

THE HIGHLAND CAVALIER

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Deadline extended for RA Applications

By Julie Kaye Shortt
Staff Writer
jks5s@uvawise.edu

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
agr2q@uvawise.edu

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
sph7z@uvawise.edu

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
aac7x@uvawise.edu

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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BY THE NUMBERS



College hosts intramural racquetball tournament



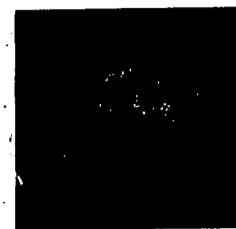
Photo by Kate Baldwin

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

THE CHARLES W. HARRIS EXHIBITION ROOM

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THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA'S COLLEGE AT WISE DEPARTMENT OF VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS FACULTY ART SHOW

SUZANNE ADAMS-RAMSEY

MISTY STRATTON

CHUCK CLISSO

DAVID CONSTABLE

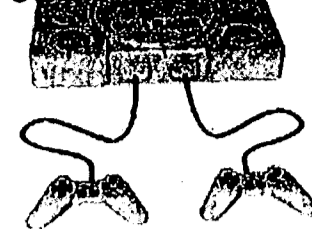
HEATHER HARVEY

RAY STRATTON

FEBRUARY 2ND - FEBRUARY 29TH
ARTIST RECEPTION FEBRUARY 10TH, 2:30-4:30

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 Lemueus. 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
Staff Writer
jj8g@uvawise.edu

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
Asst. Sports Editor
cad5@uvawise.edu

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
Staff Writer
mgm4j@uvawise.edu

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
Staff Writer
smc4k@uvawise.edu

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!



Reid Salomonsky
Sports Editor
ras7q@uvawise.edu

Game of the Week

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

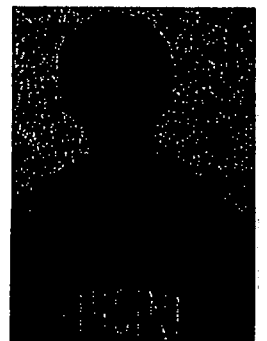
As of Feb. 5, the Cavs are 11-13 with an impressive 7-1 home record.

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.