

# THE HIGHLAND CAVALIER

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

VOLUME 58, NUMBER 11

THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA'S COLLEGE AT WISE

APRIL 6, 2007

## Calendar of Events

### Monday, April 9

**Faculty Colloquia**, 1 p.m. In the Chapel. Aaron Johnson, associate professor of geology, will speak on "The Evolution-Intelligent Design Debate: Is Science Partially to Blame?" and Bob VanGundy, an adjunct professor of earth and environmental science, will speak on "The Current State of Global Energy Resources."

### Tuesday, April 10

**Home softball game vs. University of Charleston**, 3 p.m.

**Home men's and women's tennis match vs. Emory and Henry**, 4 p.m.

### Thursday, April 12

**Home baseball game vs. Alice Lloyd**, 1 p.m.

### Saturday, April 14

**Home baseball game vs. Union**, noon

**Home men's and women's tennis match vs. Southern Virginia**, TBA

**Home softball game vs. Milligan**, 2 p.m.

### Sunday, April 15

**Home baseball game vs. Berea College**, 2 p.m.

### Monday, April 16

**SGA-sponsored Meet the Candidates and Debate**, 1 p.m. in the Dogwood Room, Fifth floor, Student Center.

**Home softball game vs. King**, 2 p.m.

### Tuesday, April 17

**Student Research Symposium**, 1 p.m. in the Student Center. Featuring presentations by student researchers from UVA-Wise and Emory and Henry. Attendance will count as cultural credit.

**SGA and Honor Court Elections**, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the lobby of the Student Center.

### Wednesday, April 18

**SGA and Honor Court Elections**, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the lobby of the Student Center.

**National Day of Silence, Silent Lunch**, noon in Cafeteria.

### Friday, April 20

The UVA-Wise Theatre Department presents "The Love Talker" and "The Bald Soprano" at 8 p.m. in the Theater.

### Saturday, April 21

The UVA-Wise Theatre Department presents "The Love Talker" and "The Bald Soprano" at 2

## Cancer claims beloved prof

By Brittany Padgett  
Staff Writer

Dana Sample, an associate professor of history who was described by colleagues, friends and students as energetic, caring, dedicated, down-to-earth, "a big sister" and good humored, died of cancer on March 22. She was 50.

Sample joined the college's Department of History and Philosophy in 2000. And, although she was known to have a passion for many areas and eras of history, her specialty was early modern European history.

"Dana was thoroughly dedicated to what she was doing," said Brian Wills, the Kenneth Asbury Professor of History. "She made sure she did things to the best of her ability."

"Everybody always wanted her to be involved with their committee, and her only problem was she always did it," he said. "She made our department so much better and richer for everyone in it."

For many students, Sample was not just a professor, but someone who brought facts to life with a passion for the past and, of course, a stuffed toy rat.

"There was never a dull moment in Dr. Sample's classes, and so many of her lectures are still fresh in my memory to this day," said Roger Hagy, a former student and now the college's assistant director of college relations. "I especially remember her fascinating, enlightening lectures about the early church and the French Revolution."

"And, of course, she kept us all laughing about her love of Russell Crowe. She would always joke that he was the love of her life," he said.

Sample's caring personality and friendliness made an impact on many students.

"Anytime you needed help, both in and outside of class, she was always there for you," said Tiffany Fannon, a senior history major. "She inspired me in so many ways



and I'll always be thankful for that."

Outside of the classroom, Sample helped to bring a chapter of the history honorary society, Phi Alpha Theta, to campus. And, she had served as director of the college's Peake Honors Program.

"Dana's work with Phi Alpha Theta allowed students to attend conferences where they could present papers and gain experience as knowledgeable scholars," Wills said. "Work was her love and love was her work."

Those who knew Sample or, for that matter, anyone who passed by her elaborately decorated door knew that she had an interest in traveling.

A photograph on her office door of she and students at the English Channel captures it all, Wills said.

"In that photograph it is obvious how much joy she had at that moment. She was

in her element," he said. "That trip wouldn't have been the same without Dana."

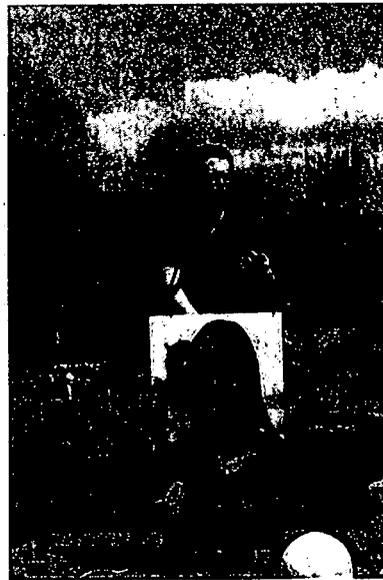
Sample earned a bachelor's degree in modern French from Christopher Newport University in 1977 and a master's degree in international business studies from the University of South Carolina in 1979.

After working for several years for the Noland Company in Newport News, she made a career change into college teaching. She earned a master's degree in history in 1989 from Old Dominion University and a doctorate from the City University of New York.

She taught at Hampton University before arriving at Wise.

"There is a terrible void here," Wills said. "You don't and can't replace someone like Dana, but we have to carry on with the things that were important to her."

## Save Darfur Rally



Nicholas Kiersey, teaching fellow of political science, spoke of political science, spoke of political science, April 3 at the McCrary lawn for the Darfur rally, sponsored by the Save Darfur Coalition. Kiersey offered students a better understanding of the current situation in Darfur.

Photos by Allana Barrett



## Newsweek editor to speak on April 23

From Staff Reports

Newsweek editor and bestselling author Jon Meacham will speak about the news industry on April 23, as part of the Chancellor's Lecture Series.

Meacham will discuss "Media's Secret Bias: Liberals, Conservatives, and the Truth about the News" at a 7:30 p.m. public lecture in the Chapel.

A book signing will follow in the Student Center.

As Newsweek's youngest editor since Osborn Elliot, who was six months his junior when he was appointed in 1961, Meacham is responsible for the magazine's daily editorial operations and its website. He was named to the position in September 2006.

Meacham was an editor at Washington Monthly before

N w k n 19 t

international affairs and breaking news, Newsweek won the National Magazine Award for General Excellence in 2001 (for its coverage of the September 11 terrorist attacks and their aftermath) and, again, in 2003 (for the magazine's coverage of President Bush and the Iraq War).

He started his journalism career at The Chattanooga Times and has written for The New York Times Book Review, The Washington Post, The Los Angeles Times Book Review and The Washington Post Book Review.

Meacham is the author of two New York Times' bestsellers—the 2003 "Franklin and Winston: An Intimate Portrait of an Epic Friendship" and his 2006 "American Gospel: God, the Founding Fathers, and the

# OPINION

## From the Editor's Desk

## The Battle Over Virginia

There has been a lot of talk recently about Northern Virginia vs. Southwest Virginia.

I think that it's silly and childish. It should not matter which part of Vuginia you are from, what matters is that you are at an educational facility. Not only are you supposed to be getting an education in the classroom, but you should also be learning from those around you.

Most people that come here for school have probably never been to an area quite like this. So they need to learn about it. I Uce in some of the culture here. Yes, it is different here. So? Is different a bad thing? Learn about our differences and grow.

When I was in middle school we went to D.C. for a field trip, an educational trip. Not only did I learn from the museums, but I also saw a different lifestyle. People there were different from the people in my hometown. They were not as laid back. They seemed very busy and rushed. It was exciting. I learned thrn it.

I know that a lot of people were angry about an article we ran in the last issue of the paper (Cassie Groover's "NoVa vs. Nova,O

Get over it. It was not meant to be anti-Appalachian. It was one person's opinion of her experience here. We all know the saying about opinions being like a certain excretory orifice.

Here's something that you may not know. I, Allana Barrett, the editor-in-chief of The Highland Cavalier, am from a little town in Southwest Nlrginia. I am from Saltville. Even people that are from Southwest Virginia have never heard of it

The pendulum swings both ways. Cassie's piece about Northern Vuginia could easily have been written about people from Northern Virginia not knowing anything about Southwest Virginia.

Who cares? I don't get angry when people don't know my hometown. I do get a little irritated when immediately after I say I'm from Saltville the person I'm speaking to laughs and says, "There's a place called Saltville? Why's it called thart? To which I usually want to say, "Yes there is. I live on Lick Skillet Road too; do you want to make fun of that name next?"

But I don't. I just tell them: "Yes, there is a place called Saltville. And it is named such because of our salt ponds. Other than the salt lakes in Utah, we have the only land-based saltwater in the U.S."

There, you learned something today. I wanted to run Cassie's piece to facilitate discussion. I've seen a lot of groups on Facebook and MySpace dedicated to this battle between Northern and Southwestern Virginia. There shouldn't be one. We're all frinx Virginia. There is not a divide once you hit those mountains. The area past Roanoke is still a part of the state.

We haven't broken off like West Virginia did. We are all members of the same state.

Yes, there are some cultural differences, but who cares? If you were attending a college in another country wouldn't you be embracing diat culture and trying to learn about it?

Isn't that what attending a college outside of your comfort area is all about?

—ALLANA BARRETT, Editor-in-Chief

# Housing lottery needs change

By Cody Dalton
StaffWriter

Every year, students on the campus of this fine institution embark on one of the most heart-wrenching and mind boggling journeys ever. This journey is referred to as the housfaig kjiteiy.

There were 600 numbers drawn in this year's housing lottery. Only 453 students are guaranteed a room for the 2007-2008 school year. I recently drew my number—353.

But, much to my dismay my roommate drew 593.

Let me pose a couple of questions to you:

Why are seniors on campus not given seniority in this system?

For instance, if you divide up the 600 numbers with numbers one through 200 going to seniors, numbers 201 to 400 for juniors and 401-600 for sophomores, this would be

The Higflind Cavalier is the official student newspaper of The University of Virginia's College at Wise. The newspaper is pibNihed bi-weekly on Fridays, h fluctionf to ifonn, edvale and entertainreadersaccurately and lesponisUy. It does not necessarily reflect the opinions of the collep'a administration, faculty or staff.

I/\*faiH/CnaFfer welcomes alJ coNribuloas, which can be delivered to the Editor-in-Chief Allana Banelt in peison (317 Sleep Student Center), by standani mail (Campus Box 4682, The University of Virginia's College It Wise. 1 College Avenue, Wise, VA 24293); or via e-mail (acb3s@uvawise.edu).

Letters to die editor can also be e-mailed to Opinion Editor Kate Baldwin (kcb6d@uvawise.edu) All lettm to the editor must be signed-hKiding the writer's deapntmeot or major, address and telephone number. Letters may be edited for length, gnmnar, clarity and libel.

THE HIGHLAND CAVALIER

APBn.6.2fHq7 EAGEI

# Offensive to Who?

By Samantha Berry

As I pass people on my way to class, I hear the controversy surrounding last month's article, "NoVa vs. Nova," written by ray roommate (and now fabulousfriend)Cassie Groover.

I hear from some that it was offensive. Others completely agreed with it.

Personally, as a Northerner and East Coast kid, I was not offended in any way by the article and found nothing in it th&t could have been offensive to anyone from around this neck of the woods.

But, let's review the article. Here's a recap:

First, Cassie claims to be from no where near here. Offensive?

Then, we are given a brief description of where she IS from, ("...a place where sarcasm and informality leap from our tongues.")

Next, Cassie writes about how unaccustomed to Wise she is. ("And I am certainly not used to the slow lifestyle and polite nature that this place seems to be breeding.")

Sound offensive yet?

Cassie then expresses her surprise at the lack of knowledge people here have of their surroundings. ("...I'm a little perturbed with people's lack of knowledge of the regions beyond Appalachia...")

I'm not gonna lie. I had to make use of MapQuest to figure

## You know you're a Highland Cavalier if...

out whew in the world Wise County vras. I couldn't drive north any farther than Matthews, south any farther than Viiginia Beach, or west any farther than Richmond without pulling out some form of a map.

Cassie then proceeds to explain the difference in being from Nova (the local community college) and NoVa (Northern Viiginia).

I'm still waiting for something to be offensive.

But wait.

That's the end of the article.

The point is that nothing disrespectful or condescending was written.

Was it not made clear that "sarcasm and informality leap from our tongues?"

Anyway, a sign of a good writer is one that can get a reaction out of people.

So, to you Cassie, a slap on the assi

Job virell done!

*Samantha Berry is afreshmanart m<^o'r...and Cassie roommate.*

# Not happy? Other colleges abound in VA

By Simon Henry
StaffWriter

Before I start, I would just like to make it clear that "I'm not from here."

I'm not from here—not anywhere near here. Try about eight-to-nbic hours by plane. I grew up here. And, I know enough about the "slow" and "polite" people that this place "seems to be breeding" to know better than to write and submit condescending insuhs about them ("NoVa vs. Nova," March 23) in the local college newspaper.

This is America. And the last time I checked The Highland Cavalier adheres to the freedom of speech clause in the U.S. Constitution. Poor, homesick freshmen have the legal right to send their rants to the opinion section. Along with freedom of speech, though, comes taking the responsibility for the words you write. I could easily sit here and write a piece bashing Northern Virginia, saying thngs like, "SpringfieM is just like every other identical hole along I-66—another over-inflated real-estate strip mall invaded by illegal immigrants. A place where the public buses run empty because the eight-lane highways are clogged with over-paid college graduates in Vilvo's, sitting for hours in traffic; running back and forth fit>m then- \$1,400- a-month closets to their dead-end careers; 'hooting and hollering' as they flip each

If one were to study the history of our college here in Wise, they would leom that Clinch Valley College was created to bring higher education to the less fortunate people of Southwest Virginia. Not Northern Virginia.

Maybe pity should be taken on this freshman. Homesickness is something that I am all too familiar with. It can consume you and cause you to have feelings of animosity towards your new environment. Attacking the indigenous people is not a smart move. It isn't their fault that they don't know where you are fh>m.

Come to think of it, who in the hell cares?

StairWriters

Amber Adams
Spencer Adams
Whitney Bentley
Emahuna Campbell
AanmCollkv
Cody Dalton
Simon Henry
Jenna Johnson
Brittany Padgett
ReM SalonKNuky
Nancy Stkkd

Allana Barrett
*EMor-in-Chitrf*

KateBaMwlii
*Opinion Editor*

Daael Robinson
*Sports EMor*

MichadMcGIU
*FacultyAMser*

# Students present at science conference

By Kate BaMwin
Opinion Editor

Six of the college's non-science, pre-service teaching students presented papers at the National Science Teacfaen of America's (NSTA) annual conference last weekend. The theme of the conference, held in St Louis, Mo^ was "Science: A River of Connections."

Tamara Moore, Tona Mullins, Lori Hamm, Jodi Harris, Oma Gullett, Lauren ^Uace, and Matthew J. Maurer, assistant professor of science education, presented papers about the college's Wetlands Project and science curriculum.

"Our group wanted to share with others how our wetlands on campus can be used for educational purposes that are not just science based," said Harris, president of the college's NSTA student chapter. "What many people don't realize is how important the campus wetlands are and how it can be used as an educational tool for many of the area schools, hKluding the college."

According to the NSTA website, the organization was founded in 1944 to promote "excellence and innovation in s<cience teaching and learning for all." The organization's current membership includes more than 55,000 science

# "Firebugs" questioned politics

By Allana Barrett
Editor-in-Chief

On March 311 attended a play. A play that is very relevant to current events in America, rtespite the fact that it was written in Germany in 1953. It was written as a metaphor for Nazism following World War II and shows how normal citizens can be taken in by evil. However, this can be afflied to our country at present.

The play which once mocked Nazism was used by Michael Hunt as a metaphor for the Patriot Act. Those people that were taken in by evil are now taken in by paranoia.

In "Biedeimarm and the Firebugs" we are introduced to a man named Gottlieb Biedermann, played by Stevie Kensley, who is scared of arsonists. Everyone in the town is. The fire department (which contained members of the step, team) runs the town, baiging into the homes of anyone wBOISSuq^ected of harboring arsonists. Biedermann doesn't think that he can be fooled, but he is. The man that was paranoid ends up taking in two arsonists, Willi (Maiy Rose Hanson) and Sepp Smith (Larry Van Hoorebeke).

Sepp convinces Biedeimann that he is not an arsonist and is welcomed into Biedermann's home through the use of flattery. The audience could see through Sepp, just as they could see through the walls of the set—revealing people plotting with guns and explosives. Sepp then lets in bis frieiid, Willi, who tells Biedermann the truth, but Biedermann is unwilling to believe it. He thinks that it's a joke. Willi comments on how telling the flat-out truth when you should be lying is just as effective as telling a lie.

Willi and Sepp bring m gasoline and Biedermann even helps Willi with the fuse. Biedermann is completely fooled, and ends up giving matches to the very people that bum down his home, killing him and his wife, Babette, played by Kate Duab.

In the end Biedermann and his wife find themselves in

# i

By Nancy Stickel
StaffWriter

Everyone has heard the cliché expressions "you can't love another, until you first learn to love yourself," or another variation, "you can't complete another person, until you are first complete by yourself." These expressions just emphasize the importance of being selfsufficientA rare lime when it is a good thing and actually encouraged to be OHnpletely concerned with you and you alone. Keeping with the same thme, in ordo to accomplish these expressions you need to know what you want, what you really want Let me attempt to catch your attention by saying I want to get "down and dirty" with some specifics.

In life its not enough to say, "I want a hamburger" you need to be more specific, in my case, I want a hamburger hold the meat, or for others I want a hamburger with lettuce, tomato; cheese, and if you are hicky enou^ to go to a nice place, th^ might even be concerned with how you want your patty cooked. An example, you tell your girlfriends you are looking for someone intelligent, who is also "tall, dark, and handsome." Seems simple enough, however the next day a man with a striking resemblance to Steve Uride show up at your door. You are infuriated, wondering who's sick joke it was to give this guy your room number. However its nobodies fault but

teachers, science supervisors, administrators, scientists, and business and industry representatives.

Student presenters said they returned with new ideas, tecfanit^es and teachbig resources.

"The best thing for me was receiving many classroom materials," Moore said. "Teachers shared their approaches to different science concepts, different activities were demonstrated, and classroom supplies were given away."

"I learned a lot of stuff, but the main thing was how much something of this size could help a future teacher," Mullins said

Shnply hearing ideas from teachers scattered across the country was a great experience, students said.

"I enjoyed getting different ideas from teachers across the country," Moore said. "The resources that were offered at this conference greatly exceeded my expectations."

While at the conference students also had the opportunity to meet with distinguished members of the science teaching community, including former astronaut Sally Ride, the first female in space.

"The best and most interesting thmg for roe was getting to meet Sally Ride and getting her autograph," Mullins said.

## The Curtain Falls: Last production in the theater building

The UVa-Wise theater department will be showing their final production in the current theater building starting April 20.

This productkm will consist of a double feature: "The Love l^ker," directed by Michel McNuhy, assistant professor of theater, and "The Bald Serrano," directed by Jessica Dotson, a senior theater major.

Opening night is April 20 at 8:00 p.m. April 21 will have a matinee at 2:00 p.m. and a night show at 8:00 p.m. And the final show will be held on Sunday, April 22 at 2:00 p.m. Admission is free to everyone.

Please come and enjoy a night of theater before the curtain falls on our beloved stage.

## SGA and Honor Court elections

This spring there will be a new event during SGA elections.' Meet the Candidates and Debate is being held on Monday, April 16 at 1 p.m. in the Dogwood Room on the fifth floor of the Student Center.

Elections for SGA and Honor Court are from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday, April 17 and Wednesday, April 18 in the Student Center lobby.

### Jam-4-Man

Jam-4-Man will be on Friday, May 4 and Saturday, May 5. It is held for two reasons: first and foremost, to collect canned food items for Hope House. And second, to give the students a fbn and exciting weekend before they take exams the next week.

## Spring Formal King and Queen

Nominations for the Spring Formal King and *Qixeei* will be taken on April 17 and 18. The election will be held on T^uesday, April 24 and Wednesday, April 25.

### Spring Formal

The Spring Formal will be heM from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. in the Greear Gymnasium on Saturday, April 28. This is a new venue for the event, but the layout SGA has planned should allow for a fun and comfortable setting. On the second level in the area overlooking the floor there will be a bar for those attending that are 21 or older.

## What do you want? What do you really want?

your own, you were not specific enough.

What about all the fellas out there who want a "hot girl." What exactly is the judge of bot, an attractive Faccebodi pkture? Could it be a giri who globs make up on to give off an image that doesn't just enhance, but totally warp her physical appearance? Most people do not choose the most hemous pkture they have of themselves, to post as their profile picture. As a rule of thumb, you might want to know what a girl looks like without make up to avoid having to cope with something more unbaghably ifHghtening then just her breath bi the morning ...tiy her morning face!

There is no right answer for all the following examples, just like "beauty is in the eye of the beholder" so is any other adjective you can think of. Whether you are looking for someone who is smart or attractive; you need to have your own personal set of standards about what exactly makes someone "smart" or "attractive," bCwte you go in search of your Einstein or your Jenna Jameson.

Equally as important to deciding what you want, that is, what you really want is the other side of the spectrum what you DO NOT want at all. This list may be easier to come up with because it can be compiled of "no brainers". For example, I refuse to date someone with a serious cocahc problem. With most of the Hollywood starlets being over the "preppy" style, or even "the vintage look"- compiling of a \$500dollar vintage

tee that looks like a moo-moo found in your grandmothers closet. What's now "in" is look I've coined as "cocaine sheik." clothes hanging off a skehor body, in one hand, a designer handbag big enough to store one's own personal meth lab in, and in the other, your typical Venti coffee drink, as if they really need to be hyped off anything else. This all reinforces that you can look like a cocaine addict, just don't be one.

Now I realize that all this may fill into the category of getting in touch widi your "inner thoughts" and some of you just would rather not sit down and have a convo with the "vok&sfaisideyour head." However if you do not want to do it for yourself, be ctinsiderate and do it for the sake of a future relational partner, or even your present. Being with someone who does not know what they want is the worst. There is a good chance that most of us have already experienced the joy of being in a relationship with someone with the same level of confusion comparable to what the true gender of Marilyn Manson really is.

In conclusion we are all getting older, just like we had to make important decisions when we were younger, like what college to attend, the number and the severity of important decisions we are going to have to make hi the span of our lives is just gofaig tofaicrease. Some decisions ara not going to be fun, others even pafairfil but they are all made to better your life and the life of others around you.

# a?

ASSOCIATED COLLEGIATE PRESS

## Sports Briefs

## Men's golf defeats tough conference foes in tournament

The Cavalier golf team finished 3rd out of 10 teams in the Cavalier Invitational held at the Ridgefields Country Club in Kingsport, Tenn. on April 2 and 3.

The Cavs finished behind first place Spartanburg Methodist and second place Bluefield College.

The team managed to beat out AAC rivals, Milligan, Virginia Intermont, Union, King, and Tennessee-Wesleyan.

Junior John Blake Graham tied for 5th for the Cavs with a 153. Other notable finishes included freshman Jay Cantrall (14th with a 158), and sophomores Brian Bentley (tied for 16th with a 159), and Shane McDavid (tied for 20th with a 161).

The Cavs are off until April 15 when they play in the AAC/Region XII Championships in Elizabethton, Tenn.

## Lady Cavs fall to second place in AAC with Union loss, defeat VI

The Lady Cavs tennis team fell out of first place in the AAC this week, following a 6-3 loss to Union College on March 31. It was the team's first conference loss of the season.

The Lady Cavs looked to be in control after winning two of the three doubles matches. Sophomore Kyndall Winger and junior Rhyssa Philipp won 8-2 while senior Davina Dishner and junior Autumn Lauzon defeated their opponents, 8-5.

But, the Lady Cavs dropped five singles matches to lose the contest. Senior Audra Fritz won the lone singles match, 6-0, 6-1.

The Lady Cavs rebounded on April 3 and defeated Virginia Intermont, 9-0.

The Lady Cavs are currently second in the AAC, with a 3-1 record.

The Lady Cavs will next face non-conference opponent Emory & Henry on April 10.

## Robbins hits three home runs, but not enough for sweep of Pikeville

Sophomore Brad Robbins had a big offensive day against Pikeville on April 3—hitting three home runs.

Robbins' solo home run and three-run shot in the first game of the doubleheader helped the Cavs defeat Pikeville, 6-3.

Junior Jorge Laboy added a solo home run while sophomore Mike Lang helped out with an RBI double.

In the second game, Pikeville scored five runs in the third to take a 6-0 lead. In the sixth, Robbins hit a two-run homer and Mike Lang hit another RBI double—but they weren't enough to defeat the Bears. The Cavs fell 6-3.

Currently, the Cavs are fourth in the conference with a 7-3 record. They trail Tennessee-Wesleyan, Union, and Milligan.

The Cavs next play on April 7 at Montreat.

## Lady Cavs softball on the rise after slow start

By Aaron Collier  
Staff Writer

The Lady Cavaliers struggled at the start of the season posting a 2-11 record during the first month and a half of, including a 0-7 start in February.

But now a month later the Lady Cavs find themselves with a 5-1 record in Appalachian Athletic Conference games and sit atop the conference standings in first place.

The tough non-conference schedule may be the reason the Lady Cavs are on top, said head coach Tori Raby-Gentry.

"We play a tough out-of-conference schedule so in conference we can compete and feel confident," Raby-Gentry said.

Freshman first baseman Amber Salyer said she feels the tough schedule helped the team achieve the success they are experiencing now.

"I think that [the schedule] really made us a lot better," Salyer said. "It helped us mature a lot."

Even though the team struggled out of the gates, Raby-Gentry said she was impressed with how the team never gave up during their tough early season schedule.

In a March 10 game against Lee University (ranked number three in the nation at the time) the Lady Cavs found themselves down 8-0 in the first inning. The team suffered a 10-5 loss, but Raby-Gentry said she was impressed at how her team continued to play hard after the first inning.

"Last year that [bad first inning] happens we don't even score," Raby-Gentry said. "You take out the first inning and we beat them 5-2. This team fights. That's encouraging."

Senior pitcher and catcher Tori Flint said the players feed off each other and that helps the team to go out and give their best effort on the field.

"If one person gets a hit it seems just like a domino effect," Flint said. "We all get up and do what needs to be done."

The turning point for the season began at the Savannah College of Art and Design Smash Hit tournament held March 11-13. The Lady Cavs won all six of their games and outscored their opponents 64-16 during the three-day event. Unlike earlier in the season

when the team played just one game a week, Raby-Gentry said playing six games in three days helped the team find their rhythm.

"You just can't get in a rhythm," Raby-Gentry said. "That [the tournament] helped us out."

Gentry said the team bonded on the trip to Savannah even if it was by unconventional means.

"We had a nice little bus fire on our way down and had some good team bonding," Raby-Gentry said. "In all honesty it was good for us as a team."

Since the six-game win streak at Savannah and the bus fire, the Lady Cavs are 13-3 and 15-14 overall.

The Lady Cavs' offense, which has produced 24 homeruns as a team, has helped spark the team's run to the top of the AAC. Raby-Gentry said that this is the best offensive team she has seen since becoming coach and it has helped the pitching improve as well.

"Offensively we have the best team we've ever had," Raby-Gentry said. "The hitting takes a lot of pressure off of the pitcher."

The pitching staff for the Lady Cavs is young and has struggled at times this year. Junior Amanda Wheeler and freshman Lauren Snead head an inexperienced staff, but Raby-Gentry said both have improved as the season has progressed.

"Our pitchers are getting better," Raby-Gentry said. "The more they throw the more comfortable they get."

Snead has already earned AAC pitcher of the week honors after a pair of victories over Union two weeks ago. Raby-Gentry said Snead has improved every time she goes to the mound and that is all she asks of her young freshman.

"The only thing I ask her to do is improve each time," Raby-Gentry said. "I think she has done that."

The Lady Cavaliers still have a long road ahead before they start the AAC tournament held May 2-4.

The Cavs have four conference games still to be played in April, but junior catcher Shelly Newton said she sees the team only getting better as the season goes on.

"We finally got a lot of games under our belt and some wins," Newton said. "I think we can only go up."



Photo by Allana Barrett  
Sophomore Brad Robbins pitches during the Cavs series against Alderson-Broadbudds while freshman Logan Limburg charges in anticipation of a bunt. The Cavs won the first games of the series 5-0 and lost the second 5-9.

## Frat hosts flag football tournament for charity

By Reid Salomonsky  
Staff Writer

A charity challenge with a little mix of gridiron glory could make a big splash for local patrons.

At least, that's what the members of the Pi Lambda Phi fraternity are hoping.

Beginning Saturday, April 14, Pi Lambda Phi will host their first ever charity flag football tournament to benefit the March of Dimes.

"We really wanted to give back, and we figured that the best way to do that would

be to play to our strengths," said event coordinator Jay Bowry.

It may seem as a rather unorthodox way to raise money for charity, but their sentiment is real.

"This is a great cause and we really want people to join in and help the March of Dimes and everything they do to help people," Bowry said.

The tournament which will be held on the flag football field, and two practice fields on campus, is open to any team that fits the

requirements.

"We require a minimum donation of \$80 per team," Bowry said. "With all teams consisting of no more than 25 people, and all games will be seven on seven."

First, second, and third place trophies will be awarded according to the winners, as well as the satisfaction of donating to a needy charity.

There are several spots available for the tournament, and if any are interested in entering please contact Bowry at [job5bu@uvawise.edu](mailto:job5bu@uvawise.edu).

## From the Sidelines

## A Message to Some Fortunate Athletes

I was sitting at home on a futon couch watching one of my favorite television shows, when an advertisement came on for NewsCenter 5. Garick Zikan was talking about the stories he would be covering that night at 11:00.



Daniel Robinson  
Sports Editor

Normally, this would be no big deal. Living here my entire life, I've grown up with good ole' Garick and Ann Carter among others. But something he said that night caught my attention.

In the past week or so, Virginia Intermont has stated that they could not afford to offer their professors' contracts for the upcoming 2007-08 school year. They are essentially pleading with the public for donations to stay open. This seems strange since the average tuition of VI is somewhere in the neighborhood of \$20,000.

Nonetheless, the school is in danger. Although the college probably would not close down, they might be forced to merge with another university.

Some of you may be thinking, "Awesome, one less team to deal with in the AAC." But what if something like this was to happen at Wise.

Now obviously, a case like this is not going to happen here anytime soon. If the college can afford renovation plans that cost millions upon millions of dollars, I think it's safe to say that we will be OK for a little while.

However, it did make me think about what it would be like if it did happen here.

And although the effects of this catastrophe would be disastrous to the town of Wise, its economy (think of how many pizza places would go out of business), and all the people living in the area, what I am more concerned about is how it would affect sports in the area. (Duh, I'm the sports guy. You should have seen that one coming.)

Would sports in Southwest Virginia be as competitive?

I think the answer there is a resounding "yes," but it still makes you wonder. I'll give you an example.

An athlete at the high school level dreams of playing at the college level. The athlete works hard throughout high school in a particular sport. The athlete comes to UVa-Wise to play. That individual might not be the best in the area, but at least that person is given the chance to play with some of the best in Virginia, as well as play against some of the best from Southwest Virginia, East Tennessee, Eastern Kentucky, and Western North Carolina.

Now, what if the college hadn't been here?

The young athlete would still have dreams of playing college sports. But, without Wise here, the opportunity for college level competition would not be possible. The athlete might not play as hard.

Obviously, this is just an example, but still one worth thinking about.

I suppose I am just saying a lot of things to make a little point: I think we should be thankful for this college. As athletes, we've got a place to come when we might not be the greatest there ever was in our preferred sport, but we're still able to compete at a much higher level than high school.

We're given the chance to be able to tell our grandchildren that we were once college athletes. Maybe I am stretching it a little bit there, but still, you get the point.

Be happy that you're here, doing something that most people never get the chance to do.

## CAVS' SCOREBOARD

Baseball	Softball
Mar. 31 Cavs 3, <u>Tenn. Wes. 17</u> Cavs 5, <u>Tenn. Wes 12</u>	Mar. 17 Cavs 9, <u>Va Inter. 10</u> Cavs 8, Va Inter. 1
Mar. 21 Cavs 6, <u>Pikeville 3</u> Cavs 3, <u>Pikeville 6</u>	Mar. 21 Cavs 1, <u>Tenn. Wes. 2</u> Cavs 4, <u>Tenn. Wes. 1</u>
<b>Men's Tennis</b>	<b>Women's Tennis</b>
Mar. 23 Cavs 3, <u>Brevard 6</u>	Mar. 23 Cavs 6, <u>Brevard 3</u>
Mar. 31 Cavs 0, <u>Union 9</u>	Mar. 31 Cavs 3, <u>Union 6</u>
April 3 Cavs 2, <u>Va Inter. 7</u>	April 3 Cavs 9, <u>Va Inter. 0</u>