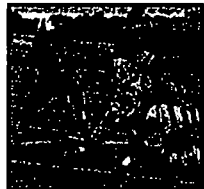


Inside



A former endowed chair will be returning to campus to give a lecture. Check out the story on page 2.



UVA-Wise sports teams playing in NCAA Division II is still possible. Check out the investigation on page 6.



Football season isn't here yet, but staff writer Corey Sanchez has a spring football preview ready. Check out the story on page 6.

Upcoming

Day of Service

The second annual Cavaliers Care Day of Service will be held tomorrow.

Prior Center naming ceremony

The official naming ceremony of the building will take place Wednesday, April 25 at 1 p.m.

Founder's Day

Founder's Day is today. A cultural credit lecture will be held at 1 p.m. in the Greear Gym. An iPad will be given out as a door prize.

Weather

Friday



65°F / 42°F



74°F / 53°F

Sunday



80°F / 58°F

Weather courtesy of www.weather.com

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Budget, tuition set to increase

By Jenay Tate
The Coalfield Progress

The proposed 2012-13 operating budget for UVA-Wise is projected to total \$36.4 million, up about 4.8 percent over the current year's revised budget.

Approved by the UVA-Wise Board on March 23, the budget includes a roughly 5 percent increase in tuition and fees and an 8 percent jump in housing costs.

The budget for direct instruction is projected to grow about 9 percent, to \$10.1 million, which fully funds open and new teaching and research faculty positions that had been previously unfunded because of state budget reductions, according to Sim Ewing, vice chancellor for finance and administration.

Spending drops are projected in academic support (1.2 percent), student ser-

vices (1 percent) and institutional support (4 percent).

Ewing said that all budget details won't be final until the college has the last word from General Assembly budget negotiations.

The state's general fund appropriation accounts for about 41 percent of UVA-Wise's budget. Another 28.4 percent comes from auxiliary enterprises, he said, revenue collected for such self-supporting activities as student housing, conferences, dining and student health services.

Tuition and education and general fees revenue accounts for about 21 percent of the budget, with endowment income making up about 5.3 percent; grants and contracts about 2.2 percent; gifts about 1.8 percent; and local sales and services about .02 percent.

It appears the college will get about

\$12.3 million in state funding in the upcoming budget year, Ewing said. That's down \$5.167 million from fiscal year 2008, however, which Ewing said is especially tough on a small school that already operates a pretty lean institution, and where most students come from Virginia and get financial aid.

UVA-Wise hasn't had to lay off anyone in recent years, Ewing said, but also didn't replace a whole lot of people, and sometimes full-time positions were filled with part-time people. Over five years, he said, faculty size has dropped from about 94 to 88.

Currently, the college has 12 faculty searches underway and three completed. These will restore two positions lost during the recession and seek to add a senior hire as an endowed chair in chemistry, the

see Fees, page 3

Watch your step...



Jessica Sharkey / The Highland Cavalier

Students, faculty and members of the community go sole searching with a barefoot march through the Town of Wise in celebration of the One Day Without Shoes event sponsored by Tom's Shoes on Tuesday. "I hope it will continue as an annual event," said alumna DeAnna Thacker (Class of 2011). "I had 60 people walking barefoot, and this morning I donated well over 100 pairs of shoes to the North Hope House," she said. "I am so pleased with the turnout and the support we received from the town and college."

SGA candidates fight for votes in debate

By Todd Galyean
Opinion Editor
mtg7h@uvawise.edu

The Student Government Association held a presidential debate between candidates Philip Blevins and Jordan Viars on April 11 to prepare for the elections that will occur Monday through Wednesday on the student portal.

Viars is a junior psychology major minor in communication studies who is currently a sitting senator-at-large and Blevins is an administration of justice major who is currently a sitting senator for the junior class. Both students are running for

the student elected position of SGA president.

The debate was arranged by SGA Elections Commissioner Ashley Cvetnich and SGA Adviser Josh Justice, and moderated by Dean of Students Jewell Worley.

These are some of the highlights of each candidate's responses to the questions posed at the debate.

Introductions:

Viars: "There are three main things I truly want to do: I want to increase the student's voice on campus, unite the Highland Cavalier family and to increase stronger ties with the Wise community."

Blevins: "Two things I would like for

you to remember about me: one would be my commitment and my love for UVA-Wise and number two would be my dedication to helping others."

What have you contributed personally to SGA in your time as a senator?

Viars: "I was tasked for organizing the SGA Holly Ball which drew in 395 students, which is the largest Holly Ball the college has hosted...I drafted the resolution in support of naming the Convocation Center after Chancellor Prior, which I presented and that passed with a unanimous consent."

Blevins: "One of the duties as a senator

see SGA, page 3

Holocaust remembrance events scheduled

By Emily Baxter
Staff Writer
enb5u@uvawise.edu

During the week of April 17, the first year mentors will be sponsoring the third annual Yad VaShem, or "A Memorial and a Name."

This week-long event is to remember those affected by the Holocaust. The focus this year is connecting the past to the present, the other to the self, ac-

ording to Dakota Thomas, first year mentor.

The events will be happening each day of the week and are set to be hosted by people from the UVA-Wise community.

On Monday, April 16, Jordan Fifer, Diane Silver and Maria Weitzman will be hosting a discussion called "It's Not a Jewish Thing," to be held in the Chapel of All Faiths at 1 p.m.

"Elusive Justice," a documentary about the global hunt

for Nazi war criminals, will be shown Tuesday, April 17, from 6:30-9 p.m. in the Dogwood Room of the Slemp Student Center.

History professor Mark Clark, will present a lecture called "The Fate of the Mischlinge during the Third Reich: Nazi Persecution of Jewish-Christian Germans" in the Gladeville Room in Cantrell Hall from 1-2 PM on Wednesday, April 18th.

"The Boy in the Striped Pajamas" will be presented in the Dogwood Room of the Student Center at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 18.

This book-turned-film is a story about a boy who stumbles upon a concentration camp while exploring and befriends a captured Jewish boy on the other side of the barbed wire fence. Immediately following the viewing, Eric Smith will be

see Holocaust, page 2

News Briefs

Prior Center ceremony to be held

The David J. Prior Convocation Center is set to be officially named at a ceremony on April 25, officials announced.

The public is invited to help officials dedicate the building that Wednesday at 1 p.m., said Chris Davis, director of the center. Tours of the building will follow.

College administrators, including UVA President Teresa Sullivan, will be on hand for the dedication, said UVA-Wise spokeswoman Kathy Still.

- Jordan Fifer

College gets new wheels

A '56-passenger motor coach is the newest addition to the college's fleet of vehicles.

The 1997 Setra bus was purchased used in January for \$43,500 and will serve in a variety of ways, from athletic events to field trips, said Joe Kiser, director of college services.

The motor coach, the largest in the college's fleet of vehicles, was painted with the college logo. It joins two mid-size buses and two passenger vans already owned by the school, as well as a fleet of other passenger and utility vehicles.

- Jordan Fifer

Bone screening for scholarship funds

The Pre-Professional Club will be hosting a bone density screening to raise money for an academic award in David Prior's name.

Screening costs \$49.99, which includes a free screening for a friend or family member.

Those interested can pre-register at <http://link2cart.com/gtbgrr> and save \$10 with the code WISE-PPC if registered before April 16.

The event will be held on April 20 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Jefferson Lounge and proceeds will contribute to an award for Wise students going on to professional or graduate schools. Contact Santana VanDyke or Emma Spangler for more information.

- Jessica Shartouny

Election history lecture

By Jessica Shartouny
Editor-In-Chief
jns7dw@uvawise.edu

The election of 1860, which put Abraham Lincoln in the White House, is the subject of the first lecture in a series of talks on momentous elections to be held through the fall semester.

Sponsored by the Department of History and department group "Friends of Buck and Stan, the talks will highlight events in the U.S. political history in preparation for the presidential elections in November, according to Tom Costa, chair of the Department of History.

Brian Wills, former UVA-Wise professor and current director of the Center for the Study of the Civil War Era at Kennesaw State University, will visit the college to deliver the first lecture, titled "Will the Railsplitter Split the Nation?" His talk is partially supported by the Appalachian Warfare Grant, which promotes education of the Civil War.

The series will continue when classes resume in the fall with a series of talks on other elections giv-

en by current UVA-Wise professors, including Eric Smith, Costa, Brian McKnight, Preston Mitchell, Elizabeth Steele and Cindy Wilkey.

Each professor will discuss one significant election in the country's history.

"It is our hope that by discussing these important political moments, our students increase their historical knowledge and gain a greater appreciation for political participation," said McKnight, who is the primary coordinator of the series.

"The modern 24-hour news cycle requires every new item to be the 'first time in human history' so by illustrating that these important and sometimes combative moments have occurred before and are sometimes the norm, maybe we can help break through the historical ignorance that modern news requires of its viewers," McKnight said.

A viewing party, organized by Costa, will be held on election night to culminate the series and allow those interested the chance to watch the results.

Wills' lecture is scheduled for April 19 at 6 p.m. in the Rhododendron Room. All students, faculty and community members are encouraged to attend.

Fees

Continued from page 1

board was told.

Non-academic areas have taken a bigger hit, though, Ewing said, with reductions in spending all across campus on everything from travel to computers to supplies.

But the college has grown since 2008, so that has helped revenue, Ewing said. UVA-Wise has now surpassed its target enrollment of 2,000, with 2,068 total students, the equivalent of roughly 1,600 full time.

The college's student body and its very mission affect decisions on how to bridge the gap.

About 95 percent of UVA-Wise students come from Virginia, meaning the college does not have the

opportunity that some others have to make up the difference with the premium tuition rates charged to out-of-state students.

Additionally, about 83 percent of students who attend UVA-Wise get some sort of financial aid, Ewing noted, and many work on the side to keep their debt low. UVA-Wise students aren't as financially able as elsewhere to shoulder the burden of rate hikes and so the college isn't as inclined to pass along whopping increases in costs, he said.

- Highland Cavalier Photo/Online Editor Jordan Fifer contributed to this report.

Holocaust

Continued from page 1

leading a candlelight vigil.

Friday, April 20th, there will be a Reading of the Names Ceremony in the Student Center atrium. This event will begin at 8:30 a.m. and will go until the names of 5,000 victims have been read.

Students who wish to participate in the Reading of the Names or who are interested in more information about the events during Yad VaShem should contact Dakota Thomas (dwt3f) or Diane Silver (dls3wb).

et cetera

'Walk to Remember' Alzheimer's patients

By Emily Baxter
Staff Writer
enb5u@uvawise.edu

The Student Government Association and Student Nursing Association will be sponsoring the first annual Alzheimer's Association 5K and 1 Mile Walk to Remember on Saturday, May 5, on campus. Registration for the race will begin at 8 a.m. at the Greear Gymnasium with the race starting at 9.

This idea was sparked by SGA Vice President Luke Rasnick and Student Nursing Association member Al-

ana Parton. Both have had experiences with family members suffering from this disease and decided to take a stand against it.

"For the last two and a half years, my family has been taking care of my Papaw," Rasnick said. "It's time consuming and something that I'm really passionate about. I go home every weekend to help when the nurses aren't there." Rasnick said Parton's grandma suffered from this disease as well.

"Alana's grandma had this. She talked to Josh [Justice] and asked if she could do something to raise mon-

ey," said Rasnick. "I've been wanting to do this so we put our ideas together and here it is."

Since Alzheimer's affects 1 in 8 older Americans, Rasnick and Parton believe this is something that will hit home for many students and hope to have a great turnout for the race.

"Our goal is to raise awareness and money for research," Rasnick said. "We also want to be a support for others who are going through this; it can make a lot out of a family."

Participants can pre-register until April 20th for \$10. Prices go up to \$12

after the 20th. All proceeds collected will go to the Alzheimer's Association and people wishing to participate will receive a free t-shirt.

Registration forms and money can be taken to Josh Justice, SGA advisor, on the third floor of the Student Center or mailed to Rasnick at Campus Box 5887. Please make checks out to UVA-Wise.

For more information, see the Alzheimer's Association 5K and 1 Mile Walk to Remember Facebook page or contact Rasnick (1cr4w) or Parton (arp8d).

SGA

Continued from page 1

tor is to review budget allocations in requests for other student organizations. I take this with great responsibility and I review every budget request thoroughly...I have helped bridge the gap with other local colleges."

What have you done on campus that benefits students directly?

Viars: "This semester, using my position as a senator, shortly after the death of Chancellor Prior it was my idea to create Prior Pride Committee, which I am currently chair of... I am the vice president for the Student Development Advisory Board, which benefits students by contributing to the programming done by the Center for Student Development."

Blevins: "I have served as Honor Court prosecutor where I have protected and upheld the Honor Court constitution... I brought to UVA-Wise the National Society of Leadership and Success which is an honor society that recognizes leaders."

What kind of example will you set for the student body and how will you achieve this?

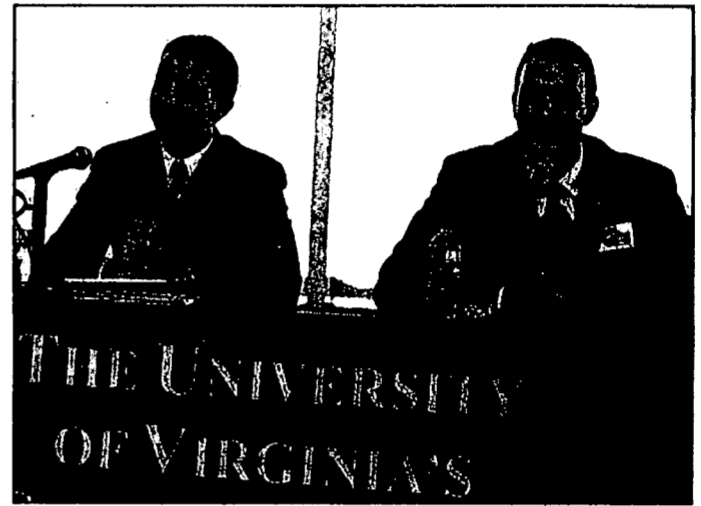
Viars: "One of visibility. In the past our SGA members of senate as well as the executive board have not made themselves as visible as possible to let the students know they are there for them that they are there for their issues. I run on the platform of a larger student voice which has to start from the SGA."

Blevins: "I believe by leading now and serving you as students that I will show you a motivated and dedicated individual who is committed to innovation and opportunity that go much farther than we can imagine."

What do you have planned to improve the experience of being a student at UVA-Wise?

Viars: "I would focus on clubs and organizations — I would host a monthly presidents' meeting of all the clubs and organizations to increase images and to learn from other leaders on campus."

Blevins: "First, I would like to begin with the student advantage discount by expanding the discounts by at least one half and to expand the discounts into Kingsport, Abingdon and



Jordan Fifer | The Highland Cavalier

SGA presidential hopefuls Phillip Blevins (left) and Jordan Viars (right) field questions during the debate on April 11 in the Slamp Student Center.

maybe even into Johnson City... Also, I would create a president's advisory committee to give students a voice in SGA."

What is a small community and the college is no different as we are a small public college. How do you plan to strengthen ties in the community as SGA president?

Viars: "Working with town council members, chamber of commerce members and the businesses in town, I would try to create a day of service where we go out in the community to help out with their needs and invite community members to come to campus more to get them more involved with us. But, before we have to get more involved with them to let them know we care."

Blevins: "It doesn't happen much that the community and chamber of commerce comes to our campus; I would invite the chamber of commerce to a dinner twice a year to get them involved with our students. It's important that our community recognizes that our presence is permanent and we are motivated and here to make the community better."

What will be your legacy?
Viars: "My legacy at UVA-Wise

will be my leadership skills and the fact I have been known as a student advocate on this campus"

Blevins: "I would love to inspire others and I would love to help them help other people as well."

How do you plan to build a relationship with the student body? What connections do you already have?

Viars: "As president I would work to be sure that my relationship is still very visible, that my image as your president is not one of solitude or inaccessibility."

Blevins: "Our campus fails to recognize we have traditional, non-traditional and commuter students; I think that bridging that gap is what this campus needs to see to grow and flourish."

Closing statements:
Viars: "I am someone that is very personable, someone who promises to get things done, and to provide you with feedback — I will not be non-transparent."

Blevins: "What I want you to remember is that I cannot fix everything on campus, but what I can tell you is that I will actively search for a solution to the problems on campus."

2012 SGA election candidates

- Freshman SGA Senators Candidates: (3 officers will be elected in the fall semester)
- Sophomore SGA Senator Candidates: (3 officers will be elected)
- Erica Gilliam
- Deirdre Kane
- Alex Pilcher
- Maurice McElone
- Junior SGA Senator Candidates: (3 officers will be elected)
- Carlee Reiber
- Emily Brock
- Madison Savarese
- Senior SGA Senator Candidates: (3 officers will be elected)
- Evan Nunery
- Kayla Cash
- Brittanie Jones
- Senator at Large Candidates: (2 officers will be elected in the spring; another election will be held in the fall to elect the remaining "at-Large" senator)—voted upon by the entire student body
- Donald Williams
- Kevin "Nate" Looney
- Lori-Kaitlin Looney
- Maegan Smith
- Erin Beach
- Dakota Hill
- SGA Secretary:
- Kimberly Hamm
- SGA Treasurer:
- Keenan France
- SGA Vice President:
- Robert "Bo" Eudean
- Rachel Person
- SGA President:
- Jordan Viars
- Phillip Blevins
- Honor Court Freshmen Representatives: (2 elected in the Fall)
- Honor Court Sophomore Representative: (2 positions available)
- Heather Pearson
- Honor Court Junior Representative: (1 position available)
- James Dingess
- Honor Court Senior Representative: (1 position available)
- Brianna Bivens

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A Special Thank You

Congratulations to Theta Phi Alpha on winning the 2012 Greek Week competition last week! All other organizations also deserve a round of applause for their excellent participation and enthusiasm. I hope everyone had a great time!

Klady Regardt,
Karyne Orsman,
Public Relations Chair of Theta Phi Alpha

THE HIGHLAND CAVALIER Correction

The University of Virginia's College at Wise Board voted to raise the college technology fee from \$115 to \$121 at their recent meeting. The dollar amounts were incorrect in the April 6 story "UVA-Wise Board makes campus changes."

VOTE APRIL 16-18 (ON THE STUDENT PORTAL)

PHILLIP BLEVINS & BO EUDEAN FOR SGA PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT

facebook
www.phillipblevins.com

JORDAN VIARS for SGA President

- I am a personable, someone who promises to get things done, and to provide you with feedback — I will not be non-transparent.
- I will actively search for a solution to the problems on campus.

“College Students United — 20 million strong”

Submitted by Grady Hart

On July 1, the interest rate on federally subsidized student loans will double from 3.4 percent to 6.8 percent. Without congressional help, students borrowing the maximum \$23,000 in subsidized loans are poised to pay an extra \$5,000 per year over a 10-year repayment period. Congress has eliminated subsidized loans for graduate students, as well as most discounts. They also cut \$8 billion out of the Pell Grant program for low-income students and reduced the income threshold for eligibility for a full Pell Grant. The average student loan debt for a college student in 2010 was \$25,250, up 5 percent from the previous year. 68 percent of high school graduates choose to pursue a college degree, with close to 2/3 of those students coming out of college in debt. Despite these rises in tuition, it is also important to note that professor salaries have essentially remained stagnant for the better part of the last 5 years. Additionally, unpaid student debt set a landmark record at the end of 2011, hitting \$1 trillion and surpassing total credit card debt for the first time ever.

While these figures should alarm you, especially given that matters will only get worse if we allow the interest rate on student loans to double in July, the goal of this letter is not to cause anger or frustration. Rather, my hope is to show that there is something that we as a college community can do about it, as we are in no way a small or helpless group, with about 20 million graduate and undergraduate students nationwide.

Although I am a student at James Madison University, this letter is being published across close to a dozen campuses around Virginia in hopes of attracting as much student attention as possible, because the unfortunate truth is that our attention has been lacking in recent years. Con-

gress has continuously prioritized tax cuts and military spending for many years while we as students and members of the middle class have been taking the brunt of the recent budget cuts. In fact, since the beginning of the 1980's, a college education has become four times as expensive, even when accounting for inflation.

Despite Congress' apparent lack of concern for the ever-rising cost of attending college, it would be misguided to point the finger directly at our representatives - if we don't voice our concerns and pose a credible threat to our representatives' reelection hopes, our interests will be left by the wayside. For this reason, we can no longer afford to be complacent; if we do not act on our own behalf then we cannot expect anything to improve. In fact, we can expect things to continue to get worse.

In order to combat this, I have created a Facebook group that contains information on this topic and ways that we can all make a difference: search for “College Students United — 20 million strong.” There you will find information to make it easy to help our cause. Email or call your congressmen, sign the online petition, host a voter registration drive on your campus and join me for a rally at our nation's capitol in June.

If we do not act soon to stop interest rates on student loans from increasing this July, it will only be another nail in the coffin. Together, our 20 million voices are stronger than even the most powerful interest groups in Washington. So let us be heard, because together we truly can affect change, and I have faith that we will prevail.

Hart is a double major in political science and international affairs who is also pursuing a masters degree in public administration at James Madison University

Romney, Obama and American Exceptionalism

Submitted by Dr. Eric Drummond Smith

Mitt Romney asserted in a recent speech that Barack Obama was inadequately committed to an article of faith and belief in the principle of “American exceptionalism.”

Obama responded, insisting that not only did he believe in the principle of American exceptionalism, but that he was a living, breathing manifestation of that principle.

Now, maybe you are reading this and asking, “Well, Doc Smith, what is the big deal? Who gives a flying mango smoothie?” This is understandable, but misguided. You probably don't know what is meant by “American exceptionalism.” I'll explain.

A group of protestants from Britain colonized the northeastern coast of North America with the intent of founding an ideal variation on England in which they constituted the ruling majority.

Their new England would be an example to the world as to how human beings were meant to live. These Puritans believed that they were predestined to stay, to push back the frontiers and to convert both heathens and misguided Christians, ideally by example, but if necessary, by political-economic and eventually military success.

This was the beginning of American exceptionalism: the belief in the destiny of Americans to conquer the continent upon which they found themselves and

to transform the nations of the world into inferior but functional duplications of themselves.

Indeed, exceptionalism was and is not merely a belief that these things would and will continue to occur, inevitable as gravity, but furthermore that they are inherently right that Americans have a right to rule not only our hemisphere, but the destiny of humanity through the imposition of our political, economic, cultural and social values on everyone else.

We are a wealthy nation, but have only dominated the world economy since the end of World War 2.

Certainly we're a big nation the size of a continent with a third of a billion human souls but we're not the biggest in either geographic or population terms, either historically or in the present tense. We're democratic-republican, but roughly half of the independent states on earth today are to a lesser or greater degree democratic-republics so we're not that unusual anymore. And we do have amazing political institutions, but they are only occasionally original.

Otherwise they are firmly built on the rational and practical examples of previous civilizations. We're multicultural and an immigrant nation, but so are Canada, Australia, Britain, New Zealand, Chile, Peru, Bolivia, Argentina...

What I'm trying to make clear is that we, the United States, are unique, but we are also not so unique that our experiences make us categorically

distinct from other peoples and somehow inherently better that we deserve inherently, through divine right or predestination by god or nature, to rule.

If we win, it is because we worked hard at it — heck, we might have cheated to do so. If we are good, it is because good human beings in a state with good institutions decided to do good things.

It isn't because *Homo sapiens americanus* is a distinct, inherently better creature than *Homo sapiens everybodyelsei*. To assert such is, frankly, bigotry justifying imperialism and an indifference to international norms. And so, Mr. Romney and Mr. Obama, if by American exceptionalism you mean “we get to be different” — well, my apologies for the misinterpretation.

If instead you meant, as I believe you did, “we are better, and the proof is our might, and our might is its own justification for its exercise in light of our exceptional nature,” or that, “our decisions cannot carry long-term negative implications for our democracy, our wealth, or our power because we are predestined to be the exception, the ruling miracle,” then I beg to say you're wrong.

Just ask the Romans. And the Mongols. And the Macedonians. And the... well, you get the point.

Smith is an assistant professor of political science who will be contributing a series of articles analyzing the 2012 presidential election



Jordan Fifer | The Highland Cavalier
A daffodil blooms even as cold weather covers the UVA-Wise campus on Wednesday.

5 things you didn't know about Thomas Jefferson

In honor of Founder's Day, here are five things you didn't know about Thomas Jefferson:

1. Jefferson was fluent in five languages and could speak at least two others next time you're complaining about one of those classes. Keep that in mind.
2. The third president of the U.S. died on July 4, 1826, in a bed in Paris, France, from the pneumonia John Adams passed away from in 1800. Adams died on July 4, 1826 — mainly because he wanted to be in the “hip” crowd, I can tell you.
3. By 1815, Jefferson's personal library included more than 6,400 books. They were mostly just to impress the ladies, though.
4. Among Jefferson's many inventions was his “Great Clock,” which was powered by the Earth's gravitational pull on Revolutionary War cannon balls and stationed atop Monticello. There's a joke here about swinging balls, but we won't stoop that low.
5. By now, it's well accepted that Jefferson fathered at least one child — may be as many as six — with plantation slave Sally Hemings. What's still widely debated is his role in founding Jefferson Parish and penning his classic manuscript “We Built This City.”

Compiled by Jordan Fifer

Softball stumbles after streak

By Jordan Childress
Sports Editor
joc6x@uvawise.edu

The UVA-Wise softball team hosted the Patriots from St. Catharine College on April 6 in doubleheader action.

In the first game, the Cavs fell 3-0 at the hands of senior pitcher Ashley Cardenas' complete three-hitter.

The second game saw the Cavs hold a 3-1 lead in the top of the fifth inning, before the Patriots scored six runs in the inning to take a 7-3 comeback win.

Sophomore left-fielder Sarah Wiltshire collected three hits on the day.

While sophomore Charity Lawson, sophomore Allyssa Zebrowski and senior Ashley Washburn all drove in an RBI in game two of the doubleheader.

The Cavs also played host to the Shawnee State University Bears in a Mid-South doubleheader.

Game one presented some confusion



Jordan Fifer | The Highland Cavalier

Cavs sophomore first baseman Kristina Romualdo (17) is delivered a pitch by a fierce-looking Brooke Long (10) of Shawnee State in a doubleheader on Tuesday. Romualdo hit a homerun on the pitch but the Bears went on to win game one 3-1 over the Cavs before posting an 11-3 six-inning victory in the finale to complete the sweep.

when the Bears walked off the field after two outs during which Zebrowski noticed and crossed home plate.

The umpires seemed just as confused as the Bears and, after conversing with both coaches, sent Zebrowski back to third and took the tying run off the scoreboard.

This decision decided the fate of the Cavs as they dropped game one 3-1, the only run coming from sophomore Kristina Romualdo's home run.

In the second game, the Cavs dropped an 11-3 six-inning game.

Junior outfielder Natasha Dean collected two hits during play.

Following the doubleheader, UVA-Wise is 19-23 on the season and 5-11 in Mid-South play.

The Cavaliers will conclude their home games of the season with a doubleheader tomorrow against the University of Pikeville Bears.

First pitch is set for 2 p.m. at Cavalier Field.

Sanchize

Continued from page 6

If more time and effort were spent on how to make the athletic programs better, instead of conference hopping, the school would see an increase in competitive play.

The athletics department is at a critical point, and needs to make a conscious effort to improve the Cavs chances in the Mid-South.

Winning more games equals Conference championships, which in turn translate into making national tournaments.

When this occurs in a good portion of our sports, then UVA-Wise should make the move to DII.

Be our friend on Facebook

Visit our new website: highlandcavaller.com

Follow us on Twitter: @HighlandCav

Cavs sweep baseball awards

Submitted by Darrell Dingus-Ely
UVA-Wise Sports Information Director

UVA-Wise's Brian King is the Mid-South Conference Baseball Player of the Week and teammate Ryan Crosby is the MSC Pitcher of the Week, conference officials announced on Monday.

King and Crosby each earned their first conference player of the week honor of the season.

King had 10 hits in his 14 at bats last week for a .714 batting average to earn the Conference's player of the week honor.

A junior from Chantilly, King, added a home run and seven RBIs while helping the Cavaliers win three out of four games from West Virginia University Tech over the weekend.

King opened the four-game series with a 4-for-4 performance, including a home run and three RBIs in a 5-2 win. He added a three-hit and two-hit game later in the series. King finished the week with three runs, three doubles and a triple while amassing a 1.286 slugging

percentage.

This season, King is batting .293 with four home runs — which is tied for seventh in the MSC — and 23 RBIs. His 11 doubles are the ninth most in the conference this season.

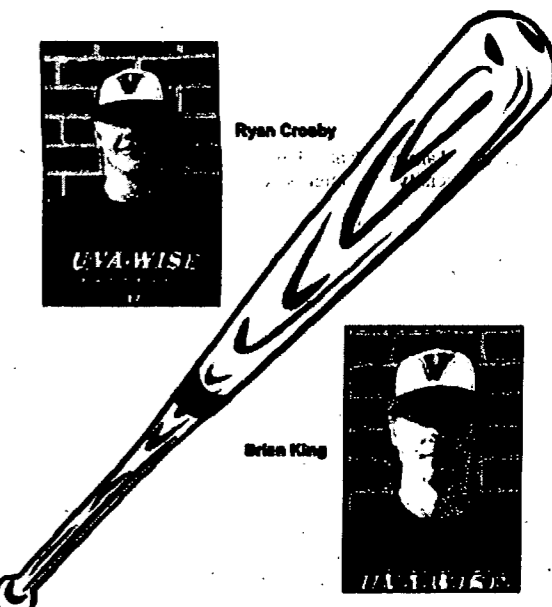
Crosby pitched a complete game shut-out in the Cavaliers' 3-0 win over the Golden Bears to earn the conference's top weekly pitching honor.

The Warrenton, Va., senior struck out 13 batters for nearly an average of two strikeouts per inning. Crosby surrendered just three hits and a pair of walks en route to his fifth complete game of the season.

With his 13 strikeouts, Crosby moves within eight strikeouts of the Cavaliers' single season record.

Crosby is 6-3 this season with a 2.28 ERA — seventh best in the MSC. He leads the conference in strikeouts (81) and strikeouts per nine innings (12.3) — which ranks seventh in the NAIA.

UVA-Wise is 16-21 overall this season and 4-10 in the MSC.



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Upcoming Games

Baseball

Cavs baseball plans to host Pikeville today for a 3 p.m. game. Tomorrow, the Cavs will play a doubleheader against Pikeville starting at 1 p.m. The Cavs will host Milligan College for a 5 p.m. doubleheader on Tuesday.

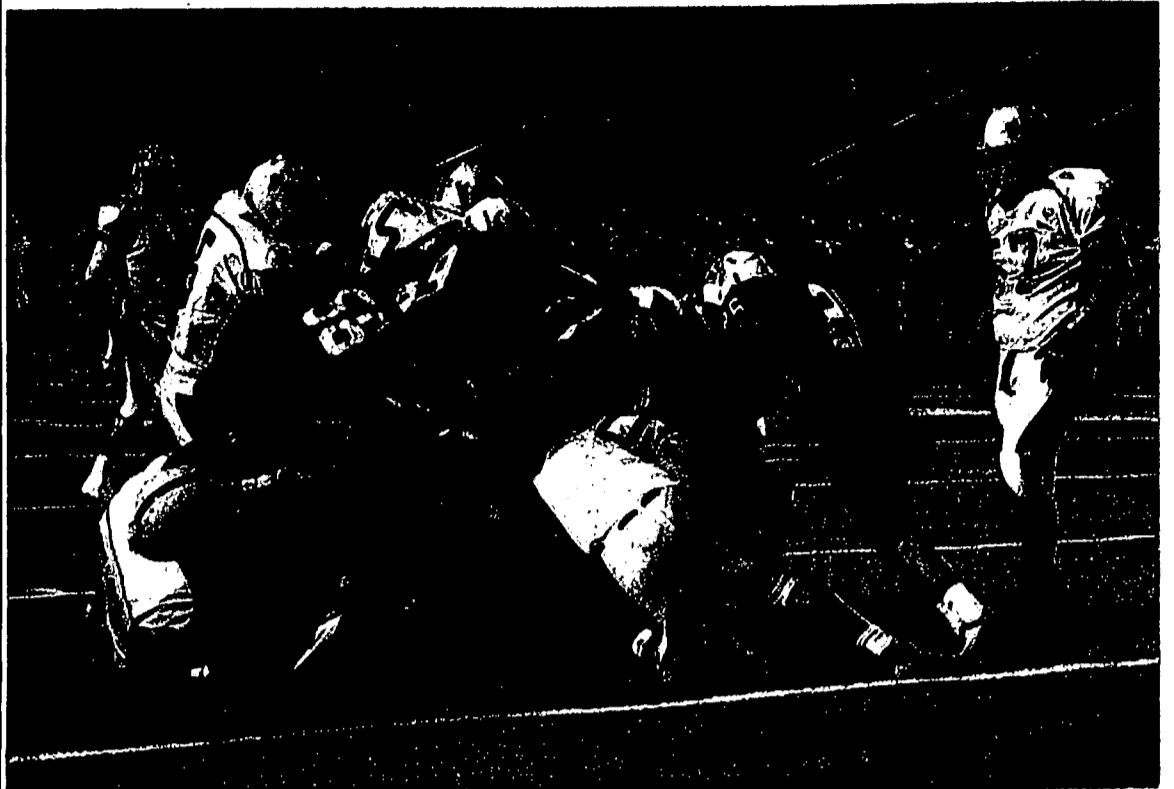
Softball

The softball team will host Pikeville tomorrow for a doubleheader starting at 1 p.m. The Cavs will travel to Southern Virginia University Monday for a 3 p.m. doubleheader.

Tennis

The men's and women's tennis teams will host Reinhardt University today for a 4 p.m. match. The Cavs will also host Southern Virginia and Berea College tomorrow.

Cavs kick off spring football practices



Jordan Fifer | The Highland Cavalier

The UVa-Wise football team is ready and raring to go with spring practice already started. The Cavs are hoping to improve from a 5-6 2011 season. The Cavs defense are seen here making a goal line stop against Emory & Henry on Sept. 17 in a 33-30 thriller. The Cavs will host their annual spring game on April 28.

By Corey Sanchez
Staff Writer
cs6ty@uvawise.edu

Entering his second year as head coach, Dewey Lusk looks for his team to become tougher mentally and physically for the upcoming 2012 campaign.

"The second half of the season, we didn't handle things mentally as well," Lusk said, referring to the team dropping its final three games of the 2011 season.

The path to improvement starts on April 28, with the annual Red-Grey spring football game.

"We are looking at everybody...It's a dress rehearsal for next fall," said Lusk.

At the quarterback position, Tye Marshall looks to step up in his sophomore season, after appearing in every game last year.

The Sevierville, Tenn. native completed 45 percent of his passes on his way to nearly 1,200 yards, while passing six touchdowns and 14 interceptions.

Marshall will be met with competition from fellow sophomores Taylor Harmon

and David Roop.

During recruitment, Lusk and the coaching staff focused on improving the trenches by focusing on both the offensive and defensive lines.

The team added six defensive linemen to go along with four additions on the offensive line.

The Cavs also looked for help from transfer athletes in Ryan Bowden, Matt Sandoval and Wardel Penn-Timothy.

Bowden, a Roanoke native, comes to the Cavaliers after being a red-shirt freshman on the now defunct West Virginia Tech football team.

Lusk also stressed the emphasis on finding players who are accountable and possess good character and grades.

With these types of athletes, Lusk believes that the team will see a higher retention rate.

Another focus on the offensive side of the ball is the replacement of Stewart Robertson.

Lusk points to the return of senior swingman Ryan Bouldin, junior Andre Dickerson and sophomore Thomas Wright,

to carry the load for the Cavaliers in 2012.

Lusk also pointed to the emergence of red-shirt sophomore Zach Cochran as a positive in the backfield battle.

Lusk praised his specialists, kickers Paul Melshen and Tyler Graham, and punter Dean Hogan for their abilities and constancy.

In preparation for the Red-Grey Game, the team is installing its playbook in pieces, according to Lusk.

The spring game gives players the opportunity showcase what they can and cannot do.

With an optimistic Lusk and an improved team, the Cavaliers look to better their 5-6 mark from a year ago, which saw them finish 1-4 in Eastern Division of the Mid-South Conference.

The Annual Red-Grey Spring Game will be held on April 28 at Carl Smith Stadium, with a 1:30 p.m. start time.



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NCAA hopes still alive for Cavs

By Kevin Mays
The Coalfield Progress

UVa-Wise Athletics officials could know as early as today whether they will move forward this year with plans to switch athletic affiliation from the NAIA to the NCAA.

Officials from the Great Midwest Athletic Conference are set to meet today and make at least a preliminary decision on inviting UVa-Wise to join the new NCAA Division II conference, UVa-Wise Athletic Director Danny Sterling said last week.

"They could basically do three things," Sterling said. "They could say no, we're not interested in extending an invitation to us, they could say yes and extend an invitation to us on Friday or they could say we're interested but we want to schedule a campus visit to look at the facilities and do some more investigating about the school."

The G-MAC, which currently consists of Trevecca Nazarene (Tenn.), Kentucky Wesleyan and four Ohio schools — Cedarville, Central State, Urbana and Ursuline — will begin competitive play on the NCAA Division II level beginning with the 2012-13 school year.

If G-MAC officials want to visit the school, Sterling said, that would happen soon because UVa-Wise faces a June 1 deadline of filing an application with the NCAA to begin a three-year process to become a full member of NCAA

Division II.

If the G-MAC extends an invitation to UVa-Wise, then the school would proceed with its application process to the NCAA. If the G-MAC does not extend an invitation to UVa-Wise, the process would most likely be suspended for a year.

UVa-Wise, which currently competes in the NAIA Mid-South Conference, will not pursue NCAA membership unless it has a conference affiliation, Sterling said.

"We have to have a home and have a good home," he said.

Sterling said UVa-Wise has other conference options because it is on the "fringe" of several conferences.

But timing would not allow the school to move forward to look at other conferences before the application deadline.

UVa-Wise was rejected by the first conference to which it applied, the West Virginia Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

Sterling said WVIAC officials did not provide clear reasons, despite an earlier unanimous vote to extend an invitation to the conference.

"No specifics were given regarding our application to the WVIAC, so I would not want to speculate on the reason behind their decision," he said in an email.

But Sterling said college officials are happy to be in talks with the G-MAC.

"Everyone must remember

that when we originally decided to study NCAA Division II membership, the G-MAC wasn't an approved conference, so it was not an option we could investigate," Sterling said. "However, after careful consideration we feel that the G-MAC would be a great home for our athletic programs."

Even if the G-MAC accepts UVa-Wise, joining the NCAA is not an overnight process.

"We have to make an application to the NCAA by June 1 and the application process is a very competitive process," he said. "We would know by probably mid-July if our application was accepted."

If the UVa-Wise application is accepted and the move to the NCAA goes forward, Sterling said UVa-Wise would continue to compete in the Mid-South Conference in the 2012-13 school year as a full member of the NAIA and play a full Mid-South Conference schedule.

In 2013-14, UVa-Wise would move to NCAA Division II as a probationary member of the G-MAC. But the Cavs' teams would not be eligible for NCAA post-season play.

In 2014-15, the school would become a full member of the G-MAC and play a full conference schedule, but would still not be eligible for NCAA post-season play.

In 2015-16, UVa-Wise would be recognized as a full member of NCAA Division II and would then be eligible for all post-season play.

Simply Sanchize

By Corey Sanchez
Staff Writer
cs6ty@uvawise.edu

Recently, UVa-Wise applied for admission in the West Virginia Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. On March 1st, the WVIAC voted to decline the school's membership application.

Director of Athletics Danny Sterling sent an email out to local media outlets that the college's board passed a resolution to support another attempt at moving to NCAA Division II.

When hearing this news I was very puzzled about why Sterling and the board would want to continue another with another DII move.

After being in the NAIA's Mid-South Conference for the past two years, the Cavalier athletic teams have shown that they are not ready for this transition.

Only one sport team, baseball in 2011, has posted a winning record in the Conference.

The other sports have struggled to post .500 records in the Conference.

The College has not seen a winning record since the men's basketball team posted a 17-13, as members of the Appalachian Athletic Conference, during the 2009-10 season.

I understand that UVa-Wise has top-notch facilities in the Prior Convocation Center, Carl Smith Stadium, Cavalier and Stallard Fields, and the Humphries Tennis Complex, but these do not translate to wins in respective sports.

It does not make sense for UVa-Wise to a move into the newly formed G-MAC Conference, without first becoming a competitor in the Mid-South.

see Sanchize, page 5