in 2022 with great physical difficulty (I was diagnosed with Parkinson's later that year). I plan on attending my 40th reunion in 2027 to see my UVA friends again. I don't want to hear excuses about why you can't.

Eric Drum (Col '87)
Middletown, Pennsylvania


Retrospect

SPEAKING IN TONS

Student expression on Beta Bridge periodically hits a weight limit

The bridge just seems to know when it's time to clear its cache of messages, which for the past few decades has been in 13-year intervals.

SPEAKING IN TONS [RETROSPECT]

I believe the painting of Beta Bridge started in 1967. When I entered the university in 1965, the only adornment was scores from past football games. Then, right before St. Patrick's Day of my second year, someone applied a coat of green paint and scrawled "Erin Go Bragh" on one side of the bridge. A month later a group painted it red and inscribed "God Save the Queen," along with an obscenity. Both incidents were viewed as acts of vandalism, and the latter, which was reported in the April 17, 1967, *Daily Progress,* led to the arrest of 10 students. Two of them were sentenced to 30 days in jail, and a third was fined $25 for "cussing in public."

A year later the self-proclaimed Charlottesville branch of Sinn Féin repainted Beta Bridge green and hung the flag of the Republic of Ireland above the Rotunda. According to an article in the March 16, 1968, *Daily Progress*, the same group affixed a shamrock to the office door of every member of the English faculty. The article further reported that Sinn Féin had declared a "revolution" by renaming the English department the Department of Irish Studies and appointing an Irish American as its chair.

Within the space of a year, painting Beta Bridge went from being a crime to an amusing prank before it became a tradition.

Christopher Gould (Col '69)
Hendersonville, North Carolina

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I was surprised to read letters suggesting UVA do away with basketball. I don't see that happening; the brain trust is hot at work trying to find a new coach. Before one says, "Oh we need a big-time coach from a Division I program," let me suggest that a winner from any level is a winner. Whether it is at the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletes level or the DI level, a coach who has won a national championship and competes for one consistently is a winner and will be a winner at any level. However, let me suggest an alumna who not only led UVA to a national championship game at Virginia as a player, but won national championships at the DI level: Dawn Staley. Virginia always says it's on the cutting edge, a leader. Oh, I can hear the litany of the excuses. All of which will be to follow the well-traveled path, not blaze one.

Thomas Hodges (Educ '74)
DeLand, Florida

BUILDING BIG CAREERS [WINTER 2024]

I started my photographic career at UVA, buying a camera in 1967 at the Barracks Road shopping center. UVA had no photo education at the time but did have a student darkroom. That's where my career began.

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In the evenings, I'd leave my apartment and go study at Fayerweather Hall, which was then the Architecture School. When I needed a break, I'd wander the building looking at the models that the architecture students were building. That experience plus living amongst the incredible architecture at the university became a building block of my career. I've been doing architectural photography for over 50 years. Architecture imprints on your psyche. My dreams are often architectural, and I still dream of the architecture at the university 56 years after graduating.

Ted Wathen (Col '69)
Louisville, Kentucky

The story about UVA architecture graduates making an impact in such a wide variety of ways was tremendous! As many forces, including our own Board of Visitors, try to stop DEI initiatives, this is also a great example of illustrating how much better UVA has become as it became more diverse. First by accepting women and then working to broaden the student population in so many other ways. Thank you!

Peter M. Thompson (Col '81)
Charlottesville

QUEER HISTORY [FALL 2024]

In reading the story of Bob Elkins in your Fall 2024 issue, I was struck by the phrase "a disease called 'tradition' [that] included the degradation of women..." I was an undergraduate in the late 1990s, and during my tenure, as well as after, I believe that I was either a witness to or a victim of the degradation of women under the guise of tradition. One personal anecdote that could be used as a small example (but by no means the most egregious): After I graduated, I attended an old friend's engagement party, where I met his uncle, who, after I said I was a UVA grad, looked me dead in the face and said, "UVA was better before they let girls in." What struck me about that particular line in the article is the use of the past tense, suggesting misogyny at UVA was part of a "disease" that has since been treated if not cured. Misogyny certainly ran rampant 20 to 30 years after the events described in the article, and I imagine it still plagues the campus today, so I would appreciate language that doesn't relegate societal ills as fundamental as misogyny to a thing of the past.

Heather McMahon (Col '00, Arch '06)
Lexington, North Carolina

VOX ALUMNI

Send Us Your Thoughts

We welcome your letters.

The *Virginia Magazine* letters section is part of the UVA Alumni Association's broader Vox Alumni initiative, aimed at gaining greater understanding of alumni views and sharing insights. For letters intended for publication, please limit your remarks to 200 words and include your name, school, class year, city and state. We may not be able to publish all submissions, and we edit for length, clarity, style and civility. We give preference to letters that address the content of the magazine. The views expressed here are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Alumni Association.

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EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY



LETTER FROM THE PUBLISHER

OUR FUTURE, YOUR HOME.







Alumni Hall has been home to the Alumni Association since 1936. It has welcomed thousands of new graduates, created space for treasured student traditions, and served as a celebratory center for generations of alumni.

But to fully honor the spirit of those who came before—and those who are yet to come—it is time to build a new home. A home that marries the best of the past with our aspirations for the future. A home that serves a worldwide alumni base while recognizing the unique contributions of each visitor.

After four years of planning and design, the Alumni Association is embarking on a once-in-a-generation project: building a new Home for Every Hoo. Positioned on the same parcel of land as the existing Alumni Hall, the new building will weave together timeless Jeffersonian design with contemporary elements, and feature flexible event spaces, outdoor terraces, a library, and café. It will be fully ADA accessible, LEED certified, and offer ample on-site parking. Construction will begin Sept. 1 and conclude in spring 2027.

The result will be a state-of-the-art alumni center where Hoos and Hoos-at-Heart will always belong. We can't wait to welcome you home.

Lily West (Darden '12)
President & CEO

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BOV VOTES TO DISSOLVE UVA'S DEI OFFICE

BY JUDY LE

Colleges in more than 35 states have curbed their diversity, equity and inclusion practices in the past couple of years, according to *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, which has tracked such changes since 2023.

Citing the Trump administration's efforts to end "illegal discrimination," UVA's Board of Visitors in March unanimously approved a resolution to dissolve the Division of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Community Partnerships.

Within weeks, the governing boards of Virginia Commonwealth University, Virginia Tech and the Virginia Community College System passed similar resolutions.

The BOV resolution references a Jan. 21 executive order from U.S. President Donald Trump, as well as a "Dear Colleague" letter sent to educational institutions in February by Craig Trainor, the acting assistant secretary for civil rights in the U.S. Department of Education. In the letter, Trainor calls on educational institutions to end any practice that treats students differently from one another on the basis of race, calling such practices unlawful. It threatens a loss of federal funding for educational institutions that do not comply.

(In late April, federal judges blocked enforcement of the measures while litigation over them moves forward.)

The March 7 BOV resolution instructs the university to "transfer permissible programs to a new organizational home" and stipulates that "legally permissible" research and activities proceed as normal. It requires that President **James E. Ryan (Law '92)** update the board on the university's compliance within 30 days.

In a statement issued after the BOV meeting, the university said it would comply with the demands of the resolution.

"The administration will review the functions of the office, and all personnel and programs that are permissible under state and federal law will be transferred within the University, within 30 days," the statement said.

In a statement to the UVA community on March 11, Ryan wrote that the university had already been reviewing its policies and practices in recent weeks to ensure they comply with federal and state anti-discrimination laws, and that it would continue to do so.

Ryan also emphasized the importance of fostering an inclusive environment. "Making all community members feel welcome and ensuring all have an opportunity to succeed is work that occurs all across Grounds, day in and day out ... That vital work will continue," he wrote.

Colleges in more than 35 states have curbed their diversity, equity and inclusion practices in the past couple of years, according to *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, which has tracked such changes since 2023. The changes range from altering or removing diversity-related verbiage and websites to closing and/or renaming inclusion offices, sometimes driven by state legislation. Virginia legislators have not passed any such laws.

The Board of Visitors is the governing body of UVA. The 17 voting members of the BOV are appointed to staggered four-year terms by the governor and approved by the General Assembly. Each member can be appointed to up to two terms, and at least 12 of the members must be alumni of the university.

On March 26, Gov. Glenn Youngkin took the unusual step of firing **Bert Ellis (Col '75, Darden '79)**, whom he appointed in 2022, from the board. Later that evening, Youngkin said he intended to appoint former Virginia Attorney General **Ken Cuccinelli (Engr '91)** to the board.

With Ellis' removal, the board now has 12 appointments from Youngkin, a Republican, and four appointments from Democratic governors. It also has student and faculty members who do not vote.

MATT RILEY / UVA COMMUNICATIONS

Applications up, offer rates down for Class of 2029

It was another busy admissions cycle for UVA.

For the Class of 2029, the total number of applications across all three admissions cycles—early decision, early action and regular decision—grew by 8.4 percent, surpassing 60,000 for the first time. Overall acceptance rates for in-state and out-of-state students declined compared with the previous year.

Among Virginia and out-of-state applicants, the binding early decision round had the highest offer rate—29.5 percent for in-state applicants and 21 percent for out-of-state students. The early action round, which offers a faster decision but isn't binding, had the next-highest offer rate. Twenty-five percent of in-state applicants received offers, compared with 13 percent of out-of-state applicants.

Regular-decision offers, announced in mid-March, were the most competitive. Just 11 percent of in-state and 9 percent of out-of-state applicants were admitted.

UVA aims to enroll about 3,970 students for the first-year class. ***—Sarah Lindenfeld Hall***

REGULAR-DECISION ROUND

Total regular decision applications: **17,568**

Total Virginia applicants:	Total out-of-state applications:
3,519	**14,049**
In-state acceptance rate	Out-of-state acceptance rate:
11%	**9%**

Note: Deferral acceptance rate: **3%**

OVERALL ADMISSION CYCLE

Total applications: **64,463**

Total Virginia applications:	Total out-of-state applications:
17,608	**46,855**
Overall Virginia acceptance rate:	Overall out-of-state acceptance rate:
23%	**12.5%**

Source: UVA Office of Admission

UVA Health CEO resigns



Dr. K. Craig Kent, UVA's executive vice president for health affairs and CEO of UVA Health, resigned his position in late February after a special meeting of the Board of Visitors.

In September, a group of faculty members from the UVA Physicians Group sent the BOV a letter of no confidence about Kent and Dr. Melina Kibbe, dean of the School of Medicine and chief health affairs officer for UVA Health. The letter contained serious allegations against the two, claiming that they compromise patient safety and oversee a culture of fear and retaliation against staff. It also criticized excessive spending and a lack of transparency on financial issues.



Dr. K. Craig Kent

That month, the university hired the Washington, D.C., law firm Williams & Connolly to conduct an independent investigation into the accusations. Over the next several months, the firm interviewed more than 160 people and reviewed tens of thousands of documents, according to a statement from the BOV.

On Feb. 25, the BOV received the results of the investigation in closed session. That evening, President **James E. Ryan (Law '92)** accepted Kent's resignation.

In a letter to the UVA Health community, Ryan wrote that there were "sufficient concerns about leadership and trust that Dr. Kent recognized would make it difficult to remain in his position, which is why Dr. Kent stepped down."

Both the letter from Ryan and the statement from the BOV say that there was no cause for action on billing or any other regulatory compliance issues. Neither message mentions Kibbe.

Dr. **Mitch H. Rosner (Res '00, Fellow '02)**, chair of the Department of Medicine, will serve as the interim executive vice president for health affairs through the next school year, according to an email Ryan sent to the UVA Health community in late April. UVA will launch a national search in January, he wrote.

UVA Health includes the Medical Center, UVA Community Health, the UVA Physicians Group, the School of Nursing, the School of Medicine and the health sciences library. Its FY25 operating budget is $4.5 billion.

Kent was appointed in February 2020. In December 2023, the BOV added five more years to his initial five-year term, extending it to Jan. 31, 2030.

Kibbe was appointed to a five-year term in September 2021.

—Judy Le

UVA COMMUNICATIONS



ERIN EDGERTON / UVA COMMUNICATIONS

Visas of student, alumni terminated and then reversed

The Trump administration's efforts targeting immigration across the country, including on college campuses, left the visa status of one UVA international student and two recent alumni in limbo this spring.

In early April, the three visas were terminated. The alumni were participating in a federal program that allows for temporary employment in a student's field of study before or after graduation. They were among the more than 1,800 noncitizen students or recent graduates from more than 280 higher education institutions whose legal status had been altered by the U.S. State Department, according to an *Inside Higher Ed* analysis.

But on April 25, amid legal challenges, the Trump administration reversed its student visa revocations. According to *The New York Times*, a Justice Department lawyer informed a federal judge that the government was developing a new way to manage the review and termination of international student records in the United States. Until new procedures are put in place, students' legal status would be reinstated.

That day, the visa status of the current student and one of the alumni was restored to active in a federal database where the U.S. Department of Homeland Security maintains information about international students, Bethanie Glover, deputy spokesperson for UVA, said in an emailed statement. The status of the second alum has since been restored as well, she said in a follow-up message.

UVA does not know the reason for the revoked visas, Glover said. She also wrote that UVA has been in contact with the three individuals to offer support. She shared no further details, including the names of the students or where they are from.

Students and faculty across the country "have had their visas and immigration status canceled or been detained and threatened with deportation on the basis of past legal infractions, including minor offenses, and activities that the federal government believes undermine U.S. foreign policy, including participating in protests, writing opinion pieces, posting on social media, and other expressive activities," states a UVA webpage related to recent federal changes. Some prominent cases have involved students who have taken part in pro-Palestinian protests.

This year, more than 2,500 international students are attending UVA, and about two-thirds are graduate students, according to UVA Institutional Research and Analytics. They make up nearly 20 percent of UVA's graduate student body.

—Sarah Lindenfeld Hall

UVA names new dean of students

UVA's new dean of students and senior associate vice president for student affairs didn't travel far for the role; Nicole R. Hall has been UVA's associate vice president for career and professional development since 2023.

In March, Hall replaced interim **Cedric B. Rucker (Grad '84)**, who is retiring but will support Hall as a special adviser until June. Rucker replaced Robyn Hadley in 2023 after she stepped down as dean of students and vice president for student affairs. Hall will report to Kenyon Bonner, UVA's vice president and chief student affairs officer.

Hall, who earned an MBA from Pepperdine and a doctorate in educational leadership and cultural foundations from the University of North Carolina, Greensboro, previously served in leadership roles at UNC-G and Wake Forest and Pepperdine universities. She said she's excited for the new challenge.

"It's an all-consuming role but I think in such a positive way, considering I will have the privilege of getting a chance to experience students in so many facets of their time here at UVA," she said. ***—Sarah Lindenfeld Hall***



MATT RILEY / UVA COMMUNICATIONS



UVA'S EXTERNAL REVIEW OF 2022 SHOOTING RELEASED

BY SARAH LINDENFELD HALL

While reports stemming from the external review of the 2022 shooting on Grounds shed little new light on the events leading up to the tragedy, they say UVA and law enforcement's response was "swift" and "multifaceted," and emergency responders and officials "performed admirably." They also suggest a range of security enhancements, many of which UVA has already deployed.

The long-awaited reports, which were sought by UVA and authorized by the Virginia attorney general just after the shooting, were released March 21.

Of the nearly 200 pages contained within the two reports written by law firms Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan in Los Angeles and Vinson & Elkins in Washington, D.C., more than half are redacted. The redactions cite the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, as well as state code that exempts education records and certain records related to public safety from the Freedom of Information Act.

"Although I hope this update brings a measure of solace, I know that this information will not provide answers to all of your questions, nor does it answer all of mine," UVA President **James E. Ryan (Law '92)** said in a statement accompanying the reports.

One outstanding question is what university officials knew about the shooter, then-student Christopher Darnell Jones Jr., who has pleaded guilty. While the reports do not contain specific unredacted information to answer that question, the Quinn Emanuel report, which analyzed the events preceding the shooting, does not conclude that the information the threat assessment team had "would have put a reasonable person on notice that [Jones] would commit the types of acts for which [he] is now criminally charged."

The shooting took place around 10:15 p.m. Nov. 13, 2022, near the Culbreth Road parking garage, after a class field trip to Washington, D.C. As the bus parked near the garage, Jones opened fire and then fled. The incident prompted a 12-hour lockdown across Grounds as law enforcement searched for Jones. He was arrested near Richmond, about 80 miles from UVA.

Three students were murdered—football players **Devin Chandler (Col '24)**, **Lavel Davis Jr. (Col '24)** and **D'Sean Perry (Col '23)**. Two students were injured—football player **Michael Hollins Jr. (Col '23)** and **Marlee Morgan (Com '25)**.

Days after the shooting, Ryan and then-Rector **Whittington W. Clement (Col '70, Law '74)** asked Jason S. Miyares, the state AG, to appoint special counsel to review what happened.

In December 2022, Miyares appointed the two law firms to conduct the reviews. Two partners from Quinn Emanuel studied what happened before the shooting, and Vinson & Elkins partner **G. Zachary Terwilliger (Col '03)**, a former Virginia U.S. attorney, looked at related law enforcement issues. They completed their work in October 2023. According to an executive summary released with the redacted reports, the Board of Visitors then reviewed the report with representatives from the

EZE AMOS

firms. Final, amended reports were finished in January 2024.

UVA delayed the release of the analyses for more than a year, first citing attorney-client privilege and, later, the criminal proceedings against Jones. However, last November, Jones pleaded guilty to three charges of first-degree murder, two charges of aggravated malicious wounding and five firearms charges in a court hearing in Albemarle County Circuit Court.

Jones was initially set to be sentenced in early February, but that hearing was delayed until November. In mid-February, UVA announced that Albemarle County Commonwealth's Attorney **James M. Hingeley (Law '76)** had withdrawn his concern that releasing the report would influence the criminal proceedings.

Both reports make recommendations for how UVA can bolster its safety policies and practices.

The Quinn Emanuel report identified areas of "vulnerability and potential improvement" to UVA's threat assessment team and safety and support structure. The report found that, unlike many peer institutions, UVA did not have a dedicated body to address incidents of student distress that might not rise to a level of immediate threat, but where there was still cause for concern.

It also flagged student self-governance as a potential obstacle, finding that the long-standing tradition could "impede" UVA administrators' ability to enforce public safety rules and recommended that UVA increase administrative involvement in public safety and discipline.

"Because virtually all non-criminal student conduct matters are processed through the Honor or [University Judiciary Committee] systems, the University administration appears to lack meaningful processes to enforce its policies," the report said. "These student-run bodies can be slow-moving and there is a sense that the UJC may not be taken seriously by the student body as a tool to ensure discipline and safety."

> **"Although I hope this update brings a measure of solace, I know that this information will not provide answers to all of your questions, nor does it answer all of mine."**
>
> **—UVA President James E. Ryan**

The Vinson & Elkins report generally praised the response of UVA law enforcement, emergency responders and officials. But the firm also concluded that "quicker information flow and sharing" between law enforcement, the university and the public would have been better. It found that UVA waited too long—about 16 minutes after the first 911 call—to issue the first alert warning the community about the shooter because the division of the University Police Department was having trouble contacting a shift supervisor for approval.

UVA said it has implemented recommendations from both reports, devoting new personnel and resources to more nimbly and effectively respond to students who are potentially in crisis and to assess other possible threats.

That includes establishing an Office of Threat Assessment and hiring full- and part-time staff to support it. UVA expanded its threat assessment team to include representatives from University Police and Housing & Residence Life and modified its operating procedures to more rapidly respond if a firearm is reported on Grounds.

And in January 2024, it established the Policy, Accountability, and Critical Events unit to support UVA's processes associated with student conduct, including interim suspensions, arrest disclosures and related matters. The unit now advises and supports the Honor and Judiciary committees.

"As president, my most important responsibility is the safety of every individual in our community and ensuring that we have the processes in place to provide for that protection," Ryan said in the statement.

A month before the reports were released to the public, the two injured students were able to review them, as were the families of the three deceased students. Victims also have received or are seeking compensation.

In May 2024, UVA agreed in mediation to a $9 million settlement, allocating $2 million each to the families of Chandler, Davis and Perry and a total of $3 million to Hollins and Morgan, which is the maximum permitted under the commonwealth's risk management plan.

And in April 2025, Virginia federal judge **Jasmine Yoon (Col '03, Law '06)** ruled that two students on the bus, **Ryan Lynch (Col '25)** and **Kimberley Castano (Col '23)**, can move forward with some civil claims—false imprisonment, willful and wanton negligence, and intentional infliction of emotional distress—against the bus's driver and its owner and operator, Charles Howard and A and A Executive Transportation Services.

According to the court filing, when the shooting began, Lynch saw Howard exit the bus and close the door behind him, trapping students on the bus. Both Lynch and Castano, the filing says, dropped to the floor and heard other students "yell that they could not get off the bus and call out for someone to open the door as gunshots continued to ring out."

The bus's internal lights were off during the shooting, making it difficult to see what was happening, the court filing says. Students were eventually able to escape when another student succeeded in opening the doors. Both students say in the court filing that they have suffered emotional trauma since the incident, including post-traumatic stress disorder.

Student Life

HEAD OF THE CLASS

A look at next year's group of student leaders

BY SARAH LINDENFELD HALL



Honor Committee Chair
Thomas Ackleson (Engr '26)

In the two years since UVA students approved a multi-sanction system for students who violate the Honor Code, Honor Committee members have enacted new processes in hopes of making the system fair and effective. Now Ackleson, a biomedical engineering major from Arlington, Virginia, says his focus is stabilizing the system and educating students and faculty about how the process is working. "We need to develop meaning and community buy-in, and people need to see us as doing a service," he says. "Because that's really what we are trying to do. That's the goal."



University Judiciary Committee Chair
Allison McVey (Col '26)

An ongoing uptick in committee cases, particularly those involving multiple members of individual student groups, is likely to continue. To handle the caseload, McVey, a political philosophy, policy and law major from Royersford, Pennsylvania, will continue efforts to recruit more staff and look for ways to reduce the case processing time by, for example, examining the committee's processes and staff training. "I'm very much expecting this term to be difficult, to be challenging, to be surprising in a lot of ways," she says, "but I'm very much excited to take that on."



Student Council President
Clay Dickerson (Col '26)

Dickerson, a double major in history and drama from Lubbock, Texas, is focused on making practical changes to support limited-income students like himself and first-generation college students. That includes: establishing a permanent clothing closet for students who can't afford outfits for interviews or conference presentations; institutionalizing a Student Council advisory board for first-generation and limited-income students to share concerns; and advocating for more equitable access to spaces on Grounds for performing arts groups. "My big-picture hopes are to make very tangible steps forward," he says.



Co-Chair of Resident Staff Program
Danielle Sydow (Col '25, Engr '26)

As a senior resident adviser, Sydow, a computer science major from Williamsburg, Virginia, valued the mentorship she received from residence life professional staff. As co-chair, she hopes to extend learning opportunities to younger student staff members by offering regular office hours with professional staff. "A lot of RAs sometimes view [professional] staff and the office as a little bit intimidating," says Sydow, who will pursue a master's degree in computer science next year. "My goal for this next year is to erase some of that stigma."



Co-Chair of Resident Staff Program
Nicholas Thornton (Col '25, Com '26)

After two years as a resident adviser, Thornton, a statistics and economics major from Midlothian, Virginia, focused on the job performance of student staff members as Resident Staff vice chair of accountability. As co-chair, his goals include boosting communication channels so student and professional staff members stay better informed. "Any student self-governance role comes with political challenges, learning how to have difficult conversations," says Thornton, who will pursue a master's degree at UVA next year. "But I'm definitely excited to get more involved and just kind of get my hands on everything."



Cavalier Daily Editor-in-Chief
Naima Sawaya (Col '26)

Sustainability for the 135-year-old student newspaper is top of mind for Sawaya, a religious studies major from Williamsburg, Virginia. After a period of change at the paper, including the launch of podcast and puzzle desks, she's focused on building processes to ensure that those innovations endure. Sawaya is also working to boost the paper's digital journalism, including video content, and to collaborate with newspaper alumni to build an endowment. "This is a term about stepping back, taking stock of what these changes are and how we can make sure that they're sustainable in the long run," she says.



Board of Visitors Student Member
Gregory Perryman (Col '26)

For two years, Perryman, from Cleveland, Ohio, has served as student member on an advisory committee to the UVA Investment Management Company, which provides investment management services to the university. Representing student views on investor responsibility, he says, has prepared him for his BOV role, where his priorities include strengthening student self-governance and exploring emerging opportunities, including AI and biotechnology. "I love UVA," says Perryman, part of UVA's honors politics program, "and I strongly believe that every board member loves UVA and that we can work together to find common ground that elevates the student experience here."

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Sports

A HOMECOMING FOR NEW MEN'S BASKETBALL COACH ODOM

BY MIKE BARBER



Ryan Odom addresses the media at his March 24 introductory press conference.

During an interview for the men's basketball coaching job, UVA President **James E. Ryan (Law '92)** and Director of Athletics Carla Williams asked Ryan Odom why he wanted to come to Virginia. Odom put a pair of photographs on the table that showed himself as an elementary school kid decked out in UVA gear.

"I just put them right in front of them," Odom said. "Why Virginia? That's the starting point of why Virginia."

Indeed, Odom isn't so much an import as a repatriate as he takes over a Cavaliers team coming off its first losing season since 2009-10. The son of former Virginia assistant coach Dave Odom, the younger Odom spent seven years of his childhood in Charlottesville, riding his bicycle to University Hall to watch practices, serving as a ball boy and even posing for the cover of a brochure for head coach Terry Holland's basketball camp—providing the visuals Odom brought to his job interview.

Of course, comfort and familiarity aren't enough in the modern, high-stakes world of college athletics. As Williams selected a permanent replacement for Tony Bennett, who suddenly retired in October, she needed qualifications.

Odom, 50, has them in spades. He's won everywhere he's been, taking the University of Maryland, Baltimore County; Utah State; and—this season—Virginia Commonwealth University to the NCAA Tournament. He has a career record of 222-127 as a head coach.

His biggest win to date is also Virginia's most haunting defeat. In 2018, it was Odom's UMBC squad that stunned UVA, becoming the first No. 16 seed to beat a No. 1 seed in the NCAA Tournament.

But that was old news on March 24, as the school introduced Odom at an event at John Paul Jones Arena. Odom is eager to replace that defeat with even larger wins in favor of UVA.

"This is the place that I fell in love with basketball," he told the crowd.

His biggest win to date is also Virginia's most haunting defeat. In 2018, it was Odom's squad that stunned UVA, becoming the first No. 16 seed to beat a No. 1 seed in the NCAA Tournament.



VIRGINIA WOMEN WIN FIFTH STRAIGHT SWIMMING TITLE

BY MIKE BARBER

As **Claire Curzan (Col '26)** talked about achieving Virginia's fifth straight women's swimming and diving national championship, she caught herself accidentally underselling the magnitude of the moment.

"Obviously, there's been a precedent set," Curzan said, before pausing and amending her remarks. *"Four* precedents set. So you are just working day in and day out for this moment."

The Cavaliers had their moment yet again at this year's NCAA Division I national meet, becoming the third program ever to claim five consecutive crowns, joining Stanford (1992-1996) and Texas (1984-1988).

Their four-day total of 544 points comfortably outpaced this year's runner-up Stanford, which had 417.

This latest title felt inevitable, especially after the team opened the meet with a record-setting performance in the first event. The foursome of Curzan, **Alex Walsh (Col '24)**, **Gretchen Walsh (Com '25)** and **Maxine Parker (Col '24)** won the 200-yard medley relay, breaking the NCAA and American records UVA swimmers set in 2023.

Gretchen Walsh captured individual crowns in the 50 freestyle, 100 freestyle and 100 butterfly. She also helped to buoy three other relay championships, helping the team take gold in the 200 freestyle relay, 400 medley relay and 400 freestyle relay. She was named Division I women's swimmer of the year by the College Swimming & Diving Coaches Association of America.

Alex Walsh became the first woman to claim an individual title in five different NCAA championship meets, as well as the first to help a team win five titles. Walsh, who got an extra year of eligibility due to the COVID-19 pandemic, won the 100 breaststroke and was a part of three championship relays. She joined her sister in swimming the 400 freestyle relay and the two medley relays.

Coach Todd DeSorbo, the architect of the greatest active dynasty in college swimming, praised the Walshes not just for their exceptional performances over their careers, but for the impact they've had on their teammates, especially younger athletes.

"They do elevate people around them," said DeSorbo, who was named the CSCAA Division I coach of the year.

Anna Moesch (Col '28) swam in three winning relays—the 200 freestyle, 400 freestyle and 400 medley.

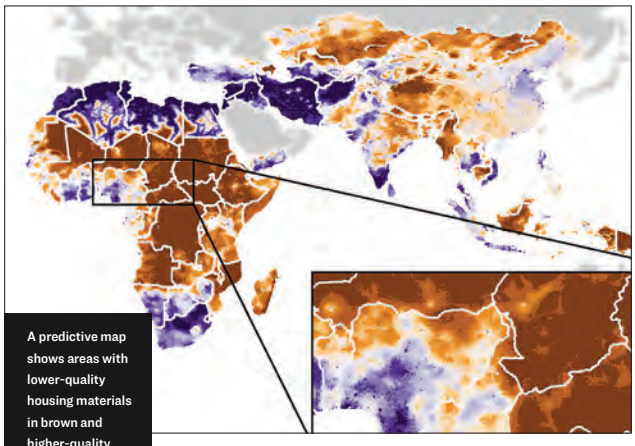
Curzan was a member of all four winning relays and won the 100- and 200-yard backstroke, becoming the first woman to take individual gold for two different schools. She was the NCAA champion in the 200 backstroke as a first-year in 2023 at Stanford, before transferring.

"It's everything I could have hoped for," Curzan said. "You go through the whole year with the girls, and you work towards this goal."

JAMIE HOLT / VIRGINIA ATHLETICS

Discovery

Mapping where housing materials add to risk of infectious disease



A predictive map shows areas with lower-quality housing materials in brown and higher-quality in purple.

A new tool for urban planners and policymakers in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) can help pinpoint potential red flags when it comes to certain housing materials known to exacerbate infectious disease risks. Josh Colston, an epidemiologist and assistant professor at the UVA School of Medicine, and an interdisciplinary team at UVA created a database that maps global disparities in housing quality and its potential role in disease prevention. The research was published in the Dec. 18 edition of *PLOS Global Public Health*.

The connection between housing materials and disease is often overlooked, but certain materials can exacerbate disease risks. For example, dirt floors harbor bacteria and parasites that can cause diarrheal diseases in children if they ingest the dirt. Thatched roofs can harbor disease-bearing insects, and unscreened windows allow in mosquitoes and other flying pests.

This research underscores the importance of housing quality as a public health priority in the global fight against infectious diseases, Colston said. By identifying risk factors for disease clusters, public health professionals can better pinpoint the potential presence of a disease. "You can then target it for some kind of intervention," he said. While experts have used this approach for major infectious disease risk factors such as water and sanitation, it hadn't been used for housing materials.

Colston and his team analyzed data from 350 household surveys conducted since 2005, covering more than 6 million households across LMICs. Using advanced modeling techniques, they created predictive maps identifying regions most at risk due to poor housing conditions.

"Our findings provide actionable evidence for public health programs," Colston said. "This is about giving policymakers tools to identify hot spots and act accordingly—whether through mosquito control or offering materials for safer homes." ***—Liz Seegert***

Swine pollution adds to health disparities



Ammonia pollution from industrialized swine facilities is causing significant environmental and health disparities in North Carolina, according to new research published in *Environmental Science & Technology*. The study, led by Sally Pusede, associate professor of environmental sciences, used satellite data to measure ammonia concentrations, highlighting how communities of color bear the brunt of this unregulated pollution.

Her team's findings revealed that Black, Hispanic, and Native American residents experience 27 percent to 49 percent higher ammonia exposure compared with white populations. Ammonia, a by-product of animal waste, can travel miles downwind, affecting people far beyond the immediate vicinity of these facilities. "This is intense pollution that's largely unregulated under the Clean Air Act," Pusede said.

The study underscores the critical role of satellite technology in addressing gaps in air quality monitoring. Since satellites continually collect data, this approach provides vital evidence to support community claims of harm and informs policymakers about the widespread impact of ammonia pollution, Pusede said. Residents near these facilities have reported respiratory issues, nausea, and other health problems, yet regulations remain minimal. "This is an environmental justice issue," Pusede said.

The findings were shared with advocacy groups, and Pusede hopes the data will empower communities to push for stronger protections. Undergraduate researchers **Isabella Dressel (Col '24)** and **Akirah Epps (Col '23)** co-led the study and earned first-author credit on the publication.

—Liz Seegert



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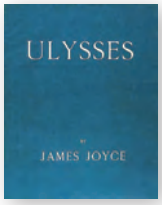
Summer reading recommendations from around UVA

BY SAM GROSSMAN

We asked the people who keep the university running—from well-known figures to folks working behind the scenes—to give their favorite summer reading recommendations. We heard from professors, administrators, library managers and a beloved dining hall staffer. Here are their picks.



Victor Luftig, English professor and co-director of the Center for the Liberal Arts



Ulysses
by James Joyce (1922)

"How about a very funny novel set in mid-June, featuring hard drinking, adultery and raucous banter?" says Professor Victor Luftig, who recommends resources such as audiobooks, deep-dive podcasts and online study guides to help readers through the lengthy Irish modernist novel. "You'll find wisdom, wit and words you can use for all kinds of occasions. It's a real bucket-list book, and you'd go into the fall knowing you'd given yourself something special," he says. "Just don't be discouraged by the third (notoriously difficult and weird) chapter. Things lighten up wonderfully in Chapter 4."



Christa Acampora, dean of the College and Graduate School of Arts and Sciences



James
by Percival Everett (2024)
together with
Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain (1884)

Christa Acampora, who took the helm of UVA's largest school in 2022, recommends Percival Everett's latest novel: a reimagining of Mark Twain's classic *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. In this telling, however, readers get the perspective of Huck's formerly enslaved friend Jim. In an interview with PBS, Everett said he felt compelled to retell the story because of Twain's "problematic" and stereotypical depiction of the character: "He could not occupy the psychic and cultural space that was occupied by Jim." The retelling from this new point of view, Acampora says, "provides a gripping perspective."



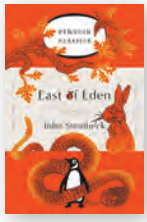
John D'earth, longtime director of jazz performance

Trumpeter John D'earth, who stepped down this year after more than 40 years teaching in UVA's music department, says "there are so many indispensable and wonderful books" that he decided to recommend three.



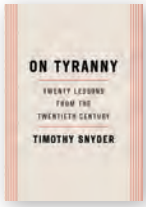
The Bostonians
by Henry James (1886)

"This is the story of a young Mississippi lawyer and Confederate veteran visiting his cousin in Boston, just after the Civil War, and encountering the full blast of what is to him a preposterous radical feminism," D'earth says. "*The Bostonians* mirrors our present-day societal arguments and self-deluding cults of belief. The psychological acuity with which James reveals private and/or unconscious motivations is mesmerizing, profound and, often, extremely funny."



East of Eden
by John Steinbeck (1952)

John Steinbeck's multigenerational saga mines the biblical story of Cain and Abel for clues to its meaning, D'earth says. "I read it over and over at one point. It seems to contain the formula, the crystal, by which families become themselves, turn into themselves. As I read the book, I felt that I was saving money on psychoanalysis!"

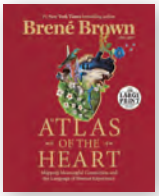


On Tyranny
by Timothy Snyder (2017)

Historian Timothy Snyder's call to arms and guide to resistance is, according to D'earth, "a direct, unequivocal appeal for individual conscience and consciousness in the face of demagoguery, repression and propaganda." The book outlines how "the descent into tyranny is always recognizable, always the same, and must be met with intention on the part of citizens each step of the way," D'earth says.

Kenyon Bonner, vice president and chief student affairs officer





Atlas of the Heart
by Brené Brown (2021)

UVA's top student affairs administrator went with social psychology research professor Brené Brown's illustrated self-help book, subtitled *Mapping Meaningful Connection and the Language of Human Experience*. It explores 87 distinct emotions and offers tools for expressing them. "I enjoyed learning more about understanding human emotions and the language we use or do not use to describe our emotions to help us better understand ourselves and inform healthier relationships," Bonner says.

Stanley J. Stepanic (Grad '07, '12), assistant professor of Slavic languages and literatures





Blade & Bastard series
written by Kumo Kagyu, illustrated by Makoto Fugetsu and so-bin (2024–present)

Professor Stanley Stepanic is best known for his popular *Dracula* course, but his recommendation for this summer is a Japanese manga series based on the popular role-playing video game series *Wizardry*. *Blade & Bastard* is "a dark fantasy series," Stepanic says, "not as heavy, at least yet, on the gore and violence of [the related series] *Goblin Slayer* and others."

Ellen Ramsey (Educ '00), project manager at UVA Library system





Beautyland
by Marie-Helene Bertino (2024)

When asked for her recommendation, UVA Library Project Manager Ellen Ramsey immediately chose *Beautyland*, a literary sci-fi novel. "It's incredibly well written," says Ramsey, who has worked in various UVA departments for nearly 30 years. "It's set in Philly in the 1970s and is about a woman of color who has an unusual backstory. And that's all I'll tell you."

Kathy McGruder, longtime Newcomb dining hall employee and UVA legend



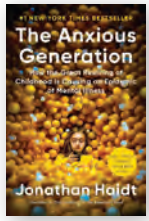


The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay
by Michael Chabon (2000)

Known as "Ms. Kathy," McGruder has spent nearly 25 years greeting students—her "babies"—every morning in Newcomb Hall. She still remembers one who brought her a book he thought she'd enjoy: a historical novel following the lives of two Jewish cousins shortly before World War II. "It's good for motivation if you're in a rut," McGruder says of *The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay*. "These characters were getting their butts kicked. They were poor, poor, poor. But they end up helping a lot of people and killing it." She adds: "That book is on fire."

Ammon Shepherd, manager of the Makerspace at Shannon Library





The Anxious Generation
by Jonathan Haidt (2024)

The manager of UVA's Makerspace—where students and community members can design and create electronics, crafts and textile projects—suggests social psychologist and former UVA professor Jonathan Haidt's *The Anxious Generation: How the Great Rewiring of Childhood Is Causing an Epidemic of Mental Illness*. "I recommend this to parents and educators, definitely, but also society at large," Shepherd says.



The Wheel of Time series
by Robert Jordan, with co-author Brandon Sanderson on the final three books (1990–2013)

For a more lighthearted read, Shepherd recommends *The Wheel of Time*, the "epic, epic fantasy series" that inspired a popular Amazon Prime video series. "It's along the lines of *Game of Thrones* but not as graphic," he says. "It's just pure fun."

JOHN T. CASTEEN III | DECEMBER 11, 1943–MARCH 18, 2025

VIRGINIA'S VISIONARY

Longtime president set UVA on its modern course

BY ED MILLER

INAUGURATED AS UVA'S seventh president on Oct. 6, 1990, **John T. Casteen III (Col '65, Grad '66, '70)** settled into the corner office at Madison Hall largely free to set his own agenda, a privilege also enjoyed by his predecessors.

"The job was not clearly defined," Casteen said in a 2024 interview with *Virginia Magazine*. "The job of the president was to be the president."

Very quickly, however, outside events brought Casteen's job into sharp focus. Drastic cuts in state funding meant Casteen would soon have to devote much of his time to fundraising, to a degree that previous presidents could not have dreamed of.

Casteen himself had not anticipated how much time he'd spend raising money, he said.

"The board believed when it hired me that it could count on state funding to be fairly stable and therefore the job would not include a major capital funds campaign early on. It was always imagined that there would be one eventually. →

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"The funding reductions in the fall of 1990 were dramatic. We had a sort of strategy meeting that resulted in the decision to go ahead and move toward a major campaign. Now the scale of what we had to do was not imagined. It was much larger."

Several years in the planning, the Campaign for the University of Virginia raised $1.43 billion from 1994 to 2000, then the second-largest sum ever by a state university. It was followed by another, larger campaign in the second decade of Casteen's term.

A presidency that began with fiscal alarms sounding ended two decades later with UVA on firm financial footing, its academic and global profiles raised, financial aid more widely available through AccessUVA, and Grounds brimming with new buildings and populated by a far more diverse university community. For those reasons and more, Casteen, who retired from the presidency in 2010 and died March 18 at age 81 after a brief bout with pancreatic cancer, has often been called "the father of the modern university."

"John Casteen is simply inseparable from the story of UVA," **President James E. Ryan (Law '92)** said in a statement upon Casteen's death. "As president, he transformed UVA into a world-class university. As a teacher, mentor, colleague and friend, he was beloved."

"John's legacy is our modern-day UVA—a university that offers undergraduate education second to none, highly ranked graduate and professional programs, a strong and improving research enterprise, and a world-class health system," **Leonard Sandridge (Grad '74)**, who worked alongside Casteen as executive vice president and chief operating officer, wrote in an email.

CASTEEN'S 20-YEAR TENURE IS second in duration only to that of UVA's first president, Edwin Alderman, who served for 27 years.

Casteen seemed born to be president, a 1999 profile of him in *The New York Times* asserted.

"If ever there was a man placed on this earth for the purpose of being president of the University of Virginia, it is Dr. John Casteen 3d," the article began, citing his erudition, his love for UVA, his drive, and his ambition—first expressed while he was still in his 20s—to hold the job one day.

Casteen was raised in an unlikely spot for someone supposedly destined to such a lofty station in higher education. He grew up in the blue-collar community of Cradock in Portsmouth, Virginia, which was built by the federal government in 1918 to house workers at the nearby Norfolk Naval Shipyard.

Casteen's father was a master mechanic at the shipyard. His mother worked at home. Casteen attended public school and was the first in his family to go to college, choosing UVA over Harvard and Princeton, neither of which he could afford.

In 1961, Casteen arrived at what he called the "Old U." It was "simply a boys' school," he said in a 2021 interview with *UVA Today*. What he saw and experienced there would influence his push to make UVA more inclusive once he became president three decades later.

"Many took pride in being backward, and they didn't want to change," he said, referring to resistance to coeducation and racial desegregation.

Casteen earned bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees in English, specializing in Anglo-Saxon poems and Icelandic sagas. Among his advisers was President Edgar F. Shannon Jr., a Rhodes Scholar who also taught in the English department.

Casteen taught at the University of California, Berkeley, for six years before returning to UVA as dean of admission, to help fulfill Shannon's vision of a fully coeducated and integrated student body.

"Having come of age during the Civil Rights era and attended high school during Massive Resistance, he was determined to transform the undergraduate student body in a manner consistent with the principle and practice of inclusive excellence," two of his children, **John T. Casteen IV (Col '93)** and Elizabeth Ingeborg Casteen, wrote in an obituary in the *Cavalier Daily*.

Casteen left UVA in 1982 to serve as secretary of education under Virginia Gov. **Charles "Chuck" Robb (Law '73)** and then as president of the University of Connecticut. When he returned to Grounds in 1990, state aid, which accounted for 32 percent of the university's budget in the mid-1980s, had fallen to 23 percent, with more cuts on the horizon.

In a March 1992 interview with *Alumni News* (this magazine's predecessor), then-budget director Colette Capone (now Colette Sheehy, senior vice president for operations and state government relations) said the university would begin the 1992-94 biennium with $58.2 million less in state funding than two years before.

Though the figure represented just 3.3 percent of the total budget, the impact was greater because state funding supported the core academic mission of the university, she said.

Casteen had already been at work planning a campaign, an effort that largely began from scratch. UVA had raised roughly $140 million during a campaign in the mid-1980s but had let its fundraising

"John Casteen is simply inseparable from the story of UVA."

—UVA PRESIDENT JAMES E. RYAN

For more of President Ryan's remarks on Casteen, see Page 56.



When he was not fundraising, Casteen hosted events at Carr's Hill.

infrastructure deteriorate.

"Prior to the appointment of Mr. Casteen, the University had undergone a difficult period in managing the relationships among its various decentralized fund-raising operations," according to a campaign planning document produced by the university in October 1992. "The University Development office had lost credibility, which, in turn led to tremendous personnel turnover. Before the University could even attempt another capital campaign, these situations had to be rectified."

Casteen rebuilt and scaled up the department, but he would have to take a hands-on approach. In 1993, the Board of Visitors approved an administrative reorganization increasing the number and range of duties assigned to Casteen's vice presidents and senior staff.

"This is necessary to free you from daily managerial duties and enable you to increase your commitments to travel and other activities related to the campaign," Rector **Hovey S. Dabney (Law '49)** wrote Casteen.

Casteen had planned a traditional "academic" presidency that included teaching, as his mentor Shannon had done, he said in 2024. Instead, he was on the road up to four days a week and hosting events at Carr's Hill when not traveling. He and adviser and fundraiser **Gordon Burris (Educ '67)** took to the air in a King Air 90 turboprop plane, often accompanied by Alumni Association President **Gilbert Sullivan (Com '48)**. The plane was nothing fancy, but it allowed them to appear at multiple events in a single day, within a reasonable distance, Casteen said in 2024.

"We knew the stakes were high," Casteen said. "That was always there. We understood from the start that if we failed at this, looking just at the state money available at the time, we were headed toward a long, deep dive."

The scholar proved to be a tireless and effective fundraiser, able to converse on just about any subject, Burris said. Casteen was deployed both as a setup man and a closer.

"He would sell the vision and ask for the gifts," Burris said.

"He loved it," **Edward Mitchell (Col '63)**, one of the co-chairs, said in an interview about the campaign in 2024. "He could turn over the university to Leonard (Sandridge) to run and go to these campaign events as the public face of the campaign."

Casteen said his approach was not merely to ask potential donors for money, but to get them invested in the success of UVA.

"I ask for their vision of the university, I ask for their political support, I ask for their membership on committees, I ask for their children," he told *The New York Times* in 1999.

Casteen took flak for being gone so much. In 1998, the *Cavalier Daily* nicknamed him "Capital Campaigner Casteen." Faculty also leveled criticism, but it waned over time, Burris said.

"Once they saw the money coming in, and they saw what the money could do, it was almost like they expected John to go out," he said.

The effect of the $1.43 billion raised was seen across Grounds in new and renovated buildings, such as the David A. Harrison III Law Grounds and renovations to Scott Stadium. It was also felt in the classroom, with the funding of 154 endowed professorships, 122 fellowships and 616 scholarships, Casteen wrote when the campaign ended.

Rather than take a victory lap, Casteen pivoted immediately to a new initiative: Virginia 2020, a long-range planning process intended to position the university for its third century. It focused on strengthening UVA in science and technology, international activities, public service and outreach, and the fine and performing arts.

Casteen said in 2024 that Virginia 2020 was "a matter of defining what we would be," as well as how the university would get there.

That included building the endowment. When Casteen retired in 2010, with another capital campaign in full swing, the endowment had grown from $488 million to $5.1 billion.

In Casteen's 20 years, 134 buildings were erected, *UVA Today* reported in 2010. Among the high-profile projects completed were the Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library, John Paul Jones Arena, the renovation of Old Cabell Hall, and the South Lawn project. The overall square footage of Grounds grew by 42 percent. This happened while state funding continued to drop, from 23 percent of the university budget in 1990 to 6.7 percent of it in 2010.

CASTEEN'S LEGACY WAS NOT just as "the Builder," as this magazine called him when he retired in 2010. He was also a champion of inclusion and access.

In 2003, Casteen launched AccessUVA,

ALBERT AND SHIRLEY SMALL SPECIAL COLLECTIONS LIBRARY / UVA LIBRARY



a program that meets 100 percent of undergraduate students' demonstrated financial need. Burris said it was personal for Casteen.

"He knew what UVA had meant to him coming out of where he had come out of," he said. "He'd experienced it firsthand as a student."

"He had an appreciation of what education could do for you, and he demonstrated that for himself," Sandridge told *UVA Today*. "Therefore, he wanted to make sure he did everything he could to make it available to everyone else."

Casteen said in 2010 that he viewed access as nothing less than what was required of a public university by the Bill of Rights, and particularly the 14th Amendment, which ensures equal protection under the law.

"We don't, and we ought not be able to, discriminate on the basis of who comes from a privileged background and who doesn't," he said.

Similarly, Casteen created the Office of Diversity and Equity in the wake of racial incidents on Grounds in late 2002 and early 2003, which included an assault on a biracial student who was running for student council president, and white students dressing in blackface for a party.

During his administration, the enrollment of women, international students and minority students increased. The percentage of female undergraduates went from 50 to 56 percent, and the minority undergraduate population rose from 17.8 to 25.5 percent. The faculty also became more diverse, with women making up 25 percent and minorities 15 percent.

Angela M. Davis, who was the only Black person and one of just two women in the English department when she joined the faculty in 1975, said at a memorial service for Casteen in April that she soon wanted out of the "chilly environment" she encountered at UVA. She was planning to leave when Casteen convinced her to instead apply for a position in student affairs. Davis, who became a special assistant to the vice president and chief student affairs officer, said it was an example of the forward-thinking Casteen "already intentionally shaping the university into the 21st century."

"John understood that it wasn't good enough to just go to Black churches to recruit Black students, and open the door of UVA to women," Davis said. "It was just as critical to diversify our faculty and administrative leadership."

CASTEEN MADE A HABIT OF remembering names and is remembered for his humility, his children wrote. He was "habitually unsentimental and highly irreverent," his son, Casteen IV, said at his father's memorial service.

"He took his work with absolute seriousness but himself not so much," Casteen IV said.

Casteen was quiet by nature, but several people who worked closely with him, or for him, said he inspired loyalty and dedication and a sense of mission.

"He was caring," said Louise Dudley, who served as university spokeswoman from 1991 to 2002. "He dealt with people on a personal level."

After retiring from the presidency, Casteen returned to the classroom for another decade, teaching courses on Icelandic literature; the modern novel; and the art, culture and history of Venice. He studied 12 languages, was an avid boater and, along with his wife, Betsy, was a patron of the arts. UVA's arts grounds were named for the couple in 2010.

Casteen was also a world traveler.

"He's been everywhere," said **Susan Harris (Law '87)**, who in addition to serving as secretary to the Board of Visitors is a trustee and secretary to the board of the Leifur Eiríksson Foundation, an organization that provides funding for graduate student exchanges between the United States and Iceland. Casteen raised money to get the venture off the ground, she said. In 2022, he was awarded the Order of the Falcon, the highest honor bestowed by the Icelandic government.

Casteen made several trips to Iceland on behalf of the foundation, Harris said. As board members traveled by minibus between Icelandic universities, Casteen entertained them by giving lectures on Icelandic sagas, she said.

Casteen was disappointed about being unable to make the most recent trip this past fall, Harris said. He was looking forward to returning to Iceland and talked of taking trips to Newfoundland and the Faroe Islands, she said.

Casteen had a very brief period of diagnosis and treatment of pancreatic cancer before he died, according to his obituary.

Above all, Casteen was motivated by what was best for the university, Sandridge said. His relentless focus was on positioning UVA as one of the nation's top universities, public or private.

"Over his two decades as president, he successfully realized this vision," Sandridge wrote.

Casteen is survived by his wife, Betsy, and, according to his obituary, a "large and blended" family that includes UVA alumni Casteen IV, who is an associate professor at UVA and director of studies at Brown College; stepdaughters **Alexandra Foote (Col '04)** and **Elizabeth Robinson (Col '07, Educ '07)**; and 12 grandchildren.

Ed Miller is senior writer for Virginia Magazine.

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Research's new unknowns

UVA grapples with uncertainty in federal funding landscape

BY MICHAEL GAYNOR



On Feb. 7, 2025, just a few weeks after Inauguration Day, President Donald Trump's administration announced an immediate change to research funding from the National Institutes of Health, the federal agency primarily responsible for biomedical and public health research.

Through the grants it issues, the NIH would still fund the direct costs of research at universities, labs and other institutions—but now it would cap reimbursements for so-called "indirect costs" at 15 percent. The announcement called these indirect costs "administrative overhead" and proposed that the cap would help the NIH "ensure that grant funds are, to the maximum extent possible, spent on furthering its mission." →

Microbiology, immunology and cancer biology department chair Mariano Garcia-Blanco, right, says one of his research grants is in limbo. Researcher Evan Lam (Med '29, '30) is at left.

JAY PAUL



If I think about the papers that we published in really important, competitive journals in the last five years, we would not have published a single one of them if we had not been able to use a research core."

*— **Mariano Garcia-Blanco** on research cores, shared facilities whose funding is threatened*

But what may appear to be a minor technical alteration presents sweeping challenges for research institutions across the nation. Rather than reducing "overhead," the 15 percent indirect cost cap is estimated to slash research funding by as much as $5 billion nationally, crippling universities' ability to pay for lab and administrative personnel, shared equipment and even power bills.

UVA is not immune to these challenges. The previous indirect cost reimbursement rate the university negotiated with the NIH was 61.5 percent. A drop down to 15 percent would cost UVA researchers approximately $54 million, based on last year's numbers, according to Lori McMahon, UVA's vice president of research.

On March 25, UVA President **James E. Ryan (Law '92)** sent an email to the university community addressing this "period of significant fiscal uncertainty, with potential deep cuts to federal spending on grants and contracts and other core programs." He called the circumstances "unsettling" and outlined several measures to reduce spending, including additional hiring reviews for new faculty and staff.

Meanwhile, through the NIH, the Trump administration has delayed the approval of many future biomedical research grants and canceled others already in progress. It has laid off hundreds of employees at the NIH and the National Science Foundation, another government agency that supports scientific research.

As a result of these changes, three NIH grants to UVA have been canceled so far, and one more has received a stop-work order. With the funding environment awash in uncertainty, UVA will admit fewer graduate and postdoctoral students this fall, with the exact number to be determined by individual schools—underscoring the long-term impacts these policy changes will have on the next generation of scientists and researchers.

In late March, almost 2,000 members of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine signed an open letter warning that "the nation's scientific enterprise is being decimated" and that "a climate of fear has descended on the research community."

"Ultimately, it's going to mean that the U.S. is not going to have the technological leadership that it's had, because that's all been based very heavily on basic scientific research," said Edward Egelman, a professor of biochemistry and molecular genetics at UVA, who signed the open letter. "The U.S. has played a leading role in development of all new technology, and that's going to change."

A history of government research partnerships

Federal government dollars have helped fund a slew of medical breakthroughs at UVA over the years. The NIH and the broader Department of Health and Human Services awarded UVA more than $258 million in grants in fiscal year 2024—by far the university's largest source of research funding, with the next largest federal source being the Defense Department, at $44 million.

But the scope of the NIH's historic impact extends beyond Charlottesville. NIH-funded research contributed to the development of 99.4 percent of all medicines approved in the U.S. between 2010 and 2019, according to amfAR, the Foundation for AIDS Research.

"There are breakthroughs that happen literally every week in biomedical research in the U.S.," said **William Petri (Grad '80, Med '82)**, vice chair for research at the Department of Medicine. "It's one of the things where we lead the world."

"I think the country is getting a bargain in biomedical research," said William Knaus, a UVA emeritus professor in public health sciences, who also signed the National Academies' open letter. "The pipeline for biomedical research at UVA or any other large university-based center is an investment in the future."

According to the National Science Foundation, the federal government spent about $60 billion on R&D in higher education in 2023, while universities themselves spent $28 billion.

"The federal government can't do it all by itself, and universities can't afford it all by themselves," McMahon said. "You can really see that the magic has happened because of this partnership."

The successes of the U.S. research community reflect that. One key aspect built up over the decades is the peer review process, the gold standard for scientific evaluation. Peer review plays an important role in "study sections," which are groups of academics and researchers the NIH gathers to review and score proposals for federal grants.

"NIH makes funding decisions largely based upon those scores," Egelman said. But the Trump administration has



JAY PAUL

Fees to access research cores, such as UVA's Flow Cytometry Core, count as indirect costs.

delayed or canceled many of these study sections, essentially blocking new grants from being issued.

"When those study sections are delayed, that means any new grant awards are going to be delayed. That has a horrendous impact on biomedical research," Egelman said.

In late February, NPR reported that the freeze on study sections had affected 16,000 grant applications and $1.5 billion in NIH funding.

"Those meetings were canceled, sometimes the day before the meeting," said Mariano Garcia-Blanco, chair of UVA's Department of Microbiology, Immunology, and Cancer Biology. Since the initial freeze in February, some study sections have been reinstated to review new grant proposals. Yet plenty of other researchers remain in the dark.

"It's just like being in limbo," Garcia-Blanco said.

'Experiments will not be done'

University researchers now face two distinct challenges. The first is the 15 percent cap on indirect costs.

Analysis from *The New York Times* shows that in fiscal 2024, the NIH spent about $32 billion across 60,000 grants (UVA received over $258 million). "Direct costs" accounted for $23 billion of this total; these are costs such as researchers' salaries, lab equipment and supplies "directly supporting or benefiting the grant-supported project or activity," in the NIH's words.

That leaves $9 billion in indirect costs that would be affected by the 15 percent cap. Also known as facilities and administrative or "F&A" costs, this category includes expenses that are not specific to any single grant—for example, utility costs for a laboratory running multiple experiments, or salaries for laboratory cleaning crews or administrative personnel working with different researchers on different grants.

In its analysis, *The New York Times* found that a 15 percent cap on these indirect costs would reduce total NIH funding by at least $5 billion using 2024 numbers, with the brunt of the funding gap affecting institutions heavily linked to commercial patenting and drug development, according to a National Bureau of Economic Research working paper.

With UVA directly standing to lose roughly $54 million annually, one area where these cuts will be keenly felt is the "research core" system. Research cores are shared facilities that allow researchers to use tools, technologies and personnel not specific to their own lab or work. Research cores frequently house equipment that is too expensive or specialized for any one lab, so researchers pay a fee to access it when needed, which counts as an indirect cost.

"If I think about the papers that we published in really important, competitive journals in the last five years, we would not have published a single one of them if we had not been able to use a research core," Garcia-Blanco said. "Without those cores, our research would be mediocre at best."

Previously, the NIH reimbursed UVA researchers for indirect costs totaling up to 61.5 percent of their overall direct costs. Those researchers say a cut down to 15 percent would be devastating.

"Experiments will not be done," Garcia-Blanco said.

The 15 percent cap is on hold, after state governments and research organizations sued the administration and a federal judge temporarily blocked the cuts.



Researchers and students train to use the flow cytometry research core. The cores often house highly specialized equipment.

JAY PAUL

A more chilling crisis

As that challenge wends through the courts, a deeper "parallel crisis"—in the words of Garcia-Blanco—is rapidly hitting U.S. universities: the delay or cancellation of grants already in progress.

The slowdown in study section scheduling is one form, while other grants are being rescinded without explanation. This April, President Ryan told the Faculty Senate that a total of 14 federal research grants to UVA have been terminated so far this academic year, including the three from the NIH.

"In many cases, it's just silence," said Garcia-Blanco, who last year submitted grant applications for UVA's Medical Scientist Training Program, which allows students to train for both an M.D. and Ph.D. "This application had a very good score, which in most times would have been fundable, but decisions for these training grants are all lumped together. They should have been made early this year. At this point, there is no answer. The latest I received from NIH is, 'We don't have any updates.'"

Many have speculated that the Trump administration may be targeting training grants in particular as part of its explicit stance against diversity, equity and inclusion, as some grants seek to enroll students from underrepresented backgrounds. Regardless of the motive, such delays are costly for scientists seeking the next medical breakthrough.

"It takes a decade to get to a major discovery and sometimes longer," McMahon said. "So any stoppage, any slowdown in the pace of work, means those discoveries are going to get pushed out and might not happen."

Of all the areas of scientific and medical research now at risk, infectious disease research appears to be particularly vulnerable. **Robert F. Kennedy Jr. (Law '82)**, the Trump administration's secretary for the Department of Health and Human Services, which oversees the NIH, has suggested a "break" from funding infectious disease research in favor of research into chronic diseases. And in late March, Kennedy fired all staff in his department's Office of Infectious Disease and HIV/AIDS Policy. These actions and others have produced a profound chilling effect across experts in this area of research.

"They have created this anti-infectious disease, anti-vaccine sentiment that is very problematic for a department like mine," said Garcia-Blanco, who studies autoimmune diseases.

More than a century ago, UVA played a foundational role in infectious disease research in America through **Walter Reed (Col 1869)**, who graduated from medical school after earning his degree at age 17. Reed went on to pioneer research into the causes of typhoid and yellow fever. He debunked incorrect theories on their spread in military encampments, saving untold numbers of lives.

Today, infectious disease research at UVA is making discoveries such as finding links between herpes virus infection and higher rates of Alzheimer's disease. Links like these underscore the false dichotomy between infectious disease and chronic disease.

To some researchers, the move away from infectious disease research is all the more stunning in the aftermath of COVID-19, when rapid medical breakthroughs led to the development of a vaccine that saved millions of lives.

"I really expected after the advances of COVID it would be like what we saw during the polio epidemic, where Jonas Salk's development of a vaccine ... prevented what had been a terrifying epidemic of paralytic illness in children,"



> **“It’s so anxiety-provoking for these young, bright, talented individuals who we want to attract into basic research and development. … It can derail them.”**
>
> *— **Lori McMahon**, UVA’s vice president of research*

Petri said. “I think that, more than any one thing, convinced the public of the importance of investing in biomedical research.

“My maybe naive thought was after science getting us through a pandemic and lowering the number of people that suffered again, that we’d see an even greater investment in biomedical research and not a retrenchment.”

The next generation of scientists

For all the cutbacks and uncertainty challenging researchers right now, it’s future researchers who stand to lose the most. Scientific and medical research is a highly competitive field where success often requires winning grants to fund labs and experiments. Doctoral students, postdocs and younger students interested in these careers may start to abandon their ambitions in the face of a decaying federal funding landscape.

“It’s pretty desperate,” said **Audrey Brown (Grad ’22)**, a Ph.D. postdoctoral research fellow in parasitology at UVA. “People are starting to realize that what they’ve trained for over the past 10 years and devoted their life to is no longer going to be a viable career option.”

Like many postdocs, Brown’s goal was to start her own research lab at a university in a few years. But NIH funding cuts may render that path impossible, even after the typical Ph.D. student’s years of demanding, exhaustive work. That’s because federal cuts will require universities to scale back their research capacity and offer fewer professorship positions—and even those who are hired will need to assemble more of their own funding to conduct research.

“It’s so anxiety-provoking for these young, bright, talented individuals who we want to attract into basic research and development,” McMahon said. “It can derail them.”

Brown is studying a gene that affects how different people either do or do not get ill from an intestinal parasite. The team has also discovered that the same gene affects how people respond to inflammatory bowel disease—another example of the linkages between infectious and chronic illness.

“What we learned really translates across the board and isn’t just related to infectious disease,” Brown said. “But if these funding cuts come through, that is how we will be viewed, and we will be cut because of that.”

There are alternate career paths these young researchers can still take—maybe to a private biotech firm or treating patients. Regardless, researchers said, their departure from schools like UVA will create a brain drain in research talent, with the long-term effects impossible to measure.

“We could potentially lose a generation of young scientists who read the writing on the wall,” Petri said.

Bracing for what’s next

Leaders at UVA are strategizing how to overcome the changes in federal research funding.

The 15 percent cap on indirect research costs is perhaps the most straightforward challenge to confront, as it comes with a clear dollar figure to replace. That doesn’t mean it will be easy. “Long term, you can’t make up such a dramatic decrease in F&A costs,” Petri said. “One can lessen the immediate impact, but it’s not a sustainable thing financially.”

With the 15 percent cap currently being fought over in court, there’s a possibility that there may be room for negotiation. “I think most people are thinking it won’t stay at 15 percent,” McMahon said. “Maybe it’s just hope, but we’re thinking that there will be this opportunity to work with our decision-makers to come to perhaps a consensus.”

McMahon said deans across the university are modeling different percentages—a more optimistic 30 percent or 50 percent, perhaps—to determine what resources they’ll need to fill the gaps, and how to adapt.

The funding sources to make up for slashed federal dollars can come in several forms. Nonprofits are one example, such as the Alzheimer’s Association, which already funds research into that disease at UVA. Increased state funding is another potential source, capitalizing on UVA’s position as Virginia’s flagship research university. A third source might be private donors.

It’s difficult to see what may come next for university research. Yet leaders and researchers at UVA are persisting in their work, optimistic that the advancements will continue.

“What I can say is that the research community is continuing to do their research,” McMahon said. “The students are continuing to do their work. Their faculty are continuing to mentor their students and their postdocs and their research staff. And the leadership is monitoring and watching and looking at scenario planning to prepare ourselves so that we can pivot once the information becomes more concrete. It’s hard right now because we don’t know what the future holds.”

Michael Gaynor is a writer based in Worcester, Massachusetts.

DAN ADDISON / UVA COMMUNICATIONS



The empty plate

UVA experts in the field of hunger discuss the growing crisis

By Ellen Ryan

Ever gone to bed hungry?

Ever done it twice in a row? Across Virginia, one in nine people is food insecure—that is, has limited or inconsistent access to healthy meals—according to nonprofit Feeding America. More than 250,000 who are food insecure are children. Nationally, even before this year, food insecurity reached as high as 59 percent among elderly, Black, Hispanic and disabled households nationwide.

And that hunger hits Grounds, too. A community food pantry in Newcomb Hall fed more than a thousand students and staff last year, and students have raised funds for it and successfully advocated in Richmond for legislation: In April, Virginia Gov. Glenn Youngkin signed bills establishing the Hunger-Free Campus Food Pantry Grant Program.

Just this year, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has cut $1 billion meant to help food banks and schools procure food from local farmers, as well as $500 million for deliveries to food banks. Meanwhile, prices have continued to climb.

As the issue grows more serious, we talked to some alumni and faculty who have been working in the field about the scope of the problem and some potential solutions.

Riley Chitwood (Col '19) is the Northern Virginia regional manager at Capital Area Food Bank (CAFB).

Paul Freedman teaches classes in the politics of food as an associate professor in the UVA Department of Politics and is director of the interdisciplinary major Environmental Thought and Practice. He's also a member of the UVA Committee on Sustainability and the UVA Sustainable Food Collaborative.

Saoussen "Suzy" Mahjoub (Col '11) is the director of development for FoodRecovery.org, which connects organizations with surplus food to communities in need.

Maggie Mascarenhas (Col '17) is the public policy manager for Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems Funders, a nonprofit that convenes, guides and mobilizes funders and provides educational programming.

Jane Colony Mills (Col '86) is executive director of Charlottesville's Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry (L&F), which serves 500 households each week.

Remarks have been edited for length and clarity.



Chitwood



Freedman



Mahjoub



Mascarenhas



Mills

VICTORIA BORGES

What is the scope of hunger and food insecurity? Whom does it affect?

Freedman: In 2023, the U.S. Department of Agriculture measured Americans who were fully food secure at 86.5 percent, or 115 million households of 283 million people. Those with "low food security"—just getting by, with help—were 8.4 percent, or 11 million households of 31 million people. And "very low food security," who are disrupted substantially, were 5.1 percent. Sounds low, but that's 7 million households of around 16 million people.

Mahjoub: Food insecurity touches a range of people: the lower middle class, the underserved, people with disabilities, veterans, homeless communities. With inflation and the high cost of food, the problem affects an ever-wider population.

Freedman: Having children at home makes you more likely to be food insecure. More than a third of households with children headed by single women are food insecure.

Chitwood: Plus people of color and a range of income and education levels. Having a college degree makes it less likely we'll see you [at a food bank], but close to two-thirds of food-insecure people have completed at least some college classes.

Mills: At Loaves & Fishes, we have college grads, Ph.D.s who don't have enough work. During COVID, when the university paused elective surgeries and laid off a lot of health care workers, they came to us. I expect to see that from local military installations, too.

Mascarenhas: Let's not forget seniors; Meals on Wheels can be a lifeline. Another overlooked subset includes those who harvest our food, stock grocery stores and prepare meals in restaurants. According to the recent Food Chain Workers Alliance report, in 2022 almost one in five frontline food workers was food insecure. →

Mills: A large grocery chain nearby is a source of some food L&F gives out but also a source of some people we feed. Former employees of ours worked there and said they never, ever got full-time hours.

Chitwood: Capital Area Food Bank serves the District of Columbia, two counties in suburban Maryland and four jurisdictions in Northern Virginia. As of last fall, 37 percent of those regional residents were food insecure—up from 32 percent the year before. Food insecurity reaches throughout our NOVA service area, from a low of 23 percent in Arlington to 43 percent in Prince William County.

Tell us about some myths and realities about food and hunger.

Chitwood: A common myth is that everyone hungry is unemployed. Actually, from CAFB's latest hunger report, 76 percent are working. In fact, one in five is working more than one job.

Mahjoub: SNAP [the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly known as food stamps] requires recipients to be either working or looking for a job. It's also hard to afford rent and day care on a full-time minimum wage. Day care, housing, food—these are choices people are having to make.

Mills: Housing prices locally are driven up by UVA, by students. Families often come to L&F for food just trying to keep a roof over their heads.

Mascarenhas: Another myth is that hunger is an individual failing. In fact, it derives from societal factors like wage stagnation, wage theft and crippling medical debt. Longtime policies play a part as well. People should know about the Robinson-Patman Act of 1936, which banned price discrimination by retailers. The law made it illegal for suppliers to arrange discounted deals with larger retailers and for retailers to demand them. Wonky, but it was enforced in the 1950s and '60s and significantly less since the '80s, even though it's still on the books, which is a large reason why small, local grocery stores are essentially priced out of the market.

Freedman: A myth is that everyone in need is living in poverty. Actually, with this problem touching 13.5 percent of all households, you probably know someone who's food insecure. The problem can certainly be present in households making more than 130 percent of the poverty line, even 200 percent.

Mills: Sometimes you see Mercedes and Hummers in the food line. We tell volunteers, you don't know if they're living in that vehicle. It may be their only asset right now.

Freedman: It might not even be their car! Maybe a neighbor drove.

Mills: Another myth is about greedy people and free food. Trust me, they don't *want* to be here. It's painful and embarrassing and difficult.

Chitwood: There's also a myth that food banks just hand a bag of canned goods to people in line. Last year 40 percent of what CAFB provided was fresh fruits and vegetables, which are crucial to health and hard to access, often because of cost. Plus, we work with 400 nonprofit partners, and many are switching to a client-choice model where clients "shop" for their needs. This reduces food waste and increases the dignity of the experience.

What does this hunger problem mean to America's social safety net, and to our social contract generally?

Mahjoub: Would you be able to concentrate in school on an empty stomach?

Mills: L&F does a feeding program with an elementary school in Albemarle County; a high number of students rely on us for two meals a day on weekends. We always think about those kids when school is on break.

Mascarenhas: There's a lot of research about hunger and students' ability to learn. And not just kids; it's really hard to work when you're hungry. Ultimately, it affects your ability to have a satisfying life.

Chitwood: Food-insecure people are over twice as likely to suffer chronic illnesses related to diet such as diabetes, hypertension or heart disease. When everyone has enough to eat, everyone benefits.

Freedman: Because of its size—in fiscal 2023, the SNAP program was $113 billion—SNAP is always politically contentious. It's part of the farm bill. But a big problem is that America has set up an *emergency* food system as a response to *systemic* problems in our society.

What programs are helping to increase food options in Virginia and beyond?

Mascarenhas: A holistic example is the Detroit Black Community Food Sovereignty Network, which includes a grocery store, a food co-op, a farm and community education. All of these work together democratically.

Chitwood: CAFB has two "curbside groceries"—food trucks that circulate in D.C.'s Ward 8 and in Maryland's Prince George's County in high-need areas where there's no full-service grocery store. They bring fresh produce, proteins and such to gathering spots like churches and schools, and people can choose what they like. We make things as affordable as possible and accept SNAP benefits. As funds become available, we plan to expand the program.

Mahjoub: FoodRecovery.org, where I work, moved 82 million pounds of food in 2024 alone. Someone has a truckload of bananas; they can call us, and we connect and direct it to a shelter, food bank or other nonprofit helping people in need. We act as matchmakers in every state, Canada and Mexico.



> “Food-insecure people are over twice as likely to suffer chronic illnesses related to diet such as diabetes, hypertension or heart disease. When everyone has enough to eat, everyone benefits.”
>
> — ***Riley Chitwood (Col ’19)*** *of the Capital Area Food Bank*

What is the role of business leaders; federal, state and local government; nonprofits; neighbors; and so on in hunger?

Mahjoub: Everyone has a part to play. Policymakers, organizations like us, individual donors who sustain nonprofits. Corporate partners allow us to do more on a large scale. Churches and nonprofits can’t do it all. Neither should policymakers be making unilateral decisions.

Chitwood: Remember local farmers among those groups. Those that CAFB works with both donate and sell us food, and some offer gleaning opportunities.

Mills: Our recipients may believe we are federally or state funded. We are not. Most nonprofits like L&F were started as church-based missions. We rely on the regional food bank for 50 percent of the food we offer, and it relies fully on the U.S. Department of Agriculture. When their supply decreases, so does ours. Another 35 percent comes from grocery stores. When prices rise, our donations fall because they’re doing everything to sell products before they donate. Private industry [individual and corporate food donations] cannot pick all this up.

Chitwood: Some corporations and other businesses formally volunteer their time, though, which is a vital support. We welcome businesses of all sizes, government and military groups, students, and so on to sort donations and pack boxes.

Freedman: One of the last Charlottesville supermarkets that people could walk to, Reid Super-Save Market on Preston Avenue, recently closed after 40 years. A group is trying to get a grocery store to return to the Fifeville neighborhood. So there’s a role for local government and community organizations to work with business leaders to get grocery stores into food desert areas.

What other creative solutions are helping now?

Mascarenhas: School gardens and farms are awesome examples of important opportunities for children to participate in the food system. They really learn where produce comes from, how nature works, and provide healthy local foods that they grow themselves for their families. In neighborhoods, community garden spaces and composting can help people think about food and food waste while harvesting their own and not having to use the grocery store for everything. As we saw at the height of COVID, the supply chain can be fickle and disrupted. It’s important to maintain this tradition for resilience and sustainability.

Freedman: The nonprofit Cultivate Charlottesville has a program, Urban Agriculture Collective, that works with residents of low-income housing to grow and harvest produce. They’ve grown as much as 17,000 pounds of fruits and vegetables a year and shared it with hundreds of neighbors. Unfortunately, development has taken away some of the available land. They’re trying to identify new sites, maybe even on rooftops.

Mahjoub: Community fridges operate like those Little Free Libraries but are refrigerated and well kept. We are seeing more and more of these. And a plug: Organizations like FoodRecovery.org are a lifeline for many communities in desperate need. A $32 donation feeds a family of four for a month. That’s the power of scale.

Chitwood: Often nonprofits work together, pairing food with other services. For instance, a CAFB partner, Mother of Light Center in Alexandria, Virginia, offers a literacy program for children whose first language isn’t English and a sewing school for single mothers to learn a marketable skill. As another example, hospitals and clinics screen for food insecurity, and some have a “food pharmacy” that then fills prescriptions for groceries medically tailored for the patient’s condition. Say a parent brings a child with diabetes to Children’s National Hospital in D.C. At every appointment, they can pick up 30 to 40 pounds of proteins, produce and whole grains in reusable bags and get connected to other food services in the area.

Mascarenhas: The Federation of Virginia Food Banks is expanding its “Food Is Medicine” programming, such as the Virginia Healthy Pantry Initiative, to improve nutritional content and client choice. The focus is on healthy, fresh, local, culturally relevant food and focused on choices and nutritional education.

Chitwood: CAFB also works with Northern Virginia Community College and George Mason University, for instance, offering food-insecure students grocery gift cards. Without having to choose between going to class and finding food, they can stay in school and on the path to financial stability and economic mobility.

Freedman: We have no shortage of solutions. Policymakers, nonprofits and community organizations on the ground know what works when it comes to food insecurity. The question is whether we have the collective political will and political leadership to address these addressable challenges.

Ellen Ryan is a writer based in Rockville, Maryland.

VICTORIA BORGES

THE BEST OF THE BEST

Our entirely arguable, semi-objective list of UVA's top athletes of all time

BY ED MILLER AND SARAH LINDENFELD HALL



It's an inexact science, comparing athletes across different sports and generations. It's especially challenging at UVA, which has fielded intercollegiate teams since 1877 and currently competes in 27 varsity sports.

With that disclaimer, here's our compilation of the top athletes, both at UVA and from UVA, narrowed down from the thousands who have competed in orange and blue over the decades.

Our main criterion was each athlete's achievement, at the highest level. Included are Olympic gold medalists, world champions, members of various halls of fame, professional all-stars, NCAA team and individual champions, national players of the year, and those who earned first-team All-American honors several times.

Success has not been attained evenly across sports, so we had to grade on a curve, if you will. The bar for being considered an all-time great women's swimmer, for example, is higher than for most other Cavalier teams. A total of 16 women's swimmers have competed in the Olympics. To stand out in that crowd, one would have to have won at least one gold medal, or multiple medals.

Similarly, through the 2024 season, 57 men's lacrosse players were named first-team All-American at least once. As incredible an achievement as that is, making the cut as a UVA LAX all-time great requires more.

Inevitably, many amazing athletes were left out. So, with an open invitation for you to add to it, here's our list.



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY RYAN OLBRYSH



BASEBALL

Ryan Zimmerman (Col '06)
On the heels of an All-American season at UVA, Zimmerman was the No. 4 pick in the 2005 Major League Baseball draft. He played 17 years for the Washington Nationals, made two All-Star teams, and won one Gold Glove and two Silver Slugger awards.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Buzzy Wilkinson (Col '55, Law '62)
Voted a first-team All-American in 1955, Wilkinson still holds Virginia and ACC records for single-season and career scoring average (32.1 and 28.6 points per game).

Barry Parkhill (Educ '73)
The first Virginia player to be voted ACC Player of the Year, Parkhill was also chosen as the ACC's male athlete of the year in 1972, when he led the Cavaliers to their first top-10 ranking and was voted a first-team All-American by the U.S. Basketball Writers Association.

Jeff Lamp (Col '81)
A four-time All-ACC pick, Lamp scored 2,317 career points and was voted a first-team All-American by the U.S. Basketball Writers Association in 1981.

Bryant Stith (Col '92)
Virginia's all-time scoring leader with 2,516 points, Stith played 10 seasons in the NBA. →



STEPHEN DUNN / GETTY IMAGES

Dawn Staley (Col '92) | *Women's basketball*

Inside UVA women's basketball's 2024-25 fact book, Dawn Staley's name appears 120 times. The honors include most outstanding player in the 1991 Final Four and most outstanding player in three NCAA regional tournaments. Among UVA's women, Staley remains one of only three to have scored more than 2,000 points, coming in at No. 2 with 2,135. And she still holds UVA's record for career triple-doubles with two.

Since leaving the 'Hoos, Staley has dominated the sport. She played eight seasons in the WNBA and won Olympic gold medals with the USA Basketball team in 1996, 2000 and 2004, among other international wins. She started coaching in 2000, eventually serving as head coach of the national team from 2017 to 2021, leading the U.S. women to gold at the 2020 Tokyo Games and multiple world championships.

Women's basketball fans across the country, however, might now know her best for her current role: head coach of the University of South Carolina women's team. In 16 seasons with the Gamecocks, Staley has notched three national championships and nine SEC tournament titles. She's been named National Coach of the Year five times.

For Staley, all that success in coaching comes from relationships and discipline, she's said. "I truly believe that the disciplined person can do anything, so I try to set up a platform on which student-athletes can be disciplined."

Malcolm Brogdon (Col '15, Batten '16)
Recently completing his ninth NBA season, Brogdon was a first-team All-American in 2016 and NBA Rookie of the Year in 2017.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Donna Holt (Educ '88)
Holt was a two-time All-American and the ACC player of the year in 1988. She remains UVA's career leader in steals, with 529, and was the second female player to have her jersey retired.

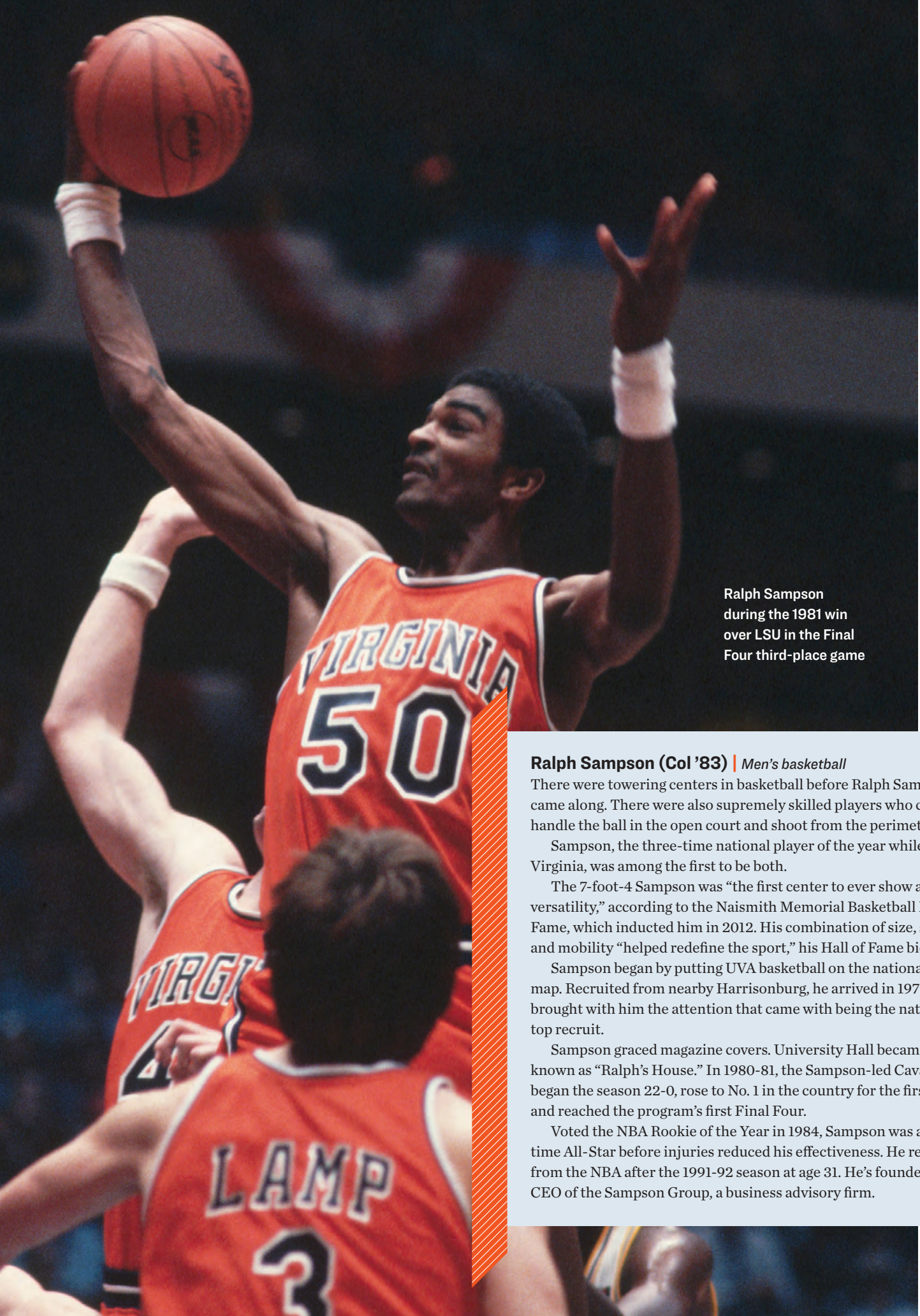
Tammi Reiss (Educ '92)
Still UVA's career leader in 3-point shooting percentage, Reiss won All-American honors in 1991 and 1992 and played two years in the WNBA. The head coach at the University of Rhode Island since 2019, she was an assistant coach on the U.S. 3x3 team in the 2024 Olympics.

Wendy Palmer (Col '96)
A two-time All-American and two-time ACC player of the year, Palmer was the first UVA player to total more than 1,000 career points and 1,000 career rebounds. She played 11 seasons in the WNBA.

Monica Wright Rogers (Col '10)
Rogers is not only UVA's all-time leading scorer, with 2,540 points, but she was also an elite defender, earning National Defensive Player of the Year honors in 2010. She played seven seasons in the WNBA and was recently named general manager of Canada's first WNBA team, the Toronto Tempo.

BOXING

Ray Schmidt (Col '39, Educ '64)
When boxing was the biggest sport at UVA, Schmidt was king of the ring, winning NCAA titles at light heavyweight in 1937 and 1938. →



Ralph Sampson during the 1981 win over LSU in the Final Four third-place game

© WALLY MCNAMEE / CORBIS VIA GETTY IMAGES

Ralph Sampson (Col '83) | *Men's basketball*

There were towering centers in basketball before Ralph Sampson came along. There were also supremely skilled players who could handle the ball in the open court and shoot from the perimeter.

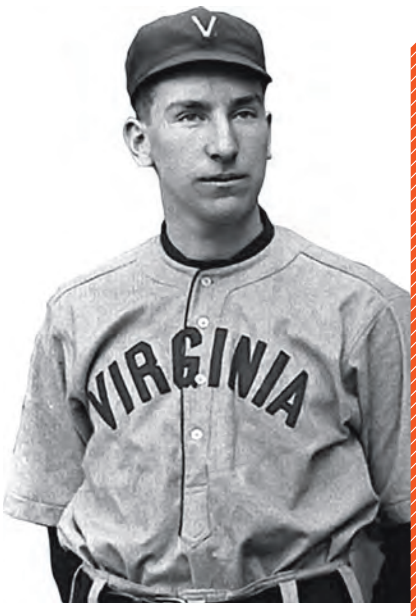
Sampson, the three-time national player of the year while at Virginia, was among the first to be both.

The 7-foot-4 Sampson was "the first center to ever show all-court versatility," according to the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame, which inducted him in 2012. His combination of size, skill and mobility "helped redefine the sport," his Hall of Fame bio reads.

Sampson began by putting UVA basketball on the national map. Recruited from nearby Harrisonburg, he arrived in 1979 and brought with him the attention that came with being the nation's top recruit.

Sampson graced magazine covers. University Hall became known as "Ralph's House." In 1980-81, the Sampson-led Cavaliers began the season 22-0, rose to No. 1 in the country for the first time, and reached the program's first Final Four.

Voted the NBA Rookie of the Year in 1984, Sampson was a four-time All-Star before injuries reduced his effectiveness. He retired from the NBA after the 1991-92 season at age 31. He's founder and CEO of the Sampson Group, a business advisory firm.



Eppa Rixey (Col 1912, Grad 1920) | *Baseball*

Eppa Rixey was an anomaly in the rough-and-tumble world of early 20th-century Major League Baseball. Not only was he a college graduate, but he also never played in the minor leagues.

A lanky, 6-foot-5 left-handed pitcher, Rixey was "discovered" by National League umpire Cy Rigler, who also coached at UVA. The Philadelphia Phillies signed Rixey based on Rigler's recommendation, and he made his professional debut in June 1912, just weeks after finishing a chemistry degree at UVA.

Still not convinced that he wouldn't rather be a chemist than a big-league pitcher, Rixey refused to sign a contract in 1913 until the Phillies agreed to let him stay at UVA until June to work toward his master's degree. He also earned a master's in Latin and taught high school Latin in the offseason.

Rixey's career was interrupted by his service with the U.S. Army's Chemical Warfare Division during World War I. He struggled to regain his form after returning home but eventually became one of the top pitchers of the 1920s with the Cincinnati Reds. He retired in 1933 with 266 wins, which stood as a record for a left-handed pitcher in the National League until 1959.

Rixey also had 251 losses and, when elected to the Hall of Fame in 1963, joked that "they must be scraping the bottom of the barrel." He remains the only former UVA player enshrined in Cooperstown.

FIELD HOCKEY

Paige Selenski (Col '13)
A three-time first-team All-American, Selenski is Virginia's career leader in points and was a member of the 2012 Olympic team.

Tara Vittese (Col '18)
Vittese was the only player to win National Player of the Year three times. She and her sister, **Michelle Vittese (Col '13)**, a two-time Olympian, were on the 2018 World Cup team.

FOOTBALL

Bill Dudley (Educ '42)
"Bullet Bill" Dudley was the first UVA player to be voted first-team Associated Press All-American, and he won the Maxwell Award as the nation's top player in 1941. Dudley ran, passed, caught passes, punted, placekicked, returned kicks and played defense. Voted NFL MVP in 1946, he was elected to the College Football Hall of Fame in 1956 and the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1966.

Joe Palumbo (Col '52)
A star of Virginia's standout teams of the late 1940s and early 1950s, Palumbo was an All-American at middle guard in 1951 and was elected to the College Football Hall of Fame in 1999.

Henry Jordan (Com '57)
Jordan was not only an All-ACC defensive lineman, but he also finished second in the heavyweight division at the 1957 NCAA wrestling tournament. One of the stars of the Green Bay Packers' championship teams of the 1960s, Jordan was elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1995.

Tom Scott (Educ '53) | *Football, lacrosse, baseball, basketball*

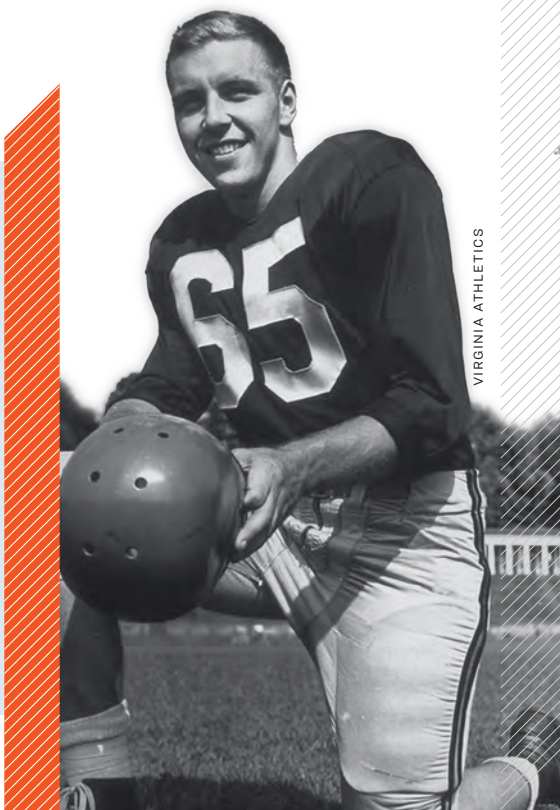
When Tom Scott died in 2015 at age 84, a column in *The Daily Progress* asserted that he was the "greatest athlete in the University of Virginia's history."

At a minimum, Scott seems indisputably to have been the busiest. A man of all seasons, he was an All-American in football and lacrosse. He also played baseball and basketball and possibly entered the odd track meet. He earned seven varsity letters.

Scott played offensive and defensive end for the Cavalier football team, helping lead it to an 8-1 record in 1951 and an 8-2 record in 1952, when he was selected as an All-American. He was a defenseman on UVA's national championship lacrosse team in 1952 and was named a first-team All-American in 1953.

Scott is generally credited with playing four sports, but his Alumni Association record also lists him as a member of the track and field team.

Scott played 12 seasons in the NFL. He was named All-Pro twice and played in three NFL title games. He had a long career as an insurance executive after retiring from football.



VIRGINIA ATHLETICS

Jim Dombrowski (Col '85, Educ '91)
UVA's first-ever consensus first-team All-American, Dombrowski won the Jacobs Blocking Trophy as the ACC's top offensive lineman in 1984 and 1985. He played 11 seasons in the NFL and was elected to the College Football Hall of Fame in 2008.

Chris Slade (Col '93)
Slade was the second UVA player to earn first-team All-American honors for two seasons and still holds the ACC record for career sacks. He played nine seasons as a linebacker in the NFL.

Ronde Barber (Com '97)
A star from the moment he arrived on Grounds with twin brother **Tiki Barber (Com '97)**, Ronde Barber was a three-time All-ACC selection who had one of the greatest careers by a cornerback in NFL history. Barber played 16 seasons, was selected to five Pro Bowls, set a league record for a defensive back with 215 consecutive starts, and had more quarterback sacks than any cornerback ever. He was elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 2023.

Anthony Poindexter (Col '99)
A dominant safety who was a three-time All-ACC pick, the ACC Defensive Player of the Year, and a two-time first-team All-American, Poindexter was elected to the College Football Hall of Fame in 2020. After his pro career was cut short by injuries, he turned to coaching and is currently an assistant coach at Penn State.

Connor Shellenberger (Col '23) | *Men's lacrosse*

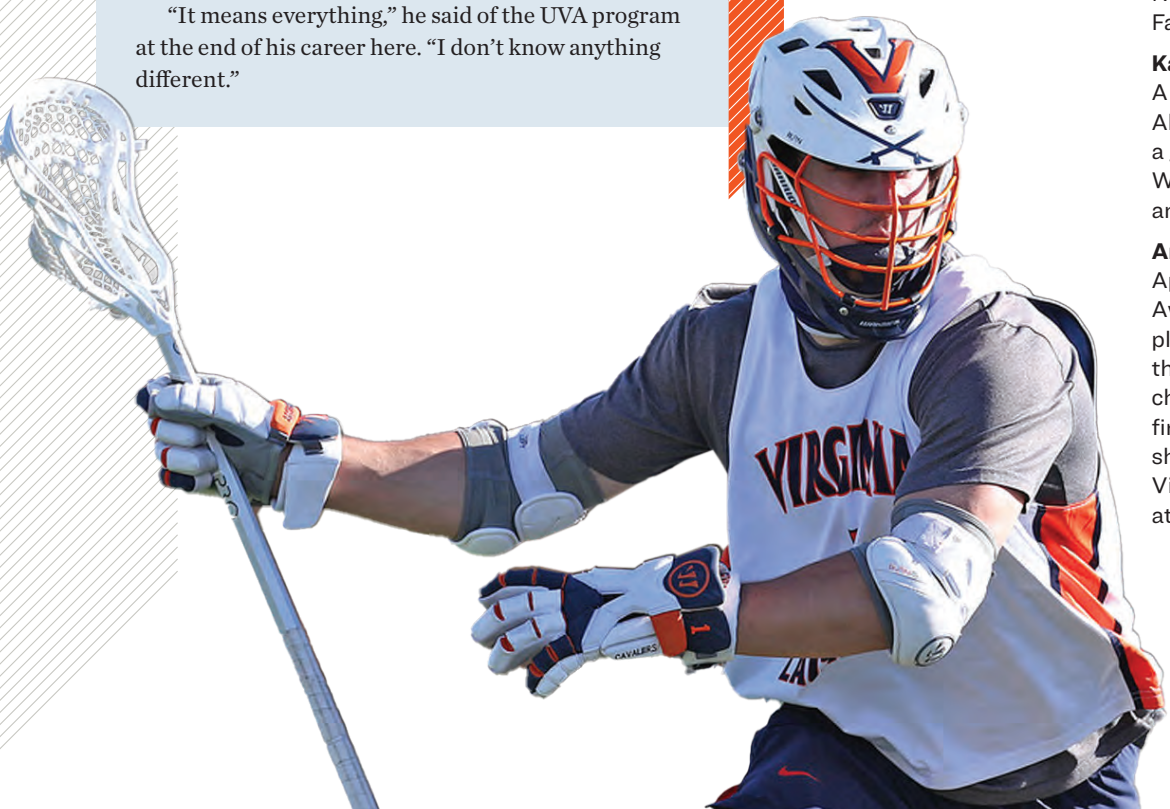
Connor Shellenberger grew up watching Virginia lacrosse. He finished his UVA career widely regarded as the greatest player in program history.

The Cavaliers have won nine national championships and produced 57 first-team All-Americans. Shellenberger is the program's only four-time first-team All-American, as well as its all-time leader in points.

Dubbed "Mr. May" for his clutch performances in the NCAA tournament, Shellenberger quarterbacked the Virginia offense, setting up his teammates with precision passes. He was also a prolific scorer, scoring 131 career goals.

Shellenberger grew up in Charlottesville and began attending games when he was a grade-schooler. He was the nation's top recruit while at St. Anne's-Belfield School and committed to UVA as a high school sophomore.

"It means everything," he said of the UVA program at the end of his career here. "I don't know anything different."



VIRGINIA ATHLETICS

MEN'S GOLF

Dixon Brooke (Com '41)
Brooke won the NCAA golf title in 1940, the second year the tournament was played.

WOMEN'S GOLF

Lauren Coughlin (Col '15, Educ '16)
A two-time All-ACC pick and an ACC individual champion, Coughlin won two events on the LPGA tour in 2024 and ranked 10th in prize money.

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Robyn Nye (Educ '91)
Nye led Virginia to the NCAA championship in 1991 and was named National Defensive Player of the Year.

Cherie Greer (Col '94)
Greer was a three-time first-team All-American and the Division I Defensive Player of the Year at UVA. She was a member of four World Cup teams, won three world championships and was inducted into the National Lacrosse Hall of Fame in 2009.

Kara Ariza (Col '99)
A three-time first-team All-American, Ariza won a gold medal with the U.S. World Cup team in 2001 and silver in 2005.

Amy Appelt (Col '05)
Appelt won the Tewaaraton Award as the nation's top player in 2004 while leading the Cavaliers to a national championship. A three-time first-team All-American, she was selected as Virginia's best female athlete in 2004 and 2005. →



Lindsay Shoop (Col '03) | *Women's rowing*

Lindsay Shoop swam, rode horses, and played field hockey, volleyball and basketball while growing up in Charlottesville. When she arrived at UVA, however, she figured her athletic career was over.

"I didn't think I was good enough to play a sport in college," she said.

Virginia rowing coach Kevin Sauer disagreed. When Shoop ran into Sauer, a family friend, during her third year at UVA, he asked her to come out for his team. It wasn't the first time he'd asked, and Shoop, who was struggling with her grades and her weight at the time, finally took him up on his offer.

Shoop was a quick study. By her second year on the team, she was an All-American. After she left UVA, she trained with the U.S. national team, launching a long international career highlighted by an Olympic gold medal in 2008 and three world championships.

"Rowing was an outlet for personal growth and transformation," said Shoop, who is now a coach, commentator, author and motivational speaker.

MEN'S LACROSSE

Chris Rotelli (Col '03)
Rotelli was voted ACC Male Athlete of the Year in 2003, when he also won the Tewaaraton Award as the nation's top lacrosse player.

Matt Ward (Com '06)
Ward set a record for most goals in the NCAA tournament with 16 in 2006, when he also won the Tewaaraton Award.

Ken Clausen (Col '10)
A defenseman, Clausen was the first three-time first-team All-American in school history and a finalist for the Tewaaraton Award.

Steele Stanwick (Col '12)
Stanwick won the Tewaaraton Award in 2011, leading the Cavaliers to a national championship that year and was a two-time first-team All-American. He went on to play seven seasons in Major League Lacrosse.

MEN'S ROWING

Tom Amlong (Educ '61)
Amlong was serving in the U.S. Army when he became the first Virginia graduate to win an Olympic gold medal in any sport, in men's eight at the 1964 Games.

Wyatt Allen (Col '01)
Allen never rowed before coming to UVA but learned quickly and was training with the Under-23 national team by his third year. He won Olympic gold in men's eight in 2004 and bronze in 2008.

WOMEN'S ROWING

Christine Roper (Col '11)
Roper won a gold medal in women's eight for Canada in the 2020 Olympics and has won six World Rowing Championships medals.

Susanne Grainger (Col '13)
Grainger won a gold medal in women's eight for Canada in the 2020 Olympics and five medals total in the World Rowing Championships from 2013 to 2018.

Angela Hucles Mangano (Col '00)

Women's soccer

For one 16-day stretch in 1996, Angela Hucles Mangano was on fire. After scoring on Sept. 21, she scored her team's next six goals over that span, still the most consecutive goals by one player in program history.

But that's just a glimpse of her impact on the team. Hucles Mangano remains UVA's all-time career leader in game-winning goals, with 19 to her name. For those efforts and more, Hucles Mangano earned first team All-ACC honors all four years.



Her post-UVA career is just as impressive. On the U.S. Women's National Team for seven years, Hucles Mangano earned gold medals in the 2004 and 2008 Olympics and bronze in the 2003 and 2007 World Cup championships.

She played soccer professionally before moving into sports broadcasting and leadership, including serving as president of the Women's Sports Foundation, founded by tennis great Billie Jean King. In recent years, Hucles Mangano served as general manager for Angel City FC before being named president of women's soccer for the Houston Dash in December 2024.

She makes time to return to Grounds as well. From 2019 to 2023, she served on UVA's Board of Visitors.

VIRGINIA ATHLETICS



Kate Douglass (Col '23, Grad '28) | *Women's swimming and diving*

Even as a first-year at UVA, Douglass was breaking records, taking home All-American honors in the breaststroke, butterfly and individual medley in 2020. But Douglass wasn't close to hitting her stride yet—for UVA or on the world stage.

Five years later, Douglass is one of the sport's brightest stars. She's won five Olympic medals (two gold, two silver, one bronze) and 14 medals at the World Aquatics Championships. Known for her versatility, Douglass was the first NCAA swimmer to win individual titles in three strokes—freestyle, butterfly and breaststroke. She won seven individual NCAA titles from 2021 to 2023, helping to launch the Cavaliers' college swimming dynasty.

She's also leaving her mark outside the sport. Dubbed by leading mathematician Florian Luca as the "fastest mathematician in the pool," Douglass is working toward a master's degree in statistics at UVA and has collaborated on multiple academic papers in the field.

But she's still in the pool, too. At the December 2024 short-course world championships, Douglass set world records in the 200-meter IM and 200-meter breaststroke. And in March, she took home more first-place finishes in freestyle and breaststroke at a pro swim series event.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Becky Sauerbrunn (Col '08)
The ACC Defensive Player of the Year in 2007, Sauerbrunn was on U.S. national teams that won the World Cup in 2015 and 2019, an Olympic gold medal in 2012 and bronze in 2021.

Emily Sonnett (Col '15)
The ACC Defensive Player of the Year in 2015 and a first-team All-American, Sonnett was on the U.S. teams that won the World Cup in 2019 and an Olympic gold medal in 2024.

Morgan (Brian) Gautrat (Educ '17)
The two-time national player of the year, Gautrat won World Cup championships in 2015 and 2019 as a member of the U.S. women's national team.

MEN'S SOCCER

Tony Meola (Col '91)
A goalkeeper, Meola was a two-time All-American and was also voted national player of the year. He captained the U.S. World Cup team in 1994, played 11 seasons in Major League Soccer and was league MVP in 2000. He was inducted into the National Soccer Hall of Fame in 2012.

Claudio Reyna (Col '95)
A three-time All-American and two-time national player of the year, Reyna led the Cavaliers to championships in each of his three seasons. He captained the U.S. World Cup teams in 2002 and 2006 and was the first American to win a first-division title in Europe. Reyna was inducted into the National Soccer Hall of Fame in 2012.

Mike Fisher (Col '97, Med '02)
A two-time national player of the year and Virginia's career leader in points, Fisher passed on pro soccer to attend medical school and works as a radiologist in Wilmington, North Carolina.

Ben Olsen (Col '99)
Olsen was *Soccer America* player of the year in 1997. He played 12 seasons in Major League Soccer and won MLS Rookie of the Year in 1998. He was a member of the U.S. national team from 1998 to 2006 and played in the 2006 World Cup.

WOMEN'S SWIMMING

Melanie Valerio (Col '91, Educ '00)
The 1990 ACC Swimmer of the Year, Valerio won gold in the 4x100-meter freestyle relay at the 1996 Olympics. She was the first swimmer ever sponsored by Nike.

Lauren Perdue (Col '13)
The 2011 ACC Swimmer of the Year, Perdue won gold in the 4x200-meter freestyle relay at the 2012 Olympics.

Leah Smith (Col '17)
After winning four individual NCAA titles for the Cavaliers, Smith won gold in the 4x200-meter freestyle relay and bronze in the 400-meter freestyle at the 2016 Olympics. →

VIRGINIA ATHLETICS

Gretchen Walsh (Com '25) | *Women's swimming and diving*

Gretchen Walsh ended her UVA swimming career this past year, leaving plenty of accomplishments in her wake, including four ACC and NCAA team titles and lots of broken records. But that's just her collegiate career.

At the international level, so far, Walsh has four Olympic medals—two gold and two silver from the 2024 Games in Paris. A few months later, at the 2024 World Aquatics Championships, she won gold in all five of her individual events and two relays, setting 11 world records along the way.

Walsh's time at UVA was meant to be short-lived. She planned to leave after her second year to capitalize on professional earnings. Opportunities, however, to earn through name, image and likeness (NIL) deals allowed her to stay. "NIL has been the biggest blessing in my life from a financial perspective," she told UVA's School of Commerce, "because it allowed me to have a lot of opportunities to make a name for myself outside of just swimming at UVA."

On both the UVA and national teams, Walsh frequently shares the stage with her sister, **Alex Walsh (Col '24)**, another record-breaking swimmer and Olympic medalist. Their latest collaboration is a podcast, launched in March, called "Kicking It With the Walsh Sisters."



Gretchen Walsh celebrates breaking the world record in the women's 50-meter butterfly semifinal at the World Aquatics Swimming Championships in 2024.

Paige Madden (Educ '21)
Madden won three individual NCAA titles and has three Olympic medals. She took silver in the 4x200-meter freestyle relay and bronze in the individual 800-meter freestyle at the 2024 Games and silver in the 4x200-meter freestyle relay at the 2020 Games.

Alex Walsh (Col '24)
Walsh swam on all five of UVA's NCAA championship teams, winning nine individual and 14 relay titles. She took silver in the 200 individual medley at the 2020 Olympics and competed again at the 2024 Games.

Emma Weber (Batten '26)
Weber won gold in the 4x100-meter medley relay at the 2024 Olympics.

MEN'S SWIMMING

Ed Moses (Educ '04)
A breaststroke specialist, Moses won gold and silver medals at the 2000 Olympics. He set several world records, either individually or as a member of a medley relay team, and won two individual NCAA championships for UVA.

Matt McLean (Col '11)
McLean won gold as a member of the U.S. 4x200-meter freestyle relay team at the 2012 Olympics. He won the NCAA championship in the 500-yard freestyle in 2011.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Danielle Collins (Col '16)
Collins won two NCAA singles titles and reached a ranking of No. 7 in the world as a professional.

Emma Navarro (Col '24)
Navarro won the NCAA singles title as a first-year in 2021. She turned pro after her second year and reached the semifinals of the U.S. Open in 2024, attaining a ranking of No. 8 in the world.

MEN'S TENNIS

Somdev Devvarman (Col '08)
Devvarman won NCAA singles titles in 2007 and 2008 and was runner-up in 2006. As a professional, Devvarman reached the second round of all four Grand Slam tournaments. He was inducted into the ITA Men's Collegiate Tennis Hall of Fame in 2019. →

Jarmere Jenkins (Col '13) | *Men's tennis*

Jarmere Jenkins was aware of the select company he was joining when he was voted ACC Male Athlete of the Year in 2013.

Basketball legend Michael Jordan and two-time NFL MVP Lamar Jackson are among the familiar names who have won the award, first given out in 1954. Jenkins was the first tennis-only athlete to win it.

Jenkins had a season for the ages in 2013, leading the Cavaliers to the national championship. He finished second in singles and teamed with **Mac Styslinger (Col '16, Darden '21)** to win the doubles title. He was named both national tennis player of the year and MVP of the NCAA tournament.

"To join a group that includes so many great names, especially the ones that went on to become stars in the NFL and NBA, is a tremendous honor," he said at the time.

Jenkins played professional tennis until 2017. He served as the hitting partner for tennis great Serena Williams and is now head of tennis at Crimson Education, a multinational university admissions consultancy.



VIRGINIA ATHLETICS



TEAM USA

Margaret Groos Sloan (Col '81)
Women's cross country and track and field

Margaret Groos Sloan made history in 1977 when she became the first woman to receive a full athletic scholarship in track or cross country at UVA. At the time, she was a standout high school runner with a national high school record for the mile. She was just getting started.

While at UVA, Sloan notched several big wins, including being the national cross country champion in 1979; the ACC cross country champion in 1978; a two-time All-American in cross country, in 1978 and 1979; and an All-American in the 1,500 meters in 1979. Sloan's professional career includes winning the 1988 U.S. Olympic Trials for the marathon in a speedy 2:29:50. She ultimately placed 39th at the 1988 Seoul Olympics.

More than four decades later, she remains atop UVA's record books: Her 1981 record of 15:34.71 for the indoor 5,000 meters still stands.

DAVID BALOGH / GETTY IMAGES

Paul Ereng (Col '93) | *Men's track and field*
Paul Ereng had never competed in the 800 meters before he came to UVA in the fall of 1987, specializing instead in the 200 and 400.

A UVA assistant coach, Fred Hardy, suggested he give the longer distance a try.

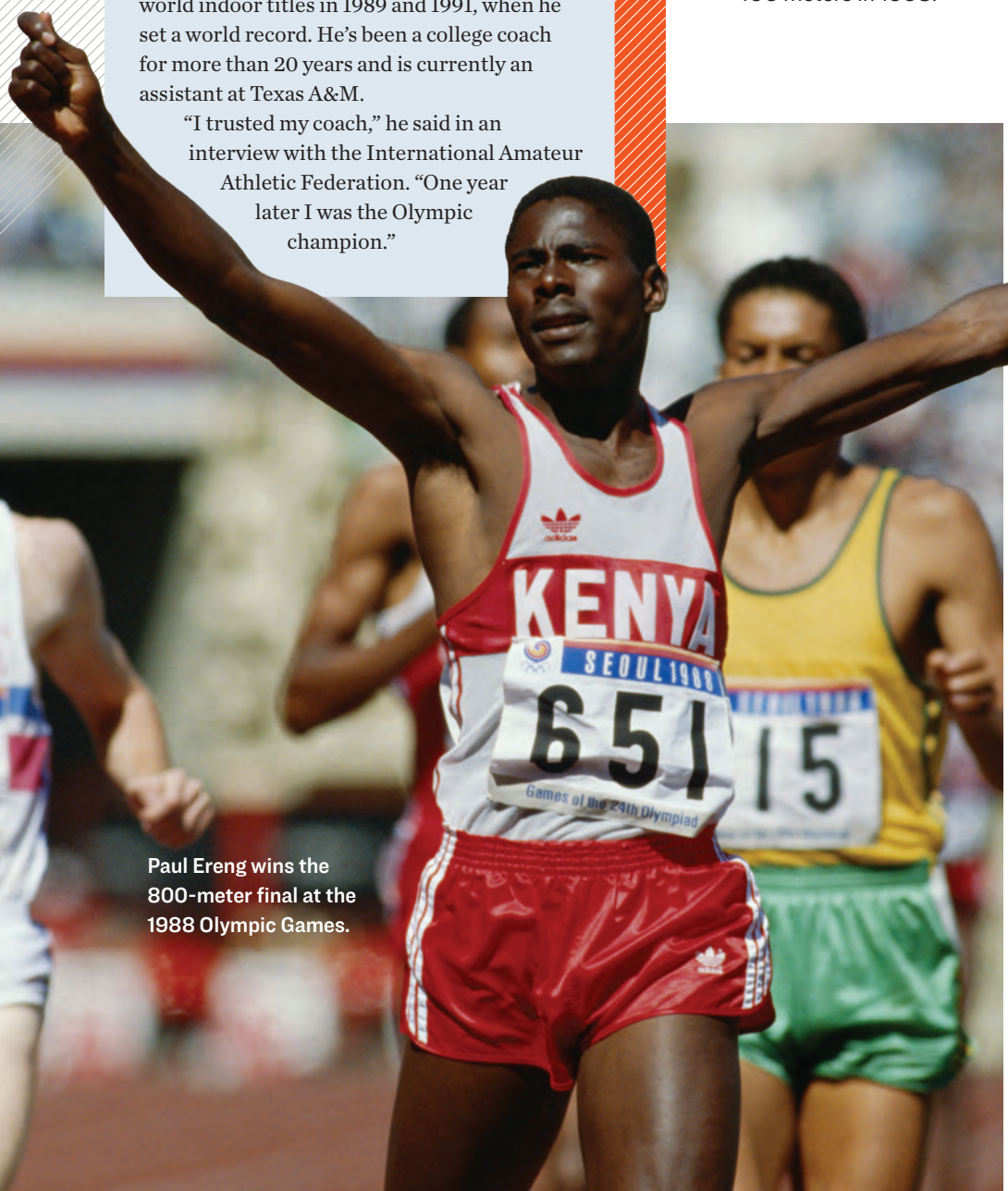
Ereng's improvement was remarkable. A year after he ran the 800 for the first time he won the gold medal in that distance at the 1988 Olympics.

Ereng had won the 800 meters at the NCAA championships but barely qualified for the Olympics, finishing third at the trials in his native Kenya. A relative unknown, he wasn't considered a medal contender.

In the final, however, Ereng outkicked the field with 100 meters left to win gold.

Ereng won two more NCAA titles and won world indoor titles in 1989 and 1991, when he set a world record. He's been a college coach for more than 20 years and is currently an assistant at Texas A&M.

"I trusted my coach," he said in an interview with the International Amateur Athletic Federation. "One year later I was the Olympic champion."



Paul Ereng wins the 800-meter final at the 1988 Olympic Games.

MIKE POWELL / GETTY IMAGES

WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD

Aileen O'Connor (Col '83)
NCAA champion in the 5,000 and 10,000 meters, O'Connor was a member of UVA's national championship cross country teams in 1981 and 1982.

Kiamesha Otey (Col '03)
Otey won ACC and USA Track & Field titles in the long jump.

MEN'S TRACK AND FIELD

James Rector (Law 1909)
Rector was the first UVA athlete to win an Olympic medal, taking silver in the 100 meters in 1908.

Robby Andrews (Educ '14)
Andrews won the NCAA title in the 800 meters in 2011, made the 2016 U.S. Olympic team, and won the 1,500 meters at the USA Track & Field championship in 2017.

Filip Mihaljević (Col '17)
Mihaljević won three NCAA titles, two in the shot put and one in discus. He won the shot put at the European Championships and a bronze medal at the World Indoor Championships. He holds Croatia's national record in the shot put.

WRESTLING

Chris Henrich (Col '11)
Henrich was the first three-time All-American in program history and is the career leader in wins with 136.

Virginia Magazine **senior writer Ed Miller** spent many evenings at Scott Stadium, University Hall, John Paul Jones Arena and other venues covering Cavalier sports as a newspaper reporter and has just about recovered from all those tight deadlines.

Writer Sarah Hall was the managing editor of the *Cavalier Daily* during UVA football's historic win over Florida State in 1995. She still has the front page framed and hanging in her house.

SOURCES: Virginia Athletics, Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame, Pro Football Hall of Fame, College Football Hall of Fame, National Baseball Hall of Fame, National Soccer Hall of Fame, Team USA, World Aquatics, World Athletics, Canadian Olympic Committee, Olympedia, *Virginia Magazine*, Major League Baseball, USA Lacrosse, USA Field Hockey, Sportico, NBC Sports, UVA Law, ESPN, WTA Tour, Intercollegiate Tennis Association, *The Daily Progress*, UVA Today, *The Daily Press*

STANDOUTS OFF THE FIELD

UVA grads have made their marks beyond stadiums, arenas, courts and pools. They've also influenced sports as executives, coaches, commentators and journalists. Here's a partial list of those who have made big impacts.



Val Ackerman speaks at the ESPNW Women + Sports Summit in 2022.

STEVEN FERDMAN/GETTY IMAGES

Val Ackerman (Col '81) | *Sports executive*

On the court, Val Ackerman was known for putting up points—or, as she told a reporter in 1979, "My real contribution is sticking the ball in the basket." The forward was the first UVA women's basketball player to score 1,000 points, totaling 1,316 across her four years at UVA.

Off the court, she was putting up plenty of points too. The political and social thought major was an academic all-star—earning Academic All-American honors in 1980 and 1981 and UVA's Jettie Hill Memorial Award for the highest GPA among UVA women athletes. She played professional basketball in France for a year after graduation before heading to UCLA for law school.

After a legal career that included a stint as an attorney and executive for the NBA, Ackerman launched an impressive run in sports leadership. She played a key role in assembling the 1995-96 USA Basketball Women's National Team, which went on a 60-0 winning streak and won gold at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics.

In 1996, she became founding president of the WNBA. And from 2005 to 2008, she served as president of USA Basketball, guiding both the men's and women's teams to gold in the 2008 Olympics in Beijing. Since 2013, her focus has been on college sports, serving as commissioner of the Big East Conference.



Bowie Kuhn (Law '50)
Kuhn became the fifth MLB commissioner in 1969 and served until 1984, a period in which the sport experienced labor strife, but also dramatic increases in attendance, revenue, player salaries and franchise values.

Donald Dell (Law '64)
A pioneer among sports agents, Dell founded a sports marketing company, ProServ, and represented athletes such as tennis player Jimmy Connors and basketball legend Michael Jordan.

Tim Finchem (Law '73)
Finchem was commissioner of the PGA Tour from 1994 to 2016, overseeing a boom in prize money and the sport's popularity during the Tiger Woods era.

Jonathan Mariner (Com '76)
Mariner served as chief financial officer and later chief investment officer for Major League Baseball during a 14-year career. He was previously executive vice president and CFO of the Florida Marlins.

Rick Carlisle (Col '84)
An NBA head coach since 2001, Carlisle led the Dallas Mavericks to the league championship in 2011, joining an exclusive club of people who have won titles as both a player and coach.

DeMaurice Smith (Law '89)
Smith served as executive director of the NFL Players Association from 2009 to 2023, a period in which the union nearly quadrupled its net assets.



Cory Alexander (Col '95)
A former NBA player, Alexander is a college basketball analyst for ESPN and a frequent color commentator on games on ESPN and the ACC Network.



UVA COMMUNICAITONS

Melissa Stark (Col '95)
A broadcast journalist, Stark is best known for her NFL coverage, working as sideline reporter for *Sunday Night Football* and *Monday Night Football* and as a host and reporter for the NFL Network.

Jenny Boucek (Educ '97)
A former second-team All-ACC player, Boucek was the third woman hired as an NBA assistant coach. After stints in Sacramento and Dallas, she's currently an assistant with the Indiana Pacers.



REMEMBERING JOHN CASTEEN

The following is adapted from President Ryan's remarks at President Emeritus John Casteen's memorial service on April 15, 2025, in Old Cabell Hall.

This will sound odd, I realize, but when I think about President John Casteen, I think about doors. Not the rock band, but actual and metaphorical doors. The doors John opened, the doors John knocked on, and the doors John built.

First, John gently coaxed me to consider walking through the doors of Madison Hall to become UVA's president. I called him when I was considering the job, and what I expected to be a 30-minute call turned into a two-hour conversation—one that we continued over the next seven years. In every conversation, it was clear to me that, for John, being president of the University of Virginia was the honor and privilege of a lifetime.

As president, John helped build the financial, physical and intellectual foundation on which the present version of UVA rests. Facing existential funding cuts from Richmond, John adopted the view that public universities needed a measure of financial and operational autonomy to continue to thrive. He worked tirelessly and eventually saw his ideas translated into legislation benefitting not only UVA but also the entire system of higher education in Virginia.

He also realized that financial autonomy requires private philanthropy. He was not afraid to knock on doors, and he knocked on a lot of them to lead not one but two successful capital campaigns and grow UVA's endowment from $488 million in 1990 to $5.1 billion in 2007. Through these efforts, John created something innovative and enduring—a public university atop a strong privately funded endowment.

John also *built* quite a few doors. On his watch, UVA took the shape of the UVA we know today. From education to engineering, the arts to architecture, McIntire to medical research and nursing, and JPJ to Klockner, UVA renovated, built or purchased more than 130 buildings under John's leadership. Today, it is hard to look around UVA and not see something connected to John's presidency.

As significant as these many accomplishments are, I believe John will be best remembered for opening doors for others. John and I were both first-generation college students. Others had opened the door to education and opportunity for us, and we shared a sense of responsibility to do the same for others.

John made UVA a place of large ambitions, and we are all the better because of it.

Together with the Board of Visitors, John created AccessUVA, a financial aid program that still today allows UVA to meet 100 percent of undergraduate students' demonstrated financial need—one of only two public universities to do so. John also opened doors to students from underrepresented populations and increased their enrollment significantly. He quadrupled the number of international students on Grounds and dramatically increased study-abroad programs. Women and African Americans grew their ranks among faculty. Charlottesville became an attractive destination for scholars from around the world, and UVA and the commonwealth were stronger for it.

John opened doors in other ways, too. For the many events he hosted at Carr's Hill, John made a point to greet visitors at the door. He knew that talking with people, face to face, set the tone for a place that was accessible and caring even as it maintained the highest levels of excellence and ambition. One of my fondest memories as president was returning the favor and welcoming John back for lunch at Carr's Hill. I must have heard from a dozen people that I had better be waiting for John at the front door when he arrived. Over a long lunch, John shared story after story of his time living in Carr's Hill and conveyed, as he always did, that being a part of this university—and being able to lead it—was a rare gift, worthy of our very best efforts.

Upon leaving the presidency, John offered these words about his legacy, and I believe they are more relevant than ever: "I hope that what survives," he said, "is the conception of the university as a place that really does belong to the people, as a place where excellence is pursued because it makes people free, as a place that is able to confront its weaknesses and find ways to remedy them, and finally as a place that is capable of large ambitions, and makes no apology for being ambitious."

John made UVA a place of large ambitions, and we are all the better because of it. I am enormously grateful to have known him and to have benefited from his wisdom and friendship. He will be deeply missed but forever remembered at UVA.

JSR

JAMES E. RYAN (LAW '92)
President of the University of Virginia

For the full remarks, visit uvamag.com/remembering-casteen


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NEW CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS

The following alumni recently demonstrated their commitment to the University of Virginia Alumni Association and its important programs and activities by becoming Contributing Members of the Association.

Lawrence P. Earle (Col '70, Arch '85)
Nina R. Sperber (Col '92)
Kimberly A. Ciconte (Col '93)
Shelley Huchel Guiley (Com '94)
Jeannine Lee Miller (Law '96)
Roland A. Oelschlager (Col '96)
Tasha Curry-Corcoran (Col '98)
Cristal H. Waldrop (Com '98)
Stephanie C. Blanch (Engr '99, '07)
Steven A. Garfinkel (Col '00)
Molly Dunavent Miracle (Col '01, Educ '01)
Christopher R. Chin-Young (Engr '04)
Megan Coltson Moyer (Col '04)
Christopher W. Karvetski (Col '05, Engr '11)
Tyronne A. Jolly (Darden '06)
William W. Watkins (Col '07)
Jamie R. Brown (Educ '13)
Maha H. Ahmed (Col '16)
Robert Daniel Lisenby (Educ '16)
Ann M. Nicholson (Col '19, Grad '20)
Dean Watkins (Col '19)
Bennett Gushue (Col '20)
Habibah D. Williams (Nurs '20, '22)
George C. Wozencraft (Col '21, Com '22)
Jenny Gopurathingal (Com '22)
Madeleine P. Gravely (Col '22)
Margaret L. Michael (Col '22)
Patrick S. Welch (Arch '22)
Justin M. Diehl (Educ '23, Com '24)
Anthony John O'Boyle (SCPS '23)
Anna M. Takis (Col '23)
Ashley Katherine Milligan (Com '24)
Clayton Jay Walther (Col '24, Grad '29)
Karenna Rose Barrales (Educ '25)
Elise Nicole Bishoff (Col '25)
Connor Gray Bowman (Col '25)
Nicholas Rever Chu (Col '25)
Nina Colbert Cushman (Col '25)
Natalie Elise Dahlquist (Engr '25)
Margaret Jane Hance (Batten '25)
Christian Gibbs Hooper Jr. (Engr '25)
Evangeline Lannon MacEwen (Col '25)
Jaeson Andrew Martin (Col '25)
Jack Harris Omohundro (Col '25)
Michael Justin Pandula (Engr '25)
Elizabeth E. Rambo (Col '25)
Thomas B. Setzer (Col '25)
Nicholas Richard James Shepard (Batten '25)
Nicholas Carl Whitener (Col '26)

With their new Contributing Membership, these Hoos can tap into **member benefits** like:

- **Active&Fit Direct program membership,** *which provides discounted membership options at over 12,500 gyms!*
- **Free career advising, including one-on-one sessions with a counselor** *(exclusive to Contributing Members!)*
- **Discount at the UVA Bookstore**
- **Access to an exclusive Perks Platform with special national offers on entertainment and travel**
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- **Membership Welcome Kit**
- ***And much more!***



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Time Capsule

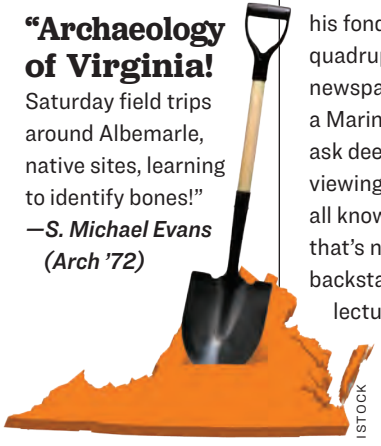
BY JUDY LE

What was the most memorable class that you took just for fun?

"Ballroom dancing. I loved learning the tango!"
—Denise Estes Mitchell (Col '79)

"A course called something like Personal Adjustment. The course was about how life adjustments in areas such as exercise, diet and communication can make us happier and healthier. That class has had more of an impact on who I am, on how I function and on the books I write than many of the classes required for my major."
—Meg Jay (Col '92)

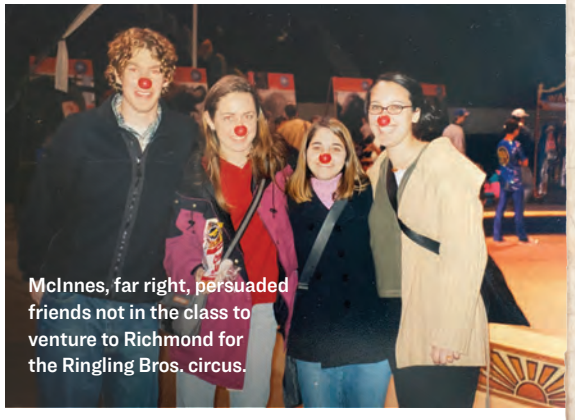
"Archaeology of Virginia! Saturday field trips around Albemarle, native sites, learning to identify bones!"
—S. Michael Evans (Arch '72)



ISTOCK

"Introduction to Stars, Galaxies, and the Universe with Matthew Pryal."
—Gabriel Angelus Nelson (Batten '25)

"Intermediate Cinematography."
—Shuqi Jiang (Engr '24)



McInnes, far right, persuaded friends not in the class to venture to Richmond for the Ringling Bros. circus.

Several alumni also mentioned **History of the Circus with LaVahn Hoh**. "It was amazing! Stupendous! The greatest course on Grounds!" writes **Tom Baker (Col '89)**. "After a semester of learning the logistics of traveling shows, we had to write a biography of a performer. I set my sights on a star so big that his name has entered the dictionary: Jumbo. Scrolling through microfilm reels of 19th-century newspapers, I found so many irresistible tidbits about the majestic pachyderm—such as his fondness for whiskey—that my paper swelled to quadruple the assigned length. And now, in my job with a newspaper in Japan, I have been able to instantly identify a Marinelli bend while covering Cirque du Soleil, and to ask deep questions about big-toed shoes when interviewing a Kinoshita Circus clown. It goes to show that all knowledge has value, even if learned just for fun. And that's no humbug." **Sarah McInnes (Col '02)** recalls a backstage tour with Ringling Bros. in Richmond and guest lecturers such as the head of clown alley and the man who shot out of the cannon. "The class was a lot of fun and a class that built a lot of community among students."



The class mentioned by the most alumni—spanning the 1980s to the 2000s—was **History of Jazz with Scott DeVeaux. Doug Evans (Col '95, Darden '06)** says it is still enriching his life 30-plus years later. **Jasmine Hall Ratliff (Col '99)** says: "My dad and grandfather are huge jazz fans, so I grew up listening to the music, and taking the class was a lot of fun. I got to learn some tidbits to take home and wow them with this new knowledge. I wish I'd kept the CD collection we used for class!"

"Music Theory III with Professor Michael Puri, a brilliant and dynamic lecturer who had the rare ability to be open-minded while still telling us when we were completely wrong about something. I'll never forget when he dissected the first song of Schumann's Kinderszenen in a way that I never had understood, despite having played it before." ***—Justin J. Kim (Col '11, Med '15)***

"French literature.
I was certain that I would never read these French authors unless 'forced,' so I was exposed to French literature for the sake of simply enjoying reading French literature in English, of course." ***—Stan Lefco (Col '68)***



ISTOCK

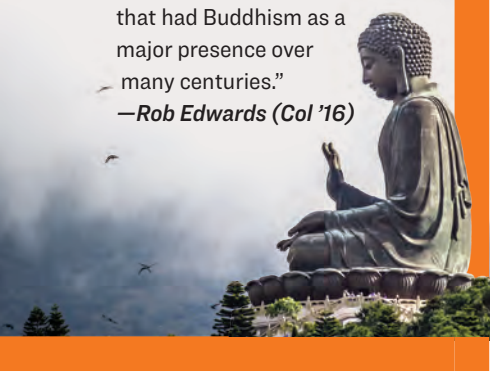
"Professor Stephen Cushman's class on the Bible. As an engineer, the opportunity to learn about history, culture and literature through this lens was an unparalleled experience."
—Caroline McNichols (Engr '19)

"Zen Buddhism.

I remember coming into the lecture hall one day and the professor turning the lights low and playing 'Shambala' by the Beastie Boys. I thought it was so cool that this older professor would play a song from one of my favorite bands and albums at the time!"*—Clarice Zusky (Col '04, Arch '10)*

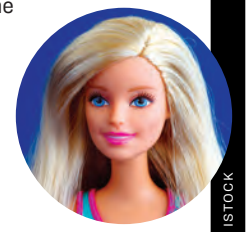
"Arts of the Buddhist World.

Professor Ehnbom was amazing. Lots of my prior exposure to art history had been pretty squarely focused on the Western canon. Eastern cultures are rarely mentioned. So the Buddhist art history class was eye-opening, learning about the super-rich histories of all these different nations that had Buddhism as a major presence over many centuries."
—Rob Edwards (Col '16)


ISTOCK

"Criminology." *—Sarah Hobbs (Col '01)*

"The Tyranny of Fashion. It addressed how clothing was used to suppress women's power throughout history and in various cultures. We discussed Chinese foot binding, genital mutilation, corsets, long skirts and other attire that practically restricted women's physical movement. One of my most vivid memories was the Barbie class where we talked about the fact that the doll's proportions were impossible to attain/sustain in human form. And this of course led to commentary about the standardized ideal of beauty in the U.S. and how flawed that was. A woman was so incensed that she actually got up and yelled 'F#$% YOU BARBIE!' and ran out of the class. I'll never forget that!"
—Arlova Jackson Vonhm (Col '96)


ISTOCK

"Fall of the Roman Republic. When Professor Meyer announced that weekly fake Roman elections would be held for a full-letter-grade boost on the final, the bribing and betrayal began. By the time our study sessions devolved into re-creations of the Ides of March, it had become a truly unique experience!"
—Annie von Dohlen (Col '27)



"The History of Sex!

I'll never forget that the graham crackers we know and still love today were named after a Minister Graham who invented them to quell lusty urges and masturbation." *—Emily Bittner (née Russell) (Col '08)*


COLUMBIA / EVERETT COLLECTION

"A film class: Love & Dating in the '90s.
My favorite thing about it was the introduction to older movies. The class watched and compared movies like *When Harry Met Sally* and *An Affair to Remember,* which I'd never seen. I was quite moved by it. Today, as a poet, author and English professor, I marvel at the diversity of courses that were available to me as a student at UVA in the early '90s."
—Latorial Faison (Col '95)

"Symbolic logic, a philosophy course that really taught logical thought and analysis. These skills have been useful in all aspects of my life!"
—Jeff McGowin (Col '79)



"The Dracula J-Term class was one of the most fascinating classes that I took at UVA. The professor, Stanley Stepanic, is larger than life and lives and breathes Slavic folklore and all things Dracula. He even has a collection of vampire-related kitsch, such as Count Chocula packaging, that he liked to show us during class. I think back to it often, and it's made me want to visit Transylvania in Romania to see Bran Castle in real life."
—Caroline Stratos (Col '21)

"Introduction to Mindfulness with Sam Green.

The class was ahead of its time with mindfulness, relaxation and meditation techniques. I still remember (and use) the body scan technique. And of course I can't forget the 'mindful eating' class, taking 20 minutes to eat a single almond!"
—Luke Secosky (Com '12)

For our next issue:

What are your favorite memories of Alumni Hall? Tell us all about it at uvamag.com/timecapsules and we'll select some to run in the Fall issue.

Class Notes

Indicates a corresponding photograph or video online at **uvamagazine.org/classnotes**.

CM Indicates Contributing Member of the Alumni Association

'60s

Eric Kalkhurst (Col '68 CM) was accepted into the M.A./Ph.D. psychology, religion and consciousness program of Pacifica Graduate Institute for fall 2025.

Richard Katholi (Med '68, Intern '69, Res '70, Fellow '75, Res '76 CM) retired from the practice of medicine. Over the span of 56 years, he trained in internal medicine, took care of troops in Vietnam for a year when in the U.S. Air Force, and trained in and practiced cardiology. During this time, he published 167 research and review articles.

Ross Rommel (Col '69 CM) is enjoying retirement in the Texas Hill Country after 30 years as a partner with the law firm Hunton Andrews Kurth in Houston. He and his wife, Deborah, live on seven acres in Hunt, Texas, with 13 chickens, 70 peach trees and an abundance of vegetables. He wrote a book, *Of Tight Lines and Cupped Wings*, which recounts his outdoor adventures with family and friends.

'70s

Duncan Clarke (Grad '70) published a novel, *Murder on the Appalachian Trail.* The novel follows a criminal law professor who works with his beloved German shepherd, a runaway teen and the FBI to solve a series of murders on the Appalachian Trail. Clarke, who has hiked the trail twice, draws on his experience and love of the trail in his writing. He is a professor emeritus of international relations at American University.

Walter Lee Fanning (Med '70, Res '71) published *Microbial Mysteries: A Rocky Road* under the pseudonym Lee F. Walters. *Microbial Mysteries* is the third release in his trilogy of semi-autobiographical medical thrillers. The novel follows the Walters couple, whose medical careers are caught between an unstable associate and a mafia boss determined to repay them for saving his life.

David Hein (Col '76, Grad '82 CM) published *Teaching the Virtues* (Mecosta House, 2025), a primer for parents and teachers of secondary school students on how to teach the theological and cardinal virtues as well as such essential traits as humility, patience, perseverance, gratitude and generosity. Hein is a distinguished teaching fellow at the Russell Kirk Center for Cultural Renewal.

Bruce Dierenfield (Grad '77, Grad '81) published his seventh book, *Separating Church and State: How the Minnesota Civil Liberties Union Led the Nation in Religious Liberty*.

Debbie Levy (Col '78 CM) published *A Dangerous Idea: The Scopes Trial, the Original Fight Over Science in Schools,* the first of three books she will publish in 2025. She will also publish *Photo Ark 1-2-3: An Animal Counting Book in Poetry and Pictures* and *The Friendship Train: A True Story of Helping and Healing After World War II.* Her previous books for children and young adults have put her on the *New York Times* bestseller list.

'80s

Jane Everson (Educ '80, '83 CM) recently retired from a faculty position with the University of South Carolina School of Medicine and was elected to the city school board in Hickory, North Carolina.

Irwin Shur (Col '80, Law '83 CM) released his fourth solo album, *The Farther Away You Get, The Better I Look*. He continues practicing law but focuses on his passion for music.

Roze Worrell (Col '82 CM) published *HEARTS: Finding Unexpected Signs of Hope, Comfort, and Joy*. The book explores her profound experience of connecting with the divine through "heart-finds" and seeking their meanings. After a series of significant life events, Worrell started seeing hearts everywhere, finding them in rocks, charms and even blotches of oil. In *HEARTS*, Worrell shares some of her favorite finds.

Mary Wayne Watson (Grad '83 CM) gave a presentation entitled "John Charles McNeill: Poet Laureate's Home Songs" at the Scottish Heritage Center at St. Andrews University in Laurinburg, North Carolina. McNeill—Watson's great uncle—was the first recognized poet laureate in North Carolina and received the prestigious Patterson Cup for literature from President Theodore Roosevelt in 1905.

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A Special Advertising Section for Alumni









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Class Notes

Kim Tuten Gallagher (Col '84 CM) celebrated eight years of her Blue Book Essays national college coaching company. Her squad of five coaches includes UVA grads **Kara Davis Cosby (Com '93 CM)** and **Nicole Borghard (Col '11, Educ '11)**. Blue Book Essays serves high school seniors at public and private schools nationwide, as well as applicants to law, medical and business schools.

John Via III (Engr '84 CM), a fellow of the American Society for Engineering Management (ASEM), was elected to its board of directors in January 2025. Via was also elected director of graduate program certification and will lead ASEM's Master of Engineering Management certification team. Via is a professor of practice and associate director in the Master of Engineering Management & Leadership program at Rice University.

Libby Buck (Col '85 CM) will publish her debut novel, *Port Anna*, with Simon & Schuster in July. The book explores second chances and a blossoming romance in a charming port town in Maine.

Meena Khandelwal (Col '85, Grad '88, '95) published her second ethnographic monograph, *Cookstove Chronicles: Social Life of a Women's Technology in India.* It examines traditional bio-mass-burning mud stoves, the women who build and use them, and the experts who have been trying to "improve" them for decades. A professor of anthropol-ogy, Khandelwal recently won her third teaching award, the 2025 President and Provost Award for Teaching Excellence at the University of Iowa.

Rich Scher (Intern '86, Res '90) released his debut album, *Mill Pond*, in March. Scher transitioned into the world of music after a successful career as a physician to channel his passion for storytelling, using it as his new medium of healing.

Patrick George Wheaton (Col '86 CM) planned the 95th annual convention of the Southern States Communication Association, held in Norfolk, Virginia. Faculty, students and professional scholars from across the South

presented their research at the conference. Wheaton has been a professor of communication studies at Georgia Southern University since 1998.

Daniel Frisch (Arch '87 CM) published a collection of essays, *Looking Forward to Monday Morning* (ORO Editions, 2025). Frisch is an architect based in New York City and a member of the American Institute of Architects.

Andrew Ceperley (Grad '89) published *Tone Setters in the Academy: How to Build an Inspired Life as a University Administrator.* The book offers "tone setter mindsets"—practical strategies to help administrators dealing with challenges such as campus politics, the lack of promotional opportunities, and workplace dynamics to cultivate their unique tone, manage energy and build resilience. Ceperley is a university administrator, consultant and professional certified coach.

'90s

Julie Kleckley Hummer (Col '90 CM) was elected chair of the Anne Arundel County Council in Maryland in December 2024. She represents the 85,000-plus residents of District 4.

Stephen Cunha (Engr '91) published *The Seven Heavenly Letters: An Exposition of Revelation 2 & 3*, his annotated translation from the original Latin of Protestant reformer Heinrich Bullinger's erudite pastoral sermons on the seven letters of Jesus Christ to the seven churches. It is Cunha's third book.

John Maze (Arch '91 CM) was awarded the Undergraduate Teacher of the Year Award by the University of Florida College of Design, Construction and Planning. Maze is an associate professor of architecture and has been at the University of Florida since 2001.

Cecilia Tomko (Col '92, Educ '92 CM) published *Sacred Stones*, a novel set in her adopted home of Butler, Pennsylvania, in which a man inherits his great-grandmother's house. When

The Mystic Order of Eli Banana welcomes its new members for 2024-25

Pavel Akmaev, Sudbury, MA
Matthew Anderson, Bethesda, MD
Alexander Boriss, New York, NY
Henry Campbell, Charlottesville, VA
Chase Cha, Atlanta, GA
Isaac Coles, Charlottesville, VA
JD Comeau, Cohasset, MA
Spencer Cox, Richmond, VA
Garland Freeauf, Charlottesville, VA
Will Gottsegen, New Orleans, LA
Chase Greer, Salem, VA
Edward Grinder, Memphis, TN
Cam Holdych, Richmond, VA
Davis Jones, Baltimore, MD
Oliver Jones, Chesapeake, VA
Patrick Keller, Rye, NY
Will Lankford, Lynchburg, VA
Jackson Lopez, Norfolk, VA
Flynn Mann, Fort Mill, SC
Nick McKenney, Chattanooga, TN
Alex Meyer, Arlington, VA
Tucker Mullen, Delray Beach, FL
J Owens, Lexington, KY
Ryan Phelan, Atlanta, GA
Connor Provencher, Vail, CO
Nick Reynolds, Richmond, VA
Ethan Scriefs, Granite Bay, CA
Charlie Stewart, Ketchum, ID
Bob Strzetelski, Natick, MA
Pryor Sullivan, Jackson Hole, WY
Owen Wassamer, Richmond, VA
Miles Wiley, Potomac, MD
Jack Wimmer, Forest,VA



his 10-year-old daughter begins to experience strange visions of the past, each glimpse of her ancestors leads the family closer to bringing long-buried secrets of theft, deceit and betrayal into the light.

Jared Deane (Engr '94 CM) was named vice president of academic and student affairs for Kennedy-King College. The college is one of the seven campuses of the City Colleges of Chicago. Deane oversees all transfer, career and technical education, continuing education, and adult education programs.

Ian Jenkins (Col '97, Med '01) has published *Romeo and Julian*, a retelling of Shakespeare's classic in which queer, trans and biracial people get to have an adventure even more grand than the original, while taking on present-day concerns like racism, homophobia, the substance use disorder epidemic and resistance against a trying political system. Jenkins' first book, *Three Dads and a Baby*, was featured on podcasts and morning shows on five continents.

Justin Ruth (Col '97 CM) has been appointed as associate circuit judge in St. Louis County, Missouri, by Gov. Mike Kehoe.

John E. Ludlum (Law '98) has joined the law firm Cozen O'Connor in its labor and employment department. Ludlum brings nearly three decades of experience advising and representing national and Utah business clients in compensation and tax matters. Before joining the legal profession, Ludlum was an officer and aircraft commander in the U.S. Coast Guard.

Chris Langhorne (Engr '99, Darden '05 CM) has taken on the role of chief strategy officer at Almarai, the Middle East's largest food and beverage company. He leads strategic initiatives across mergers and acquisitions, long-term planning, and expansion into new categories and markets. His work is focused on driving sustainable growth and positioning Almarai for continued success.

'00s

Kristin Johnson (Com '02, Law '05 CM) has joined Woods Rogers' government and special investigations practice. Johnson began her career in litigation at Woods Rogers and then spent almost two decades in public practice. She served as an assistant U.S. attorney for the Western District of Virginia, investigating and prosecuting white-collar crimes.

Adam Ruffin (Arch '02), **Katie MacNelly (Arch '02)** and **Danny MacNelly (Arch '02)** are proud to have their practice Architecturefirm featured in *A South Forty: Contemporary Architecture and Design in the American South*, an exhibition at the National Building Museum in Washington, D.C., celebrating contemporary architectural practices in the American South. Featuring over 40 architecture firms, the exhibition examines how Southern architects are responding to a diverse set of challenges,

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including natural disasters, rapid urbanization and changing cultural landscapes. *A South Forty* will be open to the public until winter 2026.

Hayden Lee (Col '04 CM) joined the Reston, Virginia, law firm of Hirsch & Ehlenberger as Of Counsel, where he will continue his Virginia and District of Columbia family law practice.

Philip Whitman (Col '04 CM) was raised to the sublime degree of master mason on Sept. 21, 2024, and currently is serving as junior deacon of Bremond Lodge #241 in Newport News, Virginia.

Billy Wynne (Law '04) published *The Empty Path: Finding Fulfillment Through the Radical Art of Lessening*, with New World Library on March 18. Wynne and his family live in Colorado.

Amey Victoria Adkins-Jones (Col '05 CM) released her first monograph, *Immaculate Misconceptions: A Black Mariology*, with Oxford University Press on April 17. The book provides a Protestant and womanist perspective toward the Black Madonna as a subject, thinking about religious notions of sexual assault, purity and Blackness. Adkins-Jones is a professor of theology and African and African diaspora studies at Boston College.

Laura Wells Terry (Col '06) and **Jonathan Terry (Col '06, Law '11)** welcomed their fifth child, Fern Joanna Brooke, on Feb. 22, 2025. She joins big sisters Afton, Spring and Kai, and big brother Thad. The Terrys live in the Washington, D.C., area, where Jonathan is employed as an in-house corporate counsel for Amazon and serves as a (recently promoted) lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Air Force Reserve.

Casey Chalk (Col '07, Educ '07) and his wife, Claire, welcomed their sixth child, Catherine Rose, on Dec. 20, 2024. Catherine joins siblings Annemarie, 11; Thomas, 9; Elizabeth, 7; Lawrence, 4; and Daniel, 2. The family lives in Panama City, Panama.

Cara Goodwin (Col '07 CM) was recently published in *Charlottesville Family* magazine. Her article is about the science behind toilet training. After a deep dive into current medical research, she distilled the findings into easy-to-understand action items to help parents. This is part of an ongoing series for the publication.

Jason Baer (Col '08) has published a short children's book, *Good Morning, Trash Truck*. The book is loosely based on experiences from his time spent in Brooklyn, New York, and follows a trash truck and crew as they drive to different parts of the city, collecting the neighborhood trash.

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Class Notes

Halley Bogart House (Col '08) was named assistant dean for alumni and development at Duke University School of Law in February 2025.

Marisa Roman (Col '09 CM) has been named a member of the law firm McGlinchey Stafford. She has been at McGlinchey since 2021. Her practice includes commercial and contract disputes, bankruptcy and creditors' rights, product liability, lender liability, insurance defense, lawyers' professional liability, professional negligence, insurance defense and construction litigation.

'10s

Victoria "Tori" DeJarnette (Col '10 CM) received the KPMG 2024 Employee Award of Distinction for the Washington, D.C., and Tysons, Virginia, office. DeJarnette received multiple nominations, attesting to her ability to innovate to uncover new insights and solutions, her impact among the firm and its clients, and her dedication to quality and excellence.

Trevor J. Hardy (Col '10 CM) has been elevated to shareholder at Littler, the world's largest employment and labor law practice representing management. Hardy works in the firm's Cleveland office and focuses his practice on providing advice and counsel to employers facing complex leave and accommodation issues.

Tyler B. Tassone (Engr '10 CM) has been named a director at Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox, a prominent intellectual property law firm in Washington, D.C. Though he primarily handles medical device patents, he also has experience with clean and renewable technologies, as well as consumer products.

Charles F. Trowbridge (Law '11) has been elevated to shareholder at Littler, the world's largest employment and labor law practice representing management. Based in the firm's Tysons Corner, Virginia, office, Trowbridge focuses his practice on occupational safety and health law.

Justin Guthrie (Col '12) has been named partner of HunterMaclean's admiralty and maritime group. Based in Savannah and St. Simons Island, Georgia, the firm represents clients across the United States, particularly in the Southeast.

Amy Shroyer Lightbourn (Col '12 CM) and **James Lightbourn (Col '12 CM)** recently welcomed Lyle Godfrey Lightbourn, who is already adored by his big brother Landon, 5, and his sister Linnea, 2.

Ronnie Poff (SCPS '12 CM) was initiated as the national president of Pi Sigma Epsilon, a coed business fraternity focused on professional development in sales, marketing and management.



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Jerry Chen (Col '14 CM) and his wife, Susan Russell, welcomed their first child, Millicent "Millie" Chen, in January. The family lives in New York.

William Cyrus Roger Clemo (Col '14 CM) earned a Ph.D. in marine sciences on Dec. 15, 2024, from the University of South Alabama. Clemo is currently a postdoctoral researcher at the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory at the John C. Stennis Space Center in Mississippi.

Jason Cottrell (Educ '16 CM) was recently appointed the data coordinator for postsecondary education at the U.S. Department of Education. He previously served as lead research analyst in the Office of Postsecondary Education. Cottrell was also elected to a three-year term as the vice president for membership for the American College Personnel Association–College Student Educators International.

'20s

Valerie I. Uduji (Col '20 CM) has been admitted to the State Bar of Michigan. Uduji works for Warner Norcross + Judd in their Detroit office. Her prior positions include internships with Justice Kyra Bolden in the Michigan Supreme Court.

Zachary Brown (Col '22) launched a production company, ZHB Productions, and is in the process of shooting *Up the Waterspout*, an animated short to be released in 2025.

Megan Haase (Engr '24) has joined the Institute for Defense Analyses (IDA) as a research staff member in the strategy, forces and resources division of IDA's Systems and Analyses Center. IDA is a nonprofit corporation that operates three federally funded research and development centers. Haase is a member of the Society of Women Engineers and the American Society of Biomechanics.

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In Memoriam

’40s

Margaret Kleppinger McLean (Nurs ’45 CM) of Charlottesville died Dec. 3, 2024, at the age of 102. Born in the mountains near Allentown, Pennsylvania, she attended the nursing school at UVA, where she met her husband, **Walter Copley McLean** (**Med ’46 CM**). Together, they started the Walter Copley and Margaret Kleppinger McLean Scholarship Fund for aspiring doctors and nurses who focus on patient-centered care. In the 1950s, she was one of the Charlottesville “emergency mothers” of the Parents’ Committee for Emergency Schooling who coordinated classes in private basements while public schools were closed over desegregation orders; the committee did not base their enrollment on race. She had a love of dressing up for holidays, cooking and baking, gardening and enjoying the outdoors. Many neighbors in the area surrounding Albemarle remember her for her delivered gifts of homemade stew and rolls. She is predeceased by her husband, as well as her children Patricia and Stephen. Survivors include her children **Walter Copley McLean Jr. (Med ’75 CM)**, **Mark Andrew McLean (Educ ’76 CM)**, **Peter Kleppinger McLean (Col ’78 CM)**, **Martha Elizabeth McLean (Educ ’84, Nurs ’88 CM)** and **Christopher Laubach McLean (Col ’86 CM)**; daughters-in-law **Caroline Wilson McLean (Col ’76, Educ ’79)** and **Ann Hunter McLean (Grad ’91, ’98)**; 19 grandchildren, including **William Copley McLean (Col ’07)**, **Catharine Merriwether McLean (Educ ’09, ’10 CM)**, **Elizabeth McLean (Col ’12 CM)**, **Margaret Ann McLean (Col ’10, Educ ‘10)**, **Olivia McLean (Col ’17 CM)**, **Mary Blair McLean (Col ’24)**, **Elsa Copley Pala McLean (Col ’18 CM)**, **Reid Christopher McLean (Educ ’23)** and **Alfred Joseph Whitt Shilling (Col ’28)**; and 16 great-grandchildren.

’50s

Evelyn Raye Fizer (Nurs ’53) of Princeton, West Virginia, died Aug. 17, 2024. At age 17 she enrolled in the nursing program at UVA, graduating as an RN after three years of training. She moved to Los Angeles in 1955 and worked as a nurse at locations including UCLA’s emergency department, St. Joseph’s Hospital, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center and Universal Studios. She also fulfilled a lifelong dream of riding horses by riding in the Hollywood Hills with friends. In 1980 she moved to Reno, Nevada, where she worked at Washoe Medical Center (now known as Renown Regional Medical Center) in orthopedics until her retirement. She adored the rugged mountains, Lake Tahoe and clear mountain air. At age 69, she returned to her native West Virginia to be closer to family. Survivors include a niece and several grandnieces and grandnephews.

John Sergeant Wise Jr. (Col ’55 CM) of Summerdale, Alabama, died Feb. 5, 2024. A Charlottesville native, he received his bachelor’s degree at UVA, where he participated in several sports, including men’s swimming and diving. He later earned a bachelor’s in forestry and a master’s in wildlife biology from the University of Georgia. He served in the Korean War as one of the original Green Berets. Later, he served as the commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5850. He had a long career as a biologist and consultant forester, working as an alligator biologist in the Everglades to have alligators placed on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service endangered species list. He also worked for the Alabama Department of Conservation until his retirement in 1984. He supported more than 20 conservation organizations during his lifetime. He spent his last 30 years as an agriculturalist, raising numerous species of exotic pheasants and waterfowl. He also enjoyed playing tennis and taught lessons to hundreds of students, both young and old. Survivors include three children, two brothers, nine grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

’60s

Daniel Hayes Gregory II (Med ’62) of Cooperstown, New York, died Jan. 29, 2025. He attended Hamilton College before joining the U.S. Army on the GI Bill and was sent to Fort Dix during the Korean War. He also spent time stationed at the Panama Canal. At UVA, while working toward his medical degree, he met his wife, Jacqueline, a medical technologist. After attending UVA, he completed a medical residency at the University of Minnesota, specializing in gastroenterology. In 1969, he worked at the University of New Mexico Medical School in Albuquerque, where he contributed to research and development of the world’s first H2 blocker. His career also led him to the Medical College of Virginia (now Virginia Commonwealth University) and a private gastroenterology practice in Pittsburgh. He returned to academic medicine at Bassett Medical Center in Cooperstown, where he established a niche gastroenterology service performing capsule endoscopy with the PillCam. He loved photography, biking, bread-making, writing, dogs and all things related to the St. Lawrence River, especially boating. In addition to his wife, survivors include four children and six grandchildren.

Gerald "Gerry" F. Hice (Com '63) of Irvington, Virginia, died Nov. 30, 2024. At UVA, he was a member of Chi Phi fraternity. After graduating from UVA with his bachelor's degree in commerce, he went into a career in computer technology, working at IBM and then the Aries Corp. A job at the Pandata Corp. led him to the Netherlands, before he moved back to the U.S. for a position at Capgemini. He then joined J.G. Van Dyke & Associates as vice president of technology, where he wrote a book on defense management systems that was widely used by the U.S. Defense Department. He loved golf, boats and classic cars, particularly his bright red 1955 Chevy and his 1935 Ford. He also competed in car shows and won first place in a local competition. Survivors include his wife, Susan; his daughter; four grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

David Robert Rolston Jr. (Engr '64) of Centreville, Virginia, died Jan. 25, 2025. Born in Staunton, Virginia, he studied electrical engineering at UVA before receiving his master's degree in systems engineering from Washington University in St. Louis. After earning his "pilot wings" in 1965 at Craig Air Force Base in Alabama, he spent four years flying in the U.S. Air Force. After his active-duty service, he continued his commitment to aviation in the St. Louis Air National Guard for more than 20 years. He spent 22 years as a chief

LUCIEN LLOYD BASS III | *NOV. 2, 1940–JAN. 17, 2025*

McIntire professor taught of the importance of relationships



There were few corners of UVA that **Lucien Lloyd Bass III (Engr '63, Darden '65)** didn't touch. In addition to holding degrees from both the School of Engineering and the Darden School of Business, he spent nearly 20 years on the faculty of the McIntire School of Commerce and served as president or board member of multiple programs and committees.

Bass died Jan. 17, 2025, five years after his retirement from teaching. He was 84.

Bass began his UVA teaching career in 1999 as an adjunct professor, teaching courses in business, marketing and ethics at McIntire, Darden and the School of Engineering. In 2002, he joined the faculty of McIntire, where he became known for his sharp humor and inclusive approach to teaching.

In Negotiating for Value, a popular McIntire class he taught for nearly two decades, Bass highlighted the importance of honesty and relationship-building in business.

"You just don't lie in a negotiation—it will put a black cloud over you for the rest of your life," he told students in a class *Virginia Magazine* observed in 2017.

"Professor Bass has emphasized that negotiations aren't necessarily a one-time thing—they're long term," student **Richard Schweiker (Com '18)** said in the 2017 article, "and that building relationships is almost more important than winning out at one point."

In addition to teaching, Bass served on several university boards and committees, including the University of Virginia Engineering Foundation and the School of Nursing Advisory Board. During his time as a faculty member, he won awards including the IMP Faculty Award in 2005, the Henry St. George Tucker Award from the UVA Honor Committee in 2006, the Distinguished Alumni Engineering Award in 2008, and the Young Alumni Council Service Award in 2012.

Prior to his teaching career, Bass held several positions at the Bahnson Co.—a provider of HVAC systems—and served as senior director of international development at R.J. Reynolds Tobacco International.

Bass's deep involvement in the UVA community dates back to his undergraduate years in the School of Engineering. He was a member of the Honor Council, president of the Engineering School and president of the Raven Society. He won several awards, including the prestigious Raven Award in 1963 for outstanding contributions to the university.

According to his cousin, the Rev. John Taliaferro Thomas, Bass was known for connecting people and building "an ecosystem of whoever came into his orbit."

"Both of his parents died when he was young, but because of this man's absolutely indefatigable refusal to go it alone in life, he made family," Thomas said in the sermon he delivered at Bass's funeral. "Lucien's family tree was, really, more of a family forest."

Bass is survived by his wife, Mary Brush Bass. He was predeceased by his daughter, **Molly Bass (Col '88, Educ '90)**, who served as the UVA Alumni Association's senior director of scholarships and endowments. In 2023, he created the Molly Bass Memorial Scholarship in her memory.

—Sam Grossman

engineer in flight simulation and training at McDonnell Douglas in St. Louis before moving to Lockheed Martin as program manager and earning a role as vice president of Air Force Programs for NLX and Rockwell Collins. He retired from regular employment in 2008 and moved to Williamsburg, Virginia, where he acted as a consultant for training systems businesses. He cherished time spent with his family, particularly exploring the Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay and its surrounding waters. He had a deep love for prewar Ford hot rod restorations. Survivors include his wife, Carol; six children; and four grandchildren.

Thomas Francis Shuman (Col '64 CM) of Princeton, New Jersey, died Jan. 11, 2024. At UVA, he played on the football team, leading the Atlantic Coast Conference in punting in the 1964 season. He also played for the polo team and was a member of Zeta Psi fraternity. He had a 40-year career as a stockbroker and hedge fund manager in New York City before retiring in 2002. He then moved between Palm Beach, Florida; Greenwich, Connecticut; and Manhattan before settling in Princeton. There he enjoyed attending events at Princeton University and the Peddie School, his high school alma mater. He also had a keen interest in the Princeton Battlefield Society. He volunteered at many of his UVA reunions. Survivors include three brothers and several nephews and nieces.

David B. Vaughan (Engr '65 CM) of Houston died Nov. 9, 2024. After receiving his engineering degree from UVA and a master of science in business analytics from Indiana University, he went on to a career as a management consultant. His career included positions at Global Resources Group and the ABB Group. His family remembers him for his Johnny Carson-like wit and his critic's ear for music, the arts and all cultural matters. They remember him as a "man for all seasons" and a true Virginia gentleman. Survivors include his wife, Mary; and his daughter, **Sandra Irene Vaughan Parsons (Col '92 CM)**.

Herbert Vernon Davis Jr. (Com '67 CM) of Frederick, Maryland, died Dec. 17, 2024. After receiving his bachelor's degree in commerce at UVA, he spent four years serving in the U.S. Air Force. During that time, he completed his MBA at the University of Nevada. He worked for the U.S. General Accounting Office and later the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. In retirement, he was president of the Loudoun Restoration and Preservation Society, honoring his passion for historical preservation. He was also an avid supporter of the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research. He enjoyed playing bridge with friends and family. Survivors include his wife, Suzan; two children; and four grandchildren.

Gary J. Goodman (Col '67 CM) of Phoenix died July 7, 2024. At UVA, he was a member of St. Anthony Hall (Delta Psi). After graduation, he went through Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, Georgia, and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in 1968. After serving in Vietnam with the 101st Airborne Division, he moved to Arizona and received his MBA with distinction from the Thunderbird School of Global Management. He enjoyed a 20-plus-year career in real estate development in Phoenix before purchasing the Bermuda Water Co. and expanding its operations. He served as one of the original directors of the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona, as well as an Arizona delegate to the White House Conference on Small Business. He also held leadership roles with the Water Utilities Association of Arizona, the Scottsdale Healthcare Board of Directors (now HonorHealth) and the Cave Creek school board. He enjoyed field riding, polo and golf, and he loved Motown and the Washington Commanders. Survivors include his wife, Ann; three children; three grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Percy "Poss" Watson Echols (Engr '69, Darden '74 CM) of Crozet, Virginia, died July 4, 2024. At UVA, he studied engineering with a concentration in aerospace engineering and structural analysis. He used that expertise as a plant service engineer at Babcock & Wilcox. He later transferred to the nuclear power generation division in Lynchburg, Virginia, where he was involved in stress analysis on fuel assemblies and reactor vessel internals. He left Babcock & Wilcox in 1972 to return to UVA, earning his business degree from Darden in 1974. He then worked in the financial division at the Lynchburg Foundry Co. In 1981, he received his law degree from Wake Forest University and took a position as a patent examiner at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, where he worked until retiring in 2003. He was an active, involved father, serving as treasurer of his children's cooperative preschool, coaching basketball and chauffeuring the children to extracurricular activities. He enjoyed playing basketball, traveling, cheering on the UVA basketball teams and spending time at the family farm near Lexington, Virginia. He moved to Crozet in 2017. Survivors include his wife, Joan; three children, including **Sarah Elizabeth Echols (Col '17)**; two siblings; and three grandchildren.

'70s

Paul S. Marshall (Engr '71) of Wallingford, Pennsylvania, died March 4, 2025. At UVA, he was a member of the Trigon Engineering Society. He then earned his MBA from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and earned his doctorate in philosophy from the University of Bath in England. He became a professor of finance at Widener University in Pennsylvania, holding that position for more than 30 years. During this time, he traveled to Russia twice on a Fulbright scholarship. His love for travel took him to over 55 countries. He also enjoyed staying closer to home and traveled frequently to Hilton Head Island, South

Carolina, with family and friends to enjoy the beach, golf and everything else the area had to offer. He was very enthusiastic about the finance world and stayed up to date on the stock market. Survivors include two sons.

John Dabney Carr Jr. (Col '72, Darden '77 CM) of Charlottesville died Nov. 23, 2024. The native of Roanoke attended UVA as both an undergraduate in the College of Arts and Sciences and a graduate student at Darden. He was a member of the Raven Society, Phi Kappa Sigma fraternity and T.I.L.K.A. He worked as an international banker with Citigroup for over 30 years, during which time he and his family lived in Taipei, Singapore, Melbourne, Seoul and New York. After his retirement, he moved back to the Charlottesville area and became an adjunct professor at Darden, where he discovered a love of teaching and mentoring students. He pursued a lifelong interest in creative writing with the Blue Ridge Writers and had his short stories published in their journals. A lover of Shakespeare from his undergraduate days, he supported theater locally and traveled regularly to performances in Washington, D.C.; New York; Dublin; and London. Survivors include his wife, Sunny; two children, including **Lucy Carr Jones (Col '07 CM)**; one grandson; two siblings; and several nieces and nephews.

Thomas R. Morgan (Educ '73) of Fairfax Station, Virginia, died Dec. 6, 2024. He held a master's degree in counselor education from UVA, along with a bachelor's degree in history and political science from Colgate University. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Marines in 1952 and completed more than 36 years of active service. He served in locations including California, Hawaii, Kansas, South Carolina and Germany. From July 1971 to July 1973, he was assigned to the Naval ROTC Unit at UVA, where he served as executive officer. His final assignment was as the 21st assistant commandant of the Marine Corps. He retired as a general in 1988. His personal awards and decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal and Navy Commendation Medal. Survivors include three daughters, including **Beth Ellen Morgan (Col '87 CM)**; son-in-law **Demetrio James Cuzzocrea (Col '87 CM)**; four grandsons; and a great-granddaughter.

William "Bill" Tropf III (Grad '73) of Silver Spring, Maryland, died Sept. 25, 2024. He held a doctorate in physics from UVA, along with a bachelor's degree in physics from The College of William & Mary. He joined the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory in 1977 and worked as a physicist there for most of his life, focusing on the development and testing of advanced missile guidance systems. He continued to work there as a contractor after his official retirement. He loved science and set up a variety of scholarships with the Community Foundation of Howard County and William & Mary. He was also active as an adult leader for the Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts. Survivors include his wife, Lorraine; a son; two siblings; and several stepchildren and step-grandchildren.

Jeffrey L. Reider (Col '74 CM) of Birmingham, Michigan, died Feb. 28, 2025. He earned his bachelor's degree in biology at UVA and was a proud member of the Virginia Glee Club. He then received his dental degree from the Medical College of Virginia and became an oral surgeon, leading a practice of 40 doctors and 300 staffers. He and his husband endowed the first large LGBTQ+ scholarship at UVA, which has awarded nearly $150,000 to LGBTQ+ students in its 20 years. He was dedicated and passionate about every new adventure. He started to run at age 57 and completed over 30 marathons and two Ironman races. He was a gourmet chef and loved hosting dinner parties. He spent countless hours volunteering, including with Gleaners Community Food Bank and Equality Michigan. He convinced several relatives to follow in his footsteps in attending UVA, and he volunteered at many of his reunions. Survivors include his husband, Chuck Otis; two brothers, including **Ronald Reider (Med '71)**; and several nieces and nephews, including **Joshua Reider (Col '97 CM)** and **Andrew Ritter (Col '00 CM)**.

George Robert "Rob" Scott (Engr '75 CM) of Richmond, Virginia, died Oct. 5, 2018. From the time he was able to climb on equipment, he loved all things mechanical and had a natural understanding of how things work—skills that transferred well to his study of mechanical engineering at UVA. Classmates may remember his Honda CB350 and, later, his love of BMWs. He began his career at Philip Morris, later moving to Jewett Automation and concluding his career at Altria. During his career, he was awarded five patents. He was a UVA season ticket holder and supporter of the Virginia Student Aid Foundation (now the Virginia Athletics Foundation). Survivors include his wife, Diane; and two sons, including **Jayme Scott (Col '08)**.

Ruth Audrey "Audie" Woolsey (Col '75) of Chesnee, South Carolina, died Feb. 7, 2025. After earning her bachelor's degree in English at UVA, she worked for U.S. Rep. Martin Sabo and earned her law degree from the University of Miami. She had a long career in public service, including serving as a guardian ad litem for children needing legal advocacy, working as counsel to the U.S. House Budget Committee, and working as a budget officer and special assistant at the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. After retiring in 2017, she moved to South Carolina, where she engaged in local philanthropic projects. Her hobbies included gardening, supporting UVA sports and pulling pranks on her loved ones. Survivors include her husband, Jack Burnett; three siblings, including **Ross A. Woolsey III (Col '71 CM)**; and several nieces and nephews.

Charles Lewis Whited Jr. (Col '76 CM) of New Orleans died Feb. 15, 2025. He spent much of his childhood in Venezuela, becoming immersed in its culture and the Spanish language. At UVA, he studied Spanish and was a member of Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity. After graduation he attended Tulane University, where he received a law degree, an MBA and a master's in admiralty law. His admiralty law practice earned him the respect of his clients in the international shipping community. He was passionate about art, possessing an expertise that spanned centuries of creators, works and collections. He was a champion of artists in New Orleans and was devoted to fulfillment of their creative visions. He maintained his connection to UVA, volunteering at several of his class reunions. Survivors include a brother, a niece and a nephew.

Mark Douglas Welsh (Col '78) of Dunwoody, Georgia, died Oct. 14, 2024. An Echols Scholar, he earned a bachelor's degree in economics at UVA, graduating with highest distinction. He was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and was a member of Sigma Nu fraternity and the Jefferson Literary and Debating Society. After receiving his law degree from the University of California, Berkeley, he practiced with McGuire, Woods & Battle in Richmond, Virginia; with Weekes and Candler in Decatur, Georgia; and as a solo practitioner in the Atlanta area. For much of his four-decade career, he advocated for people with disabilities and the elderly. Recognizing his fierce advocacy and legal skills, probate judges in the Atlanta area frequently appointed him to serve as guardian ad litem. He also served as an attorney for Partners in Education for the DeKalb County School System. He was an avid swimmer who swam for UVA his first year, a dedicated fan of the St. Louis Cardinals, and a youth sports leader. He served as a community coach for the Murphey Candler Little League in Brookhaven, Georgia, before joining the league's board of directors and coaching his son. Friends remember him for his enthusiastic and encyclopedic knowledge of rock music. Survivors include his wife, Theresa; a son; and a brother.

Randolph "Randy" Ford Holland (Com '79 CM) of Richmond, Virginia, died July 30, 2024. In his youth, he took pride in his soccer and tennis skills. He studied accounting at UVA and earned his bachelor's degree in commerce before receiving a master's in computer accounting from Virginia Tech. He worked as a CPA for several firms in Richmond and Vienna, Virginia, and completed his career with the National Reconnaissance Office. He was predeceased by his wife, Kim.

'80s

Lawrence Shepley "Shep" Hermann (Darden '80) of St. Louis died Oct. 16, 2024. He held a business degree from Darden along with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Princeton. As fourth-generation head of Hermann Oak Leather, he became one of the world's foremost experts on tanning and earned the nickname "Professor" by transforming the company using lean manufacturing. He always credited his employees for the success they built. He loved spending time at his house in Boca Grande, Florida, and enjoyed boating, golfing, swimming, sailing, water skiing, fishing, camping and hunting. While caring for his wife, Robin, who predeceased him, he adopted the mantra "Celebrate Life!" Survivors include two children, four siblings and six grandchildren.

Michael "Mike" Ernest Sumner (Com '80 CM) of Newnan, Georgia, died Feb. 22, 2025. At UVA, he was a member of Kappa Alpha Order. He interned with U.S. Sen. Herman Talmadge in Washington, D.C., where he met his wife. After receiving his law degree from the University of Georgia, he practiced at firms in Newnan and Atlanta. He opened his own practice in Newnan, which continues today as Sumner Meeker. He was also active in education in his community, serving on the Coweta County Board of Education. He helped found the Nixon Centre for Performing and Visual Arts and developed the Central Education Center as Georgia's first technical charter high school. He enjoyed travel, golf and skiing. He was a lifelong supporter of the Boy Scouts, raising three Eagle Scouts. He was an avid fan of Virginia basketball, Georgia football and the Atlanta Braves. Survivors include his wife, Leah; three sons, including **Ernest B. Sumner (Com '11 CM)** and **Stuart Sumner (Col '14)**; a granddaughter; a sister; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Gregory George Crowley (Law '81) of Boston died Nov. 14, 2024. The child of a Navy pilot, he attended elementary schools in places including Italy and Hawaii before the family settled in Alexandria, Virginia. He studied at Boston College and then received his law degree at UVA. He also spent a year studying at Magdalen College at Oxford University. He went on to practice law in Boston, New York City and San Francisco. His practice focused primarily on mergers and acquisitions. He joined the legal teams at EMC and Fidelity before moving to business development at Lightbridge. Friends and family remember him for his sharp intelligence, quick wit, and enjoyment of music and travel. Survivors include four children, three siblings and many nieces and nephews.

Patrick Bernard Campbell (Engr '83 CM) of San Diego died Dec. 18, 2024. At UVA, he was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity. He worked as an engineer for two years in Northern Virginia before pursuing a career in medicine, graduating from the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond in 1989. In 1992, he completed his residency at the University of California, Irvine Medical Center, specializing in internal medicine. He worked at the Scripps Clinic Medical Group as a primary care provider and later became the second full-time hospitalist of its new division. He was known as an exceptionally kind and caring physician,

a consummate teacher and mentor, and a fun-loving colleague. Throughout his medical career, he served on volunteer trips across the world, donating his medical expertise to underserved populations. In 2022, he retired to spend more time with his wife, Sara. In addition to Sara, survivors include two sisters, three brothers, four nieces and seven nephews.

Marshall Epstein (Col '83 CM) of Falls Church, Virginia, died Jan. 8, 2025. He earned his bachelor's degree in economics from UVA. He was an active participant in university life and was a member of Pi Lambda Phi fraternity. He worked for the IRS and later for the National Alliance on Mental Illness, priding himself on helping others through his career. He was also dedicated to community service, volunteering for multiple organizations, such as the Sunrise Nursing Home and the Alzheimer's Association. Survivors include his mother, Harriet; and three siblings, including **Susan Epstein (Col '88 CM)**.

Freddie Sylvester Brooks (Darden '85) of New York City died Feb. 17, 2025. After receiving his MBA from Darden, he moved to New York City to pursue a career in banking. In 1992, he started Binding Products Inc., a manufacturer, distributer and provider of printing equipment and business supplies. As a businessman, he valued his customers and staff. In his personal life, he supported his children in all their endeavors, from his son's love of basketball and baseball to his daughter's passion for art and skating, cheering them on and traveling for their competitions. He ensured that they remained connected to their Virginia roots, visiting Richmond several times a year. He loved cooking and often bragged about his skills. Survivors include two children; four siblings, including **Malinda Brooks-Williams (Col '74 CM)**; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

John Lee Daugherty (Col '85, Law '88 CM) of Lexington, Kentucky, died Feb. 1, 2025. At UVA, he studied history and classics, topics that he remained passionate about throughout his life. He spent most of his professional career in civil service as an attorney with the federal Department of Justice. He rose to the position of assistant U.S. trustee, serving in both Greenbelt, Maryland, and Lexington. An avid bibliophile, he amassed an impressive collection of books and classical music and had a 1,031-day streak on Duolingo. Survivors include his wife, Laurie; his father, John; two daughters; and a sister.

Robert "Bob" W. Nance Jr. (Res '86, Fellow '89) of Portland, Oregon, died Dec. 17, 2024. He received his medical degree from the University of Miami in 1978, going on to serve in the U.S. Army as a medical doctor for seven years. He came to UVA for a radiology residency and a one-year fellowship in nuclear medicine. He was employed as a radiologist in nuclear medicine at Oregon Health & Science University in Portland for more than 25 years. He loved sharing his passion for computers, science fiction and photography. His loved ones remember him for his kindness, brilliance and generosity. Survivors include his wife, **Lisa L. Nance (Nurs '88)**, and two children.

Valerie "Val" Williams (Col '89) of Silver Spring, Maryland, died Dec. 2, 2023. She earned undergraduate degrees in anthropology and environmental science from UVA, frequently making the Dean's List. At UVA, she worked for the library system. She received her master's in epidemiology from the University of Illinois. She had a long career as a public health researcher contributing to the study of tobacco use, mental health and juvenile justice. She enjoyed gardening, crafts, her cats and dog, science fiction and mystery stories, and time on North Carolina's Outer Banks. Survivors include her husband, Gregory; a daughter; a sister; two nieces; and a nephew.

'90s

Kenton "Kent" Mark Clayton (Law '90 CM) of Irvine, California, died Jan. 8, 2025. He earned his bachelor's degree in music performance from the University of Miami before pursuing his law degree at UVA. He began his legal career at Milbank, where he played a pioneering role in renewable energy deals. Over the next two decades, he worked at several law firms in Southern California, focusing on technology startups, venture capital, and mergers and acquisitions. Later he launched his own practice, becoming a trailblazer for startups at the forefront of space development. He crafted contracts enabling a U.S. supplier to deliver NASA space data and to provide commercial services for communications networks—a significant milestone in the industry. Though law was his professional calling, music was his passion. His peers celebrated him as a talented composer and arranger, and he performed on the electric bass throughout his life. Survivors include his wife, Junko; and his daughter.

Joshua B. Rubinstein (Col '97 CM) of Richmond, Virginia, died Sept. 2, 2024. While studying economics at UVA, he was a proud member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity and later served on its executive board. He also studied dentistry at Virginia Commonwealth University. He served as chairman of the board of trustees for the Virginia and North Carolina chapters of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, and he was awarded "Man of the Year" for his fundraising for the organization. He served on the board of directors of the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond. An avid golfer, he took pride in having attended the Masters Tournament one year with friends. He taught sailing at his daughters' summer camp. His loved ones remember him for his soft smile, unwavering loyalty and even-tempered nature. Survivors include his wife, Beth; two daughters, **Allison "Ally" Rubinstein (Col '28)** and Sammi; and his brother, **Justin Rubinstein (Col '01)**.

Retrospect

UVA'S OWN 'RED SCARE'

BY ED MILLER



During the era of McCarthyism, when allegations of being a communist or a sympathizer could ruin careers and reputations, UVA had its own accuser, an assistant professor in the Woodrow Wilson School of Foreign Affairs named **Homer G. Richey (Col 1929, Grad 1930)**.

In 1951, Richey publicly alleged that several of his colleagues at the school exhibited "shades of redness." The resulting controversy lasted several months and set off a vigorous debate on academic freedom and the use of terms such as "red" and "pink" as attacks against faculty members.

Richey leveled his accusations in the pages of the *Cavalier Daily* and then took them to Gov. **John S. Battle (Law 1913)**, UVA president **Colgate Darden (Col 1922)** and the Board of Visitors—as well as the local airwaves, as a fiery radio host on Charlottesville's WCHV. His correspondence on the topic fills a box at Special Collections.

"There are not many around now who will recall the events of those days, but at the time they created something of a stir," Richey wrote when he donated his papers in 1988.

Similar scenes played out on campuses across the nation in the early 1950s, when Wisconsin Sen. Joseph McCarthy launched a series of hearings into alleged communist infiltration in the U.S. government. The Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression estimates that about 100 college professors were fired for "real or imagined" communist sympathies from 1947 to 1957, while the American Association of University Professors says the figure is at least 100.

At UVA, however, that script was flipped. Three years before McCarthy got his comeuppance, Darden fired Richey. The Board of Visitors had found that Richey's charges were baseless.

"The manner in which you have attempted to rouse the passions of people already troubled and apprehensive over communism against your colleagues, the School, over to our part, and the University under whose control it functions, is unworthy of one holding your position," Darden wrote him.

Unlike elsewhere, the episode was "the Red Scare that failed," says Jonathan Michaels, an adjunct professor of history at the University of Connecticut who wrote a chapter about Richey and UVA in *The Liberal Dilemma: The Pragmatic Tradition in the Age of McCarthyism*.

Richey's controversy began in April 1951, when the *Cavalier Daily* reprinted an editorial from the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* that asserted that some universities, which it didn't name, had become "notorious as hotbeds of Marxism."

Alongside that editorial, the student paper ran a response from Allen Moger, a professor of history at Washington and Lee University. Moger warned of the tendency to use labels such as "red" and "pink" recklessly.

In a "conscious decision to invite a little controversy," Michaels wrote in his book, the *Cavalier Daily* encouraged readers to comment.

Richey didn't need to be asked twice. A well-known local conservative firebrand, he'd taught at the Wilson School since its founding in 1946 and hosted a weekly radio show.

He took issue with Moger's assertion that there were no communist sympathizers in Virginia schools, saying he knew of three in his own department whose opinions and actions showed a degree of "redness" through such things as advocating for appeasement of Russia, U.S. recognition of communist China and public ownership of private property.

Responses to his letter poured in, many using pen names. One writer, "Cerebrus," wrote that Richey's attack on the school was more personal than political and that by taking his charges to the airwaves, Richey had stepped outside the realm of academia and forfeited "the protective mantle that properly belongs to those who teach." →

PHOTO OF RICHEY: *RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH*







WILEY
REAL ESTATE

CRESCERE FARM
$6,950,000 | MLS 660037

746 breathtaking acres located in Madison County with long frontage on the Rapidan River, and numerous ponds and streams. This rare large tract offers excellent Blue Ridge views, with numerous stunning building sites, abundant fenced pastures for grazing livestock, with automatic waterers, fertile bottom land for crops, extensive road, and trail system, and well maintained barns, and a recently updated brick home for a farm manager. The property is in six tax map parcels, and is an ideal candidate for a conservation easement. This unique property combines beautiful land with amazing topography, complete privacy, long river frontage, no conservation easement, and within 2 hours of Washington.

JUSTIN H. WILEY | 434 981 5528

GREENVILLE
$6,995,000 | MLS 650903

One of the State's finest examples of Classical Revival architecture, sited on 716-acres of rolling, highly productive cropland with long frontage on the Rapidan River. The home is instantly recognizable with its 4 massive Doric columns and "M" shaped copper roof. Built in 1854, the residence was meticulously restored by Alexander Nicholson to its present condition. The river and its lowlands offer endless recreation including some of the area's best duck hunting. Additional improvements include a restored, period summer kitchen, conservatory, pool and pool house, stables, numerous cottages, and farm infrastructure.

JUSTIN H. WILEY | 434 981 5528
PETER A. WILEY | 434 422 2090

BUNDORAN FARM RESIDENCE
$2,200,000

A sought-after Bundoran Farm residence sited to take advantage of one of the most dramatic, protected viewsheds in Albemarle County. The EarthCraft certified, 3-bed home was built in 2010 to exacting standards by Abrahamse and Co. A first floor primary allows one-level living with two additional bedrooms upstairs. An additional 800+ sq ft on the lower level could be easily finished. Equally impressive is the owner's extensive native garden, offering bursts of color and a canvas for pollinators and wildlife. An easy 15-minute drive to Charlottesville in a completely tranquil setting. 90% of the 2,300 acre Bundoran farm is protected from future development. The beautiful landscape is traversed by 14+ miles of exceptional trails

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IRONWOOD
$3,750,000 | MLS 657943

Private estate minutes from Charlottesville and the University with wonderful Blue Ridge views. The 1888 traditional farm house has been completely renovated and decorated by a well known interior decorator, yet retains the charm and woodwork of the original house. The main house includes 3 bedrooms with private baths, large kitchen with high end appliances, family room, large living room with fireplace. Other improvements include a new guest / pool house, pool, and 2 car detached heated garage with charming office and a half bath. Also included is a tenant / manager cottage, chicken coop, and bee hives. All the improvements are beautifully situated on the 21 acres with complete privacy.

JUSTIN H. WILEY | 434 981 5528

MADISON RUN
$2,700,000 | MLS 658045

448 private acres centrally located between Orange and Gordonsville, with great views of the South West Mountains, and ample frontage on Madison Run Rd. The land is a mixture of open pasture, hay fields, and mature hard wood forest, with approx 6 mi of ATV trails.. The land is further improved with four wells, pond, under ground electric, roads, trails, long frontage Madison Run stream, and a small multistory home w/ fireplace, full kitchen, laundry, bath, and roof top office, that is being sold in "as is" condition. The property is currently being used as a cattle farm, and is currently in land use. The property is not in a conservation easement and can be subdivided.

JUSTIN H. WILEY | 434 981 5528

HATON RIDGE
$1,495,000 | MLS 622451

Nestled at the end of a tranquil country lane, this exceptional residence is situated in one of the most serene and picturesque locales of Albemarle County. The 50-acre property boasts an Alexander-Nicholson built, Georgian inspired residence offering 5 bedrooms with the possibility of a primary suite on the first floor. The spacious living room and dining room are sited off the kitchen, creating an inviting layout perfect for entertaining or simply relaxing with family and friends. Beautifully proportioned rooms with exquisite millwork and oversized windows to take advantage of the quintessential Virginia views. Additional acreage available. One of Albemarle County's most bucolic, peaceful areas.

PETER A. WILEY | 434 422 2090

> **The writer herewith ASSERTS and REAFFIRMS what he has said on many occasions and to many people ... that the complexion of the School is DEFINITELY PINK if not a DARK HUED RED."**
>
> *—Homer G. Richey in a letter to UVA President Colgate Darden*

"He is a legitimate target for attack," Cerebrus wrote.

In fact, Richey did have an ax to grind: He was passed over for promotion in 1950 by John Gange, the former diplomat who headed the Wilson School.

In a letter to Darden with the subject line "Promotions in WW School of Foreign Affairs," Gange recommended that two assistant professors be promoted to associate professor but that Richey not be. Gange said Richey was a "controversial figure toward whom there were strong reactions, both favorable and unfavorable," with the latter outweighing the former. Gange wrote that he'd tried to keep an open mind but that Richey lacked the credentials to be appointed an associate professor.

"He has not published research that I can discover, although he has written letters and verse to local newspapers on aspects of domestic U.S. politics, and a few book reviews," Gange wrote in the letter, contained in Richey's papers. "He has submitted articles to various journals but none have been accepted."

Richey's background was in Germanic languages and philosophy. He received a doctorate in philosophy from a German university in 1935 and taught German at UVA before World War II. He was in the U.S. Army when **Hardy Dillard (Law 1927)**, a law professor who was acting as head of the Wilson School—and who knew Richey when they'd worked together at the School of Military Government in Charlottesville during the war—appointed him an assistant professor in 1946.

Gange came along in 1949, looking to make permanent appointments at the growing school. After he'd made his promotion decisions, he told Richey that his political views had nothing to do with him being passed over. Richey agreed to stay on as an assistant professor for another two years.

He wasn't happy about the arrangement, though. Richey's radio broadcasts became "quite aggressive in tone," Michaels wrote, with attacks on President Harry Truman and Secretary of State Dean Acheson, to the point that Gange requested that Richey make it clear he was speaking for himself and not the Wilson School.

Richey complied with that request in a broadcast in February 1951, according to his papers.

"Anyone who has ever heard the Woodrow Wilson School talk and been able to stay awake that long should be under no delusions whatsoever about my views bearing any similarity to his—beg pardon, I mean 'its,'" he said on air. "I would be mortified if any should think I were guilty of peddling that pink's party line."

Richey had already sent a letter to Gov. Battle saying he'd been denied promotion for his political views. After Gange complained to Richey about the tone of his radio disclaimer, Richey fired off a letter to Darden.

"The writer herewith ASSERTS and REAFFIRMS what he has said on many occasions and to many people, both privately and publicly, that the complexion of the School is DEFINITELY PINK if not a DARK HUED RED."

A committee was raised to look into Richey's allegations. Headed by Dean of the University Ivey Lewis, it held seven hearings. It found no evidence that the school was "pink" and backed Gange's decision not to promote Richey.

Unsatisfied, Richey petitioned the Board of Visitors, asking for a full professorship and that Gange be fired. The board held hearings over a five-month period, taking testimony from Gange, Richey and two other professors at the school.

Gange told the BOV that he was as aware as Richey of the "communist danger." He added, "I also believe that nothing can so cripple this country and benefit the communists as the creation of a state of hysterical fear."

In the end, the BOV found no evidence justifying Richey's charges. Three days later, Darden fired him.

"It is my own belief that you have accused our colleagues wrongly and that you have done them a grave injustice," he wrote.

The *Cavalier Daily*, which Richey had threatened to sue if it didn't reveal the identity of "Cerebrus," a demand the paper refused, couldn't help but gloat. In an editorial, the paper bade farewell to "Hopalong Homer," "the local apostle of McCarthyism."

"We feel he is a disgrace to Virginia, to the men and women of this institution, and to all standards of tolerance or fair play," it added.

After his firing, Richey responded by saying he wouldn't retract "one iota" of his charges. And he hadn't changed his mind by the time he donated his papers to UVA 37 years later.

"I am only sorry that I did not have more ammunition to use against this crowd of Parlor pinks, crypto-liberals and out and out reds," he wrote.

Richey ran for Congress unsuccessfully in 1952 and died in 1997, a tireless letter writer until the end. An editorial in *The Daily Progress* noted his passing.

"Mr. Richey's voice of brash dissent has now been silenced," it said. "Charlottesville will be the poorer without his colorful, audacious commentary."

Ed Miller is senior writer for Virginia Magazine.

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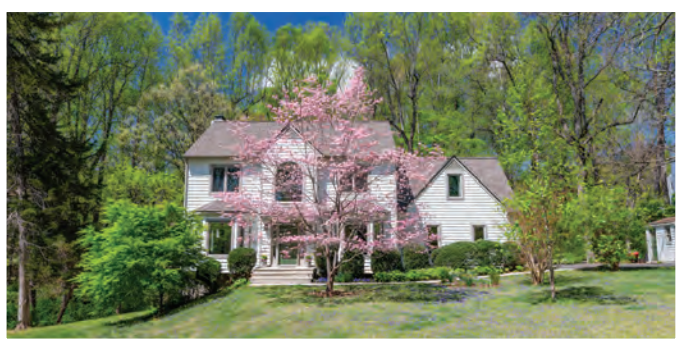








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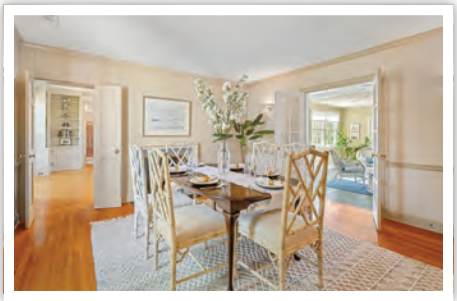
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Garth Rd, Albemarle County, 2.85 acres

Formally known as the Foxfield Inn, this stunning home was designed for both comfort and sophistication. Each spacious bedroom boasts a private en-suite bath. Multiple living spaces include seven gas fireplaces and a light-filled sunroom perfect for year-round enjoyment. Custom built-in bookshelves, large au pair suite above garage, and storage rooms ensure ample space for organization. Beautifully landscaped backyard, complete with a gazebo, hot tub, tranquil fishpond, and a generous patio for gatherings or a quiet retreat.
$1,500,000



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Windie Knowe- c.1732, 24 acres

Recognized as one of the earliest surviving buildings in northeast Albemarle County, 'Windie Knowe' was a two-over-two farmhouse built by John Key. Key had been sent by King George to Virginia to develop tracts of land in the name of the London Company. The original name derives from the Scottish name 'Windie Knob,' due to its 'lofty elevation that gathers the cooling breezes of summer and the cold piercing winds of winter.' Home features separate screened dining pavilion, pool, outbuildings and guest cottage. $2,725,000



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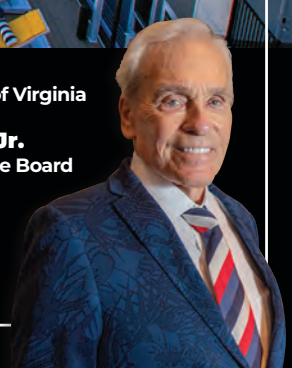


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