

The Davidsonian

◆ "THE SOUTH'S FOREMOST COLLEGE WEEKLY" ◆

DAVIDSON COLLEGE

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2007

VOLUME 99, NUMBER 2

DISCOVER DUKE



Students gather in front of the newly renovated Duke dormitory, which also is the new home of the Dean Rusk offices.

Water conservation efforts affect College

BY JORDAN WALL
Staff Writer

North Carolina found itself in the throes of a major drought this summer, enduring a heat wave that lasted throughout most of August. Temperatures reached as high as 104 degrees.

Irwin Brawley, College Director of Property Management and Grounds, said without reservation that this is "one of the worst droughts [he's] ever seen."

The high heat and lack of rainfall has resulted in mandatory water restrictions on all residential property in Charlotte-Mecklenburg County.

Watering a lawn more than two days a week, refilling pools, ponds or fountains and car washing is currently prohibited.

Although the campus, as a commercial customer of Charlotte-Mecklenburg County utilities, is not obligated to abide by the new water restrictions, Brawley said that the Physical Plant staff is definitely "thinking green."

The College is following the water restriction guidelines by only watering its lawns twice a week, with a few exceptions for athletic fields.

The field hockey field, for example, requires watering to slow down the ball in play, but the field is currently watered before official games only and not before practice.

Additionally, one of the largest consumers of water on campus, the motorcade car wash at the Physical Plant on Ridge Rd., has been shut down to reduce waste.

The motorcade car wash is used to clean golf carts and other campus vehicles.

Because of the drought, the Physical Plant staff has struggled to maintain newly planted flora on campus.

In order to reduce water waste, will limit the use of the campus sprinkler systems on the many lawns and flower beds around campus, instead resorting to hand-

See Drought, page 4

Flag forces discussion

BY SUMMERLEE WALTER
Editor-in-Chief

President Tom Ross's remark concerning the presence of a Confederate flag in an unspecified Davidson College building created a strong emotional responses among many students and set the rumor mill running after last Tuesday's Convocation.

Soon after the speech, there were accounts of students marching the flag through Patterson Court, charges of racial insensitivity and also discussion concerning the appropriateness of the various North-South competitions that happen each year swirling around campus.

According to Sigma Alpha Epsilon's (SAE) President Andrew Johnson '08, the fraternity's house has long featured the Confederate flag that prompted Ross's remarks.

Usually, the flag hangs next to an American flag in the fraternity's basement, but the brothers had temporarily transferred it to the building's main room, where Ross saw it.

After Ross's remark, several brothers removed the flag, and Johnson discussed the flag's various connotations, both positive and negative, with Dean of Students and Vice President for Student Life Tom Shandley.

Johnson also met with Student Government (SGA) President Chris Burton '08 to discuss how to open up the issue for student discussion.

Johnson also said that, if a march of any type took place, he was unaware of it and that it was not an SAE activity.

Several members of both the College's African-American and white populations have objected to the flag as a racist symbol that

See Flag, page 3

Political organizations gear up for '08

BY READE JACOB
Staff Writer

It is Presidential campaign season—the most wonderful time of the four year election cycle for the nation's political gurus.

With the presidential primaries looming and the national election just over a year away, political organizations around campus have already begun planning to engage

both students and the surrounding community in the political debate.

In the coming months, groups such as Young Republicans, College Democrats and the Davidson Chapter of Students for Barack Obama plan to spearhead projects that will include fundraising, canvassing the local area and recruiting voters.

Their ultimate hope is not only to support their chosen candidate, but

to raise political awareness and involvement on campus and the local area.

The Davidson Chapter of Students for Barack Obama, founded last spring, has expanded its membership to over 60 ardent supporters of the young candidate in just a few months.

The group anticipates a busy season.

"Many members of the organization will be volunteering for the South Carolina Neighbor to Neighbor Canvass," Andrew Gorang '08, Interim Director of the Davidson Chapter, said. "We are in close communication with the South Carolina campaign office and hope to give them support

throughout the coming months."

Last spring, the group participated in a webcast with Obama, an opportunity Gorang anticipates will reoccur as the primaries draw near.

While the Davidson Chapter of Students for Barack Obama focuses its efforts on a particular candidate, neither the Young Democrats nor the College Republicans are endorsing any one contender, choosing to wait until after each party has made its respective nomination.

In the meantime, however, neither group intends to remain idle until the primaries conclude, and

See Politics, page 3

On the inside...

News

Cover your eyes: flasher on the lam, page 2

Women's committee plans busy semester, page 2

Yowl

Worst Night Down, page 5

Freshmen, check out the funny ad, page 5

Arts

Caroline Wood "Dish"es it up, page 6

...And introduces the VAC's newest exhibition, page 6

Perspectives

The editors sound off about sounding off, page 8

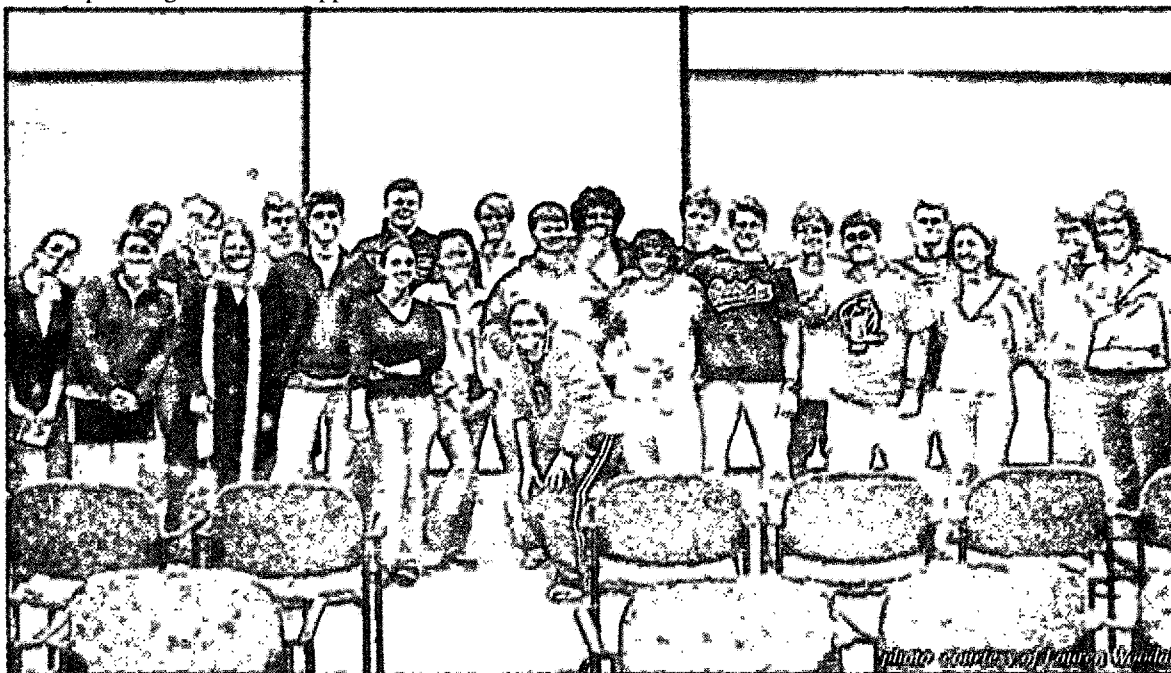
The Yowl gets serious(-ish) about sculpture, page 8

Sports

Why the BCS stinks (Not what you think), page 10

September Madness, page 11

And don't forget to check out the online editon...



The Young Democrats have not yet chosen to support a specific presidential candidate for 2008.