

"The South's Foremost College Weekly"

NOW ON TUESDAYS

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Ah, the Humanities! Revered program under serious scrutiny.

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Naked justice. Avery defends her right to take off her shirt.

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Howle-ing at the Outpost. Band was electric Saturday night.

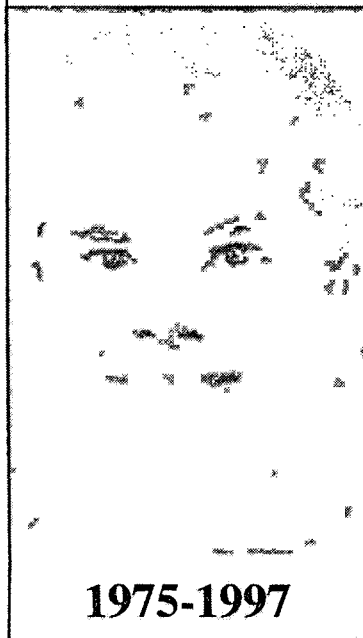
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Nationally rank this. Men's soccer knocks off No. 21 UNCG.

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1997 graduate dies tragically

PEYTON ZACHARY LACY



1975-1997

By JESSICA GOODSON
News Editor

Sometime between 2 a.m. and 4 a.m. Tuesday, former student Zac Lacy died of carbon monoxide poisoning at his home in Irwin Lodge.

Lacy had reportedly backed his car up to the apartment, channeled the exhaust from his car through an open window, and gone to sleep on the sofa. A student in a painting class held at the Lodge found Lacy at 3:52 p.m. Tuesday afternoon and called police. The medi-

cal examiner ruled the case as a suicide.

Lacy graduated last spring with a B.A. in English and a Concentration in Gender Studies. More recently, he worked as 900 Room Manager and a College Union Operations Intern.

On Thursday at 4 p.m., a memorial service was held for Lacy at Davidson College Presbyterian Church.

Chaplain Rob Spach and Assistant Chaplain Brenda Tapia worked in conjunction with friends to organize the service which included songs and poems composed by Lacy's friends, readings from the work of James Joyce, and a selection from one of Lacy's public journals. The service closed with everyone present singing the *Age of Aquarius* from the musical *Hair*.

A reception after the ceremony allowed friends to write a few words to remember Lacy in ledgers which were then given to his family.

During his career as a student at Davidson, Lacy served as Outpost Chairperson of the Union Board, junior and senior editor of Hobart Park, volunteer DJ and Assistant Program Director of WALT, and was founder and Executive Managing Editor of *Libertas*.

He also served on the Media Board Faculty Committee, the Public Lectures Faculty Committee, participated in Friends of Lesbians and Gays, and worked for WCNC-TV.

Lacy is survived by one sister, Mamie Alexis Lacy, parents Noni and Peyton Lacy, Jr., and two grandmothers, Virginia Richey Lacy and Greta Laurice Spruill.

Lacy remembered at memorial

By MICHAEL J. KRUSE
Editor in Chief

On Zac Lacy's forearm was a tattoo depicting a caricature of James Joyce — "a filter between my brain and my hand" when I write, Lacy would say.

Joyce and his writing, as English professor Zoran Kuzmanovich explained at a memorial service Thursday afternoon, was "one of the pillars of Zac's world."

Kuzmanovich, who advised Lacy until his graduation in May, other faculty, administrators, students, and friends gathered in the sanctuary of the Davidson College Presbyterian Church to mourn Lacy's death by celebrating his life — one of ambition, passion, and intellect.

"Zac created a world in which he was able to help himself and others — gay or not — rise and meet and be themselves," Kuzmanovich said.

"He spent his time rubbing away at the line that separates life and art."

A mentality that, Kuzmanovich reasoned, "led Zac to a state of flamboyant fragility. And then fragility prevailed."

The service consisted primarily of musical selections and literary excerpts,

fitting for a man whose life was so shaped — perhaps even defined — by the written word and the corresponding endless thought processes.

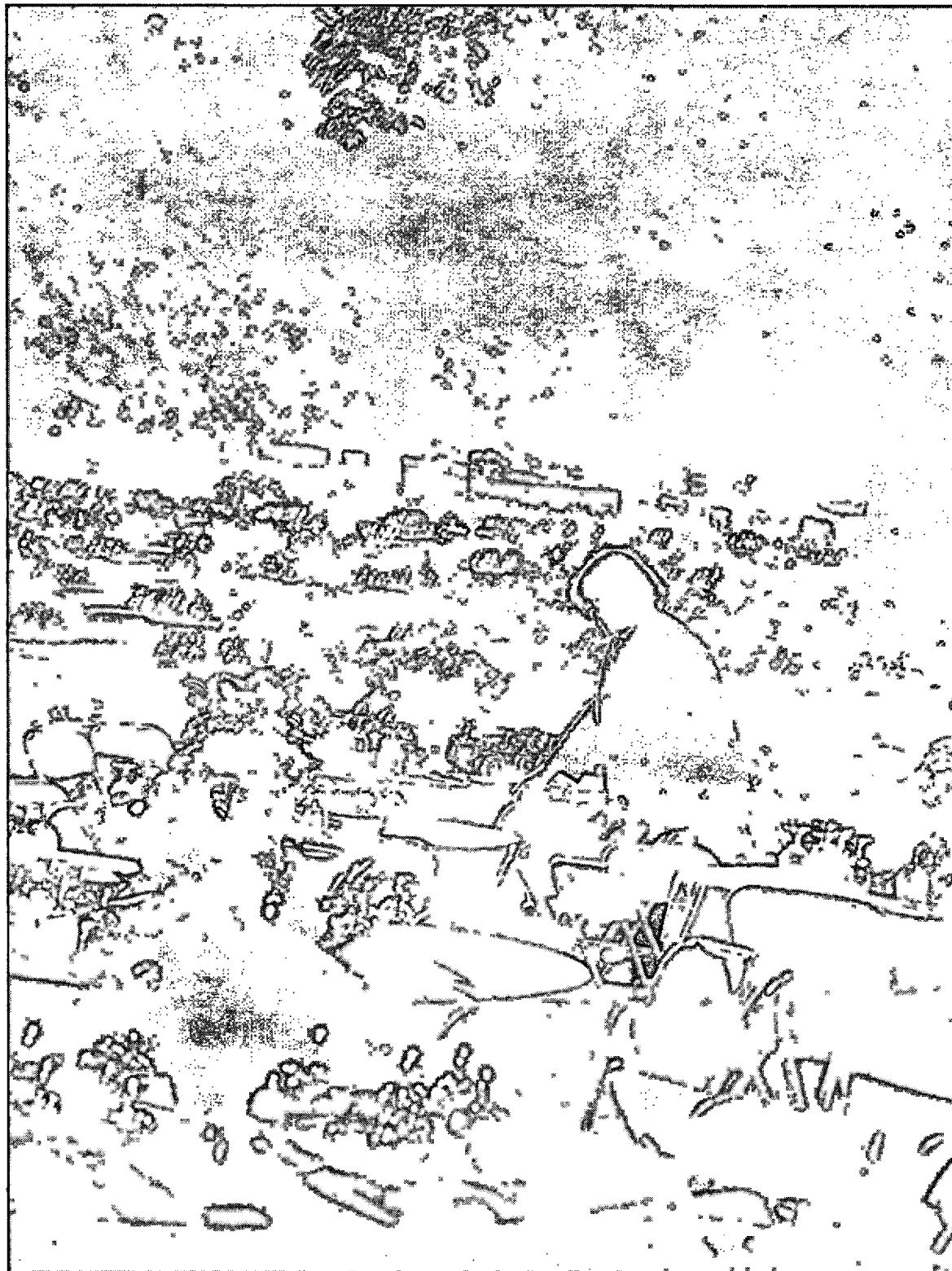
Music included "Travel Light" by Tender Sticks, "Rhapsody in Blue," and selections from the musical "Hair," including "Age of Aquarius." Diane Krause, a senior, performed on the piano a song she composed in Lacy's honor.

Dan Mojonnier read from Walker Percy's *The Second Coming* and Kuzmanovich read from works of James Joyce.

German professor Scott Denham read from a public journal Lacy compiled in that course in his Kafka class in the fall of 1995.

"Everyone waits," Lacy wrote. "I am also waiting, but I don't know what for. I'm not waiting for death, although that's a possibility. The best you can do is to get at knowledge, get an inspiration, then get lost in your own mind."

"Words can't express all of the feelings we are feeling right now," said Katie Hall, speaking on behalf of Lacy's friends. "But we do want to tell you that we love you. We love you so much. Thanks for giving us the inspiration to get through this lifetime without you."



Bill Giduz

◆ Splashed by early morning sun, a caterer readies Chambers front lawn for Friday's inaugural luncheon. The event marked the grand finale of Bobby Vagt's inauguration as the 16th president of the College.

Inauguration runs smoothly

By JENNY HAPGOOD
Staff Writer

The inauguration of Robert Fredrick Vagt as the 16th president of the College began with a flourish Thursday evening and continued through Friday afternoon.

From the casual dinner at Vail Commons to the sophisticated proceedings on Chambers Lawn for students, faculty, trustees, and honored guests, the inaugural festivities were a success.

Balloon archways marked the entrance to the inaugural banquet at the Commons. Light jazz, steak dinners, and an assemblage of patriotic decorations on each table contributed to the relaxed, yet festive atmosphere.

Davidson officially welcomed its new leader Friday morning under a Carolina blue sky. The event began as participants in the academic procession filed down the aisles to their front-and-center seats.

Charles Edward Raynal III, a min-

ister at Davidson College Presbyterian Church, opened with an inspirational invocation.

Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Walter Olin Nisbett III, welcomed the audience, and a series of speakers representing alumni, students, faculty,

See *Inauguration* on page 4

THE VAGT INAUGURAL

The man. President Vagt reflects on the proceedings. Page 3.
The speech. A transcription of Vagt's remarks at the ceremony. Page 3.
The history. The Davidsonian takes a look at past inaugurations. Page 4.

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"Zac spent his time rubbing away at the line that separates life and art."

ENGLISH PROFESSOR ZORAN KUZMANOVICH ON ZAC LACY