

THE HIGHLAND CAVALIER

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THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA COLLEGE AT WISE

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Deadline extended for RA Applications

By Julie Kaye Shortt
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The application deadline for resident advisors has been extended until Monday, Feb. 11.

Although plenty of applications were received, the Residence Life department wanted to give some people more time to apply that had originally backed out due to time constraints, said Jason Lewkowicz, the director of Residence Life at UVA-Wise.

"We decided to extend the application deadline because the process itself is rolling and the interviews do not conclude until the end of next week," Lewkowicz said.

All applications are to be dropped off at the Student Affairs office in the lower level of Cantrell and are due by 5 p.m. on Monday.

For more information about how to earn a position as a resident advisor go to www.uvawise.edu/residence_life.

Students share experiences from study abroad trip to Ecuador

By Allie Robinson
Staff Writer
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Over winter break, while many UVA-Wise students were sleeping late, hanging out with old friends, and bringing in the new year with style, eight students, along with Spanish professor Esteban Ponce, were honing their Spanish skills and learning about a different culture in Ecuador.

"At the beginning, I didn't want to go," said sophomore Marshall Bradley, during the presentation the group gave last Thursday in the Chapel of All Faiths. "And I think I had the most fun out of the group!"

The eight students who participated in the trip were Bradley, Nickie Fones, Joe Gallimore, Bruce Blansett, Jaime Herman, Joy Bryant, Allyson Craft and Courtney Hammond.

Members of the group agreed that each traveler had a good time, including Ponce.

"I really enjoyed the trip," Ponce said. "It was most interesting to me to see their [the students'] positive reactions. I'd been to all the places before, but it was interesting to see them from the students' eyes."

Blansett said the most exciting place he visited was "El Pailon del Diablo," or the Devil's Cauldron.

"It's an enormous waterfall beside which you could stand and feel the mist on your face," Ponce said in an email. "It was magnificent."

see Ecuador, page 2



Photo provided by Nickie Fones

Nickie Fones, Bruce Blansett, Joe Gallimore, Jaime Herman, Joy Bryant, Allyson Craft, Courtney Hammond, Marshall Bradley and Esteban Ponce stand in front of Tungurahua, an active volcano in Ecuador.

Open-Mic Night



Photo by Kate Baldwin

Junior Jacob Ritchie sings a song during the Open-Mic night hosted by the Student Activities Board in the Atrium of the Slomp Student Center on Feb. 4.

Environmentalists try to prevent power plant construction

By Simon Henry
Staff Writer
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As Wise County and Dominion Power eagerly anticipate the permits needed for the proposed \$1.8 billion Virginia Hybrid Energy Center in nearby Virginia City, local environmentalists cling to their last hopes of blocking what they consider an economic and environmental injustice to the community.

The group consists of members of the UVA-Wise faculty and staff, local teachers and other

concerned citizens.

"This is not about how much money we will get, it's about the fact that we will all be walking around coughing and having higher cancer rates," said Randy Gilmer, the college's director of media services and a member of the environmental group. "UVA-Wise falls within 15 miles of the plant, this thing is literally being built in our back yard."

Wise County administrator Skip Skinner said he is "not aware of such a group, but it does not surprise me."

"We must rely on our regulators who establish Energy, page 2

Student Development creates Student Advisory Board

By Aaron Collier
Feature Editor
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The Center for Student Development has created a Student Advisory Board this semester to help aid in reaching the needs of the modern day college student.

The board will consist of student volunteers who will help Student Development in both creating and promoting activities on campus.

Assistant Director of Student Development Kathy Elkins said the idea for the board came last year, but because of a lack of student participation

and poor promotion it never came to be.

Elkins said the failure of correct and effective marketing to the campus showed her that a student-led board was needed now more than ever.

"We kind of had low interest from students and part of that we felt like, again, we didn't market it the right way to the students," Elkins said. "We decided this year that we were going to push forward again."

Elkins said when trying to come up with a plan on how to get students to participate in Student Development programs she decided to go right to the source - the students.

"We thought who better to help us to make

see SAB, page 4

INSIDE



THE LADY CAVS TRIED TO END THEIR SIX GAME LOSING STREAK LAST WEDNESDAY AGAINST KING COLLEGE. SEE THE STORY ON PAGE 6.



SPORTS EDITOR REID SALOMONSKY AND LAYOUT EDITOR AUTUMN LAUZON DISCUSS THE SUPER BOWL IN THE NEW "HE SAID, SHE SAID" COLUMN ON PAGE 3.

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Student and faculty form Environmental Society

By Allie Robinson
Staff Writer
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Nearly three decades after the first Earth Day was celebrated on campus, students and faculty once again felt the nudge of environmental responsibility and decided to respond.

The UVA-Wise Environmental Society held its inaugural meeting on Jan. 30 with sociology professor Patrick Withen and a group of about 20 students and faculty.

The group's goal is to encourage the college to become more "green," a buzzword that means environmentally friendly.

"We want to start having weekly meetings and become a real organization," Withen said at the start of the meeting.

The new organization even went so far as to start a Facebook group called "UVA-Wise Environmental Society." Students are encouraged to check upcoming dates and club activities.

Some of the students attending the meeting were freshmen from teaching fellow Jessica Williams' seminar class.

She said a few of her students wanted to go, so she adopted the cause as her class's service project.

Self-proclaimed philosopher and environmental ethics professor David Rouse also attended the meeting. He said he hopes the club will raise awareness of environmental crises among students.

"We need to increase awareness through the college community and hopefully get the college to actually act on environmental concerns," Rouse said. "Our use of power on this campus is excessive, both in terms of electricity and heating."

Rouse said he has a mental list of all the things he believes the college should implement in order to become more environmentally friendly.

"We need to, if possible, quit paving like we are now," he said. "All future paving should be permeable. We should never construct another roof on this campus that isn't green, and the cafeteria should be encouraged to buy locally and seasonally."

"We should have been on that bandwagon long ago."

Williams said she also believes there are changes the college can make, including some dealing with the computer labs.

"Since I've been faculty here, the computers in the lab outside my office [the Language Lab in Zehner 110] have been turned on all the time," she said. "Our use of heat and air conditioning in the buildings is wasting a lot of electricity and money, especially since there currently is a budget crunch statewide."

Williams said some changes have been made this year to make the college more "green"—including the purchase of copy paper that is at least partially recycled.

Williams said she thinks this is a good first step and that she is excited about what changes can continue to be made.

"My hope would be to get students to petition the administration to adopt greener practices on campus," she said. "We all need to take a second look at the energy use on campus."

UVA-Wise is not the first school to be struggling to integrate an environmental plan. Nearly 500 colleges and universities of all sizes nationwide are participating in the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment.

Presidents and chancellors of the member schools sign a commitment to adopt a set of environmentally-friendly guidelines to be implemented. The program offers step-by-step instructions, and the Environmental Society plans to use these ideas around campus.

Energy: Wise County awaits permits to begin building plant

Continued from page 1

lish rules for protecting our health and environment and this plant falls well within those guidelines," he said. "There are people who think that one molecule of mercury is too much; we can never find something that is going to satisfy every single person."

"Half of America's energy production comes from coal, and coal will continue to be a viable source of energy in the future," Skinner said.

Skinner said construction permits are all that are needed from the State Corporation Commission for the project to move forward.

In a web-based video interview found on Dominion's website, Skinner said "We are extremely happy that Dominion has chosen Wise County, and we've chosen Dominion because this project wouldn't be coming to Wise County unless we had worked with Dominion officials and basically asked for it."

Though traffic patterns on alternate route 58 have been affected by a large land-moving project at the Virginia City site, Skinner denies that official site preparation has begun.

"The construction at Virginia City is simply the moving of a road [that is] necessary for possible site preparation; maybe there is some confusion over that equipment."

There are vastly different views on the environmental impact of the proposed plant among Skinner, the protestors and Dominion.

Dominion said their proposed plant falls below half of the permitted annual emissions allowed for such power plants.

Skinner emphasized that the plant will use nine times less water thereby "protecting the Clinch River." Other "clean coal" burning practices created by Dominion include circulating fluid bed technology, air cooled con-

denser technology and carbon capture technology.

In contrast, information provided by the environmentalists suggests that the plant will produce 5.3 million tons of carbon dioxide annually as well as 12,000 tons of carbon monoxide, nitrous oxide and sulfur dioxide.

For some Wise County residents the environmental impact is not as important as the promises of economic benefit offered by Dominion.

According to the Dominion website, a Virginia Tech study predicts that the project will bring 400 million dollars annually to Wise County from jobs created in the coal industry, construction of the plant itself and tax revenues.

A future tax revenue assessment provided by the county administrator suggests that Wise County will collect nearly \$5 million annually from the plant operation.

That something is the diversity of the candidates. I know I'm not the first one to mention this, but it is worth repeating.

Just four years ago, I never would have imagined that 2008 would see a woman, an African American, a Mormon, a Baptist minister and a former Libertarian in the running for their party's nomination for the presidency.

I hate to use the word "progress," but it appears that is exactly what it is.

Of course, our nation is not at a point where these factions cease to be an issue in the public's eyes. The media, for instance, loves to stir up a little controversy. But it safe to say we've come quite a ways.

The big issue is change—especially for the Democrats. And, to borrow a phrase from Stephen Colbert, what better way to "bust a dollar" (OK, I thought it was funny), than to revolutionize our perception of who a presidential candidate can be.

Staff meetings are held Fridays outside the Honor Court room at 1 p.m. and are open to ANYONE who wants to be involved with the paper.

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OPINION

An Election to Remember

By Eric Vanover
Opinion Editor
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Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, our nation has election fever!

Need proof? On Tuesday, "Super Tuesday" that is, millions of voters went to the polls to vote in the presidential primaries to decide which party's candidates will face-off in this year's presidential election.

The day's excitement wasn't felt just in far off states like California and New York. It could be seen and heard even as close as Sullivan County, Tenn., just over the mountain, as we like to say around here.

The Kingsport Times reported Wednesday that "more than 24,000 voters cast ballots" in the primary—nearly three times as many voters as had participated in the previous two primaries. It would appear that our good friends in Tennessee were able to spare a few minutes from protecting our borders to participate in our beloved democratic system. (Don't worry. Bob Corker was busy working on that fence.)

I have to admit that I felt a little jealous—Virginians didn't get to be a part of the excitement. But we'll get our chance.

This year, though, it's not just about voter turnout. Don't get me wrong, realizing that people finally care about the election is a great feeling, but there is something else about the race to the White House that is simply astounding.

That something is the diversity of the candidates. I know I'm not the first one to mention this, but it is worth repeating.

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Environment Key to Election

By Olga Hayes

What do you want? A new career? A boy-friend? A new place to live? A job you love that fits your life? Or maybe the ability to dream your future and be able to make it possible?

We all have those kinds of dreams all too often—no matter our age, our religion, our income, our nationality, or our politics.

In a world divided, the "ours" always seems to be, due to different ways of thinking, class, opportunities and backgrounds. We need to stray away from disagreements and bring back the best ideas of what our lives in this country can be if we all give just a little. All of us know that the load gets lighter if everybody pitches in.

This message is not only for women—who are now more involved in politics, domestic issues, and the economic security of the American families—but for all the people of our college, our state and our country. We need to learn more and think more about our prospective political candidates, those leaders who could change our realities and shift all of our dreams with the decisions they may make.

We all need to sit down and think about what we want and what would benefit not only us in the present, but also the ones around us in the future. We can make compromises in the things that

matter the most—affordable health care, day-care facilities for working parents, a decrease in the cost of living, increased investments in educational programs for schools, and in my own personal case, environmental policies that help our planet and slow down the damage we all cause daily.

As a mother of two young children, I am concerned for their future and the future of their peers. The United States is a developed nation, a superpower, and a role model for many other nations both large and small. We need to take leadership in the environmental causes—litter control; recycling aluminum, plastic and electronic waste; energy conservation, and gas economizing.

My family tries to do its part. We recycle cardboard, paper, plastic and aluminum. We have switched out our regular light bulbs for the long lasting energy saving ones. I use public transportation to come to school as much as possible.

Still, I feel helpless when I look around and see that my friends, neighbors and fellow students don't bother to recycle plastic bottles and bags from their lunches in Papa Joes, throw aluminum cans in the trash, use air conditioning with open windows, and drive big gas-guzzling SUVs to go those few feet from their garage to their mailboxes at the edge of the street.

When I was little my dad was a Giants fan, and I refused to even tolerate them. So I had to laugh when I found myself desperately cheering for the Giants to end the Patriots' undefeated season last weekend in the biggest game of the year. I think my dad was proud.

My friend and I were mostly excited about all the food we were fixing and the commercials that we, unfortunately, expected to amaze us. The only ones that even stand out to me now were the Tide Bleach Pen (with the stain that made random noises whenever the person spoke) and the Bridgestone commercial (with the screaming squirrel).

I missed the "best" Bud Light ad because I was attending to the oven (which we constantly had on from 3 to 9 p.m.). I was disappointed in how boring the first half

What sport would you like to see the college officially adopt?



Justin Sorenson
Senior
Business Administration

"Rugby. That is just a bad-ass sport."



Selinda Stanley
Junior
Administrative of Justice

"Soccer. You see them play in the field and they need a team I think."



Marvin White
Sophomore
Administrative of Justice

"Water Polo. It's a good sport and I like it."

The answer to such waste is individual commitment.

Even though it is frustrating for me to sweat the small stuff and to get out of my comfort zone to help a little, I am willing to do it for the Earth and to teach my children and fellow classmates the importance of doing it.

We need to get educated in these matters and demand actions from our leaders and what better time to start than election time?

Olga Hayes is a senior spanish major

He Said, She Said: The Super Bowl



By Reid Salomonsky

Super Bowl Sunday.

It's become the country's favorite non-religious holiday—move over Thanksgiving.

And today I'm bring you the male perspective on the biggest football game of the year.

Several aspects of the event (not just the game) must have had men around the world both cheering and jeering.

First, the Fox Network "treated" fans this year to the pairing of the always insightful Troy Aikman with the monotone sports guru Joe Buck. Talk about some lackluster commentary. Mr. Buck, it was dreadful.

The most visually upsetting and irrelevant segment of the broadcast came during the pre-game festivities.

Fox used a barrage of football stars from past and present to recite the "Declaration of Independence" in its entirety. This was an utterly useless way to pull in some patriotism.

Aside from the game, the second biggest attraction to every Super Bowl broadcast has to be the outlandish commercials. And this year they did nothing short of disappointing.

Two exceptions, however, were a Diet Pepsi Max ad (which reminded us all of our favorite "Night at the Roxbury" moment) and a Doritos spot (where a man in a mouse costume attacks and abuses a man in a suit). The ads must have been directed toward a male demographic.

And, they hit the bull's-eye. Anyone who missed the first three quarters of the game missed a Diet Pepsi

Max commercial and nothing else.

A game that was supposed to feature a pair of offensive juggernauts, did not. The Patriots took just a 7-3 lead into the fourth quarter. The first three quarters were boring as hell.

However, the excitement of the unpredictable Eli Manning marching his team down the field left fans on the edge of their seats for the remaining 11 minutes of the game.

It wasn't until the 2:42 mark that fans left their seats completely, as the Pats finally came back with a touchdown pass and a 14-10 lead.

It would not be enough. With just 35 seconds to go, Manning lobbed a pass to a wide open Plaxico Burress in the end zone to take a 17-14 lead and the win.

Despite poor commentary and a dreadful pre-game, the excitement of the fourth quarter was able to make this Super Bowl a must see for any guy.



By Autumn Lauzon

From a female perspective, I am so glad the Super Bowl occurs on just one day of the year.

Not because I don't like football (because I do, a lot), but because of the "food hangover" I always have on the next day.

For weeks I had anticipated the day when I could throw away all my cares about carbs and calories, and, as I said to my friend, "Put down some food."

And indeed, I did. The football game was amazing, but the food...even better.

However, I won't bore you with my horrible Super Bowl menu.

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The *Highland Cavalier* is the official student newspaper of The University of Virginia's College at Wise. The newspaper is published 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. Also, the opinions expressed on the Opinion Page are those of the individual writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of newspaper editors and staff members.

The *Highland Cavalier* welcomes all contributions, which can be delivered to the Editor-in-Chief Daniel Robinson 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 (darr@uvawise.edu).

Letters to the editor can also be e-mailed to Opinion Editor Eric Vanover (etv3n@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.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ecuador: Spanish students travel to Ecuador for credit

Continued from page 1

The students visited the country from Dec. 28 to Jan. 14, and stayed in four different areas within the country. They visited local zoos, an orchid reserve, bird sanctuaries and the equator, among others.

The group stayed in a small town near the volcano Tungurahua and got to see it erupt. The volcano is active but not explosive; it emits smoke and ashes and the red-hot glow is visible at night, Ponce said.

Another culturally different aspect was the New Year's Eve celebration the students attended in Quito. Traditionally the city is filled with people who set up booths, men who dress as widows (because the old year is dead) and beg for money and mannequins representing the old year, which are burned at midnight.

Bryant said the New Year's celebration was her favorite part of the trip.

"They do so many things so differently; learning about their culture allowed me to learn about others in relation to myself," she said. "But I couldn't pick just one part of the celebration that I enjoyed the most."

Quito has a population of about two million, and many more people from around the country flocked to the party.

"Perhaps for some of them, at the beginning it was a little much," Ponce said. "There seemed to be rivers of people, and it was a momentary cultural shock, I think. The city is big enough to feel crowded, especially after living in Southwest Virginia."

In addition to sight-seeing, Ponce taught Spanish classes, and students were given assignments, readings and tests. The classes were held in a variety of places: in museums, in the van and at historical monuments. Stu-

dents earned three Spanish credits and two cultural credits for going on the trip.

"Since we were in the cultural epicenter of our studies (in Quito and Ecuador in general), the trip was a constant learning experience," Blansett said.

Blansett said although the language barrier was a challenge at first, he felt that by the end of the trip, the group had adapted well.

"We were even able to walk across the street like true Ecuadorians, and that's saying something considering that traffic laws are mere guidelines," he said. "Our previous method of crossing entailed wide-eyed sprinting while Professor Ponce's wife held traffic at bay."

Ponce said that by the end of the trip, the students really were able to use proper Spanish, and had gotten used to the cultural differences.

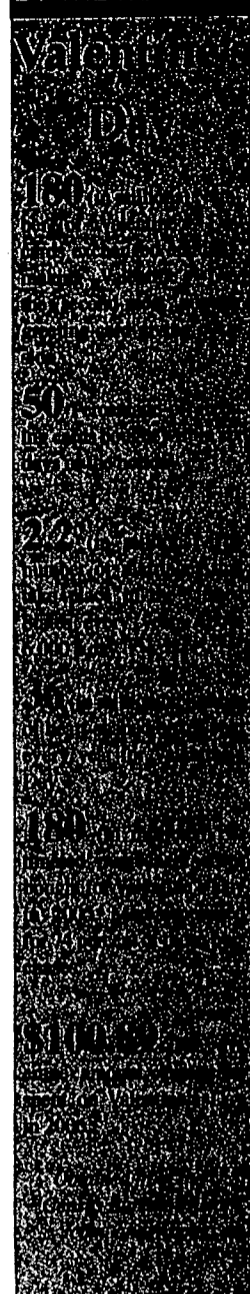
"For all of them, it was not just a good travelling experience, but they really showed themselves that they are able to speak Spanish fluently," he said. "It was good to see, and reflects well on what we are doing here in our Spanish classes."

Both Blansett and Bryant said they would recommend travel and study abroad to other students.

"I would definitely suggest it," Bryant said. Students should be able to learn and experience a culture they might not be familiar with, she said.

"I had an extraordinary time while still learning and broadening my mind," Blansett said. "It's odd how two-and-a-half weeks can really change your perspective. I personally couldn't think of time better spent."

BY THE NUMBERS



College hosts intramural racquetball tournament



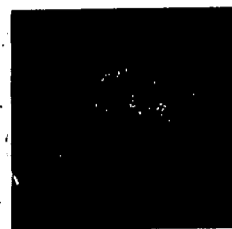
Photo by Kate Baldwin

Above: Lena Patel and Danell Helmrich warm-up for the Intramural Racquetball tournament on Monday, Feb. 4 in the Stemp Student Center.

Right: Lynne Juhan, wife of Dr. Gary Juhan, plays hard during the singles racquetball tourney. Bobbi Miharakis won the women's tournament while Gary Juhan won the men's side.



5 Questions With....



David Volk
Assistant Professor of Music

1. If your house was on fire, what would be one thing (non-living), that you would save?
My laptop

2. What one person has had the most inspiration on your life?
My son Reese; he's autistic, a surviving twin born 16 weeks prematurely, spent the first four months of his life in Neonatal Intensive Care, and is quite simply an amazing kid.

3. What's the last book you read?
A Beethoven biography by Edmund Morris

4. What did you want to be when you were a kid?
An astronaut

5. Who would you rather be: Bart Simpson or William Shakespeare?
Bart Simpson

Girls & Sports

By Justin Borus & Andrew Feinstein



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SAB: Student Advisory Board "essential in helping" students

Continued from page 1

sure we're reaching the students the right way than other students," Elkins said. "We decided to create this advisory board and basically they're advising us on ideas for ways to get creative with our programming."

Elkins said the board is going to be essential in helping Student Development meet the needs of students. She said making sure students know how to deal with problems that occur during their college life is something she feels the board will help the college do more effectively.

"This board is going to help us do a better job at edu-

cating our students," Elkins said. "They're going to help us come up with ideas for the future and more programs and more things that we can implement in addition to what we are already doing."

The board, which already consists of nine student members, is open to all students both on campus and off. Elkins said the inclusion of all classes would help Student Development be more effective.

"It's really good to get a perspective that our programs are just not geared towards seniors," Elkins said. "We want to reach out to all students. We need all students to

give input."

Elkins said in the end, the board will give students a chance to learn how to be a leader and help the Student Development Center make the campus experience better than ever.

"I think it's a great opportunity for students to develop leadership and to learn more about what we do in our offices," Elkins said. "I just think that it's a great thing."

For more information on the Student Advisory Board contact Kathy Elkins in the Center for Student Development.

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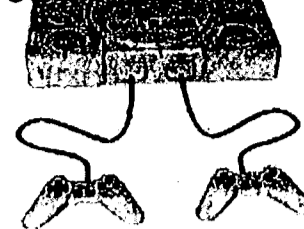
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If you would like to place an ad, news story, or event in The Highland Cavalier, contact Editor-in-Chief Daniel Robinson at dsr8a@uvawise.edu.

VIDEO GAMES



DS follow-up to "Final Fantasy XII" worth a look

By Daniel Robinson
Editor-in-Chief
dsr8a@uvawise.edu

After Square Enix released its heavily anticipated "Final Fantasy XII" in late 2006, many fans were left craving another trip into the world of Ivalice. Now the legendary company has created a new adventure for those fans in "Final Fantasy XII: Revenant Wings" for the Nintendo DS.

The game's story takes place one year after the end of the original game and once again centers around Vaan and his quest to become a sky pirate.

After sneaking aboard an unknown airship, Vaan and his friends make their way to the legendary floating continent of Lemures. They arrive to find that other sky pirates have already raided much of the continent. Vaan and the gang decide to stop the sky pirates from ravaging the land and defend its residents. However, like most "Final Fantasy" games, there is almost always a larger threat looming in the background.

To begin, the game play is very entertaining. Almost all movement and selecting of actions is done using the stylus and it is actually harder to use the regular buttons during game play. This did take me a little while to get used to since I am a traditionalist and like to use the buttons as much as possible. After a little practice, however, it should become second nature as you progress through the game.

The base of operations is of course the airship. The crew can buy items, weapons and even forge new weapons and armor with materials found on the battlefield. Like its predecessor, "Revenant Wings" has a "notice board" in which the player can take side missions at their own leisure for the chance to get new items and get more info on the main storyline.

The battle system is one of the best parts of the game. All of the battles are real-time and consist of moving units to certain enemies and letting them attack or cast magic. Each unit on the battlefield has a different characteristic consisting of either flying, melee or ranged.

The game uses a simple paper, rock, scissors format in battle to determine how a fight between two units will go. For example, a flying unit will do better against a melee unit and a melee will do better against a ranged unit, and so on. Many battles focus on your ability to strategize and use certain units against certain enemies.

Also returning from the original game is the gambit system. Unlike its predecessor, this system is much simpler this time around and only allows for one gambit to be set per character.

Each member of the party (usually five members) can bring a maximum of two Espers with them into battle. The Espers are special creatures that you call on during battle to assist you. Using special crystals, you can unlock different levels of Espers ranging from level I to level III. Each Esper also has different characteristics and elements that lend to various strengths and weaknesses on the battlefield. Many of the series' regulars make appearances as Espers such as Ifrit, Ramuh, Shiva and Siren.



Fans of the first game will be happy to know that all of the original main characters make appearances in this game as well as some rather obscure minor characters that you might have trouble remembering. However, the obscurity doesn't detract from the overall game experience.

While the game is fun, it is meant to appeal to a younger audience. For this reason, much of the dialogue is very childish and repetitive. Almost every battle ends with a happy exchange between your party that can make you want to ram your head into a wall. If you can forgive these short instances, you should be fine.

Another aspect that bothered me about this game was the in-game graphics. Many of the character sprites are taken directly from "Final Fantasy Tactics Advance," previously released on the Game Boy Advance. I often felt like I was playing that game instead of this one on a far superior system.

The game does redeem itself in the graphics department with its absolutely amazing cut scenes. I could not believe how Square Enix managed to transfer PS2 quality scenes on to the DS. They even do a great job of using both screens, showing a top and bottom half on the screens or showing a completely different angle on both. You may be tempted to play through the scene again just so you can watch the opposite screen.

"Final Fantasy XII: Revenant Wings" is one of the best RPG's available for the DS and is a must buy for any fan of the series.

Daniel's Rating: 3 "Swords" out of 5



Kecev: "Three-point assassin" stuns opposing teams

Continued from page 6

a college basketball player, Kecev has had his share of obstacles.

"My biggest adversity in America was coming back from two knee surgeries," Kecev said.

He overcame his injury this season to surface as the starting shooting guard.

Kecev is averaging 9.5

points per game, the third best on the team, and also provides the team with a red hot 41.3 percent from three-point range.

On the court, Kecev strikes fear into opposing teams and his teammates agree.

"Pance provides vision and the ability to shoot

the ball, and boy he likes to shoot," said center Justin Sorrenson.

Off the court Kecev seems to be a different kind of person.

"Pance is a good-hearted, intelligent man who is really down-to-earth," said sophomore Jarrel Walton.



Iced Earth serves up a great old school metal experience

By Justin Jurek
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In an age where the heavy metal genre has endured both resurgence and a watering down from bands relying on the same syncretized rhythms, screaming and grunting vocals and lyrics dealing with issues that usually disappear come adulthood—a comforting dose of classic metal is hard to come by.

Most often, in order to wet their appetite for good, traditional heavy metal, fans have to dig deep into their record collections and bring out old records from such giants as Judas Priest, Iron Maiden and Black Sabbath. Fortunately for us, Tampa, Florida's Iced Earth has delivered an album that gives metal heads a taste of the old on a 2007 album with their latest release, "Framing Armageddon: Something Wicked Part I."

Like many of Iced Earth's recent releases, such as 2001's "Horror Show" and 2006's "The Glorious Burden," Framing Armageddon is a concept album. This time, the concept is about the end of the world, brought about by a race called the Setians as revenge for humankind's conquest of their world we now call Earth.

The album is part of a two-disc set dealing with these events; in the case of the first part, covering the devastation of Earth, the Setian's manipulation of history and their preparations for the liberator who will destroy the humans.

Musically, the album is not much different than their other releases, relying on a mix of classic American power metal (in the

vein of Manowar) and thrash metal, to create a loud, bombastic sound that goes well with the theme. The music itself is written nicely, with rhythm guitarist Jon Schaffer's crushing riffs melding nicely with the lead guitarist Troy Seale. Drummer Brent Smedley's double-bass also complements the rhythm nicely.

The major weak point on the album is vocals. The band's recent releases lost some of their power with the departure of lead vocalist Matt Barlow, to be replaced with Tim "Ripper" Owens of Judas Priest fame. Owens' vocals are well-executed, but lack the power and emotion that made Barlow such a fit with Iced Earth.

Overall, "Framing Armageddon" is a powerful dose of the old days of heavy metal, certain to attract both the old fans and the new generation of metal lovers eager for something new.

Justin's Rating: 5 "Metal Horns" out of 5



"Family Guy: Blue Harvest" a great spoof of "Star Wars" saga

By Cody Dalton
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From the people who brought you "Family Guy," comes an epic installment of the show's first episode of the sixth season entitled "Family Guy: Blue Harvest."

The DVD chronicles the first "Star Wars" movie, "A New Hope," while combining the humor and characters from the "Family Guy" cartoons.

The movie begins with a blackout at the Griffin household. Since the power is out, Peter Griffin wants to tell his family the story of "Star Wars." Peter's story begins the same way as the original "New Hope." Princess Leia's (Lois Griffin) ship is overtaken by the forces of the Empire and Darth Vader (Stewie Griffin).

Before she is captured, Leia leaves a message with R2-D2 (Cleveland Brown), who leaves with C-3PO (Glenn Quagmire) in an escape pod to the planet, Tatooine. The two droids travel through the deserts of Tatooine before running into Luke Skywalker (Chris Griffin). Upon discovering the message contained within R2-D2, Luke travels to find his missing R2 unit and talk to Obi-Wan Kenobi (Mr. Herbert).

With the help of Han Solo (Peter Griffin) and Chewbacca (Brian Griffin), Luke travels to the dreaded Death Star in search of Leia and, just like the original film, ultimately try to save her.

After the group leaves the Death Star, they join the Rebellion and try to defeat the mighty Darth Vader and his Death Star. As Peter's story ends, the power comes back on

and the episode ends with a few moments of dialogue.

Some of the features on the DVD include an interview between "Family Guy" creator Seth McFarlane and "Star Wars" creator George Lucas. There is also the "Making of Blue Harvest" segment, a complete story board version of the movie, and two promos for the Blue Harvest episode on TV.

If you're trying to decide whether to buy or rent "Blue Harvest," there is a small incentive if you purchase the movie. The DVD comes with a bonus digital copy, which can be downloaded to your computer or your video iPod.

This movie is a must see as it brings a new, humorous twist to the first installment of the "Star Wars" franchise.

For fans of "Family Guy," the "Star Wars" saga, or just comedy in general, "Blue Harvest" is worth a rent and if you like it enough, a must own.

Cody's Rating: 5 "Stewies" out of 5



Sports Briefs

Cavs sign two Stonewall Jackson products

The Lady Cavs basketball team added two Stonewall Jackson players to next year's recruiting class.

Mashonna Hughes and Amber Carter have both signed on to play for UVa-Wise next season.

The two are leading the Generals to a perfect record so far this season (19-0) and have them ranked second in the state in the AAA ranks.

Soles scores 23 in second half, as Cavs beat VI

Senior Jared Soles scored 23 of his 28 points in the second half, as the Cavs basketball team edged Virginia Intermont, 77-75, on Feb. 2.

The Cobras had a fast-paced first half, holding the Cavs to just 35 points and rolling out a 51-35 lead.

The Cavs slowly made their way back into the game. A '9-3' run pulled them to within three points, 68-65.

The Cavs trailed until Seth Gibson hit a three-pointer to take the lead. The Cavs held a 75-73 lead, until the Cobras would tie the game with two free throws.

The play of the game would come from Soles, who made a jump shot with nine seconds remaining. The Cobras were unable to score and the Cavs were victorious.

The Cavs outscored the Cobras 42-24 in the second half. The win gave the Cavs their 11th on the year and sixth in the conference.

Lady Cavs fall to Virginia Intermont

The Lady Cavs stayed close in the first period, but a big second half by Virginia Intermont helped them pick up the 92-60 win at home on Saturday.

Freshman Meghan Rutherford scored 16 points for the Lady Cavs, while Adrienne Womack added 14.

When the Lady Cavs entered the locker room at half time they led 42-33.

However, the Cobras finished the game with a 50-27 second half effort and helped capture the victory.

The loss sends the Cavs to 4-20 on the season and 2-10 in conference play, while the Cobras are now 7-16 overall and 4-8 in the AAC

Lady Cavs fall to King, look for win against TW

The Lady Cavs basketball team lost their seventh game in a row on Wednesday, Feb. 6 in a 42-80 rout by King College.

King is currently tied for third in the AAC with a 10-3 record.

Notable Cav performers included freshman Adrienne Womack (15 points), junior Kim Norris (eight points), and freshman Meghan Rutherford (seven rebounds).

Five Lady Tornadoes ended the game with points in the double-digits.

Following the loss, the team is 4-21 overall and 2-11 in the AAC.

The Cavs next game will be tomorrow against Tenn-Wesleyan. Tip-off is at 2 p.m.



Photo by Jessica Price
Freshman Shandi Edwards dribbles during the Cavs' 80-57 loss to Alice Lloyd on Jan. 29. Edwards finished the game with eight points.

Kecev adapts, shines on basketball court

By Mike Mebrahtu
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Pance Kecev is known by opposing teams as the three-point assassin.

The student body also knows Kecev as the starting shooting guard for the Wise basketball team.

What people do not know is he grew up in a different environment than most UVa-Wise students.

Kecev was born in Strumica, Macedonia

far from the peaceful setting of Wise.

In Strumica, he honed his skills in the art of three point shooting. After years of training he fought his way through match after match to earn a spot on the Macedonia National team. He proved successful in his home country, but was tested in his move to the United States.

Through an exchange student program, Kecev came to America in 2006. He was brought into a generous host family. He attended Twin Springs High School and instantly had an impact. As the point guard, Kecev carried his team to the state semi-finals.

Kecev's ability to adapt to his new environment so quickly can be credited to his family and the very sport he adores.

"Playing basketball and having a great family made my transition from Macedonia to America a lot faster and easier than expected," Kecev said.

Even though he is living his dream to be

see Kecev, page 5

Cavs baseball season opens in Georgia

By Shannon Chapell
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The Cavs baseball team opens its season tonight in Franklin Springs, Ga. against the Emmanuel College Lions.

The two teams will play a double header on Saturday.

The Lions opened their season against Bluefield College on Feb. 4, losing two of

the three games.

"Going into the game, we just need to be focused and play like a team," said junior second baseman Edwin Narvaez.

"In order to win, we have to execute in all facets of the game, especially on the mound and on defense," said senior pitcher Matt Begley.

Last season the Cavs went 2-1 against the Lions.

"The best thing about

playing today is just getting on the field and letting the guys do their thing," said assistant coach Josh Scarborough.

"Our players have worked extremely hard since the first fall practice in August, and they are anxious to get out there and compete."

The Cavs next travel to Berry College on Feb. 16th and 17th.

View From the Cheap Seats

Cavs Sports Expanding

I thought that watching the Giants upset the Patriots last Sunday was the first sign of the apocalypse.

Then a few days later, I received a little piece of information that led me to believe that it was either the second sign, or that this college is finally modernizing.

After several months of moaning, complaining and down right loathing, it appears as if UVa-Wise is finally branching out from the ordinary brand of college athletics our parents grew up with.

While I am more than content with the athletic opportunities here, the idea that we could possibly expand to more interesting and unique sporting events is one of the best ideas the department has ever had.

One of the pioneers of this new movement to the college is sophomore Brad Davis, who is attempting to start a rugby team on campus.

"We are dying to have a practice game with some other students on campus," Davis said.

"The club is open to anyone who wants to play and is interesting in learning," he said.

Davis has also expressed interest in creating a crew team on campus, though he admitted it might be difficult to get going.

"We've made a call to UVA [Charlottesville] to get equipment in, but they are yet to get back to us," Davis said.

There are also new ideas being proposed for the college's women athletes.

A field hockey club is currently in the works and has the campus excited about the opportunity to take UVa-Wise women's sports to the next level.

Unfortunately, even if these clubs prevail, none of these sports are NAIA participating activities. But that should not stop anyone from wanting to try something new.

However, one of the already established Cavs' sports teams has taken a step toward the 21st century.

On March 26, the Cavs baseball team will hold its first home night game in team history, a feat that took the Chicago Cubs more than 100 years to do.

While this school may be secluded and maintain a small town atmosphere, having new chances and exciting sports on the field could be one of the best things to happen to Wise.

Go Cavs!



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Game of the Week

The Cavs basketball team hosts AAC rival Tennessee Wesleyan tomorrow Feb 9, at Greear Gym.

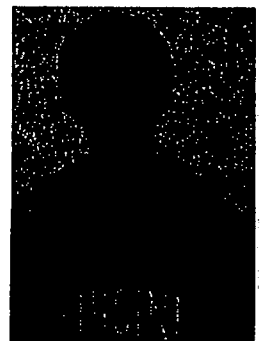
As of Feb. 5, the Cavs are 11-13 with an impressive 7-1 home record.

In their last meeting, the Cavs fell short on the road losing 91-82.

Tennessee Wesleyan is currently 8-17 and riding a six-game losing streak.

The Cavs will rely on the red hot senior Jared Soles and freshman Adam Hood who scored 21 points against Alice Lloyd.

The Lady Cavs tip off at 2 p.m. while the men compete at 4 p.m.



Freshman guard Adam Hood has averaged 10.4 points per game this season while only starting two games.