



THE DIAMONDBACK PRESENTS

2020 Looking Back

THE SENIOR SEND-OFF ISSUE

PHOTOS COURTESY OF JULIA NIKHINSON, JOE RYAN, RICHARD MOGLEN, EVAN KRAMER, IRIS VUKMANOVIC, SUZE CREEDON, LEAH BRENNAN, MADELYN MILLER, ALLY O'REILLY, HANNAH GASKILL, ALEX MURPHY AND NORA ECKERT.

SENIORS,

Our time was cut short, upended by a pandemic we didn't know would change our lives so dramatically or so quickly. Although these changes are for the best, we can still grieve what could have been. We can still think of what our last classes would've been like, our last trips to Stamp and McKeldin, our last moments with friends in College Park.

As our time ends at the University of Maryland-Zoom campus, we will forge into what's next, finding our place in a world so desperately in need of the helpers, fixers and innovators we've become. While we do, though, I hope you'll take a few moments to soak in the "before" — the 3½ (or two, or one) year(s) you spent on our campus. The Diamondback's Looking Back issue commemorates the moments that have shaped us along the way, from the sports games we attended, to the social change we spurred, to the ways we've banded together in unprecedented circumstances.

Congratulations on your achievements at this university. I hope you're all as well as you can be right now, and I look forward to seeing what we can do to be a force for good in these challenging times and beyond.

Leah Brennan, 2019-20 EDITOR IN CHIEF

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PHILIP MERRILL
COLLEGE of JOURNALISM

"I'M GLAD I ENDED UP HERE"

At the end of their UMD journeys, graduating seniors remember their fondest memories on campus.

By Clara Niel | @clarasniel | Staff writer

“An unforgettable three-and-a-half years.”

“Every day was a dream.”

“Is there cover at Bentley’s?”

That’s how a handful of seniors summed up their time at the University of Maryland. They went through ups and downs, highs and lows, experiencing the tumultuous rollercoaster of college as they grew into adults. Now, as these seniors leave their undergraduate years behind, some are taking a look back.

For communication major Kristina Whitaker, senior year was the best of them all, even though her time on campus was cut short.

Everything was going well. Whitaker found fulfillment in her place on this university’s club volleyball team and her job at the front desk in Prince Frederick Hall. She spent time with her friends and threw herself into every aspect of her collegiate life — including her classes, which Whitaker said she will miss, in an odd way.

“I think as a senior in college, being a student is part of our identities for so long, you almost don’t know how to not go to class in some way, shape or form, or have regular assignments, or just be constantly learning,” she said.

Whitaker transferred to Maryland from the University of Delaware before her sophomore year, a nerve-racking transition that she was ultimately happy with, she said.

“I think everything kind of happens for a reason,” she said. “I’m glad I ended up here. It was a great, great experience.”

Whitaker said she found comfort and community at this university, and she’s not the only one. As their time in college comes to an end, seniors are thinking about what they’ll miss most about their university experiences — from rubbing Testudo’s nose to the sense of community they said was felt at school.

Some — like finance major Timothy Pang — home in on

the little traditions they created during their time as Terps. Pang fondly remembers one tradition from when he was living on the campus: chicken tender night at the dining halls. He’s been living off-campus for the past couple years, but he still remembers nights he and his friends would spend indulging in the crispy, golden delicacy.

“That was a night I could not miss,” the senior said. “I would have upwards of like 15 chicken tenders per day. As soon as one of my friends saw that it would be chicken tender night, they would take a picture of ... the little postcard thing in the dining hall, send it and everyone would be like, ‘All right, we’re going.’”

Others, like accounting major Maggie McGreal, won’t miss a food, but a feeling — that of being surrounded by thousands of students who understood exactly what she’s going through.

“I definitely remember both staying up super late in the dorms freshman year and getting movie nights,” McGreal



RACHEL HIRSCHHEIMER films a standup while on assignment for Capital News Service. PHOTO COURTESY OF RACHEL HIRSCHHEIMER



KRISTINA WHITAKER (first row, far left) poses for a senior photo with her volleyball teammates. PHOTO COURTESY OF KRISTINA WHITAKER

said. “[College] is probably the most social point in our lives.”

For all of the basketball games, late-night hangouts and convenience store runs it provides, the college experience is not without its hardships — several seniors said their time at this university was smattered with challenges.

One of journalism major Rachel Hirschheimer’s first challenges came early on during her freshman year. She was getting ready to cover her first-ever sporting event — a women’s basketball game — for The Left Bench. Her nerves were so bad that she lost sleep the night before. But, when it came time, she managed to get through it, accumulating around 3,000 views on the resulting video.

Now, as a senior, she’s the executive producer of The Left Bench.

“I think I learned to challenge myself and to not be afraid to do something that I’ve never done before because, I mean,

if you don’t challenge yourself and you don’t put yourself out there, you’ll never grow,” Hirschheimer said.

And, with their final semester cut short by the coronavirus pandemic, the senior class’ on-campus experiences have become even more valuable.

Though he hopes next year’s seniors don’t have to undergo the same abrupt ending to their final year, James Mahoney said the pandemic fallout left him with some advice for the class of 2021.

“Looking back at all the great sort of last experiences that you didn’t know were your last experiences, just take it all in day by day,” the journalism major said. “Try not to get caught up in the hours of schoolwork and the grind of college itself and enjoy the day-to-day life as a college student.”

THOSE WE LOST

The past four years have been marked by tragedy. Here's how it impacted the senior class.

By Christine Condon & Lyna Bentahar | @CChristine19 & @lynabentahar | Senior staff writers

A STUDENT holds a candle in front of the Montgomery Hall bus stop during a midnight memorial to remember 2nd Lt. Richard Collins on his 26th birthday on Dec. 12, 2019. JULIA NIKHINSON/THEDIAMONDBACK

Elonna Jones was at home in Baltimore the summer after her freshman year at the University of Maryland. She was babysitting her younger sister, and the news was playing on television in the background.

That's when the story about 2nd Lt. Richard Collins came on.

Jones had already heard about Collins' death. She already knew that the young black man, a soon-to-be graduate from Bowie State University, had been standing at a bus stop on the campus when he was approached and stabbed to death with a pocket knife.

But suddenly, the tears started coming.

"I just found myself crying. I wasn't even sure really where the tears came from," she said. "It was almost like the sudden re-realization of why black bodies really don't matter."

Nearly three years have passed since then, and Jones and other graduating seniors at this university are still carrying with them what most other current students do not. They know what it was like

to be on the campus before Collins' death — and after.

And their time at Maryland has been stained by a series of agonizing losses. The death of Jordan McNair, a football player who suffered heatstroke at a team workout. The death of Olivia Paregol, a freshman whose battle with adenovirus cost her her life.

These four years have featured court cases and task forces, investigations and reports. By now, most of those things have come and gone. But the painful memories will linger, for the friends and family of those who were lost and for the senior class that bore witness to tragedy after tragedy.

For Jones, now the president of the campus NAACP chapter, Collins' death was something of a call to action. Then a commuter student who was struggling to get involved, Jones decided to apply for the chapter's board after Collins was killed.

"I knew that after my freshman year, especially after he was murdered, that I wanted to try to do something," said Jones, a senior government and politics major.

For her, it was about being heard by the university's administration, which was grappling with campus racism in the wake of Collins' killing and had started developing programming in an attempt to address it.

"How do we make the university and the administration hear us, and not only hear us but really have sympathy and understand our plight as black people, and then also as black students?" she said.

That concern had long existed, but became especially poignant after a string of racist incidents in 2017. Posters proclaiming America is a "white nation" appeared on the campus, and a noose was hung in a campus fraternity house.

In May 2017, Isha Kamara, a senior African-American studies major, joined a protest in front of the president's house, demanding the administration take action to prevent more incidents in the future.

"It's someone's blood that's going to be on your hands," Kamara recalled the protesters saying.

A little over a year later, McNair's death unearthed many of the same concerns.

For Kamara, it felt like "Richard all over again."

The investigation into McNair's death would reveal that the training staff charged with caring for him were slow to recognize the signs of heatstroke and didn't pursue the proper remedy, which would have required them to submerge the young athlete in an ice bath.

The story felt familiar to Jones. It was a jarring reminder that black people's pain is sometimes discounted and undertreated in medicine as a result of racial bias.

"We have suffered tragedy as a university community in recent years, and we have always kept at the forefront our need to support our students through difficult times," said university spokesperson Katie Lawson in a statement.

"Through sadness, we have worked to provide the opportunities for all of us to unite and lean on one another. As we near the end of the academic year, we honor loss as we also celebrate the many accomplishments of our graduates."

Mrinalini Nagarajan, a senior criminology and criminal justice major, felt her heart break when

she got news of Collins' and McNair's deaths. In the wake of losing each of them, she felt called to stand up and support them.

In one instance, she spoke up against students who continued to use the bus stop where Collins was killed, even after it became a de facto memorial to the young ROTC student.

This winter, former student of this university Sean Urbanski was convicted of first-degree murder in Collins' death, although the hate crime charge against him was dropped. Still, no permanent memorial to Collins exists on the campus.

After McNair's death, Nagarajan participated in a rally in McNair's honor, entitled "Justice for Jordan."

Though the rally was originally a protest against football coach DJ Durkin's reinstatement, it ended up taking place after the coach's departure. It devolved into disorder as two factions emerged: those who still felt dissatisfied by the administration's approach, and those who wanted to use the rally as a public show of support for student athletes. But, most importantly, the rally showed the student body

cared about what had taken place, Nagarajan said.

"That was really just something I felt proud to be a part of at the end," Nagarajan said. "At least we're bringing awareness on campus."

Seeing the university come together after each loss brought Nagarajan hope, she said.

"A lot of people were there to support one another during the toughest time," she said. "I think, over the years, more changes will be made in the right direction."

Alex Ostrander, a senior psychology major, looks forward to seeing the current engineering school dean, Darryll Pines, as this university's next president. She hopes that, under his leadership, university administration will become more transparent.

The tragedies Ostrander saw exposed the university's inability to be proactive, she said, convincing her that the administration was continually withholding information from the community.

That belief was reinforced, Ostrander said, after the adenovirus outbreak that struck campus in

2018, killing Olivia Paregol. The university waited 18 days before notifying the campus community of the virus's presence on the campus. Investigations revealed the university followed the necessary protocol, but that communication between departments was troubled.

"It's crazy that the student ended up dying because the university didn't make them aware of [the virus]," Ostrander said. "With all these situations, nothing's really done about it until there's a horrific incident."

The death of Maria Fisher also lingers in Kamara's memory. Fisher, a freshman from Pennsylvania, was hit and killed by a car as she crossed Route 1 early one morning in October 2017. In the months after the crash, Fisher's family revealed she had woken up in a strange room that morning and called several friends in distress. But the police investigation revealed little about Fisher's whereabouts before she was killed.

Kamara said she felt as though the university didn't provide students with enough information about what happened to Fisher.



FRESHMAN MARIA FISHER died in October 2017 after she was hit by a car in College Park. JULIA NIKHINSON/THEDIAMONDBACK



A FLYER calling for justice for Olivia Paregol hangs outside Taliaferro Hall. JULIA NIKHINSON/THEDIAMONDBACK

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D.P. DOUGH, a popular calzone eatery located on Route 1, closed its doors in January 2020. L'SHEA BOYD/THE DIAMONDBACK

During their tenure on the University of Maryland's campus, seniors have seen restaurant after restaurant come and go, with new businesses replacing old College Park favorites — be they late night munchies locations or daily hangout spots.

Before their departure, some of those bygone eateries made an imprint on our minds, hearts and stomachs alike. So, here's an homage to six restaurants past, as told by members of our graduating class.

D.P. DOUGH

Attracting students with its \$5 calzone nights, popular eatery D.P. Dough was a College Park staple for 20 years. The restaurant closed down this January, much to many students' chagrin — D.P. Dough's next-closest franchise location is in Delaware.

Molly Menapace, a senior communication major, still remembers the "unhealthy" number of times she and her friends ordered D.P. Dough her freshman year.

"We loved it because they had good deals and were open super late, so if we were up and craving food we could order from there and they delivered to our dorm!" Menapace said. "Unfortunately, they shut down pretty recently, and I am graduating so it doesn't affect me much, but it's a shame because they

were always my go-to when I was super hungry and nothing else was open. One year, I even ordered it on my birthday as a treat to myself, because it was that good."

MILKBOY ARTHOUSE

With its craft bar, restaurant and performance space, MilkBoy ArtHouse was a popular spot for students to watch a live performance while getting some quality food. The well-loved venue, which opened in May 2017, abruptly closed its doors last December.

Ambi Narula, a senior journalism major, said she loved the "vibe" and "creative energy" she found at MilkBoy. A member and co-founder of The Hysteries — an all-female comedy group at this university — she was at the venue every week for its comedy open mic nights.

"I was heartbroken when it shut down," Narula said. "I just sorta reread the email a few times. I called my friends who I met there and reminisced about the good times we had. MilkBoy made my college experience, and I'm grateful I was able to see it before it went away."

Though she was sad to see it go, Narula said she was glad for the slew of memories MilkBoy provided her.

"One of my first stand-up performances was at comedy night, and my ex-boyfriend was there performing, too, and I ended up performing a bit about us," Narula said. "It got the loudest laughs ever. I spent my 21st birthday at MilkBoy and did a comedy set. I couldn't think of any other place to spend my 21st but in a room laughing my ass off!"

APPLEBEE'S

The College Park Applebee's was as much a karaoke venue as it was a restaurant. Located on Route 1, the beloved eatery was frequented by many before its closure in December 2018.

Visiting Applebee's was a hometown tradition that came with New York native James Mahoney when he started at this university.

"When I heard Applebee's shut down, I was actually devastated," Mahoney, a senior journalism major, said. "I was planning all year of spending my 21st birthday at Applebee's and making all my friends have to come down and have a drink with me there."

Applebee's provided Mahoney with a sense of comfort as he grew used to living away from his family freshman year. "Easter freshman year, a bunch of my friends who celebrate



THE COLLEGE PARK APPLEBEE'S on Route 1 closed in 2018. CHARLIE DEBOYACE/THE DIAMONDBACK



THE MARYLAND FOOD CO-OP in Stamp Student Union closed in May 2019. RICHARD MOGLEN/THE DIAMONDBACK

the holiday and are from out of state were just sitting in our dorm," Mahoney said. "It was weird, since it was my first time not celebrating Easter with my family, and I'm sure everyone else felt the same. One of my friends said his mom wanted us all to go get a meal together and put it on her credit card, so a group of six to eight of us had Easter dinner at Applebee's"

SUBWAY

This location of the worldwide Subway franchise was situated on a now-closed segment of stores along Route 1. Unlike its sister store in Stamp Student Union, the eatery was open for business 24/7 before it shuttered last winter in preparation for the construction of a new College Park City Hall.

"It was a chill place in direct proximity to my favorite bar, Cornerstone," said Brett Blum, a senior journalism major. "It

offered all the classic sandwich needs to satisfy the drunk munchies that every college student has at one point or another."

THE MARYLAND FOOD CO-OP

This worker-owned, vegan-friendly sandwich shop was a fixture on this university's campus since it opened its doors in 1975. After more than 40 years of operation — and despite its workers' best efforts to save it — the business closed down last May due to its rising debts, operational costs and unpaid utility fees.

"It was definitely a more progressive restaurant," said Alex Ostrander, a senior psychology major. "It had good qualities, such as organic food, and was environmentally conscious. It was also just a supportive environment, and you could not get



MILKBOY ARTHOUSE closed in December 2019, after more than two years in operation. JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK



SLICES, a popular pizza joint, closed in August 2018. RICHARD MOGLEN/THE DIAMONDBACK

food like that anywhere else."

SLICES

Located just up the street from well-loved bar R.J. Bentley's, Slices was a popular destination for students to grab a late-night piece of pizza. The eatery was famous for its large slices before it closed unexpectedly during the summer of 2018.

"I loved Slices because it was smaller than the other big pizza shops in College Park, so it seemed like a little secret," said Abby Breen, a senior public health science major. She and her friends used to stop by the eatery for a bite after their nights out. "When I heard that it shut down, I was sad because there's no other pizza place that sells mac and cheese pizza."

"TEARS YOUR HEART OUT"

UMD seniors in band and cheer grieve premature end to final season

By Eric Neugeboren | @eric_neugeboren | Staff writer



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: Cheerleaders at ESPN's College GameDay, cheerleaders at a men's basketball game against Michigan State and the marching band at a men's basketball game against Michigan State. JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK

Matt Norfolk joined the University of Maryland's marching band in his freshman year, the week before classes began — and within days of his first practice, he knew he had found a new home amongst his bandmates.

"The band is a place where family is made," the senior kinesiology major said.

But in March, as the coronavirus began to ravage the United States, Norfolk's last semester with the band came to an abrupt end. First, the NCAA basketball tournaments were canceled, and with them went Norfolk's final chance to play them.

Then, this university announced the rest of the semester would be moved online. As Norfolk turned his trumpet in, he realized his senior year — and his time with the band — was suddenly over.

Norfolk's situation has resonated with seniors in groups such

as band and cheer, who — unlike senior spring athletes, who retained an extra year of athletic eligibility — won't get the chance to spend another year alongside their teammates. And, despite their varying circumstances, some seniors have agreed on one thing: There's a lack of closure.

"You were looking forward to one last semester with them," Norfolk said. "And now it's just cut short."

Katie Hill had waited for years for the cheerleading team's planned trip to the National Cheerleaders Association national championship this spring. While the team had qualified for the tournament during her four years, this was the first time that they had received a "fully paid bid" — a recognition that would've allowed them to attend the tournament for free.

In light of her four shoulder surgeries, Hill wasn't going to

compete in the tournament. But she said she thought the team was healthier and more talented overall than in years past. They were ready to take on the competition, she said.

The team's last practices were in preparation for the NCAA tournaments, Hill said. At the time, they had no idea their season would end before the competition, and finding out "really sucked," she said.

"I didn't know it was my last game, didn't know it was my last practice, didn't know I didn't have Nationals," Hill said. "We don't have anything to honor our last season."

Hill wasn't the only cheerleader affected by the season's premature end. In her second semester on the team, Alex Swann-White was looking forward to hanging out with her teammates more. She was especially excited to attend this year's NCAA tournament games

— as a basketball fan, it was something she had always hoped to do.

"Finding out not being able to go was really upsetting, especially because I am a senior, so this was my chance to get to go," the elementary education major said.

Though their time with their groups came to an early end, several seniors said they were glad for the memories they made over the years.

Senior psychology major Alex Ostrander was part of this university's marching and pep bands for the seven semesters she spent on the campus. For her, it wasn't just playing that made the experience worth it — the relationships she made along the way were just as important, she said.

"Not only do you have the memories with band," said Ostrander, who played the marching baritone. "You also create memories outside of it, and it's just the people are amazing"

In her sophomore year, Ostrander sprained her ankle while walking on the football field with the marching band. She still remembers how a band member who she didn't know ran to get her some ice right away.

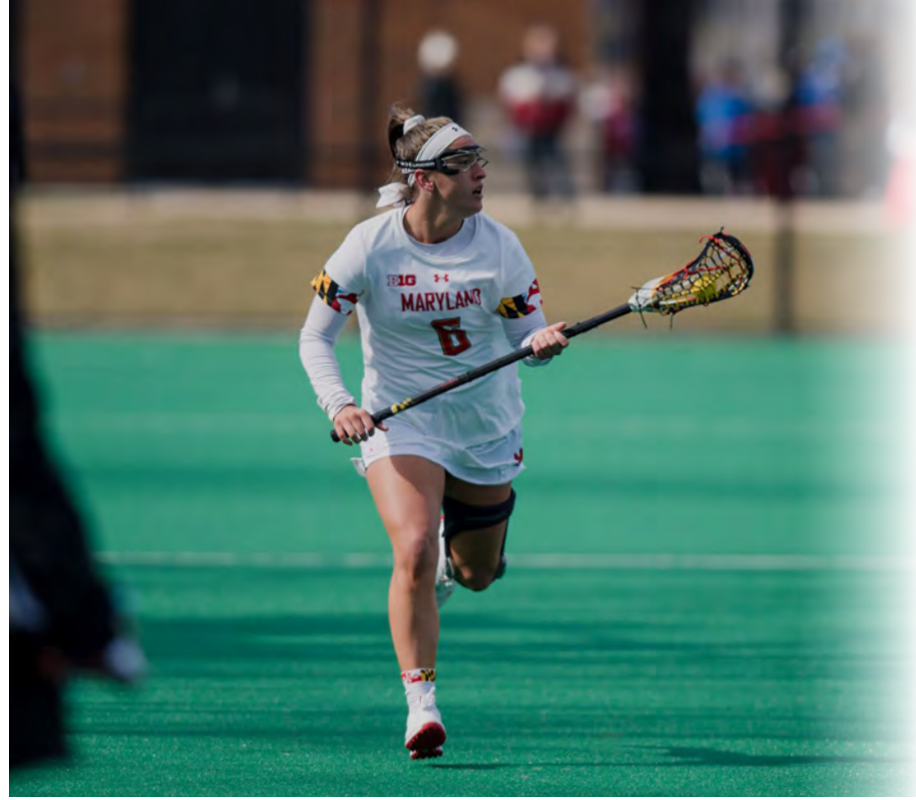
United by their passion for performance, band members were always there to help each other, she said, and that sense of community is something many will miss.

"It's just hitting and hurting so many people," Ostrander said.

And though it was only his first year in the band, senior and alto saxophone player Orlando Romero feels the same way. This spring was his first chance to play the NCAA tournaments with his bandmates — a chance he was excited about and won't have again.

"It kinda tears your heart out a little bit," he said.

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MEGHAN DOHERTY finished her Maryland lacrosse career with two national championships. Despite having an extra year of eligibility following the coronavirus pandemic, Doherty stepped away to pursue a career in occupational therapy. GABBY BANIQUEO/THE DIAMONDBACK

“A TOUGH CALL”

How two senior spring athletes are figuring out their futures

By David Suggs | @David_Suggs3 | Senior staff writer

After the coronavirus pandemic cut their 2020 seasons short, spring sports athletes were granted an extra year of eligibility by the NCAA. For seniors, this meant a choice: stay on for one final season in the hopes of getting a proper send-off or forgo their final year of eligibility and end their college careers. Here are two of those seniors' stories.

Of all the decisions Meghan Doherty has made in her life, it was her last as Maryland women's lacrosse captain that proved the most difficult.

Last May, Doherty was at her pinnacle: T-shirt draped over her jersey and wrapped in an embrace with her teammates as they lifted the national championship trophy at Homewood Field in Baltimore.

Then a redshirt junior, Doherty thought she had more time; one last chance to add another piece of hardware to her collection, the third title of her career.

But, unbeknownst to her, the coronavirus pandemic would

strike. Her senior season was cut short. And as the NCAA mulled a decision about eligibility for spring sports athletes, Doherty had one to make, too: stay for a sixth season — giving herself the chance to have the storybook ending she envisioned when she first arrived in College Park — or go, and start her professional journey as an occupational therapist.

She chose the latter.

“It was time for me to move on,” Doherty said. “As much as I didn't want to.”

However, as Doherty prepares for the next stage of her life, she harkens back to the memory of gripping that championship trophy for the last time, surrounded by her closest friends. She has countless other experiences, too, from five years of peaks, troughs, forced turnovers and ground balls.

She wouldn't have it any other way.

“This program has been extremely special and given me such great opportunities to become a

better person,” Doherty said. “I've met some of the best people in the entire world playing at Maryland.”

After waltzing to the national title last year, the Terps seemed poised to make yet another run. Doherty, made captain shortly before this season began, looked especially capable of leading coach Cathy Reese's brigade — the Elliott City native was named to the Tewaaron watchlist, among other preseason honors.

But Maryland struggled out the gate, seeing its 86-game home-winning streak snapped just two games into the year. Soon, one defeat turned into three, tying the Terps' total from the past two years combined.

While Reese's squad was trending upward at the time of the season's cancellation, its final record still reads 3-3, reflective of a talented-but-flawed squad that never really got it going.

For Doherty, though, Maryland's performances don't really matter, at least not now. They're not what

she's going to hold on to as she moves into the next chapter of her life. Instead, it's the relationships that stuck out to her, a team united on — and off — the field.

“It was awesome to see how much our team grew into better friends,” Doherty said. “I'm really thankful I got this opportunity to extend my friendships and really grow my opportunity to be a better friend, a better teammate.”

It's a camaraderie that was reflected in that celebration at Homewood Field last May. And it's one that made her decision to forgo an extra year particularly difficult.

“For where I want to be headed in life and my future,” Doherty said. “I had to make a tough call.”

Her newfound independence has its perks, of course, especially when it comes to working out.

“It's a little bit of a relief, there's no pressure,” Doherty said. “If I get tired in a run, I can walk and I don't have to feel like I'm messing up.”

But it's been hard, too. Lacrosse — and the friendships that come with it — has dominated Doherty's life since she first stepped onto the Field Hockey and Lacrosse Complex. She still talks to her teammates every day through Zoom or group FaceTime.

“It's been fun, honestly,” Doherty said. “You get to hear what people are doing to stay busy, and then they give you some good ideas.”

It's not perfect, of course. But Doherty doesn't need perfection. Not right now.

Not when she can replay that moment last May, jumping and smiling and yelling and celebrating with her teammates — her sisters — as they hoisted the crown of collegiate lacrosse.

She didn't know that would be one of her last victories in a Terps uniform. No one did. But, as far as final memories go, this one — full of adrenaline and unfettered joy — is pretty good.

And for that, she's grateful.



DEFENDER NICK GRILL stick checks a Notre Dame player during Maryland men's lacrosse's 14-9 win on Feb. 29, 2020. When the NCAA announced it would grant an extra year of eligibility to spring season athletes, Grill's choice was clear. JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK

Six games into Nick Grill's Maryland men's lacrosse career, it looked like it was over. The season was canceled due to the coronavirus pandemic.

“That was the first thing I thought of,” Grill said. “Well, that was a really hard way to finish your career.”

Grill, a senior who transferred from Marquette last summer, had garnered praise for his impressive displays with the Golden Eagles, earning All-Big East honors in each of his three seasons. And by the end of Maryland's shortened season, the 5-foot-8 defender had carved out a starting role in the backline, forcing a team-high six turnovers and fielding in eight ground balls.

Grill knew he wanted more. He

was already planning on staying at the university to finish up his degree, so, when the NCAA announced it would grant an extra year of eligibility to spring season athletes, Grill's choice was clear: He would be staying to play.

Now, with his final year of college lacrosse looming, Grill is turning his attention to next season. Leading his own workouts has been difficult at times, he said.

But, he has another opportunity to sport the red-and-gold, an opportunity he wasn't sure would exist. So, he's doing his best to ensure that whenever lacrosse comes back, he'll be ready.

“That just kinda made me want to give another year, give another go

with the guys here at Maryland,” Grill said. “Try to make up for lost time.”

Grill came to College Park with the hopes of playing on the biggest of stages — the Big Ten championship, the NCAA final four. For all his individual success in Milwaukee, the Golden Eagles only qualified for the NCAA tournament once during his tenure.

And, despite the shortened season, he got a taste of the intensity he'd been looking for, the excitement that comes with playing for a national powerhouse. The double-overtime victory against Richmond and the 14-9 drubbing of No. 5 Notre Dame — Grill's first victory over the Fighting Irish in five tries — featured aggressive play and even more aggressive

sive atmospheres.

“Having everyone circle you on the schedule and just get that intensity and atmosphere,” Grill said. “I think it's really special.”

It's what fuels Grill as he finds new ways to train — something that's been tough, he admits, without the team's strict training regimen and access to campus.

So, he tries to keep it simple.

“I'm trying to stay in shape, trying to run every day, trying to get outside,” Grill said. “Making sure my body doesn't fall apart.”

Grill's still trying to figure out how he'll work on his ball skills. Without most of his equipment, it's been a bit of a struggle so far. But, it doesn't faze him too much — after all, he

doesn't need a lot.

“[I'm] just trying to get a stick in my hands and just trying to find a wall,” Grill said.

Despite the challenges he faces, Grill keeps plugging away. He doesn't know when he'll be back in College Park or which teammates he'll be playing with. But, he's hoping his efforts now — running on his own, working out in his family's confines — will pay off when he eventually makes his return to Maryland Stadium. For now, he's focusing on getting his body and mind right for next season.

And in this moment of great uncertainty, it's all he can do.

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GOLDEN MOMENTS

From the highs of multiple national championships to the lows of a football team scandal, the class of 2020 has been around for some of Maryland athletics' most notable moments. To send them off, here are ten that defined the last four years.

By Alexander Dacy | @alexanderdacy | Senior staff writer



MELO TRIMBLE shows off his jersey after a 63-60 win over Michigan State on March 4, 2017 in Xfinity Center. FILE PHOTO

1. BUZZER BEATER

March 4, 2017: Melo Trimble's buzzer beater caps off sterling Maryland career

When the class of 2020 were just freshmen, Trimble was ending his Maryland basketball career in style. The decorated point guard shined in his last game at Xfinity Center, dropping 16 points against Michigan State. Trimble saved his best act for last, draining a game-winning three-pointer with under one second left to break a tie and help the Terps knock off the Spartans, 63-60.

2. WOMEN'S LAX CONQUERS

May 28, 2017: Women's lacrosse completes perfect season

Maryland's winningest team added to its storied legacy by capping a perfect 23-0 season with its 13th national title. Led by Caroline Steele's six goals and Megan Taylor's 12 saves, the Terps fended off a feisty Boston College squad to win 16-13 and clinch their third title in four years.



MARYLAND WOMEN'S LACROSSE celebrates after a win. FILE PHOTO

3. MEN'S LAX CHAMPS



MARYLAND MEN'S LACROSSE celebrates after clinching the national championship over Ohio State, 9-6, on May 29, 2017 in Gillette Stadium. FILE PHOTO

**May 29, 2017:
Men's lacrosse clinches first
championship since 1975**

After falling short in the 2015 and 2016 championship games, Maryland would not be denied for a third straight year. Tim Rotanz netted three goals and goalie Dan Morris led a stingy defensive effort with 11 saves as the top-ranked Terps defeated third-ranked Ohio State, 9-6, to win its first title in 42 years.

4. TERPS BEAT TEXAS



MARYLAND FOOTBALL PLAYERS Antoine Brooks Jr. and Tayon Fleet-Davis bump chests after a 34-29 win over Texas. FILE PHOTO

**Sept. 1, 2018:
Honoring McNair, football beats Texas
for second straight year**

In the months leading up to the 2018 season, Maryland football was in turmoil. Offensive lineman Jordan McNair had collapsed during a workout due to heat stroke and died two weeks later, spurring multiple investigations into the incident, the program's culture and the coaching staff. The Terps honored McNair in their first game after his death, upsetting No. 23 Texas, 34-29, in an emotional contest.

5. FIELD HOCKEY FINALS



BIBI DONRAADT plays against Michigan in 2019. GABBY BANIQUEU/THE DIAMONDBACK

**Nov. 16, 2018:
Bibi Donraadt fires overtime winner to
send hockey to championship**

In a rematch of an overtime thriller from earlier in the year, No. 2 Maryland faced off against No. 3 Princeton with a trip to the national title game on the line. And, just like their first meeting, the Terps and Tigers needed extra time. After nearly 78 scoreless minutes, Maryland broke through as Donraadt wired a shot past Grace Baylis to send the Terps to their second straight championship game.



MIDFIELDER AMOR SEJDIC celebrates with his teammates after scoring a goal in Maryland men's soccer's 1-0 win over Akron in the NCAA championship game at Harder Stadium in Santa Barbara, California, on Dec. 9, 2018. COURTESY OF ANGELICA BANKS/DAILY NEXUS

6. SOCCER SHUTOUT

Dec. 9, 2018: Men's soccer beats Akron, takes home title

After an up-and-down regular season, Maryland caught fire in the 2018 post-season. The No. 11 Terps rode a stingy defense during their run and didn't allow a goal during the tournament, capped off by a 1-0 victory over Akron to clinch their fourth title.

7. BASKETBALL TRIUMPH

Feb. 21, 2019: Kaila Charles leads furious rally, nails buzzer-beating layup

Coming off a loss to Iowa, No. 8 Maryland wanted to respond against Minnesota. But the Terps looked sluggish for much of the contest, trailing by as many as 16 in the second half. Another defeat seemed certain — until Charles reversed Maryland's fortunes. Down seven with less than a minute to go, the Terps went on a 9-0 run — with Charles scoring seven of those points, including the game-winner — leaving Maryland with a stunning 71-69 victory.



KAILA CHARLES during Maryland women's basketball Big Ten tournament championship win against Ohio State, 82-65, on March 8, 2020, in Bankers Life Field House in Indianapolis. JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK

8. WOMEN'S LAX DOMINATES



MARYLAND WOMEN'S LACROSSE celebrates its 12-10 NCAA championship win over Boston College on May 26, 2019. JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK

**May 26, 2019:
Women's lacrosse secures fifth title of the
decade, extends NCAA record**

For the second time in three seasons, Maryland and Boston College met in the NCAA championship. And, much like they did in 2017, the No. 1 Terps came out on top. Brindi Griffin and Grace Griffin each netted a hat trick, and Maryland held off a late charge from the second-ranked Eagles. The Terps won, 12-10, clinching their 14th championship — their fifth in ten years.

9. WOMEN'S SOCCER RISES



MIDFIELDER HOPE LEWANDOSKI kicks the ball en route to Maryland women's soccer 2-1 victory over Purdue on Oct. 20, 2019 in College Park. GABBY BANIQUEU/THE DIAMONDBACK

**Oct. 24, 2019:
Women's soccer makes Big Ten
tournament for first time**

Maryland had not found much success in its first five seasons in the Big Ten, posting no winning seasons since joining the conference in 2014. But that changed in 2019, as the Terps went 9-8-3 and clinched a spot in the Big Ten tournament for the first time with a 1-0 win over Michigan State.

10. BIG TEN VICTORY



THE MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM celebrates winning a share of the Big Ten title after an 83-70 win over Michigan at Xfinity Center on March 8, 2020. JOE RYAN/THE DIAMONDBACK

**March 8, 2020:
Men's basketball clinches share of Big Ten title**

No. 9 Maryland entered its season finale against No. 25 Michigan, having struck out in its first two chances to clinch a share of the Big Ten regular season championship. On Senior Day, the Terps finally sealed the deal. Led by Anthony Cowan's 20 points and Jalen Smith's double-double, Maryland capped a memorable season by beating the Wolverines, 83-70, and cutting down the nets for the first time in a decade.

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STUDENTS at the "Fire the Liars Rally" in November 2018. JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK

PACKED WITH ACTIVISM

A look back at seven protests that defined the past four years.

By Connor Senay | @connorsenay | Staff writer

From the walkouts after the 2016 presidential election their freshman year to the Key of David counterprotest during their last full semester, our seniors have known a student body packed with activism. Here's a look at some of the moments of social advocacy that punctuated the class of 2020's time in college.

November 17, 2016: Post-election walkout

Some teachers canceled classes. Others came to class crying. Meanwhile, students staged a walkout.

Hundreds of students from various organizations gathered on McKeldin Mall wielding signs, megaphones and a whole lot of passion. Signs sported messages such as "Abolish White Supremacy" and "Brown is Beautiful." Protesters dressed in all black as a symbol of unity in the face of a presidency many of them feared would be riddled with injustice.

May 10, 2017: #ADIFFERENTUMD

In early 2017, following a string of incidents threatening minority students at this university, a noose was found in the Phi Kappa Tau fraternity chapter house. In response, members of ProtectUMD arranged a sit-in at the Main Administration Building to demand that university President

Wallace Loh take action. When Linda Clement, then-student affairs vice president, came out instead, protesters claimed Loh was hiding and avoiding taking legitimate action.

So they marched to Loh's house.

As protesters reached the house, 10 University of Maryland Police officers prevented further entry onto the grounds with caution tape. Frustrated with not being taken seriously, the crowd dispersed and planned to reconvene for next steps.

November 5, 2018: Fire the Liars

On June 13, 2018, former Maryland offensive lineman Jordan McNair died from complications of heatstroke he suffered during a football practice 15 days prior. In September, an independent investigation into McNair's death found that university athletic trainers recognized the severity of his condition too late, and failed to properly treat it once they did.

Another investigation into the football program found that mismanagement of the athletic department — by Loh and athletic director Damon Evans, among others — allowed an abusive culture to take root.

Student groups organized a "Justice for Jordan" rally on Nov. 1, originally intending to protest head football coach DJ Durkin's reinstatement. But when he was fired, it became a

rally in support of student-athletes — a message some students didn't support. The rally quickly devolved as protestors clashed with one another.

The following Monday, a rally to "Fire the Liars" took place. Twenty-four student groups assembled in front of McKeldin Library to protest the administration's lack of respect for and acknowledgment of its student body.

The coalition of student groups published a list with three demands for the university's administration and the Board of Regents and used the rally to reiterate those demands: that Loh remain committed to retiring, that his successor be selected with student input and that the regents be democratically elected through a process that involves students.

October 2, 2018: Brett Kavanaugh protest

About two years after a shift in national leadership came another pivotal — and controversial — moment for America: When U.S. Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy retired, a new justice had to be appointed.

After President Trump tapped Judge Brett Kavanaugh as Kennedy's successor, three women accused Kavanaugh of sexual assault in his high school and college years.

Days after Kavanaugh and one of his accusers, Christine Blasey Ford,

testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee, students gathered on McKeldin Mall, hoisting a banner that read, "Solidarity Trumps Hate." The protest was organized by this university's International Socialist Organization chapter and co-hosted by the UMD Pride Alliance and Preventing Sexual Assault.

September 17, 2019:

Key of David counterprotest

Hundreds of students came together in a loose ring surrounding two men and two boys, demonstrators from the Key of David Christian Center carrying signs with phrases such as "Jesus or Hellfire" and ridiculing Muslims, the LGBTQ community and women.

As the demonstrators derided members of the crowd, labeling them "whores" and asking them if they had been raped when they were younger, some students yelled back. Others threw their middle fingers up, thrusting them toward the demonstrators, while still others kissed and embraced each other, cheered on by the crowd.

"I've never seen UMD come together like this," Jasmine Green, a senior government and politics major, said at the time. "This is an eye-opener for me."

September 20, 2019: Climate strike

Days after confronting the Key of

David Christian Center demonstrators, university students attended a global climate strike in Washington, D.C.

Starting at McKeldin Mall, the group of more than 100 student-activists marched a mile to the Metro station to head to D.C., adding their support and voices to a crowd of thousands. Campus organizations such as the Sustainability Cooperative and MaryPIRG banded together to represent the university's students in a national fight for climate change.

November 12, 2019:

"I Stand With Dreamers"

The Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program is an immigration policy that allows undocumented immigrants who arrived to the U.S. under the age of 16 reprieve from the fear of deportation. As the federal government threatened to take the program away, people took to the streets up in arms.

Students and faculty of this university joined those in the nation's capital, adorning their clothing and signs with monarch butterflies — a symbol of migration — and standing at city blocks surrounding the Capitol Building. Signs unified "Dreamers" and their counterparts alike, emphasizing that "Borders Are Not Healthy."

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STUDENTS protest in front of McKeldin Library after President Trump's election in 2016. FILE PHOTO/THE DIAMONDBACK



PROTESTERS flooded the steps of the Supreme Court after Judge Brett Kavanaugh's confirmation in 2018. JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK



MEMBERS OF PROTECTUMD protest in front of the Main Administration Building in 2017. FILE PHOTO/THE DIAMONDBACK



A GROUP OF WOMEN removed their shirts in response to radical religious demonstrators in 2019. CARMEN MOLINA ACOSTA/THE DIAMONDBACK



STUDENTS AND MEMBERS OF CASA walk to a protest in front of the Supreme Court in 2019. JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK



PROTESTERS hold up signs outside the Supreme Court in 2019. JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK

SENIOR WISHES



STUDENTS walk across McKeldin Mall. GABBY BANIQUEO/THE DIAMONDBACK

UMD seniors lost a lot of their final semester. Here's what they wanted to do with it.

By Anastasia Marks | @stasiasayshey | Staff writer

For many college seniors, spring semester is the last hurrah — the time to make some final memories, celebrate college traditions and devise shenanigans with friends.

But when the COVID-19 pandemic shut down the University of Maryland's campus, the class of 2020's final moments came early, leaving some seniors feeling robbed of certain rites of passage, like swimming in the McKeldin Mall fountain.

From the moment Laurel Evans enrolled at this university, she had anticipated meeting university President Wallace Loh for one reason:

"Ever since I was an incoming freshman at orientation, I heard people talk about how if you met President Loh, he would give you a turtle pin," Evans said.

But in almost four years, she never ran into Loh, leaving her without the little gold token every Terp recognizes. Evans, a senior history major set to graduate in May, was still trying to acquire one of the pins when the campus closed.

Abigail Disman, a senior biology and psychology major, had similar goals — a sort of "bucket list" of things she wanted to do before graduating. Disman said she put off some of the quintessential college experiences in favor of working, school

and planning for post-graduate life.

"I guess the first thing would be senior bar crawl — I was really looking forward to that," Disman said. "Art Attack, I never went to that and I was looking forward to it this year."

Disman said there were many small Maryland-specific experiences she missed out on, such as eating at Marathon Deli, climbing the rock wall at Eppley Recreation Center and a senior send-off with her cohorts in College Park Scholars.

"Big things are great and stuff ... but having smaller things ... they really make the memories that last," she said. "It might be insignificant, but it's just some-

thing throughout the week that brings up your mood."

While some experiences — like the senior bar crawl — can be repeated or made up for during homecoming weekend, reunions can be harder after graduation when alumni leave the area for work or graduate school. Disman said her senior experiences wouldn't be the same without her core friend group and would be more difficult to recreate once everyone scattered.

A lot of what senior John Tano values from his time in college doesn't come from events like spring commencement, which he feels is more of a formality. Instead, he said, he'll miss partaking in experiences such as

basketball games and spending the end of college with friends.

"Usually, I don't get really tied up in a lot of things. I kind of just look past that and just focus on life in front of me," said Tano, a information systems and operations management and business analytics major. "A lot of my friends are juniors ... since I'm graduating early, all my friends are still going to be on campus."

Despite the chaos that cut his final year at this university short, Tano still hopes to salvage his final moments as a Terp by returning to College Park in the fall.

"I don't think my time in Maryland is over just yet," he said.

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Dear Smith Class of 2020



What an awesome journey we've had. The Smith Class of 2020 came into its final semester determined to celebrate! Your senior class barbecue was standing room only. Your 100-day countdown was filled to capacity. You were ready to take over the Spirit of Washington for our annual Senior Class Cruise. And of course, I was looking forward to shaking each and every one of your hands on stage. I was ready to congratulate each of you as you walked across the stage: job well done. I was ready. And so were you.

And then our journey changed course. And we find ourselves at this moment. Stunned. Disappointed. In disbelief. And probably a bit tired of us telling you to hang in there.

This morning I was sitting in my favorite chair to write you all this message and – like a mighty burst of wind – it hit me. One of the most powerful lessons I've learned during my time at Smith came from a senior, like all of you. I recall when the Dean's Student Advisory Council hosted its first "How to Fail" alumni panel for graduating seniors, a Smith student asked a question to an alum during a discussion on handling curve balls and unexpected tragedies.

"When we experience this, how long should we grieve?" The alumnus responded, "quicker than the blink of an eye."

His response spoke directly to me, and now I am speaking directly to each of you. You have worked so hard, but you've played hard too. Shift your focus to all of the positive parts of your journey. Stay in that place. Certainly, you need to mourn during this time of shattered expectations, but I want you to start setting new goals and embrace your future. Your journey has changed, but it is still yours to take. I am so excited to see where you'll go.

My 2020 quote for Smith seniors comes from Jon Stewart. "The unfortunate, yet truly exciting thing about your life, is that there is no core curriculum. The entire place is an elective."

Smith Class of 2020, I love ya'll. Now go be GREAT!

Dean Mullins