**NEWS BRIEFS**

**College to begin software engineering degree program in fall**

If working at Microsoft is one of your career goals, you're in luck.

Starting in the fall the College will begin offering a bachelor of science degree in software engineering—its first undergraduate software engineering program offered in the region.

The State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) unanimously approved at its March 14 meeting the College's plan to launch a program in software engineering, which has explored since late 2002.

"It's timely to see the enthusiasm of SCHEV for this degree program," said UVA-Wise Chancellor Emeritus "Papa" Joe Smiddy and his son Dr. Joseph Frank Smiddy. The program concludes with a reading of poetry and fiction by college and community writers. The spring issue of the Janiss Reed (2006) will be premiered.

Coffee Night will be held at the Chapel of All Faiths and is open to the public.

For more information about Herb E. Smith and Jack Wright's College of Arts and Sciences contact Director of College Relations Jane Meserio Dees at (276) 328-0130.

Below (from top left to bottom): Professor Jack Wright of Ohio University School of Film and UVA-Wise co-founder Herb E. Smith will be attending Coffee Night.

**Department of Communication Studies to launch in fall**

Beginning in the fall, communication courses will be housed in the newly-formed Department of Communication Studies.

The change will both increase opportunities for students and provide a more cohesive offering of the program's course offerings, said Rachel Tyge, the future dean of the department.

"We really are equipping students to go on to graduate schools or to get jobs in the field," she said.

The College will teach the broadcasting technologies available on campus, Tyge said.

"We are very quick at getting to a point where we can offer these opportunities," she said.

Two new faculty members—an instructor in the fall, and a full-time tenure-track faculty member in the following academic year—will also be added to the department, Tyge said.

The new department will continue to maintain a chapter of Lambda Pi Eta, the official communications honor society of the National Communication Association (NCA).

The communications program has been previously housed in the Department of Language and Literature.

**Time Herald and other publications.** His recent projects include Music of Coal: Digging for Truth, a two CD anthology and a spoken word CD, Fondelle, *The Whore With the Heart of Gold*, a novella written and read by Ed McClaskey.

Wright has twice received individual artist fellowships from the Ohio Arts Council for his writing. In 2003 he taught at Berea College where he was the Humanities Endowment for the Humanities Chair of Appalachian Studies. Since 2001 he has been chairman of the Jenkins Foundation. He is currently Associate Professor of Communication at the Ohio University School of Film. Wright, a Wise native and a UVA-Wise alumnus, lives in Athens, Ohio, with his wife, Sharon Hatfield.

Director of College Relations Jane Meserio Dees said: "Coffee Night will also feature our region’s renowned musicians and other local talent."

**Editorial:** Selling off public lands a bad idea

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Facebook offering new features to connect students

By Daniel Robinson

Facebook is the recent phenomenon that now allows you to connect with others all over the world, or as close as you can get to their area through a profile explaining their interests. It allows them to recommend new people who share similar interests as you, favorite music, preferred movies and more.

Until recently, Facebook had divided high school students and college students. In the past few weeks, Facebook has continued the two by two that high school students can add their older friends, college and vice versa.

Facebook has met with some resistance on this topic, calling students on the subject and in the surrounding areas. I was interested in the following progression:

"Facebook understands each of you may be upset that high school and college students can connect with each other. We did this because we realize that close friends of yours are in high school and college too. We also allowed this to happen because we know information that is personal to you isn't shared with others. As long as you choose to see your profile, we understand that you want to control who can see your My Privacy Setting.

As added privacy control, Facebook has introduced a "Limited Profile" (available on the My Privacy Setting page). If you want to share only those who are your friends or groups you've added to your profile, you can do so. The friend you can't see your profile from and vice versa.

With this new addition, you can choose to whom you want to show your profile and who can see your profile from. You can also allow your friends and help them receive your information from other people. We realize that your friendship is not restricted to a particular range of age and it is okay to stop dividing friends on the age you went to school because in Facebook there are in the same age.

You might experience difficulty in searching for your high school friends because in Facebook there are no规定 of high schools for students around the world. Therefore, they most likely must register and use a Facebook school address or be invited to join by a friend at a school. At a high school they can't connect someone else that does not attend their school. Facebook monitors these reports very closely to make sure that there is no abuse of the system.

It's important to remember that you ultimately are the person in control of what information you choose to share, and you see information that the only people who can view your profile are still those who are in high school and college, and they are all contacted by you. If you want to connect to who can and can't see your profile, we are allowing you to control your My Privacy Setting.

If you have any questions about your Facebook, please call 1-888-252-6532 or visit www.facebook.com/help. Facebook will no longer provide a list of high schools for students around the world. Therefore, they are most likely must register and use a Facebook school address or be invited to join by a friend at a school. At a high school they can't connect someone else that does not attend their school. Facebook monitors these reports very closely to make sure that there is no abuse of the system.

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Tennis team looking to put a spin on the season

By Diane Sluss Sports Reporter

"The AAC predicts [the Cavs] will be one of the top teams this season," said Head Coach Danny Spotts.

This prediction is well deserved as the women's tennis team has been to regionals for the past two years.

This year the College will host the regionals.

The women's team has eight players, none of whom are seniors. The team has three captains—David Davis, Lauren King and Nicole Pilkenton—all of whom are juniors.

For the men's team, there are seven players and five seniors. The team has three captains—Adam Meadows.

This season the women's team have won one of the four that they have played.

Coach Rowland said that the team's strategy is to rely on the experience of the players.

Tennis is an individual sport and each player plays a singles and a doubles match.

The team competes as a group to win conference and get to regionals.

"We put pressure on ourselves to work hard and do the best that we can," said Coach Rowland.

As far as chemistry is concerned, the team doesn't have any issues.

"We do, however, have some team who we consider to be competition," said Coach Rowland.

For the women's team, these teams are a good group of kids that work hard and could use the community's support.

Player profile: Chris McReynolds

By Christine Otu Staff Writer

Center-fielder Chris McReynolds is a sophomore from Richmond, Virginia as well as a huge fan of baseball.

His grandfather played minor league baseball for the Atlanta Braves, so the love of the sport runs in the family.

For the men's team, this has translated to baseball to be a kind of stress relief.

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