

C THE HIGHLAND CAVALIER

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Homecoming weekend festivities a success for college community

By Julie Kaye Shortt
Staff Writer

The college, once again, had a successful Alumni Homecoming weekend last week.

"I thought homecoming was wonderful," SGA President Jekeyma Robinson said in an e-mail. "Loven Livesay and Josh Vaughan were the people who coordinated the SGA events like the dance and events of homecoming, and they did a great job."

Students seemed to enjoy the festivities.

"I thought everything was awesome," said freshman Tory Thomas.

The luau kicked off Alumni Homecoming 2007 on Thursday with performances by the Cavalier Marching Band and the Cavalier cheerleading squad. One highlight of the luau was the crazy boat contest, which was won by Pi Kappa Phi.

"The crazy boat race went well, but there weren't too many people participating," Robinson said. "I'd like

to see organizations participate more."

The pep rally was held outside the student center on Friday with performances by the Cavalier Marching Band, the Cavalier cheerleading squad and the step team.

"The pep rally went well, and the cheerleaders, band, and step team did great," Robinson said.

The football game on Saturday turned out to be a success as the Cavaliers beat the Georgetown Tigers.

Red and gray filled the stadium as fans came out to support the Cavs. According to the college's estimate, the stadium was filled with more than 5,000 people.

Football players were not the only ones feeling stress about Saturday's game.

"Homecoming week was very stressful for the cheerleaders because we had to perform at numerous events before the actual game," said Kandace Kilgore, a sophomore in her first year with the cheerleading squad. "I was very nervous cheering

in my first ever homecoming football game at Wise, especially because it was one of the biggest games of the year and because there were so many people there."

"I had fun although I was frustrated a couple times at the crowd because they wouldn't cheer with us," Kilgore said. "So many people came up to me after the game and told me we needed to work on our push-ups, which is true if the score of our games are going to continue to be high, but I'm OK with that."

The SGA Homecoming Dance at the Inn at Norton ended the weekend events.

"The dance was amazing. We had such a great turnout," Robinson said.

Robinson said he hoped that additional events might be added to next year's homecoming festivities.

"An idea discussed this year was a golf cart parade around campus which would be really neat, but due to construction, there was very little that could be done this year," he said.

Below: A college alum points out a former classmate in an old college yearbook

Right: Freshman Kendra Miller leads Cavalier fans in a cheer during Saturday's game



Photo by Kate Baldwin



Photo by Jessica Price

College partners with exchange program, student opportunities to study abroad increase

By Simon Henry
Staff Writer

After a year of hard work, the college's Office of International Programs has successfully signed with International Student Exchange Program (ISEP), one of the largest bilateral international exchange programs in the world.

The partnership means that students at the college can choose to attend one of hundreds of colleges around the world for the same tuition they would pay here. Room and board varies from case to case.

Because this is a true exchange program, ISEP will match the college with the needs of a foreign student from somewhere in the ISEP network. This student will attend Wise for the price of their home tuition.

Witold Wolny, director of Interna-

tional Programs, will begin promoting ISEP on campus.

Joanne Kramb, ISEP Member Relations and Marketing Manager, said in an interview last week that the ISEP program differs from other exchange programs in the higher intensity of the independence and immersion of the students who participate.

"It is our goal that exchange students live the life of a local student as much as possible" she said.

Students who embark on an ISEP exchange stand to gain experiences which build self confidence and self reliance, she said.

Information about ISEP and other exchange programs offered through the college can be obtained from Wolny at the Office of International Programs located in the second floor of Darden Hall.



Photo by Kate Baldwin

Left: Band member Ben Harding and others enjoy Thursday's luau.

Below: Sophomore line backer Chad Hooker gets fans into the game on Saturday



Photo by Jessica Price

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Pulitzer-nominated author to address freshmen

By Aprille Guilliams
Staff Writer

Tim O'Brien, author of the book "The Things They Carried," will speak at the college Friday, Oct. 5, in the Fred B. Greear Gymnasium at 1 p.m.

New freshmen on campus are required to read the book as part of the freshman seminar classes.

O'Brien's visit is "part of our Quality Enhancement Plan, which we turned into our accreditation body, to try to engage students in reading, writing, and communication during the first year," said Elizabeth Steele, coordinator of advising, retention, and assessment and the administrator of the freshman seminar program.

"We believe that having the author come and speak helps students to connect to the reading and encourages them to think and develop with the reading in ways that they might not otherwise have had an opportunity to do," she said.

The San Francisco Chronicle has called O'Brien "the best American writer of his genera-

tion." The author of eight books, O'Brien received the National Book Award in Fiction in 1979 for his novel "Going After Cacciato."

"The Things They Carried" was named by the New York Times as one of the ten best books of 1990, received the Chicago Tribune Heartland Award in fiction and was a finalist for both the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Critics Circle Award.

The French edition of "The Things They Carried" received the Prix du Meilleur Livre Etranger, and the title story was selected by John Updike for inclusion in The Best American Short Stories of the Century.

In 2005, "The Things They Carried" was named by the New York Times as one of the best books of the last quarter century.

"Lake of the Woods," published in 1994, was chosen by Time magazine as the best novel of that year. The book also received the James Fenimore

Cooper Prize from the Society of American Historians and was selected as one of the ten best books of the year by the New York Times.

O'Brien's other works include "If I Die in a Combat Zone," "Northern Lights," "Tomcat in Love" and "July, July."

His short fiction, which received the National Magazine Award, has appeared in such journals as The New Yorker, Atlantic, Esquire, and Harper's.

O'Brien holds the Roy F. and Joann Cole Mitte Endowed Chair in Creative Writing at Texas State University.

"We chose this reading for a variety of reasons, including its readability; the questions it asks about honor, truth, and courage; and its quality of writing," Steele said. "It is also the case that we are a nation at war, and this is a book that confronts issues about nations at war."

A book signing will follow the lecture.



Sports Briefs

Golf team finishes in tie for fifth at Montreat

The UVa-Wise golf team tied for a fifth place finish in the Montreat Invitational on Sept. 18.

Over the two day event, the team shot a 619, which tied them with Milligan and Covenant.

For the tournament, the Cavs were led by junior Bryan Bentley, who shot 153 and senior John Blake Graham, who posted a 155.

The team next plays on Oct. 14 in the Coker Invitational in Hartsville, N.C.

Volleyball team signs second and third players for next year

The Lady Cav volleyball team added to its recruiting for next season by signing two Grayson County stars.

Mikaela Anders and Megan Funk both signed on Monday to play volleyball for UVa-Wise.

Anders and Funk were middle hitters and led Grayson County to three straight district and tournament titles. They also led their team to a state quarter-final finish last season.

Anders and Funk are expected to fill roles left by departing seniors Whitney Lane and Natasha Viers.

Cavs cross country to host meet tomorrow

For the first time since 2004, the UVa-Wise cross country team will host a meet—the inaugural UVa-Wise Open tomorrow at Camp Bellie.

This season, the Cavs have been led by two runners—Collin Skeen for the men and Britney Killough for the women. Killough has posted top 10 finishes in both her starts for the Cavs.

The meet will mark the first since the Berea Invitational on September 15.

Scoreboard

Football (1-0)
9/22 - UVa-Wise 63, Georgetown 56

Volleyball (1-0)
9/20 - Union 3, UVa-Wise 0

9/25 - UVa-Wise 3, Bluefield 0

UVa-Wise Standings - Football - (4-0, 1-0 in the MSC)
Tied for second in the Mid-South Conference East Division
Ranked #7 in the NAIA Poll

Volleyball - (11-8, 5-2 in the AAC)
Third in the AAC

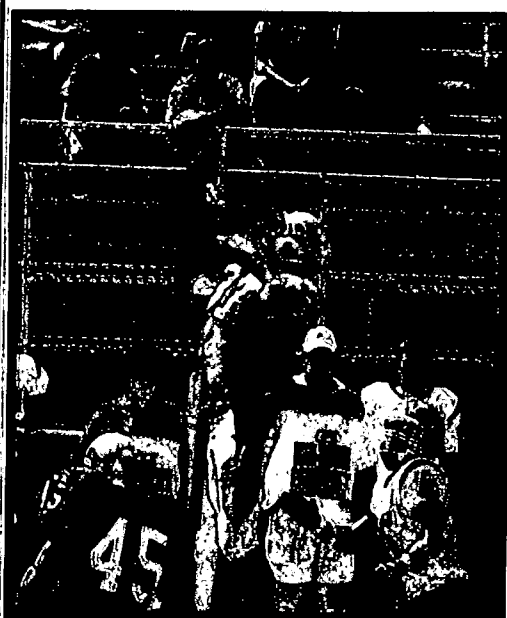


Photo by Jessica Price

Cavs upset rival Georgetown Tigers, first win in eight tries

By Reid Salomonski
Sports Editor

The alumni of UVa-Wise were reminded at last Saturday's homecoming game what makes college football so exciting.

The capacity crowd filled Carl Smith Stadium to witness the Cavs defeat their arch rival, the Georgetown Tigers, in a 63-56 offensive shoot-out that came down to the very last play.

It was the first time the Cavs defeated Georgetown in eight tries, and unquestionably the most important game in school history.

The win earned UVa-Wise the ranking of 7th in the nation, the highest in school history.

With a 56-56 tie late in the fourth quarter, Cavs quarterback Randy Hippeard connected with his new favorite target Jason Lovett for a 31 yard gain putting the Cavs at the 1-yard line with only seconds to go.

Without hesitation, the Cavs handed the ball off to superstar running back Ra'Shad Morgan who scored his fourth touchdown of the day.

The Cavs kicked off to Georgetown with 29 seconds left in the game.

Georgetown took advantage of every second, but their last heave into the end zone came up short causing Cavs players and fans alike to break out in sheer pandemonium.

Head coach Bruce Wasem said he was happy to see his players step up to the tough challenge.

"This is easily the biggest win in my career," Wasem said. "If you want to beat a team like Georgetown, you want a team effort. We showed we belong today."

The Cavs had never scored more than 21 points against Georgetown in their previous seven meetings, but were able to score that many in just the first quarter of this game.

They entered halftime with a two touchdown lead, but were unable to maintain the lead late in the game.

Georgetown's offense was able to exploit the Cav defense to the tune of 231 yards rushing, and five touchdowns. Three came in the second half.

However, the Cavs' defense was able to protect against the pass by intercepting three passes and coming up with three sacks.

Although the Cavs' offense seemed to be on track for most of the game, Morgan who has been used as a workhorse as of late, had a relatively quiet day despite four touchdowns.

Morgan, who rushed for 77 yards on 28

Senior defensive back Bryan Tolbert deflects a pass intended for a Tiger receiver during the Cavs 63-56 victory over Georgetown College on Sept. 22.

Tolbert knocked away two passes, had one interception and recorded six tackles in the game.

The victory marked the first time in school history that the Cavs defeated the Georgetown Tigers.

carries, said he was not discouraged about his mere mortal performance.

"It actually feels really good considering that there isn't so much pressure on me to perform," Morgan said. "I'm glad to know that they can use me however they need me, whether that be to run all day or just set up the passing game."

"Ra'Shad is the best weapon in the NAIA and he doesn't need a lot of rushing yards to make his presence felt," Hippeard said.

Perhaps the scariest moment in the game for Cavs fans had nothing to do with the score.

Late in the fourth quarter, Hippeard suffered a big hit after throwing an incomplete pass to Morgan. Hippeard laid on the ground for several moments, only to get up hopping on one leg.

After Cavs fans held their breath for what seemed like forever, Hippeard returned to the huddle and finished the drive.

"I'm not too hurt," Hippeard said. "In a dog fight like this, you're going to get beaten up," he said. "Stuff like this occurs, but it won't stop me from playing next week."

When asked how it felt to be elevated into the top ten in the nation, Hippeard did not let the rankings change his mentality.

"The rankings just don't matter to us. We still have six games to go. Today was an incredible win, and tonight we are going to celebrate. But tomorrow, we need to start thinking about Bethel."

Hippeard exposed the Georgetown defense by throwing the ball 35 times totaling 387 yards and three touchdowns.

The most impressive performance came from sophomore receiver Jason Lovett who caught four passes for a career high 181 yards and two touchdowns.

"Lovett's been making plays for us all year, and it's great to see him put on a show for the home crowd," Hippeard said.

This marks the second year in a row the Cavs have started 4-0, but they intend on going further than ever before.

The seventh-ranked UVa-Wise football team will travel to McKenzie, Tenn., tomorrow where they will face the No. 5 Bethel College Wildcats.

The meeting will mark the first time the two teams have played since 2004. The Wildcats won that game, 47-39. The two teams are tied, 3-3, in the overall series record.

Cavs should look ahead to NAIA showdown

Cody Dalton
Asst. Sports Editor

As a fan of the college's football team and just football in general, Saturday was by far the best game in my four years here.

Every year, the UVa-Wise football season would roll around and they would start the season out well. Then the Georgetown game was played and I just wanted to close my eyes.

For a team to host the NFL's Cincinnati Bengals training camp, you know they have the resources to compete. For many years they dominated the Mid-South Conference. Saturday was different though.

This year I didn't close my eyes. I watched one heck of a game between the two, as it went back and forth. At the end, though, I had to hold my breath, as six seconds remained on the clock. Those had to be the longest seconds of my life.

Luckily, the Cavs stilled them on two straight plays and took the game. Our goal of making it to the playoffs is closer than ever. But not too fast Cavs fans.

Overconfidence can make or break a team. After such a huge win, each and every player on the team needs to be focused and ready for another tough test in this week's game against No. 5 Bethel (Tenn.).

Despite losing at NCAA Division II Austin Peay University, Bethel has rolled with ease over their other three opponents and outscored them, 133-59.

The Wildcats are led by the fourth-best rushing game in NAIA, averaging 266 yards per game. Seniors Adrain Smith and Terrance Bell lead the rushing attack and have combined for 918 yards and 14 touchdowns.

Bethel also has great protection for their quarterback. They are second in NAIA in sacks allowed. Getting pressure to their quarterback, Ronnie Jankovich, should be extremely difficult for the Cavs 3-5 defense.

So guys, please don't get too overconfident. We got a great win against Georgetown on Saturday, but we have huge tasks down the road and it starts with Bethel.

I say this not in doubt, but in faith that you all can win the Mid-South Conference East Division championship and make it to the playoffs. I know that this team is senior laden and I have faith that they will settle down the team and focus on the next task.

Finally, I have faith in this coaching staff and their ability to evaluate their competition and come up with a game plan.

So "fellas," bring us a victory home this Saturday and let's get even closer to the East Division championship and a playoff position.

susan G. komen
FOR THE CURE

The University of Virginia's College at Wise/Lady Cavalier Volleyball Team Hosts "Dig for a Cure" at Greear Gym, Oct. 10 8:30 p.m.

Run for the Record!!

Running back Ra'Shad Morgan is nearing the career rushing yards record of former Cavalier Greg Thomas & quarterback Randy Hippeard is on target to break former quarterback David Nara's career passing record

We will be tracking their progress each week.

Morgan:
Record: 4,692 yds - 1,257 yds to go

Hippeard:
Record: 6,517 yds - 543 yds to go

Players of the Week

Caught 4 passes for 181 yards and 2 touchdowns against Georgetown on September 22

Threw one pass for 45 yards and a touchdown in the game.



Jason Lovett
Football - Sophomore



Britney Lawson
Volleyball - Junior

Posted her 1,000 career digs against Bluefield College

Led Lady Cavs over Bluefield in their game at home

