



C THE HIGHLAND CAVALIER

Volume 56, Number 7

University of Virginia's College at Wise

February 4, 2005

Wyllie Library flood destroys 500 books

By Audra Bowling
Entertainment Editor

On Sunday, Jan. 23, the John Cooke Wyllie Library opened for its normal business hours at 1:30 p.m. Assistant Director for Public Services Karen Chafin was at the reference desk, while Circulation Supervisor Bill Statzer was at circulation. Some students had already started filing into the library as usual.

A drip began from the ceiling near the reference computers. Because drips are common in the library during wet weather, no one thought much about it. Statzer went to get a trash can to put under the leak when the dripping pipe suddenly fell down. Water began spraying up to 25 feet across the library, luckily avoiding contact with the reference computers themselves, although nearby plants were not so fortunate.

Within minutes, two-thirds of the library was flooded, with water five inches deep in some places. The fire alarms began to go off.

Statzer recalled thinking, "I think I need a bigger trash can."

The water started to seep through the ceiling and run down the library stairs like a miniature waterfall, drenching books on the basement level. Five hundred books were lost due to water damage.

The computer lab ceiling came down, resulting in the loss of all the computers in that room. Fortunately, however, no one was present in the lab when this occurred. Water also seeped out beneath the

library's glass windows onto the outside patio where it proceeded to turn to ice due to the cold weather.

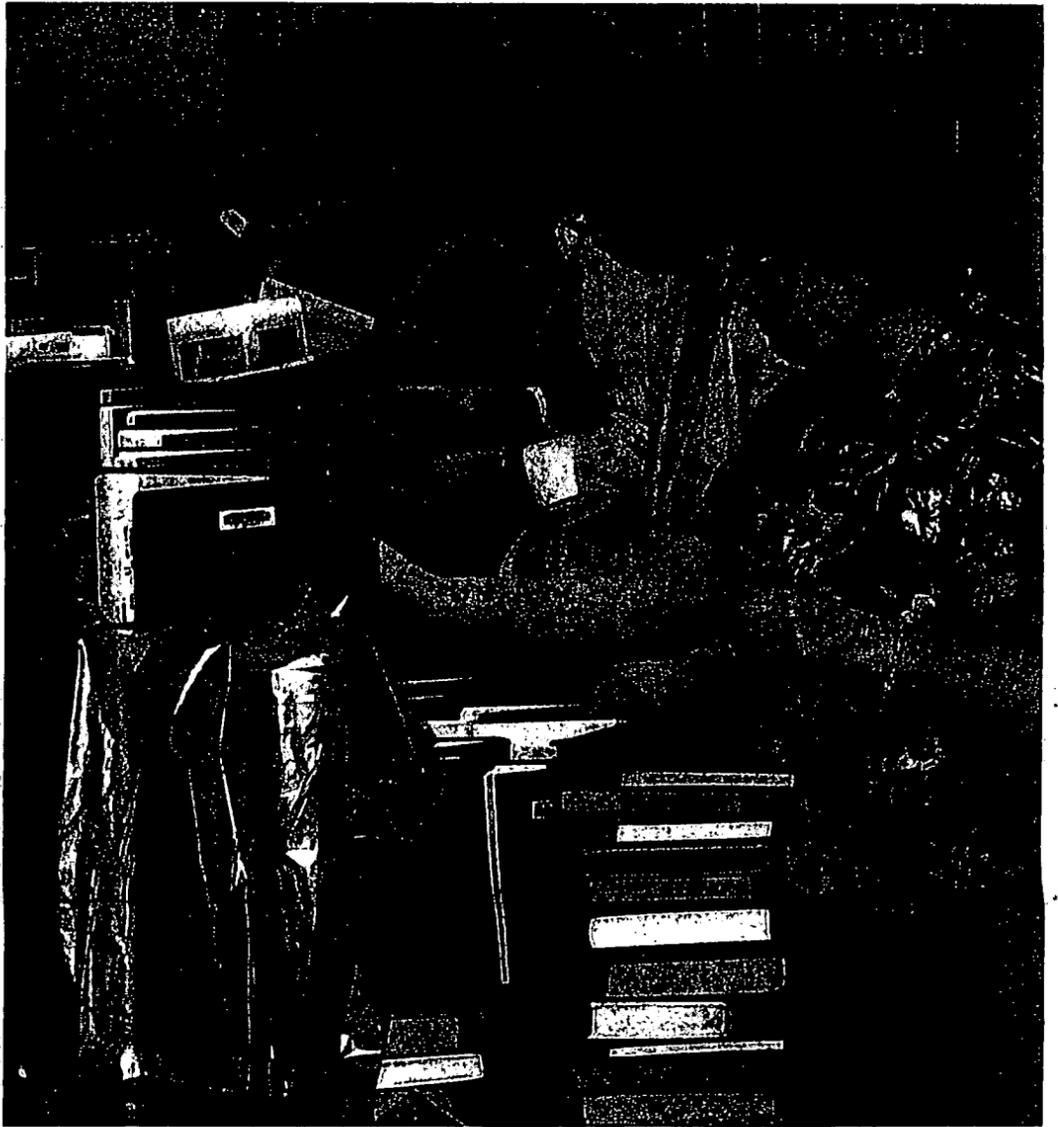
When Library Director Robin Benke arrived at the scene, the stream of water was still shooting across the library. Campus maintenance arrived and turned off the water, while police officers turned off the power. Maintenance worked all night to vacuum up the water, and Benke remained at the library until 2 a.m. Sunday night.

The library had to be closed on Monday due to the incident. Because books begin to mold within 48 hours after getting wet, it was imperative for library staff to get them dry.

Aside from the 500 books that were destroyed in the flood, approximately 500 additional books in the basement had to be fan-dried for about a week. Many of these books will probably need to be pressed again before returning to the shelves. The library still needs to wait for their insurance before replacing the books that were destroyed.

No one is sure about what exactly was the cause behind the flooding, but it is speculated that it may have occurred due to the pipe freezing and thawing several times over the course of the winter season.

Chafin commended the incredible efforts of the maintenance and housekeeping staff, who she said "did a tremendous job." Because of their work, the library was once again open just a day after the incident took place.



Members of the library staff occupy the central aisle of the building's basement, working to dry and preserve more than 500 books that were damaged in the January flood.

Organization proposing law to lower students' textbook costs

By Megan Short
Staff Writer

Are you overwhelmed by the cost of college course textbooks? With the cost of tuition and supplies needed for college, a student does not need the additional stress of expensive textbook prices. The slogan, "Fight for cheaper textbooks; seeing it in black and white is costing too much green" gets right to the point. Textbooks simply cost too much.

Someone is listening to the problem college students face in affording textbooks and is putting forth efforts to lower costs. An organization known as Virginia 21

is trying to get a law passed that will help students better afford textbooks. The Textbook Market Fairness Act proposes to prohibit professors from gaining "kickbacks," or incentives that teachers may receive from a company for using their textbooks. The act also proposes that a booklist be made available to students before the beginning of classes. The availability of a booklist would allow students time to shop around for those textbooks and acquire them at the best price.

According to Virginia 21, the average student pays an average of \$817 for textbooks and supplies. Prices are

also on the rise, which means students will be even more pressed for cash. Virginia 21 statistics also reveal that a student's payment for textbooks is equal to 23 percent of their tuition.

The organization's website has posted a petition for students to sign to promote the organization's movement for textbook fairness. The site also goes into further detail about the proposal of the Textbook Market Fairness Act. To learn more about this organization or to join the fight for lower textbook prices, students can visit the Virginia 21 website at www.virginia21.org.

Upcoming Career Week to feature fashion show, employer panel

By Breanne Dotson
Campus Life Editor

"Follow the yellow brick road...to your future." Let Career Development help you plan your future and your career. Take advantage of Career Week events being held February 14-25.

The Career Development office has planned two weeks full of programs that will help UVA-Wise students obtain the job they have always dreamed of. Monday, Feb. 14 will feature a professional dress fashion show. The fashion show will be held in the café from 12-1 p.m.

On Thursday, Feb. 17, the events will continue with a dining etiquette course to be held in Cantrell Hall from 5:30-6:30. Students must pre-register for this course with the

Career Development office because spaces are limited.

On Monday, Feb. 21, Kathy Elkins and Julie Scott will be available to answer questions and meet with students about the resources available in the Career Development office.

Continuing on Feb. 22, the Career Development office will be available from 2-3 p.m. for career placement services.

The most important event for students to attend is the employer panel to be held on Thursday, Feb. 24 from 6-7 p.m. Area employers will be in the Chapel to answer any questions students have about the interview process.

For more information, contact Kathy Elkins or Julie Scott in the Career Development office located in the lower level of Cantrell Hall.

Campus Life

Zehmer classroom equipped with plasma-screen TVs for distance learning

Read about Zehmer 115's new, \$3,000 plasma-screen monitors on page 2.



Entertainment

Students pick their favorite games of 2004

UVA-Wise students look back and pick some of their favorite video games of 2004. Picks included *Dance Dance Revolution Extreme* (right) and *Madden NFL 2005*. It's all in Press Play on page 3.



Sports

Player Profile: Parker Gemmill

Daniel Leehy introduces the Sports page's newest feature with a Player Profile of men's basketball captain Parker Gemmill. Check it out on page 4.



INSIDE

BULLETIN BOARD

Interested in joining the Commuter Club? If you're interested in joining a student club with information and activities especially for commuters, contact Jodie Kern by phone at 378-1000 or by email at jk8d@uvawise.edu.

SGA Flea Market to raise funds for tsunami relief. The SGA will host a special flea market, open to all campus organizations and members of the community, on Saturday, Feb. 12 from 1 to 5 p.m. on the fifth floor of the Student Center. To sell goods, each person or group must pay \$10 to register a table, which will go toward the tsunami relief in Asia. Registration begins at 12 p.m. Anyone who sells goods may either keep their earnings or donate them to the relief fund.

Student calendars now available online. For an up-to-date Student Activities Calendar, visit uvawise.edu/student_life/activities.html. For an intramurals calendar, visit uvawise.edu/student_life/intramurals.html. For an outdoor recreation calendar, visit uvawise.edu/student_life/outdoor.html. For a calendar of Student Center events, visit uvawise.edu/studentcenter/index.html.

Intramural Chess Tournament. Saturday, Feb. 5. Student Center @ 7 p.m.

Pro-Art presents New Shanghai Circus. Tuesday, Feb. 8. Pound @ 7:30 p.m.

Baptist Student Union "Ash Wednesday". Wednesday, Feb. 9. 5 p.m.

Intramural Racquetball Doubles Tournament. Wednesday, Feb. 9. Student Center @ 7 p.m.

Intramural Nerf Football. Feb. 9 & 10.

Pro-Art presents New Shanghai Circus. Thursday, Feb. 10. 6 p.m. @ Clincho Gym in Clincho, Va.

Faculty Colloquium: Gillian Huang-Tiller. Friday, Feb. 11. Chapel, 1 p.m.

Intramural 9-Ball Billiards Doubles Tournament. Saturday, Feb. 12. Student Center @ 7 p.m.

Sexual Responsibility Week. Feb. 13-17.

BSU: True Love Waits Rally & Concert. Sunday, Feb. 13 @ 7 p.m.

Pro-Art presents "Broadway! The Big Band Years". Sunday, Feb. 13. Pound @ 7:30 p.m.

Cavs Basketball Road Trip. Tuesday, Feb. 15. Virginia Intermont College Bristol, Tenn.

Intramural Basketball Reg. Deadline & Capt. Meeting. Wednesday, Feb. 16. 3rd Floor Student Center 6 p.m.

"Star Queen" 2-man musical about the Biblical book of Esther. Thursday, Feb. 17. Chapel @ 7 p.m.

College observing Black History Month

By Donna Gibson Staff Writer

February is Black History Month, and the goal of the College's Black History Committee is to educate students and the community alike in issues facing African Americans today. The committee also wants to educate students and the community by looking at some of the rich history of the African American culture.

The Black History Committee hopes to help carry on the legacy of

works begun by historical leaders such as Martin Luther King, Jr. To commemorate the vast contributions of African Americans to the American culture, there will be several on-campus activities and speakers.

In fact, one event has already taken place. On Wednesday, Feb. 2, a panel discussion entitled "Citizenship from a Global Perspective" was held on the fifth floor of the Slemp Student Center at 1 p.m. Panelists included Peter Yun, Yenli Yeh,

Khalid J. Awan, Chris Achua, Mike Porter and Lili Getahun.

On Tuesday, Feb. 8, Bishop James Swanson of the Holston Conference of the United Methodist Church will be speaking in the Chapel at 6 p.m. He will be joined by Bishop Warren Brown, Presiding Prelate of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church.

Also on Feb. 8, comedy dance troupe Alfred and Seymour will perform on the fifth floor of the Slemp Student Center at 8 p.m. On Feb. 16, comedian Alex Scott will perform on the fifth floor of the Slemp Student Center at 8 p.m. The Soul Food Luncheon will be held on Sunday, Feb. 23 in the cafeteria, where the UVA-Wise Step Team will perform.

Coordinator Sandra Jones of the Black History Month committee stated that the planning phase of Black History Month is a process that continues throughout the year.

The committee encourages students to contribute ideas and suggestions for future Black History Month observances by contacting Jones at 328-0129, or by visiting her office on the second floor of Bowers-Sturgill Hall.

Finally, on Feb. 25, Mike Wiley will be dramatizing the stories of athletes who challenged stereotypes and changed the face of American sports in "Jackie Robinson: A Game Apart" at 1 p.m. on the fifth floor

Castlewood church invites students to volunteer

By Christine Otu Staff Writer

The Passion Place, a church in Castlewood, is requesting volunteer work from interested UVA-Wise students to help relieve the few existing workers at the church.

Once a month, the Passion Place has Food Drive nights and, during the day on either Saturday or Sunday, the church needs workers to help package boxes of food and load the boxes into cars that will then deliver the food to less fortunate families.

"It is such a blessing to help such needy families," said Bethel Blevins, a member and

worker at the Passion Place. "The church would be grateful to have as many students as possible come down and help."

If any students are interested but cannot work on the days requested, the Passion Place can also use help from students who can lift heavy boxes out of the food trucks on any day of the week.

The Passion Place is located in Castlewood just beyond the road leading to the Russell County Fairgrounds.

Anyone who can help contribute will be appreciated. For further information, contact Pastor Timothy Collins at 762-5483.



Dr. Jacob Somervell instructs a computer science course using the new plasma-screen monitors in Zehmer 115. Students from the Wise and Abingdon campuses are enrolled in the distance-learning class.

Zehmer classroom equipped with plasma-screen TVs for distance learning

By Billy Van Hoorebeke Staff Writer

This semester, UVA-Wise has acquired new plasma-screen televisions for classroom use in Zehmer 115. The College spent over \$3,000 on the new televisions, which will be used to help teach distance-learning classes at UVA-Wise, and to display material to the University of Virginia's main campus in Charlottesville.

"The biggest advantage to having

these televisions is that they are easier on the eyes," said Randy Gilmer, instructor for the College's television production class. "On regular cathode televisions, the viewer's eyes are liable to squint more."

Plasma screens work through the use of a million phosphor-coated, gas-filled pixel cells. When these cells are excited by voltage, the gas emits ultraviolet light that makes the cells red, green or blue, ensuring a perfectly clear picture.

OVER THE HORIZON

COMING TO THEATERS

Friday, Feb. 4

Boogeyman
A suspense/horror film starring Barry Watson. Rated PG-13 for intense sequences of horror and terror/violence, and some partial nudity.

Friday, Feb. 11

Hitch
A romantic comedy starring Will Smith. Rated PG-13 for language and some strong sexual references.

Pooh's Heffalump Movie
An animated kids/family film. Rated G.

Friday, Feb. 18

Because of Winn-Dixie
A drama starring Annasophia Robb. Rated PG for thematic elements and brief language.

Diary of a Mad Black Woman
A comedy/drama starring Kimberly Elise. Rated PG-13 for drug content, thematic elements, crude sexual references and some violence.

COMING SOON TO DVD

Tuesday, Feb. 8

The Notebook
A drama/romance starring James Garner and Gena Rowlands. Rated PG-13 for some sexuality.

Tuesday, Feb. 15

The Motorcycle Diaries
A drama starring Gael Garcia Bernal and Rodrigo de la Serna. Rated R for language.

Raise Your Voice
A musical drama/romance starring Hilary Duff. Rated PG for thematic elements and language.

COMING SOON IN GAMES

Saturday, Feb. 5

Star Wars: Knights of the Old Republic II: The Sith Lords
Console: PC
Genre: RPG
T for Teen

Tuesday, Feb. 8

NBA Street V3
Console: GC, PS2, Xbox
Genre: Sports
E for Everyone

Tuesday, Feb. 15

Ace Combat Advance
Console: GBA
Genre: Action/Shooter
E for Everyone

The King of Fighters 2002 & 2003
Console: PS2, X-Box
Genre: Fighting
T for Teen

Room Zoom
Console: GC
Genre: Driving
E for Everyone

College's history to be performed in musical

By Samantha Huff Staff Writer

The history of UVA-Wise will be displayed in an upcoming musical, *Miners and Millhands*, which tells the story of the College. The musical was composed by local musician Ron Short.

Short is a graduate of UVA-Wise and gathered stories last year during his composition of the musical.

"The College's history is... an important part of many people's lives and a part of this region's cultural identity," Short said.

Practice for the production is now underway. Musicians and singers are an integral part of the show as it weaves theatrical and musical expression.

The mountain culture is also a major theme of the musical.

The show is part of the ongoing celebration for UVA-Wise's 50th anniversary, which was officially recognized throughout 2004. It is funded by a grant from Continental Harmony, which helps to bring communities and composers

across the country together for a unique creation of that particular community's history.

Currently, the performance dates are scheduled for April 22, 23, 29 and 30 at 8 p.m., as well as April 24 and May 1 at 2 p.m.

PRESS PLAY

By Audra Bowling Entertainment Editor

As a new semester and year begins, this edition of Press Play will look back on some students' favorite games of 2004.

Freshman Shenja Sifford said that her favorite game of 2004 was the RPG *Star Wars: Knights of Old Republic II* for the Xbox. "I liked it because it was challenging," Sifford said.

A fellow freshman named Amanda DeMuth listed *Dance Dance Revolution Extreme* for Playstation 2 as her favorite. "It's good exercise," DeMuth said. "Instead of your fingers only moving, your whole body, arms and legs, are moving too."

Papa Joe's employee Adam Watts had a long list of games that he enjoyed from the previous year, his favorite two being *Tekken 4* for Playstation 2 and *Halo 2* for the Xbox. He also stated that his friend, UVA-Wise student Emily Hale, enjoys *Mario Party 6* and the musical adventure *Donkey Konga* for the Nintendo Gamecube, as she finds them "fun to play in groups."

Another student, Ben Jackson, said that his two favorite video games from 2004 were *NCAA Football 2005* and *Madden NFL 2005*, both for the Playstation 2. "They're fun and I love sports games," Jackson said.

As for me personally, I would have to list *Final Fantasy XI*, *hack//Quarantine* and *Capcom Fighting Evolution* as my favorites from 2004. *Final Fantasy XI* is my

first experience in online gaming and it's been a fun one, because the world and the community I've found there are enough to keep me coming back for more. *hack//Quarantine* is a game that's managed to stay with me simply because of the innovative concept of it being a "simulated" online RPG, and the amount of detail Bandai put into the game. And finally, I love *Capcom Fighting Evolution* because I'm a fighting game nut. *Street Fighter* has always been one of my favorite titles, and the 2D graphics of *CFE* are beautifully nostalgic of an era before 3D fighters were the rage.

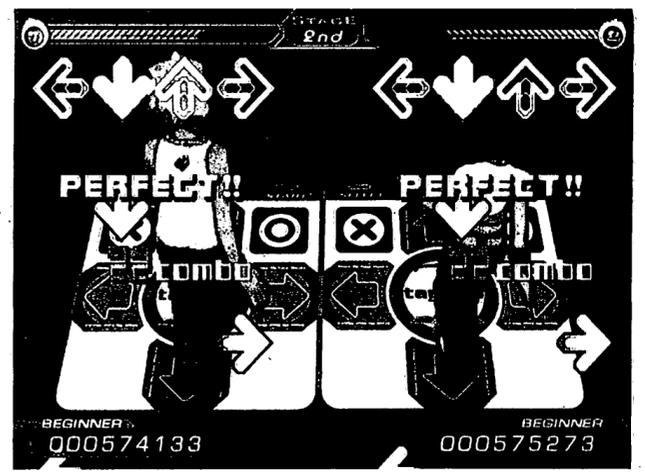
Other Highland Cavalier editors enjoyed games in 2004, as well. Assistant Editor Aubrey Bowling's picks are *Growlanser Generations* because it "has two games for the price of one and is old-school gaming goodness," and *Street Fighter Anniversary Collection* because of its addition of *Street Fighter: Third Strike*, a game Aubrey had always wanted to play.

In addition, Editor-in-chief Roger Hagy chose *Mega Man Anniversary Collection* because of its great replay, as well as *Katamari Damacy* and *Paper Mario: The Thousand-Year Door*, because those two games "are addictive and hilarious - the perfect combo."

With 2004 behind us now, there are bound to be many more wonderful games in 2005 to look forward to and Press Play will do its best to provide the UVA-Wise gaming community with a look at a wide variety of promising titles in the future.



UVA-Wise students enjoyed a wide variety of games in 2004, including student Ben Jackson's pick, Madden NFL 2005 (above), for the Playstation 2, and student Amanda DeMuth's pick, Dance Dance Revolution Extreme (below), also for the Playstation 2.



Interested in joining the Commuter Club? If you're interested in joining a student club with information and activities especially for commuters, contact Jodie Kern by phone at 378-1000 or by email at jk8d@uvawise.edu.

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Mortimer's latest 'Rumpole' detective novel a must-read

By Elizabeth Steele Contributor

The English Detective Mystery Novel is a staple of literature, calling up names like Arthur Conan Doyle, Agatha Christie, Dorothy Sayers, Hercule Poirot, and Lord Peter Wimsey. Author John Mortimer is the creator of another legend, the barrister/detective Horace Rumpole: an elderly, wine-swilling, cigar-smoking independent devoted to such great English gifts as trial by jury, the presumption of innocence and the importance of truth. In his latest, *Rumpole and the Penge Bungalow Murders*, readers are treated to an account of the barrister's first and greatest victory, dubbed "Alone and Without a Leader." It's a story that

devotees of Rumpole have awaited for decades, and it's well worth the wait.

For a society that in 2005 thinks nothing of banning smoking (even in Italy) and accosting pregnant women to instruct them on their behavior, Horace Rumpole is an unlikely hero. His cheap cigars, cheaper wine (christened "Chateau Thames Embankment"), and subservience to his strong-willed wife Hilda ("She Who Must Be Obeyed") are offset by an equal ferocity in the defense of others' individual preferences and his complete lack of interest in and success regarding anything sexual. He is willful, impetuous, and devoted to his clients' right to the best possible defense (however repulsive they may

be). And all this as a newly-qualified "white wig," before decades of a "life of crime" have honed his early inclinations to the perfection seen in the stories and novels—and as portrayed by the late Leo McKern.

Of at least as much interest as the story of Rumpole's defense and investigation into the killing of two former RAF figures are the insights into other characters. C. H. Wistan, Rumpole's father-in-law, is just as clearly far more intuitive than her father regarding the law and Rumpole's basic abilities. That Mortimer also makes clear that she is herself a victim of gender bias—she is denied the opportunity to study law, as there are (in the words of the clerk) "no toilet facilities," an

courtroom behavior. Rumpole is unable to accept either piece of advice. Bobby O'Keefe, one of the loves of Rumpole's life to whom Mortimer often makes reference, seems here wistful in her marriage to a war figure, leaving the reader with questions about what the barrister may have missed. But it is young Hilda Wistan who simply bulldozes Rumpole into marriage and is clearly the sexual aggressor here; she is just as clearly far more intuitive than her father regarding the law and Rumpole's basic abilities. That Mortimer also makes clear that she is herself a victim of gender bias—she is denied the opportunity to study law, as there are (in the words of the clerk) "no toilet facilities," an

attitude that puzzles young Horace—merely adds to the nuance of the whole. And Mortimer is a nuanced writer, gifted in his insight into the foibles and small tragedies of human behavior, and a master at creating characters both eccentric and ordinary. Mortimer can draw from a nearly bottomless well of experience in these matters, ranging from his father, who triumphed in the difficult legal world of divorce while blind, to his marriages, work in film, and memories of England in the 1940s. Knowledge of human possibility seems to engage Mortimer's sympathies more than anything—he condemns only judgmentalism. More of us need to read him.

GAME SCHEDULE

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
Sat., Feb. 4
Home vs. Milligan College
5:30 p.m.

Fri., Feb. 11
Home vs. Covenant College
5:30 p.m.

Sat., Feb. 12
Home vs. Bryan College
4:00 p.m.

Tues., Feb. 15
At Va. Intermont College
5:30 p.m.

MEN'S BASKETBALL
Sat., Feb. 4
Home vs. Milligan College
7:30 p.m.

Fri., Feb. 11
Home vs. Covenant College
7:30 p.m.

Sat., Feb. 12
Home vs. Bryan College
6:00 p.m.

Tues., Feb. 15
At Va. Intermont College
7:30 p.m.

BASEBALL
Fri., Feb. 4
At Tenn. Temple University
2:00 p.m.

Sat. Feb. 5
At Tenn. Temple University
1:00 p.m.

Sat., Feb. 12
At Georgetown College
1:00 p.m.

Sun., Feb. 13
At Georgetown College
1:00 p.m.

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THE HIGHLAND CAVALIER
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PRESS**

Cavs basketball teams swept by Brevard

By Daniel Leehy
Sports Editor

A snowy Saturday, Jan. 22 brought Brevard College to Greear Gymnasium. The Brevard men came to Wise in second place in the AAC and the Brevard women sat on top of their division as they faced the struggling men

and women of UVa-Wise.

The men's game was close at halftime, with the Cavs losing by only six points, but Brian Grier led the way for Brevard with 24 points. Brevard pulled away from the Cavaliers after halftime, outscoring them by 30 points. Guards Parker Gemmell and

Joey Blackwell both had solid games for the Cavs. Gemmell was the leading scorer for the Cavs with 21 points, and Blackwell added in 11 points. Senior Blake Mellinger also added in 11 points.

With this 81-57 loss to Brevard, the men's basketball team slipped to 3-18 overall

and 3-10 in the conference.

In the Lady Cavs' game, number-one ranked Brevard took the tip-off and never looked back, easily defeating the Lady Cavs, 82-43. Sara Helton once again led the team in scoring, dropping in 11 points. This loss dropped the Lady Cavs to 6-13 overall

and 6-7 in the AAC.

Both teams will have three home games coming up against Milligan College (Feb. 5), Covenant College (Feb. 11) and Bryan College (Feb. 12).

The Lady Cavs' games start at 5:30 p.m., followed by the guys at 7:30.

Eagles, Patriots to clash at Super Bowl XXXIX

By Cody Bolton
Contributor

One team, one city, one dream. That is the theme of this year's NFL playoffs. The National Football Conference Champions, the Philadelphia Eagles, and the American Football Conference Champions, the New England Patriots, hope that they will be that one team to capture a Super Bowl victory. The two will meet in Jacksonville this Sunday to determine who will be the Champions of Super Bowl XXXIX.

Some people have considered the New England Patriots team to be one of the best in the history of the NFL, comparing them even to the Green Bay Packers of the 1960s. Head Coach Bill Belichick has an 8-0 playoff record with the Patriots (9-1 overall), and he is receiving

comparisons to the great Coach Vince Lombardi. Also, Tom Brady is being compared to the likes of two-time MVPs Bart Starr and Steve Young.

The Patriots shouldn't underestimate the Eagles though. Although the Eagles have not won the last three NFC Championship games, they were successful this year and are in the Super Bowl for the first time since 1981. In fact, the team wasn't even supposed to be in the Super Bowl because star receiver Terrell Owens, who was acquired in the off-season just to get the Eagles past the NFC Title game and on to the Super Bowl, was injured in a game versus the Dallas Cowboys on Dec. 19, 2004.

Through it all, though, this should be an excellent game that looks to be extremely close.

Intramural teams prep for inner tube water polo

By Danielle Benton
Staff Writer

On the evening of Jan. 20, the Intramurals Department held its 2005 captain's meeting for the spring semester's first intramural team sport: inner tube water polo.

Eight male teams and four female teams joined for the season, which began on Jan. 24 and will conclude with the championship tournament, beginning during the week of Feb. 14. Schedules of games can be found on the third floor of the Skemp Student Center for any UVa-Wise students interested in cheering on their fellow classmates.

Sophomore Meagan Jones, whose team is the defending inner-tube water polo champion of the women's division, is optimistic about her

team's ability to hold their title.

"I think our greatest competition will be the Pink Ladies," Jones said.

Sophomore Terri Anne Hill, the captain of the Pink Ladies, agrees that Jones' team will be the biggest roadblock to her team's success this season.

"Our team looks good even though only a couple have played before," Hill said.

Senior Jeremy Weaver, a member of the Slackers, the defending inner tube water polo champions of the men's division, says that his team will have a "tough road to defending the title."

Weaver said that the competition in both the women's and men's divisions is "really tight this year... Anyone can win it."

Softball team practicing hard for upcoming season

By Finber Copley
Staff Writer

Softball season is approaching quickly, and the UVa-Wise softball team has been preparing since the fall semester. Many hours of conditioning a few times a day get these girls in shape for the games. Since Jan. 18, the ladies have been practicing at 7 a.m. for two hours every weekday.

"It is hard work, but we are a dedicated team and it will benefit us during season," Brianna Bates said.

The softball team is also taking time out to teach their skills to others. In order to raise money for the team, they are holding pitching lessons on Sundays. Sometimes these pitching lessons start at noon and do not end until 9 p.m.

The team is looking forward to their first game on Feb. 19 at Georgetown College.

PLAYER PROFILE

PARKER GEMMELL



Class: Junior

Major: Sociology

Hometown: Bristol, Va.

257 Points this yr. = 11.17 p.p.g

"The constant change is what I love about basketball; it forces me to stay on top of my game."

Positives from this season

"For me, being the team captain and first-year starter has taught me a lot, and being the team that people look forward to playing has been a positive for us as a team."

Future in basketball

Parker has one more year of basketball at UVa-Wise. Upon graduating, he plans to look into overseas basketball or minor league basketball, depending on how things go.

Coach Lee Clark:

"Parker has come along way since he's been here. He plays hard, but it's been tough for him this year being one of the only upperclassmen. Hopefully he and the team can see a little more success than he has this year."

-- Player Profile and photo by Daniel Leehy, Sports Editor

Sun City

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