

I am delighted at this achievement. His ranking is a reflection of the hard work and dedication of our faculty and staff who are committed to our students. Radford University is known for offering a quality, student-focused education, and this ranking validates that RU is achieving its goal."

The classification came from the U.S.

also many schools around the south region who have had national recognition.

The recognition is good for the university to get regional consideration so that upcoming students can research information about Radford, knowing that it has been recognized in the south region.



Witt Hall stood out against the changing leaves this past fall.

ALEX PISTOLE | THE TARTAN

## Victim of violent Thanksgiving attack on the road to recovery

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On the freezing cold weekend after Thanksgiving, police found a Radford University student face down and unresponsive in a Madison Street parking lot. After a short police investigation, a lengthy stay in the hospital, and some digging of their own, the victim's friends and family now believe he was assaulted with a blunt weapon by one or more individuals, and left for dead.

Close friends and family of this senior, who was hospitalized after a violent incident in November, have come

forward to warn students about the dangers that lurk off campus, and give an update on his recovery.

The sources closest to the incident, the victim's mother and roommate, have requested to remain anonymous for this article because they feel that violent criminals are still at large in connection with this case.

For months now, the family has struggled to help their son through his recovery process and piece together the events of that night, despite his attack resulting in se-

vere brain injuries which affect his learning abilities and memory.

"He doesn't remember being in the hospital at all for the first week, and he was there for three weeks," said the victim's roommate.

What is clear is that the student got a ride with a designated driver back to dark side from Main Street. After being dropped off near Deli Mart, he had decided to walk a short distance to a friend's place.

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## Survivor recounts story of life during the Holocaust to huge gathering

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The recommended daily intake of calories for a young boy is 1400, Jay Ipson shocked the audience as he explained as a child he was only given enough food to total up to 934 calories for a whole week during his survival of the Holocaust.

Radford University's Jewish organization, Hillel, enjoyed a special guest speaker who drew over 250 students out to observe a Holocaust survivor's story. On Tuesday, April 8 at 3 p.m. students were invited to Heth Hall to hear Jay Ipson speak about his personal experiences as a child during the Holocaust.

Hillel's Executive Director, Anya Morgulis, was in charge of arranging the first guest speaker. Originally, Ipson coming to the University was for RU student Marsha Stone's class project, where they were encouraged to invite speakers. Morgulis and Stone worked together to make this speaker available to all RU students.

"I was surprised as to how many people saw this as an opportunity and took an active role as students," said Morgulis.

Morgulis expressed to Stone how she had been wanting a survivor to come to campus, but had not moved forward because of the concern of a low turnout.

"This was very inspiring to me, that so many students and staff took the time to attend this important event," Stone said. "I was truly touched, especially due to the fact that Jews are a minority group, and this is represented in the RU population as well."

During Ipson's presentation, he had visual slides and pictures for the audience and encouraged anyone to ask questions during his speech.

Ipson explained his personal accounts of being in Lithuania and his experiences of moving to Richmond, in June 1947 at the age of 12.

"My strength came from my parents; they suffered for me," said Ipson.

Not only does Ipson go around to different venues to spread his story, but he also is a founding member of the Holocaust Museum located in Richmond, which was founded in 1997 and expanded in 2003.

*"If we do not learn from the past, it will come back to haunt us."*

In 1997, Ipson, a couple of businessmen and a group of volunteers started working on building Temple Beth-El and building a museum.

"By 2000 we could not accommodate the numbers and had to look for a bigger place," said Ipson.

With the help of past Virginia Delegate Eric Cantor, they were able to convince the Virginia General Assembly to give them the old American Tobacco Company warehouse to start the museum in.

Day by day there are fewer Holocaust survivors around and it's even harder to find survivors that want to share their story.

"The fact that they're still around . . . how can we take advantage of them? I think it's a completely different experience hearing a first hand account than to read a story," said Morgulis.

Junior Micala Fox made sure not to miss the event.

"I'm Jewish and I've never heard a Holocaust survivor speak before, and it was a huge honor and blessing to be a part of that," said Fox.

Ipson is determined to share his story and let people know that this is part of Jewish history.

"Resilience is so strong and faith is what motivates people to endure the most traumatic life events," said Fox.

Ipson feels strongly about using the experiences from his past to not let history repeat itself.

"If we do not learn from the past, it will come back to haunt us. Students are our future. They can prevent such atrocities from happening again," said Ipson.

This event couldn't be possible without R-SPaCE helping with the funding, explained Morgulis.

If you are interested in getting involved with Hillel, get in touch with Anya Morgulis at amorgulis@radford.edu.



Jay Ipson and Anya Morgulis after the event.



Jewish students here at RU learned about their cultural history and made friends.

ANYA MORGULIS