

The Night and Cavalier

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April 30, 1997

President elect Hasan Majied plans to take SGA "Above and Beyond"

Jasan Rodriguez
Editor

The presidential elections, which had earlier drawn to a tie, have now been decided. With a final count vote of 277 to 170, Hasan Majied has been named the SGA President for the 1997-98 school year. Following is Majied first public address:

Dear fellow students,
I am Hasan Majied, President elect of the Student Government Association for the 1997-98 school year. I would like to take this time to explain what I plan to do to increase the success of your student government association.

Because you have selected a dynamic group of students as your student government senate, our potential as a whole is unlimited.

I have worked with SGA as a freshman and sophomore senator for the past two years, and I have learned plenty from mistakes made and successful strategies implemented.

The Student Government Association has grown in so many different ways, however, Clinch Valley College increases the standards of excellence every year and as the college moves above and beyond, so must the Student Government Association.

To increase our level of excellence, I propose the "Above and Beyond Plan". The Above and Beyond Plan (A B Plan) will create set visions and goals for our organization for next year. This vision will consist of increasing communication between the Student Government Association and the stu-



SGA President elect Hasan Majied proposes his plan to increase student participation in the SGA next year.

dent body.

It will also increase the awareness of computer problems and sound resolutions, as well as increase the productivity of the fraternities and sororities, because they are so vital to our campus life.

The Above and Beyond plan will also increase relations between student government asso-

ciation and faculty members. This plan also consists of strategic options that can be used to accomplish each and every goal and provides the Student Government with a platform which can be added to.

A major importance to the success of the Student Government depends on two aspects. How well newly elected officers work together, and how well SGA officers communicate with the Student Body.

The 1997-98 officers have already started planning for the next school year, and we are currently preparing for a transitional workshop for all newly elected officers, so they will be well prepared for next years tasks.

However, no matter how pre-

Majied, see pg. 3

New computer service offered by Shelia Cox Combs

David Grimes
Staff Writer

Starting next year, the registrars office will no longer be keeping track of student career records by hand.

A computer has now replaced all the work of keeping record of requirements that the three employees working in the registrars office were doing by hand.

Instead of having to ask an employee what requirements need to be filled, a student may walk in, look on the computer and find out what he needs in the way of general education requirements and major requirements.

This new system is part of a new program that Shelia Cox Combs is starting, which would benefit both students and faculty alike.

She hopes that students will be able to come in and check their credits against required hours in the catalog by computer.

As of right now, she has most of the 1995-96 catalog programmed in and has started on programming the 1996-97 catalog.

"What I am trying to do is to offer this service, but on a limited basis," said Combs.

The reason for this, she said, is because it is a new program and still has some problems that need to be worked out in order to become more involved on the campus.

As of right now, the computer only has the requirements for majors.

"We don't have minors yet," said Combs. "We're trying to get the majors in first."

Since this is a new program, Combs encourages any student

who is using the 1995-96 catalog to come to the registrars office and try it out on their own major requirements.

Combs hopes to eventually make this service more accessible to students by having the computer in the foyer in front of the registrar's office with instructions.

Another new service that Combs is working on is a computer that will be accessible to students so they may print out their schedules.

This computer will be in the main foyer in front of the registrars office as well.

All a student would have to do for this is type his or her security number, and it will bring up their schedule.

With the addition of these services, Clinch Valley College is preparing itself for the 21st Century.

Student graffiti encouraged

Jasan Rodriguez
Editor

The drab cream colored halls of McCraray Hall have come alive. Alive with color that is.

All three men's floors and the second floor of the women's side have begun the painting of the halls.

Residents painted pictures or scenes concerning the theme for each floor can be seen hard at work during the chosen times.

The funding for the project comes from the sales of the Finals Survival Kits that were sold last semester.

Coupled with the budget allowed by the Resident Housing Administration and Lydia Braun, the money paid for the paints and the brushes that were used by the students.

"Our theme was unity, and we tried to capture different person-

alities" commented first floor RA Hasan Majied. Each person submitted ideas concerning the chosen theme for their particular floor.

Once the drawings were approved, the students set out to free-hand the pictures on the walls.

Finally, the drawings were painted, and McCraray shed its prison like cinder block walls in exchange for the murals now present.

The project was pushed due to the lack of art on campus. This new source of artistic perception has given many residents new feelings for their beloved McCraray Hall.

"I think everything will look good, once all the halls get painted. I doubt that it will be finished this year though." noted

Painting, see pg. 3

OPINION

Long and trying semester

News

Maintenance workers story told

Sports

Men's tennis finishes number 2

Style

Buzz Fest

Enjoy the summer!!!!

Opinion

Faculty and Student Responses (it only took a year to get these)

Track shorts and mono.... what a year!

As I sit here typing my last news paper article this year, I am reminded of the good and bad times that have happened here at the CVC newspaper office.

The outlook for this academic year looked to be a good one, but then things changed.

I remember sitting in this office at 2 in the morning while being sick as a dog, only to realize that I was half way done.

Thank God that Roger Proffitt was here to entertain us about his track days, especially the track shorts.

The whole staff was in a world of hurt when mono struck the campus.

Even though two of the staff members landed in the hospital, the paper still came out every week.

But I had fun attempting to still write for the Highland Cavalier.

This semester, a new editor came and a new sports editor came. As for me, well, I am still the assistant sports editor.

I had fun working in the sports department this year, especially writing for the womens basketball team.

I just wish that there would have been a couple of more sports writers, but o well.

I just want to thank the staff for a wonderful year. I just hope that Proffitt can come back and entertain us about the two mile run. I hope that you guys have a great summer.

Its been a great run, but Im glad that the summer is here because I don't think that I can put up with you guys for a whole summer.

Randolph Forest
Assistant Sports Editor

To the student body:

I am writing this letter on behalf of this year's Student Government Association. This letter is to apologize to all candidates who were wrongly removed from the elections and then put back on the ballot.

We were going by past traditions that had always been enforced. Thanks to Jason Lawrence we have revised the constitution and now it is concrete. Many SGA members would like to commend Jason for pursuing and standing up for what he believed in.

More of you should take an interest in SGA and what goes on. I encourage any student who has an idea, a complaint, or just a comment to come to our meetings and voice it. We are here to serve you and this is your SGA. It is not just eighteen elected individuals.

We are only the voice for you. I challenge each of you to get involved with SGA in some level. If we are all working together, imagine how much could be accomplished.

As a present member of the Executive Council, I know how hard we have worked this year to better CVC. We do not always make the right decisions, because we are not perfect.

We are just like each one of you. We are, though, learning as we go, and this in my opinion is very important. Yes, we are leaders, but we do not always have the answers or the solutions. However, we have tried to do what is right, and make a difference.

This is what should be remembered about this years SGA. I challenge you to speak up. One voice is a whisper, many voices make a difference. And that is my last challenge to you, make a difference in all that you do. I will leave you with this quote: United we stand, divided we fall!

Sincerely your secretary this year and next,
Betsi Phalen

What a long strange trip it has been

Well, here we are at the last edition of the Highland Cavalier for the 1996-97 school year. For those of you who have been following all year, it has been a year of many challenges and changes for the staff and myself. Despite these problems, it has been a successful year. This has only been possible by the hard work of my staff, who put up with me throughout the semester.

It has been my pleasure watching each one of you grow and develop throughout our journey. I thank you for the over-worked, under paid hours that each of you have put into this newspaper. The strides each of you has made are unbelievable, and I thank each of you for everything you have done.

To my editors, congratulations, you made it. There were many times when we all felt like quitting, but we hung in there and pulled each other through. Jon and Jason, each of you have come so far from the beginning, and you should always take pride in the work you have done. Angela, thank you for putting up with our spelling errors and AP style slip-ups. Keep it up this summer, because you have been a savior for us.

Dave McMillan, you truly are a talented photographer, and have always provided us with only best pictures. We just had a hard time getting captions right for you. Christy, you came out of nowhere and revived our ad department, and I wish you good luck as your leave us. Maggie, thank you for adjusting your busy schedule to fit ours, and for not killing us when our stories were not in your box on time.

And of course, there is Roger Proffitt. Although you whine all the time, you have been the most important of all. You ran this paper, and did a wonderful job as managing editor. You did such a good job, I think that I could put up with the complaining for a little longer.

And then, of course, there are our writers. Everyone of these individuals has made a complete 180 in their work over the course of this semester. These talented young people are the heart and soul of this paper, and we appreciate them greatly.

I would also like to thank all of the coaches and faculty who participated and helped us this semester. A special thanks goes out to Dr. Juhan, who helped us get the new computer I am currently writing this article on, and of course, his beautiful assistant Margie Schoenwald. We love you Margie, and thank you for everything.

So now we look towards the future. I will remain the editor for at least the fall semester of the 1997-98 year. Again, there will be a few changes made. Entertainment editor Jon Biscoe is leaving both the paper and the school. He will be replaced by Jarrod Williams, who served as a writer to Jon this semester.

Also leaving is Christy Morgan, vacating the Advertisement Manager position. There will also be a new News Editor. These positions have not yet been filled, so stay tuned for the exciting conclusion.

So ends my journey for the 1996-97 school year, which lead me through the ranks from writer to Editor in chief. I must say I enjoyed it MOST of the time, and look forward to next year.

Finally, to the leaving seniors, we, the staff of the Highland Cavalier wish you good luck in all that you do. Oh yeah, we may offer subscriptions of the HC next year to alumnus, so keep us in mind. So until next time, have a safe and enjoyable summer.

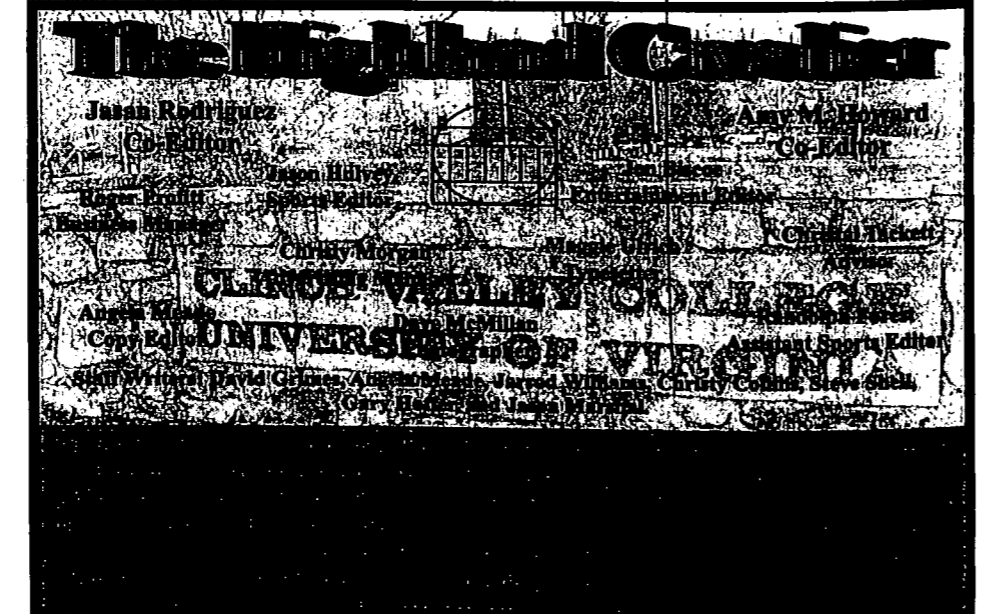
See, not everyone at Clinch Valley College is a critic

Dear Highland Cavalier,

I say a hearty amen to Marcia Mitchell's letter concerning the food in the cafeteria. Not only is the food great and economically priced, but the service is wonderful. The staff is extremely courteous and helpful every time I eat there. My friend Shirley Wolfe and I have asked for various items such as decaf coffee, romaine lettuce, and diet bread and in a few days, eureka, there they are. I commend Amy, mark, and all the employees of Daka for their expertise in food service for the school.

A Satisfied Customer,

Pat Bevins



**FREE DELIVERY
PIZZA KING
FROM OUR CASTLE
TO YOURS!**

Medium One Topping with two drinks! \$6.49 plus tax!
Large One Topping! \$7.99 plus tax

Buy ONE Pizza at Regular Price, get 2nd Pizza of equal or lesser value for 1/2 price! No Coupon Necessary

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FREE DELIVERY!

SUNDAY-THURSDAY 11:00 A.M.-MIDNIGHT
FRIDAY & SATURDAY 11:00 A.M. TO 1:00 A.M.

Thank you
Margie
Schoenwald,
for all you do!

Roger and Staff

Painting, from pg. 1

resident Shelton Taylor. So while venturing down the corridors of McCraray Hall, take note of the surrounding art. People will be amazed what a few paint brushes and paint cans, a couple students, and some hard work will accomplish.



HC photo by Graham Marsteller
A McCraray Hall resident works diligently on painting on the wall on the third floor.

Maintenance maintaining CVC campus

David Grimes
Staff Writer

The Clinch Valley College staff work hard to keep the school going.

This staff consists of the registrar's office, Student Services, Financial Aid, maintenance....Maintenance???

How does maintenance play a big role in keeping the school afloat?

Before anybody else shows up on campus, the maintenance and housekeeping staff are already at work cleaning up classrooms and residence halls.

The average housekeeping employee comes in at five a.m. to

sweep, mop, and clean any mess in the hallways before classes get started.

The average maintenance employee comes in at 7:30 a.m. to begin his day of repairing anything from plumbing to an electrical problem.

With an average of 50 work orders a week, and a small staff, they try to take care of the more serious problems first.

"We are understaffed," said head of maintenance and house-keeping John Reeves, "so we try to prioritize orders that come in."

Reeves also pointed out that the requests might get lost by the time the Resident Assistant writes it up and the time maintenance

would receive it.

As of right now, Reeves is working on trying to computerize the system in which all the RA's would do is type in the request and it would go straight to maintenance.

To lighten the work load, the maintenance department has maintenance assistants. These are students who are hired by housing to take care of small problems such as a burnt out light bulb.

Both the maintenance and the housekeeping staff work hard to make sure CVC is in the best shape it can be.

"This is their livelihood. This is what they do," said Reeves.

European tour planned by Amelia Harris

Gary Hoffer
Staff Writer

An overseas tour called "Florence and the Medicis" will be offered to CVC students and faculty during the 1998 Spring Break.

Each year the Language Department sponsors a European tour for all people interested in foreign travel.

The tour is not just for language students; the community is welcome to participate in the tour.

The expected group size is 20-25 and any number above that will

lower the cost for everyone.

The trip will be March 5 - 12. The group will spend four nights in Florence, Italy, and two nights in Rome.

Take your walking shoes because most of the sites are best reached by foot.

Adequate time will be allowed for exploring the city itself, with side trips available to such well-known places as the Leaning Tower of Pisa and Siena.

In Rome you will visit the Basilica and the Sistine Chapel, with an optional tour to the Catacombs.

The final price for the tour has not been set, but all expenses are included except for the cost of daily lunches and discretionary spending money.

There will be an informational meeting on Wednesday, April 30 at 1:00 p.m. in Smiddy 100-B. If you miss the first meeting, please contact Amelia Harris in Smiddy.

Anyone intimidated by the language barrier will be glad to know that the tours will be in English and a short introductory Italian language class will be given in the spring before the trip.

Majied, from pg. 1

pared officers become, we will not be successful without the involvement of the student body.

A major activity that will take place next year that the student body can get involved with is the invitation system that will start next fall.

SGA will aim to invite a handful of students to every weekly meeting. "If you receive an invitation, please try to participate."

Our goal is to invite as many students as possible to interact with or simply observe during the meetings.

As president I will also have a presidential address in the Highland Cavalier newspaper. This presidential address will consist of issues SGA is currently facing and upcoming events.

Both of these new traditions are in efforts to building the bridge between the Student Government and the student body. In closing, I am excited about next year and our upcoming adventure.

Because you are a student, you are apart of the Student Government Association, so please try to join in on the ride and lets move above and beyond together.

Thank you,

President elect
Hasan Majied

Next year, the Highland Cavalier will feature a President's Corner of sorts, where Majied, as well as other, will give monthly reports as to the state of their organizations. These reports will alternate monthly, as to where there are one or two per week. This report has

come due to Majied's request to write a report in the Highland Cavalier.

We also would like to welcome any other SGA member to report or voice their opinion at any time throughout the semester. Your time and updates are always welcome and wanted here.

The installation of the 1997-98 Student Government Association officers will take place on Wednesday, April 30 at 1:15 p.m. in the Chancellors office. The new officers would like to invite you to be witness to the ushering in of your new leaders. This is an important event for the future of Clinch Valley, as this years officers show great promise for the future. So show your support of the elected officers, as well as that of the Student Government Association, and be present of the installation of the 1997-98 officers.

Sports

Men's tennis team finishes second in TVAC finals

Gary Hoffer
Staff Writer

Men's tennis finished their season on a high note that saw them score a second place tie in the team category at the TVAC finals.

"As far as I can recall we have never won the team title, so this is the highest we have placed in a long time," recalled coach Danny Rowland.

Winning the #3 doubles tournament title was the team of Mike Pierce and Shane Philips over a strong team from tournament winning Virginia Intermont.

Pierce and Philips were awarded a bye in the first round and took a second round win 7-6 (7-5), 6-1 over King.

It only took two straight sets 6-1, 6-4 to defeat Virginia Intermont

and take the title.

Mike Pierce also made it to the final round in singles where he lost in a three sets.

Mike went ahead by taking the first set 6-3, but was overcome in the end 6-0, 6-3 by another Virginia Intermont player.

Brian Gibson reached the final match at the #5 singles slot by defeating players from Bluefield and Bryan.

Virginia Intermont's player sent Brian down in defeat in straight sets 6-1, 6-4.

Kevin Rubink, Matt Hurley and Shane Philips all reached the second round of the tournament.

The team's final score was 11 points tying them with Montreat for second overall.

Finishing the year with the best overall individual records were

Athletic teams have successful year

Jason Hulvey
Sports Editor

As I sit here in the newspaper office trying to think of another story to put in the sports section, I began to reflect back on what CVC has accomplished in sports this year.

First and foremost, the football team had the first undefeated season in school history.

It was a great ride for everyone that was associated with the team in any form.

Unfortunately, the ride ended in the first round of the playoffs. Hopefully next year will bring bigger and better things.

The cross country team had some highlights of their own this season. They competed against more than 40 teams in five different states.

The team also had a runner place in the TVAC. More would have placed, but mono struck the team.

Next the women's basketball team came within two games of making it into the National Tournament.

This was a building season. Hopefully next year the ladies will produce bigger and better things.

The men's basketball team also had a great year. The team came into the season with a new head coach.

The guys had to adjust to him, and coach Clark had to adjust to the team and to the rest of the conference.

After the winter sports were completed, the spring sports slowly began to kick into gear. There was a new team this year in the women's softball team.

Women's tennis team places third

Gary Hoffer
Staff Writer

The women's tennis team placed third overall in the TVAC tournament with 10 points, trailing first place Virginia Intermont with 19 and Milligan with 17 points.

Scoring an overall singles win was freshman Brandi Collins at the #5 position.

Collins defeated her Tennessee Wesleyan opponent 6-2, 6-1 in the first round and Bryan in the second round 6-2, 6-2.

Virginia Intermont's player went down in defeat in straight sets 6-4, 6-2 to give Collins her title.

The doubles team of Angela Gray and Adrian Fields reached the final round against Milligan before losing the three set battle 6-3, 1-6, 6-3.

Brandi Collins and Juanita Hill played a real crowd-pleasing doubles match that almost sent them into the final round at the #3 slot.

NHL playoffs in full gear

Randolph Forest
Asst. Sports Editor

The Stanley Cup playoffs are in full swing and already there have been some great moments.

Mario Lemerie ended his fabulous career as a Pittsburgh Penguin and as a hockey player he chose to end where he started, in the NHL. He ended when the Philadelphia Flyers beat the Pittsburgh Penguins in Game 7 of the first round.

The Philadelphia Flyers are looking to advance to the second round.

The Colorado Avalanche defeated the Chicago Blackhawks in Game 6 of the first round.

Dallas and Edmonton will play a seven game first round game.

Also, looking at the games, the series are:

Philadelphia Flyers took the series 4-1 over the Pittsburgh Penguins.

Philadelphia Flyers beat the Pittsburgh Penguins 2-1 in Game 7.

Colorado Avalanche defeated the Chicago Blackhawks 2-1 in Game 6.

Dallas Stars and Edmonton Oilers will play a seven game first round game.

Also, looking at the games, the series are:

CVC Intramural Report

Randolph Forest
Asst. Sports Editor

The CVC intramural season is a close. There have been some of action in the last year.

There were a lot of new events introduced this past year. From the first floor down to the mezzanine level of the CVC, this year was full of excitement.

But, it is not over, because the softball tournaments is still in full swing.

By the time that this issue comes out, the finals will have been out. They will also check on Thursday May 1st at 5:30 at 11 Kathy is the rest of the rest of the season.

Doubles will play the CVC in the other sport final, the Bomb Squad will play the Red Sox.

Good luck to all of these teams as they hope to win the softball tournament.

Congratulations to Rob Beverly and Brian Casey as they were the intramural 7 person volleyball team this past season.

Coming up on Wednesday April 30, there will be an intramural softball game held on the stadium field at 4:00. Check out the rest of the day.

This being the last issue of the school year, I would like to congratulate over those that played in intramural sports.

Cavs split doubleheader with Montreat

Randolph Forest
Asst. Sports Editor

This past weekend the Highland Cavalier baseball team split a doubleheader against Montreat.

The Cavs pitching allowed 5 runs on 5 hits. The Cavs also had 2 errors.

The first game was won by the Cavaliers by a score of 6-5.

The second game was a different story.

The Cavs were blown away by a score of 11-1.

The Cavaliers could only manage four hits in this game.

Greg Phantom had the only RBI

that game as he went 1-3.

This is not the way that coach Banner wanted to end the season and start the post season which begins on Saturday May 3rd.

Hopefully the Cavaliers can bounce back in the tournament as they start off by playing Bluefield College.

The TVAC tournament will be held at Hunter Wright Stadium in Kingsport Tennessee.

If you can, go out and show your support for the Highland Cavalier baseball team as they attempt to bring home a TVAC title. Wish the guys luck as they prepare for the tournament.

The year in sports... scenes from the 1996-97 school year



CVC quarterback Ron Hicks splits Westminister's defense with a perfect pass in their NAIA playoff game.



Christy Gray drives around her defender to score two of her many points this past season.



Mario Walker goes up for two points against a Bluefield defender in one of their games this year.



CVC's bench looks on as their teammate gets solid base hit.

Next year's Intramural schedule in planning process

Randolph Forest
Asst. Sports Editor

The intramural year may be over, but just like in football and baseball, there is an off season. That off season is called the summer.

Intramural sports will be kicking again when school comes back into session in Aug. and have we got a treat for you.

The "Road to New Orleans" is the theme for intramural football next year.

In the past the winning team has gone to the Super Bowl of flag football., and every year teams have been competing at a high level. I don't see that changing next sea-

son.

Another big sport is intramural basketball. This years season was full of excitement and great plays. Hopefully next year will be no different.

Besides intramural basketball, there will be a Schick three on three challenge.

The winners will advance to Greenville North Carolina to play in regional action.

There were also new traditions that were made this year. One of them was the first ever Greek Bowl between Pi Kappa Phi and Pi Lambda Phi.

This was a great game and it will be a war next year. The Pi Kapps lead the series 1-0.

For all of you football fans, there will be a fantasy football league. This gives fans a chance to make up their fantasy team with there favorite and not so favorite players.

Intramural billiards will be held, but there has not been a set place. If there are any ideas see Todd Gambill.

Two person volleyball tournaments will be held on McCrary field.

Finally, there will be spades and heart tournaments.

As you can see, there are a ton of intramural activities going on next year. So come on out and see how you fare against other CVC students.

Women's basketball and softball coaches busy recruiting for next season

Gary Hoffer
Staff Writer

Spring recruiting has been going on for both women's basketball and softball teams.

Coach Michelle Gill has signed six firm prospects for the upcoming basketball season.

The local girl is 5'10" Kristi Carter from J.J. Kelly as guard. Bettina Vanover (6'1") from Fleming-Neon HS in Neon, KY will try the post position in next year's lineup.

Amber Gunter, a 5'6" shooting guard from Ft. Chiswell HS, will be trying for a spot in the rotation.

Those who are left in this spring's recruiting crop will be two sport athletes.

Cassie Carmack, a 5'9" guard from Abingdon HS, will also be joining the volleyball team in the fall.

Dana Brooher (5'4") and Stephanie Brumfield (5'8") will both play guard in basketball and softball in the spring, when the

team starts its first full year of TVAC competition.

Courtney Elliot will be playing both volleyball and softball for Coach Minton next year.

"We will hold open tryouts in the fall, ... and have six weeks of conditioning," said coach Gill.

"With only one senior and two juniors on the team, and the new class of recruits, we will have a very young team."

The girls will also be assisting in the summer basketball camps we hold for the local junior and senior high schools, as well as elementary schools," added Gill.

Coach Lisa Minton will have a busy fall as she juggles a full time volleyball schedule with her off-season softball conditioning and practice.

"We'll see how much we get done (in softball) with all the things going on next fall," said Minton.

"One of the challenges of the fall schedule is getting time in the gym for pre-season work-outs," added Michelle Gill.

The Highland Cavalier Sports Department wishes you the best of luck on your final exams. Have a great summer.

Golf team finishes fourth in tournament

Gary Hoffer
Staff Writer

The Clinch Valley golf team finished their season at the TVAC tournament on April 21 and 22 with a fourth place tie with Montreat at the Bristol Country Club.

Bluefield ran away from the field with a 36-hole score of 615. They were followed by King (625) and Tennessee Wesleyan (656).

"We had a eight stroke lead after the first round," said coach Jim Stewart about the separation between CVC and Montreat.

"Playing conditions were very poor the first day. The boys played between the down-pours, but it

misted all day," added Stewart.

The team finished with a final score of 694. Richard Runyan shot rounds of 85 and 79 to lead the team.

Josh Hughes was one stroke behind with an 85 and a 80, and James Hughes followed with two rounds of 90.

The fourth player, Russ Cyphers added his round of 90 to the first day's total and Pete Richardson, fifth on the roster, added the last score of 95 on the second day.

"With all the golfers returning next year, and a good number of recruits, I look forward to an even better team next year," said Stewart. Congratulations on a good season.

Entertainment

Buzzfest '97

By Jon Biscoe
Entertainment Editor

Saturday, April 19: we fought the traffic, heading south on I-95. We (the we in question being myself and my roommate, erstwhile photographer Stick Thomas) were only about 20 minutes away from our destination, the Classic Amphitheater on the state fairgrounds in Richmond.

The event that had brought us all the way from Clinch Valley to Richmond (about a 6 hour drive) was Buzzfest '97, a "party for the planet" thrown by the best radio station in this state, Richmond's own 106.5, the Buzz.

We were even closer now, by the time these thoughts had drifted through my head; even closer to seeing Sponge, Cracker, Poe, Moby, the Sneaker Pimps, and Naked, among others.

As we pulled in, we could see lines of people extending 300 yards back into the makeshift parking lot, waiting for the gates to open at noon. I had called a few days earlier to see if the radio station was granting press passes to the event.

They very graciously had two waiting for me, one for myself and one for a photographer, who Stick impersonated quite well. The gates opened, and the long line dissolved inside and scattered.

It was a pleasant day, defying the forecasts of local weathermen who had predicted rain. The sun was high and bright, and a strong breeze lifted hair from brows and skirts from legs.

There were vendors of every description inside, from sunglasses, hats, and shirts to CD's and fresh-squeezed lemonade. Naked, the first band, was slated to go on the main stage at 1:00, so we had an hour to explore.

Plan 9 records had a nice booth set up, giving away stickers and cassette samplers, as well as an opportunity to win albums by every Buzzfest artist (10 in all).

Various environmental agencies had stations, reiterating the fact that today was Earth day, and that there was a serious message underneath all of the music, food, and merchandise.

Other notable attractions included a laser tag tent, the Tower records booth, and a place set up for the musicians to give autographs.

There was an interesting cross-section of society milling about: kids in full Marilyn Manson regalia, painted faces and all; middle aged men and women getting hammered on cup after cup of beer; college students; high school students; a few hippies.

Eventually we moved toward the amphitheater itself and found our seats in the press box. Naked, a four man outfit based in L.A., came on a little after one. Vocalist/guitarist Jonathan Sheldon kept up a good rapport with the crowd, talking and staying active between songs.

Naked recently released their self-titled debut, an album that has already spawned one hit single with



Naked: (l to r) Jeremy Ireland, Petur Smith, Jonathan Sheldon, Damon Martin
Photo by Eric Thomas

"Mann's Chinese." This song has received heavy radio play as well as some MTV rotation.

Naked had the disadvantage of going on first, when the crowd hadn't yet swollen to its hugest proportion. Still, with 10,000 sold out tickets, there was a sizable crowd on hand. Of course, "Mann's Chinese" received the biggest reaction from the assemblage.

Sheldon, announcing the song "Raining On The Sky," said "This is for all those young lovers out there. If you've never been in love before, then find someone. It's a good thing," becoming the first of a few performers to call on the "young lovers out there."

Naked called it quits after about 45 minutes, and we headed over to the second stage. This stage, the

Studio B stage, was a showcase for local talent. First up were Frog Legs, an outfit whose antics brought to mind the Rugburns' performance from Buzzfest '96.

There really aren't enough good things to say about this band. Their music defies easy categorization, bringing to mind a diverse sample that includes Eric Clapton, Urge Overkill, the Chili Peppers, and classic rock/funk.

The show they put on has to be seen before one can really comprehend it. Singer Wrenn Mangum walked across the stage on his hands, did splits, stuffed his fist into his mouth, even turned a few cartwheels.

Drummer Morgan Huff's hair bounced like it was made out of Jell-O. Guitarist Tom Illmensee

played some of the most impressive leads I've heard in a while, and wore a feather-covered hat that he later told me was something of his grandmother's. Turtle, the bassist, seemed suspended in a world of his own.

Frog Legs deserved a spot on the main stage, if not for their music, then simply because no one put on a better show that day than they did. I talked to them later, and they confessed to being a little overwhelmed by the experience.

Turtle said "It was incredible. Probably one of the biggest crowds we've played for." Frog Legs have opened for everyone from the Dave Matthews Band to War, and the impression they gave was one of wide-eyed enthusiasm, of genuine
See Buzzfest, pg 7



Frog Legs: (l to r) Morgan Huff, Wrenn Mangum, Tom Illmensee
Photo by Eric Thomas

Buzzfest, from pg 6
nice guys on a wild and perhaps unexpected ride.

I think they have a limitless future ahead of them- their Midnight Radio album is one of the best I've heard in years.

Following Frog Legs, the Sneaker Pimps started on the main stage. The British trio of vocalist Kelli Dayton, keyboardist Liam Howe, and guitarist Chris Corner had to add a drummer and a bassist to their live show.

My eardrums almost split when the Pimps started to play. I'd never heard such bass in my life! The Pimps sounded sort of Tricky-esque live, although on their album, *Becoming X*, I never made that connection.

Instead of the Tricky label of "trip-hop," I suppose one could call the Pimps "trip-pop." All of them seemed like stereotypical English rock stars- distant and bored, except for Dayton, who clapped, danced, and talked to the audience.

I could literally feel my seat being shaken everytime the bass would sound. What was most impressive about the Sneaker Pimps was the way they reproduced all of the weird, flying saucer noises heard on their album live. The crowd erupted when the band played their hit "6 Underground."

Next up on the Studio B stage was Rocket 69. They resembled an odd amalgam of Social Distortion, Motley Crue, and the Allman Brothers, if you can picture that. Rocket 69 played melodic rock in

an almost classic vein. They were also the first band to create a moah pit, complete with body surfing (Stick even got hit by a flying body). We didn't catch all of Rocket 69's set, because we wanted to get back to the main stage for Moby, who was the real reason we drove so far for this show in the first place.

After a brief wait, Moby and his band strode on-stage. "Hey everybody"- these were the only words Moby spoke before launching into his first song. He was very mobile, running from one end of the stage to the next, perching on the drum riser and moving on again.

He broke a pair of drum sticks hammering away on his drum machine/keyboard during "Bring Back My Happiness." The next

song, "Come On Baby," witnessed Moby knocking the whole keyboard arrangement over. A stage hand rushed out to set it up again. A cover of Black Sabbath's "Paranoid" was followed by "Feeling So Real," during which Moby proceeded to go crazy on the bongo drums.

To introduce his most popular song, a cover of Mission of Burma's "That's When I Reach For My Revolver," Moby said "This song is about being really depressed and wanting to blow your brains out." When the crowd roared its approval, Moby replied "That's supposed to be a sad thing" with a disbelieving shake of his head.

He started playing, and my ears were ringing with the giant, unified

voice of the crowd as they shouted out the maxim of the title along with Moby. He invited two girls from the crowd to come up and dance with him to a "Country/western my granddaddy taught me." This song turned out to be a mutation of "Everytime You Touch Me," almost a disco tune from *Everything Is Wrong*.

Moby waltzed around the stage with one girl, then the other. He kissed them on their cheeks and sent them back to the crowd. The song segued into a hardcore version, then a reggae version of "Everytime You Touch Me."

The last song Moby played was "All That I Need Is To Be Loved," after which he simply walked off. Energized by Moby's set, but des-



Moby onstage at the Buzzfest
Jon, you are touching the line!
Photo by Jon Biscoe



Cracker jamming: (l to r) David Lowery, Johnny Hott, Bob Rupe. Not pictured: John Hickman.
Photo by Eric Thomas

perately hungry, we decided to skip the Seymores on the Studio B stage to grab a bite to eat.

Crowd favorite Poe was on the main stage next, but I missed all of her set as well, because I was trying to arrange an interview with Moby (Stick did get some nice pictures of Poe though). Moby, at this point, was signing autographs.

The line for this seemed as though it would never end, and I quickly realized that standing and waiting wasn't the best way to go about accomplishing my goal.

I walked around to the front of the roped-off autograph area, and talked to Buzz DJ Mike Hau, who in turn talked to Moby's manager, Marci Weber, and she invited Stick and I to come on back.

We were introduced to Moby, who was a bit preoccupied, considering he had a few hundred people clamoring for his autograph.

Marci took a picture of Moby with Stick and I, and told us we could have an interview, but it had to be quick, because they had a plane to catch in about 30 minutes.

They were headed to Dallas, and the Edgefest the very next day. Marci, who I swear is the nicest person on Earth, told us that Moby will be scoring the new James Bond film, as well as producing the new Guns N' Roses album.

Moby, however, being the nice guy that he is, continued to sign autographs until he had to be pulled away, for fear of missing the flight. We were unable to interview him then, but Marci



Poe getting her point across
Photo by Eric Thomas

again saved the day, giving me a phone number to call for an interview later. I was unfortunately not able to do this in time to run it in the paper.

In the interim, Moby autographed my shirt for me and shook my hand, all of which made the long drive from CVC more than worth it. On his way out he also kissed my cousin Beth on the cheek, after which she swore to never wash her face

again. Hometown boys Cracker came on around 6:30. Frontman David Lowery announced that they were from Richmond, saying "it's nice being here." The amphitheater filled to its full capacity the moment the first few chords of "Sweet Thistle Pie" echoed through the darkening air.

Everyone was on their feet, dancing and singing along. The tall, gangly Lowery seemed like a thin wire though which too much current was being driven, literally bursting with energy. The fourth song the band played was their hit "Low," and the crowd went absolutely insane. It was hard to hear the band over the din produced by 10,000 voices singing right along.

At one point between songs Lowery said "You know we're the only local band on the ticket, and we also have more songs on the radio than anyone else here. You should be proud of that. You should be proud of Richmond."

Bnzzfest, from pg 7

The sun was going down now, and the last few slanting bars of light were falling on the stage, throwing the band's shadows into sharp relief behind them. The crowd's energy was not ebbing away, far from it- things still seemed to be gathering momentum.

Giant sections of human flesh swayed back and forth to a common rhythm; it seemed almost as permanent and immutable a motion as that of tide. Of course, tilings often go wrong with the best-laid plans of mice and men. and such was the case here.

"Euro-trash Girl" had an extended intro solo, as the rest of the band waited for bassist Bob Rupe to figure out what was going wrong with his equipment, because he wasn't making any sound.

When he finally got squared away, Lowery started to sing, and the crowd yelled right along- it's a bit surreal hearing "Euro-trash Girl!" shouted by thousands of people.

Then one of two things happened: either Lowery kicked the mic stand off of the stage, or guitarist John Hickman accidentally

knocked down mic stand off of the stage. Regardless of how it happened, the end result remained the same: there was a broken mic stand on the ground.

Stage attendants rushed out and put the shattered stand back. Lowery had to hunch down to sing from then on. Next, Lowery proceeded to hurl all of the monitors from the lip of the stage. At this point, all of the music stopped.

About a minute later the band kicked in the final part of "Euro-trash Girl" out of the blue. Lowery was apparently pretty angry, because the band walked off, kicking over amps, tearing apart the drum kit, and generally just destroying whatever was convenient at the time.

Now I'm not sure, but I think Cracker's set ended early. They were one of the two headlining bands, so I assumed that they would play for about two hours. They only played for an hour and 15 minutes, and also there were a few of the band's hits that were curiously absent, sraggs like "I Hate My Generation" and "Get Off This."

All of this, coupled with Cracker's somewhat orthodox exit, leads me to believe that they quit before

they were supposed to, apparently because of rock star ego. The crowd was silent after Cracker walked off not knowing what to make of what had just occurred.

Slackjaw were performing outside on the Studio B stage, and they sounded really good, but I wasn't being particularly attentive. My mind was still focused on the Cracker incident. The main thing I remember about Slackjaw is how heavy they were....

Sponge came on around 7:00. Much of the crowd was outside, and when vocalist Vinnie Dombrowski saw the empty seats he said "I came here and dressed my motherf---kin' ass up to play for 'em, what die f---k's up? They told me dii'sh-t was sold out"

The crowd came steaming in once they heard Dombrowski's voice, and Sponge began to play, complete with a light show. Vinnie junked into the crowd at one point and went body surfing, much to the chagrin of his body guards.

He clambered back on stage, leaving the mosh pit behind.

The next trick up Vinnie's sleeve was to jump from the stage, run back to the press box, and jump

up there with us reporters (the girl next to me from Pulse magazine joked that he must have seen her sleqing).

The crowd immediately collapsed on us. That wasn't the coolest feeling I've ever had, being crushed by a wave of people.

Security was pretty ineffectual. They were concentrating on keeping Vinnie safe, and ignoring us innocent bystanders.

Once Vinnie had made his way back to the stage, in a time with a heavy escort of security, they began a reggae version of "Uy," dedicating it to "the people on the bwn." The normal version kicked in after the first chorus.

Vinnie urged a little crowd participation by holding out the candles to us all on the "16 candles down die drain" part

Next up was a nice quiet number, "Have You Seen Muiy." There was a lot of lighter waving. Classic rock clichés never die, I suppose.

By this time we were feeling pretty burnt out and tired, and we decided to get out before the show ended, and traffic got too bad.

"Plowed" was playing as we walked out of the amphitheater.

and, by the time we made it to the car, "Rainfall In My House" was on

Looking back on the experience now, I can wholeheartedly say that it was worth the drive and the SIS for a ticket, which is insane, yet cheap anyway.

I had a great time, hung out with some wonderful people, and heard a lot of good music.

Thanks must be given to Stick, who did the driving and took the pictures; to Mike Hsu, who was just really cool and helpful; (and Mike, we both know that Animal Farm should've headlined the whole thing!); to Marci WOKI, who was extremely nice to a couple of kids from a COU she'd never heard of, to Moby, for sparing his time and being a considerate, generous person; to Frog Legs, for being so eager to talk to us; and, most of all, to 106.S.

They sponsored an excellent show, made it affordable, and worked their hardest to make everything and everyone there accessible to the average listener.

Ridui Mmd is looking to have such an organization at work for it. I can't wait to see the lineup for Buzzfest '98

Pill

By Jarrod Wiltan Staff Writer

The Summer movie season is here and by all accounts, it is going to be one of the best special efforts; *TJbe m'oi*itm>, Mt KV* sota<seems<to>be>sci Tfi^flfa> but! diere are also other<enite> tHeniiis B'Ust'of some of F^ibigrinoyHSit watch for

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