

Got history?

Valley Scene, D1



ROBBERY CASE VERDICT Region, B1
Falcons defeat Generals Sports, C1

Northern Virginia

The Daily

copyright © 2005 Shenandoah Publishing House, Inc.

Serving the
Northern
Shenandoah
Valley



Wednesday April 20, 2005 35¢

A new shepherd

CARDINAL JOSEPH RATZINGER ELECTED POPE

CONSERVATIVE GERMAN, 78, TAKES NAME BENEDICT XVI



AP

Newly elected Pope Joseph Ratzinger of Germany waves to the crowd from the central balcony of St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican on Tuesday.

'Transitional' pontiff likely to carry on John Paul's policies

By Victor L. Simpson
The Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — At 78, Joseph Ratzinger seemed the ideal candidate for the role of a "transitional" pope — a short-term papacy allowing the Roman Catholic Church to take stock of the legacy from Pope John Paul II's dynamic 26 years.

Known as the Vatican enforcer of church teaching, the first German pope in nearly 1,000 years was the most suitable prelate to pursue John Paul's conservative policies — including rejection of contraception, abortion, women priests and gay unions.

This time the cardinals made the favorite the pope, electing Ratzinger with unusual
POPE, A3

Local Catholics describe Ratzinger as kind, humble

By Jonathon Shacat
Daily Staff Writer

Many area Catholics said they are pleased with the news of Tuesday's election of Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger as pope.

Those who have met Ratzinger described him as simple, humble and gentle.
William Aitchison, pastor of St. John
CATHOLICS, A3

Bosco Catholic Church in Woodstock, said he had "tears of joy" when the name of the new pope was announced on Tuesday.

"It didn't take long for the holy spirit to make his choice known" he said. "It was an emphatic choice. It was a choice for the strength of faith and love, and a sure sign of hope for the church in the future."

COVERAGE CONTINUES ▶ In St. Peter's Square, joy erupts with the tolling of bells. A3 ▶ Some disappointed that new pope isn't from the developing world. A3

With disciplinary action on DUI arrests likely, Middletown chief quits

Ashley resigns

By Garren Shipley
Daily Staff Writer

MIDDLETOWN — It's official. Middletown is looking for a new top cop. Police Chief Roger Ashley, who was arrested twice in one day last month on drunken driving charges, resigned his post Monday, pre-empting a closed disciplinary session that likely would have seen the Town Council either fire

him or ask for his resignation. Ashley was entitled to a disciplinary hearing before any action could be taken against him. Had he not resigned before the hearing, Ashley probably would have faced the council on Tuesday. Mayor Gene Dicks informed council members of Ashley's decision at a committee meeting Tuesday night.
CHIEF, A4

ROGER ASHLEY'S TROUBLES

On March 12, Middletown Police Chief Roger Ashley struck another vehicle in his unmarked police cruiser and was charged with DUI, according to police. Ashley was arrested for DUI again later that day, and also charged with refusing to take a breathalyzer test, according to a criminal complaint.



Ashley

Study finds extra pounds less lethal than government says

By Carla K. Johnson
The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Being overweight is nowhere near as big a killer as the government thought, ranking No. 7 instead of No. 2 among the nation's leading preventable causes of death, according to a startling new calculation from the CDC.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimated Tuesday that packing on too many pounds accounts for 25,814 deaths a year in

the United States. As recently as January, the CDC came up with an estimate 14 times higher: 365,000 deaths.

The new analysis found that obesity — being extremely overweight — is indisputably lethal. But like several recent smaller studies, it found that people who are modestly overweight actually have a lower risk of death than those of normal weight.

Biostatistician Mary Grace Kovar, a consultant for the University of
WEIGHT, A4



Contact us

Front Royal 636-6188
Strasburg 465-5137
Woodstock 459-3729
Winchester 662-5868

SUNNY



High in the mid-80s. Tonight, low in the 50s.
Weather, A8

Region, B1
Sports, C1
Valley Scene, D1
Abby, D2
Bridge, C8
Business, B6
Classifieds, D3
Comics, C8

Comment, A6
Crossword, C8
Donohue, D2
Heloise, D2
KidScoop, D8
Obituaries, B5
TV/Movies, C7

ONLINE

32 pages