

Burger '37 finds its groove see page 6

CHEN JIANG / SPPS

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Hokies stifled at the plate by Mountaineers

JACOB EMERT
sports editor

Sean Mason, Appalachian State's starting pitcher, found himself in trouble early Tuesday night against Virginia Tech after he allowed the first two batters he faced to reach base safely.

He worked out of that jam and didn't find himself in another one all night, as he retired 20 straight Tech batters between the first and eighth innings and received plenty of run support en route to an 11-0 Mountaineer beat-down.

"I just have to try and keep making pitches, hope for the best outcome," Mason said. "If I can just make pitches everything will be all right in the end."

Right out of the gate, the Hokies (18-21-1) found themselves in great position to jump out ahead of the Mountaineers (14-23). In the bottom of the first inning, Ricky Surum and Saige Jenco tagged up on a Mark Zagunis fly ball to centerfield and advanced to second and third respectively, bringing Brendon Hayden and his team-leading 35 RBIs to the plate with one out.

Hayden lined out to second baseman Tyler Zupcic, who flipped to shortstop William Head to double off Surum, who had broken to third base on contact.

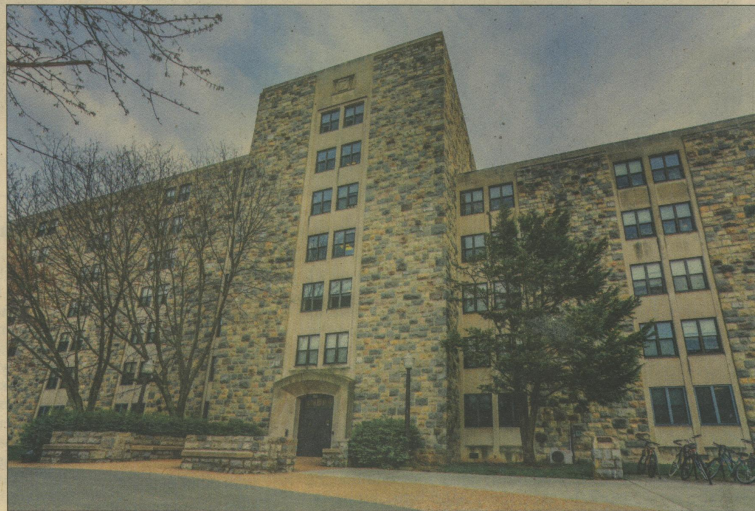
"We certainly could be better than that, and Ricky knows that. It was a bad baserunning read, and pretty good at bat by Zagunis," said head coach Pat Mason. "I don't know if it was huge not getting that run, but it would've been nice to, though."

After getting out of the jam, the Mountaineers wasted no time capitalizing at the plate. With a runner on first in the top of the second, Preston Troutman sent his second home run of the season into orbit, pulling a no-doubt home run over the visitors' bullpen in right field for a 2-0 lead.

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Pritchard upgrades east wing

BY LEWIS MILLHOLLAND | news staff writer



CHEN JIANG / SPPS

Housing 1,000 students, Pritchard Hall serves as one of the largest co-ed freshman dorms on campus.

This summer Pritchard Hall will undergo renovations to make it handicap accessible.

Once the largest all-male collegiate residence hall on the East Coast, the 45-year-old Pritchard Hall is scheduled for numerous renovations this summer.

The motivations for these upgrades are twofold – to provide a higher quality environment for on-campus students, and to meet the required accommodations outlined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

The renovations will begin at the conclusion of the semester, with a focus on the east side of Pritchard Hall.

"Funding is always an issue,"

said Tim Gift, Associate Director for Facilities Management for Housing Residence Life. "We're hoping to finish everything by next year."

These improvements are five years in the making.

"All of the beauty work started years back," Gift said.

Since then, Pritchard has been undergoing slow yet steady improvements. Four years ago the bathrooms were redone, followed by upgrading the building's windows.

However the planned changes for this summer are widespread. Carpet will be installed on the

hallway floors of the east side of Pritchard, and eastern dorms will be renovated with luxury vinyl tile.

"We're renovating both Pritchard lobbies, both east and west," Gift said. He emphasized that the goal of these improvements is not solely to help the handicapped, but to "(upgrade) the building for everybody."

Because the process of improving Pritchard consumes so much funding and time, complete renovations of the west side will be

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Speaker uses words to unite campus

ZACK WAJSGRAS
news reporter

On Tuesday night, Candy Chang visited Virginia Tech, offering her insights on life and the differing desires that communities possess.

Ask Big Questions, a national organization that Hillel sponsors, invited well-known TEDx speaker Candy Chang to campus to talk about how she has used art to create social awareness in communities across the world.

Earlier in her life, Chang faced the loss of a loved one, sending her into a stage of depression.

After some time, however, she found clarity in her own life by appreciating the time she had spent with that person by contemplating death and the hidden meanings in life.

In an attempt to give herself a daily reminder of this new mindset, she created a chalkboard on the side of



Candy Chang's chalkboards are known in 60 different countries.

an abandoned house in her community in New Orleans.

On the wall it read, "Before I die..." with empty lines, giving people a chance to fill in their own answers to the question.

The wall became massively popular and has expanded to over 425 boards in 60 different countries.

The walls are able to depict the uniqueness of every individual. Answers have ranged from simple desires of wanting to "ride an elephant" to more poignant wishes of "experiencing life without fear."

The popularity of Chang's chalkboards earned her

Honors students design and build playground

LESLIE MCCREA
news reporter

With the goal of giving back to the community, 20 students began a project to aid local children.

Last semester, 20 Tech students and a professor took

Action building, where the Floyd Head Start class will meet starting in fall 2014.

"At the beginning, we wanted to look at what the needs were for the Head Start program," said Jillian Miller, a sophomore landscape architecture major. "The playground is not certified or up

The community reached out to Tech to find a class interested in re-designing the playground based not only on equipment, but also the full landscape around the program and the building that was being renovated.

"The students first brainstormed what different

