Where is your money going?

Student aid can be charged for expenses under little-known policy

By Danielle Benton
Staff Writer

A student that attends UVa-Wise casually walks into the Cashier’s Office to receive their refund check for the semester. As the clerk hands him his check, he realizes that not all of his money is included. Alarmed, the student asks if check is the only one that he will receive this semester. The clerk, noticeably confused, replies that the check in his hand should be his only one. This same scenario is happening to students all over the campus of UVa-Wise.

There are several reasons why puzzled students exit Smiddy Hall, the building that holds the Cashier’s Office. Some students just simply have forgotten the charges they compiled at the college bookstore during the few frenzied weeks that began the semester.

Other students, however, face a deduction in their refund checks due to a policy practiced by the school that is not thoroughly understood by students.

All students who receive financial aid at UVa-Wise sign a letter that not only confirms their acceptance of the awards, but also indicates their understanding of the policies and procedures governing student financial assistance at the College.

Among the policies and procedures listed in the letter, one can find the policy that leads to the unexpected deductions in students’ accounts. This policy states that the College is authorized “to charge any financial aid awarded (excluding work study) for any expenses incurred for tuition, fees, room, board, books and supplies, and all other miscellaneous expenses, including parking fines, bookstore charges, housing fines, etc.”

Most students are not aware that a parking fine can be charged to their financial aid until the deduction has occurred, and even then, quite a few still do not understand how the College can do so without their consent.

At UVa-Wise, this issue has been a concern for many years.

“The College wishes to ensure that all students sign the letter that not only confirms their acceptance of the awards, but also indicates their understanding of the policies and procedures governing student financial assistance at the College,” said UVa-Wise spokesperson Rachel Burgess.

For anyone preparing to attend graduate school or intending to transfer to another school, the courses and the credits earned are very important. Imagine completing your degree, applying to graduate school and having none of the 120 credits you earned count. By attending UVa-Wise, a college that has been accredited since 1968, you are ensuring that this will not happen to you.

UVa-Wise has begun the accreditation process for the fifth time in its history. The two-year process happens every decade and will be completed in 2006. To renew its accreditation, the College must report to the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), based in Decatur, Ga. The commission reviews all aspects of the university programs, including all academic and administrative programs, and makes a determination on the College’s eligibility to renew its accreditation status.

According to the “Principles of Accreditation: Foundations for Quality Enhancement” (found at www.microdoc.org), the purpose of accreditation of schools is to ensure that institutions meet “standards established by the higher education community, and serves as a common denominator of shared values and practices among the diverse institutions.” It is as stimulating “evaluation and improvement, providing a means of continuing accountability to constituents and the public.”

In the first step, the College must evaluate each program it provides and develops a Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) to submit to the review board. The QEP is an assessment of departments and an SACS, page 2.

College undergoing accreditation renewal

By Donna Gibson
Staff Writer

Preparing for any event requires a great deal of work and consideration. This includes the College of the South- ern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), based in Decatur, Ga. The commission reviews all aspects of the university programs, including all academic and administrative programs, and makes a determination on the College’s eligibility to renew its accreditation status.

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Award-winning speechwriter Dean lectures class

By Samantha Hefle
Staff Writer

Dean is an author of “On Speech Writing,” a monthly e-newsletter for speechwriters. He has over 20 years of experience as a communication professional and has written for an array of forums, such as the National Press Club and CEO Club of Boston and in a variety of locations, from Rio de Janeiro to San Francisco to Washington. Executives and business leaders have delivered a step-by-step process for writing speeches. Dean’s lectures to the class consisted of 15 quick tips on public speaking and writing speeches. He began with explaining that the use of simple words and phrases are a key point in delivering messages that the audience will understand.

As he presented each step, he emphasized that the use of statistics and jokes in a speech help initiate active listening and help to hold an audience’s attention.

The last of the 15 quick tips was to go back and reread the title of the speech. After the entire speech is written, the title is an important part in helping to grab attention to whatever message a person may be delivering.

For more information on Fletcher Dean and tips for writing a good speech, visit his website at www.thespeechwriter.com.
### Campus Life

**BULLOON BULLETIN**

**SCAD Film Series to raise funds for tsunami relief**

The Film Series will be held from March 11th to March 18th, with proceeds going to the Red Cross to assist those affected by the recent tsunami. The event will feature a variety of films, including documentaries and feature films, aimed at raising awareness and funds for the relief efforts. The series will take place at various locations across the city, with detailed information on screening times and locations available on the event's official website.

**Notice to Students**

As of March 1st, the deadline for submission of the course evaluation form has been extended to March 15th. This extension is to allow students more time to reflect on their learning experiences and provide valuable feedback for the continuous improvement of the academic programs. Students are encouraged to utilize this opportunity to share their thoughts and suggestions on how courses and instruction can be further enhanced to meet their needs.

### Entertainment

**Press Play**

"2005 to be big year for gamers"

This year promises to be a blockbuster for gamers, with a variety of anticipated titles hitting the shelves soon. Some of the most heavily anticipated games include "Final Fantasy XII," "Gran Turismo 4," and "The Legend of Zelda: Twilight Princess." These releases are expected to push the boundaries of what is possible in gaming technology, offering players immersive experiences that span across multiple platforms.

"Square-Enix's next biggest hit will be Final Fantasy XIII"

In a statement, Square-Enix's president, Yosuke Naora, said, "We are excited to announce that Final Fantasy XIII will be our next major release. This game will bring a new level of storytelling and world-building to our fans, and we are confident it will be a hit. We are currently working on a full launch strategy that will ensure its success in the marketplace." The release date is scheduled for late 2005, and the game is expected to feature enhanced graphics, improved gameplay mechanics, and an expanded storyline.

### Financial Aid

**Student Understanding of Financial Aid**

A survey conducted at a recent financial aid workshop revealed that many students are not fully aware of the options available to them. The survey found that while most students knew about loans and grants, fewer knew about scholarships and work-study programs. Students are urged to explore all available avenues to cover the costs of their education and are encouraged to seek out additional resources such as community grants and part-time employment opportunities.

### Spring Fashion Sense

"It's all about the colors this season, especially green and blue"  
By Bruce Miller  
Campus Life

The spring season is drawing near, and the colors are changing to reflect the new season. For many, this means embracing the green and blue tones that are prevalent in the fashion world. Whether it's through clothing, accessories, or home decor, these colors are a popular choice for those looking to add a pop of color to their lives. The trend is expected to continue throughout the season, with a focus on sustainability and eco-friendly choices.

### SACs

**SA Community Service Awards Ceremony**

The Spring 2005 Community Service Awards Ceremony was held on March 15th, recognizing the outstanding community service projects completed by students during the past academic year. The event was attended by faculty, staff, and students, with special recognition given to the projects that had a significant impact on the community. The awards ceremony provided a platform for showcasing the positive contributions made by the students and the重要性 of community engagement.

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### Student Life

**Life After College: What to Expect**

As students prepare to leave the comfort of their college environment, it's important to consider the transition to the workplace. The transition can be challenging, with new roles, responsibilities, and expectations. However, many students find that the skills and knowledge gained during their college years are transferable to the workplace, providing a solid foundation for successful career development. 

**The Benefits of Community Service**

Community service is not only a way to give back but also a valuable experience for personal and professional growth. It allows students to develop new skills, build relationships, and gain a deeper understanding of the issues facing their communities. By participating in community service, students can gain a sense of purpose and fulfillment, which can positively impact their future career and life goals.
Lady Cavs topple Milligan College

By Daniel Leehy

The Lady Cavs took on the Buffs from Milligan College on Saturday, Feb. 5, in a game that the Cavs never had a chance in. UVa-Wise shot only 33 percent from the floor, compared to the Buffs’ 53 percent. The Cavs also shot only 14 percent (3-21) from beyond the 3-point line, while Milligan shot 50 percent (7-14). In the end, Craig Emmett (19 points and 9 rebounds) and Yony Kifle (12 points, 4 rebounds and 5 assists) were too much to handle. Blake Mellinger led the way for the Cavs with 14 points and 5 boards. Joey Blackwell added in 11 points. The Cavs extended their losing streak to 9 by losing Feb. 11 to Covenant College (59-77) and Feb. 12 to Bryan College (49-79). The team has no more home games left and the final game will be at King College on Feb. 19.

Their record keeps them last in the conference with a record of 3-25 overall and 3-17 in the AAC.

Cavalier forward Sarah Helton looks to take a moment to rest during the game.

Sarah Helton (Women’s National Basketball Association).

Patriots win 3rd Super Bowl within 4 years in close game vs. Philadelphia Eagles

By Cody Dalton

The second one was in the second quarter. The second one was always as spectacular. The second one was always just as great as the first one. Now, the New England Patriots have inscribed their names into history as the Patriots of the third quarter. They did it on Sunday night.

With his Super Bowl’s MVP, the Patriots continued their rise to the top of the NFL as they won their third Super Bowl title in four years.

Semi-finalist David Akeis (left) takes the ball down the court during the Lady Cavs’ game against the Milligan Buffs.

By Daniel Leehy

Photographer Roof Leehy

PHOTO BY ROOF LEEHY

Lady Cavs topple Milligan College

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The Lady Cavs took on the Buffs from Milligan College on Saturday, Feb. 5, in search of their fourth consecutive win. Sarah Helton, Rachel Helton and Molly Baldwin led the way for the Cavs as they dominated the whole game.

The team had 13 steals. University of Tennessee at Chattanooga Coach Rachel Helton and Molly Baldwin led the way for the Cavs as they dominated the whole game. The Lady Cavs won their fourth consecutive game, 72-57. The leading scorers for Milligan were Kacie Lettenmeyer and Kari Stout with 13 points. The win upset the team’s record to 10-14 overall and 10-8 in the conference.

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The game opened up with a 63-yard kickoff by Patriots kicker Adam Vinatieri. The first quarter was a defensive showcase. Both teams traded blows back and forth 4 times. Neither team scored throughout the first quarter for the second straight Super Bowl. The score would change in the second quarter, though, as the Eagles’ first possession of the second quarter resulted in a 6-yard touchdown pass from Quarterback Donovan McNabb to Tight End L.J. Smith. The score was then Eagles 7, Patriots 0.

This would change, however. New England scored on a 4-yard touchdown pass from QB Tom Brady to Wide Receiver David Givens. The score was tied at 7-7 at halftime.

After halftime, the two teams picked up an offensive spark in the second half. The Patriots had the first possession of the second half. They drove 69 yards in 5:58 seconds, which led to a 2-yard touchdown pass from QB Tom Brady to Linebacker-turned-Tight End Mike Vrabel, carrying the Patriots to the 14. The Eagles had an answer though, driving an impressive 74 yards in 10 plays. The possession lasted 4:17 before the score was tied at 14-14. The last possession of the third quarter belonged to the Patriots, which spilled over into the fourth quarter. After a 14-yard gain, Running Back Corey Dillon took the handoff to the left side 2 yards for the touchdonk. The Patriots led, 21-14.

After halftime, the Eagles went 3 and out, and the Patriots started a drive. The Eagles realized that they had to stop the Patriots or the game would be over. They did just that, holding the Eagles to a 22-yard field goal by Adam Vinatieri. The Eagles needed a scoring drive and really needed a touchdonk.

The Eagles put together several 10-yard catches and started to pile up first downs. The drive ended with an impressive 30-yard touchdown pass from QBC Moenings McNabb to WR Greg Lewis. The score went to 24-21, Patriots leading. The Eagles now needed an onside kick. They had two chances and could drive and set David Akers up for a field goal. They tried the onside kick and failed, as it went into the arms of the Patriots’ Christian Fauria. The Eagles now had to go to the hard route. They had to hold New England to 3 and out, or they could get back in the ball game. They did just that and got the ball back at their own 6-yard line.

It went the Eagles’ last gasp. They needed to drive 60 yards or so to get a good shot at a field goal, but there was only 46 seconds left in the game. The first play was a 10-yard pass, followed by a incomplete pass to WR Terrell Owens. The next play was Argued to be “the dagger in the heart” of the Eagles defense. The Eagles recovered the ball and the 6-1 Eagles are Super Bowl Champions.

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