

# THE HAMPDEN-SYDNEY TIGER



September 8, 2017

The Freshmen Issue

Volume XCVII.14

## A Message from the President

*President Stimpert*

*To the Students of Hampden-Sydney College:*

Welcome back for this great College's 242nd academic year! At this year's Opening Convocation, I offered some remarks about our College's culture. The theme that ran through much of my talk was the importance of having high expectations—high expectations for our College, high expectations for the

quality of the student experience on our campus, and high expectations for each other. Sam Walton, the legendary business leader and founder of Wal-Mart, once said, "high expectations are the key to everything," and there is so much truth and wisdom in this statement that I have not only lodged it in my memory but I seek to have this simple prescription inform my everyday life. I encourage you to embrace this way of thinking as well.

In my Opening Convocation remarks, I emphasized that we are privileged to be members of an outstanding college. We have a strong sense of

identity, and we are blessed to have a 242-year old mission "to form good men and good citizens" that is even more distinctive, compelling, and relevant today than when it was authored by the College's first president in 1775. I went on to suggest how the high expectations we have for Hampden-Sydney and each other can further strengthen this great College. I'll summarize a few of my points here.

First, many of you have heard me say that we must live more fully into our mission. What I mean by this is that we must ensure that every student at Hampden-Sydney enjoys and

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*Photo: hsc.edu*

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## A Message from the Student Court Chairman

*Skylar Robinson '18  
Student Court Chairman*

I made a mistake.

As a Hampden-Sydney man, I understand that there are consequences to every action. In my case, the consequence was a one-semester suspension from my position as Student Court Chairman. Though I stand in opposition to the decision made, it is not my intention to disparage the Administration or Hampden-Sydney College. Instead, my aim is to preserve the integrity of the Key and the Student Justice System. By accepting the punishment handed down by the Administration, I fear that two negative precedents will be set. Before going further, however, I owe my brothers an explanation and an apology.

On Friday, August 25th, an incident report was filed. At some point that night, the Resident Advisors were suspicious that drinking had taken place in a freshman dorm. Although nobody in the room had been caught actively drinking and I am 21, we, the two members of the Student Court who were in the room, felt that it would be dishonorable not to come forward with the truth. I made

a mistake, but it was not turning myself in. My mistake was accepting an offer to shotgun a beer and take a shot of vodka with freshmen in a dry dorm—a blatant, though minor, violation of the Student Code of Conduct. I had a lapse in judgment, and I owe my brothers and the Administration an apology. As the Student Court Chairman, it is my responsibility to uphold the Student Code of Conduct. The Administration is doing everything in its power to form good men and good citizens in an environment that does not cultivate alcoholism among its students. My actions were inconsistent with that mission, and I knew that I would have to own up to my mistakes; however, there is a proper channel for holding student government leaders accountable.

At Hampden-Sydney College, we take pride in stating that we have a Student Justice System that performs exceptionally better than any honor system maintained at any liberal arts college in the country. If the Administration feels that my actions have violated the credibility of the Student Justice System, then I plea that the Administration allow me to be judged by my brothers within the Student Justice System. In Article III

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# INFO



## The Hampden-Sydney Tiger

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by J. B. Wall '19

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# A Message from the New Editor

Wes Kuegler '18  
*Editor-in-Chief*

*Faculty, Staff, and Fellow Students:*

I hope you're all settling into the new semester's routine comfortably, that your summers were interesting and fulfilling, and that this year's first issue of the *Tiger* finds you well! I'm both honored and excited to have the opportunity to report on all of the happenings of the 2017-2018 academic year. Some changes are being made here at the paper this year that I'd like to make you aware of. First, we are altering our pay structure. In the past, writers were paid only at the end of the semester, and only if they wrote for a majority of issues. This year, writers will be paid on a per-issue basis, in amounts ranging from \$5 to \$15 based on the size of the contribution. It's my hope that this change will make the paper more approachable to people who either can't or don't want to commit to writing for a whole semester. If you have any interest in writing, even just for one issue, I encourage you to reach out or to come to one of our biweekly meetings!

Second, I'm putting an emphasis this year on diversifying the *Tiger's* content. Articles will always make up the bulk of the paper, but there are many other ways to provide engaging material. Columns, write-ins, letters to the editor, cartoons, puzzles, reviews, poetry, and more are all welcome. If you have an unorthodox idea for a contribution, just let me know.

Finally, the sports section is getting a bit of an overhaul. In the past, the paper has had regular updates on the progress of all of the awesome

sports teams we have here at H-SC. It's always great to keep everyone on campus in the loop, of course, but that information was often out of date by the time you had the issue in hand. This year, the sports section of the *Tiger* will be focusing more on interviews, player profiles, and other kinds of content that everyone will hopefully find less routine. For all of your regular season information needs, I direct you to the very well maintained – and more up-to-date – college sports site, [hscathletics.com](http://hscathletics.com).

For this issue, President Stimpert has graciously written a

welcome letter, for which I would like to extend both mine and the *Tiger* staff's personal thanks. I encourage you to read his inspiring words and take them to heart.

I'm always available if you have suggestions or feedback, or just want to learn more about the paper and the journalistic process, so feel free to email [newspaper@hsc.edu](mailto:newspaper@hsc.edu) any time.

Sincerely,  
Wes Kuegler '18  
Editor-in-Chief







# EDITORIALS

## Administrative Schedule Changes Impact Students

*Chad Pisano '19*  
Staff Writer

Like that of most students at any college in America, my summer was fairly packed. Between working summer internships, family vacations, and volunteering at a camp, I often felt like I barely had any time to myself. Unfortunately, this time was cut even shorter when Hampden-Sydney moved up the start of classes this semester. Typically, I would not gripe about losing a couple of days at the end of summer, but the way this change was made deserves criticism: Rather than have the faculty vote on this change

and enact it the following year, the administration chose to punish those of us who schedule in advance.

I did not lose out on the last few days of hanging out with my buddies; I lost the time that I had to pack and do my laundry after volunteering at a camp which began its application process early in the spring semester. I was already locked into attendance when I first heard that we would need to check in on August 20th – the day after I got home from camp. The school's last-minute decision led to me arriving late Sunday night, under packed, under slept, and stressed out – just in time for classes to begin in full force! No time for students to adjust, to decorate bare rooms, or to say hi to old friends.

The newly lengthened syllabus week did not relieve this stress, either. Instead it magnified it by accelerating the start of our classes, punishing those of us who wait until we have our syllabi in hand before ordering books, and ensuring that any time needed to adjust would not be found.

Now, perhaps I am merely part of a small percentage who were shocked and adversely affected by moving up of the start of the semester. Maybe I'm still just a little mad that the normally stressful move-in period was made worse in more ways than one for me. However, the effects of the changes in our schedule do not stop at just being absurdly last-minute and ruinous to an ideal move-in period. We will now have to deal

with an exam period that has three, not two, slots for exams a day. Of course, if we have more than two in a row, we can reschedule one. However, it seems a bit ridiculous that a student may have an exam from 6pm to 9pm when he could have another test at 9am the next morning. The harm does not stop here: it even extends to our mothers! Now, eschewing the tradition of graduation landing on Mother's Day, our school has inexplicably chosen to move graduation date to the day before Mother's Day. Sure, maybe a day makes a very small difference in the lives of students, but try telling that to the moms of this year's graduates, who will miss the perfect Mother's Day presents by a single day.

Change is always met with re-

sistance. Any student who has taken a history or government class here will tell you that. However, some changes are worse than others, and moving around the academic calendar, from a current student's perspective, is pointlessly harmful. The college as a whole over the last year and a half or so continually made rapid changes to the structure of our college's administrative faculty, the structure of our residence life, and now our academic calendar. Perhaps, then, it should not come as a shock that this most recent change shows a callous disregard for the wants and expectations of Hampden-Sydney students and their families.

## Interview with Theatre Professor Elizabeth Parks

*Robert Morris '20*  
Staff Writer

I sat down with visiting professor of Theatre, Elizabeth Parks, to ask her a few questions. After my interview, I can only conclude that Ms. Parks will fit right in here at Hampden-Sydney:

**Q. What attracted you to Hampden Sydney?**

**A.** Living in the jungle wilderness of Virginia.

**Q. What do you believe is the key to good theatre?**

**A.** Desire. Conflict. Authenticity.

**Q. What is your spirit animal?**

**A.** My 8lb rescue-dog Maddie, who

is a malty-poo.

**Q. Who is afraid of Virginia Woolf?**  
**A.** If Elizabeth Taylor is in the room, then definitely Elizabeth Taylor!

**Q. What is your favorite Keanu Reeves movie?**

**A.** None. Ever, at all. Ever. I can't imagine him ever having a thought of his own.

**Q. How is it to teach at an all-male school?**

**A.** This was a challenge I embraced wholeheartedly. I have a twin brother and thus have had a male presence in my life- for as long as I can remember. Essentially, ... bring it!

**Q. Which do you prefer, Mimes or Clowns? Explain.**

**A.** I have trained with a Bulgarian

mime/clown...

**Q. What state, besides Texas, has the best BBQ?**

**A.** I don't really care about BBQ, as long as it's not my dad's dried-out over seasoned charred burgers... I'm mystified by the brisket-phenomenon. Why is brisket so amazing?

**Q. Have you ever thought about writing a play? What would it be about?**

**A.** I create new theatre all the time- it's kinda my thing...

**Q. Who let the dogs out?**

**A.** My neighbor!

**Q. What are you most excited about this year?**

**A.** Working with some genuinely thoughtful students. For real!

## Life on The Hill as a Gay Student

*Arthur White '20*  
Guest Contributor

In light of the Princeton Review's premiere list of Most and Least LGBT Friendly Campuses in America list released in 2013 and with Hampden-Sydney's place in the top ten least friendly campuses since the list's origin, many people often ask what life is like for the not-straight, cisgendered people on campus.

One interviewee, Quinn Sipes '19, agreed to answer questions of what life is like for him on The Hill as a gay man. When Sipes, a Greek/

Latin and Theatre double major, is not translating passages from the Septuagint or practicing his performance of Takasago for his research project presentation, he can be found all over campus working to the help keep the college running. When asked of his on-campus jobs, Sipes ran down a list of jobs that includes Head RA of Whitehouse and Carpenters Y and Z, book-shelver at the library, theatre assistant, mailroom employee, and Wellness Advocate.

This past summer, completing an Honors Council Research Grant project, Sipes traveled

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## President Continued

benefits from the same high-caliber experience here. Most fundamentally this involves taking care of each other, so that we are all safe. But it also means that we strive to live and work in ways that more closely conform to our ideals of “forming good men and good citizens,” that we live and work with honor and integrity, and that we behave as gentlemen at all times.

If we can more fully live into our mission and ideals, if we can not only ask each other to comply with our Honor Code and Code of Conduct but to embrace those expectations and make them the lived reality here, and if we can ensure that all students benefit from the Hampden-Sydney educational experience, then we will create over time a truly distinctive student culture here—one that sets this campus apart from other colleges and universities.

I also emphasized that we need to have the expectation that we both start together and finish together. For a long time, it has become a part of the Hampden-Sydney culture to say, “look to your right and look to your left, and one of the three of you won’t be graduating from Hampden-Sydney.” I also understand that the word on the street in some of our recruiting territories is “Hampden-Sydney is easy to get into but hard to stay in.” And, I can understand that there might be some pride in making these statements. They allow us to imagine that Hampden-Sydney might be too challenging for some students; that we have what it takes to get through here but some other students do not.

But, these statements are a weakness in our culture and brotherhood. Certainly some students arrive less prepared for college; some are less motivated to study and excel. But, if we have a culture here that says at the outset that we don’t expect some of our students to graduate, won’t this likely become a self-fulfilling

prophecy? And, by the way, from a recruiting standpoint, it is very hard to convince the parents of prospective students that Hampden-Sydney is a good choice if they believe that their son has a one-in-three shot at failing to graduate from here. You need to challenge yourselves and one another, and look to your right and look to your left and say, “I will see you on graduation day.” And, you need to repeat this statement often because repetition is one of the most powerful ways to establish and reinforce positive aspects of our culture.

We are members of a remarkable college, beneficiaries of a wonderful legacy. Let us live into our mission, embracing the highest of expectations and charting only the highest aspirations for ourselves and our great College. Let us meet and exceed our highest expectations because we are unwilling to accept anything less of ourselves and our school. And, if we do, then we will not only foster here very distinctive College prepared “to form good men and good citizens” for another 242 years, but we will also create a College whose fame will spread far and wide.

Section III Part VI, the Senate has the duty to “initiate impeachment proceedings against any member of Student Government for neglect of duty or for bringing discredit upon Student Government or the College. It shall also have the obligation to bring about impeachment proceedings in these situations” (Student Handbook 56). If my actions are to be considered reckless, bringing discredit to Hampden-Sydney College and its Student Government, then the Senate retains the authority to initiate impeachment proceedings, and I could ultimately be brought to trial before the Student Court. By accepting a punishment handed down by the Administration, I fear that the first negative precedent will be set: whenever convenient, the Administration circumvents the procedures enumerated in the Key. I understand that the process for impeachment proceedings might tarnish my reputation, affect my career aspirations, or result in a harsher punishment than a single-semester suspension from my position. The Student Court Chairman, however, makes an oath to uphold the Key, and I will not make the same mistake twice. We are all held equal under the Key, and I refuse to hold myself to a different standard than my brothers.

Furthermore, I’ve heard some talk that has me worried. Students feel

that the Administration is punishing me for doing the honorable thing. Though unintended, the Administration’s decision created a second negative precedent: an incentive for students to lie. After all, there wasn’t any evidence outside of what we brought forward. I’ve heard so many times over the past few days that I shouldn’t have said anything, and that worries me. A Hampden-Sydney man does the honorable thing not because it’s easy, but because it’s hard. Even if I could go back to the moment I came forward with the truth, I would do it all over again without hesitation. We don’t follow the Honor Code because we’re scared of being punished. We follow the Honor Code because we are committed to an honorable way of life. By deciding to follow the procedures set forth in the Key, I am making a conscious effort to hold myself accountable for my actions. That is what it means to be a Hampden-Sydney man.

There are three lessons I hope all of my brothers take away from my mistake. First, we are all held equal under the Key. Whether we be a first semester freshman or the Student Court Chairman, the Key holds all of us accountable for our actions. None of us are perfect, but we, as Hampden-Sydney men, have a responsibility to face our mistakes. Remember that our mistakes do not define us. We are

defined by how we respond to them. Second, it’s almost never easier to do the honorable thing, but a Hampden-Sydney man does not run from responsibility; he embraces it. If you turn your back on honor now, you are turning your back on becoming a true Hampden-Sydney man later. Your diploma will be nothing more than a piece of paper. Lastly, I might stand in opposition to the decision handed down by the Administration, but I agree with their cause. Hampden-Sydney College cannot form good men and good citizens in an environment that cultivates reckless drinking and, even worse, alcoholism. The consequences of this behavior are pervasive. In my time as a student, my life has been forever changed because of alcohol. Last year, we lost one of our greatest brothers because of alcohol. Two weeks ago, the night before my mistake, my grandfather took his life because of alcoholism. Please, brothers, be careful. There is a difference between fun and recklessly putting yourself in harm’s way. Hold each other accountable and be the best men you can be. The habits you form now will stick with you forever.

Respectfully,  
Skyler M. Robinson  
Student Court Chairman

## Chairman Continued

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# FEATURES

## Macon Man on Campus

*Keifer Pfister '20*  
*Staff Writer*

As the new year begins, H-SC welcomes a new face within the administration: John Holleman III. Mr. Holleman replaced Director Ramsey as the Associate Dean of Students for Housing & Residence Life here at H-SC. He comes from Ferrum College where he occupied a similar position as Housing Director. This past week I had the opportunity to sit down and learn more about our new dean and what drove a Macon Man to work at Sydney.

Mr. Holleman is a Virginia boy, born in Richmond and raised all over

the Southern part of the state. As a child, he dreamed of becoming a wealthy entrepreneur, saying that he never in a million years expected to be a school administrator, least of all here at Sydney. He played three sports in high school: cross country, wrestling, and basketball. His true passion was basketball — one he still carries — and he won back-to-back in the Faculty vs. Student championships at Ferrum. He enjoys watching professional basketball and football, rooting for the Lakers and Redskins, respectively.

Mr. Holleman and I also briefly spoke about housing policy. His biggest short-term goal is to increase communication and reduce response-times from the Housing administration. His long term five-year plan is to attempt to build communities

around the dorms for upperclassman and expand the communities around the dorms for underclassman. He also seeks to make the RAs more extensive resources for the students in all four years of schooling.

Eventually the topic of his alma mater came up. Mr. Holleman did graduate from Randolph-Macon, but he feels as though he identifies with the ODAC more than any specific school. He told me that after graduation, all the big-school alumni in the real world make ODAC alumni grow closer together because of their common background. He also told me that he's here to stay, and that Sydney is now his home. He intends on attending the Sydney-Macon Game this year, and assured me that he'll be rooting for the boys in Garnet and Grey.

## New Job, Same Great Beard

*Ian Burns '20*  
*Staff Writer*

The Office of Student Affairs has revamped Residence Life by adding Area Coordinators. The Area Coordinator for Programming, Diversity, and Inclusion is Alexander Abbott '17. Mr. Abbott works directly with Residence Life, specifically by overseeing staffs of Resident Advisors to help maintain discipline in the freshman residence halls and the rest of the north side of campus. Abbott works to put on numerous events on campus for students, including the recently held Raft Debate, won by Dr. Lea. On the diversity side of things, Abbott serves on the Intercultural Affairs Committee as an ex officio member and oversees the programming and event budget for the Office of Diversity and Inclu-

sion. Abbott is working with groups like the Minority Student Union, the Unity ALLiance, and the International Club to put on events that interest people of diverse backgrounds and expose students to new perspectives.

The transition from student to employee of the college may seem hard, but Abbott says it was smoother than he expected. Abbott says that being a Head RA, "has helped me in my transition because I already knew there are some things that I can or cannot talk about. The same things that I had to treat as confidential as a Head RA are still confidential." Confidential topics may include students with health crises or the inner workings of the disciplinary system, such as sanctions levied by the student court. Abbott also noted, "the fact that I do still have friends, colleagues, and classmates that are still here means that I'm able to be an effective administrator

because I can get the pulse of campus."

In Abbott's first year on the job, he hopes to reach students who feel like their voice has not been heard. He is putting on an event specifically geared towards first generation college students, something Hampden-Sydney College has never done. "I take the inclusion side of my job seriously," says Abbott. "This office [Office of Student Affairs] and I are valuable resources to all students; they just need to utilize us." Studying here for the past four years, Abbott has formed connections that he would be happy to use to help students. Alex Abbott can be found in the Brown Student Center on the third floor in the Office of Student Affairs. He can be reached through his campus phone number (434) 223-6384 or by email at [aabbott@hsc.edu](mailto:aabbott@hsc.edu).

## Campus Pleased with Brown Student Center

*Brad Murawski '19*  
*Guest Contributor*

The new Brown Student Center is one of the largest buildings on campus. The building sprawls a massive 27,000 square feet, replacing the old area where Eggleston once stood. Inside of the student center is a lounge with a fireplace and a game room with pool tables and ping pong. Brown also now houses the Tiger Inn and the post office, as well as numerous offices and a few classrooms. Since its completion, the Brown Student Center has had students, professors, and employees at Hampden-Sydney all buzzing about the new building. To get feeling for the general opinion around campus, I asked several people on campus for their opinions on the new student center.

Grayson Cogan, a senior, feels that "It is well done, but parts of it seem rushed." After the Tiger Inn was moved, the space under the Commons was left empty and inaccessible to students, he complained. Graham Hall, the old location for the post office, has also been left mostly empty. Cogan added that "Plans should have already been made and implemented for filling in those spaces. As of now, Graham is desolate."

Ian Burns, a sophomore, said that the student center is "Really well designed." He went on, saying, "The lobby area is homey and is a nice touch to the building." Ian also said that he is glad the construction is finished, and that there will be no more construction noises heard across campus.

Dave Hart, also a senior at H-SC, said that the student center is a "Nice addition to the campus, and it's a good place for students to hangout, relax, and pass time. The building is a huge benefactor to the lives of current students."

As for the employees who work in the Brown Student Center, opinions are very positive about their new workspaces. The post office workers have expressed lots of praise about having more space in this new post office than in Graham, which felt cramped. Now they will be able to walk around much more easily when everyone orders their textbooks at the beginning of semesters. When questioned about the student center, Dr. Afatsawo, a language professor at H-SC, voiced his praise for the new building by saying that it is serving its purpose well as the center of the campus. He also shared that many of the professors feel the same way and love the new building.

All in all, it seems opinions of the Brown Student Center are generally positive. Between the renovations and the construction of new buildings, the campus has a bright future. We will have to wait and see what the Administration plans to do with the old space in Graham. As for the space under the Commons, plans are in place to renovate it into a tutoring hub to host the Writing Center and Speaking Center. As for now, we can all enjoy the new additions that the Brown Student Center brings to the campus, and look forward to the future construction of new buildings on our campus.





# REVIEWS

## *Perfect Timing* NAV and Metro Boomin

After dropping his debut album, NAV, earlier this year, NAV is back. Having teamed up with Metro Boomin, the two released *Perfect Timing* this summer. (Don't worry, I'm resisting the urge to make a pun with the album title.) The fifteen-song project is good overall and hosts a variety of features by other artists, but it isn't close to stacking up with other albums that

have truly been artistic masterpieces.

NAV was a music producer before he became a rapper, and, fittingly, the beats throughout the album are fantastic. There is a very nice balance between recurring motifs and different thoughts within the non-lyrical components of the album. Additionally, the music of the songs flow cohesively together as a single project and there is a nice progression within the songs and the album as a whole. If the album could be judged on this alone, it would get five stars or close to it.

The lyrics, however, must be accounted for in any review of this album. *Perfect Timing* suffers a similar problem as did NAV in this depart-

ment: the ideas presented in the album are very repetitive. Whether NAV is talking about sex, drugs, and his lavish style or sex, drugs, and his lavish lifestyle, he doesn't really move beyond that subject matter. It drags, it blurs, and it gets repetitive. That isn't to say it's all bad, and many of these songs would certainly be well placed in a hip-hop playlist, but the album suffers overall from this monotony.

Upon subsequent listens, one can begin to sense ever so mildly NAV's touching upon deeper themes. "Held Me Down" and "Call Me" both hint at deep seated emotions about girls in NAV's life, past or present. They contain some very subtle signs that NAV is capable of emotional depth, if only he could overcome an apparent fear about what it might do to his image or his career. He's already released two relatively well-known albums, though, and has signed onto a significant label. He's safe enough from a career standpoint to lean into those darker places within him, and if he does, then his next album might truly be a gem.

-Shelby T. Hanna '20



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## Robert Morris' *Top 10 Movies of the Summer*

1. Baby Driver
2. War for the Planet of the Apes
3. Dunkirk
4. The Big Sick
5. Detroit
6. Wonder Woman
7. Spiderman Homecoming
8. Atomic Blonde
9. Despicable Me 3
10. Valerian and the City of a Thousand Planets (On Mute!)

# Life Continued

to Tokyo, Japan to attend a program taught by the Kita school of Noh theatre. Sipes described his introduction to the theatrical form as intimidating but enriching. Next week on September 14th at 8 PM, Sipes will be giving a performance and presentation as the culmination of his trip. He, along with Professor Dubroff, will be performing a song from the Noh play Takasago and discussing the Theatre of the Flower.

As a theatre student, Sipes has been involved in nearly every performance since his freshmen fall semester – in plays such as *The Mystery of Irma Vep*, *American Buffalo*, and *La Bête*. Sipes' interest in theatre tends toward the technical side, so he typically maintains the role of stage manager for school productions. As a culmination of his time at Sydney, Sipes plans on translating Euripides' *Medea* into English, publishing the work, and directing a performance of the piece here during the spring semester of his senior year. Out of the myriad plays Sipes reads for class, *Medea* spoke to Sipes, specifically the character *Medea* and the emotion expressed in her monologues. Maintaining the Greek tradition, Sipes hopes to cast the entire play with male actors even though the characters of *Medea*, the Chorus, and the entirety of the chorus are portrayed as women. Sipes' faculty advisors for this translation and production will be Dr. Irons, Professor Kagan, and Professor Dubroff.

Reading this article, you may have noticed an absence of a particular narrative. To clarify: upon being asked to write this article, I spoke with several members of the community on campus, and all had a list of

negative experiences they witnessed or were subject to on campus. Furthermore, all those interviewed expressed a preference towards an article highlighting the on-campus work of the community rather than a narrative piece meant to pull at the heartstrings of straight guilt. Quite candidly, this article began with a much broader scope of the struggle many of the community have faced on campus. That was an easy-to-write article with just the right amount of "at least the campus is better than it used to be." But, Sydney deserves more than a sugar-coated story glossed over with an apology from the community for disturbing the status quo.

Hampden-Sydney has maintained a spot in the Top Ten Least LGBT Friendly campuses in America since the creation of the list in 2013. We have come to a point in the college's history where it is imperative to recognize that members of the brotherhood are made to hear their brothers crack gay jokes or use the word "fag," a word that is pejorative regardless of context. Events that have taken place on campus within the first month of school have once again stirred up the discussion: is Sydney safe for the LGBT members of the community? I question further, are you part of the brotherhood fighting to help us break out of that awful top ten through empathy and support for your brothers, who take the same classes as you, who finish those last minute drafts just like you, and who, by all accounts, deserve the same rights as any Hampden-Sydney Man?



## SPORTS

# New Head Soccer Coach Tommy DiNuzzo

Stewart Thames '19  
Guest Contributor

On February 21st, Tommy DiNuzzo was announced as the College's new head soccer coach. DiNuzzo graduated from Mary Washington in 2009 and was an assistant soccer coach for a couple of years before accepting the head coaching position at the University of Maine-Farmington. I met up with coach DiNuzzo prior to the start of the season to discuss why he decided to become a college soccer coach and the team's goals and expectations as the program begins the DiNuzzo era.

**Q: Do you have any specific moment as a kid, or maybe later in your life, when you realized that you loved the game of soccer?**

A: I think there's a lot of those moments. I think as a player, it's just like anything else when you are trying to figure out what you want to do with your life or what's really important to you. Usually those things are just staring you in the face, so that's kind of how it was with soccer. It always came naturally. I played since, whatever, I was six or seven years old. Then when I was trying to figure out what I was going to do when I was graduating, I was looking at teaching jobs and that type of thing. I had already been coaching since I was a sophomore in college, and it just came naturally. Then it was a no-brainer to go down and do it full-time in Lynchburg, so I don't know. I think there are a lot of those moments, and I then I think as you transition from playing to coaching, as well, those moments change a little bit. Still, the emotions are the same: the adrenaline rush, the competition and all of that. I think it's tough to pinpoint just one [moment].

**Q: When did you decide that you wanted to become a soccer coach? And who has influenced the way you coach, or your coaching style, the most?**

A: I started coaching when I was in college and one of the guys that I played for just brought me on. I got to do some individual training, technical work, that kind of thing, and I enjoyed it. Same thing. It came naturally and I enjoyed it. It was fun and great to be on the field in any capacity. From there, I think from the college side of things, the first year I was an assistant at Mary Washington, I was like, 'man this is definitely what I want to do.' It just kind of clicked. So, as far as influences, the guy that I played for was coach Roy Gordon at Mary Washington. He was there for thirty plus years, and ironically he actually coached at the school in Maine that I ended up coaching at, but he coached there like forty years before I was there. So he is absolutely a big influence, not just with on the field stuff but off the field as well with the way he ran his program. Then another big influence for me is coach Yeager over at Lynchburg College. I got to work with him for a couple of years. We are still good friends to this day. We have a similar mindset with a lot of things, and I have a lot of respect for the way he runs his program.

**Q: You've been an assistant coach at Mary Washington and Lynchburg and the head coach at Maine-Farmington. What is your proudest moment as a coach?**

A: So, a couple jump out to me. Most of them, really, are when I was up in Maine. Because as an assistant, it's a little bit different. But up in Maine we had a couple of really good wins. Kind of against the odds a little bit—some upset wins. We beat teams on their home fields, one particularly in the playoffs that

we won in overtime. It was just an important moment for a lot of our young guys that had worked really hard for a few years to get to that, including one of our current assistant coaches, Henry Ametti who was a part of that. Yeah, I think all of those types of moments are going to be the same: it's going to be situations where you had to put in a lot and really give everything you had and then you get rewarded. So that's what I think it comes down to and that's the common denominator with those.

**Q: Are there any differences about Hampden-Sydney that you've noticed compared to the other schools you have coached at?**

A: Yeah, they dress nicer here than in Maine. I mean I think every single place has their own niches and different character traits from place to place. Particularly coming from Maine, it's a lot different than here, which is fine. Even vastly different than Mary Washington and Lynchburg. I've been impressed, and I think that this place has unbelievable resources. That's why I am excited about the potential for this program. Our resources are great compared to a lot of other places. Particularly with the alumni network and the support our program has and the support our athletic departments have. So that's really what has impressed me. Basically, just the untapped potential within our program.

**Q: As a new coach, how have you tried to change the culture of this team on and off the field heading into this season?**

A: I mean, lots of different ways. I think whenever someone new comes in its going to be a transitional time. So it's kind of my job to guide things along and I'm just a facilitator. We have some experienced guys who have been in the program for a

few years now. We got some young guys who have had great influence in a short period of time. So my job, again, is to just kind of guide them along and to help raise expectations a little and push them a little more so they can reach their true potential. But it's an ongoing process and it's always going to be that way. So, I think the changes are greater right now and then a year from now a lot of the stuff will be commonplace. It's just establishing expectations, putting things in place, and being very intentional about everything to get us where we want to be.

**Q: Speaking of expectations, Hampden-Sydney was ranked #10 out of 12 in the ODAC preseason poll. Do you think this is a fair assessment of the current team compared to the rest of the ODAC? And what are the team's goals and expectations for this season?**

A: Those rankings don't mean anything. You know that. I'm fine with it. Sure, I wish they put us twelfth, fine. Like we told the guys, it doesn't matter what anyone outside of our team thinks or believes. Now it's our chance to prove everyone wrong. We have an opportunity Friday night to do that and we are going to have a number of opportunities after that and every day in training as well. So we are excited about it. I think we have lofty expectations. We want to be in the top half of the conference. We want to get back into the playoffs. From there, anything can happen. I think we are absolutely capable of that. Yeah, again, we are excited about really getting going.

**Q: Is there any particular playing style or specific formation we should expect from this team this year? Will this be a team that likes to bunker in and counter? Could we see three in the back? That's pretty**



Photo: hscathletics.com

**popular right now. How do you want this team to play this season?**

A: I think people always ask those types of questions with formations and that was a popular question with the guys [players] too. Our job as a coaching staff is to do what is best for the group and to set the group up to be successful. So, in that way, you kind of have to be able to play differently sometimes. So, I don't know what our formation is going to be 100% of the time. Odds are we start with four in the back and then kind of go from there. We want it to be a fluid system. We want the guys to be able to express themselves and have some freedom. We have a lot of creative attacking players. So we want to be organized in the back and once we get forward we want guys to have some different options and as long as we cover for one another then it's fine. Regardless of our formation, like I've told the guys, the principles stay the same. So, we want it to be high energy. We want to try to win the ball high up the field and attack quickly from there. But, again, you know the ODAC is tough and it's a long season so you have to be able to play in a lot of different ways.



## SPORTS



# Football Holds on at Home

The Tigers topped Averett 20-17 Saturday to win their first season opener since 2013.



Senior running back Mikey Demasi led the Tigers on the ground Saturday. (Photo: hscathletics.com)

Travis Stackow '19  
Guest Contributor

Not since 2013 had the Hampden-Sydney football team started their season with a win. That one wasn't a close one, as the Tigers beat the Averett Cougars 42-12.

Things were closer this time around, as the Tigers battled the rain and a broken scoreboard to hold off the Cougars 20-17, advancing to 1-0 for the first time in four years.

The Hampden-Sydney football team had a difficult year last season, but are confident going forward in the 2017 season thanks to the hard work put forth by the play-

ers in the offseason, which was on full display last weekend for their season opener against Averett.

After being thrust into the starting spot last season following a season-ending injury to Edgar Moore, junior quarterback Alec Cobb solidified his job as the Tigers' starter for the 2017 season. Cobb led the offensive up and down the

field on Saturday, going 32-of-42 for 288 yards and two touchdowns.

After delivering a strike to sophomore wide receiver Major Morgan for a touchdown early in the early fourth quarter, the Tigers would refuse to give up the lead again, thanks to what Cobb called "phenomenal" play by the defense with "a couple of huge plays down the stretch."

"The defense came out with tenacity and grit," said senior running back Mikey DeMasi, who capped off a drive of over sixty yards with a touchdown following an interception from junior safety Ryan Mallory.

DeMasi was handed the ball eighteen times and rushed for 88 yards and a touchdown. "The offensive line stepped up and opened up some great lanes for me to run through," Demasi said.

DeMasi serves as a leader for the Tiger football team both on and off the field, and will play a key role in leading the Tigers back to their winning ways this season. He attributes their success Saturday to the offseason and the coaches. "We worked extremely hard in the weight room this off season and I feel our that the team this year has really bought into what we are trying to accomplish," Demasi said. "I trust the coaching staff is going to prepare us for success every week."

The Tigers will head to Newport News this weekend to face Christopher Newport, before returning home on September 16th in hopes of another home victory in front of a strong Tiger fan base.

## Fantasy Corner:

### Three Up, Three Down

#### UP

#### Kareem Hunt, RB

With Spencer Ware facing a season ending injury, Hunt will most likely be stepping up as the starting running back for the Chiefs.

#### Ted Ginn Jr., WR

Since Brandin Cooks now plays for the Patriots and Willie Snead is questionable for the first game, Ginn Jr. will be one of the few deep threats for Drew Brees.

#### Kyle Rudolph, TE

Last season, Rudolph found his stride at the end of the season as Bradford's number 1 target.

#### DOWN

#### Danny Woodhead, RB

With a growing age and another injury, Woodhead is a player you should set aside for now.

#### Sam Bradford, QB

I hope Bradford is still sitting undrafted in your league because he is expected to have an even worse season than he did last year.

#### Leonard Fournette, RB

Fournette is coming off of a pre-season ankle injury, which could threaten his efficiency.

-Steven Dvornick '18

## Interested in joining the *Tiger*?

Writers, photographers, cartoonists and critics are all welcome to join the *Tiger* family. Shoot us an email at [newspaper@hsc.edu](mailto:newspaper@hsc.edu).