

Inside



The new bookstore manager and the new director of facilities both started here last month. Meet them on pages 2 and 3.



Federal Pell Grants might not be available for summer school next year. See if this might affect you on page 3.



The women's basketball team finished the season with a win, although both the women's and men's teams lost last weekend. Read all about it on page 8.

Upcoming

➤ **Summer registration begins**

Registration for summer classes begins Feb. 21. See what classes are available on Jenzabar.

➤ **Slam Poet to perform Monday**

Slam poet Amena Brown will perform on Feb. 21 in the Rhododendron Room of the Slemp Student Center at 9 p.m. The event counts as cultural credit.

➤ **Miss UVA-Wise Pageant**

The Miss UVA-Wise scholarship pageant will be held Feb. 26 at 6 p.m. in Cantrell Banquet Hall.

Weather

Friday

62°F / 38°F

Saturday

55°F / 40°F

Sunday

53°F / 40°F

Weather courtesy of
www.weather.com

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Considering changes

Course-repeat policy under review

By Jimmy Seals
Staff Writer
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UVA-Wise administrators said they are reviewing the college's policy on repeating courses, though they stress that no official changes have yet been made.

The college catalog currently says a student who receives a grade of "F" in any course

taken at UVA-Wise can repeat the course. Only the grade they earn when repeating the course will be used to calculate their GPA.

A student can repeat a course twice under the provision.

Administrators are considering changing that policy after Narda Porter, the college's registrar, brought the issue up at the Feb. 1 Chancellor's Cabinet



Huguenin

meeting. "We have to be careful in regards to changes of current policy to protect the academic integrity of the college, the student record and the college community at large," Porter

said this week.

Provost Sandy Huguenin and Academic Dean Amelia Harris are set to review the policy with her, she said.

Current policy also allows a student who receives a grade of "C-" or "D-" in any course at UVA-Wise to repeat the course once. The grade received will be the permanent grade for the course, and the previous grade

see Policy, page 4



The last back-to-back women's and men's basketball games were played in the Greear Gym (inset) Feb. 12. The gym is set to be replaced by the convocation center (above) this fall.

By Jordan Fifer
News Editor
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Carole Gilbert remembers the days when UVA-Wise didn't exist — at least as it looks today.

When she began taking classes in September 1954, the campus was made up only of the sandstone building now called Crockett Hall.

There weren't any athletic teams. There were no homecoming dances.

"We weren't coming back home," she said. "We were just starting to make it one."

Gilbert and more than 30 other college alumni packed the Slemp Student Center atrium Feb. 12 as part of the college's Salute to Greear celebration, which marked the final back-to-back men's and women's home basketball games held in the Fred B. Greear Gymnasium.

Home games are set to be played this fall in the new convocation center, which is scheduled to open in time for the first tip-off come November.

Greear Gym, which opened in November

1961, is named for Fred Bonham Greear, a local attorney who helped lobby the Virginia General Assembly to fund UVA-Wise's creation in 1954, when it was called Clinch Valley College.

Now, close to 50 years later, the Greear facility will be used for classes and training, college officials have said, but the as-of-yet unfinished convocation center will take over duties as the home court for the college's basketball teams.

The alumni who gathered spoke fondly of the college's history.

Athletics were informal then, Gilbert said. There was a baseball team, but it was more a gathering of friends playing catch.

"We had a pretty good team," she said. "But it was more of a pickup-type thing."

The campus looked remarkably different from one year to the next, Gilbert said, much as it does now with near-constant construction.

By the time Danny Mullins started school in 1966, for example, there were four buildings instead of the lone Crockett when Gilbert attended.

see Greear, page 4

Study: freshmen not adept at coping

By Robert Hatch
Staff Writer
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The class of 2014 may be the saddest yet, at least according to a recently published study.

Freshmen college students' self-reported of their emotional health dropped to their lowest point ever, according to a January report by the Higher Education Research Institute, a research center at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Just 51.9 percent of those surveyed said their emotional health was above average, the report found. That's 3.4 percent lower than the results of the 2009 survey, and 11.7 percent lower than when the survey was first given 25 years ago.

The nationwide study has been conducted annually since 1985, and this year surveyed 201,818 first-time, full-time, first-year students at 279 colleges and universities.

Though students' emotional health trended downward, the report found that students' "drive to achieve and their academic abilities" is on a climb, with 75.8 percent of freshmen say-

see Health, page 7

Green thumbs

Club to sell greenhouse plants

By Clifton Diaz
Online Editor
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The college's Greenhouse Club plans to begin growing plants in the near future to sell to the campus community and aid in the campus beautification project.

The members hope to soon begin selling fresh herbs, vegetables and other plants, said senior Leanna Robbins, the club's president.

Club members will allow faculty and staff to select plants from the greenhouse free of charge to assist in the staff council's campus beautification campaign, in which students, faculty and staff are set to take ownership of a building or area on campus.

Kevin Jones, an associate professor of biology and the club's adviser, said he hopes students, faculty, and staff will try to get their hands dirty.

"The fact that students want to get involved in this beautification is really important," Jones

see Green, page 7



Photo by Clifton Diaz

Senior government major Daniel Seiberlich and senior chemistry major Leanna Robbins, members of the Greenhouse Club, work in the greenhouse this week. The club hopes to soon sell its plants on campus.

Fifth student arrested in reported assault

By Jordan Fifer
News Editor
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The fifth freshman accused of assaulting a fellow student in an early February robbery attempt turned himself in Feb. 13 as promised, officials said this week.

Bryceyn Corey Miller, 19, a business major, was arrested Sunday. He was charged with misdemeanor assault and battery, felony conspiracy and felony burglary, according to warrants filed in Wise County District Court.

Miller had left Wise after he and

four other students beat junior Christopher Riner, 26, in a botched robbery, said Wise County Sheriff's Office Capt. Ed Jessee.

Investigators had been in contact with Miller, who had promised to come back to Wise by Feb. 14 to face the charges.

Four other freshmen — Paul Gene Kearney, 19; Robert Lewis Jones, 19; Byron Thaxter Lawrence, 19; and Victor Tariq Lawson, 20 — were arrested earlier as a result of the incident.

The students charged were all at one point members of the UVa-Wise football team, said Danny Sterling, the college's athletic director.



Sterling

current players have been suspended from the team, he said.

They five students have been banned from campus pending their March 1 court dates, said Kathy Still,

the college's director of news and media relations.

Lawrence and Miller remained in jail early Thursday, court records show, while Kearney, Jones and Lawson posted bail last week.

Lawrence's attorney, Wise County lawyer Brent Fleming, declined to comment.

Kearney and Jones' attorneys — Charles Bledsoe, of Big Stone Gap, and Paul Johnson of Wise, respectively — did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

It was not immediately clear if Lawson and Miller had retained or were appointed lawyers.

Moodle to replace Blackboard this fall

By Allie Robinson
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Moodle will officially replace Blackboard as the college's online learning management tool this fall, college officials said this week.

The switch was prompted by the functionality of Moodle and positive reviews from faculty and students during the software's three-year testing phase on campus, said Keith Fowlkes, vice chancellor for information and technology.

"We asked several faculty members [who had used Blackboard before] to try Moodle in their classroom," he said. "They liked Moodle better."

The initial test lasted about eight to 10 months, he said. After that survey phase, the decision was made to switch to Moodle for the fall 2011 semester.

Fowlkes said the Office of Information Technology sends monthly reminders to faculty about the impending switch and offers training for faculty on the new software.

"I'd say that the majority of the Blackboard users now have moved to Moodle," he said.

In addition to eliminating Blackboard, the office plans to install a link between Jenzabar and Moodle, so stu-

dents will be automatically registered for a class in Moodle when they register for it on the student portal.

At least one student this semester registered for a Moodle class without registering through Jenzabar, said Narda Porter, the college registrar.

The incident prompted an e-mail to students sent earlier this week from Academic Dean Amelia Harris, reminding them to make sure they were signed up for classes in Jenzabar.

"Apparently students — and not just freshmen and sophomores — don't always realize that when they enroll in Blackboard or Moodle, [they aren't signed up for the course]," Harris said. "They think when they sign up for that, that they are in the class."

With the link, Fowlkes said, students won't be able to register for Moodle classes unless they are enrolled in the class through the student portal.

Moodle has been, and will continue to be, instrumental in the college's online course offerings, he said.

"Online learning is here, and it's going to stay," he said. "Even after college, there will be online training at jobs, online continuing education courses ... our online courses will help prepare them for [online classes] in their professional lives."



Photo by Clifton Diaz

Scott Lawson (right) folds sweatshirts last week in the UVa-Wise bookstore. He started managing the store in January.

Former Hibbett manager takes over bookstore

By Josh Jordan and James Haley
Staff Writers
highlandcavalier@uvawise.edu

Scott Lawson is excited about books.

And pencils. And UVa-Wise merchandise.

Lawson, 37, began working in January as the college's bookstore manager. And, in two months' time, he's already made some changes, including working to implement a textbook rental program.

"I am excited about the opportunities that the bookstore will have in the near future," Lawson said. "Hopefully by fall 2011, we will be able to offer book rentals here on campus and an online catalog of our product selection."

Lawson said he's also excited about incorporating the college's official athletic sponsor, Adidas, into the bookstore next fall.

A graduate of Alice Lloyd College, Lawson is married to Jessica Ann Lawson, a 2008

graduate of UVa-Wise. The couple has three children — Noah, 8, and a set of twins, Kayley and Kaleb, 6.

The Wise County native has more than 11 years of retail experience, he said. He was previously employed at Hibbett Sports in Norton, where he served as the store's manager for 10 years before accepting his current position at the bookstore.

"Being a lifelong resident of Wise County, I've had the opportunity to watch the tremendous growth of the college and I am excited now to be part of that growth," Lawson said. "The thing I like most about this school is its commitment to the surrounding area and Southwest Virginia."

Lawson said it was an easy transition from Hibbett to the bookstore.

"If someone does not know me, they usually know me as the Hibbett guy," he said. "I guess I'll be known as the bookstore guy soon."

Budget would cut some grants

By Jordan Fifer
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President Obama released a proposed 2012 budget Monday that would make cuts to the federal Pell Grant program in an effort to save the program itself.

Obama's budget would maintain the grant's \$5,550 maximum by eliminating the in-school interest subsidy on loans given to graduate students, and by capping the number of grants allowable at one per year, according to the proposal.

Obama, who fought as part of his college-access initiative for students to be able to receive two grants a year — one for the general term, and one for summer school — said in a Tuesday news conference that more people took advantage of the offer than originally thought.

The number of Pell Grant recipients is projected to rise from six million in 2008 to 9.6 million in 2012, according to U.S. Department of Education figures, and that increase has led to unexpected costs for the federal government.

By removing the

short-lived summer Pell Grants, Obama hopes to spare the program as a whole. His budget, in fact, would raise Pell Grant funding by more than \$5 billion in other areas, the Department of Education said.

Obama also proposed getting rid of the current policy that allows graduate students to take on federal loans while in school without accruing interest.

"[The cuts] will save us some money, but the core functions of the programs are sustained," Obama said in the news conference. "That doesn't mean that these aren't still tough cuts."

Federal Pell Grants, which do not require repayment, are awarded based on demonstrated financial need, as determined by the government.

UVa-Wise awarded \$256,000 in summer Pell Grants to 175 students last year, said Bill Wendle, the college's director of financial aid.

The school has processed more than \$3.8 million in Pell Grants for 921 students — close to half of the student body — so far for the entirety of the 2010-2011 academic year, Wendle said.

New director of facilities begins

By Allie Robinson
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Chad Nodine walked onto his first construction job when he was 18, and he's been in the business ever since.

Nodine, the college's new director of facilities, started his new post on Jan. 31. He was hired to replace John Reeves, who retired earlier this semester.

But this is not Nodine's first job at UVa-Wise. He has worked on campus for about three-and-a-half years as the construction supervisor for Rentenbach Constructors, Inc., the company contracted to renovate Smiddy Hall.

"I know campus and it helps, especially when you know the key players," he said of getting settled into his new position. "There's a good group of people here. I haven't met nobody I couldn't get along with."

Nodine said he has been enjoying the new job because he's in the profession he loves and in the area he's come to call home.

"I wanted to find somewhere to plant my feet, and I like this kind of work," he said.

As the director of facilities, Nodine said he hopes to help the college save energy, as well as make "things easier for the people who maintain the buildings."

Part of that, he said, is working on issues with the college's electricity. Nodine said he wants to work with Old Dominion Power, the college's electricity provider, to change the power lines so that when the power goes out or trips, the flow will cut off, instead of running at partial power, which can cause engines that need to run at full power to burn out.

He said the power outage Feb. 11 was caused by a surge in the line between the Caf and Henson, which blew a cable in half. He said he hopes to avoid problems like that in the future, which may include burying the cables underground.

But Nodine said he likes solving problems. "That's my favorite part of the day, trying out a way to fix a problem," he said.

Before coming to Wise on the Rentenbach job, Nodine, who is from Boiling Springs, S.C.,



Photo by Jordan Fifer

Chad Nodine started working as the college's new director of facilities three weeks ago.

said he traveled the country for 18 years doing construction work. He was made a supervisor at age 25 and has been one ever since.

"I've been all over the country and done a little bit of everything," he said. "Construction is amazing because you see what you've done at the end of the day, and you meet different people everywhere you go."

He said his new job at the college operates at a different pace than he's used to, but he's "at the point that it's time to slow down and enjoy life."

He married Cara Christian, who attended UVa-Wise for two years, in October, and the two are building a home in Wise.

"I wanted to quit traveling," he said. "Wise has been the best place to travel to. It's quiet and country like I'm used to."

Summer college chance to catch up, explore new classes

From Staff Reports

The course listing for summer classes this year is more broader than ever before, according to college officials.

"What's new this year is how diverse the schedule is in terms of a good sampling of traditional classes and what's being offered online," said Rusty Necessary, vice chancellor for enrollment management. "There's been an intentionality in putting together a schedule that has something for everyone."

Students who take summer classes

are also only charged tuition, which makes taking summer classes nearly 50 percent less expensive than taking them during the school year.

"Regardless of what happens [with Congress's budget talks] we have grants and work opportunities," Necessary said. "We have the resources available to make it affordable."

He said summer classes are a good chance for students to catch up on classes, get ahead in coursework or take classes they don't have room to schedule during the fall or spring semesters.

THE HIGHLAND CAVALIER Correction

Ed Jessee is a captain in the Wise County Sheriff's Office. His title was incorrect in the Feb. 11 story "Freshmen arrested following reported assault." We regret the error.

News Briefs

Literary Journal seeking submissions

Today is the last day to submit materials to the spring edition of the college's literary journal.

The Jimson Weed is looking for original poetry, prose, artwork and photography, according to a UVa-Wise news release.

Submissions should be sent to managing editor Ashley Ryan at ar4a@uvawise.edu by this afternoon.

Seniors should check cultural credit

Students expecting to graduate in May should make sure they are on track to fulfill their cultural credit requirements, college officials said.

Academic Dean Amelia Harris

said her office usually receives a list of students who are expecting to graduate mid-semester and checks each student's record to make sure they have fulfilled the cultural activity requirement to graduate — eight credits.

This spring, however, Harris doesn't have an administrative assistant, who would usually complete that task and e-mail students who are lacking credits.

"We have had as many as 70 [e-mails] to send out," she said. "We inevitably have students who go through the graduation ceremony without fulfilling all their cultural credits."

But to graduate and receive a diploma, students must finish the requirement, she said.

Typically, seniors who are missing

credits only lack one or two.

She said that on a case-by-case basis, she allows students to finish the requirement, either by attending a cultural credit event, such as a play or lecture, or by watching an international movie from a list she provides and then writing a one-page response to be turned in to her.

"We had a couple students who just finished them from the fall," she said.

Harris said several years ago, one student walked across the stage but was lacking about five credits. The student never completed the requirement.

"As far as I know, she's never graduated," Harris said.

She said students must sign in and out of a cultural credit-eligible activity

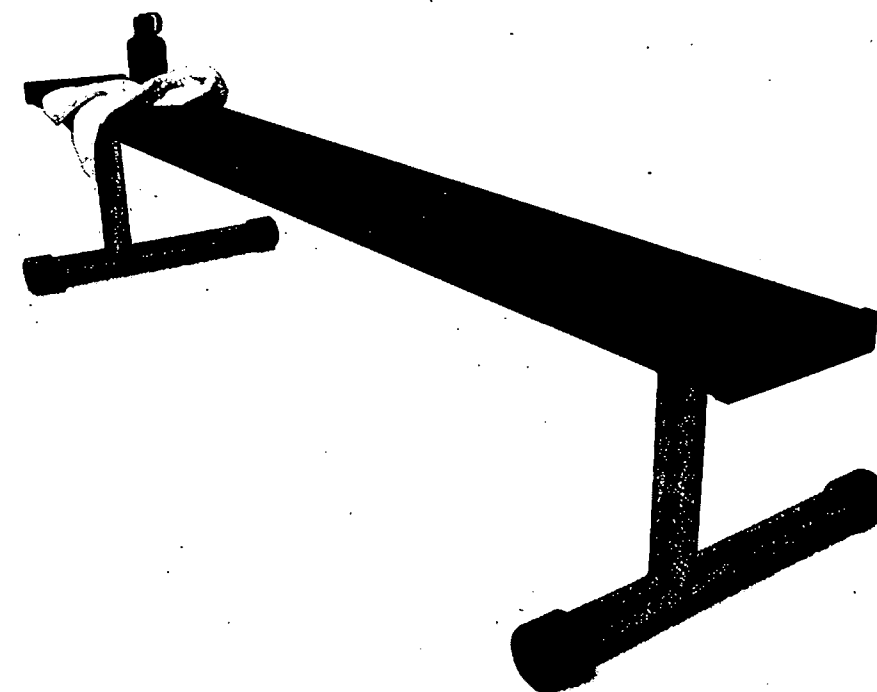
before receiving credit for it. On-campus lectures, musical performances and Pro-Art events all usually count as cultural credit.

In addition to receiving credit for events on campus, students can attend a play at the Barter Theatre in Abingdon and turn in their ticket stub and a program, or attend a cultural credit event at Tales of the Lonesome Pine bookstore in Big Stone Gap. Students can also sign in before attending a performance of the Symphony of the Mountains, where Harris is president of the symphony's board of directors.

Students can check their cultural credits on Jenzabar by clicking on the "Students" tab, clicking "Reports and Billing" and then "Calculate Your Cultural Activities."

ON OUR TEAM, NOBODY SITS HERE.

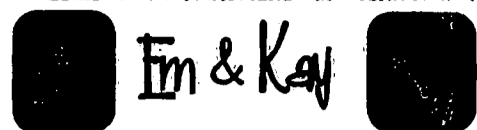
It takes many different kinds of players to round out our starting line-up.



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Emily and Karrye — that's us at the top of the page — are here to answer your questions. Nothing is off limits. Send any question or problem, big or small, to the email addresses below. If your question isn't answered the week you send it, we might be saving it for an upcoming week, so don't get discouraged. We'll be here for you no matter what. If you don't want your name printed in the newspaper, sign it with an anonymous name like the ones below. Good luck!

Love,
Em & Kay

Dear Em & Kay,
My boyfriend keeps pressuring me to do things I'm not ready to do. I'm not totally against having sex before marriage, but I'm not ready to have sex with him. My friends tell me I should just go ahead and do it because it isn't that big of a deal. What do you think?

- Not So Fast

Not So Fast,

We disagree with your friends. You never have to do anything you're not ready for. Talk to your boyfriend; maybe he's feeling pressure from his friends to do those things, too. You should never do anything if you aren't 100 percent sure you want to. If your friends are bothering you, talk to them, too, and let them know that you and your boyfriend aren't going to be having sex and you'd appreciate them not harassing you about it. If worse comes to worst, you can always talk to an RA or one of the counselors on campus about it. Good luck!

Love,
Em & Kay

E-mail Emily Baxter or Karrye Ommener at enb5u@uvawise.edu or koo9c@uvawise.edu.

Dear Em & Kay,
I'm having trouble with a good friend of mine. Recently, I started to feel used by her, but when I try to confront her, she puts the issues back on me. She doesn't seem to understand that I can't always do everything for her while she does nothing for me. Whenever I ask her for help or company, she complains about a headache or fatigue. Yet within minutes, she'll need a ride somewhere and I'll be the first one she contacts. This is becoming really frustrating. What should I do?

- Unhappy Friend

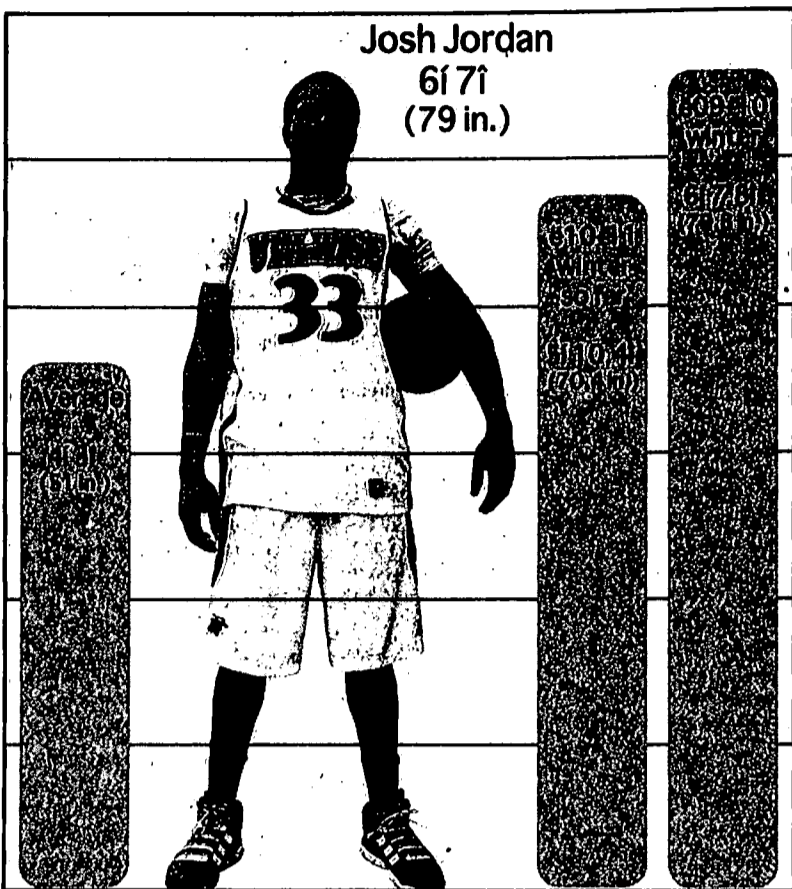
Unhappy Friend,

Talk to your friend face-to-face about the issues you two are having. It might be best to spend a little time apart from each other. We know it's hard because you two are good friends, but this might help save the friendship. You have to be patient and willing to rekindle your friendship. Don't give up just yet. Good luck!

Love,
Em & Kay

That's how much?

How does this season's snowfall measure up to Josh Jordan, UVA-Wise's tallest basketball player? The Highland Cavalier crunched the numbers.



Sources: National Weather Service, uvawisecava.com Photo and graphic by Jordan Fifer

Note: This season's winter data (2010-2011) includes totals for Wise from November 2010 through January 2011. Last year's winter data (2009-2010) includes totals from November 2009 through March 2010.

Know of a good story?
Send us a news tip!
highlandcavalier@uvawise.edu

Policy

Continued from page 1

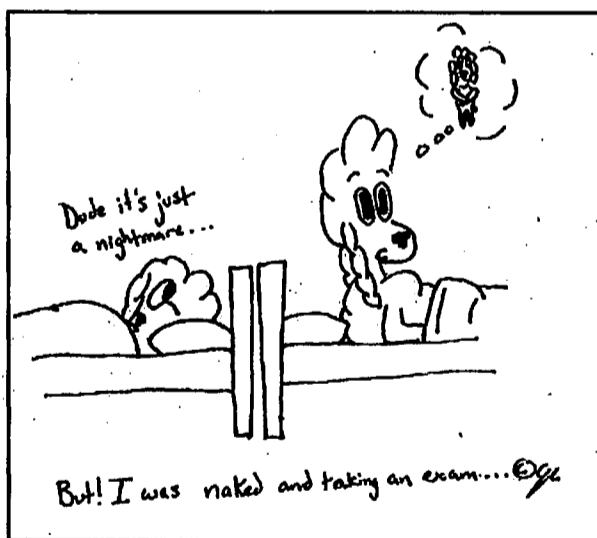
will be set aside. Transfer students who have a grade of "D" or "F" in a course taken at another college currently have the option of repeating the course at UVA-Wise, provided there is an equivalent course offered here. Porter said administrators would seek to make sure a potential policy change reflected the college's high standards. Huguena and Harris said it was too early to discuss the specifics of a new policy, as they had just begun reviewing the issue. If any changes are made, they'll be listed in the college's 2011 course catalog, Porter said.

Greear

Continued from page 1

The college had started handing out four-year degrees in Mullins' first year, as well. "We were all close-knit like family," Mullins said. "When you come back years later, it still feels like home. You go back to your teenage years." The celebration drew a crowd, including the college's first chancellor, Joseph "Papa Joe" Smiddy, who chatted with alumni and current students across the atrium from the school's current chancellor, David Prior. Mullins, who now serves on the board of the UVA-Wise Foundation, said he's proud of what his alma mater has become. "I look at what it's developed into," he said. "And I'm proud to be part of that."

POODLZ IN COLLEGE



Cartoonist Joanna Lewis is a senior computer science major.

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Campus Bulletin

Upcoming:

Concert: Miss Joshua Patricia Ray, a band formed by students Collin Skeen, Josh Fleenor, Spencer Adams and Joel Sprinkle, will release its EP tonight during a concert in Cantrell Banquet Hall at 7 p.m. Admission is \$2.

Study Abroad: It's time to sign up for fall study abroad trips. Stop by the International Programs office in Darden 105 for more information.

Weekly:

The Wise Environmental Club: The environmental club meets on Mondays at 6 p.m. in the Henson classroom. Contact Jennifer Fulton at jnl7a@uvawise.edu or Spencer Adams at sta9a@uvawise.edu for more information.

Wesley Fellowship: Wesley Fellowship serves free homestyle dinners on Tuesday nights at 6 p.m. at the Wesley Foundation by Alumni Hall.

SAB: Student Activities Board meetings are held Wednesdays at 5 p.m. in the Hooper Court room on the third floor of the Slempp Student Center. Contact Josh Justice for more information.

BCM: Baptist Collegiate Ministries serves free meals on Wednesdays at 5 p.m. at the BCM.

Tupos: Tupos services are held Wednesdays at 9 p.m. in the Chapel of All Faiths.

The Highland Cavalier: The student newspaper holds weekly meetings on Fridays at 1 p.m. in the third floor Honor Court Room in the Slempp Student Center.

SGA: The Student Government Association meets weekly on Fridays at 1 p.m. in the fifth floor Rhododendron Room in the Slempp Student Center.



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SOME PHOTOS BLURRED

Paper always seeking opinions

By Allie Robinson
Editor-in-Chief
agr2q@uvawise.edu

This page is yours. I mean that. The opinion page, especially one in a newspaper at a small, liberal arts college, is a community forum. It is a place to sound off about the things that matter to you — whether that be the political situation in Egypt, the difficulty of crossing Darden Drive to get to the social science trailers or your take on a story that's been published in this paper.

It is a place where faculty and staff could share those things that matter to them, but perhaps don't fit neatly into the framework of their courses.

For instance: the importance, or lack thereof, of undergraduate research. The things first-time credit card users should know about credit rates and accumulating interest. Anything.

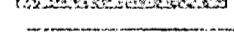
I don't make promises about the newspaper insofar as what we will publish. But, there are very few opinion pieces that have come through that we have denied.

We of course reserve the right to edit your piece for length and clarity as outlined in the small text at the bottom of this page. Other than that, just don't curse.

And, it's so easy to submit something to us. We are on Facebook. We are on Twitter. We have a website. We have an e-mail address. We have a phone number. We have a campus box. At least one of us is almost always in the newspaper office, which is on the third floor of the Slemp Student Center.

We are here for you. This is, and has always been, your paper.

Feel free to use it.



Lady Gaga's well-publicized "egg" entrance, complete with scantily clad attendants, was the talk of the Grammy Awards Feb. 13.

Too many awards, not enough respect

By Matthew Barnette
Opinion Editor
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Award shows seem useless to me. There are hundreds of them televised almost year-round, and more pop up all the time.

Doesn't having so many award shows make the awards given less prestigious? If someone wins 40 different awards at 15 different award shows, they aren't going to care about any but the most recently received.

So why not eliminate the hundreds of other award shows and whittle the number down to only the most respectable?

Worse than the needless number of award shows is how many of them take no notice of anything but the most popular of the genre, whether those are among the most impressive or not.

Some of the greatest films, shows and music come and go without a nomination in even the lesser award categories.

Occasionally the award shows get it right and don't fall into the trap of only awarding the most popular. Those shows sometimes feature small time and independent works that the majority of Americans have never seen or heard, which often makes such work's popularity skyrocket in a matter of days and occasionally produces a major star.

Even then, for every one award given out to a new and exceptional talent, there are 10 that go to some popular nominee who already won a few awards earlier in the night.

I blame the number of categories for this. Sure, there needs to be a large number of different categories to give as many nominees a chance to win as possible. But if someone is nominated for 10 of them, it isn't very fair to the ones who're only nominated for one or two.

A limit on the number of nominations should be set — around three or four, I'd say — so more nominees have a chance to win at least one award and receive some credit for their hard work and talent.

The worst part of award shows is the emphasis placed on how people look and the clothes they wear on the red carpet.

Every single award show does not need an hour of "fashion experts" needlessly nit picking at hair styles, make-up, fabric types, colors, shapes and even shoes.

If I wanted to hear people talk about clothes, I could go to a store and ask questions I really don't need the answers to.

The dresses and other clothing worn to award shows never seem to show up again at anything but another award show anyway.

Awards are given to people who have accomplished some significant act. Hollywood has taken that notion and almost completely thrown it away. Hundreds of events give awards out like candy and the honor and respect of almost all of them has deteriorated. Viewers flock to watch the award shows, not to see who wins, but to see what spectacles arise from them.

Weather policy needs to be changed

By Cameron Parsons
Sports Editor
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On Feb. 9, a commuter student wrecked on an icy school road trying to get to class.

It's surprising that it hasn't happened sooner.

On Dec. 6, the college closed for inclement weather. That evening, it continued snowing. By the next morning, road conditions were worse than the day before.

However, college officials decided to hold final exams rather than cancel or delay finals like the day before.

By not cleaning off the roads and

sidewalks, college officials put the health of students at risk.

Maybe the college wants to be more like the University of Virginia, our parent institution, which doesn't cancel classes often. But our situations are slightly different.

Charlottesville is a large campus with very few students living far from campus and no mountainous terrain. They're better able to deal with icy conditions.

That being said, we shouldn't cancel or delay classes at the first sign of snowfall like the Wise County public school system. Every situation is different, of course, and the college should always take that into consideration.

Since winter is winding down, it

might be too late to make a change this school year. But a change needs to be made.

The weather is unpredictable in our area, so there is no exact science to determine whether or not classes should be canceled.

But when roads, sidewalks and parking lots are covered in ice, classes should be at least delayed until it is safe for students, faculty and staff to travel.

Whether that is a day or a week, the college should provide its students and faculty with safe passage to class.

At a school with mostly commuter students, it is imperative that administrators consider safety when dealing with foul weather conditions.

Softball splits doubleheader

By Cameron Parsons
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Photo by Jessica Price

Senior center fielder Maddi Ridenour steals second base in the Cavs' 4-0 victory in the first game of the season against Milligan College on Feb. 15. The Cavs will play another away doubleheader against Emmanuel College tomorrow at 2 p.m.

scored two runs in the fourth inning.

The Cavs scored two more insurance runs in the fourth thanks to junior third baseman Ashlee Washburn's RBI triple.

"The weather was perfect and we played really well," she said. "I was so excited to be back on the field."

Through two games, Washburn is batting .400, has scored two runs and has an RBI triple. In the second game, the Buffaloes jumped out for four runs in the first inning and two runs in the second before the Cavs responded with two runs in the third inning.

McCoy threw a scoreless complete game with eight strikeouts, giving up only four hits in the win.

Burns, who took the loss, had four strikeouts before leaving the game after the Cavs team's 6-2 loss.

Washburn said that the loss was partially due to the young team's nervousness.

"I really believe [the loss] was just a case of first game jitters," she said.

The Cavs have received some quality play from its young players, including the team's six freshman starters.

Freshman catcher Charity Lawson and freshman second baseman Alyssa Zebrowski are both batting .333, and Lawson scored a run in the Cavs' 4-0 victory.

"We are a young team, but we really do have a lot of talent," Washburn said.

The Cavs will play another doubleheader at Emmanuel College tomorrow at 2 p.m.

Games of the Week

#24 Utah State @ #23 Saint Mary's



In order to separate themselves from the competition, both Utah State and Saint Mary's must win this game.

Utah State is 23-3, with all three losses coming on the road, two against top-25 teams.

Utah State is led by senior forward Tai Wesley and junior guard Brockeith Pane.

Wesley averages 14 points and 7.8 rebounds per game, while Pane averages 11.1 points and 3.2 assists per game.

Utah State's strength is defense — the Aggies hold opponents to 58.3 points per game.

Utah State is the best team in the Western Athletic Conference, but they are not an offensive powerhouse like Saint Mary's.

With a 23-4 record, Saint Mary's is

the crown jewel of the West Coast Conference and they really have a chance to do some damage in the tournament.

The Gaels' shooters have been unstoppable, making nearly 50 percent of their shots and scoring 81 points per game.

In all the games Saint Mary's lost, the Gaels failed to score more than 73 points.

The Gaels are led by the duo of senior forward Rob Jones and senior guard Mike McConnell.

Jones averages 14.5 points and 7.9 rebounds per game, while McConnell averages 17 points and 6.3 assists per game.

The smart bet is on the Gaels outscoring the Aggies in this match-up.

The game will air tomorrow night at 9 p.m. on ESPN 2.

#7 Notre Dame @ West Virginia



This is a game that can save West Virginia's season.

They were virtually guaranteed a berth in the national championship tournament before going 4-5 since Jan. 19.

West Virginia averages 70.5 points per game, while holding opponents to 64.4 points per game.

The Mountaineers need some quality wins to show they can contend after losing stars Devin Ebanks and Da'Sean Butler to the NBA draft last season.

Veteran players — like senior guard Joe Mazzulla and junior forward Kevin Jones — will be the key to turning around the Mountaineers' season.

Mazzulla, who averages 6.4 points and four assists per game, has shown moments of greatness, but fails to consistently show it.

Jones played brilliantly last season,

but his stats have also fallen. This season, Jones scores 12.7 points and pulls down seven rebounds per game.

While West Virginia is looking for new players to fill the roles left by departed stars, Notre Dame currently has one of the program's best players on its roster.

Senior guard Ben Hansbrough is the Irish's best player. He averages 17.3 points, 4.1 assists and 3.8 rebounds per game.

The Irish are 21-4 this season and sit in second place to Pittsburgh in the Big East Conference.

Since this game is in Morgantown, anything can happen. However, the Irish are playing very well this season and should not lose this game.

The game will air tomorrow at 1 p.m. on CBS.

Green

Continued from page 1

He said he hopes to see the variety of the greenhouse's floral residents expand.

"Arguably, we could end up growing just about anything we wanted to," he said. "The greenhouse will have some very attractive flowering plants to beautify the buildings."

Robbins, whose family owns an organic farm in Duffield, said she could see the greenhouse become self-sustaining.

And a local coal company has expressed interest in sponsoring the building, which Robbins said is a "wonderful opportunity."

Jones said he sees the greenhouse

servicing many roles.

"It is a very sophisticated greenhouse," he said. "There's a possibility of bringing school teachers in to teach them about the food they eat."

Topics ranging from food security, energy costs and food safety are problems in the community that teachers can learn about, he said.

"It can open people's eyes to the problems and why they should care about it," he said.

The club is looking to increase awareness about their work, Jones said.

"There's no doubt we can grow plants," he said. "We could grow some really beautiful plants."

Health

Continued from page 1

ing their drive to succeed was above average.

John Pryor, the report's lead author, said he believed the increased drive to succeed was adding stress to incoming college students.

"Students are arriving in college already overwhelmed and with lower reserves of emotional health," Pryor wrote in the report. "Faculty, deans and administrators should expect to see more consequences of stress."

Pryor said increased stress often leads to poor judgment about time management and alcohol consumption.

UVa-Wise saw about 70 additional sessions in the fall of 2010 compared to the previous year, said Lelia Bradshaw, director of the Center for Student Development, and a campus counselor. The numbers do not reflect not actual people, she said; one person could have more than one session.

"The ways students learned to fend for themselves developmentally — by building up problem-solving skills and coping skills — have been

undermined with the attention to supporting them and the immediate contact with parents at all times," said Denise Hayes, the president of the Association for University and College Counseling Center Directors, in a Chronicle of Higher Education article about the report.

Jewell Worley, UVa-Wise's dean of students, said the stress of college has not changed over the years, but rather that coping mechanisms once common are not as prevalent as they once were.

"College is a transition, and sometimes educators assume students are more prepared than they really are," she said.

Worley said basic study habits — like having a "study buddy," organizing notes taken in class, making flash cards and preparing for exams — are a huge transition for many students.

Students having difficulty coping with stress and anxiety can visit the Center for Student Development in the lower level of Cantrell Hall.

The study can be viewed online at heri.ucla.edu.

Basketball

Continued from page 8

Shawn Savage's 13 points and freshman guard Reggie Smith's 12 points.

The loss increases the Cavs' losing streak total to seven consecutive games. The team's last win came on Jan. 15 against 97-81 the University of Rio Grande.

The Cavs are currently 9-15 overall and 3-12 in the conference.

The team has three games left this season, including one tomorrow against West Virginia Tech at 8 p.m.

They will play Feb. 19 against University of Rio Grande.

It's everyone's campus, keep it clean

By Robert Davis
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"For nine months out of the year for students, and year-round for staff, this place is your home."

This was the closing comment made by Josh Justice, assistant director of student activities and Greek life, in an article in last week's edition of The Highland Cavalier.

The comment was made about a new initiative that is being launched by Justice, the chair of the staff council, that is, in essence the same as the "Adopt a Highway" program that you

see along many roadways.

I applaud Justice, along with the other faculty and staff members who have supported the program's idea, for making moves in the right direction.

We as students should follow suit and accept responsibility for the area in which we live.

This college is where many of us call home for the better part of a year. It's where we eat, sleep, socialize, learn and develop as individuals.

This campus is not anyone's campus.

It is everyone's campus. You have an investment in this campus as soon as you pay tuition. You

are an integral part of the life and activity of our beloved institution.

We may gripe and complain about it every once in a while, but in all honesty, would you really want to be anywhere else?

I would not trade my experiences, my friends or my accomplishments here at UVa-Wise for anything else.

For all that we receive from our campus, would it hurt to give a little back?

I don't think so. This campus is simply gorgeous.

Why not join together as a college community, roll up our collective sleeves, get our pants a little bit dirty

and do some work?

A few hours of our time once every few weeks picking up garbage won't kill us.

It will only benefit us.

We are a community of students, faculty and staff.

We should take pride in the community in which we operate.

Let's keep our campus beautiful and something we can be proud of.

I urge people — as individuals or as part of a group — to get in contact with Justice and let him know you are interested in joining this initiative.

We have the power to accomplish great things, so why not use it?

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The Highland Cavalier welcomes all contributions, which can be delivered to the Editor-in-Chief Allie Robinson in person (317 Slemp Student Center), by standard mail (Campus Box 4682, The University of Virginia's College at Wise, 1 College Avenue, Wise, VA 24293), by phone (324-0170), or via e-mail (highlandcavalier@uvawise.edu).
Letters to the editor can also be e-mailed to Opinion Editor Matthew Barnette (highlandcavalier@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.



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