

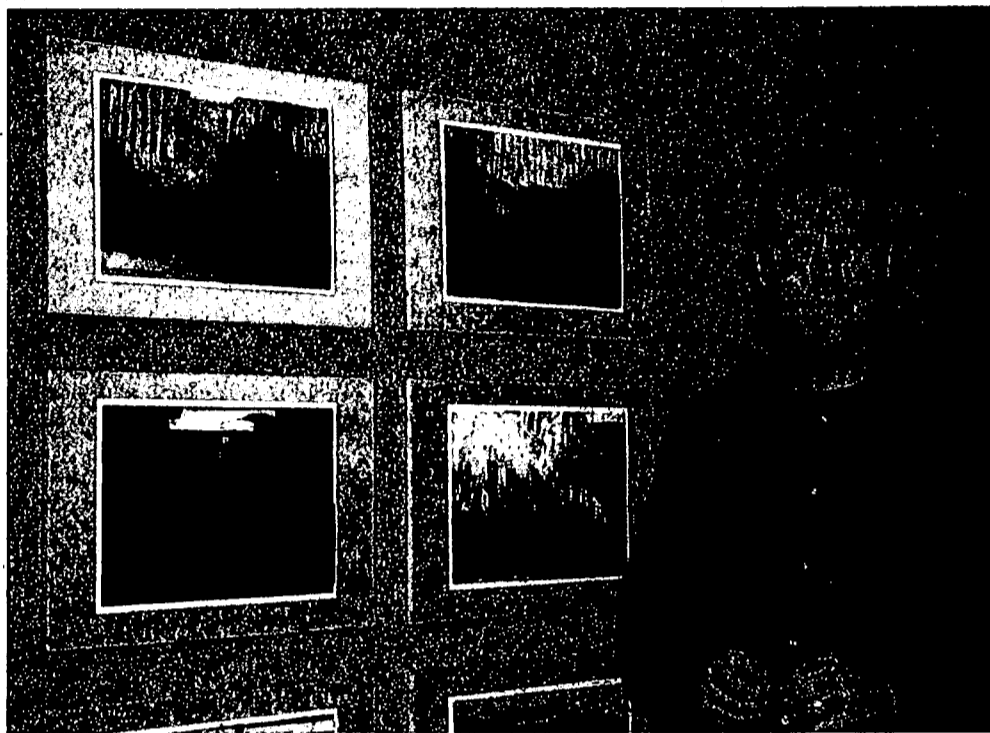
C THE HIGHLAND CAVALIER

VOLUME 59, NUMBER 22

THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA'S COLLEGE AT WISE

MARCH 25, 2008

Constable exhibits original oil paintings in local library gallery



By Kate Baldwin
Layout Editor
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David Constable, an adjunct faculty member in the Visual and Performing Arts Department, is an artist whose primary medium is oil paints.

One of his most visible art pieces is the tower made of discarded chemistry books located in a corner of the John Cook Wyllie Library.

His current show, on display at the Lonesome Pine Regional Library's Harris Gallery, will be on display through the end of March, includes the "Us" series and two other installations done in chalk, pastels and spray paint that depict abstracted landscapes based on the coal fields.

"I work in oils because of the challenge," Constable said. "I'm still trying to be competitive with [oils]. Every time I paint it's almost as if I've begun all over again."

see Art, page 2

Adjunct faculty member, David Constable, stands beside his oil paintings exhibit based on the coal fields of Southwest Virginia. The paintings can be seen in the Harris Gallery of the Wise Lonesome Pine Library.

Photo by Kate Baldwin

Priority dates set for fall semester

From Staff Reports

The fall 2008 course schedule was released earlier this week along with priority registration dates for all students.

Seniors can register beginning today, juniors on March 31, sophomores on April 2 and freshmen on April 4.

Students who earn 60 hours or more by the end of this semester are required to complete an Intended Major Form before they will be allowed to register. Those with 60 or more credit hours and an undeclared major will not be able to register until April 7. Along with non-degree students.

All student accounts must be paid in full by March 25

see Schedule page 4

Tornado affects college's students and staff

By Craig Rice
Staff Writer
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An EF1 tornado touched down on March 4, along Highway 58, and passed through downtown Big Stone Gap. A number of the college's students, faculty and staff were affected by the tornado.

"It was devastating to the community,"

said junior Darrell Ely, whose family lives right outside the damaged path.

The tornado carved a 300-yard wide, one mile long path of damage. It destroyed six homes, caused significant damage to another 15 homes and minor damage to 25 others.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) determined a Category 1 (86-110 mph winds) tornado

slammed into the Poplar Hill/Bullitt Park area of town. No one was seriously injured.

Assistant professor of rhetoric Amy Clark said her house was damaged in the storm.

"We had both interior and exterior damage," Clark said. "Like most of the people on Poplar Hill, we have to have our roof and windows replaced. We also lost trees

and other landscaping, as well as our fence and part of the deck."

Marla Weitzman, an associate professor of English, said her home was also directly affected by the storm.

"I watched the porch swing come through my living room window," Weitzman said. "We lost eight windows and eight trees, but two houses within a block of us were condemned."

see Tornado, page 2

SGA to host Miss UVa-Wise pageant in two weeks

By Julie Kaye Short
Staff Writer
jks5s@uvawise.edu

The 2008 Miss UVa-Wise scholarship pageant will be held April 12 at 6 p.m. in Greear Gymnasium.

SGA organizers said, seven women have signed up as contestants and the pageant committee is looking for more participants.

The last Miss UVa-Wise pageant was held in 2006 and last's year was cancelled, said SGA president Jekeyma Robinson. He said the event was something that SGA really wanted to bring back.

"I am definitely looking forward to this event," SGA sophomore senator, Kasey Cantrell, said in an e-mail. "I love to be involved with campus activities."

Cantrell said planning the event has been stressful at times. However, as with planning other events, "it takes time and patience."

The pageant will have award a winner, two runners-up, a Miss Congeniality voted on by the contestants and a Crowd's Choice determined by the votes from the audience.

The winner will receive a \$500 scholarship and all contestants receive a free t-shirt.

"I think the pageant is a great event and opportunity on campus because it provides a \$500 scholarship to the winner," Robinson said.

Participants will compete in stage strutting, casual category, talent category, evening wear and interview. Each category will showcase the contestants' style, per-

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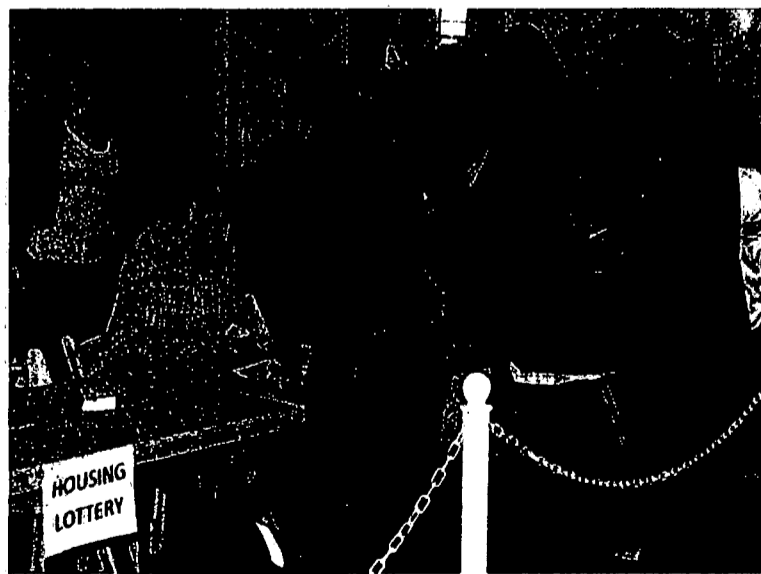


Photo by Kate Baldwin

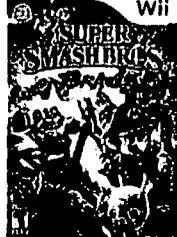
Are you feeling lucky?

Students draw numbers during the Housing Lottery on Wednesday, March 26 in the atrium of the Slemp Student Center. All students wanting to live on-campus next semester are required to participate.

INSIDE



THE CAVS BASEBALL TEAM PLAYED THE FIRST NIGHT GAME IN PROGRAM HISTORY AT STALLARD FIELD ON WEDNESDAY. SEE IF THEY WON THE HISTORIC GAME ON PAGE 6



THE HIGHLY ANTICIPATED "SUPER SMASH BROS. BRAWL" WAS RELEASED EARLIER THIS MONTH FOR THE NINTENDO WII. SEE IF IT LIVES UP TO THE HYPE ON PAGE 5.

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PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Communication major publishes first book

By Mariah Redden
Staff Writer
msr4u@uvawise.edu

Senior Cody Dalton held a book signing for his first book, "Sideline Warriors: The Greatest Sports Coaches and Managers of All Time," on March 26 in the campus bookstore.

Dalton, a communication major from Pulaski, Va. and assistant sports editor of the Highland Cavalier, said he was motivated to write the book because many coaches don't receive the praise they deserve.

"Coaches really aren't given that much credit," Dalton said. "They are really the brains behind the whole operation. In my mind, they are the 'warriors of the sideline.' That's how I got the name of the book."

He said his book offers a look at the lives of some of the greatest coaches and managers in the history of sports, including Vince Lombardi, Mike Krzyzewski, John Wooden and Pat Summitt.

"This book will be a good read for anyone who loves learning something new," Dalton said. "There are so many connections with these coaches and accomplishments. It should be really interesting and a new discovery for anyone who reads it."

He said that although he completed the writing over winter break, it took four years of hard work to research and write

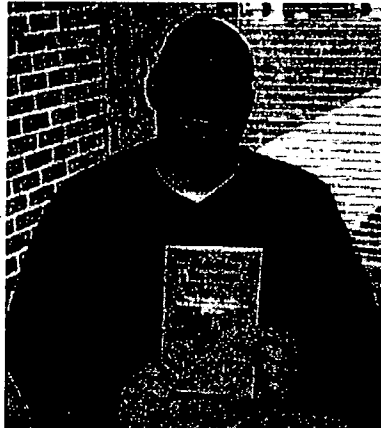


Photo provided by College Relations

the book.

"To have written something like this is one of the biggest accomplishments in my entire life, along with high school graduation and college graduation in May," he said.

Dalton said sports fans and non-sports fans alike should enjoy the book.

"There [are so many] underlying roots to these coaches that you never know until you read about it," he said. "I think college students and professors can enjoy this book too because it is factual and interesting."

Dalton is also a part-time sports writer for the Coalfield Progress.

College nears completion of updates to 'Net connections

By Daniel Robinson
Editor-in-Chief
drr8a@uvawise.edu

Due to the increase of network bandwidth usage on campus, the Office of Information Technology has begun to upgrade the college's Internet connection and it could be available for use as early as March 31.

According to Keith Fowlkes, vice chancellor for information technology, the upgrade will increase the current bandwidth from 45 Megabits per second (Mbs) to approximately 100 Mbs.

"The Office of Information Technology monitors network bandwidth utilization on a continual basis and has known about the increasing traffic congestion for our campus users since mid-Nov. 2007," Fowlkes said in an e-mail. "[We have] been working since Dec. 2007 on upgrading the current campus connection to the Internet."

Fowlkes said he was contacted by the new provider, Sunset Digital Communications, in December, but "due to a number of equipment driven issues at [the] service provider's site, we have been unable to upgrade."

"Our equipment on campus is in place

and ready to connect when our service provider connection is up and running," Fowlkes said.

While connection speeds will be faster, Fowlkes said users might not notice it immediately.

"Individual campus users will not see full bandwidth use since this connection is shared among all of our campus users," he said.

Fowlkes said Sunset Digital estimated the upgrade would be in place by the first week of April.

However, since an outside provider will provide the connection, Fowlkes said he could not confirm that the installation will be completed on time.

"The College cannot guarantee this estimate on installation but will be working closely with the provider to help them meet their estimate," he said.

Fowlkes said he has been using the Uva-Wise@Home website to keep the campus community informed.

"I would encourage everyone to check there for the latest information and updates on this upgrade as well as planned and unplanned network outage notifications," he said.

If you would like to place an ad, news story, or event in The Highland Cavalier, contact Editor-in-Chief Daniel Robinson at drr8a@uvawise.edu.

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OPINION

Liberal arts provides critical thinking tools

By Gary Juhan

When F. Champion Ward was dean of the faculty at the University of Chicago during the 1940s he stated, the purpose of a liberal arts education "is to make free men wise."

The statement seems so simple and self-evident. Yet, wisdom can be so elusive because we each tend to get caught up in our own opinions, beliefs and distinctive individual biases.

During orientation when I speak to our incoming first-year students, I talk about what it means to develop critical thinking and analytical skills. I remind the students it is not the college's purpose to tell them what to think or indoctrinate them to a particular point of view. Our purpose is to build and enhance analytical skills so that regardless of what conclusions are ultimately arrived at, it is based on fact, reason and sound judgment.

One of the greatest rewards that any of us receives at the College is to witness the mental transformation in thought and reasoning that hopefully occurs during a student's enrollment.

Throughout a lifetime we are all exposed to a variety of perspectives.

Some of these points of view are well-intended and presented with the most honorable intentions. Others are deliberately crafted to persuade or influence by presenting only half the facts at best or at worst intentionally misled by false or inaccurate information.

In our election year politics, this is a particularly germane point to remember.

Everyone has a right to their opinion but it is crooked thinking to believe that all opinions are created equal.

Opinions gain or lose support based on reasoned logic, data and facts. The challenge we all face is how to sort through and make sense of the barrage of bunk that is thrown our way each day.

We are fortunate to live in a country where we can choose to believe in what we want—provided we don't infringe on someone else's rights and freedoms.

Yet, when we choose to deny reality, we do so at our own peril.

Gary Juhan is the Vice Chancellor for Administration at Uva-Wise

Tornado: Students, faculty discuss tornado experiences

Continued from page 1

News more than 60 truckloads of debris have been removed, but damage estimates top out at \$1.5 million which is well below the \$9.5 million threshold to qualify for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) assistance.

"As I walked up to Poplar Hill, I was overwhelmed by the landscape, which looked as if it had suffered a bomb blast, and frantic to see if I still had a house standing," Clark said.

Virginia Governor Tim Kaine declared the situation a state emergency and released funds but that help was allocated to restoration and recovery.

At least 30 people have

been displaced because of the storm but Weitzman said the community responded quickly.

"The town did an awesome job of responding," she said.

Clark also commended the response by crisis workers.

"Big Stone Gap, as well as surrounding communities, responded heroically in my opinion," Clark said. "The fire department and police department both came to the house immediately to check on residents."

Even with the response, Weitzman said the need for help is still there.

"There's a lot more work to be done," said Weitzman.

Second Chances

By Julia Boriss
Indiana Daily Student (Indiana U.)

(U-WIRE) BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — Last year, two girls knocked at my door and told me they would be living in my current dorm room next year. My roommate and I let them in to show them the room and the connecting bathroom.

"It's a pretty good room," I told them. "The only problem is that the sink faucet makes a screechy noise while the water runs."

I then imitated the noise, which I can only describe as "beoooooo," for what my former roommate says was "20 seconds too long." When I finally stopped screeching, the four of us stood in dead silence, staring at our feet before the two girls thanked us and exited.

Sometimes in life I wish I had second chances. I immediately wish I could take back half the words that come out of my mouth and try again. My English teacher once wrote a comment on my paper that summed up not only that particular essay, but also my life: "A very valiant effort marred only by a few awkward phrases."

A few months ago, I was talking to my friend and his new girlfriend. They mentioned that they planned to move in together. "Really? You two?" I asked. "That's going to be super awkward when you break up," I said earnestly.

Their eager lovers' grins quickly faded to frowns of bewilderment as an excruciating silence ensued.

Many of my friends complain that I speak too quietly. And then they get unreasonably annoyed when they ask me to repeat what I said and I say "nevermind." But what they don't realize is that I have developed this technique as a way to give myself a trial run of the things I say.

I don't have a filter that blocks socially unacceptable thoughts from becoming spoken words. When I say something quietly the first time, it gives me the chance to decide if it's something that should really be heard or not. I'm not being rude when I say "nevermind"; it's just that I heard myself say it once, and I did not like what I heard.

Conversations aren't the only time I wish I had second chances. I think there should be second chance exits on highways. There's something about the combination of the open road with my "Hairspray" soundtrack that makes me forget I have a specific destination until I am already watching my turn pass me by.

"Each exit should have two chances to turn off," I told my friend a few weeks ago when she asked me why we were passing the Bloomington exit. "Or each exit should be

Do you prefer Pirates or Ninjas?



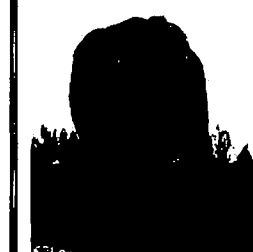
Preston Landes
Sophomore
Biology

"Pirates. They just like to party."



Ashley Hawkins
Freshmen
Nursing

"Pirates. Johnny Depp was a pirate."



William Todd
Sophomore
History

"I think a mixture of both. Because Pirates get all the women and they sell around on ships and be drunk all the time. And ninjas have their stealth skills."

labeled as the one that comes after it."

"Like the signs they have up in advance telling you how many more miles to your exit?" she said.

"Yeah, except ... shut up."

Sadly, life does not hand out second chances nearly as often as I need it to. At least writing gives me the chance to read my words and edit them before submission to the public. This is probably why I choose to write.

Ignorance is Bliss

By Henning Kuich

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following was written in response to an opinion piece by Justin Jurek titled, "The Church of Global Warming," printed in our Jan. 25 issue.

Public attacks on an entire field of a science are usually supplemented by facts or at least contain some form of fashion of an argument.

The idea that it has become so easy to simply blurt out unsupported, biased, and nothing short of baseless chatter is not only an insult to the attacked field, but also to the student population exposed to these "opinions."

As a student of natural sciences I take great offense with it being compared to a religion. Each academic field takes great pride in its accomplishments and at least deserves the respect that any other academic community enjoys, independent of its effect on wayward

schools of thought and belief.

Besides having trouble contemplating the fact that, once again, science needs to be explained and differentiated from religion, I feel strongly enough on this topic to put forth the effort. Contrary to the Bible—a book largely compiled, translated, edited, and changed in accordance to trends of the time in question (this would be a good time to consider the justifications for non-global-warming-based inquisitions)—scientific journals and articles are peer reviewed.

This process is quite painstaking, but it ensures the validity of data and conclusions. This data is not presented in the form of allegorical and contradicting verse, but rather in a manner that attempts to eliminate confusion and bias.

The suggestion that reviewed and data-based research is comparable to a holy scripture is nothing short of outrageous, and one would think that people who obviously reach beyond their scope of understanding in writing such nonsense, despite being quite comfortable within that state, would at least have the decency to keep these "opinions" to themselves instead of contaminating our student newspaper.

After all, we are an academic community, a community which should be exemplary in terms of mutual respect and awareness of the damage caused by uninformed and hasty propaganda.

Surely we can appreciate the complexity of an issue and realize that it is hardly sufficient to swat down the life's efforts of many individuals with a few, poorly considered statements of proud ignorance.

Henning Kuich is a senior majoring in Biology and Computer Science

Art: Adjunct faculty member shows work in exhibit

Continued from page 1

Constable said his works are not replicas of anything in particular, but instead are representations of real things.

"There is a difference between abstracted art that is taken from the concrete world and 'abstract art' that is art with no defined meaning," Constable said. "I'm very much firmly of the world."

Constable's paintings fuse traditional portrait-making with the digital information age.

"I have a referent in the room when I'm working but a lot is taken from memory," Constable said. "I'm not trying to paint representationally. It's not a perfect replication of the scene."

Standing inches from the canvases the images appear abstract. It is only when distance and perspective are given to the works that the "big picture" is evident.

In the art world, abstract art is a collection of meaningless shapes and colors thrown onto a canvas. Its purpose is to let the viewer interpret its meaning.

"Just because New York allows anything, doesn't mean it's art," Constable said.

A two-time artist in residence since 2005, Constable has exhibited his work with other members of the college's faculty.

Constable said it is a "great kick" being the artist in residence and mentoring

students.

"I'm just a bit, player, with anything academic," he said. "It's great having complete and utter strangers tap on the window to see what I'm doing. It's the most gratifying thing to do."

Constable received his undergraduate degree at Grays School of Art in Aberdeen, Scotland, 1985-89 and studied for his MFA from Southern Illinois University. He spent the next eight years working construction before picking up a paint brush.

"It wasn't until 1991, after my undergraduate degree that I began to paint in oils again," he said. "My instructors made me feel unworthy," he said.

Based in nearby Norton, Constable's exhibitions have included shows in Chicago, Ontario, Montgomery Ala. and at The University of Seville's Department of Architecture in Spain.

"The Spaniards were into what I was doing," Constable said. "[They] care about the history of art and that it owes a debt to the past. I feel strongly about that."

Constable said he is wary of how teaching art has changed with the use of technology in the classroom.

"Even for teaching art the computer has made it into the classroom and it changes how students see art," he said. "It gives an alternative view of art education."

Maryland professor to be part of lecture series

Frin Staff Reports

Associate Professor Eydá Merediz of the University of Maryland will present "Transatlantic Studies and the Hemispheric Turn" as part of the college's spring lecture series on March 31.

Merediz will speak on the origins and ramifications of transatlantic studies, as an emerging field in the study of humanities.

Merediz is associate professor of Spanish and

Latin American literature at the University of Maryland, where she arrived in 1998



Merediz

after completing her doctoral work at Princeton Univer-

sity. In her book, "Refracted Images: The Canary Islands through a New World Lens," Merediz explored the literary and cultural exchanges that prevailed in the Hispanic world of the 16th and 17th centuries.

Students who are interested in either a languages or human sciences major are especially invited to attend.

The lecture will begin at 1 p.m. in the Chapel of All Faiths and is free and open to the public.

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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), by phone (576-0170) or via e-mail (drr8a@uvawise.edu).

Letters to the editor can also be e-mailed to Opinion Editor Eric Vanover (ev3n@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 COLLEGIATE PRESS

SAB to present first-ever student talent show in student center

By Aaron Collier
Feature Editor
aac7x@uvawise.edu

Have a killer singing voice? Can you two-step with the best of them? Can you eat pizza with your toes? If so, the Student Activities Board (SAB) wants you to participate in the first ever Cavalier Talent Show on March 31 and April 1 starting at 8 p.m. on the 5th floor of the Slempp Student Center.

The three-round competition will be judged by a panel of UVa-Wise faculty with the winning individual or team receiving \$500 to put toward purchasing textbooks for the fall semester. Winning teams will have to split the \$500 among teammates.

Chris Davis, associate director of the Slempp Student Center, said that

putting the show into a three-round format will give students a chance to show off their talents.

"We want everybody whether you want to sing, read some poetry... We want everybody to have a chance to be able to show what their talent is whatever it be," said Davis, the SAB adviser.

Davis said the idea for a campus-wide talent show came after one was held for freshmen during the college's Expedition program, the extended freshman orientation. Soon after, SAB decided it was time to offer a talent show open to all students.

"We really saw that the student body had a lot of talent and we thought what way can we tap into that a little bit more and Student Activities Board decided why not do a talent show," Davis said.

Davis, a 1999 graduate of the college, said that the campus has become more diverse than ever before and it is that diversity that has him excited to see what talents the students will bring to the competition.

"Our campus has become so diverse in the last 10 to 12 years," Davis said. "To me that even showcases more in the diverse talent that we have on campus and I'm looking forward to seeing the different types of things people are going to do...I'm really excited about and I know our Student Activity Board is excited."

The sign-up sheet for the event is posted on the SAB office door.

For more information contact Chris Davis on third floor of the Student Center room 303, via e-mail at ckd3s@uvawise.edu or by phone at 376-4513.

Mixed martial arts to be held in Gym

By Reid Salomonsky
Sports Editor
ras7q@uvawise.edu

It's been almost two months since basketball ended, but Greear Gym might just be having its biggest event of the year next Saturday, April 5.

Arena Fighting Promotions is bringing their brand of mixed martial arts cage fighting for an event they are calling "Title Night."

The event will include 24 amateur cage fights including five for championship titles.

There to present the title belts will be former UFC Champion and reality television star Rico Rodriguez.

Promoter David Shelton said that the type of fighting students can expect is similar to the style of Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC), with the rule that "anything goes but elbows."

"This is our fifth event, but definitely our most anticipated," Shelton said. The company's previous events were

held locally in Coeburn, Clintwood, and Big Stone Gap. All had impressive turnouts.

"At our last event in [Big Stone Gap] we had to turn away 300 people because we sold out ahead of schedule," Shelton said.

With seating on the gym floor and in the bleachers, promoters are expecting a turnout of close to 1,000 spectators at the college event.

After Saturday's fight night, Rodriguez will remain in town for a benefit luncheon at Mountain Empire Community College. Proceeds from the lunch will benefit hemophilia research. Shelton said Rodriguez feels passionate about the cause. Students are invited to the lunch that lasts from noon to 3 p.m. on Sunday, April 6. Tickets are \$30 a plate.

Students can purchase tickets for the fight night in advance at Carroll Dale's office for \$25 or at the door for \$30. Students can receive an additional \$5 off with their Cavs card.

Schedule: Registration begins for fall 2008

Continued from page 1

to be able to register for fall or summer classes. Also, students need to make sure there are no other stop codes placed by professors on their accounts.

Registration can be completed by visiting the Student Information Portal.

Students can contact the Registrar's Office at 376-0116, if they have questions regarding stop codes or are experiencing any problems registering for classes.

Fall classes will begin on Wednesday, Aug. 19.

5 Questions With....



Michael O'Donnell
Assistant Professor
of French

1. If you had a million dollars and could only spend it on one thing, what would it be?
Charity
2. If you could be one person for a day, who would it be?
Me
3. What is your fondest memory of your college days?
Excitement
4. If you could add one building/structure to the college what would it be?
Meditation Center
5. What would be one piece of advice you would give graduating seniors?
Be flexible.

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Girls & Sports

By Justin Borus & Andrew Feinstein



March 31st Cavalier Talent Show
5th floor SSC, 8 p.m.

April 3rd Pro-Art
Rebecca Kite
Chapel of All Faiths
7:30 p.m.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR DATE AUCTION CHANGED TO APRIL 7
EMAIL: JENNA.JOHNSON (JKJ4D@UVAWISE.EDU)
AUCTION WILL BE HELD ON APRIL 17TH

March 28th & 29th "Walk Hard"
5th floor SSC
8 p.m.

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March 28th: VA BCM Training Conference

March 28th Scholarship Reception Luncheon
Greear Gym
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"Super Smash Brothers Brawl" lives up to hype

By Aaron Collier
Feature Editor
aac7x@uvawise.edu

In the video game world there isn't much simplicity being passed around these days. Games have multiple plotlines that require players to buy strategy guides and 12 year-olds using curse words like they're auditioning for the newest Quentin Tarantino flick as they die faster than disco while playing on XBOX Live.

Whatever happened to one storyline with a beginning and an end? What about the simple task of just moving your character from left to right then jumping over a gap? Why not just throw your controller instead of taking up cursing as a second language?

The gaming industry seems to have forgotten that complexity is not always the best way to go when developing a game. Don't get me wrong, I like a game that consumes me with a gripping storyline and customizable weapons, but there comes a point when I just want a game that allows me to sit down, mash a few buttons and be able to shut my brain down for a few hours.

For all that is wrong with gaming, Nintendo is everything right. The godfather of gaming continues to put out games for their Wii console that are fun and simple. For every 800-hour, four-disc epic that comes down the pike, Nintendo counters with a game that can be easily picked up and played, offering instantaneous fun and gratification for half the work.

With the latest installment of the "Smash Brothers" series titled, "Super Smash Brothers Brawl" Nintendo continues to produce fun, engrossing games that don't carry the difficulty and intimidation that most games carry today.

The "Super Smash Brothers Brawl" is a fast-paced, slobber-knocking funfest that both hardcore and casual gamers will enjoy from beginning to end.

"Brawl's" most impressive aspect is the huge collection of classic video game characters that you can slug it out with. A whopping 37 characters can be used in the game with 23 playable characters and 14 unlockable characters.

The roster includes favorites like Mario, Link and Metroid to the obscure such as the Ice Climbers, Meta Knight and Lucas. The biggest additions to the roster are Sonic the Hedgehog and Metal Gear Solid's Solid Snake which are both unlockable characters.

The fact that you can pit Mario, Sonic, Link and Solid Snake against each other in a battle should be incentive enough for any gamer to run out and get this game.

Even though the characters are the selling point for the game, the multiplayer is what makes the game great. Four players can take their favorite characters into battle

in "Brawl" mode for a frantic good time. The multiplayer mode offers a wide variety of customization, from a timed battle to a last man standing free-for-all. The tournament mode adds to the competition that allows up to 32 entrants to battle for supremacy. The game also includes a Stage Builder that allows you to create your own battlefields for you and your friends to play on.



To add to the fast-paced action are items that appear during the battle and can be used against your opponents. Everything from laser guns to the hammer from the original Donkey Kong are dropped from the sky. The most interesting item is the "Final Smash" orb that holds each character's very powerful "Final Smash" move.

The fact that you have to bust it open can cause an all-out chase to see who can get the orb and guarantee themselves an easy KO on their opponents. The items are fully customizable from turning certain items off to the rate of frequency items appear.

"Brawl" also includes a side-scrolling story mode, titled "Subspace Emissary", as you play numerous characters against the evil and diabolical Bowser and his group of classic villains as they attempt to spread their evil agenda of world domination. This mode also allows you to unlock characters as they join your group of heroes as the story progresses.

"Brawl" lives up to the hype it has generated and gives the Nintendo another feather in its gaming cap. The fun, fast-paced action, along with a simple control scheme, makes "Brawl" a great party game for both gamers and non-gamers alike.

Aaron's Rating: 5 "Miyamotos" out of 5



From Autumn to Ashes surprises with newest release

By Reid Salomonsky
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Forget what you thought you knew about From Autumn to Ashes. With their fourth album, "Holding a Wolf by the Ears", they have done a complete turnaround partly due to the departure of their screamer/front man Benjamin Perri.

Most bands perish without their signature vocalist, regardless of the replacement. However, drummer Fran Mark stepped away from the kit and took over the position of vocals and does a heck of a job.

The first three records From Autumn to Ashes produced emphasized the emo presence with a bit of heavy edge (yes, the typical screamo band), with song titles such as "Short Stories with Tragic Endings" and "Take Her to the Music Store." They have obviously taken a turn as they kicked off this album with the song "Deth Kult Social Club," a heavy kick into the ears of anyone mourning the absence of Perri.

However, the band has not entered the metal core, bad boy scene just yet.

They have found the perfect balance of aggression and emotion, with songs like "Recounts and Recollections" and "Delusions of Grandeur." By blending soft and clean vocals with harsh hardcore screaming and adding mind blowing guitar riffs, FATA has written the blueprint for how screamo should sound.

The album's first single (which also happens to be the album's closer), "Pioneers," is a transcendence into their new sound, with a guitar riff that needles into your membrane as Mark urgently sings the final lyrics of the album. While the lyrics on

the album aren't the most poetic or deepest of lyrics, Mark writes about all the hardships he and the band have been through and most importantly the lyrics aren't cliché-ridden and cringe worthy unlike the



generic "I wear my heart on my sleeve" bands produce today.

Those familiar with From Autumn to Ashes are well aware that they are not recreating the wheel with this release. But in a scene over-saturated with MySpace flavors of the week, "Holding a Wolf by the Ears" breathes new energy into a stagnant genre. Forget what you know about From Autumn to Ashes, as they've released the most surprising album in quite some time.

Reid's Rating: 4 "Wolves" out of 5



"I Am Legend" thrills on two-disc DVD

By Cody Dalton
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Will Smith's newest hit, "I Am Legend," was released on DVD on March 18 and is a good movie for those who love action thrillers.

The film is based on the book by Richard Matheson, which was published in 1954.

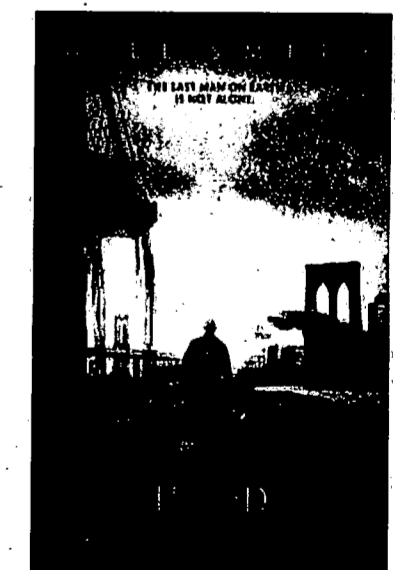
Smith stars as Dr. Robert Neville, a lieutenant colonel and scientist, who is the last human on earth after an airborne epidemic has turned all humans into zombie-like creatures.

The epidemic originated from a cure for cancer that was discovered and given to people both by injection and through the air. Once infected, the people became "zombie-like," and only came out at night because they can't tolerate the light. Neville is only one of a few who are immune to the disease.

The film flashes back and forth, from Neville's time alone in New York City with his best friend and dog, Sam, to the time when the epidemic first breaks out. You also learn why Neville didn't get off of the island, the fate of his family and the story of the outbreak of this infectious disease.

The only thing that I didn't like about the movie was the fact that it kept going from the present scenes to the past. Even though it was necessary to have these scenes in the movie, I really didn't enjoy this aspect of the film.

The DVD comes in two different versions. The single-disc edition contains the



movie and features while the two-disc version contains the original theatrical version and a different version of the movie with an alternative ending. Certain copies of the two-disc set come with a collectible metal case.

Overall, this is a good movie that should keep you on your feet for as long as you are watching it. Personally, the movie was intriguing all the way through and offered something unexpected at every turn.

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



Pageant: Participants look forward to competition

Continued from page 1

and an interview. Each category will showcase the contestants' style personality and confidence.

The pageant will give students who participated in high school pageants the opportunity to compete on a more advanced level, Cantrell said.

"I look forward to participating in the Miss UVa-Wise pageant and wearing the evening gown because I like to dress up," said freshman Candra Patterson.

Patterson said her talent for the pageant is dancing and if she wins she will gladly wear the crown.

Robinson said the pageant this year is going to be a lot classier compared to past years. Also, she said the pageant committee has received a lot of donations from local businesses in the community.

Anyone wishing to participate in the event can contact Robinson or another SGA member.

Jones pitches well in night game, but Cavs fall to Intermont



Photos by Kate Baldwin

By Reid Salomonsky
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As a record number of fans entered Stallard field on Wednesday evening, it wasn't long before the sun went down and the stadium resembled Fenway Park.

On March 26, the Cavs (10-12/5-4) hosted Virginia Intermont (13-16/3-5), but the biggest story of the game was not the 8-6 loss for the Cavs, but the inaugural night game for the baseball team.

Chris Davis Associate Director of the Slemm Student Center said he was very excited about finally having a night game. He said that it adds an extra element to our sports program and allows the college to possibly generate more revenue.

The game itself was as exciting as the new lights at the stadium.

After senior pitcher David Jones threw three strikeouts in the first inning, the Cavs were able to take an opening lead when senior Jorge Laboy scored on a single by junior Josh Verts.

In the third inning, freshman Brad Ricker dazzled fans with both his glove and his bat. After a sharp hit to deep right field, Ricker flashed the glove

with a diving catch in foul ground. In the home half, Ricker reached base on a single and was able to steal second.

After a Mike Lang single scored Ricker, Verts returned to the plate and belted his second homerun of the season over the left field fence, to give the Cavs a 4-0 lead after three innings.

In the bottom of the sixth, the Cavs hottest hitter of the season, junior Brad Robbins, stepped to the plate, and pulled his sixth homerun to deep right to increase the Cavs lead to 6-1.

After seven strong innings of pitching from Jones, and freshmen D'Andre Bussey Seth Frisby and the Cavs pitching took for the turn for the worse.

When freshman Jonathan Painter took over in the eighth inning, and Intermont took a commanding lead after a grand slam capped off a seven run inning to give the visitors an 8-6 lead that the Cavs were not able to overcome.

Despite the loss, the record setting attendance of 379 was full of excited fans.

Freshman Jennifer Elks said she enjoyed her first Cavs baseball game.

"It was a lot of fun," Elks said. "It was definitely not my last game."



Top: Junior Brad Robbins hits his sixth homerun of the season during Wednesday's game against VI

Above: Senior Jorge Laboy scores on a single by junior Josh Verts. Laboy had a RBI double and a single in the game.

Cavs return from rough road trip against division rival Virginia Intermont

By Shannon Chappell
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Despite an impressive offensive performance, the Cavs could not handle the firepower of Virginia Intermont, getting swept 11-8 and 8-2.

The game was originally scheduled for Thursday, March 20 but was postponed to last Saturday March 22 in Bristol, Va.

Senior pitcher Brock Funk had a rough outing in game one, has Virginia Intermont scored in each of the first-four innings to take a 6-1 lead. Clutch hitting allowed the Cavs to come back in the fifth, to make the score, 6-3. In the top of the sixth, junior Mike Lang drew a bases loaded walk as part of a two run

inning for the Cavs, making the score 6-5.

However, this strong offensive performance did not last for long, as Intermont was able to pound out five more runs, three of them unearned as the Cavs lost, 11-8.

Freshman pitcher D'Andre Bussey said that the unearned runs were the Cavs biggest mistake in the game. He said they should have won the game.

"We didnt perform to the best of our abilities and we payed for it," Bussey said.

Freshman pitcher Scott Cole started game two, but Intermont capitalized quickly on his inexperience by hitting five runs in the bottom of the first. Scoreless in the second, the Cavs came back in the third with two runs off hits

by sophomore Brad Austin and junior Mike Lang.

Cole said he thinks the Cavs may have underestimated Virginia Intermont (12-16/3-5).

"We went into the games thinking we already had them beat," he said. "We knew we had the better team but we just didn't prove and come to play when it came down to it."

Tomorrow the Cavs host top ranked Tennessee Wesleyan, who are 18-0 against AAC opponents. The Cavs are looking to end that streak.

"I think Wesleyan is definitely one of hardest challenges to date," Cole said. "But if we play as a team and play to our potential there should be no reason we should not come out with one, if not two wins."

Major League Baseball Gets It Wrong

By Cody Dalton
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Personally, I'm a big fan of baseball. I know a lot of people don't like it because of its slow-paced nature, but I think it's the one true American sport out there.

The sport has had its problems in the past with steroid issues, but it has been getting better. As more names surface, the sport begins to cleanse its darkened reputation.

However, this column isn't about steroids. It is about baseball and how Major League Baseball (MLB) got it all wrong by starting its season in Japan.

OPINION

I understand that the game is becoming more international with names such as Albert Pujols and Daisuke (Dice-K) Matsuzaka, but MLB forgot the most important aspect in this whole deal. This is baseball. It is the pure American game.

So with that said, we decide to start the season in, of all places, Japan? I understand that one of the teams featured has a couple of former Japanese aces, but that justifies having the season start in Japan?

I think that MLB should take a page from the National Football League (NFL). Did the NFL start its season in a foreign country and disregard its American fan base? No they didn't. They kicked off the season with two strong teams - the Indianapolis Colts and the New Orleans Saints - and it was an entertaining game.

Later on in the season, they did make a trip to London, to showcase their talent in a game between the New York Giants, who won the Super Bowl, and the Miami Dolphins, the worst team in the league.

So with that said, MLB should give its true diehard fans the opening that they deserve. It is only fitting that they start the season where they were founded and with a bang. Of all the MLB fans in the world, none of them wanted to make that trip out of bed at 6:05 a.m. Not even me, a big Boston Red Sox fan.

I did manage to catch a few game highlights while getting ready to head to class on Thursday, but not all of it. Thank God for TiVo and a replay on ESPN.

So my advice to MLB: Start the season in the states. This is our game - America's Game. If you want to have a game in Japan, go for it. Have it toward the middle of the season, so that you can get your publicity, but give us our game at our time.

Cavalier Game of the Week

The Lady Cavs softball team travels to Barbourville, KY tomorrow to take on Union.

The Lady Cavs are currently 7-7 overall, and 3-1 against division opponenets. Union comes into the game with a record of 8-18, 1-1 against AAC rivals.

The Lady Cavs will look to junior outfielder Britney Lawson to lead the offensive attack. She currently leads the team in runs scored and total hits.

She is also second in the team in batting average and RBIs.

The Lady Cavs dominated Montreat on Wednesday March 26. Thanks to a strong performance from sophomore pitcher Lauren Snead they swept the doubleheader 8-0 and 10-4.

The Lady Cavs will return home on April 4 to host Pikeville.



Junior Outfielder Britney Lawson is currently second on the Lady Cavs with a batting average of .400, and tied for the team lead with three homeruns.

Players of the Week

Josh Verts
Baseball - Junior

Hits second homerun of the season, a single, and three RBIs against Virginia Intermont on March 26. Also pitched a difficult inning in the game (7). Leads the Cavs with a 2.75 ERA.

Mary Wilson
Baseball - Junior

Hit two singles and an RBI in game two of a doubleheader against Tusculum on March 29. Hit four singles against Georgetown College on March 21.

