



News Journal

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Radford City Public Schools achieves full accreditation

Heather Bell
Editor

RADFORD – All four Radford City Public Schools have achieved full accreditation by the Virginia Department of Education.

Full accreditation means the average of Standards of Learning scores in grades 3-12 for all math, science, civics, history and English SOLs have met the benchmark scores set forth by the VDOE.

“At RCPS, for the 2023-2024 school year, our students' performance was at or above the accreditation standards in all areas,” said RCPS Superintendent Dr. Adam Joyce. “The accreditation process also includes a component for our Career and Technical Education (CTE) classes. This includes industry credentialing testing, dual-enrollment classes as well as Advanced Placement courses.”

Joyce said attendance is also considered for accreditation.

“A final category by which we are accredited is school attendance,” he said. “It is very important that students miss as few days as possible during the school year. In-person classroom learning cannot be replaced or replicated after a student is absent and returns. Research supports the fact that fewer days missed in school equates to exponentially more learning. RCPS has renewed its focus on attendance, and we appreciate all families making an effort to have their children in school on time each day.”

Joyce credits the school division's faculty and staff for achieving full accreditation.

“Our greatest asset is our human resources—the faculty and staff at each school,” he said. “For a child to learn effectively, they must first feel welcomed and valued by their teacher. Positive teacher-student relationships are essential for high engagement and achievement. RCPS takes pride in the meaningful and lasting connections our teachers build

with their students each year.”

“Similarly, RCPS holds its staff to high standards, much like the expectations teachers set for their students,” he added. “Our talented leaders, teachers, and staff consistently set, achieve, and surpass high goals to ensure that students are well-prepared for the next grade or the next stage in their lives.”

Joyce said he feels helping students have a well-rounded childhood and school experience also contributes to the success of the school division.

“While teaching and learning are at the core of what we do as public educators, it is certainly not all we do,” he said. “Besides learning, each family knows that there is more involved in a well-rounded childhood. It includes making friends, participating in after school activities and clubs and learning a skill or trade or gaining valuable knowledge that will help build a career path.”

“That said, being accredited is often

how our community measures how successful we are,” he continued. “We continuously strive to do our best in all facets of education so we appreciate being recognized for being fully accredited for student achievement in learning the content standards.”

“There is always room to grow,” Joyce said. “By building and nurturing positive student/teacher relationships, RCPS aims to increase student achievement each year.”

Joyce said the families of RCPS students and the community as a whole, also deserve credit for the success.

“We are extremely thankful for the support from our families and community. Without the underpinning provided by the members of this city, education is not nearly as effective or meaningful,” he said. “Our stakeholders realize how vitally important a good education is for the future of our children as well as the future of our city.”



PHOTO COURTESY OF RADFORD UNIVERSITY

Campus leaders and lawmakers along with Pat and Nancy Artis officially cut the ribbon to the new Artis Center.

Radford cuts ribbon on Artis Center for Adaptive Innovation and Creativity

RADFORD - Radford University celebrated the opening of its new Artis Center for Adaptive Innovation and Creativity with a ribbon-cutting and dedication ceremony on Sept. 5, 2024.

The new center, which opened to students at the beginning of the 2024 fall semester, is a state-of-the-art complex that fuses the arts, health sciences and technology in modern teaching environments tailored to stimulate creativity and innovation.

“Students will experience classroom settings that are tailored to their needs, designed for maximum learning and exchange and where they can still find that out-of-the-way nook for a late-night

study or a group practice session,” Radford University President Bret Danilowicz, Ph.D., said at the Thursday afternoon ceremony. “We are only just beginning to understand the Artis Center's full potential, but the possibilities are endless.”

The 178,000 square-foot Artis Center is the largest academic building on Radford's campus, as well as the largest capital construction project in the history of the university. The Artis Center is home to the university's College of Visual and Performing Arts and benefits students in the Waldron College of Health and Human Services and the College of Nursing. Additionally, the Artis Center is a

destination for regional K-12 school groups and community members.

The Artis Center houses a 500-seat proscenium theatre, 200-seat studio theatre, a performance hub with learning stairs and a courtyard with an amphitheater.

Educational spaces include a group clinic space with six clinic spaces and observation rooms, a large active-learning classroom for nursing, recording studio, photography and ceramics labs, Maker Space, fashion and interior design studios, active-learning classrooms, dance studios, theatre studios and shops, drawing and painting studios, and music education and music therapy

See Creativity, page 3

New enrollment at Radford University grows by 31 percent

Freshmen enrollment up 28%, transfer students up 39%

RADFORD - More than 6,000 undergraduate students are enrolled at Radford University's main campus and Radford University Carilion in Roanoke this fall, highlighted by significant growth among new, in-person students.

Year-over-year growth from fall 2023 includes a 28% increase in new freshmen and a 39% increase in new transfer students. Overall new student growth is boosted by 47% growth among students from Southwest Virginia.

“We had ambitious goals to stabilize enrollment and initially expected to meet those goals by the fall of 2025,” President Bret Danilowicz said during Friday's Board of Visitors quarterly meeting. “That we are ahead of schedule and exceeded our new student enrollment target by 20 percent is a remarkable testament to the work that was done across all divisions, and by all our faculty and

staff, to continuously raise the profile of Radford University.”

The Radford Tuition Promise helped many new students find their way to Radford. The program, launched in October of 2023, covers tuition costs for in-person Virginia students whose family adjusted gross incomes are \$100,000 or less. It resulted in a jump in enrollment by adults over the age of 25 either starting or completing their college journey at Radford University, increasing this group by 40 percent from previous years.

“I offer my congratulations to Radford University on the successful launch of the Radford Tuition Promise,” Del. Jason Ballard. “This groundbreaking initiative not only makes higher education more accessible but also strengthens our region's economy by

See Enrollment, page 3

Silhouette theme of next photo club meeting



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE RADFORD PHOTO CLUB

Toni Pitts

The Radford Photo Club's next meeting will be at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 19, at the Radford Public Library.

Toni Pitts, a professional photographer from Blacksburg, will speak on the exposure triangle and the use of the histogram. The photo challenge theme will be silhouette. There is also an open challenge contest.

The Radford Photo Club is made up of

professional and amateur photographers from throughout the New River Valley. Meetings, events, and outings are open to the public. If you have questions about the club, email Joyce Crowder at joycecrowder2@icloud.com, Michele Borgarelli at mborgarelli@gmail.com, or Tracy Burlingame at Tracymb3870@gmail.com.

Radford Photo Club

New Mount Olive Church hosts fish fry to support Christiansburg Institute

RADFORD - New Mount Olive United Methodist Church is hosting its next fish fry this Saturday, Sept. 14 and proceeds will benefit Christiansburg Institute.

The New Mount Olive Methodist Church Men's will be cooking all the food from scratch. The fish fry is being sponsored by the Christiansburg Institute Alumni Association. The fry is set for 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the church, located at 309 Russell Ave. in Radford.

The menu and prices are: Dinners: \$13, includes two pieces of deep-fried fish, baked beans, coleslaw rolls and dessert. Fish sandwiches: \$6, includes one piece of fish on a bun with coleslaw. Extra piece of fish: \$3.50.

For call-in orders call the church at (540)-639-6425. Delivery is also available, only in the Radford area.



PHOTO COURTESY OF NEW MOUNT OLIVE CHURCH

Church member William Wolford makes fried fish for customers at a previous fish fry.

Staff report

OBITUARIES

Carden, Helen Quesenberry

Helen Quesenberry Carden, 80, of Dublin, passed away Friday, Sept. 6, 2024.

She was a member of Jubilee Christian Church and a former para-aide with Pulaski County Schools. She was preceded in death by her parents, Ralph W. and Mary E. Quesenberry; her husband, Carroll Kenneth Carden; brothers, Jack and Timmy Quesenberry; and sisters, JoAnn Saunders and Penny Hagee.

Survivors include her son, Patrick Carden (Amy); grandchildren, Kameron



Carden and Kaci Ann Carden; brother, Tommy Quesenberry (alice); brother-in-law, Mike Saunders; sister-in-law, Shirl Quesenberry; special friends, Betty Creasy and

Mae Simpson; many nieces and nephews; and many other relatives and friends.

The family will receive friends from 12 - 2 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 11, 2024, at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford. Funeral services will begin at 2 p.m. with Rev. Gary Hash officiating. Interment will follow in Highland Memory Gardens in Dublin.

The Carden family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford.

Leach, Nancy Phillips

Nancy Phillips Leach, 93, of Blacksburg, died Friday, Aug. 30 while in hospice care at Kroontje Center, Warm Hearth Village in Blacksburg.

She was born Sept. 19, 1930 in Washington, DC, the only child of Albert Jefferson Phillips and Ruth Hamby Phillips.

Nancy grew up in the Maryland and Washington, DC areas and went to the Washington, DC Quaker school for six years, graduating first in her class. She attended Converse College in Spartanburg, S.C., graduating with a Bachelor of Arts as a sociology major. She worked in her father's insurance business prior to her marriage. After her marriage to Hugh Underwood "Woody" Leach on March 28, 1953, the couple lived in Germany where he was stationed in the US Army until 1955. They arrived in Blacksburg in 1958 after Woody completed divinity school at Union Theological Seminary in Richmond. Nancy worked as a secretary for Woody for five years prior to childrearing. In later years, she enjoyed



working in clothing sales and volunteering in the Blacksburg Presbyterian Church preschool, the American Red Cross blood bank and visiting and supporting friends with illnesses. She was a member of Blacksburg Presbyterian Church.

She was preceded in death by her adult son, Christopher "Chris" Underwood Leach of California, her granddaughter, Ashley Dowdy, and grandson, Joshua Michael Dowdy, both of Christiansburg, and her husband, Woody, of 64 years. She was also preceded by her brother-in-law, Neil Calvin Leach of Greensboro, N.C., and sister-in-law, Martha O'Neal Leach.

She is survived by two daughters: Sherill Leach Dowdy of Christiansburg

and Susan Phillips Borenstein of North Chesterfield, Va.; three grandchildren: Zachary, Elyse and Leah Borenstein; three great grandchildren: Mason, Max and Maddox Price; and one brother-in-law: Dan Blanchard Leach and wife, Genevieve, of Greensboro, N.C.

A graveside service with inurnment of cremains was held at Memorial Gardens of the New River Valley, 2551 N. Main St., Blacksburg Tuesday, Sept. 10 with the Rev. Steve Darr and the Rev. Dr. Sarah Wiles of Blacksburg Presbyterian Church officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to: Blacksburg Presbyterian Church 701 Church Street SE, Blacksburg, VA 24060; UKirk Ministry at Virginia Tech (formerly called "Cooper House") 305 Washington Street SW, Blacksburg, VA 24060; and Doctors Without Borders, www.doctorswithoutborders.org.

Arrangements by McCoy Funeral Home, 150 Country Club Drive SW, Blacksburg, VA 24060, 540-552-3211.

Hawks, Sandra Long

Sandra Long Hawks, 72, of Dublin, passed away Tuesday, Sept. 3, 2024.

She was preceded in death by her son, Martin Jay Hawks; parents Albert Thomas and Mary Blake Long; her loving husband, Phillip Jay Hawks; and her brother-in-law, Dillard Wayne Akers.

Left to cherish her memory include her sons, Richard Andrew Hawks of Lilly Dell, Va., and David Wayne Hawks of Oak Ridge, N.C.; daughter and son-in-law, Tammy Hawks Windle and Tim of Salisbury, N.C.; grandchildren, Christopher Chase Sarver of Ohio, Zoey Elizabeth



Hawks of Winston-Salem, N.C., DeAnna Leigh Hawks of Lilly Dell, Va., Alexander James Hawks, and Nicholas George Hawks (Kathryn "Kassie"), both of Calif.; great-granddaughter, Ruth Lanore Windle; sisters, Sharon Akers and

Janice Lodge (Mike); special friend, Shawn "Sparkie" Fisher; and many other nieces, nephews, relatives and an abundance of friends.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, Sept. 10, 2024, at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford with Ronald Smith officiating. Entombment followed at Roselawn Memorial Gardens in Christiansburg.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Joy Ranch, 813 Joy Ranch Rd, Woodlawn, VA 24381.

The Hawks family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford.

Enrollment

from page 1

economy by laying the groundwork for a skilled workforce. Radford's commitment to educational excellence and community impact is commendable, and its positive influence on our local economy is undeniable. I look forward to seeing continued success and growth for both the university and our vibrant region."

Several key strategies and targeted demographics helped the university recruit.

More visitors: Radford University emerged as a destination for students who were preparing to make their college decisions, as well as for younger learners. During the 2023-24 academic year, 4,856 student visitors - 60% more than last year - attended admissions events, competitions, performances and academic camps. Heightened awareness and participation from across the university community, including increased faculty involvement, helped Radford be a welcoming host for initiatives such as Junior Achievement of Southwest Virginia, Upward Bound, Virginia History Day, the Scripps Regional Spelling Bee and high school performing arts groups, driving additional visitors to campus.

"At a moment when colleges and universities across Virginia and the country are struggling to maintain enrollment, Radford is hitting its stride as a regional university eager to serve the community and the Commonwealth," said Jennifer Wishon Gilbert of the Radford University Board of Visitors. "It's not surprising a growing number of students from southwest, southside and beyond are finding their place here as they seek a world-class education in a uniquely beautiful part of the world."

Increased nursing focus: Radford University celebrated 50 years of nursing in 2023-24 by reclassifying its curriculum from a school to a standalone college. Radford's tradition of excellence in preparing nurses and commitment to enhanced resources, including the March dedication of the JoAnn Bingham Clinical Simulation at the Roanoke Higher Education Center, helped the university experience 30% growth in its new nursing students. According to the Virginia Board of Nursing, 229 Radford University graduates sat for the NCLEX-RN exam in 2023, the most among any public or private university in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

"Congratulations to Radford University and to the new students who have discovered the incredible opportunities available to them, both in Radford and Radford University at Carilion in Roanoke," said Del. Sam Rasoul. "I am a

champion for increased investment in education at all levels throughout the commonwealth. It is rewarding to see how Radford University has used state support to create new opportunities for students across different economic backgrounds and from all stages of life while making sure that they have access to internships and hands-on educational experiences that will make upward mobility possible."

Transfer outreach: Eight area community colleges joined in collaboration to draft a Tartan Transfer agreement that simplifies enrollment by lowering barriers for students to move from a two-year college to Radford. Enrollment of new transfer students grew by 153, with most of that growth from applicants in the region.

Effective local targeting: A focus on local recruitment efforts has yielded impressive results, with substantial increases from school districts within a 100-mile radius of the campus. City and county districts closest to the main campus in Radford have seen the most growth: a 233% increase in students from Giles County High School, 166% growth from Radford High School and 128% growth from Floyd County High School. Roanoke Valley schools have also been a factor, including a 357% increase in students from Northside High School in Roanoke County and 212% growth from William Fleming High School in Roanoke city.

A growing Honors College: The Honors College at Radford University is an academic community defined by intellectual curiosity and active engagement in the educational process. Honors programming includes special diploma distinctions and access to a robust living-learning community. The Honors College has more than doubled its population during the last five years, growing from 67 students in 2020 to 149 students this fall - a 122% increase. Since 2023, the program has experienced a 26% increase.

"I am extremely proud of Radford University and congratulate them on their significant enrollment growth," said Sen. Travis Hackworth. "Thanks to the entire Highlander team for all of their efforts to make Radford University both one of the most affordable and one of the most cutting-edge higher education institutions in the commonwealth. We stand ready to welcome even more students and their families in the years to come."

Official university census numbers were reported on Monday, Sept. 9. Numbers and percentages cited are current as of the week of Sept. 3.

Radford University



PHOTO COURTESY OF BLACKSBURG AARP

A variety of services will be available at the AARP Blacksburg Health and Wellness Fair, which will be held at the Christiansburg Recreation Center.

AARP Blacksburg Health and Wellness Fair coming to Christiansburg

A Health and Wellness Fair will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 18 at the Christiansburg Recreational Center, 1600 N. Franklin St., in Christiansburg.

This local fair is free to the general public and co-sponsored by AARP Blacksburg, the Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM), and the Christiansburg Recreation Center. It has been referred to as the "state fair of health fairs."

More than 80 exhibitors from across the New River Valley and beyond will be offering free services (e.g., blood pressure, body mass, bone density, skin cancer, vision, and hearing screenings, immunizations) and information. Exhibitors also include professionals sharing nutrition, exercise, in-home health services, and home renovation - a full range of services that promote "Good Health - Good Life!" We will be having a blood drive at the fair, along with the Veterans' Center mobile unit. A major attraction will be our keynote

speaker, Dr. Michael Friedlander of the Virginia Tech-Carilion Research Institute, who will be speaking between 11:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. on the up-to-date research on aging and Q&A to help us all lead more informed and happier lives.

Funds raised from the Health and Wellness Fair goes are donated to various community projects in the area the New River Valley Agency on Aging and the Community Foundation of the New River Valley. Proceeds from the Fair also provide scholarships for medical students who will go into the geriatric field of study at VCOM.

For more information on the AARP Blacksburg Health and Wellness Fair, visit <https://www.blacksburgaarp.org/2024-health-and-wellness-fair> or contact Sue Magliaro at sumags@vt.edu. To donate blood and avoid waiting, go to https://donate.thebloodconnection.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/267451.

AARP Blacksburg

Creativity

from page 1

classrooms.

The Artis Center is named for Pat and Nancy Artis, the latter a 1973 Radford University graduate and the recipient of an honorary doctorate in 2021. Pat Artis serves as an educator in Virginia Tech's Department of Aerospace and Ocean Engineering.

Pat and Nancy Artis "have been extraordinary supporters of Radford University in all ways volunteering together on the TOGETHER Campaign Steering Committee, serving as role models to inspire others to both give back and pay it forward, and providing philanthropic funds in support of facilities, student scholarships and more," President Danilowicz said.

"Pat and Nancy," the president continued, "thank you for all you do

for Radford University. live in perpetuity." You are creating a legacy at this institution that will Radford University

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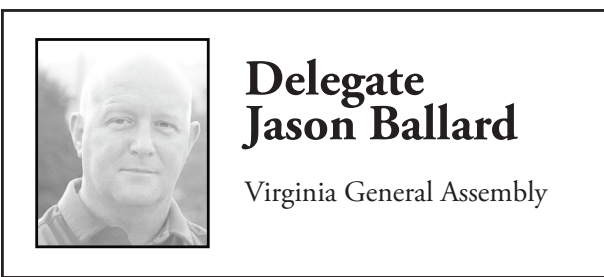


OPINION

Delegate laments speed of federal broadband funds to Virginia

In early August, I wrote about the exciting announcement regarding Virginia's expansion of broadband infrastructure in the form of a \$4.2 million grant to Giles County. While the Commonwealth continues to lead the way in how it handles broadband deployment in comparison to peer states, so far, the federal government has not held up to its end of the bargain. This is the troubling news that was recently reported in a Politico article titled "Biden and Harris promised billions for broadband. Here's why states are still waiting."

The issue at hand is the Biden-Harris administration's handling of the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program (BEAD), which is slated to provide nearly \$1.5 billion to Virginia in order to complete universal broadband infrastructure buildout. To this point, Virginia has not received any of this funding from the federal government, even though the Commonwealth was the first state in the nation to apply for it almost a year ago. As a refresher, the BEAD program was part of the Biden-Harris administration's infrastructure package that was passed into law several years ago. As part of its passage, states accepting the grant funding have to follow vague rules, such as providers having to "plan for climate change" and



Delegate Jason Ballard

Virginia General Assembly

"require reasonable prices," although the administration didn't clearly lay out what these rules actually entailed. Herein lies the heart of the issue; something that other states across the nation have experienced as well.

There are electoral ramifications to the ongoing struggle of the federal government to disburse these desperately needed funds. The Youngkin administration, which has made it a focal point to expand our broadband infrastructure through the Virginia Telecommunications Initiative, is doing its part to bridge the gap until the federal funds arrive. The Biden-Harris administration is making it very easy for Virginia Republicans to make the case that – even in the face of federal government ambivalence – we still find a way to get things done.

It's no secret that Virginia is a national leader in telecommunications, and the United States relies upon our connectivity. We host important defense agencies and the many contractors that support them, as well as corporations with worldwide reach. We are also home to many people, often in rural communities like ours, who are prevented from taking part in the broader economy due to lack of consistent internet access. The lack of access can affect other things closer to home, like property values and educational opportunities. The Biden-Harris administration's failure to deliver this critical funding to the Commonwealth in a timely fashion is beginning to appear like an "over-promise, under-deliver" situation, and in the meantime, over 100,000 Virginia residents and businesses continue to suffer slow connection speeds. They must do better.

As the Delegate representing the 42nd House District in the Virginia General Assembly, your concerns are my greatest priority. If ever I may be of assistance to you and your family, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at DelJBallard@House.Virginia.Gov. You can also follow me on Twitter @JasonBallardVA or like my Facebook page, Jason Ballard for Delegate, to keep up to date with what I am doing in Richmond and in our community on your behalf.

The following is a statement released by Senators Warner and Kaine on July 26, 2024 regarding federal broadband funding:

Warner and Kaine announce Virginia cleared a major hurdle to expand broadband

Approval of Virginia's initial proposal means \$1.5 billion is headed to Virginia soon

WASHINGTON — U.S. Sens. Mark R. Warner and Tim Kaine (both D-VA) have announced a huge step towards the deployment of \$1,481,489,527.87 in federal funding to expand access to high-speed internet in Virginia.

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) approved Volume 2 of Virginia's Initial Proposal under the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program, an important step that demonstrates Virginia has a strong plan to expand broadband and is on track to receive its funding allocation.

"Today's announcement brings us one step closer to accessing our historic \$1.5 billion award and expanding high-speed internet access to more families and businesses across Virginia," said Sen. Warner. "Virginia has a strong plan to get us closer to universal coverage, and this funding will help make that plan a reality. I'm proud to have authored and negotiated the law that made this possible, and I'm ready to work to make sure it's implemented as quickly and efficiently as possible so more Virginians have access to high-speed internet."

"Broadband is a necessity for Virginians to access telehealth, online education programs, job opportunities, and so much more. Boosting access to broadband is key to building on our economic progress, which is why I'm happy that the National Telecommunications and Information Administration has approved the next step in Virginia's BEAD program plan," said Sen. Kaine. "I'm glad to have helped pass the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law that made this investment possible."

Following the approval, Virginia has one year to submit a final proposal that will detail how the Commonwealth will ensure service to all unserved locations. Once the final proposal is approved, funds will be deployed and implementation can begin.

In June 2023, Sens. Warner and Kaine announced the \$1.5 billion allocation, which was made possible by the BEAD Program in the bipartisan infrastructure

law – landmark legislation authored and negotiated by Sen. Warner and Sen. Kaine. The BEAD Program seeks to expand high-speed internet access by funding planning, infrastructure deployment and adoption programs. Specifically, the funding will be utilized by the Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI) to get Virginians high-speed internet, defined as 100 Megabits/second (Mbps) for downloads and 20 Mbps for uploads. VATI will first prioritize 134,000 unserved locations (those lacking internet service speeds of 25 Mbps for downloads and 3 Mbps for uploads) and then 28,000 underserved locations (those lacking 100 Mbps/20 Mbps upload/download speeds).

Also, through the bipartisan infrastructure law, Sens. Warner and Kaine secured \$65 billion in funding to help deploy broadband and decrease costs associated with connecting to the internet. As part of that funding, Virginia received \$5 million to help make a strategic plan to deploy coverage.

Sens. Warner and Kaine have long fought to expand access to broadband in Virginia, including by advocating for the accurate reporting of Virginia's connectivity status. In 2022, Sen. Warner called on Virginians to contact the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regarding internet coverage in their communities. Following the FCC's reporting deadline, Sen. Warner called attention to a significant number of locations in Virginia that were incorrectly reported on the FCC broadband coverage map.

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56							57			58			
59							60			61			
62							63			64			

CLUES ACROSS

1. Undergarments for women
5. Periods of time
9. Dramatist Henrik
14. Any thick messy substance
15. Examination
16. Japanese city
17. Daze with a blow
18. With fireplace residue
19. Synthetic acrylic fabric fiber
20. Pittsburgh University
23. Scorched
24. Potato state (abbr.)
25. Anger
26. Suitable for use as food
31. To wipe out, obliterate
35. Used of unskilled work, esp. domestic
36. Loose earth, soil
37. Petrol container

CLUES DOWN

1. Pear variety
2. The Sator-___ Square
3. Light purplish-blue
4. Plants of the genus Cassia
5. Shelf unit for ornaments
6. Live in
7. Arthur ____, Wimbledon champion
8. A thwarting and distressing obstruction
9. Cut off from others
10. Tree trunk outgrowth
11. Tower used for storing silage
12. Br. public boys school
13. ___ Ling mountain range
21. ___ Clapton, musician
27. Mild yellow Dutch cheese
28. Diagonal cut of cloth
29. A narrow path or road

CLUES ACROSS

30. Fraternal Order of ___
31. The boundary of a surface
32. Granular old snow
33. Rt. angle cleaving tool
34. Irreducible material
39. Oldest man-made rayon fiber
40. Affirmative! (slang)
41. Burial cloths
42. Surface layer of grass & roots
44. Not shaky
45. Kidney-shaped nut
48. Nursemaids in India
49. Alkali bee genus
50. Warble
51. A citizen of Denmark
52. Approves food
53. Golf ball supports
54. Pearl Harbor actress Rue
55. Coarse curly-leaved greens
56. Cancer detecting smear

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RADFORD SPORTS

From the gridiron: Radford rebounds, Blacksburg and Christiansburg fall

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Radford High School avoided starting the season winless after taking last year's state title with a 35-35 double overtime win this past week over Giles. Radford stopped a two-point conversion in the second extra to preserve the win. Christiansburg ran into a buzz saw in the form of Abingdon, falling 31-28 for their first loss of the season. Eastern Montgomery remained winless on their side of the county in a 41-0 shutout against Rural Retreat, and Blacksburg was blown out in a 62-3

contest against Lord Botetourt. This week: Christiansburg (1-1) at William Byrd (2-0) Byrd is coming off a 61-0 romp over Hidden Valley. James Toler rushed eight times for 131 yards with four scores. Cannin Lutz also threw two touchdowns. Floyd (1-1) at Blacksburg (1-1) Floyd quarterback Sam Phillips rushed for two touchdowns and threw for another. He finished with 128 yards on 10 carries and was seven of 13 threw the air for 173 yards. Radford (1-1) at Virginia High A familiar program comes to Radford in Week three. Radford Coach Michael

Crist had been at Virginia High before coming to the New River Valley. This past week, Virginia High beat John Battle 35-7 to be 2-0 on the early part of the season. Radford QB Luke Gaither threw for five touchdowns in the 2OT win over Giles. Gaither finished 22-of-35 for 246 yards. Kemoni Kimbrough was his favorite target with two scores and 115 total yards. J.D. Grubb rushed for 81 yards on 19 carries. Pace Prioleau had 19 tackles in the win. Northwood (0-2) at Eastern Montgomery (0-2) Rye Cove is having the similar downs like Eastern Montgomery, falling 62-0

this past week to Rye Cove to be 0-2 on the season. This came on the heels of a 48-8 loss in the team's opener against Patrick Henry. First Area Top 5 poll: 1) Glenvar (2-0) 2) William Byrd (2-0) 3) Salem (1-1) 4) Christiansburg (1-1) 5) Radford (1-1) Who to watch: Floyd County. Predictions for this week: William Byrd 40, Christiansburg 17 Radford 32, Virginia High 31 Floyd 30, Blacksburg 28 Eastern Montgomery 20, Northwood 17

Christiansburg falls to Abingdon



Donovan Richardson (right) leaps high to successfully catch a TD pass from QB Izaiah Cotto.



Donovan Richardson (left) and Izaiah Cotto double-team to stop Abingdon's Owen Barr's progress on the field.



Matt Annis (front) tackles Abingdon's Lucas Honaker from behind with Colin Smith (back) providing support.

PHOTOS BY KYMN DAVIDSON-HAMLEY

Four inducted to Blacksburg HOF

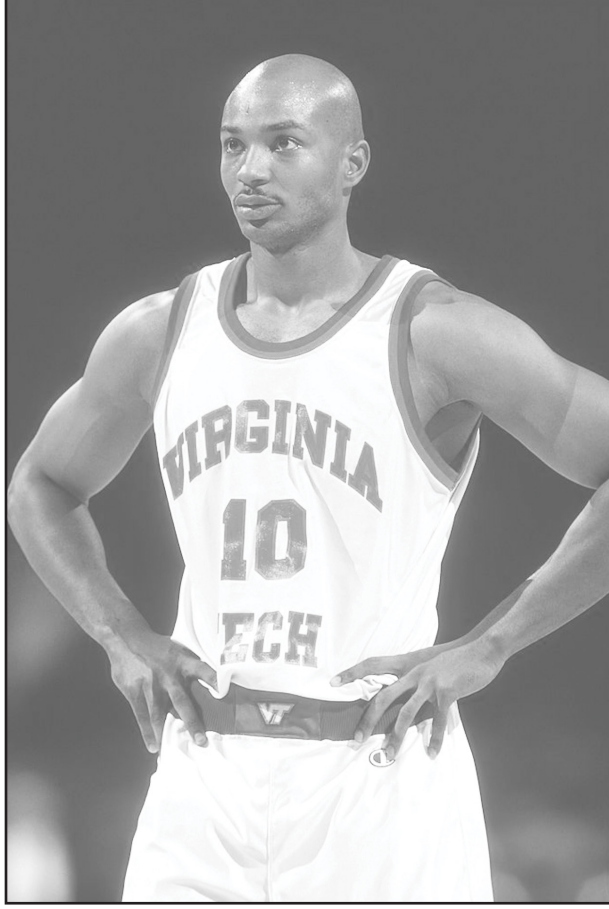
Blacksburg High School has announced four new members to the school's sports hall of fame. They include:

Kris Kittle Barnes, Class of 1983: Barnes was a four-year letterman in outdoor track and field, most valuable sprinter 1981, 1982, 1983 and an outdoor track and field record holder for 30 years in the 100m, 200m, 400m, and 1600m relay (State Champions, 1982, held for 29 years). She was a member of the State AA Champions outdoor track and field team 1982, 1983; State AA runners up outdoor track and field team 1980, 1981; Region AA runners up outdoor track and field team 1980-1983; and District AA champions outdoor track and field team 1980-1983. Barnes was also a two-year letterman indoor track and field 1981, 1982; indoor track and field record holder in long jump, 55m, 300m, 1600m relay; two-year letterman gymnastics 1979, 1980 (captain); and state AA runners up gymnastics team, 1979. She was a scholarship athlete at Auburn University and an Auburn University cross country team member in 1985 and 1986; an Auburn University indoor and outdoor track and field team member in 1984 and 1985 (letterman). She earned a B.S. in Elementary Education in 1987 from Auburn University. After living in several states and in Germany, Barnes currently lives in Radford with husband, Bob (LTC U.S. Army, retired). They have two children, Brayden (25), and Abby (21).

Jennifer Kittle, Class of 1986: Kittle was a four-year Varsity Letterman Track and Field; 1983, 1984, 1985 State AA Track and Field Champions (Outdoor); 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986 AA District and Region Outdoor Champions; 1984, 1985, 1986 State AA 100m Hurdles Champion; and 1985, 1986 State AA 300m Hurdles Champion. In 1985, she set the AA state record in the 100m and 300m hurdles; 1985, 1986- 100m and 300m Hurdles All-State Award; 1986 All American Relays 100m Hurdles Record Holder; 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986 AA District and Region Indoor Champions; and Indoor Track and Field record holder in 55M Hurdles. Other awards include: 1985/1986- Lions Club H.B. Dillon Sportsmanship Award; 1984- BHS Outstanding Jumper/Sprinter/Hurdler (Indoor); 1984- BHS Outstanding Field Event Performer/Hurdler (Outdoor); 1985- BHS Outstanding Field Performer (Indoor); 1985, 1986 Outstanding sprinter Indoor/Outdoor; 1986- BHS Most Valuable Sprinter (Outdoor); and 1986- BHS Athletic Dept's Captain's Award.

She was awarded a D1 Scholarship to Auburn University and was a 1986, 1987, 1989 Auburn University Indoor/Outdoor T&F team member (letterman). She earned a B.S. in Finance. Kittle currently lives in Blacksburg and has two children: Conner Winn (24) and Campbell Winn (21).

Michael Mecham, Class of 2012: Mecham had an 82-2-11 record while a member of BHS Soccer team and was a member of the 2009 and 2010 State, Region, District Champions; 2011 State Finalists, Region, and District Champions; and 2012 State Semifinalist, Region, and District Champions teams. He was named 2009 and 2010 second team all-district. In 2011 had seven goals, three assists, first team All-district, first team All-region, and honorable mention all-state. In 2012, he had 22 goals and four assists and was named Most Valuable Player, Team Captain, 1st team All-District, 1st team All-Region, 1st team All-State, State AA Player of the year, Roanoke Timesland Player of the year, National Soccer Coaches of America (NSCAA) High School All-American, NSCAA Virginia Player of the Year in all classifications (private and public). Mecham received a scholarship to and played four



Jay Purcell



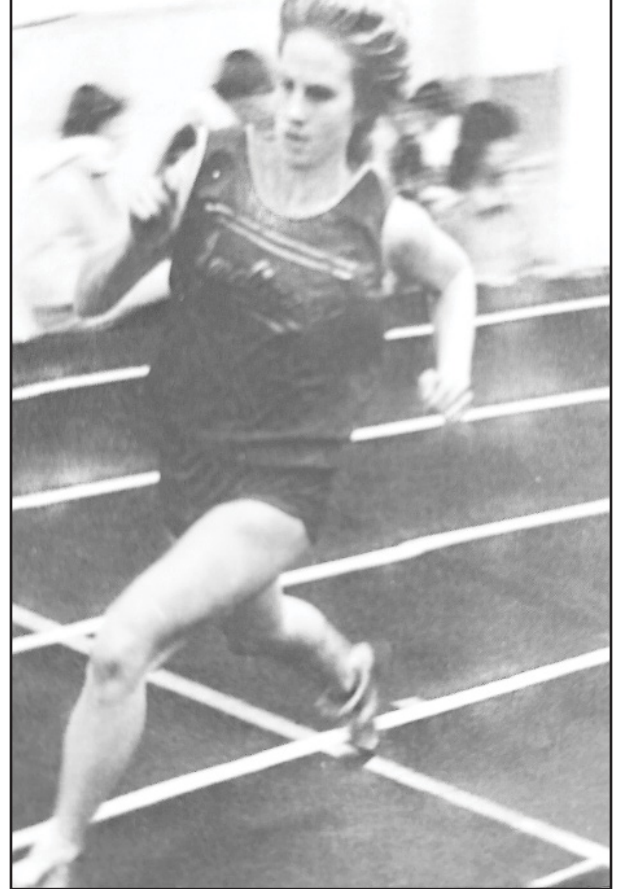
Michael Mecham

years at Division 1 University of North Carolina at Wilmington. He also received a bachelor's degree in chemistry. He started in 71 games over four years; was Team Captain and second team All-CAA in 2015; 2016 season with professional side USL Wilmington Hammerheads; and 2018-2020 seasons with professional side USL League One South Georgia Tormenta. He has served as an assistant coach at Greensboro College Men's team, has spent eight years coaching top youth teams in North Carolina and has earned his C-License from the United States Soccer Federation. Mecham, his wife Alex and their two dogs, Riley and Bex, currently reside in Durham, N.C. where he works as a chemist and a youth soccer coach.

Jay Purcell, Class of 1990: Purcell was a three-year letterman in Boys' Varsity basketball while playing point guard and was team Captain junior and senior year. He received All-District Honors; sophomore, junior, and senior year; All Region Honors junior and senior year; was a member of the 1988 and 1989 District Tournament Championship team; member of the 1989 regional championship team and was a career 1000-point scorer for Blacksburg High School. Purcell earned the VHSL Academic Excellence



Jennifer Kittle



Kris Kittle Barnes

Award in 1989 and 1990; earned a D-1 basketball scholarship to Virginia Tech; was a four-year starter while playing point guard at Virginia Tech in the Metro Conference, which was a basketball heavy conference; was named to the all-freshmen team for Metro Conference; team Captain in 1992, 1993 and 1994; Team MVP in 1993 and 1994; All Conference Team in 1994; All-Tournament Team in 1994; and was a career 1,000-point scorer for Virginia Tech. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Marketing Education and currently resides in Charlotte, N.C. with his wife Carmen and their two children, Taylor (14) and Bryce (13). The new HOF class will be recognized at halftime of this Friday's Blacksburg football game against Floyd. *Montgomery County Public Schools*

PHOTOS COURTESY OF BLACKSBURG HIGH SCHOOL

NRV athletes participate in Knight's Cross Country race



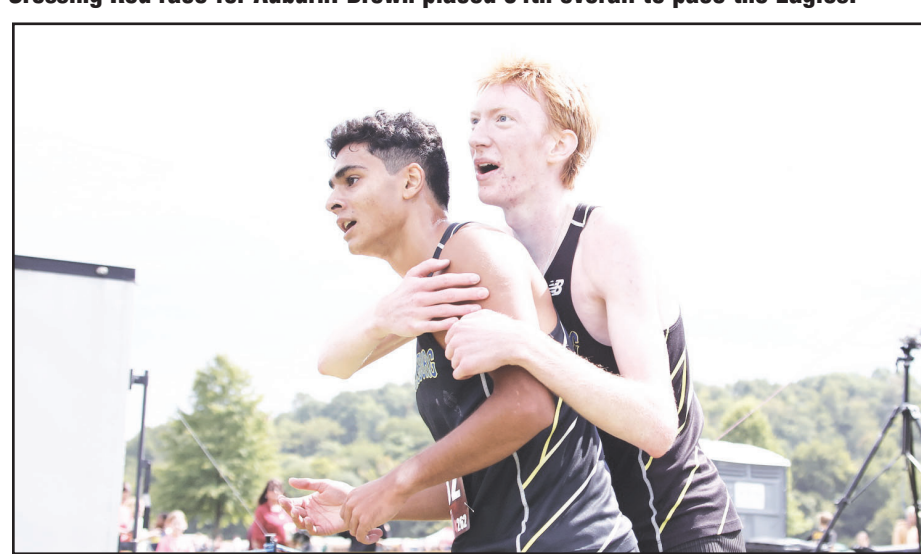
Reagan Bryant (left) and Cora Mosby lead out the Bobcats' team at the start of the Knights Crossing Red race. The girls placed 95th and 94 respectively.



Radford's Lily Hyatt placed races down the finishing straight at Knights Crossing, placing 130th overall.



Blake Brown (left), Trevor Cole, and Easton Dobbins get started in the Knights Crossing Red race for Auburn. Brown placed 54th overall to pace the Eagles.



Blacksburg's Asher Roach (right) embraces teammate Ryan Bagchi at the finish of Knights Crossing after they placed 9th and 10th in the Red race. The Blacksburg boys' team took first in the field of 57 teams at Green Hill Park on Saturday.



Radford's Kyle Martin races midway through the Knights Crossing Red race. Martin would place 140th in a very competitive field at Green Hill Park.

PHOTOS BY JON FLEMING

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PETS OF THE WEEK

These pets and many others are available for adoption at the Montgomery County Animal Care and Adoption Center, 480 Cinnabar Rd., Christiansburg. Phone: (540) 382-5795.

Sweet Mia is a little timid and will need time to get used to a new home. Once comfortable with her favorite human, she turns into a lap dog who loves affection and hugs.



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Wonder is a blind dog who needs humans with previous experience with dogs. He is a happy boy who enjoys interacting with people. He knows the "sit" command and understands "go outside." Wonder also likes treats and soft squeaky toys.

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