

INSIDE



The Lady Cava softball team has had a hard time getting in good practices due to the weather. Read the story on Page 6.



Vin Diesel returns to the driver's seat in "Fast and Furious." Is this one worth seeing in theaters or is it simply a weekend rental? Find out on Page 5.



Jimson Weed will host Coffee Night Tuesday with featured speakers from Appalshop. Read the story on Page 2.

UPCOMING

► Founder's Day

Monday marks the celebration of Thomas Jefferson's 266th birthday and the rededication of historic Crockett Hall. The ceremony begins at 1 p.m. in the parking lot between Crockett and Smiddy.

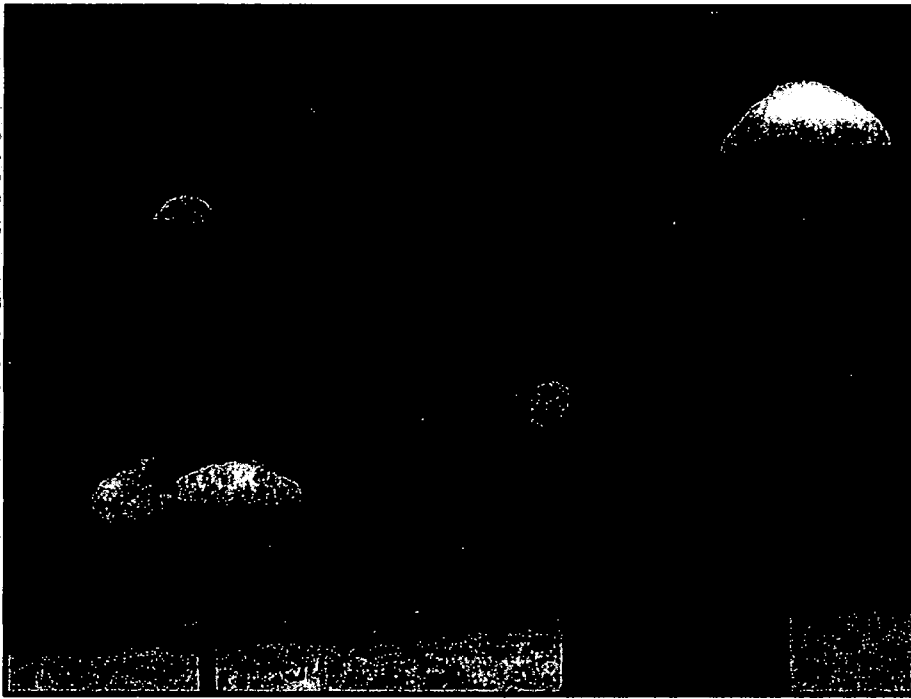
► Research Symposium

The Third Annual Student Research Symposium will be held next Friday in the Slomp Student Center. Students from both UVa-Wise and Emory & Henry will be participating.

INDEX

| | |
|---------------|--------|
| NEWS CONT. | PAGE 2 |
| OPINION | PAGE 3 |
| CAMPUS LIFE | PAGE 4 |
| ENTERTAINMENT | PAGE 5 |
| SPORTS | PAGE 6 |

Redbud Winter



Photos by Allie Robinson & Selinda Stanley



A winter storm moved into the area late Monday night and blanketed the campus in snow on Tuesday. It was a drastic change from Sunday's near-80 degree temperatures.

The day saw periods of intense snow fall, severely limiting visibility and small cloud breaks

of sunshine.

Total snow fall accumulation reached no more than 1.5 inches and classes continued on regular schedule.

The cold front did not last too long, however: Wednesday's high temperature was 50 degrees and Thursday's was over 60.



Kaine to speak at commencement

By Allie Robinson
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Not since 1985, when the Honorable Charles S. Robb came to visit, has a current governor of Virginia addressed the crowd and graduates at the commencement ceremonies.

This year, Gov. Tim Kaine, who is in his fourth year in office, will give the keynote address at the 2009 Commencement on May 16.

His attendance is the direct result of Chancellor David Prior's persistence.

"I actually met him my first year. I was here... and asked him to consider, in his third or fourth year of his term, to come to UVa-Wise," Prior said. "I've seen him on numerous occasions since then and each time I reminded him. I think it was last summer when he said he would do it."

Kaine's wife, Anne Holden, is the daughter of former governor Linwood Holden, originally from Big Stone Gap.

"He knows the area and has included us in his budgets, so he's a real friend of the college and Southwest Virginia," Prior said.

The governor has visited before, once as part of a mine safety conference and once to give a press conference from the Lila Vickers Smith House and sign a bill dealing with drugs, Prior said.

The governor's arrival will mark the third visit from a big-name state politician this semester. Sen. Jim Webb visited campus in February and held a town hall-style meeting here and Sen. Mark Warner will visit Monday in conjunction with the college's



Photo provided by College Relations

celebration of Founder's Day.

"Two U.S. Senators are pretty big guns, but there's only one Governor of the state," Prior said. "We're getting a lot of attention here; it feels like we're 'on' a lot. But I would rather this attention than being overlooked."

Kaine has been in office since January 2006. According to his Web site, in 2008, he led efforts to secure a \$1.6 billion bond package to expand college access for Virginians. This money has helped UVa-Wise by providing funds to build the planned \$30 million Convocation Center, and also allocating \$600,000 for accessibility projects.

Prior said that he is hopeful for this year's graduating class.

"Seriously hopeful," he said. "That means, I expect [graduating seniors] to do well, and I hope it works out that that happens sooner than later. All of you have matured as individuals, have worked hard, have learned how to achieve your goals, and I have very high expectations."

SGA hosts Spring Formal tonight

By Daniel Robinson
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Despite some confusion about the date, the 2009 SGA Spring Formal will be held tonight at the Holiday Inn in Norton from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Students are required to have their CAVS card to get into the event and students wishing to gain access to the bar area will need to bring a valid driver's license.

The theme this year will be High Roller's Ball, which will try to replicate the feel of a Las Vegas casino.

This year's event was moved up two weeks from its originally planned date of April 25.

"We had to move Spring Formal up quite a bit due to local high schools having their proms on the same date," said junior Josh Vaughan, SGA senator at large and head of the Spring Formal committee. "Every venue was booked for the date we had already scheduled for it including our own gymnasium."

Vaughan also said SGA did not want to schedule the event at a time see Spring Formal, page 2

Founder's Day to draw distinguished guests to campus

By Allie Robinson
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Monday's Founder's Day festivities will celebrate more than just Thomas Jefferson's 266th birthday and the history of the college.

The event will also commemorate the rededication of Crockett Hall, which was renovated and reopened earlier this semester.

The event, which begins at 1 p.m. in the parking lot between Smiddy and Crockett, will feature speakers including UVa President John Casteen, former chancellor

"Papa" Joe Smiddy and U.S. Senator Mark Warner.

A rededication plaque will be unveiled and presented at the ceremony, and the Highland Chorale will perform. The building will be open for tours after the presentations.

The public is invited to attend. Students can attend for cultural

see Founder's, page 2



Warner

Lady Cavs softball team working against the weather

By Brittany Wichtendahl
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Snow that has fallen within the last couple of days has made it hard for the Lady Cavs (20-12) to get in any kind of outdoor practices, which could cause some problems for the team's game against Pikeville this afternoon.

This lack of practice could be causing some problems offensively for the team, which is unable to practice hitting.

"Weather has made life difficult," head coach Tori Raby-Gentry wrote in an e-mail. "It's hard to get into any kind of rhythm when you play a few days [one] week and [are] off about another week."

Raby-Gentry said Pikeville has always been a challenge for the team.

However, Raby-Gentry is confident about the players' abilities.

"I expect us to continue solid defense and for our hitters to build off of our most recent success," she said.

That success has been something that the Lady Cavs consistently earn because of defense, which, along with pitching, has been the team's greatest asset, Raby-Gentry said.

"Our defense has been steady and our pitchers have done a great job," she said. "Our offense has been what had struggled this year. The potential is there; it's just a matter of making adjustments and making better pitch selections."

Sophomore Megan McCoy said the team's bats are starting to come around.

"I think our [at] bats are going to excel during the rest of the season," she said.

As for the rest of the season, Raby-Gentry said she is looking forward to the conference tournament. She said, however, that the team's focus hasn't shifted beyond regular season games.

"I expect our team to build off the last two weeks of the season and hope that we have found more solid offense and are still solid defensively," she said.

McCoy is also looking forward to the upcoming playoffs.

"Of course I expect us to do well in

see Cavs, page 4

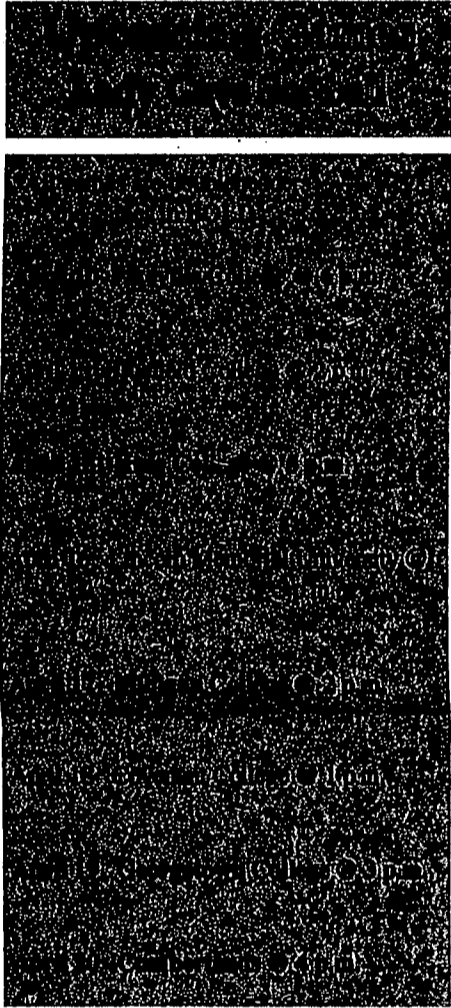


Photo by Jessica Price

Junior Lauren Snead throws a pitch to Lincoln Memorial on April 5. The Lady Cavs won both games (2-1, 7-1). Snead, a part of the Cavs pitching team, had been instrumental this season.

Not Just a Man's World Women's soccer back in action

There is a problem for today's young girls; a lack of good role models.

Women like Britney Spears, Lindsay Lohan and Paris Hilton are shown all over today's magazine covers, talk shows and Web sites.

I don't think I need to go into why they are horrible role models for girls—not only in this country, but across the world.

Never fear. Women's Professional Soccer is here.

Again.

After several years on hiatus, Women's Professional Soccer (WPS) is back in full swing in the U.S.

Games started up again on March 29, giving girls real women to look up to.

These are women who work hard, work as a team and are physically fit because they work out, not because they refuse to eat.

Teams involved for this year's WPS season are the Boston Breakers, the Chicago Red Stars, FC Gold Pride (in the San Francisco Bay Area), Los Angeles Sol, Sky Blue FC (New York/New Jersey area), Saint Louis Athletica and Washington Freedom.

This gives girls in most parts of the country a team to root for.

And, even better news: the WPS Web site says that it expects to expand to Atlanta and Philadelphia in 2010.

Children nowadays aren't as active as they used to be. Video games, the unlimited number of available television channels and the Internet aren't helping the situation.

Sports are just one way that the growing trend in obesity in children can be curbed.

It's not that hard to kick a soccer ball around in the yard.

And, in a sport that generally is associated with boys, it really isn't that difficult to get girls involved. Unlike most sports, soccer isn't a sport that is completely dominated by men.

Women can be just as good at soccer as men.

Parents need to see that with the growing popularity bad role models such as Paris Hilton are gaining, some sort of intervention needs to happen.

WPS just might be that intervention.



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Cavs men's tennis team trying to build momentum for AAC tourney

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With just four matches left in regular season play, the men's tennis team is looking to build momentum before heading into the AAC tournament on April 24 and 25.

Although the Cavs have not had a winning season as a team, doubles partners junior Caleb Crowder and freshman Arnaud Ba currently hold a winning record of 3-2.

Coach Danny Rowland said that Crowder and Ba have been playing really well together for a first year team.

Another bright spot for the Cavs has been junior Randall Maddie, who had never played tennis competitively until this year.

"Randall had a big win at Covenant," Rowland said. "He has really improved and is learning how to compete."

Playing at the collegiate level, however, has proved more challenging than many of the freshmen initially anticipated.

"It's a different experience



Photo by Jessica Price

Junior Randall Maddie returns a serve during the Cavs' April 5 match against Milligan College. The Cavs lost the match 8-1. The team will travel to Berea College tomorrow for an 11 a.m. match.

when you play at the college level," said freshman Mark Collins. "You learn that you have to train more and devote more time to the sport than in high school."

He said that before the season ends he would like to be

playing more consistent and not be so hesitant so that he can hopefully win a few matches.

Senior Daniel Robinson said he would like to see the underclassmen "get some wins under their belt and go into next season knowing what it

takes to win."

Robinson said that he can see some overall improvement on the team.

"Even though we haven't won many matches, the confidence level has improved from

see Tennis, page 4

Quick Hits

Roa named AAC baseball Player of the Week

Sophomore Luis Roa, who plays as a utility for the Cavs, was named the AAC baseball Player of the Week on Tuesday.

In the last seven games, Roa had 12 hits in 24 at bats, scored 15 runs, two doubles, three home runs and 10 RBIs.

He leads the Cavs with 36 runs, 13 walks, nine stolen bases and a .539 on base percentage.

On March 30, during a game against Virginia Intermont, Roa scored seven times while going four of six. During the April 1 game against Emory & Henry, he made a two-run homer.

Roa has consistently been a leader at the plate, ranking second in home runs (5), RBIs (24) and batting average (.412 on 28 of 68).

Golf team set to compete in Union Invitational

The Cavs golf team will compete in the Union Invitational against AAC rivals like Union College, Montreat College and Bluefield College on Monday, April 13.

The Cavs have not placed better than 7th this season. The team's best finish came on Oct. 6 at the King College Invitational when it placed 7th of 10.

Cheerleading tryouts held today in Greear Gym

The Lady Cavs cheerleading team is holding tryouts for possible new cheerleaders today from 5-9 p.m. and again tomorrow from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. in Greear Gym.

Tryouts cost \$10 and participants must bring their completed Spirit Application and insurance card. Prior cheering or tumbling experience is required for all participants.