



## One for all



Ryan Howell, the new Cavalier mascot, cheers on the football team.

# College transition teaches freshmen valuable lessons

by William Childress  
Highland Cavalier Staff Writer

More than 300 new students are beginning their college careers this semester at UVA-Wise. For many, the challenges of living away from home are creating a new way of life. As the weeks pass by, College freshmen are finding out what it takes to thrive both personally and academically.

"There is a significant shock between what freshmen expect and what they encounter," said Elizabeth Steele, coordinator of advising, retention and assessment. "The biggest challenge a typical freshman faces is adjusting to the increased amount of work that comes with college courses."

Steele said that students don't understand the great amount of work that is expected of them when they begin their college careers. Many do not realize how much more academically demanding college is than high school. The fast pace and quantity of work required for each class can catch freshmen off guard.

"It is overwhelming at times," said

freshman Elizabeth Vanover. "When students start college, they become adults. A great deal of academic and personal responsibility is placed on the shoulders of every freshman, and some of them aren't ready to deal with it yet."

Statistics show that up to 15 percent of college freshmen will drop out before their first year of college has ended. Although some first-year students find out that college is not for them, many realize it is just what they are looking for.

"It is great, and better than I expected," said freshman Nakesha Talley.

Still, no matter how much a freshman likes college, life is not all fun and games. Freshmen quickly learn about two of the greatest pitfalls of college life. "Early classes are the worst part about college, and lack of money is a major problem," said freshman Ryan McDaniel. Many upper-classmen would agree.

However, most freshmen adapt quickly and practically to the problems, while others search for more creative solutions. With a little time and patience, many of the

initial stresses of college life quickly fade.

"I have more free time, and I actually get treated like an adult," said Talena Stanley of the increased independence college life provides.

Campus life allows many freshmen to experience true freedom for the first time in their lives. These students are being exposed to new experiences and have the opportunity to interact with many different types of people. Some are forming new friendships they feel will last for a lifetime. Freshmen list going to parties, hanging out with friends, meeting new people and becoming involved in campus activities as their favorite parts of college so far.

"It is a good experience and worth it in the end," said Brooke Lyall. "Many freshmen feel all the extra work college brings is simply preparing them for the future. After a few months or even a few weeks, new students usually settle in just fine."

"Remember to have fun," Steele said. "Sometimes, students get caught up in all their homework and forget to enjoy the entire college experience."

# Medieval Renaissance Conference begins today

by Sarah Vanover  
Highland Cavalier Staff Writer

This year's Medieval Renaissance Conference takes place Sept. 20-22 and is sure to offer entertainment for everyone. What makes this year's conference special is that, for the first time, several papers will be presented by undergraduate students.

Unlike in previous years, when undergraduates could only attend the conference as part of the audience, four students will be presenting their papers and taking questions from the audience.

"The Renaissance conference is important to scholars who specialize in the field because it is a way for them to share information," said conference chair Ken Tiller. "It is not a Renaissance Fair. We do not dress in costumes and joust."

Tiller elaborated on the true purpose of the conference. "Many places have traditional Renaissance Fairs.

At UVA-Wise, we have a Renaissance conference at which scholars read their papers and discuss topics about the period," Tiller said. However, there will be traditional dance from the period and traditional music provided by the Renaissance Revelers.

Participants in the conference include members of UVA-Wise as well as other colleges in Virginia, Texas and as far away as the University of South Africa.

The conference, Tiller notes, is not only for academics. Students, too, are welcome to attend. "They are usually required by their professors to [go]," Tiller said. He encourages all students to attend, noting that there is no charge for admission. There are also several fun activities planned, which will include a reception, a Renaissance Dance and dinner.

Twenty to forty students and faculty members usually attend the conference. Tiller encourages everyone to come and enjoy the activities. "We encourage students to solicit papers for next year," Tiller said.



Ken Tiller puts in countless hours of work each year to organize the Medieval Renaissance Conference.

# Lake to enhance campus beauty, benefit environment

by Stephen Dula  
Highland Cavalier Staff Writer

The soon-to-be-completed Campus Infrastructure Lake will not be just for looks. It will also improve the environment.

The new lake, which is being constructed in front of McCrayer Hall, will be the answer to many drainage problems on campus resulting from construction both past and present. However, the lake will serve an even more important purpose.

"One of the major functions of the lake will be to provide a discharge of higher quality water by settling out salts and motor oils," said Slim Ewing, vice chancellor

for Admission. This will be accomplished by settling. As the water flows into the lake it will slow down. The decrease in speed will cause heavier contaminants to settle to the bottom of the lake like powder settles to the bottom of a mug of hot chocolate. The more time the water spends in the lake, the cleaner it gets. Also, chemicals in the water will have a chance to react with chemicals in the lake. These reactions may also help to improve water quality.

Ewing also expects the lake to aid in the cleaning of water flowing from the stream across from faculty row.

One strategy incorporated into the design of the lake was that it should beau-

tify the campus as well as help to improve water quality. Ewing said that research is currently underway at Virginia Tech to find several types of plants that will help clean the water.

"These plants work by absorbing water that contains contaminants," Ewing said. "The plants use the water and the contaminant is stored within them."

Ewing mentioned plantings at the Thompson Hall end of the lake, which will become the tail water and incorporate the small stream that flows through the field. He hopes this plan will help to protect downstream lands, especially marsh areas, from the effects of contaminated water.

However, the construction is not without risks. Possible environmental impacts to the College during construction might include increased run-off from excavated land, as well as an increase in the amount of soil that is moved by water flowing through the construction site.

"We have bent over backward to make sure that is not an issue," Ewing said.

He said that information relating to the environmental impact on soil and water was compiled before construction began. The effects of the construction efforts will continue to be monitored.

"The sites are inspected weekly by various state agencies to ensure that the con-

struction complies with state regulations," Ewing said. "The construction companies, along with the College, have made every effort to avoid destroying or altering any special areas, such as tree plantings, that they were informed of. Environmental controls are being closely watched due to the amount of construction on campus."

Ewing said that he and his staff are taking great pains to make certain that nothing slips through the cracks during any of the three construction projects currently underway around campus.

The lake is expected to be friendly to the College's social environment, as well. Ewing displayed some concept drawings

of the lake with flowers planted around it and several student-friendly features such as a walkway and places to rest by the water. The perimeter of the lake will be well-lit for students to enjoy.

When asked about student safety, Ewing was quick to dispel any concerns. He explained that, after examining the situation, the Office of Risk Management concluded that the lake will be no less of a threat to student health than the swimming pool. He said, however, that the lake's edges will be gently sloped to increase safety in case of a fall or foolish student.

"Inevitably, someone will jump in," Ewing said.

## College, Pro-Art offer visual delights

by Kristina Powers  
Highland Cavalier Staff Writer

Jon Menick has joined the theater staff for the fall semester and plans to invite students and community members to the cultural world through this semester's play. He is directing the fall production, "The Rivers of Eldritch," written by Lanford Wilson.

"Hold on to your hats, folks," Menick said. "This is going to be more fun than a run of 'I Love Lucy.'"

Menick knew from descriptions of the area that he had chosen the right play for the College. "This play is Wise, Virginia," he said. "At the heart of the story is a murder mystery demonstrating the evil and innocence of a small town. The play offers a wide range of characters and situations, each with their own parts." Menick said that this play will act as a reminder of the dangers of small-town conformity.

"We can create characters and paint them with brushes we've held before," Menick said. "We can choose from what we know. The town conforms to what is known because most members are afraid of change. It's about the sacrifice of creativity for the sake of safety, putting out the light to feel safe."

Menick desires a director's dream cast to fill all 17 roles, members who never miss a rehearsal and get along wonderfully. "I want everybody in the cast to taste what it is like to succeed



The stars of "Damn Yankees" strike a pose. The musical is presented by Pro-Art.

artistically," he said.

The play will also feature a gospel choir to appeal to the music lovers in the audience. "It will be down home, get dirty Southern gospel," Menick said.

The UVA-Wise Department of Visual and Performing Arts has had trouble with attendance in the past. Menick hopes the faculty will help increase the play's publicity. "Every teacher should demand that the students fill those seats. It should be mandatory," he said.

Menick even suggested that "The Rivers of Eldritch" count for two cultural credits. "You're going to have to watch it twice to figure it out anyway," he said.

Menick has had a successful career of his own, playing Herb for a series of Burger King commercials. He has also had recurring roles in many shows as "Night Court" and "Moonlighting."

In addition to the campus play, the musical "Damn Yankees" is being presented by Pro-Art. The play centers around the tale of Joe Boyd, who sells his soul to the devil for a chance to lead his favorite baseball team to the pennant. The performance will take place Wednesday, Sept. 26, at The Center for the Performing Arts. Curtain time is 7:30 p.m. All UVA-Wise students will be admitted free with a valid College I.D.

## Round one of TEP interviews highly successful

Sarah Vanover  
Highland Cavalier Staff Writer

The first round of Teacher Education Program interviews can be summed up in one word: successful. Approximately 15 students were interviewed on Aug. 28 and 29, and all passed.

"As a whole, this was a very strong group of candidates. We didn't even pause before we approved them," said Maria Weltzman, chair of the Teacher Education Program committee.

Students were able to see what it feels like trying to get a job in the "real world" by going through an interview designed to simulate a job interview. Questions are

designed to challenge students to really think about what it means to be a teacher.

"One of the questions we always ask them is 'Why do you want to be a teacher?' If they can't answer, that tells you there is a problem," Weltzman said. Students were also asked why they have chosen a particular discipline and how they will meet the challenges of teaching the subject.

Some students became anxious when faced with the interview. "I was a little nervous because the interview is your last step before admittance [into the TEP]," said Dorinda Holmes, one of the students who recently passed the interview and was admitted into the program. Holmes hopes to become certified in high school English

and library K-12. However, the interview was not just a shot in the dark for most students.

"They asked serious questions that you should already know," Holmes said. The interview is not the only step toward being accepted into the TEP, however. Students must also pass the Praxis, write an essay and have it approved by the committee members. In addition, students must solicit recommendations from their professors and the chair of the department in which they are majoring before they can be eligible for an interview.

The next group of students wishing to be accepted into the program will be interviewed on Oct. 23 and 24.

## Outdoor recreation club plans whitewater rafting trip

by Tanya Bartek  
Highland Cavalier Staff Writer

On Monday, Sept. 3, students signed up for the inaugural outdoor recreation trip in West Virginia. Within an hour and a half, the maximum of 24 spots was filled. This may indicate a successful future for the upcoming outdoor club. The trip will feature whitewater rafting on the Lower Gauley River of West Virginia.

Chris Davis, coordinator of recreations, is planning to organize an outdoor recreations club before October. "We want as many people as we can get," Davis said.

Two years ago there was an outdoor club called the Highlanders, coordinated by Bob Van Gundy, a former science profes-

sor here at the College. Davis explained that the club was involved in activities such as hiking, camping, rappelling and mountain climbing. He would like to sponsor many of these activities as well as other adventurous events.

For instance, Davis would like to take a trip next semester with students to go ice climbing. "This activity seems to be growing on college campuses and I would like to see it grow on ours as well," he said.

Davis started this semester with an official budget of \$5,000 for the first year, two-thirds of which will be used for buying new equipment. This will allow more students to have access to the outdoor trips. There will be more camping tents, sleeping bags and possibly mountain bikes for the stu-

dents access. The rest of the money will be used for the trips this year.

"Just getting the club started, organized and continuing to grow while having the students come in and give recommendations on what they'd like to see, that's the way we'd like to go," Davis said.

"If we maintain the momentum of interest, hopefully we will see a budget increase," said Ronnie Welch, director of student activities and intramurals.

There will be several other events sponsored by the outdoor recreation club, all of which will be available to any College student who wishes to participate. After Fall Break, Davis plans to arrange an overnight camping trip, one-day hikes and several visits to national parks.

## SPORTS

# Baseball's freshmen to shine in new season Cavs men's, women's tennis teams find promising talent in newly recruited members

Baseball is already underway at UVa-Wise and spectators are noticing a few new faces on the team. A promising group of freshmen has been recruited and, despite their youth, there is no lack of talent. According to head coach Hank Banner, the lack of experience on the college level will not be a factor in the spring season, and rival teams should not underestimate our newest players.

"This group of freshmen could be the most talented group of guys I have recruited thus far, athletically and academically," Banner said.

Banner also praised the specific strengths of his newest recruits. "If there is one thing that this group of freshmen brings to the table it's pitching," he said.

Banner recruited a total of eight pitchers, seven of whom are left-handed. Tim Bailey, Josh Duffy, Courtney Nowlin, Brandon Regon and Clay Salyers are among those who will be hurling for the Cavaliers this spring.

Seth Hall, a senior catcher for the team, also commented on the importance of the new pitchers rising to the occasion. "Some of the freshmen will have to step this spring and fill some starting positions," Hall said.

Banner also recruited several position players to fill some important roles, three of whom are from area high schools: Justin Wyatt from J.J. Kelly, Coeburn's Justin Nixon and Shaun Trent from St. Paul. Wyatt and Nixon are former high school rivals may team up this spring in the outfield.

Other freshmen to watch out for this year include Jamie Blanton, Travis Jerrels and Jamal



Last year's Highland Cavalier baseball team polishes their skills during a fast-paced practice.

McCowan.

"It is unlimited what these freshmen can be capable of," Hall said.

Senior shortstop Steve Tyler has high praise for

his new teammates. "They have been working very hard throughout the fall, this is definitely the strongest group of freshmen I have seen since I've been here," Tyler said.

Nate Stalnaker

Tryouts for the men's and women's tennis squads were held Saturday, Sept. 8, at the Jim Humphreys Tennis Complex. After losing several key players to graduation, both teams were on the lookout for fresh faces with a lot of talent.

Twelve students (four men and eight women) tried out in hopes of making the teams. "It was a surprise that we had as many as we did try out, especially for the girls' team," said Russell Street, a junior player. "We had some good players try out."

According to Street, the men's team was not supposed to have open tryouts, but three former members did not return this season. Two members were unable to play this semester while a third player from Kenya did not return to the College this semester. The men's squad was left with only five players for the upcoming season, leading to the open tryouts for new members. Three new players were ultimately selected for the team.

The women's team also picked up three new recruits. Among them are two veterans of the Lady Cavalier basketball team, Jessica Hounshell and Brooke Hardy. The team will also get a hand from freshman Erin Dorsey.

In addition to the new players on the team their

will be some new additions to the coaching staff. Brad Hart and Kristen Dotson, both graduates of the College, will lend their tennis talents to the team as assistant coaches.

"They'll be big helps," said coach Danny Rowland. "We'll be able to do drills that we couldn't do before."

According to Rowland, the team will start its conditioning after winter break though the season will not start until the end of February. This may seem like a long time to prepare, but Rowland says that there have been seasons in which the teams have only gotten in one or two practices before their matches started.

"Once late October rolls around it gets really hard to practice, because it starts getting really cold and windy out there," Street said. "You just have to try and stay in shape the best you can."

The added practice sessions will also give the new teams more time to practice together. This way, they will be able to improve not only individual performances but also the entire teams' efforts.

With so many new faces on both teams, the new players will have a chance to rise to the top and assume leadership roles. **James Breeding**

## LIFESTYLE

# McCraray Hall goes alcohol-free in effort to raise student GPAs Residence hall crowding creates unique student life

Beginning this semester, McCraray Hall is alcohol-free. No one is allowed to have alcohol in hand or in their system, regardless of whether or not they are over the age of 21.

Last spring, the residence life team thought about this decision and decided that the hall should not have alcohol present. Cole Spencer, director of residence life, hopes that making McCraray alcohol-free will bring up the grade-point average of younger students.

"Alcohol is not needed to have a good time," said Jim Ripper, a 21-year-old junior who is in favor of the new rule. A popular belief is that freshmen come to college to party. As a result, students are of mixed opinions about the alcohol rule.

"It's good for the freshmen, but a low blow to aged individuals," said Jennifer Moore, one of many students age 21 or older who have a problem with McCraray's anti-drinking policy.

As a result of the new rule, many upperclassmen feel that only freshmen and under-aged sophomores and juniors should live in McCraray. They feel that if only freshmen lived in the dorm, they would not be tempted to drink if they were unable to see the dorm's over-21 students enjoying an

occasional drink. However, making McCraray into an all-freshman dorm would prove difficult. Upperclassmen are often assigned to spaces in McCraray, one of the College's largest dorms, when housing is scarce elsewhere on the campus.

Students who think they can get away with having alcohol in McCraray should listen to warnings from McCraray's resident advisors. "If I catch you with it, I'm calling the cops," said RA Jeremy Price.

If a student is caught with alcohol, a communication report will be filed. When this happens, Spencer is notified of the offense. If the matter is considered serious enough, or the individual is a multiple offender, he or she will face a judicial board made up of fellow UVa-Wise students. Punishments can range from community service to expulsion from the College.

"We are here to provide a good living environment for a place with so many under-aged students," Spencer said.

The alcohol policy is here to stay. Students around campus will need to become aware of the rule, and not drink there if they plan to make the dorm their home. **Michael Dillard**

With students living in Faculty Row and the Cavalier House, there seems to be a problem of too many students and not enough spaces to house them. However, students may be overestimating residential crowding. Contrary to popular belief, the problem appears to be the result of better housing as opposed to a larger freshman class.

Residential students at UVa-Wise have been assigned to what seem to be odd housing spaces, such as a former game room in the basement of McCraray Hall, residence hall lounges, rooms with Resident Assistants, and two homes on Faculty Row. The Cavalier House, a home the College owns across from its Townhouse Apartments, is also being used to house students.

"It's not really a problem," said Chancellor Steve Kaplan. "A lot of schools have freshmen in triples in rooms the same size as ours. I wouldn't look at it as overcrowding because that would give the impression that it is everywhere. Crowding is only evident in a couple of rooms, but it is a priority."

The crowding at the College is believed to be the result of improvements in the quality of the residence halls on campus. This sentiment is echoed both by Rusty Necessary, director of admissions and financial aid, and Cole Spencer, director of residence life. Necessary said the College admitted only 328 freshmen, 18 above their goal for the

year. According to Spencer, the College normally has about 425 students living on campus. This year, the number is closer to 525.

Spencer called the increase in students living on campus "highly unexpected, but greatly appreciated," adding that he agreed with Necessary's thoughts about the quality of housing being the main cause. "It's not an exact science," Necessary said about predicting how many students will actually enroll and need housing. He believes that an additional reason for the increase in the number of students living on campus is that the College is attracting more of its students from outside the local area. These students rely heavily on the on-campus housing, Necessary said.

Spencer believes that the situation will be relieved by the spring semester, as students in temporary housing assignments find their permanent spaces. Rooms will become available as students graduate in the fall. Also, some students never claim their dorm spaces, freeing up the rooms for someone who needs it. Others students buy or rent lodging off campus. Spencer also said that the situation is already smoothing itself out.

Students living in temporary housing have mixed reactions about their situations. While some are satisfied with their unusual living quarters, Chris Martin, who lives with a student who had



More students in the residence halls means increased opportunities to form new friends.

requested a single room in McCraray, is displeased with the entire situation.

"Temporary housing sucks," Martin said. "The garbage chute is full, and I miss the lounge to go to and just chill by myself."

Though the crowding may be inconvenient, there are no security concerns, according to member of the Campus Police force. **Hilton Young**

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## Campus Calendar

**Thursday, September 20**  
BSU Coffee House, Baptist Student Union, 9 p.m.  
plus... Intramural flag football

**Friday, September 21**  
Lecture: John Lacks, professor of Vanderbilt University and co-chair of the American Philosophical Association's Centennial Committee, will speak on Regional Identity, Global Awareness, Smiddy Hall 100, 1 p.m.

**Saturday, September 22**  
Football road trip to Pikeville, KY. Departure time 12 p.m.

**Wednesday, September 26**  
BSU Super Supper, Baptist Student Union, 5 p.m.

**Thursday, September 27**  
First new and improved issue of The Highland Cavalier Online premieres.

**Saturday, September 29**  
Outdoor recreation whitewater adventure trip.

**Monday, October 1**  
October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Alcohol Awareness Month and Domestic Violence Awareness Month.  
plus... TEP files must be completed for October interviews.

**Tuesday, October 2**  
Wesley dinner, Wesley Foundation, 6:07 p.m.

**Wednesday, October 3**  
Faculty Senate Meeting, Smiddy 100A, 1:00 p.m.  
plus... Soccer registration deadline and captains' meeting, Cantrell Den, 8 p.m.  
plus... Vocalist John Rush, Cafeteria, 8 p.m.  
plus... BSU Super Supper, Baptist Student Union, 8 p.m.

## RECENT HAPPENINGS AT A GLANCE

### Honor Court seeks student involvement

The College's Honor Court has begun the academic year with several goals. Among them is getting the students and faculty more involved in its proceedings. While some students view the court as being unimportant and having little impact on their futures, serving on the Court is an honor.

"I'm thrilled that I was chosen to partic-

ipate on the Honor Court," said Ashley Chapman, a junior representative who is now in her second year on the court. She said she is proud to be such a vital part of the College's academic integrity.

Members of the honor court feel their most important goal is to ensure all students, faculty and staff that inappropriate academic behavior will not be tolerated.

"The Honor Court is required to make many crucial decisions. It is a job that is by no means easy," Chapman said.

Being sent before the Honor Court may affect a student's life forever. If a student is found guilty of violating the College's honor code, his or her punishment can vary from performing community service to expulsion. **Elisha Hamilton**

### Changes to student healthcare

The physical aspects of UVa-Wise are not the only things changing around campus. Since July 15, student health services have been contracted through Norton Community Hospital, rather than St. Mary's Hospital. NCH will provide free on-campus nursing care to all College students.

Students with non-serious illnesses, questions or concerns should contact reg-

istered nurse Sheila Cantrell. Her office is located on the bottom floor of Cantrell Hall and is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

If medical problems require a doctor's care, students should contact the UVa-Wise Center for Counseling and Health Services at (276) 328-0193. They will be referred to one of the NCH doctors.

If emergency treatment is necessary, students should go to Norton Community Hospital, which is located about 15 minutes from the campus.

Students need to know that their parents, guardians or insurance companies will be responsible for any charges that result from treatment at NCH or emergency room care. **Kelly Muncy**

### Pi Kappa Phi hosts high tea

High tea, sponsored by Pi Kappa Phi, drew a large turnout on Tuesday, Sept. 11. Though the mood was somber due to the national tragedies that occurred that morning, students and faculty members were grateful for a place to gather and talk.

"It turned out to be a positive thing on a negative day," said Travis Kennedy, the fraternity's advisor. "They actually got

behind high tea. It was an idea I didn't think would fly."

According to Kennedy, there has never been a tea held on campus before.

"We hoped the tea would be a positive thing, and that it would really stand out as being something of high culture in a very unlikely setting," said James Trullender, archon of the chapter. Members of the fra-

ternity also hoped the tea would dispel rumors that Greek organizations only know how to party.

All of the fraternity brothers were dressed in shirts and ties and wore boutonnières of red roses. The items provided cost more than \$400. Classical music played early on, but it was soon replaced by radio news updates. **David Amos**