UVA’s College at Wise Welcomes New Faculty

Angela Markham  
Staff Writer

There are several new faces among the faculty this year. Seven new members have been added to the instructional faculty. They will no doubt play a large part in instructing and guiding the college’s future graduates.

Brenda Cooper is the new assistant of nursing. A graduate of Bellarmine College, she obtained both her BSN and MSN there. Dr. Kyle-Patrick Hart hails from Hillsboro, N.J. and joins the English communications department. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan, two masters degrees from the University of Southern California, and a third from Wayne State in Detroit, Michigan, where he moved “after my third earthquake.”

Dr. Hart is currently teaching the Beginning News Writing and Media Studies courses, among others. He chose to come to UVA-Wise because he wanted to teach at a college where instructors could get to know their students, unlike large universities where class sizes are in the hundreds.

Also new to the college is Dr. Sami Feriel, Visiting Professor of Language. Dr. Feriel has obtained a Ph.D. from Ankara University and a B.A. from Istanbul University.

Professor Donald Hill is a Southwest Virginia Native, born in Buchanan County. He attended both Brown and the University of Rhode Island before obtaining his MBA and BS at the University of Kentucky. One of the reasons Professor Hill chose to come to UVA-Wise is because the college is close to where he grew up and lives. He is the Assistant Professor of Accounting.

Dr. George Moss is the new Assistant Professor of Mathematics and is currently instructing courses in algebra, Calculus I, and differential equations.

Dr. Moss chose UVA-Wise because “it is a small school where I can get to know the students.” He did his undergraduate studies at Auburn University and attended graduate school at Virginia Tech.

Joining the English Department is Dr. Mary-Kelly Persyn, a graduate of both the University of Washington and UCLA. Dr. Persyn is thrilled to join the faculty of UVA-Wise because she wanted to come to a college “where I knew I could make a difference.”

Dr. Cynthia Wilkey is a proud graduate of Ohio State and is a native of Dayton, Ohio. An Assistant Professor of History, she chose UVA-Wise “because of the chance to teach the courses I’m currently teaching.”

Dr. Wilkey is teaching Survey of American History, 20th Century American History, and a course on Women’s History. Also new this year are Jared Danielson, Director of Instructional Technology; Tony Lawson, Coordinator of Southwest Virginia Graduate Medical Education Consortium; Barbara Willis, Executive Director, Southwest Virginia Public Education Consortium; and Rachel Clay, Women’s Basketball coach.

CrossSeekers Rally Held

Damian Garrison  
Copy Editor

During the weekend of September 17-18, the University of Virginia’s Baptist Student Union recently had some of its students participate in the 1999 CrossSeekers Rally at Liberty University. This program was sponsored by Liberty University and the national CrossSeekers Organization.

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The CrossSeekers Rally was part of Baptist Student Union’s month long look at the CrossSeekers Covenant. The Covenant consists of seven vows of the CrossSeeker that apply to Christian students committed to the life-changing discipleship. The seven vows of CrossSeekers Covenant are integrity, witness, spiritual growth, serve, purity, and Christlike relationships.

Further information about the CrossSeekers Covenant can be obtained during the Baptist Student Union’s weekly Wednesday Supper for the remainder of the September to Full Break.

UVA’s College at Wise lends a helping hand to Turkey in relief effort

Allham Kararakartal  
Staff Writer

“There is no place like home.” It does not take much for a person to realize the truth in this expression from The Wizard of Oz, especially when witnessing the destruction of their homes. The victims are forced to let go of their valuables, hopes, dreams, and even their loved ones. “There is no place like home” only describes a fraction of what the devastated victims feel after getting hit by the earthquake.

In the early hours of Tuesday, August 17th, formed in an epicenter approximately one hundred miles from the city of Istanbul, an earthquake registering 7.4 on the Richter Scale ripped through the highly populated city of Marmara in Northwestern Turkey.

The earthquake left more than 12,000 people dead, 25,000 injured, 600,000 homeless and 65,000 homes completely unlivable all within less than a minute. The economical destruction caused by the earthquake in monetary terms has been estimated as 20 billion dollars; but in each catastrophe these figures seem less significant when compared to the extreme cases of shock, fear, pain, and disappointment experienced by terrified victims of mother nature. The city of Istanbul also trembled during the earthquake, leaving reported casualties of over one thousand. Among the settlements that have been damaged is Turkey’s oldest, largest, and most respected educational institution, The Istanbul University, the official sister institution of the UVA’s College at Wise.

The college administration has presented its request to the ATAA for the channeling of some of the money to the Istanbul University and all of the funds gathered by our college will be sent directly to the coordinator of this major attempt.

UVA’s College at Wise lends a helping hand to Turkey in relief effort...
Issues in McCrarry

Celebrating three different cultures

Kisha Dykes Staff Writer

In this fast paced world, many have discovered that they pay to have some of their money come from the arts or from learning new languages.

Whatever form it takes, many have experimented with no regrets. The University of Virginia is no exception to this rule. This year, for example, the Spanish and French teachers creating a program in which students of either language are able to visit and learn more about the Spanish and French cultures and the English department celebrated the thirteenth annual Medieval-Renaissance Conference.

On alternating weeks you may find yourself meeting a French being spoken at 7:00pm.

The name of the right revolution upon the meeting, La Noche Latina, if you are Spanish and La Soiré Française if you are French. The sponsored for this event is the English department, for which the topic of the Spanish class is to share their research, with all who wanted to attend. Some of the topics included Chaucer, medieval music, and many more. The keynote speaker was noted folklorist and scholar, Dolores Warwick Freeman, the department's Spanish class trip to Medieval Studies at the University of Florence, Italy. The original idea for this came from Dr. Jack Mahoney and Richard Peake in 1986.

A New Kind of Health Care System

Angela Markham Staff Writer

In 1998 the Virginia General Assembly authorized funds to the Virginia Department of Health for a new program designed to improve local residents’ access to quality care physicians.

The Southwest Virginia Graduate Medical Education Consortium (GMEC) is a “non-profit cooperation governed by a volunteer board of directors and managed via contract with the University of Virginia’s College at Wise” according to Executive Director Tony Lawson.

According to a memo prepared by Lawson, the mission of GMEC is to improve access to quality primary care physicians. “We hope to attract and recruit primary care physicians to the area,” he said. GMEC encourage physicians to practice in the area to stay here.”

According to Lawson’s memo, there are four current practices GMEC hopes to accomplish.

Those are: (1) identify local practices to host primary care residents in rural medical community. (2) Develop local preceptors to increase components of medical education programs in Virginia and surrounding states. (3) Assist current practices to recruit residents from training programs in Virginia and surrounding states for attract physicians to residencies in GMEC preceptors, and GMEC graduate medical education residents will complete graduate training in Virginia in their residencies.

Highland Cavaliers Bring Winning Streak Into Homecoming

The 17th ranked University of Virginia’s College at Wise Highland Cavaliers improved to 3-1 in the season following two away victories. The Highland Cavaliers looked to get retribution for an embarrassing home loss last season, and revenge they received. The Cavaliers beat Concord College 35-10 in Athens, Virginia. Concord came out and took the half drive on two drives before the half. The third quarter was 455 yards with no touchdowns. Two Concord receivers had over a hundred yards receiving, but the Highland Cavaliers held to a 36-7 lead by the third quarter.

The Cavaliers moved to 3-1 for the season heading into this weekend’s homecoming game against New Kent Appomattox Conference. A parade beginning at 12:00 pm will precede the excitement. It will start from the courthouse and travel to the Tradition. The homecoming game kicks off at 3:00, so come and cheer the University of Virginia’s College at Wise on victory!
Tori Amos's To Venus and Back Well Worth the Trip

Angela Markham
Staff Writer

Fans of Tori Amos have been anxiously awaiting her newest album for quite some time. To Venus and Back, Amos's follow-up to the successful From the Choirgirl Hotel, was released on September 21. What started out as a compilation of B-sides from her previous singles evolved into a double album set featuring one album of entirely new material and another of live recordings.

To Venus and Back, is strongly reminiscent of Tori's acclaimed debut album, Little Earthquakes. Unlike her last album, which featured many experimental mixing and editing techniques, Venus returns to the piano-based acoustics and strong lyrics that make Amos such a standout artist.

Her first single, "Bliss," flows with the emotion that accompanies all her songs.

Another standout track is the final one on the album, 1,000 Oceans." Without question, it is the strongest song on the album, a ballad unlike any Amos has released since "Winter" from The穿着.

There is one central problem that plagues Venus, however. Amos's lyrics are often blurred and difficult to understand. Luckily, Venus like all of her previous albums, features printed lyrics. Also, like her previous albums, the music is so strong and so original that it carries the song on its own.

The second album in the set, a live recording, showcases Amos's vocal talents at their best. Most of the songs featured are unreleased tracks from her previous albums and B-sides, though several songs, such as "Coraline Girl" and "Precious Things" are present. Songs from her previous album From the Choirgirl Hotel, are conspicuously absent, with the exception of her last single "Crush." Still, despite the unusual choices of material for the album, Venus is everything a live album should be. The background is not filled with obnoxious "crowd noises," unlike some other live recordings. Her voice is even stronger and more soulful than on her studio albums.

To Venus Back is one of Tori Amos's strongest offerings.

Stigmata: It will bore the hell out of you!

Wes Heathker
Staff Writer

Stigmata, the new Hollywood attempt at a worthwhile horror flick opened to strong first week box-office figures and mixed reviews from filmgoers and critics. The movie stars Patricia Arquette as Frankie Paige, a 23 year-old hairdresser who is overtaken by the Stigmata. Further into the movie the Stigmata is described as the possession of a person's body with the crucifixion markings of Jesus Christ.

Despite the advertisement's which depict Stigmata as a Generation X version of The Exorcist, the movie goes downhill from the start. Arquette's character is paired with Gabriel Byrne, who takes on the role of Father Andrew Kieren, a chemist/priest who diagnoses Frankie's problem and attempts to help her understand it. The remainder of the movie is spent finding out why Frankie is stricken with the Stigmata and what will become of her.

Stigmata provides very little chills, and even less entertainment for the viewer. Stigmata amounts to nothing more than a hoard and a half of religious blasphemy that does nothing else but damage the credibility of the Roman Catholic Church. Stigmata was nothing short of an attempt by greedy movie producers to bankroll off other people's religious dogma. Stigmata was promoted as something it wasn't, and it failed to deliver the goods. The makers of Stigmata deserve to be uncommunicated.

Imagination the special effect of choice in Blair Witch Project

Tara Rowland
Staff Writer

"I walked into a crowded theater in my hometown this summer, with high hopes for the overly-hyped movie, The Blair Witch Project." Despite the fact that it is over-hyped, I must say, if you extend your imagination, it will scare you to death. This is the kind of horror that you cannot go into thinking you are going to laugh your way through it. If you do that, you lose the magic. I mean really, what are we more afraid of in today's world, the thing that goes bump in the night? Or the actual bump in the night?

The movie opens as a documentary, where it is mentioned that three students were lost in the woods of Burkittsville when searching for a legend. There are even a few interviews with people of the town, as they tall rumors and stories that have been passed down.

Heather, played by Heather Donahue, has talked two of her good friends Josh (Joshua Leonard) and Mike (Michael Williams) into doing a documentary on the "Blair Witch." These three college students set out in the woods and end up getting lost, losing the map, walking in circles, and then encountering a large number of odd things until finally one member of the party goes missing. Then they are in a mind trip into the unknown that you will shiver to see and understand, with an ending that will stay with you as you lay in your bed trying to sleep that night. The last image just does not seem to want to leave your mind's eye.

Written, directed, and edited by Edward and Daniel Myrick, this movie is truly a twist on the popular teen slasher horror we have so coveted of late. There are no special effects, no gory attacks, and no scantily clad young girls running up stairs when they should be running out the door. In fact, the filming was even done with two hand held taping devices. An old black and white 16mm carried by Josh and a color camcorder carried by Heather. And yet, without all of the dazzling blue backgrounds, this movie will scare you if you sit by and let it get under your skin.

If you have any imagination at all, and if you remember being afraid of the dark then I recommend this movie.

Rated R for language