

20 YEARS

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University and would "tap into the good feelings" alumni had about their chosen activities.

From the U.Va. Alumni Association, Neel gained a pledge of technical assistance and seed money for fund-raising. Alumni Hall

assisted in creating a mailing list, provided database services, and agreed to manage the CDAA's funds as part of the U.Va. fund.

"I received a tremendous support from Gilly Sullivan and his team at Alumni Hall," Neel said. "They went the extra mile and were very instrumental in making the CDAA a reality."

On Feb. 26, 1983, the Cavalier Daily Alumni Association was formed during a conference call with nine CD alumni on

the line. The nine elected themselves as an interim board of directors, then arranged for a meeting later that year. Neel was chosen the group's first president.

"Our vision was to provide the CD with a springboard to independence, or at least to help it survive and thrive," said Wheeler.

Through the course of the mid- to late '80s, the CDAA met regularly, held fund-raisers and journalism workshops, grew in size, and cemented its relationship with the University Alumni Association.

By 1990, the fear of University control over The Cavalier Daily had given way to a severe economic threat, as newspapers across the country were struggling with rising newsprint prices and stiff competition from other media outlets. The CD



MASAKI OKADA | THE RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH

The CDAA sponsored CD editor Becky Krystal's summer internship.

Through a partnership forged by the CDAA and the Virginia Press Association, Opinion Editor Becky Krystal spent this past summer writing news and feature stories at the Richmond Times-Dispatch. The alumni underwrite an internship for one student they select to work at a newspaper in the state.

Krystal called the CDAA-VPA internship

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online ads booking software developed in-house. Once the software is fully integrated into our operations by the end of next semester, advertisers will be able to submit ads online, and advertising reps will be able to manage individual accounts, payroll and booking through our intranet, replacing our outdated, paper-based booking method for good.

Fancy gadgets are nice, but without great people to run them, they don't mean anything. Next fall the board has planned a major recruitment push to reach segments of the University community with vast resources usually left untapped by the CD.

The Cavalier Daily can be a tremendous resource for students interested in a vast array of fields, from writing to business to technology, and the paper also stands to benefit tremendously from attracting volunteers from diverse backgrounds with talent in all of these areas.

It is easy to become complacent with the same types of people who manage to find their way to the newspaper every year, but if we make the extra effort to reach out to other organizations and other communities ourselves, we can accomplish much more.

was no exception, and the CDAA was once again called upon to help ensure the paper's survival.

"The newspaper had aging equipment, was experiencing severe financial hardship, was being threatened with eviction for fire code violations, and had a growing University-supported competitor in the University Journal," said Scott Ramsey, CD operations manager from 1990-'91.

"There were a lot of people who thought the CD was not going to make it, and a lot of people in the University community would have been happy to see the CD go away," recalls Greg Trevor, who was then president of the CDAA.

"The CDAA helped in several supporting but critical ways to keep the newspaper alive during that period," Ramsey said. Assistance took the form of temporary cash loans, equipment purchases and free legal and financial advice, including detailed audits of the CD's books.

"The CD might have survived that era without the CDAA," Ramsey added, "but then again, the UJ went under several years later with less debt and better equipment."

As the CD turned the corner from debt to profitability, the newspaper proved it can survive. Today, the alumni group focuses on helping the organization—and its student journalists—thrive.

Major initiatives include arranging workshops and seminars for the student staff and providing more than \$30,000 worth of scholarships to staff members pursuing summer internships in journalism.

These are exciting times for the University and exciting times for The Cavalier Daily. The paper has never been larger, better or more attractive, due to new technology and a professional and motivated staff that is increasingly committed to making The Cavalier Daily the best it can possibly be for their fellow students, themselves and the rest of the community.

The face of the University has changed dramatically over the past decade, and the future promises to be even more exciting.

Next semester readers will find articles on more construction projects than the University has ever been engaged in at a single time in its history, including the new John Paul Jones arena, the South Lawn complex and the fine arts precinct.

The next capital campaign will begin to take shape next semester, and with it, a greater degree of financial independence from the state that will dramatically change the institution in the near future.

And next semester, The Cavalier Daily will be right there when it all happens, like we've always been, for 114 years and counting.

FEATURES

ALUMNI PRESERVE THE STORIES OF COLLEGE TOPICS AND THE CD

As part of its 20th anniversary celebration, The Cavalier Daily Alumni Association has launched an effort to record the history of The Cavalier Daily. Both a chronological narrative of the establishment and development of the newspaper since its founding in 1890 and memoirs from former staff members will be included. The finished product will examine the newspaper's relationship to the University and the student body and involvement in major issues such as coeducation, race relations, and the Honor System. The newspaper's more illustrious alumni will also be highlighted.

CD HISTORIAN DISCOVERS THE CREATION OF COLLEGE TOPICS WAS LINKED TO INCREASED INTEREST IN COLLEGIATE SPORTS

The following is the first installment of a history of College Topics and The Cavalier Daily being researched and written by CD alumni Fred Heblitch ('71). Additional chapters will be posted on the CDAA website, www.cdalummi.org, as they are written.

The establishment and early history of the student newspaper at the University that eventually became The Cavalier Daily is inextricably connected with the rise of athletics at the University. Although the newspaper eventually gained its independence and became an institution separate from the faculty,

the University administration, and other student organizations, its origins cannot be understood except in the context of the times and events then influencing the University.

The University that existed on Jan. 15, 1890, when the first issue of College Topics, appeared, was not substantially different from the institution that emerged from the devastation of the Civil War. Enrollment for the 1889-'90 session (482) was actually slightly smaller than in 1866-'67 (490).

The University's 10-month academic session began in mid-September and was divided into two terms, the Fall (or Xmas) and Easter terms. Finals were held in June or July.

Student extracurricular activities were dominated by the two debating societies, the Jefferson Society and the Washington Society. Student social life was domi-



nated by fraternities. The most important student publication was the University Magazine, published monthly during the session. Athletics, so to speak, hardly existed, although it was possible for students to receive instruction in fencing, boxing and gymnastics, and there were boating events on the Rivanna River.

During the 1866-'67 session, the debating societies reorganized and the Magazine resumed publication. However, there was change in the air. As early as 1865,

baseball games were reportedly being played on the Lawn, and within a few years, baseball clubs were organized and games played, some with other local clubs; at least one match game was played with a club from Washington & Lee.

In 1877, students organized a University baseball club and played an increasingly ambitious schedule, including, by the mid-1880s, games with Richmond College, VMI, Johns Hopkins and the Naval Academy.

Within a decade, the baseball team was a regional power, playing the better intercollegiate teams to be found, including Harvard, Princeton, Lafayette and North Carolina.

In keeping with Thomas Jefferson's belief in student self-government, the athletic clubs were strictly student organizations. In 1888, the General Athletic Association was formed to

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Ads like the one at left offended early University feminists, leading them to declare, "The CD is sexist!"

FROM THE CAVALIER DAILY ARCHIVES

CAVALIER DAILY HISTORY, AS TOLD BY THOSE WHO LIVED IT

The following are excerpts from essays written by CD alumni reflecting on their tenure at the student paper. The essays, and directions on how to submit your own recollections, can be found on the Cavalier Daily Alumni Association's web site, www.cdalummi.org.

1958

The paper was printed by the University Press with the letterpress process, which required more skills than the present computer-generated copy. It was my job several nights a week to watch over the production and proof read before printing. If there was open space, I usually threw in a free ad for Ballentine beer or a bit of support for Rock Weir and the annual Alumni Game at the end of Spring football practice. It must be remembered that beer was an essential nutrient for aging alumni and was rolled on the field at time outs to refresh the returning alumni.

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1967

For the Openings Weekend edition that year, we selected a front-page photo of a painted mural in Memorial Gym, showing a nude reclining. It did not appear in the Friday edition—there was only a blank spot with a meaningless outline. The manager of the University Press had removed it without advising us. The editorials the next week were written, and Dean Runk advised us on Friday that the University Press would no longer print The Cavalier Daily. After several calls to former staffers, we learned of a newspaper in Culpeper, the Star-Exponent, that might be amenable to printing us. The editorial board traveled to Culpeper, met with the editor, who was an alumnus,

by Dick Dyas

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