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Trustees announce \$150 million campaign

Despite Davidson's size, amount is largest ever attempted by a liberal arts college

By THOMAS H. MOORE

Davidson's board of trustees announced Wednesday an ambitious campaign to raise \$150 million for the college by the end of 1994. The amount marks the largest ever attempted by a liberal arts college.

In the press release announcing the campaign, Craig Wall Jr., chairman of the board of trustees, said, "The campaign marks a significant point in the history of Davidson College. It is essential to Davidson's ability to retain its position as one of the premier liberal arts college in the country and to implement the college's longterm strategic plan."

John Griffith, Davidson's vice-president for institutional advancement, estimated that 75% of the money raised will come from alumni. "What you'll see is that most of the gifts will come from alumni, but foundations across the country will do a great deal, as will corporations, primarily in the South. Also, parents of students and friends of private higher education will make significant contributions," he explained.

Although there will be an effort made to secure donations of all shapes and sizes,

Griffith said, "A campaign this size will depend on a small number of very large gifts."

The trustees in May 1986 were given a "strategic plan" that discussed the priorities of the college for "the foreseeable future." "My area, institutional advancement, was asked to undertake the process of analyzing the plan to come up with cost estimates," Griffith said.

"The priority in this campaign to raise endowment funds," Griffith said, "is an effort to secure the position of Davidson as one of the top handful of American liberal arts colleges. From that standpoint it is part of the strategic plan."

Smith College, a women's institution in Massachusetts, boasts what is currently the largest liberal arts college effort, \$125 million. Jacquie Sutor, associate director of development at Smith, said they are on track to finish by the end of 1989. "We're at \$118 million, and we foresee no problem at getting \$125 million by the end of the year."

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Vandals destroy artwork

By MARGARET CARROLL

Five large canvasses and two finished paintings were destroyed this weekend in Lingle Manor, a college owned building which houses the art studio of visiting art professor Billy Hassell and three advanced painting studios which are shared by six of his students.

Two incidents occurred during the weekend: on Friday night graffiti was painted all over the building, and on Saturday night the canvasses along with furniture and windows were destroyed.

The graffiti was discovered Saturday afternoon inside the studios and all around the building. The building itself and the student studios had not been locked, though Hassell's studio was locked as usual with a dead bolt lock. The vandals used acrylic paint and brushes from the student studios, ruining several students' brushes and squeezing out much of the paint.

Because Hassell thought that the incident was an isolated one, he did not take measures to lock Lingle Manor after the incident on Friday night. On Saturday

night, however, more culprits entered Lingle Manor and kicked and punched in canvasses. This damage was discovered on Sunday afternoon.

Although Hassell's studio was locked with a dead bolt lock, the culprits knocked the studio door down and tore off one of the door panels. Inside the studio they destroyed five canvasses that were ready for painting, one of which was the beginning of a painting.

Muddy footprints and handprints were found on the vandalized items. Hassell estimates the damage to his studio to be around \$300, for which the college is reimbursing him.

A mirror was also stolen from Hassell's studio, and paint was squirted all over the walls and windows. The criminals broke a bathroom window, destroyed furniture and threw it onto the front porch, and broke several rungs in the porch as well. Other items were taken and dropped in the front

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Condoms in the bathrooms? AIDS Action Committee proposes campus measures

By SUSANNAH WELLFORD

The AIDS Action Committee is petitioning to install condom machines in all dormitory bathrooms as a protective measure against AIDS. Petitions have been placed throughout the college campus asking support for a health measure which has received much controversy, yet has already been adopted at some campuses. At Davidson, student support may determine the success or defeat of the proposition.

The college administration, as may be expected, does not embrace the idea with open arms. President John Kuykendall and Dean of Students Will Terry are both uncomfortable with the proposition.

"This is an extremely complicated issue that cannot possibly be decided without much consideration," said Terry. On the other hand, he stipulates that "the proposition is not a frivolous one. We are dealing with a life or death issue and something must be done."

Terry's greatest concern is to find a way to address the problem without offending some of the more morally conservative factions in the Davidson College community. Kuykendall agrees, and says that a more "creative solution" ought to be considered.

One of the solutions suggested by Kuykendall is the placement of first aid boxes containing condoms on the dormitory floors. This would not only eliminate the public nature of the condom machines, he said, but it would also help to emphasize the health aspect of the solution.

Terry and Kuykendall agree that the most important step the college can take to protect the campus from AIDS is education.

"You can put a condom machine in every room," said Terry, "but it is not going to do any good unless you teach the students the importance of using them."

Kuykendall believes that the difficulty of the condom machine idea is that it will be hard for the college to accept this proposal without appearing to encourage sexual activity or to adopt a laissez-faire attitude. Neither Terry or Kuykendall are going to offer any tangible support to the proposition, but both appear to realize a need for some form of action.

Tom Jennings, Director of Residence

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