

# C THE HIGHLAND CAVALIER

Celebrating more than 50 years of student news at UVA-Wise

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THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA'S COLLEGE AT WISE

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## Campus kicks off capital campaign

By Kate Baldwin  
Opinion Editor

UVA-Wise held the kickoff of the school's \$50 million "Fulfill the Dream" capital campaign on Nov. 15 in the Slemp Student Center, with \$23.5 million in commitments already in hand.

Although the official start of the campaign began quietly and an official kickoff was held on Oct. 21, the campus kickoff was the chance for faculty, staff and students to find out firsthand the goals of the campaign.

Campaign co-chair Marcia Adams Gilliam spoke of the impact this campaign will have on all of the college's students.

"Every aspect of student's lives will be enhanced," Gilliam said. "For the dining commons alone, it's the same as if each student were to receive an \$800 scholarship."

Gilliam, a 1982 graduate of Clinch Valley College, told the audience of approximately 60 faculty and staff, her dream began when she enrolled.

"I do not believe that the founding fathers of the College could have envisioned the economic impact of the College on the region," Gilliam said. "However, 50-plus years later we recognize the impact of our College and can only dream of the future impact it will have."

"Partnerships with companies like Northrop-Grumman who have made a substantial endowment, have enabled us to offer our students opportunities we could never have envisioned," Gilliam said. "Because of the degree programs UVA-Wise offers we have seen an increase in businesses choosing to locate in our region and an increase in business entrepreneurship."

Chancellor David J. Prior said that Thomas Jefferson had a dream of creating regional colleges throughout the commonwealth that would provide educational opportunities that were second to none and accessible to all. This ideal was scaled back, creating the main campus in Charlottesville, he said.

"Today we [at UVA-Wise] are living the original dream of Thomas Jefferson," Prior said.

"Our challenge is to dream as big as our founders did and to develop a college that continues to be worthy of the aspirations our students and their families have for themselves, our region and the Commonwealth. This campaign will enable us to provide the extra measure of excellence our students deserve."

According to the UVA-Wise campaign web-site, this campaign's goal is more than double the \$21 million the College raised during the college's first campaign, which ended Dec. 31, 2000. The college's campaign will be part of the University of Virginia's \$3 billion capital campaign that will conclude in 2011.

The \$50 million campaign total is divided into nine categories, that have been identified as vital to the continued growth of UVA-Wise: \$10 million for professorships, \$3 million for the enhancement of academic programs, \$8 million for athletics, \$8 million for a dining commons, \$2 million for a residence hall, \$10 million for a recreation center and gymnasium, \$4 million for a fine arts center, \$1 million for new initiatives & great ideas.

Entertainment was provided by Dr. David Volk on piano and by an a capella rendition of "Dogwood and Rhododendron" performed by Michael Cox, Rick Galyean, David Volk and Jeremy Woodard of the music department.

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Photo by Kate Baldwin  
Chancellor David J. Prior addresses faculty, staff, students, and community members in the Slemp Center at the Nov. 15 campus kickoff of the college's \$50 million capital campaign.

For an update or more information on the "Fulfilling the Dream" campaign go to <https://www.uvawise.edu/campaign/index.html>

## Appalachian author visits, addresses students

By Jolicia Swint  
Staff Writer

Denise Giardina, author of the novel "Storming Heaven," addressed the college's composition class students in Greear Gymnasium Nov. 14.

Giardina read multiple sections from the book.

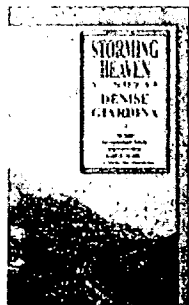
Giardina grew up in Southern, West Virginia, and the history of the Battle of Blair Mountain and coal mining inspired her to write "Storming Heaven."

"I never learned about the Battle of Blair Mountain," Giardina said. "So, I wanted to capture this history. This

was my grandparent's and great-grandparent's story."

"Storming Heaven" won the Appalachian Book of the Year Award (1988) and Berea College's W. D. Weatherford Award (1987) for outstanding writing about Appalachia.

"Each novel contains the stories that made up the history of the mountains," Giardina said. "I write for the people around West Virginia, not for academics."



Giardina said she is proud of her Appalachian heritage and believes that writing is a way to educate people about Appalachia. Giardina's book tells a story; although West Virginia may come off with a negative image, she is merely recounting the horrors that stemmed from the Mine Wars.

She said she believes that the Appalachian experience is universal because the theme of exploitation is the same all

over the world, so anyone can relate to the stories.

During the presentation, Giardina spoke on her opinions of the characters in her novel.

"In some ways some of them are based on real people," she said. "Characters are partly people we know and partly people we've made up. It's a mixture."

"The characters should surprise the reader," Giardina said.

Giardina said every event in the novel really happened except for when a man was thrown into a furnace.

## 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 from the sale of each shirt goes directly to Save Darfur.

T-shirts can be purchased in the Student Center, Dr. Mary Darcy's office (Smiddy 212) or in Dr. David Rouse's office (Zehmer 216).

## December Convocation

UVA-Wise will hold December Convocation next Friday at 1 p.m. in the Greear Gymnasium.

The ceremony is to recognize students who are completing their degree requirements this semester.



Photo by Alana Barrett

## Slemp tree lighting ceremony

The 3rd Annual Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony will be held today at 1 p.m. in the Atrium of the C. Bascom Slemp Student Center.

Ornaments made by the college's students decorate the tree. Students were competing for the "Most CAVS-Spirited Ornament" award. The winner of the contest will be announced at the ceremony.

Light refreshments will be served.

Entertainment will be provided by The Wise Guys.

## Seminar gets mixed reviews

By Jenna M. Powers  
Staff Writer

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

"A focus on the first year and first year students is the lynchpin 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 College and Schools (SACS), the seminar is in its second year.

The freshman seminar

"creates an opportunity for upcoming freshmen to connect, have commonality, and have access to each other as well as the college," Steele said.

Information gathered from faculty, students, and a survey distributed to freshmen said 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 time, 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. Marla Weitzman, an associate professor of English. "They don't seem to realize it's supposed to integrate them into the college environment."

Weitzman, an instructor in the freshman seminar program, expressed concern.

"I'm interested in figuring out what I can do to communicate to students that this information is necessary for their success," 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."

Students interested in participating in the Freshman Seminar focus group may contact Elizabeth Steele, the college's coordinator of advising, retention and assessment, at 328-0313 or [els3a@uvawise.edu](mailto:els3a@uvawise.edu).

From the Editor's Desk

"News" For Whom?

While I was getting ready for class one morning, my roommate was watching the morning news. When the "Today Show" went off the air, the entertainment news shows came on.

One of the first things discussed by "Extra" and "Access Hollywood" was the Britney Spears/Justin Timberlake divorce. On one of the shows they played a clip of a reporter asking Justin Timberlake what his thoughts were on Britney's divorce. He politely reminded the reporter that there is a war going on in Iraq.

Hopefully this will make people think. I was very happy to see a celebrity reminding people that there is more important news out there. Who cares about Britney Spears? There are far more important things that need to be covered in the news, and I now have a new respect for Justin Timberlake.

A friend of mine told me that a few days ago he saw information about the Britney/K-Fed divorce on CNN. CNN? Why would they run anything about Britney on CNN?

This disturbs me. CNN is supposed to run serious news stories, not entertainment news. Leave that to the entertainment news shows. There is a time and a place for everything, I suppose. If people really want to hear about celebrities then let them watch it on "Extra" and "Access Hollywood," not CNN.

Another friend told me that she was looking at CNN's website one day and the top headline concerned the Tom Cruise/Katie Holmes wedding. This was not a headline on the entertainment page; this was the TOP headline on the main page!

The top headline was not about Iraq, Darfur, or the recent elections; it was about the TomKat wedding. That is not news. I see this more and more everyday, and I'm beginning to get really worried. What is happening here? Have we become so obsessed with celebrities that we place them above everything else that's going on around the world?

There are people fighting and dying in Iraq, there is a civil war in Haiti, there is spying and corruption in our own government, and there are people starving in third-world countries, but the top headline on CNN.com was about a celebrity wedding.

Can everyone see the problem here? Although this is a major problem with our news media today, I don't think that all of the blame should be placed on them. Some of the blame should go to us, the audience. If we were not so obsessed with celebrities, they wouldn't run news about them. They are only trying to maintain an audience. They are practically being forced to run entertainment news because that's what readers and viewers want, and that's how the networks are going to make their money.

Edward R. Murrow, a great reporter and man, noticed this years ago. In a speech at a Radio and Television News Director's Association (RTNDA) convention in 1958, Murrow said:

One of the basic troubles with radio and television news is that both instruments have grown up as an incompatible combination of show business, advertising and news. Each of the three is a rather bizarre and demanding profession. And when they get all three under one roof, the dust never settles. The top management of the networks with a few notable exceptions, has been trained in advertising, research, sales or show business. But by the nature of the corporate structure, they also make the final and crucial decisions having to do with news and public affairs. Frequently they have neither the time nor the competence to do this.

He went on to say, "I am frightened by the imbalance, the constant striving to reach the largest possible audience for everything; by the absence of a sustained study of the state of the nation."

"We are currently wealthy, fat, comfortable and complacent," Murrow continued. "We have currently a built-in allergy to unpleasant or disturbing information. Our mass media reflect this. But unless we get up off our fat surpluses and recognize that television in the main is being used to distract, delude, amuse and insulate us, then television and those who finance it, those who look at it and those who work at it, may see a totally different picture too late."

I wonder what he would think if he were alive to see our media today?

I'm sure that he would not be pleased and would only point and say, "I told you so."

How far can this trend continue to go? What's going to happen to serious news?

--ALLANA BARRETT, Editor-In-Chief

Faculty fail to find errors

By Joe Gallimore

Have you ever got a paper back from a professor and received an 'A' on it?

Chances are you have. Have you ever submitted that same paper with an application package for an internship, in hopes that it showed your amazing 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 as long as the paper follows the guidelines for the assignment, who cares?

This is where the professors are wrong. This phenomenon can be attributed to the fact that high school teachers and college professors are not grading as hard as they probably should. Even if the professor is not affiliated with the English department or particularly skilled at grammar and spelling, she should still have another professor proofread the paper for errors.

I believe that this will, in fact, allow students, both in high school and college, to become more well rounded and adjusted adults, confident to face what may lie ahead in the real world.

The inability of our educators to give us the proper feedback on papers is disappointing. I was always told in high school, and even in junior high, that college term papers were harder than anything else I have ever written in grade school.

Upon arriving in college for the first time, I found myself confused. There are some papers I have done that turned out to be easier than those produced for my high school honors composition class.

This, I feel, is unacceptable. I understand that some professors might not have strong grammatical skills, as they should. This weakness could be, in part, due to their own educational training.

This unwillingness of professors to pay attention to syntax is crippling and needs to be changed.

Joe Gallimore is a sophomore administration of justice and Spanish major.

You Know You're a Highland Cavalier If...



Cartoon by Kate Baldwin

...the only relative you see on a regular basis is Papa Joe.

Exploiting television's viewers

By Emahunn Raheem Ali Campbell Staff Writer

"You have nothing to lose but your chains!"- Karl Marx

There was a time when Black Entertainment Television (BET) had quality programming.

There was a time when BET had excellent shows including Video Soul (which displayed videos from iconic artists like Anita Baker, KRS-One, Snoop Dogg, and Queen Latifah); Caribbean Rhythms (which incorporated both the sounds of Caribbean music and the culture of the Caribbean); Teen Summit (which brought members of the Black community to sit as audience members and inquire about their current condition to Black lawmakers, activists, politicians, and artists).

Today, BET is the antithesis of what it used to represent. Now, BET has embraced the materialism and capitalism that has permeated and destroyed the Black community.

The incessant airing of "Lean With It, Rock With It," bubble gum, "Does your chain hang low," ass shaking, misogynistic, "sell some crack with it," music lacking lyrical finesse that BET plays without remorse has made a disturbing impact on this country.

BET capitalizes on actual struggles and calamitous situations that occur within Black ghettos around the world — exploits these realities. Furthermore, once Viacom purchased BET founder Robert Johnson's share of the company, the cable network has turned into an under-funded version of MTV. But even BET's reality shows - such as Ultimate Hustler and College Hill - do not and cannot compete with MTV's Next and Parental Control.

Additionally, 106 & Park, a show that seemed to possess the remnants of the BET of old, terminated the two hosts (AJ and Free) that gave the show its lifeblood. Other BET shows such as The Center and Rap City fall dangerously and pathetically short of accomplishing their goal of the universality and representation of all Black life. The Center, a lackluster show does not meet standards that were set by its predecessor, Teen Summit, and Rap City has turned into little more than

advertising for Kay Jewelers and Mercedes Benz.

Outrageously, BET refused to play the video entitled "Lovin' It" from the rap group, Little Brother. BET felt that the video was "too intelligent" for their audience. Such egregious censorship shows two things: BET's inability to accept the intelligence of the viewing audience and their refusal to educate and edify their audience. BET has also refused to play videos from hip hop legends De La Soul and Rakim Allah.

Such egregious programming and acts cannot be tolerated. BET must offer more variety in programming. The company's college involvement and activism is offset by its lack of representation of all Black life. BET's refusal to juxtapose videos from lyrists, (Talib Kweli, Mos Def, MF Doom, Little Brother and De La Soul) with videos from Young Jeezy, Young Dro, D4L, Chingy, Nelly, Baby, and many others is not only a disservice to the BET audience, but to the Black community as well.

It is time for us to stand together to stop the exploitation of these artists!

How long will we continue to see our people manipulated by corporate forces like Viacom for the sake of appeasing their insatiable greed?

I am calling for a two week boycott of Black Entertainment (Exploitation) Television. It is time that we take the money out of the hands of corporate America and throw exploitation in their face. We must demand that BET adds more variety to their programming! No longer will we allow BET to degrade our people.

Do you have a reaction to the opinions on this page that you would like to share with the campus community? E-mail it to Opinion Editor Kate Baldwin at [kab6d@uvawise.edu](mailto:kab6d@uvawise.edu).

The Highland Cavalier is the official student newspaper of The University of Virginia's College at Wise. The newspaper is published bi-weekly on Fridays. It functions to inform, educate and entertain readers accurately and responsibly. It does not necessarily reflect the opinions of the college's administration, faculty or staff.

The Highland Cavalier welcomes all contributions, which can be delivered to the Editor-in-Chief Allana Barrett in person (317 Sleep Student Center); by standard mail (Campus Box 4682, The University of Virginia's College at Wise, 1 College Avenue, Wise, VA 24293); or via e-mail ([ac3@uvawise.edu](mailto:ac3@uvawise.edu)).

Letters to the editor can also be e-mailed to Opinions Editor Kate Baldwin ([kab6d@uvawise.edu](mailto:kab6d@uvawise.edu)). All letters to the editor must be signed—including the writer's department or major, address and telephone number. Letters may be edited for length, grammar, clarity and libel.



A hobby turned to livelihood

By Aaron Collier Staff Writer

Pages shuffle as customers view what's new and hot this week.

Conversations about the newest developments in the business are started by complete strangers. People sitting around tables wait patiently for their partners to arrive.

This isn't a meeting of corporate big wigs or employees talking about the events of the weekend around the water cooler. This is Wednesday at Wise's local comic shop, Cavalier Comics.

**UVA-Wise Alumni Files**  
Name: Brian Marcus  
Year Graduated: 1993  
Major: Business Administration  
Occupation: Owner, Cavalier Comics, Wise, Virginia

Wednesday is new comic book day. And owner Brian Marcus has a smile on his face. He knows this is his biggest business day of the week, but more importantly, he gets to read new comics along with his customers.

Marcus graduated from UVA-Wise with a business administration degree in 1993. He says his degree from the college was a tremendous help in running his shop.

"It's helped me out a lot. Using the accounting aspects of it," he said. "It's served me very well."

Marcus bought the store from two of his friends who started the shop during their time in college. Marcus was bouncing back and forth between jobs and he was given a job at the shop.

When both of the owners got married, Marcus saw an opportunity to buy the store and took it. "They both got married, had kids, and pretty much had to get real jobs," he said jokingly. "An opportunity presented itself and I eventually bought them out."

Marcus has had his ups and downs while running the store, but the best and worst came in the 1990s. Those early years brought a speculative boom and the comic industry had never been better, but that quickly came to a screeching halt by the

middle part of the decade. The hobby took a nose dive and some thought it would be the end of comics.

"It's just one of those market conditions," he said. "You have your highs and lows and the 90s were definitely a low for the comic industry."

Marcus said even though it was a rough time for the industry he knew comics would always be here in some form or another.

"Comics will always be here, I think, in some form or fashion," he said.

Comics today are now seeing a resurgence in popularity. Marcus said films like "Spider-Man" have contributed greatly to the rise of the comic industry from the ashes. As well as the mass media coverage of storylines currently happening at both Marvel and DC. He said the major sign for him that the comic industry was on the upswing was when Hollywood writers and creators like "Babylon 5" creator J. Michael Straczynski jumped over to the comic form.

"A big name Hollywood person [Straczynski] doing a comic book...that is when people started looking and saying 'Hey, what is this guy doing,'" he said. "A lot of people started looking at the comic book industry at that time."

He said that the trade paperback market has helped bring the industry back as well—not only with long-time readers, but with casual readers as well.

"I've had more casual readers in the past three years than I ever had," he said. "A lot of these readers several years ago used to collect a lot and because of money situation or family they can't [buy monthly comics], but now they are getting back into it because of trades."

Marcus said that comics and their fans are more accepted today than in the past.

He said he gets all walks of life in the store, from more



PHOTO BY DAVE STRAUSS

Brian Marcus, owner of Cavalier Comics in Wise, and a graduate of UVA-Wise, stands in front of the new comic rack in his store. "Comics will always be here, I think, in some form or fashion," he said.

"I definitely see more female customers come in the last four or five years," he said. "You see so many people like doctors, lawyers, school teachers, and ministers reading comics now a days."

His face lights up when he talks about his favorite comics that he is currently reading, "Fables" by Bill Willingham from DC and "Amazing Spider-Man" from Marvel. He said that the "Sandman" series by Neil Gaiman is his all-time favorite. He talks to all the customers about what he likes and dislikes, what he enjoyed last week and what he is looking forward to next week.

Marcus knows that the comics will be there—and the smiles they bring to his customers' faces won't be far behind.

Wise's "Women in Art"

By Kate Baldwin Opinion Editor

Dr. Suzanne Adams-Ramsey, an associate professor of art and the department chair of the Department of Visual and Performing Arts, and four other local women—three of whom have direct links to the college—exhibited their work at the Lonesome Pine Regional Library's Harris Library Art Gallery in a show titled "Wise Women in Art."

The exhibit, which ran through November 30, showcased the talents of Adams-Ramsey, Valerie Dowdy, Misty Stratton, Ann Hall and Sabrina Adams.

Dowdy and Stratton are both former UVA-Wise students. Stratton graduated and went on to do graduate work at The University of Edinburgh. Hall, an art teacher in the Wise County school system, received her B.A. in business from the college and later returned to UVA-Wise to earn her teaching endorsement in art. Adams has been a working artist since the 1990s and is responsible for the interior designs of both the Clapboard House and Donterra restaurant.

Each woman approaches her art differently, uses different mediums to express their visions and draws from a variety of inspirations.

Dowdy considers herself an abstract expressionist. Her current work features figures of women created by using paint skins and other textural items to represent important relationships in her life.

"At first it bothered me that people didn't 'get' my work," Dowdy said. "I credit Jack Harrington (a former UVA-Wise art professor) with pushing me through the safe barrier or 'living room art mentality' that held me back from freely expressing myself."

Hall paints in all mediums—water color, acrylics, and oils. Her works in this exhibition are representations of trees in silhouette. While not conscious of any particular meaning behind her works that were included in this show she said she is intrigued by the contrast in colors and shapes.

"Growing up I had no art programs, other than paper and crayons with which to express myself," Hall said. "I'm happy to say that Wise County actually pushes the arts, against national trends to cut arts funding."

Hall said she credits her students for inspiring her cre-

ative work.

"They have taught me a respect for everyone's perception," she said.

Stratton expresses herself by drawing and painting. While her works in this exhibit are stitched figures on antique quilt pieces she still considers them just another expression of her drawing talents.

"It's not about my stitching on a found object," Stratton said. "The figures are taken from photos that I turned into sketches and then stitched on old quilt panels. I have to do my art every day. If I didn't I couldn't function."

An intuitive artist, Adams, said she approaches her art from a different angle than the other women. She has a fondness for frames.

"I love frames—old, intricate, interesting—that I can paint and make look like new," Adams said. "I find the frame and then create the art to go with it. I like to give people a ready to hang piece of art, one that will work in any room in their house."

Adams-Ramsey's current works reflect her research into the origins of the antique quilts at the Southwest Virginia Museum in Big Stone Gap.

"I consider myself a mixed media artist," Adams-Ramsey said. "I like to do constructions. I'm currently doing surface designs, dying habotai silk in reinterpretations of traditional quilt patterns."

Quilts are not her only inspiration. Adams-Ramsey said her mother also inspires her.

"My mother always told me that I could do anything I wanted as long as I was willing to work hard at it," she said. "Art is like any other subject. It has rules that once you learn them you are able to use to express yourself. We are all born artists—just some people's talents are reannealed into other areas. Give me five minutes and I can teach you to draw."

No matter what their individual talents, inspirations, or medium may be, these artists share the same goal of bringing art to the citizens of the region.

"We want people to experience different kinds of art than what they may be used to seeing," Dowdy said. "Art should cause an instinctive response. No matter whether you like it or hate it, it should make you think."

Adams-Ramsey said she has been accepted into my fiancée's family.

From Jessica Roloff, a junior sociology major: I am thankful for friends to lean on, a god to talk to, and the ability to receive an education. If I had one wish it would be for nothing but happiness in the lives of my friends and family.

From Michael O'Donnell (OD), assistant professor of French: I'm thankful for life, wife, health, friends, family and students. My wish is for peace.

From Kim Lawson, administrative assistant in the Department of Nursing: I am grateful for my salvation, health, friends, family and most of all for my precious 8-month-old baby boy.

From Terry Russell, instructor of music: I would like a piano for Christmas. One that can be transported easily. I am truly grateful for the professors and students in the music department.



PHOTO BY KATE BALDWIN

Artist Virginia Dowdy, a UVA-Wise alumna, stands next to one of her abstract expressionist paintings on display at the Lonesome Pine Regional Library's Harris Library Art Gallery. Dowdy's work was part of the gallery's "Wise Women in Art" exhibit which ended on Nov. 30.

Lady Cavs remain positive, despite season's difficulties

LADY CAVS from page 4

three game winning streak the Lady Cavs put together from Oct. 14 to Oct. 20, beating Tennessee Wesleyan, Milligan, and Montreat, and also winning their home finale against Bluefield on Nov. 2.

It was in these games that Dallman said he saw his team's chemistry "really grow."

"I think we showed a lot of hard work and dedication going through everything we did and still keeping it together," said junior Leeza Dos Santos. "It was a learning year."

It was a challenging year for the Cavs, who not only did players like setter Davina Dishner go down to injury, but Dallman himself had to be hospitalized.

"He had not been feeling well and he looked real pale," Santos said. "He needed immediate surgery to remove eight blockages in his intestines."

Dallman is back to his normal self now, and focused on a better season next year.

"We need to get stronger," Dallman said.

His players agree and acknowledge that weight training needs to be more of an emphasis.

"We started lifting (Oct. 27) and we will go hard until next year," Santos said. "We've been doing a lot of recruiting and we've got a year under our belts with coach Dallman, so other teams better be ready next year, because we will be."

In the spring time, the team starts practicing again, and new pieces to the team will be added in the fall. Does that guarantee wins, and an improvement? Of course not, but a good start, and a start the Lady Cavs need.

- Staff Writers**
- Allana Barrett, Editor-in-Chief
  - Kate Baldwin, Opinion Editor
  - Daniel Robinson, Sports Editor
  - Michael McGill, Faculty Adviser
  - Amber Adams
  - Kim Hubbard
  - Whitney Bentley
  - Miranda Bradley
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  - Mackenzie Smith
  - Jarred Soles
  - Justin Sorensen
  - Bill Sproles
  - Nancy Stichel
  - Jolicia Swist

## Sports Briefs

### Volleyball

Two members of the Lady Cavs volleyball team were awarded all conference honors this past week for their play during the 2006 season.

Natasha Viers was awarded All-AAC first team and NAIA Region XII first team honors.

Viers ended the season with 327 kills, averaging nearly four per game. She also managed 65 blocks, 24 service aces, and 178 digs.

Viers was awarded NAIA Region XII and AAC Player of the Week twice throughout the season.

Emily Helms was awarded All-AAC Freshman team.

Helms had a team high 38 service aces. She finished the season with 187 kills, 125 digs, and 53 blocks.

### Football

The Mid-South Conference (MSC) gave out two of its most coveted awards to Cavalier representatives this past week.

Head coach Bruce Wasem was named Coach of the Year by the MSC for his team's improvement over the last two seasons.

The Cavs finished with their best record in 10 years at 8-3.

This was Wasem's 16th year with the Cavs and his 5th as head coach.

Running back Ra'Shad Morgan was also awarded by the MSC, earning Offensive Player of the year.

Morgan rushed for 1,657 yards and 25 touchdowns.

Morgan set 11 season and single game records.

### Men's Basketball

Zydrunas Rackauskas was awarded AAC Men's basketball player of the week for his play against Pikeville, Centre, and Crown.

In the three games, Rackauskas averaged 20 points and 12 rebounds per game. He shot 67 percent from the field and was 27-of-38 from the free throw line.

Rackauskas posted a double-double in each of the three games helping the Cavs win two of the three.

The Cavs are currently 4-5 overall and 1-0 in the AAC.

**This Weekend's Games**  
Saturday, Dec. 2  
Cavs vs. Covenant  
5:30 & 7:30  
Greear Gymnasium

## Cavs improve on season, awards earned

By Cody Dalton  
Staff Writer

There is an old saying that goes, "All good things must come to an end."

This saying is especially true for the Highland Cavalier football team this season.

The team had an up-and-down season, with records broken and their record improved by four wins, from last season's 4-7 record. They had a record offensive season, thanks to not only the running and passing game, but their overall team chemistry.

This chemistry, combined with great performances by the Cavs wide receivers and offensive line, helped to lead them to an 8-3 overall record and 3-2 in the MSC East Division.

"It truly was an amazing year," said Cavs coach Bruce Wasem. "Our team accomplished a lot of their goals this season."

Members of the team attributed their success to the chemistry and strong friendships between the players.

"The team had a very good and tight relationship this season," said wide receiver Kendon Doe. "Because we played as a team and not individuals, we were able to succeed on the field this season."

The Cavs opened up the season with four straight wins and took the Mid-South Conference by storm. These victories vaulted the Cavs to No. 18 in the NAIA poll.

The conference honored the team at the end of the season with honors, including Coach of the Year to Bruce Wasem and Player of the Year to Ra'Shad Morgan.

"The Coach of the Year award just shows me that I have the right people around me," Wasem said. "Many of these individual awards are special, but I consider them team awards because we

won them all together as a team."

"Having this personal achievement is great," Morgan said. "I am just glad that our team improved from last season. Maybe we can take it up another level next season."

Ten players in all received conference first team honors and two earned Academic All-District honors.

Senior offensive tackle Jon "Cub" Mullins and junior kicker/Junior Ray Damm were awarded both honors.

"Receiving any honors like the All-Academic first team and All-Conference first team is a blessing," Mullins said. "I am happy that our whole offense, including myself, was honored as being at the top of the conference."

"Being honored by the conference comes with being a part of an amazing team," Damm said. "The CoSIDA award is another real honor because it took just as much hard work as the conference honors. It's very hard to balance

sports and school, and to be recognized for doing it well is a great feeling."

The Cavs 8-3 finish was not enough to get them into the playoffs. But, neither Mullins nor Damm had any regrets.

"This season was a blessing to be a part of," Mullins said. "I knew we were a part of something special. I am honored to have played with these guys."

"It feels great to be part of something so successful and to be able to set the tone for next season," Damm said. "It feels very good to walk away from the Cavs with a great season."

And while the team graduates 12 seniors this season, those remaining are positive about next year's outcome.

"This team has everything it needs to make the playoffs and win the Mid-South Conference next season," Damm said. "The stage for that to happen next season has been set through this season."

### Postseason Honors

#### All MSC East First Team

Jon Mullins  
Henry Potter  
Randy Hippeard  
Ra'Shad Morgan  
Aric Evans  
Kendon Doe  
Ray Damm (Kicker)  
Matt Barbour  
Reggie Dorsalvill  
Brandon Moore

#### All MSC East Second Team

Ben Robertson  
Ray Damm (Punter)

#### CoSIDA Academic All-District 3

Ray Damm  
Jon Mullins



PHOTO BY DAVE STRAUSS

Junior guard Joey Blackwell shoots a three-pointer at home against the Bryan Lions on Nov. 28. Blackwell ended the game as the Cavs' top scorer with 15 points in the team's 73-51 win.

## Lady Cavs end tough season

By Jarred Soles  
Staff Writer

The 2006 volleyball season did not go as planned for the Lady Cavs.

The team was picked to finish 3rd in the Appalachian Athletic Conference, but ended up in 6th place in the conference with an 11-17 record.

Several factors led to this disappointing season. They range from injuries to players,

to injuries to the coach as well.

Coach Dallman admitted that the coaching change in the off-season when he replaced Kim Mathes-Moore as the Lady Cavs' head coach contributed to the Cavs' tough season.

"Because of the coaching change, not as much recruiting was done, so when injuries hit we weren't as equipped to deal with them," said Dallman.

That is not something

Dallman plans on happening again.

Five recruits have already been signed, and Dallman said he plans on adding two to four more.

"That would put us around 15 players, which is really what you need for a long season with practices and games," Dallman said.

This season was far from a lost cause according to Dallman and his players.

"I was really proud of the

### Postseason Honors

AAC All-Academic  
Kate Daub  
Natasha Viers  
Cara Hamilton  
Leeza Dos Santos  
Britney Lawson

way we pulled it together and made the tournament late in the year," said Dallman.

He was referring to the

See LADY CAVS, page 3

## From the Sidelines

### Final remarks at semester's end

It's the final issue of the semester and I just want to say how fun it has been to be working on this paper and writing this little column. I am really looking forward to doing my best to bring you a better sports page next semester.

Since this is the final issue of 2006, and I'm too lazy to come up with a single topic for this issue, I've decided that I'm going to discuss some things that have been going on with this page, as well as a few sports notes from campus.

First, I would like to point out that I am currently leading the "Cavs' Calls" section. Yes, that's right, your sports editor actually knows a thing or two about sports. Helps doesn't it?

My record is 7-2 while Professor

McGill is second at 6-3.

For those who don't know, the "Cavs' Calls" section is found directly below this column.

Each issue, McGill, myself, and one other member of the staff make predictions on games occurring at different events around campus. Listed are the sport, who the Cavs are playing, and whether we think UVa-Wise will win or lose. We'll also have a short prediction of the score such as "by 5" or "close."

We determine our record by the number we've picked correctly and the number we've picked incorrectly.

If you have a comment about the way we're picking games, let us know about it.

This brings me to my second point, if you have any suggestions or criticisms about how this page is run, tell me. Send me an e-mail or if you spot me around campus, stop me, and tell me what you think.

You could even go so far as looking me up on Facebook and sending me a message. (No poking please.)

I respond fairly well to constructive criticism. So, if you think this page stinks, I want to know.

But please, at least take the time to make suggestions on how I can make it better. Remember, this is your paper. If you don't like it, it's your responsibility to help us make it better and more appealing to campus readers.

Also, *The Highland Cavalier* is always looking for more writers. If you want to be a part of putting this paper together, e-mail us or come to our staff meetings and see what it's like. Look for flyers next semester to get info on what our new staff meeting times will be.

For my third point, I'm going to actually talk about sports.

Pretty soon, it's going to be Christmas break. And while that means a nice long vacation for you and me, it doesn't for the men's and women's basketball teams.

The men's team will have six games in all over break, half of which are played at home.

As for the women's team, they will have four games, two at home, as well as two tournaments very close to Christmas—one just before and one just after.

What I'm trying to say is don't forget about these players. If you live in the Wise area, come out and watch some of these games. It has to be hard to spend break on campus when everyone else is gone.

If you don't live in Wise, check the college's athletics website and keep tabs on these games. I'm sure both teams would appreciate the support.

In closing, I would like to thank the staff writers that have presented consistently good sports stories all semester—Cody Dalton, Whitney Bentley, Jarred Soles, and Aaron Collier.

Thank you. And I hope you all will keep providing good stories to this paper throughout the spring semester—sports related or not.

Well, I guess that's all I have to say. I am officially going to turn off all of my creativity and take it easy for a while. I hope you've enjoyed reading this column and I will see you again in January.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!

Cavs' Calls			
Cavs	Opponent	Score	Editor
			M. McGill (6-3)
<b>Women's Basketball</b>			
Covenant	W by 5	L by 8	L by 10
VI	W by 7	W by 16	W close
King	W by 3	L by 10	L by 10
<b>Men's Basketball</b>			
Covenant	W by 0T	W by 5	W by 5
VI	W by 10	W by 5	W by 5
King	L by 2	L by 8	L by 8
Bryan	W by 5	W close	W close