

College Topics

Serving The Cavalier Daily
and Its Alumni

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YOUNG ALUMS WANT JOBS; CDAA CAN HELP

Only being an alumnus for less than half a year, it seems odd to write for College Topics instead of The Cavalier Daily itself. I point out my sprouting gray hairs to make myself seem older, but I realize I'm a bit of a greenhorn.

A lot of my ideas stem from this youth, however, and I hope they can help expand how The Cavalier Daily Alumni Association can help The Cavalier Daily.

The old adage says that old alumni want football tickets while young alumni want jobs. To this end, the CDAA created the Cavalier Daily Council of Young Alumni (CD CYA) to help younger graduates during the transition into the "real world." To start, we hope to create a mentoring program, allowing young alumni, even those not going into journalism, an opportunity to talk to someone who wore down the path a bit.

Of course, the CDAA is probably strongest in helping people enter and strive in the field of journalism. In late September, a panel

of Cavalier Daily alumni came down to Charlottesville for the day to answer current staffers' questions about getting into the profession. Afterward, one-on-one sessions allowed the alumni to read over clips and résumés and offer advice. Having a program early in the semester—last year it was in December—helped because the internship market tends to close rather quickly.



CDAA President
Pat Harvey

Another way the CDAA can help current CD staffers get jobs is through its generous scholarships. Our early fall program provides an opportunity to advertise the scholarships, which ought to lead to more applications for these incredible opportunities.

Hopefully by doing more for the staff of The Cavalier Daily while they're still in school, we can encourage more people to join and remember our organization after they walk down the Lawn for graduation.

As for more general concerns, the CDAA is finishing up the audit of The Cavalier

Daily's finances. Led by former CDAA President Diane Krehmeyer ('91, editor-in-chief), the CDAA hired Charlottesville accountants Hantzmon Wiebel for the audit. A lot of progress has been made over the summer and into the fall. The audit is helping to clean up and end the years of "guesstimation" as the only real financial strategy. Current Editor-in-Chief Mike Slaven and Chief Financial Officer Kathleen Meyers deserve a lot of credit for putting in the hard work to do this lasting and necessary reform. They will certainly hand off a paper better off than they found it.

I thank Diane Krehmeyer for helping me so much during this transition. She did so much to build up this organization, which she headed for most of the past 15 years, and her help and support have been invaluable.

Finally, if anyone has any questions, comments, or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me. I can be reached at pharvey83@gmail.com.

(Pat Harvey, '06, editor-in-chief, started law school at George Washington University this fall.)

CD SHORES UP FINANCES, ENDURES FLAP ABOUT COMICS

A few months after the current Managing Board took the reins, I wrote about The Cavalier Daily's continuing financial problems and what we were planning to do about them. It wouldn't surprise me if my report alarmed a good many alumni. This time, I start with good news: Things are looking up.

In January, our Managing Board inherited over \$300,000 in uncollected ads sales, a \$50,000 debt to the printer, a bank balance that had fallen by about \$200,000 in two years, and a broken accounting system. With an audit paid for by The Cavalier Daily Alumni Association, our chief financial officer, Kathleen Meyers, has rebuilt our accounting procedures, giving the Managing Board a crystal-clear picture of Cavalier Daily finances day to day.

Over the summer, the Managing Board stayed behind to collect what we could, and we roped in about \$80,000. We adopted the first Cavalier Daily budget in recent memory. Our bank balances have stabilized. We have cut the \$50,000 we owed to the printer to about \$30,000. The Advertising Department,

under Advertising Manager Christina Stavridis, has ramped up its sales while taking on the big task of collection.

The Managing Board broke recent tradition and told the Junior Board of the financial situation. In turn, the staff's response to resulting change has been exemplary. Photo, Sports, Production and Nation & World and Departments in particular have sacrificed some resources for the purpose of the paper, without diminishing the quality of their work. Costs are down, sales are up and collection is improving. The Cavalier Daily's ability to perform its mission rests upon our well-being as an independent company, and we are building a culture conscientious of that.

Our finances improved, but we remain vulnerable enough that our fate could change quickly. Throughout this process, the

CDAA has demonstrated its generosity by providing us professional guidance and moral support. The recent tough times have shown the importance of the CDAA, and our entire staff thanks the alumni for helping The CD in this time of need.

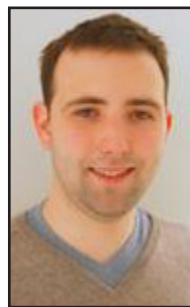
This semester, staff members have done great work regarding fraternity scandals, painting "internships," another open honor trial and the University's capital campaign. November will bring national attention to the University when a rape case from 1984 is brought to trial.

In September, the newspaper found itself garnering headlines in mostly right-wing outlets for its cartoons. The episode raised interesting questions regarding religion in the mass media, and how a college newspaper with a traditional ability to be somewhat edgy should carry itself in the Internet age. The delayed reaction of right-wing media (it took three weeks from publication until Bill O'Reilly) demonstrates that, while the cartoons may have fit into the political agendas of certain culture warriors, they caused a much tamer stir within the University com-

munity itself. This incident may have caused a loss of sleep, but it did not cause a loss of credibility for The Cavalier Daily among those we serve.

We left this controversy with no clear answers on how to edit comics. Editing in such situations will always remain a judgment call, and the industry is still debating what religious commentary is appropriate for newspapers. Throughout this process, though, CD staff decisions have underscored the independence that we hold so dear.

As the current staff wraps up its term, we leave The CD stronger than we found it. We faced a possible catastrophe for the newspaper, but teamwork between alumni and current staff members seems to have averted it. Our continued vigilance will be necessary. But the greatest lesson of our term has been that those whose lives have been touched by The Cavalier Daily will—and must—resolve problems as soon as they can and invest all their efforts in upholding the institution. The CD is too important, to the University and to its current and former staffers, to do any less.



Editor-in Chief
Mike Slaven