

COMMONWEALTH TIMES

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APRIL 26 - MAY 2, 1977



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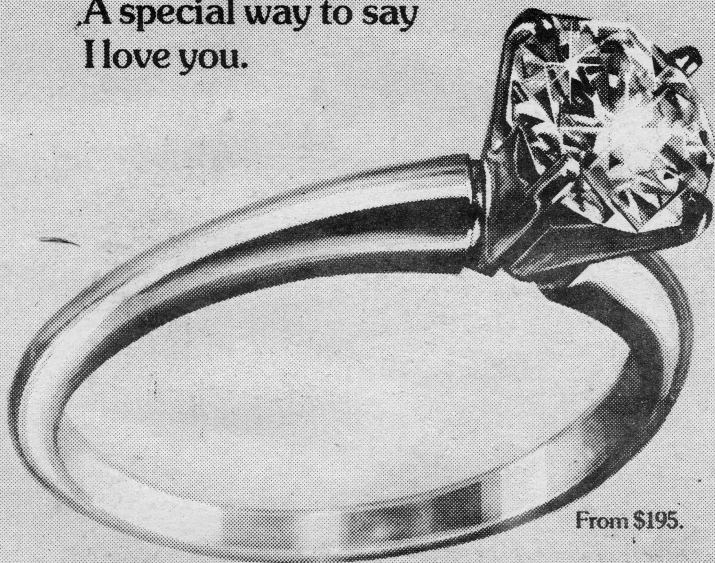
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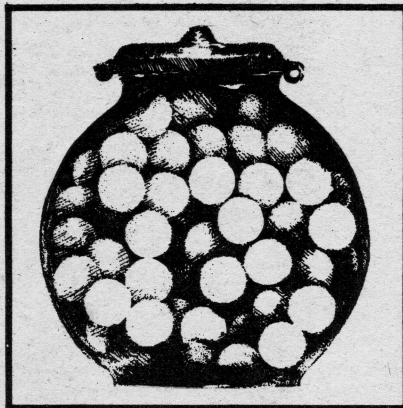
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COMMONWEALTH TIMES

VOLUME 8, NO. 26 APRIL 26 - MAY 2, 1977



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**Art or Reality?
The Gochenour
Exhibit**

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**The 1980s:
Only Three
Years Away**

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Is There Room For Reality In a Museum?

By Brett Averill

Childbirth: everyone has experienced it, but there are people who find it mildly queasy. They don't like the blood. They don't like the woman spreading her legs. They don't like the doctor beating the baby.

Some people feel more than nausea when thinking about birth. They are disgusted by the impurity implicit in it: the woman on the delivery table has been violated. She has allowed a man to carnally know her.

So perhaps it wasn't surprising that the Virginia Museum asked Richmond photographer Mike Gochenour to remove a series called "Aaron's Birth" from his one-man show there early this month.

The eight-photo series documents the birth of Gochenour's nephew—from his sister's admission to the hospital to her reunion with her husband and newborn son a half hour after the delivery.

Gochenour, who had found the event the "most intense and beautiful" of his life, resisted when museum Director R. Peter Mooz asked him to exclude the sequence. So the artist and the administrator compromised: they decided to delete the fourth photo, the series' most explicit, and leave the other seven on the wall.

Though Gochenour satisfied the powers at the museum, he remained dissatisfied with the entire incident: "I don't think art should be censored. That's all there is to it....You know, you can't put *Hustler* magazine on the wall, but I never knew any artist that did that sort of thing."

The photos, taken in a Northern Virginia hospital, are really more documentary than they are pure art, he said. Therefore, "It's not a matter of censoring art. They're censoring reality. It's a real, important part of reality."

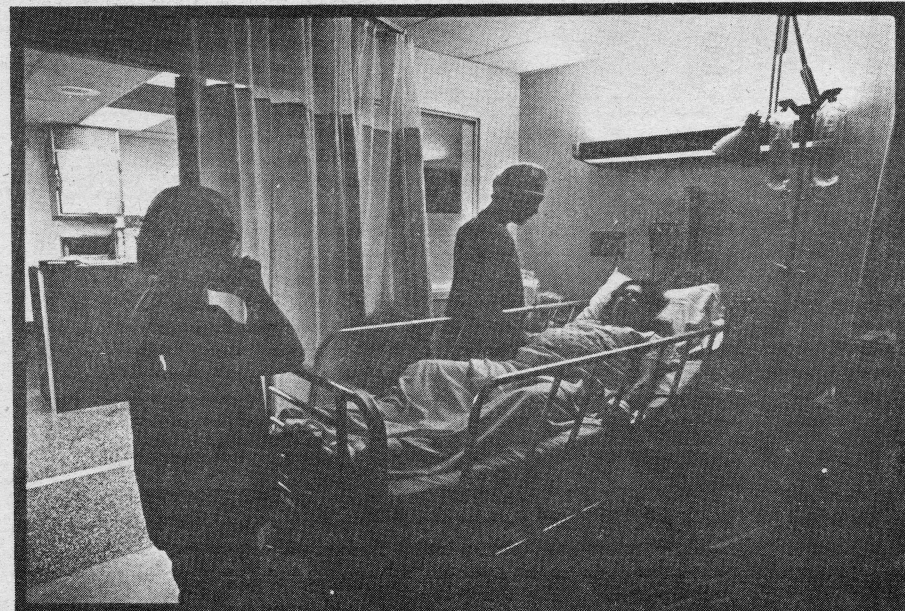
The chairman of the museum's board of trustees, Dr. William H. Higgins, Jr., who acted as a spokesman during the Gochenour controversy, said he didn't quite comprehend the photographer's logic: "If he's admitting they're not art—I don't follow that. Why should they be exhibited in a museum of fine arts?"

"It [the birth] was reality, no question about that....Of course, it is miraculous....[But] there are many aspects of reality. Some reality is not appropriate in a fine arts museum." Higgins, a physician, cited vomiting as an example of inappropriate reality.

For pieces to be accepted into the state-supported museum, Higgins said, they must be "high quality," "well done," and "inoffensive."

By defending the removal of the print from the show, he said, "I am not judging the picture. It is fine photography." But he reiterated, "I don't think you can use pieces of life out of context."

Gochenour, who had been excited by the birth and his chance to communicate the creation of life, was left frustrated by the administrators' prudishness: "How anyone can be offended is beyond me, just beyond me. If they're offended, it's not from the photograph. It's their own mentality. It's a reflection on themselves." ☆ ☆



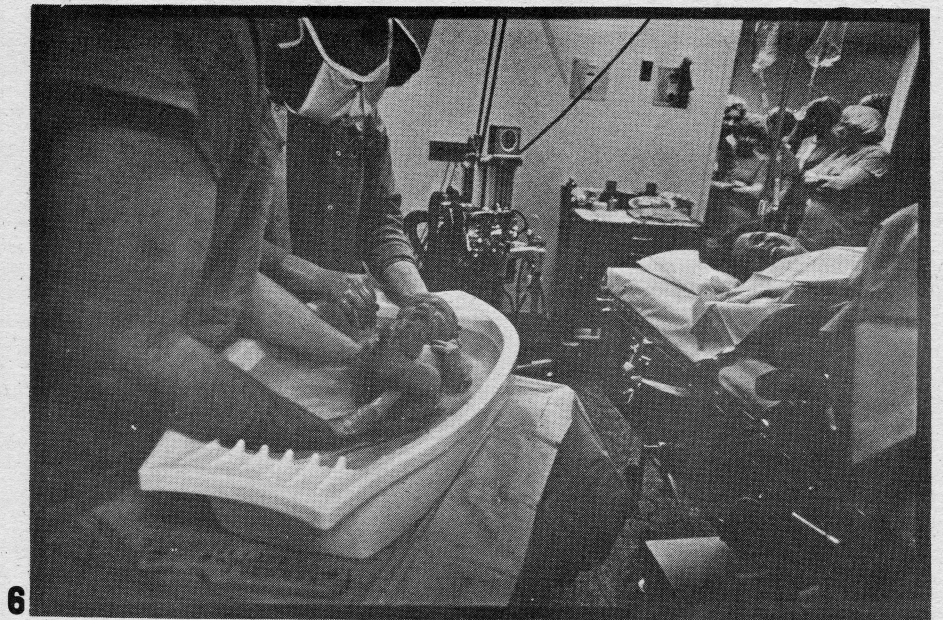
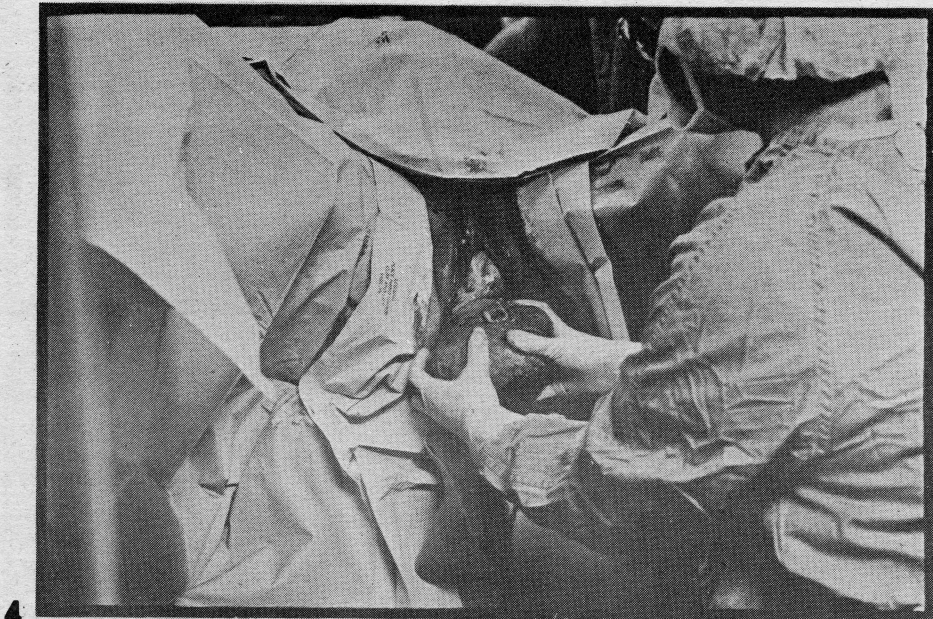
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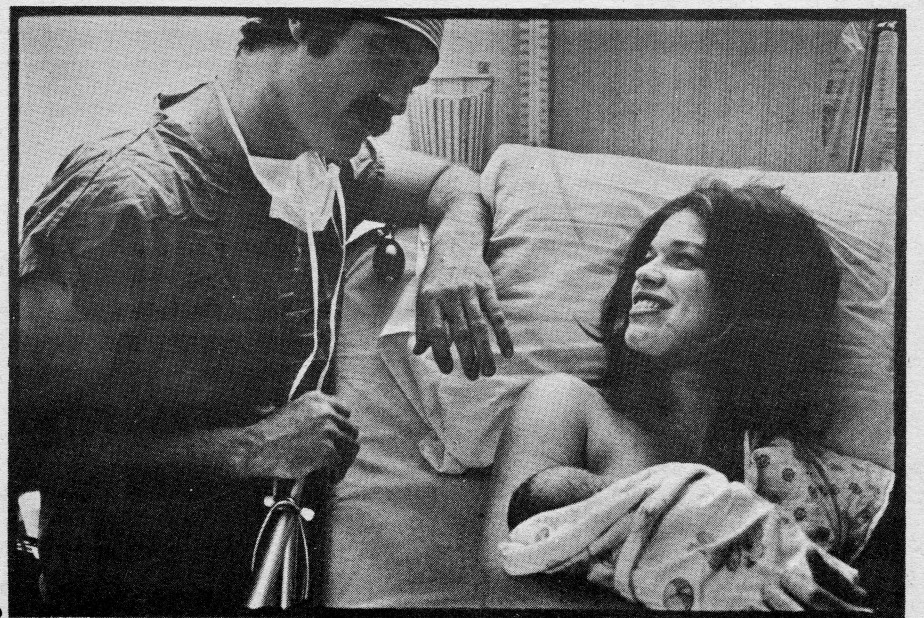
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Artist Mike Gochenour: "It's not a matter of censoring art. They're censoring reality."



Board chairman William H. Higgins, Jr.: "If...they're not art...why should they be exhibited in a museum of fine arts?"

Is it sick to love a pen?

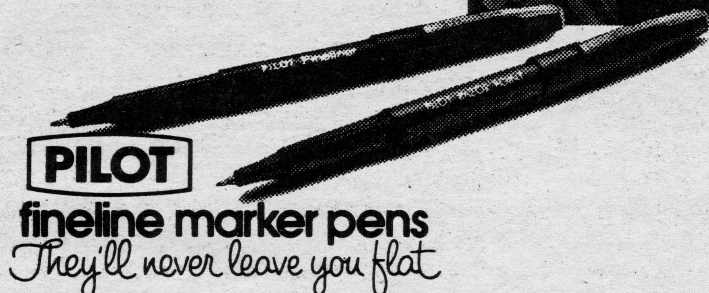
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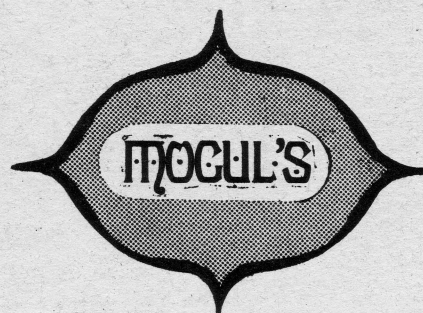
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LETTERS

Who's NEXT ?

I find the VCU police department's six percent increase in operational funds highly questionable. Considerable time and money is wasted pursuing victimless crimes committed by students. It's time the administration initiated a thorough investigation into the policies and practices of the campus police. Furthermore, it's past time the students halted police harassment for victimless crimes.

How can anyone legitimize pulling a gun on a streaker? Why should students be arrested and jailed for sitting on Franklin St. at four a.m.? Why are the VCU police more than five blocks west of campus racing their cars and squealing their wheels? Should theater students be jailed for carrying props and tools? Why don't the police always respond to emergency calls?

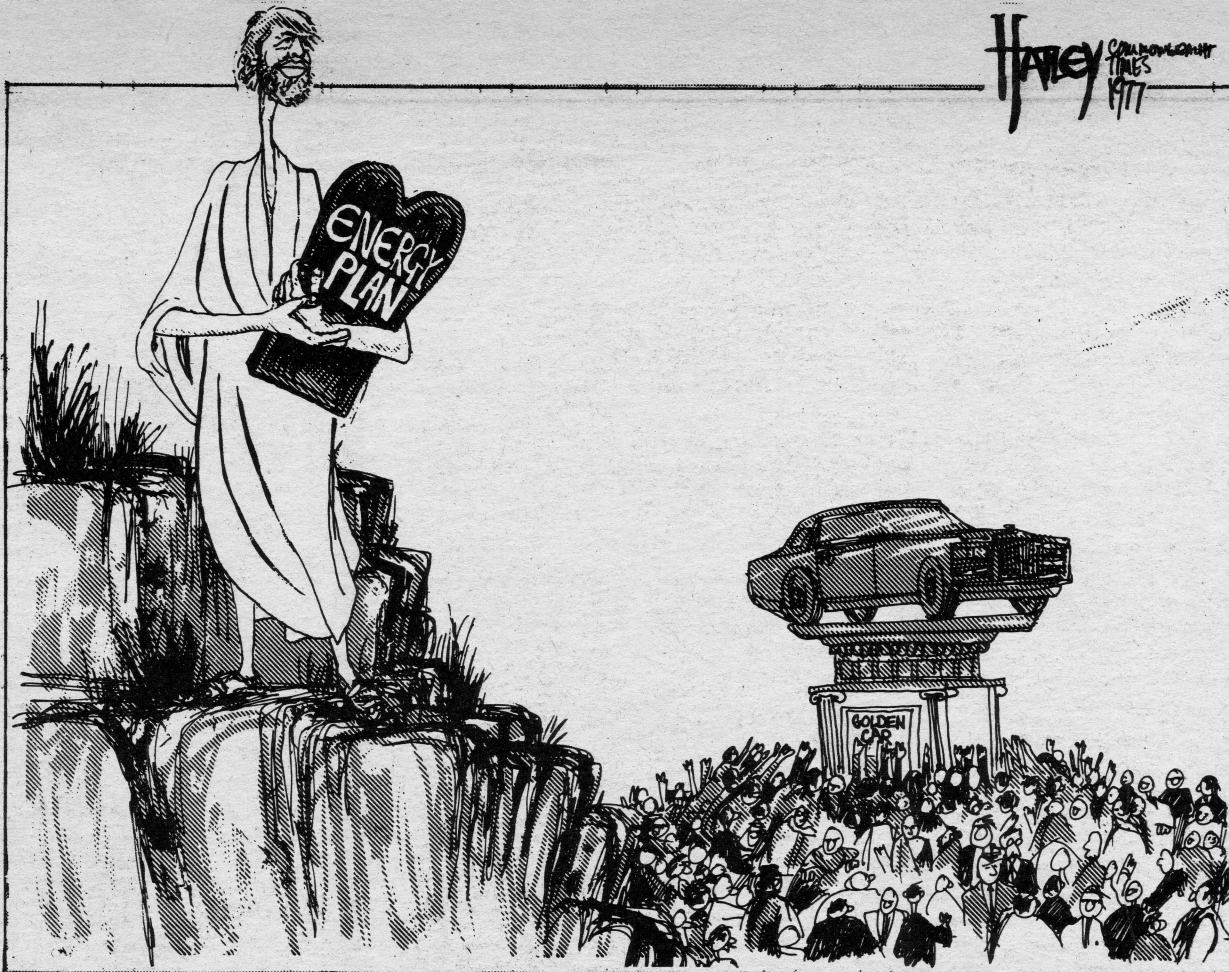
These are just a few of the antics that the student body has to deal with. It's getting near finals again and if the VCU police continue their semi-annual tradition, they'll wind up in a dormitory looking for drugs. Last spring it took 19 cops to search 4 rooms in Johnson Hall for quantities of heroin, cocaine, amphetamines, barbituates, marijuana, and weapons. To obtain a search warrant, competent information must be obtained. (In this case, it was allegedly obtained through a secret informer.) The warrant for this particular search was based totally on bullshit! Not one item on it had ever existed to anyone's knowledge, including the five students arrested. (For two bongs and thirty-two marijuana seeds) The raid was led by officer Palumbo, who threatened several other students with arrest if they were to even "say" anything to him. The end result of the extravaganza was hundreds of wasted dollars in salaries, hundreds of wasted dollars in the students' legal fees, lots of bad vibes, and two convicted students, both of whom are currently serving two years probation. administration has little or no control over the police force. The ridiculousness of this situation is that the police department is now enjoying a six percent increase in their operating budget, when they can't even afford to install emergency phones on campus. Whoever sets the priorities needs to do some major rearranging.

In the mean time, who's next?

Brian Baker
Political Science

How FAR HAVE WE COME ?

Having been at VCU for four years, I have come to realize that certain things that happen here are not always brought about in the best interest of all the students here. One of the main reasons I chose to attend VCU was because I saw it as an urban university made



up from various geographic regions as well as diversified ethnic backgrounds. I felt that an educational institution such as this one would be a learning experience not only academically but socially, and I could only benefit from the contact I would have with the numerous types of people here.

That is why this year, more than any other year, I was angered when the phrase "Black Ball" started floating around. (For those who are not familiar with what the word signifies, it is a dance held each year during Black Week.) Being non-Black, I am offended by the adjective used to describe a social event paid for with my student activities fees. I separate this event from the other events of "Black Week" because I look at all the other events as being cultural, educational or political in nature and believe any person having any knowledge at all of the activities would see that the exhibits, lectures, movies, etc. are representative of certain aspects of the Black experience and respect them as such. I realize, too, that on the posters displayed around campus it does not have "Black Ball", but simply "Ball." However, if I have heard the Ball mentioned once as the "Black Ball" I have heard it mentioned at least twenty-five times that way. The fact that "Black" is not placed on the poster is mere formality; the secularism of the event, while not being specified, is *definitely* implied. The racial undertone is there. I see no need or justification for a label such as this one to be placed on a social event which should—realistically—bring together ALL the students at VCU—not merely the Black ones. True, no one is keeping anyone away, but we all know that most human beings tend to stay away from things which openly broadcast a characteristic which does *not* apply to them—like the term Black in this case. I attended the Ball in 1975 and, during the time I was there, I was a minority of one. My non-Black friends refused to go because of this title. Has it been so long that we forget the feeling of segregation when everything was

labeled "white" and "colored?" Have the memories of those years slipped so far into the past that we can now do the same thing over again — and feel it's justified? I have not forgotten, nor will I ever forget, and I urge every student that has paid an activity fee to think about this. Are you willing to pay for something that violates the concept people have worked and died for in the past? Will you continue to allow things of this nature, year after year, until it becomes such a widely and silently accepted wrong that it is accepted as being right?

I wish that each person who has ever referred to the Ball that took place April 22 as the "Black Ball" would stop for a moment and think of the late Dr. King—what he lived for and died for—and ask himself or herself one question : "How far have we come—if we've progressed at all?"

Deanna R. Meadows
Senior
Mass Communications

With this issue, the Commonwealth Times staff will take a short breather to spend some time on schoolwork, which has been sorely neglected for the past four months. We will, however, resume publication in June, when the first of our summer journals will hit the streets.

It's been a long hard year for the Times staff, but we feel that it has been more than worth the extra time and effort involved. It is extremely difficult to summon forth a group of such highly dedicated, energetic and talented people out of this sea of apathy here at VCU, but we did it. And if the community response is any indication, we did it well.

Thanks for your support.

jmw

Readers' letters are needed and welcomed. Submissions should be typed and signed, and should include the author's name, address, telephone number, year and major, each listed below the signature. Any letters without this information can not be published.

Deadline for letters is noon Wednesday.

All letters are subject to editing for grammatical errors and space considerations.

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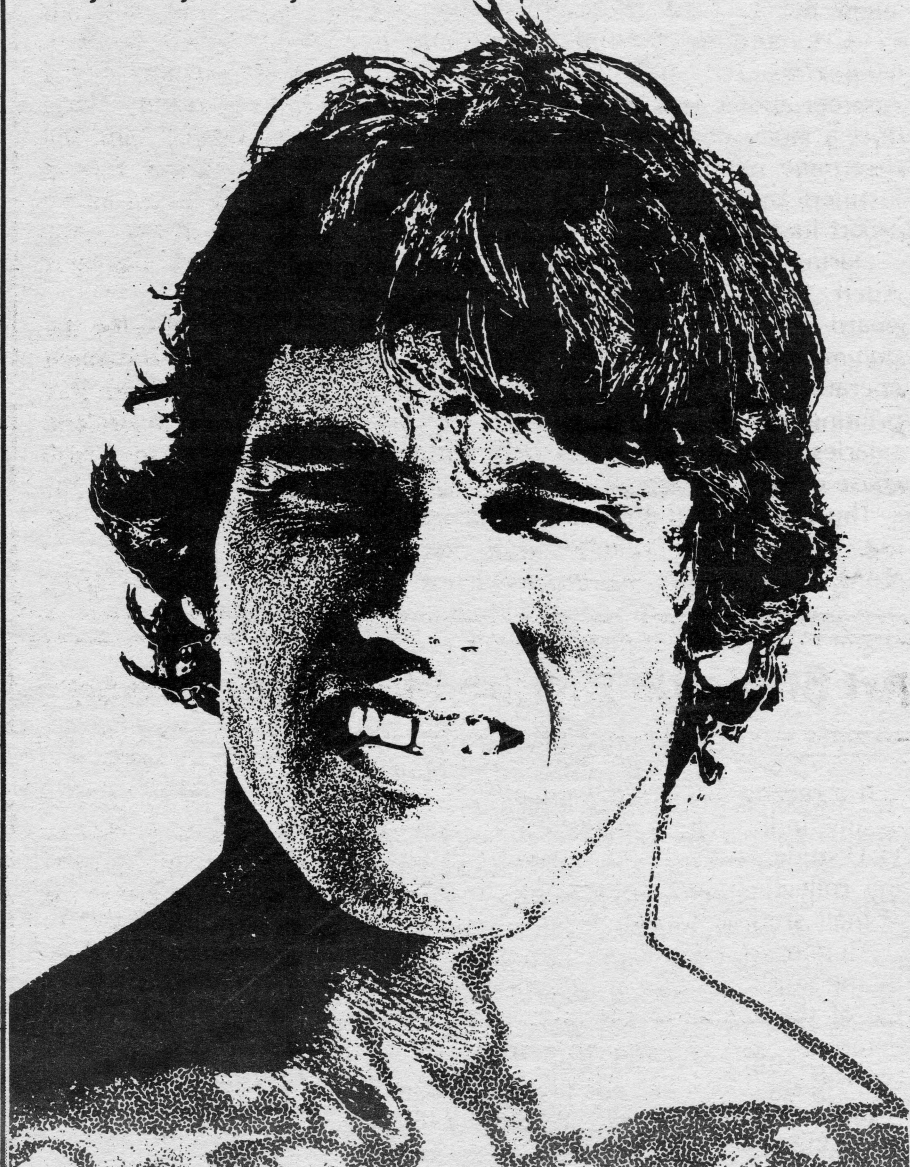
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SHORTS

CUSA Says Media will Retain Stipends

The Council on University Student Affairs (CUSA) reversed an Appropriations Board decision last Wednesday, April 20, and voted 8-1 to fund stipends for WVCW and *Richmond Arts Magazine* for 1977-78. The Appropriations Board will conduct a study during this time to determine if media stipends are justified and equitable, and will report its findings to CUSA.

During a meeting on Monday, April 18, the Appropriations Board voted 5-3 to fund the *Commonwealth Times* \$4612 for operating costs, which include printing expenses and editorial salaries, and \$3150 for the purchase of new equipment.

The board voted against funding stipends to WVCW and RAM, however, on the grounds

that board members did not feel these salaries should be paid from student activities fees. The board also questioned the equity of paying some, but not all, media positions filled by students. One board member added that the *Commonwealth Times* was a "student service" and the students performing this service needed the stipends as an incentive. He added that the radio station and the literary magazine were "fun and games."

The Media Board appealed the decision and, in a statement presented to CUSA, added that the members "cannot understand the rationale for making rash decisions before studying the adverse impact that those decisions will have."

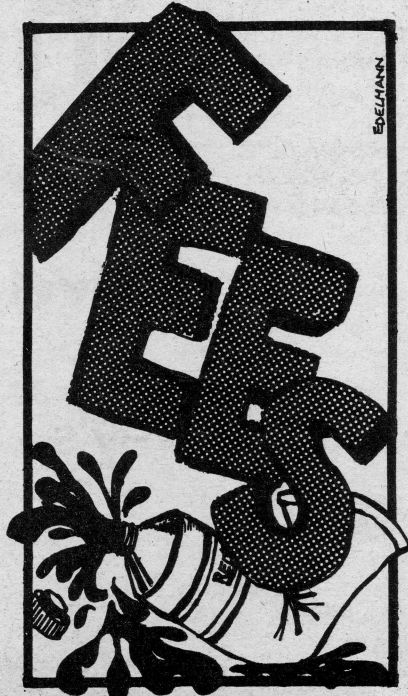
—Bobbie Harrell

Art Students Dislike Mandatory Fees

If a recent poll of art students is any indication, a majority of VCU students are displeased with the collection and disbursement of their student mandatory fees.

An informal poll was conducted by the Student Advisory Committee of the School of the Arts to determine art student attitudes towards athletic fees, the athletic department, and on major athletics in general.

Almost all of the 469 students polled were from the School of the Arts.



Among the major questions asked by the survey were whether students attended athletic events and how frequently, whether the athletic department should be held accountable for its spending, and how mandatory activity and athletic fees should be used.

The survey showed that 51 percent of the students surveyed did not have an awareness of major athletic events.

On a question involving attendance, 79 percent said they had never attended a major athletic event, 17 percent said they had attended a few, 4 percent several, and 1 percent many.

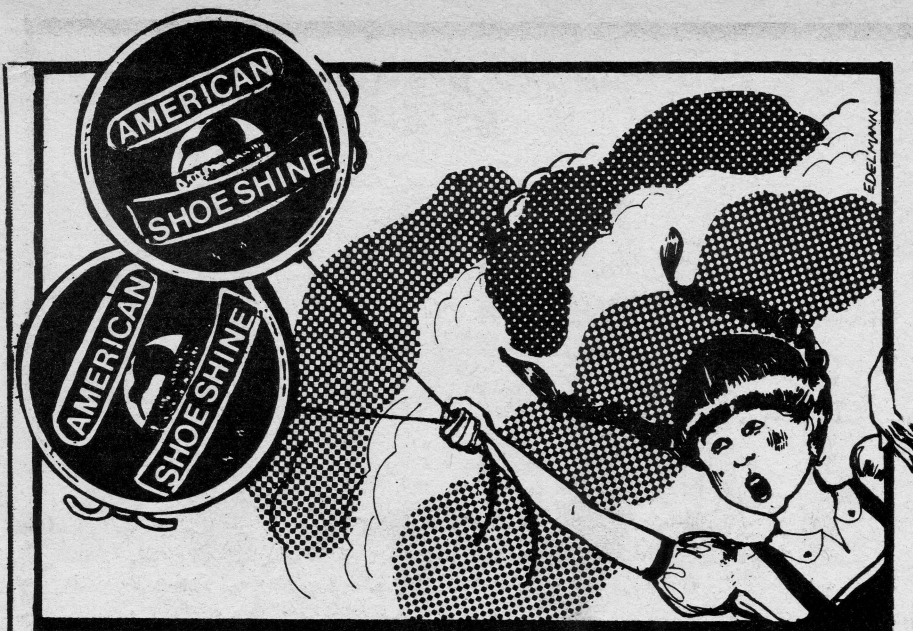
As for use of athletic facilities, 31 percent said they used the facilities while 69 percent said they did not.

13 percent of those polled agreed with mandatory athletic fees while 80 percent disagreed and 7 percent did not respond.

Only 11 percent expressed satisfaction with the management and usage of the fees, while 72 percent said they were dissatisfied with their usage, and 17 percent did not respond.

On the question involving activity fees, 55 percent were in favor of the mandatory fees, while 44 percent were opposed.

—Bob Powell



Illustrations by Karen Edelmann

A Little of Ann Arbor Comes to VCU

VCU was selected as one of nine universities nationwide to view the 15th annual Ann Arbor Festival. The event attracted some 800 persons during a two-night showing in the Business Building auditorium recently.

The festival originates at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor each spring.

The VCU audience awarded the first prize of \$100 to "American Shoeshine," by Sparky Greene.

Second prize, an award of \$75,

went to "Gravity," by David Wechter and Michael Franklin.

Four honorable mentions, carrying a prize of \$50 each, were presented to: "Metamorphosis," by Bony Greenwald; "In The Beginning Was The End: The Truth About De-evolution," by Chuck Statler; "Nicky: One Of My Best Friends," by Granier Gurievitch; and "If Brains Were Dynamite, You Wouldn't Be Able To Blow Your Nose," by Peter Pors and Tom Burstyn.

—Tom Matthews

Tuition and Fees Increase for Fall

The Board of Visitors has approved an expected tuition increase of about six percent for the academic campus, and a tuition hike of eight percent for the MCV campus. The tuition increases become effective with the beginning of the fall 1977 term.

The board has also approved increases in the per-credit cost of courses for both in-state and out-of-state students, as well as increases for annual dormitory rent and meal plans.

Tuition for full time undergraduate in-state students will be raised to \$730 from its current annual total of \$696, an increase of \$34. Full time out-of-state tuition prices will be upped from their current \$1380 total to \$1460 annually.

Part time per-credit-hour in-state tuition has been upped from the current charge of \$30 per credit hour to \$32 per credit hour. Out-of-state per-credit tuition has been raised from \$58 to \$64.

Graduate students will also be shelling out more, as tuition for full time in-state graduate stu-

dents will increase from \$720 annually to \$770, while out-of-state graduate tuition will increase from \$1030 to \$1090.

Dormitory rent prices will also increase annually by \$60. The cost for a non-air conditioned room will increase from the current \$650-\$670 fee to \$710-\$730 annually, with the prices for all air conditioned rooms jumping from the present \$700 annual price tag to \$760.

The annual health fee charge will remain at \$52, but the laundry fee will increase from \$32 to \$34.

The annual cost for subscribing to either of the two meal plans will increase \$30. The yearly cost for the 15 meal per week plan will jump to \$680 while the cost of the 21 meal plan will increase to \$710 annually.

The annual in-state tuition for those attending the Schools of Dentistry and Medicine will jump from the current \$1850 to \$1950, while out-of-state dental tuition will increase from \$3210 to \$3470.

—Steve Stein

THE 1980s

It's interesting to look back to the sixties, and lots of people do; people look back at the early seventies, too, with the same fascination they do with the past decade, there being some ineffable, escaped wisdom in those times that they want to benefit from. And every week, your *Commonwealth Times* fare consists of an occasional reflection on the past, plus all the relevant current topics that are meant to inform and enlighten our readers. But when one reads about what has happened, or what is happening, if he is curious, he'll wonder, *well, what next?*

It wasn't hard finding correspondents for this issue; it seems like everyone is willing to offer a few speculations on what the eighties will be like; and we were surprised and impressed with a lot of what they produced. We're justly proud to bring you this compilation of some of the best material that we had the good fortune to go over—our only disappointment is that we weren't able to print a lot more of the submissions we have on hand. Nevertheless, this is an interesting sample, varied as it is, and one we hope will stimulate a little idle speculation by our readers. Granted, the proposal of Messrs. Lopez and McCray will summon vehement opposition from some

quarters—but they can't be proposals if they don't do that much.

Zuma 1 and the guy who missed the turn in the space warp may be high-flying buddies, but each in his own way has discovered something not altogether imaginary. And whoever imagined that the new signs around campus were going to be guideposts to the VCU of the eighties? Will there be a store of the eighties? One writer thinks so. Another wonders about recombinant DNA and its implications. The unfoldings of the eighties will be diverse, for sure.

The 1980s—only three years away—have been the subject of books and essays. Now, on the brink of the new decade, we read daily ominous government predictions on energy loss, overpopulation and unlimited pollution. Almost all the outlooks are grim, and we're not sure things won't turn out that way. But, as history tells us, every era has its own problems; none has any more complex or involved than any others'; therefore, we need not deal with all the projected sorrows that have already been so completely been covered in the media. Instead, we present to the readers this final issue of the *Commonwealth Times*.

Special thanks to the production people for making it possible.

—Bill Pannelas & Peter Blake

Those whose works have been published in this special issue include:

Bill Pannelas/Buzz the Astronaut

Anonymous/Joshua Lopez' proposal

Tom Matthews/DNA research

Janet Northen/Bloomingdales

Lanier McCray/Legal narcotics and marijuana

Michel Sweeney/Zuma 1

Gary Henry/2536 AD

Ben Blake/VCU Master Plan

Special thanks also to the illustrators, who are all identified next to their work.

This issue was originated and edited by Peter Blake and Bill Pannelas.

Buzz

The Astronaut

The retinas are singed: The beauties are promenading across the rolling hills of central Virginia towards the sea.

The otters wait in perpetual bliss, mocking the vain attempts at humanistic happiness in a scholastic, foot stomping, phantasmic hell-raising bash.

Jellyfish are curled around their lovers causing pain that refreshes them and reaffirms their sense of purpose while they are seawracked.

The magnificent Mister Mug is practicing somersaults in the curls of air in the jet stream.

The great Zambini's elastic tights are snagged on a nail—it is his body pulled like a rubber glove over stolid monadnocks and the scrub of the Virginia wilderness.

Beached oyster shells throw back the moonbeams into the eyes of Epicurius' son, the world-famous Buzz the Astronaut.

Buzz sits on the pad meditating the cosmic harmony, the music of the spheres, if you will. The hum of celestial orbs and whistling of comets, the whirr of asteroids is a universal symphony unlike one Mahler ever dreamed of.

Buzz has fallen in zero gravity up the mirror of stairs towards pleasant images of intrinsic significance, preternatural gleam of the flaming torch that, with Photon strength, inflames the world in self-fulfilling brilliance, the cloud of self-righteous mocking having been forever banished, sizzled into cosmic fusion with pretty, passively perceived temporal images, those lost in the euphoric bliss in the other-worldliness.

The fusion of Mind with cosmic consciousness is accomplished, the visionary gleam is captured and in the pocket of Buzz, the accomplished wizard of human fancies; ocean reaches to become one with land, mass cancelling mass, substance swallowing substance, light diffusing light, significance absorbing significance.

The pure light of Buzz' eye is the universal principle of the world—the link between love's death and love's rebirth.

—Bill Pannelas

What is this Guy, Crazy?

Rep. Joshua Standard Lopez (I—N. Mexico) recently offered a proposal to Congress for fundamental alteration of the social security system. This weekly managed to arrange an interview with Congressman Lopez in his Wisconsin Avenue offices. Below we offer the text of Mr. Lopez' proposal (House Bill 288) and a transcript of our explicatory interview. We might add that Mr. Lopez' bill has been tied up in committee for weeks.

A BILL TO AMEND AND REENACT Sections 24.1-47, 24.1-134, 24.1-227, 24.1-288, and 24.1-229 of the Acts of Congress of 1933, as amended in 1972, which established the Social Security Administration within the Department of Health Education, and Welfare, and provided for implementation of all programs instituted by the Social Security Administration.

Patron—Mr. Lopez

Referred to the Committee on Planning and Evaluation.

Be it enacted by the Congress of the United States:

- That Sections 24.1-47, 24.1-134, 24.1-227, 24.1-228, and 24.1-229 of the Acts of Congress of 1933, as amended in 1972, be amended and reenacted as follows:

- On the first day of January, nineteen hundred and eighty-six, all prior provisions of the Social Security Act of 1933, as amended in 1972, shall be declared null and void.

- All money benefits presently provided to retired persons enter the provisions of said Social Security Act shall be provided to persons not less than eighteen (18) and not more than twenty-nine (29) years of age, effective on the date of the expiration of the current law, as provided for in Section 1.

- All persons reaching the age of retirement shall be humanely disposed of by designated agents of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, unless such persons qualify for one or more of the following exemptions:

- a) That such person shall maintain gainful or self-supporting employment, or other means of total self-support.

- b) That such person shall have demonstrated exceptional past accomplishment and ongoing capability.

HOUSE BILL NO.288

Offered February 23, 1985

c) That such person shall be supported by a solvent second party or parties, with full consent of the party or parties.

- All revenue currently collected or withheld under the designation "Social Security Tax" shall be used expressly for this purpose, without diversion into the Federal Treasury. No reduction in the amount of Social Security Tax collected shall be permitted within five (5) years from the effective day of this act.

- Joshua Standard Lopez, member of the House of Representatives, and patron of this bill, shall be exempt from its proposals.

Q.: Mr. Lopez, what premise underlies your unique proposal?

A: At present, Social Security money is scandalously wasted on people who have little or no use for this money. Old-age pensions are provided merely to extend the lives of expendible individuals who have outlived their usefulness.

Q: And you feel that American youth could put this money to better use?

A: I have no doubt. Out young people represent the vigor and enthusiastic idealism of our great nation. When they are forced to work at menial jobs, or to spend years climbing occupational ladders, we are wasting incalculable productivity, and diminishing the vitality so frequently lost thru contact with "real life."

Q: You spoke of old persons as being "expendible." Could you clarify your use of this term?

A: The individual man today is nothing more than a small part of the great productive machine. For example, when the fuel pump wears out on you automobile, you do not spend money keeping the old fuel pump alive—you get rid of it. And just as there are always more fuel pumps to replace those wearing out, there are always younger, stronger people to replace those who have reached the age of incapability.

Q: What of those over 65 who wished to continue working?

A: As long as persons of retirement age continue working, as long as they carry their own weight, so to speak, they will not be affected by my proposal.

Q: Mr. Lopez, you've been very discreet about the section in you bill that deals with "disposing" of those over 65. Could you elaborate on this?

A: Well, I certainly am in favor of humane disposal. Those oldsters no longer capable of supporting themselves should have a choice between methods of disposal. We won't allow them to go the way of old nags, off to the glue factory. Certainly injections could be humanely administered—lidocaine, things of that sort. Or if they wish to pass on more dramatically, we could line them up and shoot them.

Q: And how would you implement the disbursement of Social Security to young people?

A: As I stated clearly in the draft of my bill, the Social Security money now wasted on doddering septuagenarians should instead be provided to young people less than thirty years of age. Our primary intent is to prevent these young people from having to work. If the young person wished to work, he might find a job and use his Social Security payment as supplemental income, thus becoming richer. The object is to allow the youth of America to accumulate nice nest eggs, to enjoy themselves as it were, before they reach the age of responsibility.

Q: We know Mr. Lopez that there are many more young people than old in the nation today. How might you reconcile the disparity in money needed to maintain five million aged as against forty million youth?

A: In case you haven't noticed, your federal income tax has remained stable over the past twenty years while your Social Security payments have risen astronomically. All this money is not used to maintain a standard of living for the elderly; it is used to supplement tax revenue, which government can not raise without a loud outcry from the citizens. It's a sneaky trick. I propose that all money collected for Social Security should be used for its expressed purpose, which if my bill passes, will be to provide \$400 a month for every person in America between the ages of 18 and 30.

Q: Mr. Lopez, many of your colleagues and constituents insist that you are insane. What is your comment on the matter?

A: Those same nameless assholes wouldn't have thought to call me insane in 1980 when I proposed the \$100,000 base salary for congressmen, or in 1981 when I proposed that unlimited alcoholic beverages be distributed free to every person in my district. Let 'em call me crazy; I'll wear the shoe if it fits.

Q: Thank you, Congressman Lopez.

☆☆

GENETIC RE SCULPTING

By Tom Matthews

"We can control the [genetic] changes to produce better individuals... The logical outcome of activities in modifying the genetic makeup of man is to reach the stage where couples will want their children to have the best possible genes... Sexual procreation will be virtually ended..."

While few persons would dispute the assertion that *"the best possible genes"* are desirable when they are considering having a child, an even smaller number of individuals would say they preferred someone (or something) else artificially combining their genes to reach that goal.

"One suggestion has been to remove genetic material from each individual immediately after birth and then promptly sterilize that individual..."

Forced sterilization, even leading to such a lofty (?) aspiration as a "perfect or master race," is a disquieting thought.

"During the individual's lifetime, a record would be kept of his accomplishments and characteristics. After the individual's death, a committee would decide if the accomplishments are worthy of procreation into other individuals."

This extensive record-keeping process may have already begun in the form of thousands of files and data banks across the country, and one must begin to wonder whether the "committee" selection process has begun as well.

"If so, genetic material would be removed from the depository and stimulated to clone a new individual..."

Ah yes, cloning. Imagine an army (or several) of a million or so "perfect soldiers," modeled by genetic sculptors in the image of a new god, Prime Genetic Material.

"If the committee decides the genetic material is unworthy of procreation it is destroyed."

What a boon to production! Labor unions would disappear because a company could purchase clones of the model worker, who performs his duties for extended periods of peak efficiency without question for minimal remuneration would be genetically cleansed from Model Worker One.

"The question is indeed not a moral one but a temporal one— when do we start?"

The quotations in the preceding paragraphs are not found in some prelude to an Orwellian horror story. They are not an adulteration of Huxley's fearsome sooth-saying in *Brave New World*, written by some mad scientist trying to market a new method of social control, although social control is essentially what these observations can be reduced to.

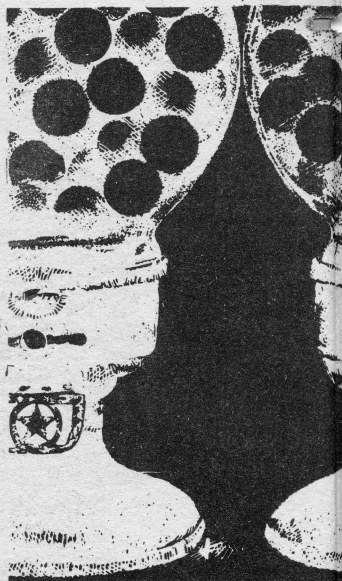
They are instead the words of Dr. James Bonner, professor of biology at the California Institute of Technology, who seems quite interested in the advancement of DNA research. But the tone of the good doctor's words lead one

to question more genes" motive.

Dr. John J. S. resident graduate that the use of experiments is Bonner's statement don't think they community as a enough faith in those things will

The furor surrounding intensified in re of scrutiny seen recombinant D

Recombinant developed technique DNA segments determining the life) from two d



Scientists hail most important but they are sharing potential benefits involved.

According to a recombinant experimental breakthroughs in treatment of genetic production.

Other scientists beyond the control

The most frequent has been Escherichia found in the human

Scientists are combining the DNA plants, animals, processes of life, be creating new



RESEARCH: THE MASTER RACE

than the pronounced "best
alley, assoc. vice-president for
te affairs on the east campus, said
human subjects in these
"way, way off," and that
ments were "his own judgement. I
are indicative of the scientific
whole." He added, "I have
man's goodwill to believe that
I not happen."
rounding DNA research has
cent months, and the main point
ns to be one aspect of the research
NA.
DNA is a relatively recently
nique that recombines or mixes
(genes, the basic materials
hereditary characteristics of all
different organisms.

any that exist on this planet.

Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis testified before Senator Edward Kennedy's health subcommittee that "there is no reasonable alternative to regulation under the law." He said the public should regulate the research.

The practically unknown effects of "redesigning bacteria" were touched upon in a recent *Time* magazine article (*Time*, April 18, 1977).

Since a major fear of many scientists studying *E. coli* is that some adversely mutated bacteria might escape the laboratory, geneticist Roy Curtiss III set out to produce a "seriously weakened" strain of *E. coli* for use in research, the article said.

The little "bug" proved to be very adaptable, however, and Curtiss spent about two years developing a strain that theoretically cannot live outside the laboratory. In the series of

with Curtiss at the University of Alabama, recently visited a P-4 facility under construction at the University of Chicago.

"The security at these facilities is tremendous. Every possible precaution is taken to ensure that the organisms are contained," he said.

Macrina explained that a "possible second level of containment" exists in the event of an explosion of some sort, although an explosion at one of these facilities is "almost impossible."

"If the weakened organisms were released into the environment, they probably would not survive," he said.

According to Macrina, some of the enzymes produced during recombinant DNA production are used in experiments searching for a caries (tooth decay) vaccine at MCV.

He adds, however, "No experiments involving the use of recombinant DNA itself are ongoing at MCV."

Dr. Walter Nance, chairman of the department of human genetics here, confirmed the statement that no experiments involving recombinant DNA are ongoing, but he said that a Committee on Recombinant DNA Activities was formed last year.

"The purpose of the committee is to set guidelines for future research, to see that that research complies with NIH guidelines," he said.

A final thorn in the side of everyone involved in the DNA controversy is the problem of who has responsibility and the authority to regulate the research.

It is generally conceded that the several drug companies involved in this type of research should not be counted upon to regulate themselves.

While all those interviewed expressed concern about limitations placed on research by recent legislation, they agreed that research by private firms should be scrutinized.

Salley said, "They [the businesses] should have the same controls placed on them as universities do.

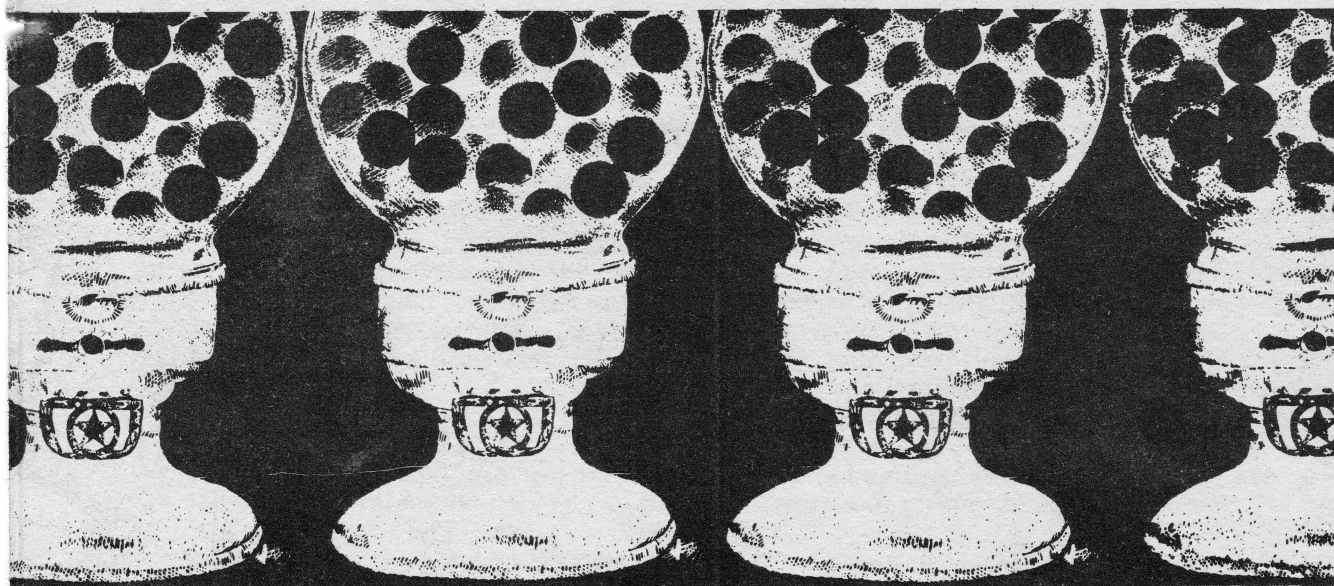
"Most of the publicity that has appeared regarding this research has been based on the hazards, and the potential for hazards does exist. But they should be balanced with reports of the tremendous potential benefits," he said.

Macrina also said he was "very upset" by media reports of the hazards.

Macrina sees nothing wrong with the patenting of recombinant DNA processes, saying "The industries will conform to the guidelines."

Genetic advances are certain to be in the forefront of scientific study in the 1980s. Whether these developments are beneficial or abused hinges on two basic elements: the integrity of the individuals doing the research, and the scrutiny of an informed public.

☆☆



recombinant DNA as one of the
breakthroughs in modern history,
ply divided as to whether the
s outweigh the inherent risks

active proponents of the research,
periments could lead to new
medicine, gene therapy,
etic disease, and food

s fear the unknown factors
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NA of *E. coli* with that of other
and bacteria. Using the
nbinant DNA, these men may
life forms, entirely different from

experiments which led to the development, called
"E. coli 1776" in honor of the Bicentennial, the
bacteria continued to adapt to genetic alterations
designed to limit its possible modes of existence.

The ensuing microbe was certified for use in
recombinant DNA research in November by the
National Institute of Health (NIH).

According to Dr. Frank Macrina, assistant
professor of microbiology at the east campus,
attempts at improving the strain will continue.

"This weakened strain of *E. coli* is an added
safeguard to go with two possible levels of
physical containment. There is no reason why
other weakened strains should not be
developed," Macrina said.

The NIH has established four levels of physical
containment, labelled P-1 to P-4, ranging from
ordinary laboratory safeguards at level one to top
security at level four.

Macrina, who was a post-doctoral fellow

Bloomingdale's

Shopping Center of the Eighties?



Photos by Bill May

"The only thing boring about this store is the bathrooms."

By Janet Northern

Pretty, progressive, dynamic, boldly refreshing Bloomingdales. A museum of merchandise whose motto is "to be the first with the best and most unique." And it's true. Bloomingdale's is more than a department store. It is a trend-setter, a way of life, an attitude.

A visit to the Tyson's Corner "Bloomie's" in McLean, Virginia will convince any shopper that there's something going on in that store, something beyond bras and girdles, pots and pans. The store has a certain mystique, a power that draws one into the heart of the store to feast not only on the incredible merchandise, but also the store itself, a maze of architectural imagination and beauty. Constructed by Gerber Built, Inc. of New York, the store's interior reflects Bloomingdale's own dynamic merchandising approach. The three-story showroom is characterized throughout by natural materials and splashy color. Each floor is dramatized by a central focal point from which the design radiates out to the four corners of the floor. The store wants its customers to explore and to learn what is new and different in every department. The shopping floor is a maze that a customer can lose himself in, and spend the entire day in.

By following as few signs as possible, a customer may stumble into a part of the store

that he had no intention of visiting. Although Bloomie's has been accused of trying to confuse its customers, the store is merely taking advantage of its customers. When one finds himself in Housewares, traditionally the most boring part of any department store, he discovers that Bloomie's has made it one of the most attractive departments in the entire store. A warm and woody atmosphere of overhead pine trusswork with hanging ferns and an unglazed terra cotta, quarry tiled floor. Housewares is as if it were a kitchen-greenhouse equipped with the very latest in gourmet utensils, earthenware pottery, and knick-knacks any kitchen-owner would love to have. All the merchandise is placed on natural pine shelves, many of which have consumer cards that explain exactly how a utensil is used. Again, the store intervenes as not a place where one only buys things, but as a learning center where one can better himself and his home while he shops.

Throughout, design elements such as "yellow brick roads, platforms, changes in ceiling elevations, color evolvments, lighting and display points are to draw the customer to the far corners of the store." The displays speak for themselves. Made up of life-like mannequins with pearly white teeth and wrinkled fingers, the displays are an instant way to sell the stock whether it be a Christian Dior negligee or a Waterford crystal brandy snifter. Selling comes easy as Bloomie's takes

a Jean Harlow of a mannequin, poses her strategically on a bed of Halston linens, with heels kicked up on the air drinking brandy and talking on the phone. Laughing in ecstasy, she is losing her gown and selling about a thousand dollars worth of merchandise at the same time.

The most effective and certainly the most famous displays are the "model rooms of furniture" located on the third floor. Not labeled "displays," these rooms are called "presentations" because Bloomingdale's considers them an offering to the public of what they have in a particular line of furniture. But these "presentations" don't stop there. Each room of furniture is perfectly, painstakingly accessorized. The store not only wants its customers to see the beauty of the furniture in a room setting, but also what other lovely things can tie the look all together. This way the customer can easily imagine the furniture in his home, and Bloomie's can sell a lamp or two. Or three.

When a room of furniture has been sold or when a department feels like a change, a crew of face lifters will come in and tear a room down, and re-construction will start for another room, maybe this time a patio or perhaps a den with exposed brick walls and beams overhead. This takes time and certainly a great deal of money. But the store is not afraid of change, nor of the cost of changing. It all comes out in

the wash, that is in the sales, one can be sure.

Bloomie's will not hear of its customers complaining over department store food. The store has a Delicacies Department offering 86 varieties of bread, 137 cheeses, six different cheese cakes, its own ice creams, as well as two restaurants that are truly "undepartment-storish." Prices vary and are quite reasonable. La Provence offers heavenly French cuisine, fresh mixed salad with every order, fluffy spinach omlets, spicy Bloody Marys and sandwiches on freshly baked breads. If one is in a hurry or getting back to nature, Forty Carrots is a health food bar and take out service all in one. The service in both restaurants is quick and friendly enough to put a customer at ease while deciding on that sweater or whether to have another drink. That's an added attraction to the store. It's an escape, a leisurely lunch, a new blouse or perfume.

The store progresses further in that it is aware of its customers as consumers and not just people who buy things. Thus, the store is a theatre, kitchen, classroom, and fashion consultant. Wherever one's interests lie, he can find a Bloomingdale's Special Event, sponsored by the store free of charge with the customer in mind. This winter, the store offered "Cooking For Kids," a fun approach to cooking that taught kids how to prepare sophisticated dishes while developing consumer awareness. Margot Fonteyn presented her first line of dance-exercise clothes. During the Spring, Bloomie's will present designer fashion shows and a representative from New York's Botanical Garden will give plant care tips. Bloomie's gets involved with everything and as one lady put it, "the only thing boring about this store is the bathrooms."

Is Bloomingdale's suffering from an identity crisis? Can it not decide what it wants to be, department store or community center? Is it the store of the eighties? What's so great about it? Bart Centre, Operations Manager, thinks *everything*. "We have the best buyers. We have the best merchants. We have unique merchandise because we think unique is best." Centre is a young man of 28 who claims that everyone is young at Bloomie's, no matter how old they are. Reflecting the pride and success of the store, Centre says, "Bloomingdale's is an event in itself. When people come in our store, they want to learn what's new. Not just new in fashion but new in every aspect of life. If you want to spend the day in the store, fine. Here, you do more then spend your money."

Centre believes in the progress of the store. "Yes, it is the store of the eighties," he says. "We take pride in the fact that we aren't afraid of change. It keeps the employees interested in what they are doing, as well as the customer who will be asking, What will be there this time? The customer expects the change, expects something new and different at every visit. And the employees get just as excited as the customers."

Bloomingdale's does things that other stores don't. Centre explains why cosmetics are scattered all over the store. "This is the outpost philosophy. It is profitable to have counters on every floor, near scarves and hats or dresses and coats. Sometimes it's only for a month or a week. But that's change and that's good."

"The fact is, we're always looking for new ideas," says Centre. "That is truly what Bloomingdale's is about." Luckily, the store has been successful enough to be daring, to do the extraordinary and keep maximum sales up

at the same time. Bloomie's has many keys to success. It has a special way of making a customer feel that he can achieve individuality through self expression in the clothes he wears or the furniture he chooses for the patio. The unique, the different, the progressive thrive at Bloomie's. Of course, a customer can walk in, purchase whatever, and leave without getting involved with the store at all. That's simple. Just keep the eyes shut. But if one really wants

to get into "the store of the eighties," walk in and notice the loudness of color, the softness of the natural textures all over the store, the live plants by the escalators, and the beautiful displays at every turn. Take advantage of what the store has to offer because it is always something new-always something different. Bloomingdale's is always changing, happily, and needless to say, it expects its customers to do the same. ☆ ☆

"Bloomingdales is an event in itself. When people come in our store, they want to learn what's new—not just new in fashion, but in every aspect of life. If you want to spend the day in the store, fine. Here you do more than spend your money."



Should Crooks Run Monopolies?

No! It's Un-American

By Lanier McCray

WE AMERICANS HATE MONOPOLIES more than dogs hate cats. It's in our blood. Our clamorings against those who price-fix and gouge are loud, long, and vicious. Why is it that—We the People—have created a set of laws which make monopolists out of narcotic pushers and marijuana peddlers?

"When guns are outlawed only outlaws will have guns!" So the slogan goes. It's true, of course. And the principle applies equally to narcotics and marijuana.

Please understand, I personally loathe both of these things and have never used either (Except two or three swallows of cough syrup with codeine). My concern is the wreckage which is visited upon decent law-abiding, tax-paying Americans by the total effects of outlawing hard narcotics and "grass."

This wreckage far exceeds the limited harm which would result if the following proposal were adopted. Marijuana should be legalized and pure food and drug type laws should be enacted to insure the quality of the product sold. Hard narcotics should be dispensed free by the government to addicts, and at a price of not more than 33 cents for the equivalent of one fix of heroin to anyone else. Viable opium poppy seeds should be available at a cost to anyone. Full information on processing should be available to anyone.

AM I SERIOUS? YES, I'M SERIOUS. THE purpose of the seeds and information is to make it impossible for a narcotics monopoly to get started in America ever again.

Let us look at some arguments. Those who sincerely oppose this proposal may feel the danger to society is too great, but it is not at all. Marijuana is not addicting and certainly is no more dangerous than alcohol. Narcotics are so very dangerous only the crazy will insist on using them. We in America believe in allowing others rights of free choice. The only things necessary to discourage dalliance are educational films showing prospective purchasers the fate of those who have gone before—the complete withdrawal sequence on film. Make viewing such a film the only requirement prior to or after purchase. People are capable of understanding the difference between poison and food. If the educational material clearly presents the destructive effects which hard narcotics have on the human body they will not trifle with them. Do you deliberately drink poison? When was the last time you pumped a needle full of arsenic into your veins?

You may then ask, well then why does the traffic flourish? The answer is blatantly simple—it makes crime syndicates rich! Because there is money in it, it is advertised in the underworld the way cigarettes are

advertised openly. An "ethos" for the junk is created. A down and outer's "let's get the government" attitude is fostered. Forbidden fruits are the sweetest. The conspiratorial nature is subtly massaged and the crime is perpetuated.

Allow the government to dispense narcotics openly and all of this is taken away. The financial incentive is removed. (The price of narcotics is not based on real scarcity, but on the inordinate cravings it induces, coupled with the government-enforced monopoly power the crooks have.) The "get the government" motive is eviscerated. The spice of "forbidden fruits" is lost. The elements of conspiracy are emasculated. The demand for this trash would plummet towards zero.

DOES AMERICA HAVE ANY HISTORICAL precedents to guide us in such a change as this? Yes, Prohibition. Americans learned that in this imperfect world some seemingly laudable laws can in a few short years bring the government to chaos. Stated differently, "You can't legislate morals." (Incidentally, taxes on liquor and cigarettes are ever increasing in America today and as such are tending to revive the bootlegging gangster era. This should be avoided. In the case of cigarettes the result is a significant increase in hijacking of trucks carrying favored brand cigarettes to markets up north.) We hasten to add that the crooks both then and now have consistently sold adulterated products.

One of the interesting aspects of the narcotics laws is that periodic "crack downs" merely entrench the established crooks better than they were before. The nature of the narcotics trade under prohibition is such that when the government (police) increases efforts to suppress it, the relatively inexperienced pushers and suppliers are driven off the streets leaving the older, more established, crooks in fuller control than they were before the crack down. In fact, on occasion the established crooks have instigated a crackdown to achieve this very end. And in so doing have used legal cover and the color of law to penetrate the private residences, property and papers of those who opposed them or whom they wished particularly to exploit of abuse.

In making the proposal herein we maintain that the law should state clearly...people are still responsible for their actions even if they are "spaced out" on junk or "grass." The law, by law, would be clearly printed on the packages of product stating the warnings—danger to health, legal accountability for any and all criminal behavior, and full civil liability if the user's behavior resulted in any damage to another's person or property. I believe breath tests have been developed which are sufficient to indicate if a person has been smoking marijuana and is actively under its influence. As for narcotics, urine tests have existed for years.

There are some legitimate arguments

against position I take herein. Let answers be given. It is known that narcotics are used by bordello operators to control the girls in that vile business. How will greater access to narcotics affect this scene? Answer: how could it be worse than it is? Finally a motive to drug pushing not yet mentioned is the perverted sadistic powerlust of many pushers. Won't such people take to obtaining the inexpensive drug to use it to trap others? Answer: again, how could the situation be worse than it is?

Our laws as presently constituted have made narcotics a government supported monopoly run by and for the crooks. And it isn't even taxed!

A significant number of people who have fought this crime problem a very long time have recently begun to publically declare their support for some sort of proposal such as the one herein presented. In 1976 the National League of Cities, which is composed of the mayors and city managers etc. of municipalities across America, endorsed "Heroin maintenance" programs and almost made total drug legalization a national goal by official vote. Expect to hear more from this quarter (Richmond TD, Jan 20, 1977 p. C-1 "Crime Fighter Says Legalize Drugs, Gambling").

In the corridors of Federal power, the top drug abuse fighter, Dr. Robert Dupont, who is head of the National Institute on Drug Abuse, has publicly advocated the decriminalization of "pot." While this stops short of legalization, it is an indicator. Dr. Dupont has three counterparts in the U.S. Congress who advocate exactly the same thing. They are: Sen. Jacob Javits, R-NY; Assistant Senate Democratic leader Alan Cranston; and Rep. Edward Koch, D-NY. (Richmond T-D, Feb. 5, 1977, and Richmond NL, Feb. 5, 1977.)

OTHER FACTORS TENDING TO PUSH IN the indicated direction are that an increasing number of highly placed people are either being caught using contraband or are simply admitting to the past or present use of it. Jack Ford, son of former President Ford, has admitted to smoking pot. Jack Carter, son of President Carter, has admitted the same (Parade, Jan. 9, 1977 p. 6) In fact, there have been rumors that Jack Carter was required to leave a Navy Nuclear Submarine training school because of his pot smoking.

There is then, one remaining point to cover. With the legalization of drugs legislation there should be included provisions for the retraining of the drug agents and bureaucracy career persons into other lines of work. If such a provision were omitted, the expected lobby would undoubtedly develop to keep the laws as they are so that these people would be able to keep their jobs.

Legalization of drugs and free narcotics is an idea whose time has come, and may be implemented in the '80s. Why should our narcotics and marijuana laws make monopolists out of crooks? It's unAmerican!

When the Almighty God put Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden and told them not to eat the fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, He did *not* put a fence around the tree. ☆ ☆

Hello. His name is Zuma 1. He is part of a research project started in 1982. It is now 1989.

The project was started by a world council of top scientists and true humans of the time. They had determined that their present resources would be of little or no use in the future. The pollution due to human negligence had raised from a tolerable reading to just under hazardous. The nationalistic ideas that were spreading thru-out the world would have eventually ended with a thermonuclear war. War being the main point, scientists (a word synonymous to the word artists; example: my art is a science and my science is an art) launched a massive campaign to show that their views were in essence the most correct for that time; that is, let us, the world, avoid a thermonuclear war. The idea of progress is in the interest of human beings world wide. This idea conveys a oneness with all individual processes in harmony: a true human.

Many of these scientists were considered treasonous, crazy, denaturalized and many were thrown out of their country. Sooner then they had expected smaller nations of the world started to support these "rebellious" scientists. Countries in Africa, South America, Asia, Europe and the Orient were among the first to support them. These countries saw the importance of nuclear power, a population control, a world monetary system, a worldly point of view concerning the future. Strangely enough the "large powers" of the earth at that time didn't respond until later. The USSR had already since the mid-50s known the importance of nuclear energy and had been progressing ever since. State ideology was the apparent reason for not supporting the movement at the beginning. The USA surprisingly did not support the movement until the Carter administration was abolished. Newspapers head lines read such things, as Carter Budget Will Send U.S. Economy Back to Stone-Age, Ahead to War, Carter Axing Tusion Research Despite MIT Tokamak Success, Carter on Drought: Stop Dam Construction, Farming . . . Waking Up to Carter's Plan for Coup and Murder. . . etc. . . The people of the United States became concerned and changed the government and fully joined the movement. China became more and more aware of the great potential and soon thereafter, supported the movement.

The OPEC countries were the first to build nuclear

energy plants to power their cities and industries. They also built plants in other countries that needed them. Although the nuclear reactors of the time were not as advanced as they are now, modifications in safety, power yield, and disposal of nuclear waste were made as spatialtime passed. Soon after, nuclear plants were being built on a massive scale by the concerned countries, each helping in their own way with technology material or manpower.

Massive efforts were made to feed all the peoples of the earth. An idea brought up in the late 1700s by Thomas Malthus presented population as a problem. Overpopulation creates underfed people, and therefore increases the level of starvation, and therefore increases the incentives to crime, survival being the goal. Population control was therefore dealt with first. Using every media known a worldwide campaign spread an understanding of why population control was necessary. As a while passed, chemogenetisists better understood the creation of life and newer and more effective ways of birth control were adopted.

Irrigation of designated land areas by building dams on water flows pregressed. Production was at an increase. The isolated gene enabling alfalfa to absorb nitrogen directly from the air was transplanted into other plants that were previously unable to absorb the nitrogen. Corn and wheat are examples. This gene gave an increase of crop yield per acre that enabled the earth to use less land for more food and thus feed the overpopulated masses. There also existed world climate changes; accurate predictions were made as to where a water shortage would occur, and dams and irrigation system were correspondingly constructed. The change in climate was attributed partly to nature and mostly to pollution. The ozone layer was being destroyed by flouorocarbons of aerosols. A ban on aerosols was made and the estimated time for the ozone layer to replenish itself to balance was about 2½ decades.

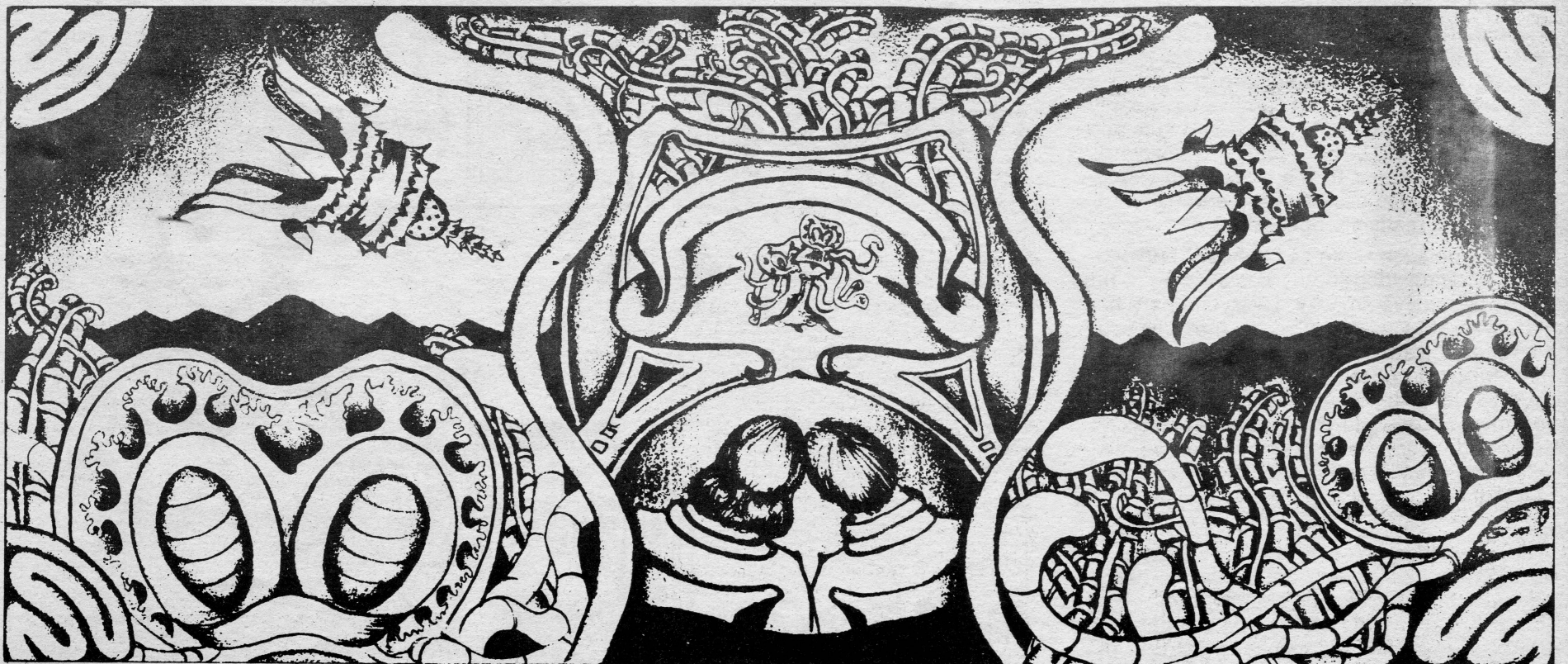
The awareness of pollution was of vital importance and measures to "clean up" were spread thru the world by the media. The industries that hand not yet converted to nuclear power took measures to reduce pollution, such as using filters for smoke. Thanks to the recycling of wastes, garbage was cleaned up and useful products from waste evolved. Pollution was at a decrease.

And in the field of electricity: After the United States gave support, electricity changed from a frequency of 60 cycles per second (cps) to 61.5 cps. This change came about after much study of the neurological and physiological effects of wavelengths and frequencies on the human brain. It was determined that a 60 cps wave had a varying effect on a human's circadian rhythm and was responsible for the many flexible moods. This 60 cps wave was, let us say, at an unstable point. Therefore shifting this frequency to 61.5 cps shifted the point of instability and produced less depression. This idea was only theory,

but was applied and expected improvements resulted. 61.5 cps produced a human increase in interest, an awareness of each person's fellow man with nature, and an apparent decrease in crime. *People were helping people.* With this increased humanistic interest, education was modified. There was a type of renaissance worldwide. This renaissance seemed to involve a concern to be one with nature and a self understanding of different ideas. Religion, philosophies were respected by one another. Conversations concerning them were conducted intelligently and without violence. Education took a full swing toward world progress. Old psychological ideas were abolished in practice. Schools were set up where the student was taught to read, write, and do basic math at an earlier age. This idea was proposed because students at a very young age seem to absorb and learn with "child awareness." That is, albeit the intellectual interests had increased thru-out the world at all age, children had the fastest learning and highest interest level. Education on all levels was therefore accelerated and a wider range of subjects were offered. Elementary teachers became specialized and three or four teachers conducted a single class, each teaching the subjects in which the person was most proficient. This teaching technique also allowed the teacher an adequate amount of time with each student. The emphasis of a sound mind and a healthy body was being instated by older students. A rounded art education was desired and therefore offered by the school systems thru reorganization of time, classes, and activities. Overall this renaissance stimulated progress at an amazing rate. Sulpture, painting, and other artistic fields took a wide string of variation and no specified movement was started. Peoples in this science modified types of older movements. One new type of sculpturing-space that was studied in 1985 were light sculptures. Rays of light, whether in line, plane, point, curve, etc., with different frequencies and wavelengths are controlled in a desired space. A basic color is chosen, then intensity; the certain limitations in space are plotted. The ray appears and travels in that given space. When the ray is stopped, the light image remains between the two set points. The space between the points is then filled with different colors, overlays, etc. If you are not satisfied with the end-product, just push a button on the terminal and pieces or all disappear as you wish. This type of sculpturing has since been modified every year.

Before 1982 Zuma 1 was an orphan. A research project took orphans of all ages and types and put them in a controlled environment. Zuma 1 said that "at the time it was a saving grace and has been ever since." He was offered a new style education and given everything he needed to progress in any field he wished. One of the first things he learned was to operate computers. They are learning labs where all types of information, academic, medical, games, relaxation, etc. of your choice are given to you thru computers. These types of research projects

Illustrations by Leslie Almedia





involving mostly orphans but anyone could join, was spread worldwide. The schools in the project were called Coconut U's and were identical or close in every project. A student could go from one to the other and be well-orientated knowing the schools were similar. Getting along with people comes naturally and was no problem for Zuma 1; he smiles a lot and is a happy people. "All you have to do is act naturally," Zuma 1 said, "and be truthful to the things that happen. It's truth that makes openness for people to people relations." As far as "relaxation" the meaning of which varies from person to person, this can consist of sports, art, learning, people, work, anything. One particular interesting center that was set up a few years ago was the "Drug Center." At this center one could learn of different drugs and how they affected the human body physically as well as mentally. After learning about them, a person could take or do any type of drug that was offered. Opiates, cocaine, LSD, marijuana, were of the finest quality and type; that is, they were not cut with harmful additives. An important point was brought out early in the 1980's that "drugs" can be educational if done in a "correct" manner. Words such as "correct" vary in definition from individual to individual but a generalized meaning innate in people is that "correct" means for the progression of human well-being. Drugs can be learned about and helpful if used in accordance to one's personal circadian rhythm. It is possible to control the effects of drugs—to fully comprehend a person's awareness, knowledge, intelligence, and understanding of one's self as well as other selves. This idea prompts a wanting to control yourself with the environment. Zuma 1 is an example of one person that learns with, from, about, all around with hashish. He said "one can control his input of material to just the right level of comprehension or awareness and understanding let's say progress."

An idea that has yet to unfold is being discussed thru-out the world. It is dividing the earth into equal regions of area. Each area would therefore be dependent on the others. Each area would have a certain independence associated with the area also. The governments are concerned with the world. Governments act on need and ability to give in the interest of human beings world wide. For more information read about governments stealing from the people, officials having no skills in organization, interest in money, lies, and the rest of the gross things that people do to each other for a mere OH! in response of the past history of the world. Can I say I love you and can you understand? Force # 436.5—a collection of ideas brought together and then analyzed to see if any truths are present. Paper #82.

☆☆

Dear Peter,

Thank you for the loan of the time machine. I really like the way it corners warps in the space-time continuum. I also remembered to put fuel in it, so you can set your mind to rest on that particular score. The only thing is, Peter, I ground up the gearshift a little—no real damage or anything—and I don't think I can write that article on what 1987 is *really* like, because grinding the gearshift made me wind up in 2536. Sorry.

I'm writing to tell you that I'm stranded here for a little while, while they're fixing the time machine, because they had to send away for a replacement part. Everyone is very nice, even tho things they do are similar to things they did in 1977. The only difference is that they do them to the max, or what we back home would consider the max anyway.

People still get married here, but it is very difficult for married people to cheat on their partners, because newlyweds are grafted together. I'm told that two can live as cheaply as one in this manner. There are still kids and babies and things, but pregnancy is obsolete. Children come about thru a process known as "budding," which occurs in the springtime. Nothing ever really changes, does it?

There's no such thing as "school" here, either. They decided that it was a waste of time and too expensive anyway. Everyone here has all knowledge. When you're 16, they put you on a roller-coaster type device that looks like it came right out of Star-Trek, or maybe Lost In Space—A lot of lights and beepers and everything. They ride you around on it for awhile and when you're done, you know everything you have the capacity to learn.

Other things you might be interested to learn:

They started to colonize Mars, but when they found a thriving civilization there, they decided to do it on Uranus and Neptune.

All drugs are legal and there is a slightly battered aluma-steel statue of Roy Scherer in

downtown Richmond, or what used to be known as downtown Richmond.

Everyone has a job as a servant.

The girls are as beautiful as ever except that they wear too much clothing. Oh well, eye patches are high fashion in 2536.

Listen, the mechanic tells me that I might

have to be satisfied with coming back to July 19th, 1977, so if I miss the rest of the semester, will you please take care of the details? Thanks.

Gary

P.S. I'm bringing you back an atomic powered pocketknife as a souvenir.

Illustration by Mike Wilson



⊕ 2536 A.D.

Priorities, Planners, And Pointers

Which Way To VCU?

How Long Will It Take To Get There?

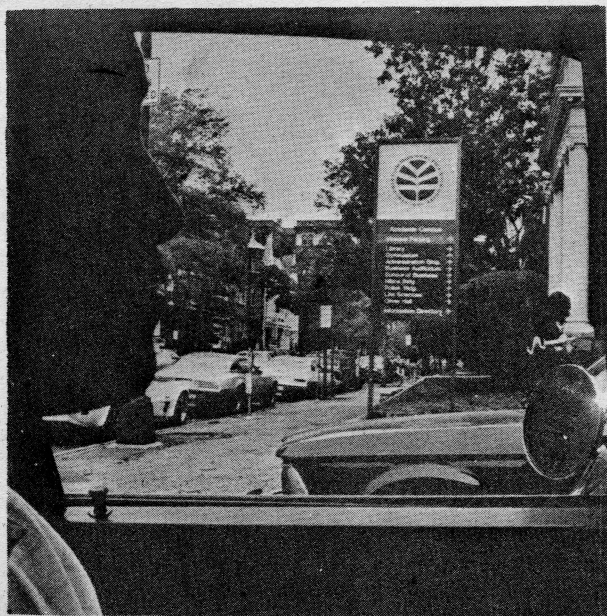
By Ben Blake

This "urban university" has begun at last to stir and stretch and pound its chest like some massive carnivore. Since 1968, VCU has gradually outgrown the assortment of antebellum fire-traps which it called its adolescent home. Huge forces are at work—will the monster be satisfied? Look for much destruction (and construction) during the next five years.

There are diagrams available, the "Master Plan," which project VCU'S development. This plan was drawn up by a group of consulting planners and architects from New York. The drawing for 1970 represents the original ten-year plan when academic construction capital was ladled freely from a great, happy punchbowl. The Plan envisioned a multi-levelled science fiction city of the future, with plexiglas catwalks connecting four-story buildings for all purposes, all capped with recreation areas. Most of the old familiar rat holes would have been bulldozed away.

The plan's workings might have been even more dramatic at the Medical School. Landmarks such as the West Hospital would have been dynamited to make way for an enormous complex of classrooms, laboratories, and bedspace, joined at every point by a maze of bridges, tunnels, and truck ramps. Quite an imposing Oz for the sooty residents of Shockoe.

But somewhere between 1970 and now, the gushing flow of revenue into VCU dried to an unsteady drip, and the magnificent original "Master Plan" was scaled down from the size of Oz to the size of Petersburg. The 1980 diagram shows the modesty of this pecuniary restraint and the concomitant humility of the administrators who revised the plan for 1976.



You'll still be hearing jackhammers and riveters during the next five years, but when the noise subsides, most of the quaint relics you've resigned yourselves to will remain.

New construction, unless the Plan is revised again, will include a new Arts and Sciences center angling around the southeast corner of the Business Bldg., a Student Center across Floyd Avenue from the library, a Fine Arts building running from Hibbs to Harrison Street, and a new dormitory across Main Street from Monroe Park. West Hospital will remain standing, its beacon light flashing across the mighty metropolis like Nightingale's lamp.

The main reason for this rampage of planning and construction should be obvious. "Studies have shown" that VCU's enrollment will increase by approximately 50 percent in this decade. To avoid holding classes under expressway ramps and bedding resident students on gym floors and on sidewalks, much new space is needed. In addition, much of VCU's existing space is in deplorable condition. In the consultants' analyses of 45 buildings currently owned by the university, only nine were judged to be in "good" or even "satisfactory" condition. The phrase that recurs throughout the survey is "suitable for present use with extensive renovation."

The second reason, and the one that seems utmost in the minds of those administrators with whom one speaks, is improvement of VCU's "image." The campus areas are amorphous and polytypic with derelict buildings clustered on busy streets. The image problem, then, has been to define the campus, make it more homogeneous, to give VCU a discernable identity beyond its present potpourri of ramshackle architecture.

Which brings us to those new directional and identification signs that suddenly appeared in the area a few weeks ago. Many have questioned the administration's priorities in erecting these signs when so many glaring inadequacies exist in housing and libraries. Others have just laughed—the signs do look a trifle pretentious, announcing squalor with pride. These signs, however, are but the tip of the proverbial iceberg, heralds of that image-making process integral to the Master Plan.

These signs were not cooked up by Physical Plant boys sitting in a garage with colored pencils. Indeed, the sign project is so involved with the Master Plan that signage consultants have been on the job almost since the Plan's inception, working with architects and engineers within the grand design. After one consultant failed with the project, a "signage group" was formed, headed by Melvin Shaffer, Director of the Department of Visual Education. Shaffer brought in two industrious and talented VCU alumni, Carole Peter and Greg Schaale, to handle design and erection of the signs.

They have worked for two years on the project, spending an unbelievable number of hours with everyone from concrete laborers and sign manufacturers to a sepulchral agency called the State Art Commission, which

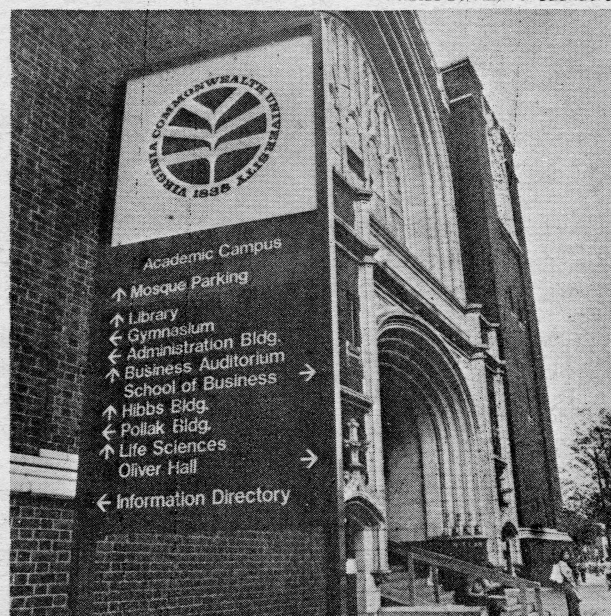
incidentally has final jurisdiction over the appearance of all state property. Carole and Greg's job was to create an efficient and attractive system that would 1) standardize all campuses, and 2) not appear to obtrusive, or as Peter explained, to put up "tack-ons that wouldn't look like tack-ons."

The sign project is more pervasive than present appearances would indicate. It involves at least a thousand signs. In addition to the markers posted in and around all VCU building and parking lots, signs displaying the familiar school logo were hung profusely along several routes to campus leading from specially marked freeway exits. According to the planners, it will be impossible not to find VCU once one finds Richmond, unless you happen to be one of those who can not find the right hand with the left. At night, the VCU logo will be beamed into the sky.

Thus the sign project is the first step toward identifying the university, providing it with some unity, and directing visitors to every corner of the campus. By Fall, the project should be complete, and work should have begun on the next stage in the Master Plan—landscape improvements, renovation of Shafer Court, and construction of a "Student Information Kiosk" and two visitor information centers. The university will be accepting construction bids for the new Main Street dorm on April 27. Apparently the Master Plan will go as far as the money does.

The question remains: why bother with these signs when so much else needs doing? Manufacturing costs alone for the signs came to \$54,000. According to Lou Saksen in the Institutional Planning Office, \$54,000 would hardly cover the cost of any demolition, much less construction. As money trickled in, Saksen said, those in charge felt that any step toward realization of the Master Plan was a step in the right direction. ☆ ☆

With \$54,000 spent to identify and unify the VCU campus, one must ask, "Why bother with these signs when so much else needs doing?" Photos by Ray K. Saunders



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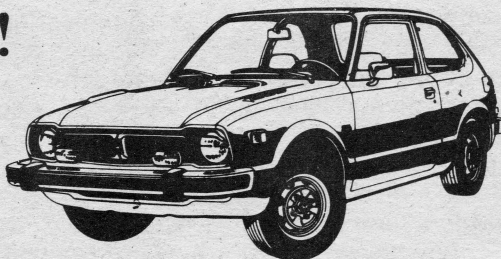
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Edited by Denise Venskus

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Sublet House June-Aug. 3rd roommate needed to share house with 2 females. West End. Close to bus line, plenty of trees and space. \$83 mo. plus util. Call 355-8408.

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Sublease 2 bdrm. apt. May 1-Aug. 14. All util. except elec., cooking gas. Liv. rm., dining, shower, full kit., studio. 1140 W. Grace. Call 355-9558, ask for Cheryl or Shelly.

Apt. To Sublet. 3 bdrm., kit., liv. rm., bath. From mid May or June to Aug. Located on Stafford St. between Floyd and Grove. Call anytime, 353-4832.

Efficiency to Sublet June through Aug. \$100, non-smokers only. Call 359-1267.

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Wanted: Person to share 3 bdrm. apt. May-Aug., \$60 mo., 2312 Floyd Ave. Call George at 358-4842.

Female Roommate Needed to share 2 bdrm. apt. in Fan, 3 blks. from VCU. \$35 mo. Call 355-3364 or stop by 203 N. Plum, #4.

Need A Roommate? Female desires to share apt. with another near VCU. \$100 or less, call Mimi 355-9880.

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73 Opel Manta, 2 dr., 4 spd., Good cond., 39,000 mi. (must sell). Call 358-2718 after 6:30.

Twin Size Bed for sale. Excel. cond., call 355-5105.

Elec. Typewriter. Royal Emperor office machine, rebuilt. excel. cond., touch speed control. Moving & need money; \$250 or best offer. Call Steve, 285-0634 nights.

Singer Sewing Machine for sale. 73 model 518. Like new w/case. Dial-to-sew stitches plus numerous cams; foot control. Sold for \$475, will sell to best offer. Call Ann, 770-4571 or 264-2476.

Girl's Single Speed Bike, \$15; king-size waterbed w/frame and heater, \$160; 5' refrigerator \$25. All in excel. cond. Call 355-9365 after 8 pm., ask for Shelley or Karen.

SERVICES

Graduating Med. Student Going One Way to San Diego, Calif. Camping along the way. Anyone want a ride? Share driving. Leaving about May 30. Call Buddy, 270-0471 evenings.

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ODDS & ENDS

UBC Meeting: Thurs., Apr. 28, 6:00, WVCW building—new members welcome.

\$10 Reward for the return of eye glasses left on MCV-VCU student bus, Thur., 4-14. Violet & brown from Southern Optical. See Linda, 520 W. Franklin.

Day Camp Counselors with bus driving experience. Contact G. Broseker at Tuckahoe YMCA, 282-5477.

Wanted: Electric train sets or parts—any quantity, any cond. Top price paid. Call 285-3810.

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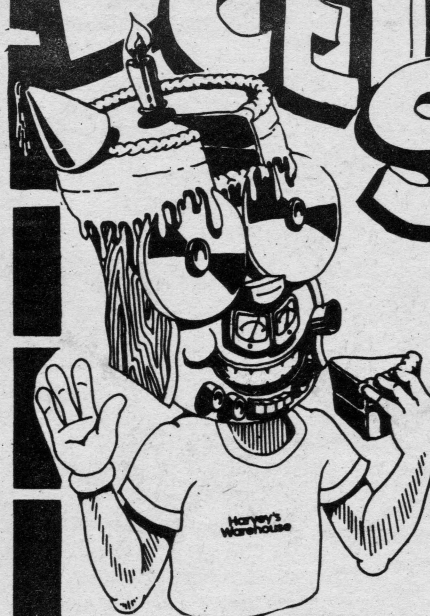
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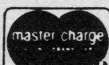
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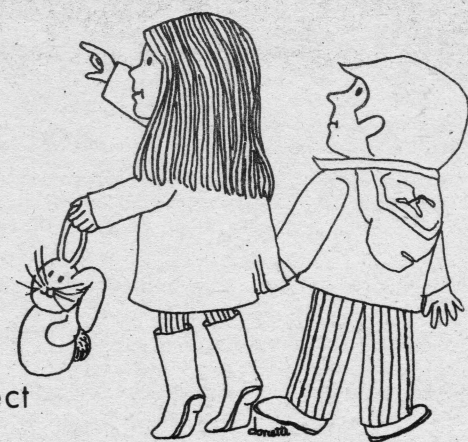
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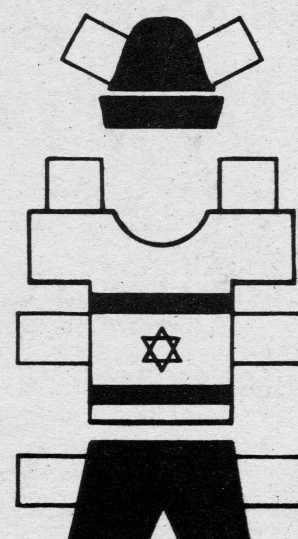
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CALENDAR

Compiled by Janet Northern

Meetings

Young Socialist Alliance Lecture. Ed Heisler. Noon to 3 p.m. in Room 4119 of the Business Bldg. April 29.

SALT, LIGHT AND POWER' unlimited. 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. "Table Talk." Go to the second floor Hibbs Cafeteria for dinner and come into the Faculty Dining Room for some relational fellowship while you eat. At 7 p.m., "Pray Sing," "Sharing," and "The World Among Us." May 2.

College and high school students interested in training for summer or year-round positions as swimming instructors or a lifeguards may register for the **Annual Red Cross Safety Program Clinic** to be held the weekend of May 20-22, at Camp Hanover, near Mechanicsville. \$3 registrations fee covers room, meals, insurance, teaching material and equipment for the entire weekend. For more info., contact the Safety Programs, Richmond Red Cross, 409 E. Main St., 643-7451.

A meeting of all faculty and staff interested in the **MCV/VCU radiation emergency plan** will be held on May 17 from 3 to 5 p.m. in Room 4-026 of Sanger Hall. A short film on the handling of radioactive patients will be shown. A discussion of the MCV/VCU plan will follow. For further, info., call the radiation safety office, 770-4071.

Virginia Women's Meeting. June 10 and 11 in the Hotel John Marshall and the Coliseum. No registration fee. The conference will provide an opportunity for Virginia residents to focus on women's rights and responsibilities through a series of workshops, discussions, and the development of resolutions. Child care, housing, and transportation arrangements will be available. For more info., call 643-3587.

Dr. John Weisburger will speak on "The Main Causes of Human Cancers" at the Annual Graduate Research Honors Day, April 26 in Room 1044 in Sanger Hall at 4 p.m. The honors award will be presented at 3 p.m.

How to organize an effective management team will be the focus of a one-day workshop offered by **The Management Center of VCU** on April 26. 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Business Bldg. For more info., call 770-7211.

Entertainment

"Dylan Thomas—A Project" and "The Room" by Harold Pinter. April 26, 8:15 p.m. in the Gaslight Theatre. Temple Bldg. Admission fee.

The final pairs of concerts of the **Richmond Sinfonia's** 1976-1977 season will take place on April 29 and 30 at 8:30 p.m. in the Scottish Rite Temple. For info., call 788-1212.

VCU Department of Music Recitals:

April 26—VCU Chamber Orchestra. Jack Jarrett, conductor. 8:30 p.m.
April 27—VCU Percussion Ensemble. Don Bick, conductor. 8:30 p.m.
April 28—Smetana Trio. 8:30 p.m.
April 30—Doris Stanley, piano at 3 p.m. and VCU Symphony Orchestra at 8:30 p.m.
May 1—Electronic Music Recital. Loran Carrier, director. 3 p.m. Smetana Cello Student Recital at 8:30 p.m.
May 2—Francile Bilyeu, flute and Landon Bilyeu, piano. 8:30 p.m.
May 6—CMS Student Recital. Virginia Rouse, coordinator. 7:30 p.m.

Party Phi Party Disco. Rhoads Hall 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. April 29.

Omega Psi Phi Disco. 9 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Rhoads Hall. April 30.



Exhibits

An exhibit of the selected works of the **Annual Juried Student Exhibit**, sponsored by the Anderson Gallery and the Department of Painting and Printmaking, will be presented in the Anderson Gallery from April 27 to May 16.

The James Branch Cabell Library is pleased to announce a very special showing, "A Pictorial Exhibit of Russian Culture and Art," presented by Mr. George Tirs of Richmond. Now through April 29. Mr. Tirs will be on hand in the library to answer questions in the mornings from 10 a.m. to noon and in the evenings from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Exams

FINAL EXAM DATES

Monday, May 2
Tuesday, May 3
Wednesday, May 4
Thursday, May 5
Friday, May 6
Monday, May 9
Tuesday, May 10

FINAL EXAM HOURS

8:00 - 11:00 AM	1:00 - 4:00 PM
8 TRF	1 TRF
9 MWF	10 MTR
11 MTR	9 T, 10 WF
12 MWF	8 MW, 9 R
12 T, 11 WF	1 MW, 12 R
2 TRF	2 MW, 3 R
3MWF; 3T; 4WF	4 MTR

CLASS MEETING HOURS

Examinations are given in regular meeting rooms.

EXAMINATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING CLASSES WILL BE HELD AS INDICATED:

Monday, May 2—8:00-11:00 A.M.
AFO 106—Sections 1 through 10

Monday, May 2—1:00-4:00 P.M.
AFO 108—Section 1

Tuesday, May 3—8:00-11:00 A.M.
AFO 102—Sections 9 through 16
AFO 112—Sections 9 through 16

EVENING COLLEGE EXAMINATIONS:
MAY 2-8 AT SCHEDULED CLASS PERIOD

Tuesday, May 3—1:00-4:00 P.M.
AFO 104—Sections 9 through 16
AFO 110—Sections 9 through 16

Wednesday, May 4—8:00-11:00 A.M.
AFO 102—Sections 1 through 8
AFO 112—Sections 1 through 8
Wednesday, May 4—1:00-4:00 P.M.
AFO 104—Sections 1 through 8
AFO 110—Sections 1 through 8

COMMERCIAL

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Biscuits with Country ham, grits, Ribeye Steak Sandwich with homefries, grits,
Bagels with Cream Cheese, grits, Cheesecake with Pineapple topping, grits.

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Light Jazz and Rock, Coolers, Peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwiches, Coolers, Omelettes
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