Appalachian author visits, addresses students

By Julacia Swint

Deirdre Giardina, author of the novel "Storming Heaven," addressed the college's composition class students in Great Gymnasium Nov. 14. Giardina read multiple selections from the book and jurors them to the students. "Storming Heaven" was a National Book Award and Berea College's Weatherford Award for writing about Appalachia. Giardina's book tells a story; although West Virginia may come off with a negative image, she said, she is merely recounting the horrors that happened during the Mine Wars. She said she believes that the Appalachian experience is universal because the theme of the novel contains the stories that made up the history of the mountains.

![PHOTO BY Kaie Baldwin](image_url)

Giardina said she is proud of her Appalachian heritage and believes that writing is a way to educate people about Appalachia. Giardina's book is an outstanding writing about Appalachia. Giardina's book contains the stories that made up the history of the mountains. Giardina said, "I write for the people around West Virginia, not for academics.

Darfur T-shirts

The Save Darfur Coalition is currently selling T-shirts to benefit charities helping the people of Darfur. Shirts are $10 each. Six dollars of each sale of a T-shirt goes directly to Save Darfur.

T-shirts can be purchased in the Student Center, Dr. Morey's office (Slemp 212) or in Dr. David Rossie's office (Zeller 215).

December Convocation

UVa-Wise will hold December Convocation Friday at 1 p.m. in the Great Gymnasium.

The ceremony is for recognizing students who are completing their degree requirements this semester.

Campus kicks off capital campaign

By Jenna M. Powers

For many students the first year of college can be the most uncertain. For this reason UVa-Wise decided to focus on the freshmen class.

"A focus on the first year and first students is the blueprint for our students in terms of success," said Elizabeth Steele, the college's coordinator of advising, retention, and assessment.

As part of a five-year Quality Enhancement Program (QEP) approved by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), the seminar is in its second year.

The freshman seminar "provides an opportunity for incoming freshmen to connect, have community, and have access to each other as well as the college," Steele said.

Information gathered from faculty, students, and a survey distributed to freshmen students wanted the opportunity to write, think, and discuss important issues and that's the reason the seminar took on the form that it did, Steele said. It's a campus-wide collaboration that took place, but now involves Student Affairs, faculty, various departments and administrators, Steele said.

"We want to encourage a connection between students and faculty and that's why faculty teach and advise the classes," Steele said.

However, the connections the program is trying to make between the faculty and students haven't occurred for everyone.

"I don't feel my students are engaged in the class," said Dr. Maria Weitzman, an associate professor of English. "They don't feel the program is developing and what can be done to aid in its growth," Weitzman said.

Students are encouraged to make suggestions as well as participate in a focus group that is being put together to see how the program is developing and what can be done to aid in its growth, Steele said.

"We will make mistakes," Steele said. But, "we really believe this connection (through the program) is what encourages students to stay in college and complete their education."
Facility fail to find errors

By Geoff Cannon

Chances are you have. Have you ever submitted a paper with an application package for an internship, in hopes that it showed your version writing capability? Some of us, I am sure, have. It is very possible that the paper submitted did not show as much grammatical skill as you thought. Many professors have this notion in their head that the part you marked up shows the guidelines for the assignment, which is not always the case. Where is the professor who is wrong?

This phenomenon can be attributed to the fact that high schools are normally not the best place to look for education. They are criticized for this, mainly by the absence of a sustained study of the state of the educational system. We have currently a built-in combination of show business, advertising and news. Each one of these interactions has grown up as an incompatible instrument. They are practically being forced to run entertainment news. There is a time and a place for everything, I suppose. Of course, there are always people fighting to reach the largest possible audience for their product. This is also the case with the news media.

He politely reminded the reporter that there is a war going on in Iraq. There are people fighting and dying in Iraq, there is a current conflict in the Middle East, there has never been a more important time than now to have a war going on.

"I am frightened by the fan balance, the misinformed, the 'sell some crack with it,' music lacking lyrical content. Today, BET is the antithesis of what it used to represent. There was a time when BET had excellent shows including Real Heroes, the American and American Express commercial, Carbide Rhyme stories (which incorporated both the sounds of other African-American and Caribbean rhythms), the blue-ribbon comedy show, the Black College Magazine, and several other TV programs (which brought members of the Black community to the forefront; MST2K is an example). Each one of these ambitions was much stronger than today. I want to see the Black community become educated and unify their minds. BET has also released its own line of TV videos from hip hop hits and rap albums.

He also pointed out that there is no more news in the world, and there is no more news to be gotten. There is no news in the world, and there is no more news to be gotten. There is no news in the world, and there is no more news to be gotten. There is no news in the world, and there is no more news to be gotten. There is no news in the world, and there is no more news to be gotten. There is no news in the world, and there is no more news to be gotten. There is no news in the world, and there is no more news to be gotten.

This is an example of something newsworthy. Two things: BET's inability to attract the interest of the viewing audience and their decision to focus on entertainment. They are currently wealthy, fat, comfortable and complacent. Usually, Murrow continued, there is a built-in combination of show business, advertising and news. Each one of these interactions has grown up as an incompatible instrument. They are practically being forced to run entertainment news. There is a time and a place for everything, I suppose.

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"It's helpful to explain the aspects of the art that are most interesting to young people. From Kelly Carpenter, a freshman sports management major, "I feel that this will be the end of comics. Marvel took a nose dive and some thought it was the end of the comic industry."

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Lady Cavs end tough season

By Jarred Soles

The 2006 volleyball season did not go as planned for the Lady Cavs. The team was picked to finish 5th in the Appalachian Atlantic Conference, but ended up in 6th place in the conference with an 11-15 record.

Several factors led to the disappointing season. They ranged from injuries to players, to injuries to the coach as well. Coach Daifman admitted that the coaching change in the off-season was a contributing factor. "I replaced Kim Mathis-Moore with a new coach," she said. "I think that contributed to the Lady Cavs' tough season."

"Because of the coaching change, not much has changed," she added. "I think the Lady Cavs were just not as skilled as they were last year." But please, at least take the time to make suggestions on how we can improve. If you don't like it, it's your responsibility to help make it better and more appealing to us. Please do not hesitate to give us your suggestions or criticisms. We are always looking for more comments on how to run this page, as well as 1 issue, I've decided that I'm going to..."