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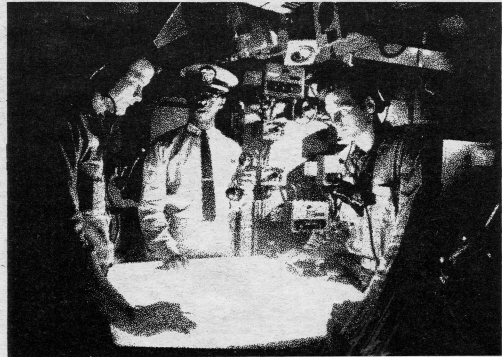
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The Appointments Board is recruiting students now to serve on the VCU boards and committees that help make university policy. If you have ever wanted a say-so about VCU policy, now is the time to do something about it. Listed are the various boards and committees to be filled. Applications may be picked up at Eddie Reynolds' office in 923 West Franklin St.

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DEADLINE: FRIDAY, MARCH 3

Appropriations Board: 6 west campus students
Athletic Committee: 1 west campus student
Council on University Grad. Studies:
2 full time grad. students
Council on University Student Affairs:
6 West Campus Students
Recreational Activities Board: 6 students
Program Board: 2 west campus students
University Assembly: 6 students
Library Committee:



COMMONWEALTH TIMES

VOLUME 9, NO. 19 FEB. 28-MARCH 6, 1978



Observations From A Crippled Fowl

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It's the last full issue for the *Commonwealth Times'* lame duck executive editor, time for a final analytical quack.

By Mike Welton



The Truth About Cheating

10

A poll undertaken by a university committee shows that while the majority of students want a uniform policy regarding academic dishonesty, most would refuse to help enforce it.

By Mary Young



A Penetrating View Of City Porn

14

Worried about the potential corruption of your morals? You needn't be. Richmond is recognized as a town that simply refuses to support hard-core pornography.

By Bernie Bonuccelli



Scholarships Without Scholars

17

Whatever the musical hit in the locker room these days, it's not *Pomp and Circumstance*. According to reports, only one VCU basketball player in the last eight years has received a diploma.

By Jack Moore

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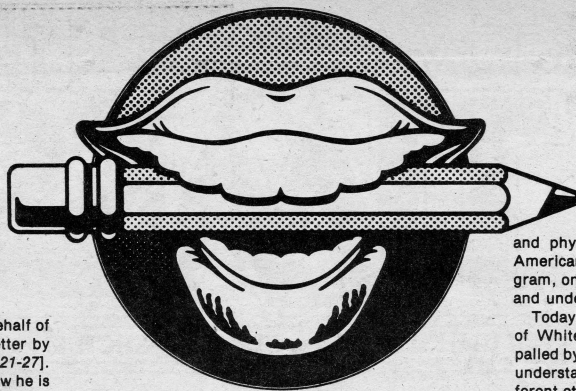
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ON THE COVER: Design by Michael Sherbert

LETTERS



ON BEHALF OF THE NEGROES HERE

I feel that it's time for someone to speak out on behalf of the negro students here. I am responding to the letter by Richard R. Mayfield [*Commonwealth Times*, Feb. 21-27]. Mr. Mayfield feels that the black man thinks that now he is better than any other race. However, Mr. Mayfield seems to neglect that fact that the black man has had to fight for hundreds of years to achieve the social status he presently obtains. This long and bitter struggle has brought the negro closer together with a feeling of pride and dignity for his race. It is not that the negro now feels superior, but simply that he has worked so hard and long to get where he is today (which still is not quite far enough), that he refused to take a step down, only further up the social ladder. Is it that the white man is afraid that the negro really is becoming superior? Let me say that I do not, as a black man, claim superiority, but I will not stop pushing to better myself and my race just because some white people feel that I'm getting too far ahead.

As for the issue of line-breaking at the cafeteria, does Mr. Mayfield object to the color of skin of the person breaking the line, or just the person? I ask the question because there are plenty of whites who also break line.

Mr. Mayfield suggests that most blacks here are too young to know what the civil rights movement was/is all about. I suggest that maybe Mr. Mayfield is too white (if he is white) to know what being black is all about.

Joel M. Johnson
Sociology

POOR RICHARD

Poor Richard Mayfield. You've attended VCU for four years, but the psychology of your letter is surely not representative of the psychology department here, because objectivity should be the basis of any educational institution. We've always equated college education with the attempt to perceive and understand things objectively. It is quite obvious that your letter, "Are Some Still More Equal Than Others," (*Commonwealth Times* Feb. 24-27) is a narrow-minded elaboration on the predicament that blacks and sympathetic whites encountered during the civil rights movement of the 60's until today.

You said: "There are a great many blacks at VCU who are old enough to remember what it was like in the 60's during the civil rights movement. I feel that the majority of blacks here are too young to remember what it was really like. These are the ones who hide behind claims of racism, prejudice, and discrimination if things do not go exactly the way they had planned."

You are a senior in psychology and you make misguided inferences like those. How can you make an assumption like that? You are not in the position to generalize as to how many blacks here are "too young to remember what it was really like." But don't worry, we understand. We understand that you lack an understanding for black consciousness as evidenced by your article. You can't make us believe that you or your parents really understand the dehumanization that dragged the black man from the shackles of the slave ships, through the torture of the fight for civil rights, to the present day shackles that plague the inferior education that blacks receive in public schools. Or maybe we should deal with the high unemployment rate among blacks, try to explain how it feels for your women to be raped at will. Or maybe we should explain to you what it feels like to have your mother explain to you why you can't swim in a public lake or sit in the front row of a movie theatre.

You say you were old enough to remember what it was like in the 60's during the civil rights movement. Obviously you do remember and it appears that you were somewhat affected by the movement. Not only are you poor in

objectivity, but you are blind in your assumption that the majority of blacks here are "too young to remember what it [civil rights movement] was really like."

You are blind in your assumption of blacks hiding "behind claims of racism." Are you aware of the Willingham 10? Have you seen the programs and films on TV that depict blacks as pimps, whores, junkies and ignorant people? Are you aware of the importance of the Bakke case and affirmative action programs? Do you know the significance of freedom for blacks in South Africa?

You say that, "If you are white and are alone several blacks give you the finger and then dare you to respond." You need to step down from your spaceship and really relate to the situation on planet earth. Do you really think that you are the only person alive who has experienced this treatment? Many people, not just blacks and whites, have encountered this experience. That finger that you received was the same finger my grandmother and your great grandfather received years ago. The intimidation that you and Sandy Beck speak of is as old as the sands of our beaches.

As for generalizing about what black people "comprehend," let us say that your objectivity can only be enhanced by the removal of your bridle. To see clearly, you must first take off your sunglasses and see both sides of reality. Then maybe you will not be so blind.

Remember Freud's theory concerning the id, ego and the superego and how the id is irrational and instinctive behavior? Well, poor Richard, maybe your id has been working overtime.

Remember, there are two sides to every story. There are stories of the white struggle in America and there are stories of blacks and other minorities struggling in America. The next time you pick up your pen and start writing, use your superego to rationalize and objectify your behavior.

Jesse Vaughan
Theodore Moody
League Of Black Journalists

ON BEING A FRIEND

For some weeks now, I have been following the escalating bru-ha-ha on the pages of the *Commonwealth Times* concerning "Growing Up White," "On Being Young and Ethnic," *et al*. While some of these writers have certainly made keen observations on American culture, I feel that almost all reflect a serious lack of understanding between ethnic groups. Indeed, the piece on "Bilal" was downright racist.

Three years ago, I was a typical WASP, West-End Richmond, securely enrolled and protected in a private school, where my main worry was, "Well Jeff, whaddya gonna do this weekend?" I felt no concern or no need to get involved in such pressing problems as middle-classes who faced unemployment or nine-children families sustained by Uncle Sam. I was headed to U.Va., a 9 to 5 job, and Suburbia, USA.

In 1976, I was selected as an American Field Service exchange student, to spend one year in the Philippines. I spent every single one of those 365 days eating, living, sleeping, and working with a race of people who differed from me in religion, culture, heritage, education, morals,

and physical characteristics; exposed to nothing more American than an occasional pop tune. With such a program, one cannot avoid acquiring an increased awareness and understanding of ethnic groups.

Today, of course, I'm back in the US, free of the chains of White Anglo Saxon Protestant superiority. I am appalled by many VCU students who show a complete lack of understanding (not to be confused with sympathy) of different ethnic groups. The tone adopted by contributors in the *Commonwealth Times* is, "I have been trod upon for so long, and now it's my turn to say just how much crap I've had to put up with."

It is somewhat difficult to believe that citizens of the melting pot of the world have such a hard time relating to the minority groups that made our nation great. A cross-ethnic experience is beneficial and enriching for all parties involved, whether it be total immersion in another culture or making friends with that quiet Oriental in class.

Currently, I am working with foreign AFS students here in Richmond, and my line of "work" can be summed up in three words: "Being a friend." They tell me frustrations of not being understood by a superficial and culturally blind American society, and they get the terrible impression that the communications problem is their fault.

But aside from whose fault it is, being a friend is so important to the temporary visitor to our lands, or the permanent resident down the street, be he white, black, red, yellow, green, dark, light, etc. And being a friend isn't all that difficult; it merely takes time, patience, and understanding.

Jeff Comer
Freshman, Mass Communications

FOR THE VISUALLY ORIENTED

As a member of the film committee, I feel it my duty to inform students about what is happening with their activities fees. Students should know that we try to be as competent as possible. Anyone who has gone to a movie on campus knows about the blown light bulbs, broken films and canceled movies. But, what that student doesn't know is that the film committee has to put up with old projectors from the Audio Visual Dept., even though the Audio Visual Dept. has new projectors installed in their audio-visual rooms in the basement of the library. We also have to go through red tape to get a school building for showing a movie. Many of these problems could be alleviated if specific people who are in charge of fixing or replacing the defective projectors would work with us so that we could be more responsive to student needs.

I have visited many northern universities examining and analyzing their film programs, trying to compare theirs with our school's program. I have come to the conclusion that, for the selections that are chosen, VCU has one of the best film programs...as compared with other schools like Albany St. Univ., Temple Univ., Fordham Univ. and the Univ. of Massachusetts.

But what I cannot understand is why, out of a school of over 15,000 students, only a few hundred students will show up for any given movie. I know that people are into different things on the weekends and don't always have time to go see a movie. So to handle this problem, the film committee is trying to bring movies that will attract large audiences. We have shown movies like *Fritz the Cat*, *Silver Streak*, *Marathon Man*, and many others. This semester we will show *The Deep*, *Annie Hall* and *Carrie*.

I want to enlighten students about the problems the film committee has to face when working out a schedule for showing movies on campus. I would appreciate it if any student wants to submit a list of movies to the film committee's box in the Student Activities Office, 901 Floyd Ave., by March 17th. All lists must be in by this date. I can submit them with my list of movies when scheduling movies for fall semester '78 in late March.

Aaron K. Hall
Sophomore, Mass Communications

Observations From A Crippled Fowl

It's finally here. The issue I have simultaneously dreaded and anticipated for a full year is at this writing being pasted up. This is the lame duck's issue, and I just can't quack loud enough about it.

Our goals for the 1977-78 year were fairly simple: to represent the community as well as we could through a magazine format and to leave open a door to stylish writing that had previously been closed. The rote Associated Press style of writing was the first casualty at the *Commonwealth Times*, followed by a lot of rules that some feel are necessary for a periodical's survival, but which we felt were not only unnecessary but actually binding. We prided ourselves on being unorthodox. To write in tired journalese was to beat a dead horse; to cover the same weary stories with the same weary angles was to insult our readers.

The results? In the past year we have featured on our cover a conversation with a former *Richmond Mercury* editor-turned-novelist, a questioning piece on the marketing of religion in the area, an investigative report on a man who was possibly railroaded through a murder trial, a whimsical piece on hitchhiking across the country, a special section on the 1977 gubernatorial elections, an article on the complicated sale of a local magazine, and, of course, coverage of the 1977-78 Cinderella basketball team.

We published stories to follow up student accusations of mismanagement of funds and abuse of power in the highest offices of the university. We questioned the validity of the running of media elections by an "outside" Media Board. And we took a long look at the death and possible resurrection of downtown Richmond.

We have, in short, attempted to present to the 18,000 students here a magazine published by their peers which is as diverse as they. And it's not as easy as a lot of armchair editors would like to believe.

Back in 1976, in a story entitled "Day Squatters, Night Wizards and Noblesse Oblige," Steve Jackson gave what I still hold as the definitive description of VCU. Anyone who doubts the difficulties a journalist might have in trying to represent this campus would do well to read:

"Virginia Commonwealth University is a co-educational, state-supported university located in Richmond, Virginia, enrolling more than 17,000 students in a typical urban environment infested with insurance salesmen, winos, bank executives, pimps, medical students, drug dealers, cab drivers, whores, housewives, termites, dogs, rats, and occasional religious fanatics. We have traffic jams between Toyotas and Mercedes, block parties of horny jocks and disillusioned artists, status climbers, status weepers, merit scholars and underachievers, Greek restaurants, Jewish pawn shops, diesel fumes, ghetto fights, reconditioned homes, co-ed dorms, sandwiches with funny names and high prices, crowded tennis courts, museum openings with watery cocktails and prolific nonsense, smog factories, firetraps that should have been condemned but aren't, exorbitant rent with habitual muggings by night and traffic cops by day. It's too hot in the summer, too damn cold in the winter, with too many Harley-Davidson 74's growling past your window with no mufflers at 3:30 in the morning, looking for queens on the prowl to chain-whip 'em and take 'em for rides like status-hip pimps cr a good score...."

Given such diverse readership, my conclusion is that we succeeded in achieving our goals. Despite full time status as students, part time jobs in the community, and fledgling free lance careers, we succeeded in bringing to the university a magazine that attempted what none here had before in a size and scope that none had reached before.

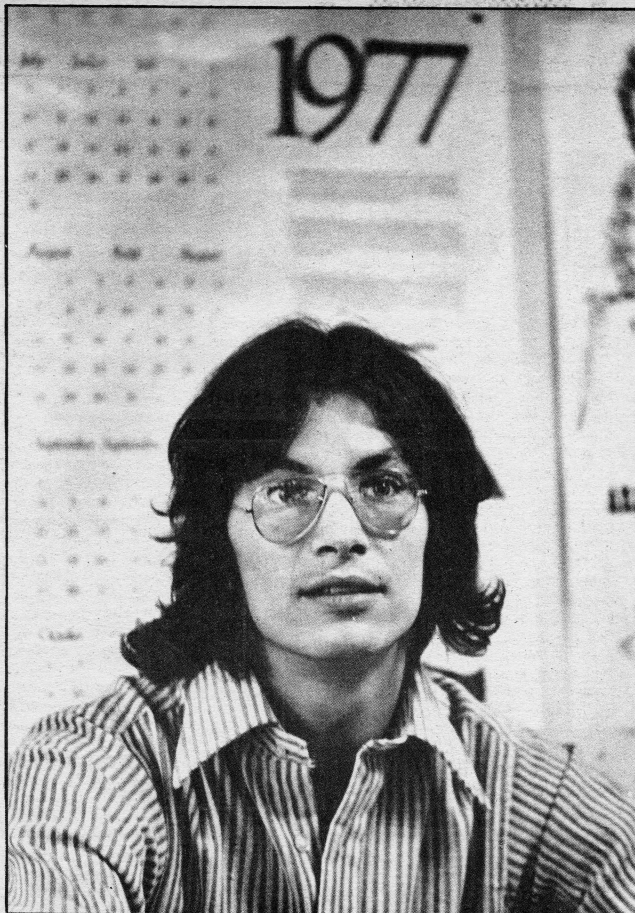


Photo by Ray K. Saunders

The author before his transfiguration. No recent photo is available.

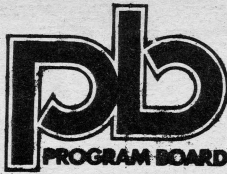
There were some unusual problems and adversaries. The Media Board, in the process of defining itself, has been exploring the roles of accountant and publisher — fortunately, with little success at either. The Appropriations Board continues to insist on its control of editorial stipends; it undoubtedly will again assert itself when 1978-79 budgets are presented this week. And the paper was not helped by the efforts of Charles Fair, Mass Communications assistant professor, to discourage staffers from their jobs.

But there were those inside the *Commonwealth Times* without whom the magazine could not have existed. Brett Averill, whose curious mixture of logic and creativity provided the editorial thrust, was an incredibly helpful managing editor. Mike Fuller, wizard of computers and calculators, boosted our income while dazzling all who dared question his columns of figures. Susan John, a freshman in the School of the Arts, as advertising manager consistently met her quotas. Ray Saunders and Tim Wright boosted the photography staff to new heights. Michael Sherbert, if somewhat eccentric, still exhibits remarkable talents and perceptions in his illustrations. And if there is an unsung hero of the *Commonwealth Times*, his name is Bill Pahnelas. At various times copy editor, Folio editor, contributing editor, "Mr. Bill" has provided insights, poems, and wisdom. And there are more, some listed on the staff box, some not, without whom editors are useless.

Following Spring break, the newly elected leaders will assume their offices and prepare for the March 21 issue. Following Media Board approval, Peter Blake will have a fascinating year as executive editor, Bobbie Harrell will experience the realities of the managing editor's position, and Steve Hill will undoubtedly reorganize and rejuvenate the production department.

To last year's staff, I offer congratulations and highest respect; to the staff of 1978-79, my best wishes for a new *Commonwealth Times*.

☆☆



★★★★★ Weekly Events ★★★★★



CONCERT: Last Concert Before Spring Break!! **Crack The Sky** Thurs., March 2, 2 shows-8:30 & 10:30 p.m. Bus. Bldg. Aud. \$2.50 w/ID \$3.50 guest tickets available 11-2 p.m. at 901 Floyd Ave.

Film: **Mark Of Zorro** Wed., March 1-10 p.m. Bus. Bldg. Aud. FREE

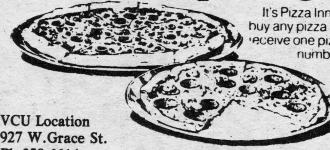
Pink Flamingos & Freaks Fri., March 17 8:30 & 11:30 p.m., Sat., March 18-8:30 & 11:30 p.m. Bus. Bldg. Aud. \$1.w/ID \$2.Gen. Pub.

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Monday-Friday-2:30-4:30 p.m.

Human Rights: The 'Glue' of U.S. Foreign Policy

WASHINGTON: President Carter's stress on human rights has drawn scoffs in the cloakrooms and cocktail lounges of Washington. But we can report that the President isn't the least bit deterred. He intends to push human rights harder than ever around the world.

He has a new human rights directive on his desk right now awaiting his signature. Last year he ordered the National Security Council to prepare new human rights initiatives, and they were submitted to the president around Dec. 1.

Inducements will be offered to nations to improve the treatment of their people. Countries that halt persecution will be eligible for new aid programs.

Their purpose is described in a confidential White House document. The new initiatives, it states, "are intended to lead to a number of actions, including issuance of a Presidential directive to give greater emphasis to human rights through U.S. foreign aid policy."

What this means is that nations which violate human rights will have their aid cut back. But the new directive will emphasize the positive rather than the negative aspects.

Inducements will be offered to nations to improve the treatment of their people. Countries that halt persecution will be eligible for new aid programs. President Carter will also establish warmer relations with their leaders.

The president's national security advisor, Zbigniew Brzezinski, has described the new policy behind closed doors. He said that human rights should replace anti-communism as "the glue that holds our foreign policy together."

Coal Crisis—Energy Secretary James Schlesinger has reported to President Carter that the coal shortage threatens the power supply in several states. He raised the possibility, according to confidential Cabinet minutes, of shipping emergency coal to the endangered areas.

Schlesinger warned, however, that the government "might be accused of strike breaking if coal from outside sources is delivered."

Defense Secretary Harold Brown then reported on the danger of violence in the coal fields. The Administration, he said, "should not be concerned about illegal activity, since the National Labor Relations Board is likely to issue injunctions."

In other words, the government is quietly preparing to intervene, if necessary.

Forest Fight—The timber barons have chalked up another major victory; and as usual, the American taxpayers will pay for their success.

In 1976, Congress passed a bill sponsored by Rep. John Krebs, D-Calif., that required sealed bidding for timber from the federally owned national forests. Prior to that time, the lumber men decided among themselves how much to offer for the government's trees in open bidding.

The industry, of course, wants to buy up the national forests as cheaply as possible. So timber lobbyists on Capitol Hill twisted the right arms and forced a repeal of the sealed bidding provision.

At first, it appeared that the vote might be close. But then Rep. Al Ullman, D-Ore., chairman of the powerful House Ways and Means Committee, informed his colleagues they would have a tough time unless they went along on the pro-timber bill.

The timber barons, predictably, won the right to submit open bids once again.

Sweet Deal—The national railway system and the Kellogg company have worked out a promotion deal. The cereal firm will promote Amtrak tickets on cereal boxes. In return, Amtrak will publicize Kellogg's breakfast foods on its trains.

This has upset officials at the Health, Education and Welfare Department. They have fired off an angry letter to Amtrak, demanding why the railroad is promoting sugared cereals of questionable nutritional value.

Meanwhile, other big food companies, such as McDonalds hamburgers and Coca-Cola, have sounded out Amtrak about similar deals.

Phony Bills—Small businessmen should check their bills carefully. More than 300 fly-by-night operators are sending sales solicitations to businessmen in the form of bills.

The letters look exactly like a monthly billing, complete with invoice numbers, references to accounts and price information. The amount is small enough that busy businessmen often pay them, without question, along with legitimate bills.

No less than 2,700 Army families are on food stamps. Last year alone, it cost the Army more than \$4 million to cash in food stamps from active and retired military people.

Busted Troops—Army enlisted men, many with families to support, are also having trouble keeping up with their bills.

Although military families can buy cut-rate food at commissaries, thousands of them are barely scraping by. Their costs for the daily necessities are outstripping their ability to pay.

We have learned that no less than 2,700 Army families are on food stamps. Last year alone, it cost the Army more than \$4 million to cash in food stamps from active and retired military people.

We have talked to one congressman who wants to help the hard-up military families. He is Elliott Levitas, D-Ga., and he has already complained to the President's Commission on Military Compensation.

Watch on Waste—The postal Service owns more than 140,000 different vehicles which are used to deliver the mail. It is the largest single fleet of vehicles in the United States.

Now a confidential study by the General Accounting Office reveals that the post office is wasting millions of dollars by buying vehicles instead of leasing them.

Postal regulations require that local postal officials determine whether leasing vehicles is cheaper before they buy them. But the word, apparently, has not trickled down to local officials.

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Help The Volunteers

If you have some old paperback books or magazines lying around in your room and would like to donate them to a worthy cause, please take them to the Office of Volunteer Services in West Hospital on the medical campus. They need literature for the patients to read, and at present their supply of reading material is less than abundant. Aside from the daily papers, and personal possessions these are the only things the patients have to read, so even the smallest donation will be appreciated; but it is asked that magazines be no more than three months old.

If you find it impossible or difficult to get your contribution to the Office of Volunteer Services, call Anmarie at 353-9339.

—Pat Sherman

Pari-mutuels: Moving Along

Amid emotional debate and rhetoric, a measure making horserace betting legal in Virginia has been approved by the House of Delegates. The pari-mutuel bill, which has already failed three times this decade, still faces sanction by the Senate, Gov. John N. Dalton, and a statewide referendum—but ultimate passage is expected.

The bill gained acceptance on Feb. 16 by a 52-48 margin, which is only one vote more than is required by the Virginia Constitution. In 1973, 1974 and 1976, pari-mutuel legislation was solidly approved in the Senate, but was killed in the House. This year proponents of the bill decided to introduce it in the House first.

Del. Raymond R. "Andy" Guest,



Coach Dana Kirk: Leads Rams to first tournament.

Rams Get a Berth in ECAC Playoffs

That long-haired, hand-gesturing basketball coach from VCU has done it again.

It wasn't enough that he brought an almost non-existing team through last year's troubles with a 13-13 record. And, he wasn't satisfied with being the first Virginia college basketball team to be aired live on television.

No, coach Dana Kirk, that coal miner's son from Kentucky, had to top his earlier efforts. As a result, this novice team with six recruits—the team that has spent as much time in casts as in the gym—will become the first VCU basketball team to participate in a post-season tournament.

Kirk announced last Wednesday that his team had received a berth in the ECAC playoffs. VCU will face Georgetown at George Washington University on Wednesday, March 1. If VCU loses, the team will play in the national Invitational Tournament. If the Rams win, however, they will continue in the playoffs.

The game against Randolph-Macon which was scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 28, has been moved back to Monday. This game's the last chance for VCU students to view the now prestigious and respectable Rams free.

The tickets for the Georgetown game, however, cost \$7, \$6 and \$5. They went on sale Thursday, and according to Earl McIntyre, sports information director at VCU, within two hours almost 300 tickets had been requested through Leonard Alley, ticket manager for the Rams.

Kirk said he was worried that his players might become so excited over the tournament that they would not play as hard during the remaining games of season play. His worries seemed groundless, however, for within hours after receiving the ECAC berth, the Rams traveled to ODU where they defeated the home team 73-72.

Gerald Henderson was lead scorer for the game adding 18 points and four rebounds to the Rams' cause. Penny Elliott contributed 14 points and eight rebounds while Ren Watson had 13 of each.

—Bobbie Harrell

Jr., R-Warren, the bill's chief patron, said pari-mutuel betting "means so much to so many people, and I really think it will be good for the Commonwealth."

Specifically, if the bill is passed, pari-mutuel betting is expected to benefit Virginians in many ways. An estimated \$25 million per year in revenues would be gained by the state, and half of this amount would be distributed, by population, among every city, county and incorporated town.

Many also believe that the betting bill will help to bring about an improvement in agriculture. The new industry could stimulate the economy by increasing demands on farmers for feed; by increasing demands on distributors of feed, breeders and veterinarians.

Counties, such as Albermarle, where horse breeding has long been a tradition, should "start seeing a trend of people buying large farms to

[raise horses]," says breeder Clay Camp. "We're going to see a lot of interest in real estate."

Finally, pari-mutuel proponents claim that the expansion of the horse industry in Virginia would create a large number of jobs.

Those opposing horse-race betting in the state base their arguments on more abstract grounds. This group, which includes many members of the clergy, has expressed apprehension over the possibility that corruption and crime will follow legalized betting into the state.

Many are opposed to gambling on principle, and say that the lower socio-economic groups will be victimized by the "something for nothing" philosophy that goes with gambling. They claim that the poor will suffer the most as they try to turn a \$2 bet into a fortune. Many also fear that Virginia will begin to promote gambling, which occurred in New York State,

Pari-mutuel supporters disclaim the possibility of organized crime coming into the state by saying that horse racing is one of the most protected and patrolled businesses. Those involved with the industry must be screened, fingerprinted, and have no criminal record.

If the measure receives approval, a state racing commission would be established and a tax would be imposed on pari-mutuel betting. With this form of betting, those holding winning tickets would divide the total amount wagered on the particular race, less a percentage for the management and taxes.

The legislation also initially calls for the establishment of two tracks that could be used for both flat and harness racing. The track should be open in 1981 if the bill remains afloat.

The state referendum will be held in November.

—Joel Davidson

Study Abroad This Summer

Where's that far-off exotic place that you've been longing to visit? Rome? Paris? Madrid? You might get there if you check out the Foreign Language department's summer study-abroad programs.

The first of these summer school extravaganzas will whisk you to Paris from May 30 to June 30. Students will study at the Alliance Francaise. For more information, contact Dr. Robert Sims, Foreign Language department, 901 Franklin Street.

The second extravaganza is to take place in Mexico City from June 1 to July 16, and students will study at the Universidad Ibero-Americana. Contact Dr. Ernest Lunsford, Foreign Language department.

The third and final of these excursions is to the country of wine and Sophia Loren—Italy. This program will last from May 30 to June 30, and students will study at the University of Perugia. For more information, contact Dr. Antonio Masullo, Foreign Language department. The phone number for all three of these professors is 770-7241.

Don't get scared: you don't have to know how to speak French, Spanish, or Italian. (In fact, you don't even have to study a foreign language.) You can make arrangements with your respective departments to study whatever you wish. And while overseas you can earn up to six VCU credits.

So don't delay. Doctors Lunsford, Sims, and Masullo would like a pretty accurate head count by the first of April.

—J. C. Rodgers

The Freshman Response

A recent poll bears out the well-known claim that VCU is an unusual university, at least if judged by the freshman class. This year's annual survey of the freshman class was conducted by Alexander W. Astin and was jointly sponsored by the American Council on Education and UCLA. 1073 valid responses were received from VCU freshmen.

VCU's freshman class contains a higher percentage of older students and black students than the national norm, which is for both public and private universities. VCU's entering class has ten percent fewer 18 year olds than the national norm and is 16.2 percent black, as compared to the national norm of 6.0 percent black.

VCU students are weaker academically than university students nationally. Only 15.1 percent of VCU's freshmen report having an A or A-average in high school, as compared to 31.9 percent of university freshmen nationally.

VCU freshmen do not expect to do as well in college as do university freshmen nationally. Only 38.6 percent of the VCU students, as compared to 47.7 percent nationally, estimated that chances are very good that they will make at least a B aver-

age in college.

VCU students may be somewhat lacking in physical as well as academic prowess, according to this survey. Only 58.7 percent of VCU's freshman class can do at least 15 pushups as compared to 70.8 percent of university freshmen nationally.

VCU's freshman class has the same reasons for going to college as do freshmen nationally. The three most-often cited reasons by both groups are: wanting to "learn more about things," wanting to be "able to get a better job," and gaining a "general education." The reason that 57.1 percent of VCU's freshmen picked this school is its good academic reputation, according to the survey. VCU was the first choice when selecting a university for 72.5 percent of the VCU students polled.

The percentage of VCU students who describe themselves as liberal has declined from 44 percent in 1973 to 30 percent in 1977.

Fine and applied art is by far the most popular probable field of study for this year's entering class. It is the field into which 16.3 percent of the freshmen plan to go while only five percent plan to go into accounting, and only 2.2 percent plan to go into biology.

Fewer VCU students plan to get a

degree higher than a bachelor's degree than do students nationally. While 65.1 percent of freshmen nationally plan to get a higher degree, 60.2 percent of VCU's freshmen plan to go beyond a bachelor's degree and only 25.5 percent plan to do so at VCU.

Many of VCU's freshmen are dissatisfied with where they are living, according to this survey. Though 51.5 percent planned to reside in a dormitory during the fall term and 5.1 percent planned to live off campus, only 38.6 percent preferred to live in a dorm and 33.5 percent would have preferred off-campus housing.

The way most VCU students surveyed see themselves becoming involved with VCU is "by attending various activities which are sponsored on campus." Only 3.2 percent plan to participate. "in some aspect of the governance structure of the institution."

At the time of the poll, 84.3 percent of the freshman class of 1977 said they either liked VCU very much or were at least moderately favorable toward the school. None of the students said they would prefer to be somewhere else. Let's hope they haven't changed their minds.

—Donna Wigginton

The Appropriations Board Takes A Survey

The Appropriations Board has circulated a questionnaire-survey to allegedly "evaluate how students feel their student activities should be spent." According to reliable

sources, the Appropriations Board intends to use the results of the survey to deny portions of allocations to certain unfavored organizations, and to justify other questionable activities fee uses.

Furthermore, the sources point out that the survey has several points stated as fact which are untrue, and they go on to question the reliability of the results under these circumstances.

The designers of the questionnaire

point out that 94 percent of the activities fees are allocated to organizations and clubs to promote occupational interests, ethnic and cultural clubs, and honor societies. Also, certain religious and political groups are allocated funds if they promote special events. The balance of the fees collected are held in the Dean's contingency fund and are used for "emergency purposes" only.

Keith Dabney

Academic Honesty: The Truth About Cheating

By Mary Young

Back in the '60s students were trying to break away from what they considered an iron-handed administration. One thing they wanted was the right not to inform on one another. The uniform procedure of an honor system collapsed, leaving VCU faculty and students with an unclear idea of what academic dishonesty is, and how it should be handled.

Subsequent attempts to conjure up a uniform honor system have fallen short. According to Provost Frank Brooke, the systems did not work here because "the students just don't want to rat on each other, and an honor code won't work unless all the members of an academic community enforce it," he said.

The establishment of the Rules and Procedures in 1973 was thought to alleviate the problem of how to deal with cheating. It didn't. Instead, it left the question of punishment to the sole discretion of the individual departments and faculty.

Since then, Provost Brooks, among others, has

showed that students are as confused as anyone else on existing procedures.

Since only 3.3 percent of students polled had ever reported cheating here, it was obvious that students still do not want to rat on each other. At the same time, 72.9 percent of those polled want a uniform honesty policy.

A wide range of student comments accompanied the statistical questions and answers, and perhaps show best how students really feel about cheating:

- I once wrote a friend's term paper and handed it in as my own.
- An honor pledge should be signed on all tests and examinations.
- Cheating should be left to the individual. But the school should lay down some rules so that the students are at least aware of what can happen to them.
- I feel that there will be cheating as long as this or any other learning institution emphasizes and re-emphasizes grades, and not learning for the sake of learning.
- Better to cheat than repeat!!!
- I have never observed any cheating on exams;

I have only seen cheating once in my three years here.

Several boys exchanged test papers during test time

—right under the nose of the professor. He never noticed, and no one reported it to him.

seen a need for a separate policy that would clearly define what is and is not allowed in the classroom, and outline the penalties for cheating with a heavy emphasis on student rights.

In order to see what current student attitudes on cheating are, Dr. Brooke appointed a committee headed by Dr. William Blake, Jr., professor of history, to survey the situation.

What followed was a poll in which students were asked to state their feelings on academic dishonesty and to decide whether or not they would like to see a uniform policy enacted. The results

in fact, I have never actually heard of any cheating. But maybe I just don't get around.

- A strict code should be enforced, such as the code of honesty at UVA. Cheating persons should be severely punished.
- If a uniform policy concerning honesty was instated and enforced, I feel it would upgrade the quality of students graduating from VCU.
- Quality of education has fallen since Civil Rights, and cheating has increased. I originally enrolled at VCU in 1969 and speak from actual observation.
- I have only seen cheating once in my three

Do you think there should be cheating at the West Campus?
Yes - 275 (72.9%) No - 102

If there was a well-defined would you report cheating or came to your attention?
Yes - 155 (42.6%) No - 209

Have you ever cheated at VCU University?
Yes - 60 (15.0%) No - 340

years here. Several boys exchanged test papers during test time—right under the nose of the professor. He never noticed, and no one reported it to him.

- I feel that in order to build up a good and strong reputation at VCU, we need to institute an honor code. It is insulting to have a teacher walk around the room during a test.
- Ignore it. Those who cheat cheat themselves.

Dr. Al Matthews, dean of student life, now serving on the academic honesty committee, has long been aware of the incidence of cheating. "I'd heard for years from students that there was a great deal of cheating going on," he said. "Some of them were very angry, and some didn't care at all."

Two years ago, Dr. Matthews sensed that many faculty members were uncertain as to what they should do when handling cheaters. "A number of students were charged with dishonesty and I got calls from faculty who didn't know what to do," he said. At that time he laid their options on the line. "We told faculty that they could either lower grades or look to the Rules and Procedures. I also wanted them to know that if a student felt a failing grade was unfair, the student could appeal using the grade appeal procedure."

In trying to determine the extent of cheating, the Academic Honesty Committee did not fail to consult the faculty. Of 600 questionnaires sent

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Do you think there should be a uniform policy on cheating at the West Campus?

Yes - 275 (72.9%) No - 102 (27.1%)

If there was a well-defined policy and procedure, would you report cheating or dishonest conduct if it came to your attention?

Yes - 155 (42.6%) No - 209 (57.4%)

Have you ever cheated at Virginia Commonwealth University?

Yes - 60 (15.0%) No - 340 (85.0%)

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In trying to determine the extent of cheating, the Academic Honesty Committee did not fail to consult the faculty. Of 600 questionnaires sent

out, only 240 were returned. Although many of those faculty members felt cheating was negligible, a number consider it a moderate problem, and most all felt the need for a uniform policy. The majority of department chairmen polled also were in favor of a policy.

To accommodate the apparent need for an honesty policy, Dr. Blake and his committee, which is composed of faculty, students and administrators, has been meeting regularly to form a policy that will put an end to all confusion.

After surveying the policies and codes of at least 150 other universities, including UVA, the committee decided on a three-part policy that will define academic dishonesty, state the penalties, and explain the procedures to be used.

"The policy is still in the polishing stages," said Dr. Blake, "but in the present draft there is no provision that requires a student to turn another in for cheating." He added, "We hope that it will be implicit in the document that students take the initiative and turn in other students who they see cheating. It's the only way to put an end to it."

Certainly the passage of the policy would alleviate confusion, but whether or not it would have any effect on the actual amount of cheating that goes on here is hard to predict. Provost

Brooke feels that mostly it is a matter of educating the students. "I hope that the policy will help the student understand what honesty is," he said:

According to the survey, 15 percent of the students polled have cheated at VCU. Judging from comments from some students, cheating is a reasonably acceptable practice. According to an article by Michael A. Faia for the *Liberal Education*, "Some students are more likely to cheat than others...cheating is most likely to occur among males; among seniors and juniors who have been pronounced 'academically weak' on the basis of their past grades; among students who are 'non-academic' in their interests; among career orientated students, i.e. those who enter vocational programs or professional schools and who haven't much interest in the liberal arts disciplines; finally and paradoxically among students who find themselves in strenuous efforts to prevent cheating by proctoring examinations closely, punishing offenders severely, etc." And furthermore, there is some evidence that most cheaters receive their basic training while still in high school."

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Dr. William Beck, chairman of the Foreign languages department, believes that faculty are partly culpable. "I solved the problem by placing tests on every other row so that students have no choice but to take the test with an empty row between them." In nine years Dr. Beck has never had a case of plagiarism brought to his attention, but he feels that a uniform policy with some flexibility is a good idea.

Although the policy should go up for approval this semester, no one is quite sure what channels it must go through to gain passage.

Dean Matthews thinks it will eventually be passed by the Board of Visitors. He predicts that there will be a lot said about it at first, and that may even increase the number of honesty hearings. "In the past professors may have been hesitant about taking action against cheaters

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very aware of one way in which students cheat. "Students buying research papers present a problem," he said. "There are companies that offer prewritten and custom-made research papers available through a mail order catalogue. The specially prepared ones can run as high as \$70."

According to Dr. Inge, the English department has procured its own catalogue and keeps it in the main office for faculty use. "Now, if a teacher has doubts about a paper's validity, he can just go down the lists in the catalogue to see if he

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Perhaps Dr. Brooke best summed up the positive effects of an honesty policy. "It is crucial to a university's integrity that it proceed on the assumption that people must be academically honest," he said. "If cheating is tolerated at a university, a degree from that university would not be worth much." ☆☆

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☆☆

Door May Open to Board Meetings

By Bernie Bonuccelli

A bill that would expose the inner workings of the Board of Visitors of VCU, and any other state-supported college or university, to the public is on its way to nearly certain final approval by the Virginia General Assembly.

A version of House Bill 555 has gone down to defeat in the last three previous sessions of the General Assembly. It passed the House last week by a 77-16 vote and appears fairly certain to win the approval of the Senate.

The only remaining obstacle to its becoming law would be Governor Dalton's veto. But a spokesman for the governor stated that the governor has no preconceived outlook on the bill. He will make his final decision only after the bill has reached his desk and his staff has had time to study it.

The bill, introduced by Delegate A.R. Giesen, R-Staunton, places nearly all the meetings and actions of the boards of visitors of state-supported institutions of higher learning under the auspices of the state's Freedom of Information Act, (FOI) which in effect opens the board's meetings to public perusal.

Giesen and several other members of the House committee that dealt with the bill unanimously agreed, there had been relatively little lobbying against the bill by members of the boards of visitors affected by the bill.

Delegate Ralph Axselle Jr., D-Henrico, said he has received one letter opposing the bill, and that one member of the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia had personally expressed his disfavor for the bill.

Because they are "reasonably well divided" on the issue, VCU's Board of Visitors has declined to take a stand on the bill according to Dr. Wyndham B. Blanton Jr., rector of the board.

Members of VCU's Board of Visitors seem to be against the bill in varying degrees. Nine of the fifteen members were questioned. Of these, two were in favor of the bill, three were against it, and four had either no comment or no strong feeling.

Two of the board members who had no strong feelings on the matter pointed out that meetings would be less candid and in-depth if open to the public. G. William Norris felt this was a special problem because the board is made up of educational laymen so professional educators don't control the school. In a public meeting, board members might be reluctant to show their lack of knowledge, which "would defeat the purpose of having a lay board," according to Norris.

In a similar vein, James L. Seaborn Jr. said that he feared board meetings might be misunderstood

and misrepresented by reporters. He also pointed out that the board must make its minutes public three working days after each meeting.

Dr. Owen Gwathmey, Mrs. David E. Satterfield III, and S. Buford Scott were against making the board's meetings public. Scott said, "To make them (the meetings) a forum would greatly discourage busy and hardworking people from serving on the board."

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C. Coleman McGehee and Stuart Shumate are both definitely in favor of the bill, provided that the board is able to discuss personnel matters in private executive session. The bill provides for this.

Del. A.R. Giesen (right), R-Staunton, sponsor of a bill in the Virginia House that would open meetings of

Harris added that the small amount of opposition Giesen received on the bill has come from people who oppose it simply because of "the fear of the unknown. After the bill has been in effect for a while these people will realize that it serves a very useful purpose."

Harris stated that Giesen is a friend of Dalton and does not foresee any opposition from the governor.

Another FOI-related bill that seems certain of final approval will bring the workings of SAGA into the open. The privately-owned corporation that operates VCU's cafeterias will find itself under the mandate of the Freedom of Information Act if Senate Bill 377 passes the General Assembly and meets with Dalton's approval.

Senator J.V. Gartlan D-Alexandria, the bill's sponsor, said that this bill arose out of an incident at VPI where students were barred in their attempts to uncover the pricing policies of a privately-owned bookstore that operated on campus as an official arm of the university.

The bill will make the records of all private corporations that sell food or publications at an state-supported institution open to the public. ☆ ☆

college boards of Visitors, talks with Del. Ralph Axselle Jr., D-Henrico.

Photo by John Clarke



Where the Money Goes And How It Gets There

By **Bernie Bonuccelli**
and **Donna Wigginton**

During the second week of March, the Appropriations Board will conduct a series of budget hearings. During this time students go before the board representing their club or organization, in search of financial aid. There is a total of 141 organizations at VCU. The Appropriations Board's chairwoman, Sean Lujan, predicts that all of these organizations will appear.

The board consists of nine members. Of these nine, six are students, two are faculty members, and one is an administrator. Ideally, all members work together, without any undue influence by the faculty and administrative representatives over the students.

Each member is responsible for attending meetings, asking questions, aiding in group discussions, determining the club or organization's actual needs, and, finally, deciding how much money can be allotted. This final decision takes much time and discussion.

Once a decision is made to appropriate funds, the board secretary, Dr. William Duvall, types a letter to the student organization stating the board's decision. The money is picked up from Alvin Dyson, who is in charge of the financial records.

Before going before the board, the student must obtain an application and list of board guidelines. These are available from Dyson at 901 Floyd, on the third floor.

It is important to take much consideration before filling out this form. Its purpose is to find out how much money is being requested. More importantly, a specific outline of every item to be purchased with the money is required. Upon completion of this form, it is returned to Dyson, who places the hearing on the agenda. All hearings start promptly at 6:00 p.m.

When coming before the board, a series of questions is asked which determine the amount of funding applicable for the club or organization. The student representative is asked, for instance, the projects and goals for which the organization plans to use the money, the amount requested, and if the club or organization has considered

seeking funds elsewhere. They also look into the amount of funding previously obtained, and if that money was used effectively and efficiently.

When a motion is made by one board member, and seconded, the members then begin a democratic voting procedure. In all instances, the majority vote rules.

The question may arise, "What if my appeal for funding is turned down?" Although several members of the board agree that this rarely happens, there is an appeal process. The first appeal is made directly to the Appropriations Board for further review. If the organization is still unable to obtain any ground, it may appeal to the Council for University Student Affairs (CUSA). CUSA holds the power to override any original decision, and can in itself appropriate funds.

Should CUSA turn down the appeal, the representative can make a third appeal to the Appropriations Board, according to board member Beth Altman. Their decision is final.

The Appropriations Board's funds come from VCU's student activities fees. By going before the board during its budget hearings, students can have a voice in how their money is spent. ☆ ☆

New Budgeting Plan to Be Tried

By **John E. George**

Dr. Alfred T. Matthews, dean of student life, is a driven man; he suffers from a terminal case of ZBB. No, his affliction is not a creeping Tahitian jungle disease or an alcoholic's hallucinations.

"ZBB or Zero-Based Budgeting is a planning and budget system," said Matthews, "where every program or activity in an organization must be justified during every budget cycle and instead of concentrating merely on increments above the third year base [a traditional budget method]; ZBB starts from scratch every year."

Jimmy Carter has introduced the gospel according to ZBB in Washington and met with some success.

Lately, Dr. Matthews, armed with flow charts and a preacher's zeal, has spoken to the Program Board and Appropriations Board about the benefits of ZBB.

The Program Board is using the ZBB system in planning next year's budget. In support of the

system, Edel Blumberg of the Film Committee says, "With zero-based budgeting, our lowest-priced packages become our first priorities, so the Appropriations Board must approve them. The committee has previously decided that it cannot function well on less. In this way a zero-based budget gives us power. We also are more honest with ourselves as to how much money we really need."

Not everyone on the Program Board is convinced, however, that zero-based budgeting is the best system. Ahmad Nurridin, chairman of the Lecture Committee, says, "Zero-based budgeting takes away a lot of innovativeness. I would like to see the Student Life Office show a track record of having used it before flaunting it around for everyone else to use."

Nurridin says that the system is probably appropriate for businesses "where management wants to maintain a tight control in order to

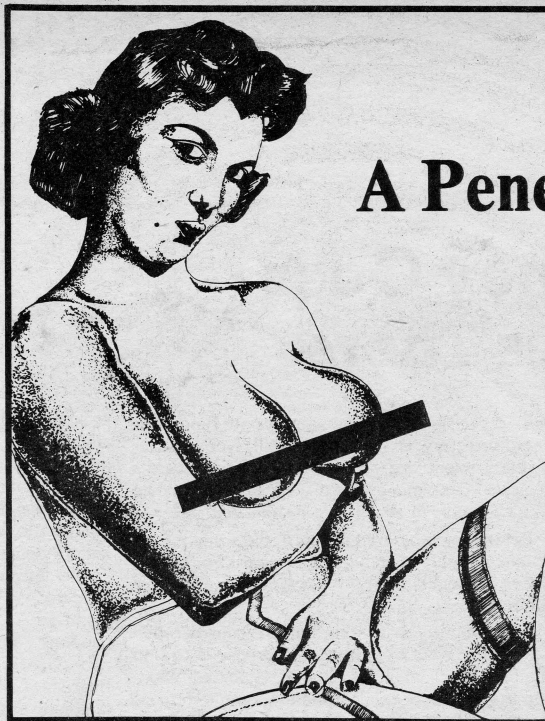
maximize profit," but he says that, except for the purposes of the Appropriations Board exercising control over programming, the system is not appropriate for the Program Board.

ZBB practices call for establishing a list of program packages and ranking these packages according to their priorities. If a package falls below a minimum funding level, then it is deemed unrealistic; its programs are eliminated.

Above the minimum level, packages are ranked with respect to the number of packages they contain; the highest are at the top and the lowest at the bottom of the list.

Then, individuals vote on the most desirable package. The package which receives the most votes based on a complicated scoring system is selected.

Matthew thinks ZBB method is necessary, because it takes much of the guesswork out of the budgeting process. ☆ ☆



A Penetrating View of City Porn

By Bernie Bonuccelli

Illustration by Stephen Harlow

People think of pornography as the scourge of society. They blame it, in part or whole, for such societal ills as sexual repressiveness, sexual permissiveness and even urban blight. They denounce it as an insult to the mores of a civilized society and call for its suppression in the name of Christianity.

But despite solid opposition from a very vocal minority of the American people, the pornography business in this country continues to prosper. Whether spurred on by sexually-relaxed attitudes of the '70's or not, an approximately \$2 billion annual profit for the industry proves that it is a highly worthwhile venture to what some consider man's perversions.

Locally, Ray Bentley Productions has brought Richmond some of the industry's best, most provocative blue movies for the last several years. According to Bentley the response from Richmonders has been "fantastic."

Bentley noted that "many people in the audience seem disappointed that the films we show are not hard-core porn; but the powers that be seem willing to accept only soft-core, so that's all we show."

But the type of entertainment Bentley brings to the area is not what crusaders against obscenity find most offensive. What they find, most repulsive is the obscene material found in any Richmond adult bookstore. These establishments make sizeable profits from catering to what some consider weird, raunchy sexual tastes.

The magazines, books, films and other attractions they offer are "chic" pornography. Sexual explicitness is an understatement for the material they display. If an adolescent Rip Van Winkle suddenly reached puberty and began to wonder what to do next, a few minutes spent in any of Richmond's seven adult bookstores would give him a sex education lesson he would never forget.

But if you are worried that your morals are

about to be perverted, rest at ease. The Richmond vice squad is here to protect you and your morals from any type of perversion. According to vice squad Lt. H.A. Conner, he and his men have a personal distaste for all pornography, and he would "like to see all the pornography peddlers put out of business."

Conner has two men assigned to "protect the morals of the people." Their job is to file reports on material they consider obscene so appropriate action can be taken against the offender.

In Richmond, any person violating the city's various obscenity ordinances is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor, which is punishable by a fine of not more than \$1,000, or a jail sentence of not more than 12 months, or both. In past obscenity cases in Richmond, most first offenders are penalized the **maximum fine, without a jail sentence.**

A Richmond city ordinance defines an obscene item as "that which considered as a whole has as its dominant theme or purpose an appeal to prurient interests, that is, a shameful or morbid interest in nudity, sex or excretion, and which goes substantially beyond customary limits of candor in description or representation of such matters, and which, taken as a whole, does not have serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value."

If that definition of obscenity seems fairly innocuous, it has proven to be a gigantic headache to both the prosecutors and purveyors of pornography. The U.S. Supreme Court, in 1973, ruled that "community standards" were to be used as a guideline for determining what was or wasn't obscene. Since then pornography cases have become quagmired in the moral consciences of judges and juries.

The Supreme Court decision leaves it entirely up to the judge or jury to decide if an item violates the community's standards of obscenity. This legal leeway has forced the vice squad to take most of its questionable material to the common-

wealth attorney for his judgement on its degree of obscenity before they arrest anyone for violating the obscenity ordinances.

This question mark also has caused one local exhibitor of X-rated movies to devise his own definition of what is generally acceptable to Richmond. According to Terry Rea, manager of the Biograph Theater on Grace Street, "Richmond is on record as a city where hard-core porn cannot show. Usually, the line between hard- and soft-core porn is the showing of actual penetration on the score. Anything less than that is generally acceptable in Richmond, even though there are exceptions."

The Biograph's showing of "The Devil in Miss Jones" shortly after the 1973 Supreme Court case helped to establish Richmond's community standards. The movie, busted by local authorities, was hauled into court. Circuit Court Judge James M. Lumpkin ruled it obscene.

Rea thinks there may be a discrepancy between the local citizenry's moral standards and what judges deem to be the community's standard of obscenity. "For the most part, the judges I've seen are not in the mainstream of where the average person is. The moral changes of the 1970's just passed these guys by."

The Biograph, Richmond's *avant garde* exhibitor of foreign, classic and art film, may owe its existence to pornography. The X-rated movie "Deep Throat" played at the Biograph about eight months after the theater opened. According to Rea, it played for 17 weeks and financially rescued the theater.

Lt. Conner believes pornography perverts the morals of society and only appeals to the bad elements of society. Dr. Lewis Diana, a VCU professor in the social sciences department who teaches several human sexuality courses, thinks that pornography is strapped with an undeserved nasty reputation.

Diana sees several benefits from pornography. "Those with limited sexual experience...can watch and learn. It can act as an expression of sexual release, as a sort of safety valve. It may help those with sexual hangups, and compensate those with temporary sexual frustrations." Diana is in favor of "dealing with sexual material in a more open, artistic and mature way. The sellers of pornography must figure that the buyers are a seamy lot."

But Diana, Bentley and Rea all agree that they're not. The user of pornography comes in all shapes and sizes. Users are bound only by the common thread of getting some sort of vicarious sexual satisfaction out of watching simulated sexual acts.

☆ ☆



"High Anxiety": Low Comedy

By Dale Davis

Midway through *High Anxiety*, Madeline Kahn turns to Mel Brooks and says, "I'm sorry. I'm so close to my menstrual cycle I could scream."

That's all.

The audience is left waiting for a punch line and none comes. She changes the subject immediately and the crude line is left to stand as typical Mel Brooks "funny dialogue."

Funny? To whom?

The line is no different in its tastelessness from a hundred others that precede or follow it in this new experience in low—no, subterranean—comedy.

When I read about plans for a film parodying Alfred Hitchcock's long list of lovable spy melodramas, horror pictures and psyche-outs, I almost wet my pants. What an exciting idea!

But when I heard whose idea it was and who was to direct, produce and help write it, I shrank back in terror: Mel Brooks? The director whose idea of hilarity was a bunch of cowboys sitting around a campfire "passing gas" in *Blazing Saddles*. Why couldn't it have been Woody Allen's idea? Even Jerry Lewis, maybe? But like it or not, it was Brooks' baby and for all I knew, maybe he'd cleaned up his act a little.

Even so, I was pretty wary as I sat in the packed moviehouse waiting for the completed project that had finally made its way to Richmond. If I was to learn nothing else in the next two hours, I would at least learn to trust my sense of wariness.

The movie begins with Mel Brooks as a neurotic psychiatrist (Gregory Peck in *Spellbound*), flying to San Francisco to head a sanatorium for the

"very, very nervous" (very, very unfunny).

As his plane lands, he looks out the window, about to vomit because he suffers from "high anxiety" (James Stewart in *Vertigo*). Handing his "barf bag" to the knowing stewardess, he steps off the plane into a typically Hitchcockian world of intrigue peopled by characters such as an indecent exposé (what Hitchcock movie was that?) and a porter/chauffeur/valet, whose "I got it, I got it, I don't got it" will go down in cinema history as a classic unfunny line.

No time to waste. A limosine swooshes the psychiatrist to the stately sanatorium, escorted by a bus of musicians who play the overly dramatic score. (Now, this could have been funny if Brooks hadn't exploited it.)

At the sanatorium, the psychiatrist is greeted by the mad doctor (Harvey Korman) and Nurse Diesel, sort of a Nurse Ratched-cum-Ilsa, She Wolf of the SS. Nurse Diesel (with her spiked bra and leather panties) is the only enjoyable character in this mess, and she is marvelously overacted by Cloris Leachman.

Korman and Leachman try to make Brooks feel at home while keeping him ignorant of the fact that they are holding captive a multimillionaire industrialist (for devious purposes known only to them; at least I couldn't figure out why).

The dimwitted Brooks suspects nothing until the industrialist's daughter, Madeline Kahn, the Hitchcockian cool blonde) corners him at the American Psychiatric Convention and convinces him her father is sane. Brooks promises to help her extricate him from the loony bin, but before he can do her much good, he is framed for murder (Cary Grant in *North by Northwest* and James Stewart in *The Man Who Knew Too Much*).

The rest of the footage has Brooks eluding the

equally dimwitted policemen, but it is far too boring a chase to relate here.

I wouldn't mention it at all, but it contains the Brooks zenith in grossness. In a predictable spoof of *The Birds*, thousands of birds leave a jungle gym to attack the psychiatrist, not to represent the Armageddon, as in *The Master's* version, but to drown him in their droppings. How droll.

The torture finally winds to a close as Brooks escapes the law, and the mad doctor and nurse are thrown to their deaths from a lighthouse. Incidentally, Brooks fails here as a film historian (as well as director, producer, co-writer and actor): Cloris Leachman turns into the Wicked Witch of the West as she falls to her death. Don't ask me why. Hitchcock, for all we know, never even saw *The Wizard of Oz*, much less had anything technically to do with it.

On reflection, the greatest pity in this disaster is the ratio of Brooks to Hitchcock. The satire, superficially and obviously mocks the great director's occasional indiscretions, but it has none of Hitchcock's better qualities. Most notably lacking is his sophisticated, restrained sense of humor. In that department, no two directors could be more different than Brooks and Hitchcock.

To say Brooks' humor is unsophisticated is like saying Boston is having a bad winter.

Still, Brooks is a successful moviemaker. Crowds flock to his three-reelers like birds to Tippi Hedren. And I suppose they will continue to do so until they realize that they can create most of what Brooks dishes out by natural animal processes. They can visit the bathroom and laugh over their toilets for two hours. It's all the same and it saves the price of a movie ticket.

[*High Anxiety* is playing at the Westhampton and Cloverleaf 1.)

☆☆

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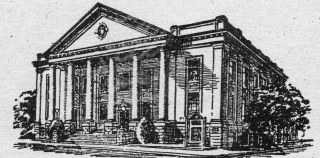
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As a special offer to VCU students—our new Downtown office in the Medical Arts Building at 2nd and Franklin Street will give a 10 percent Discount to any students in the immediate area during their current semester.

VCU Basketball Scholarships Without Scholars

By Jack Moore

If VCU's upcoming basketball game with Georgetown in the George Washington U. gym is rained out, no one in the Ram locker room will be surprised. After all, in light of what's happened in the last two years, they probably think they've seen everything.

One thing most of them won't see, however, is their own graduation.

Now, "Pomp and Circumstance" never has been a big locker room hit. Academic performance among VCU basketball players had reportedly degenerated to the point where only one player in the last eight years received his sheepskin. Rumor also had it that only one of the six seniors on the present squad will earn a bachelor degree.

Actually, disproving the former charge led to the investigation of the latter, which turns out to be absolutely true, according to the Registrar's office.

This stranger-than-fiction story all started back in October, 1976, when former Head Basketball Coach Chuck Noe was ambushed. His assistant, Skeeter Swift, asked to resign. Noe refused. The next day Swift asked to be fired. Noe consented.

The thought of the fiery and eccentric Noe firing the well-liked Swift played such havoc on the team itself that three starting players quit. They later returned, but by this time allegations about Noe had spread like wildfire, from shady stories about his private life to some possible recruiting slight-of-hand. Finally, Noe himself resigned under considerable pressure from the late President Temple.

When word got out that only one basketball player from 1968 to 1976

had received a degree, Daniel T. Watts, chairman of the Intercollegiate Athletic Committee (ICAC), appointed a subcommittee to investigate this alarming allegation. "When I was asked to form this subcommittee," said Watts, "our athletic department was really hurting, and wild rumors were flying everywhere. One of these stories generated a great deal of concern among the administration and myself.

"I chose four people, Dr. Jackson Jeffery (Associate Biology Professor), John Smolen (University Registrar), Earl McIntyre (Sports Information Director), and Dr. Ila C. Martin (Asst. Dean, School of Education), who served as chairman."

In a memorandum to the four subcommittee members, Watts explained, "one criticism...held that basketball players had been recruited and used for the program without giving much attention to...their academic program." Watts ordered committee members to "identify all letter-winning basketball players over the last 7-8 years, and determine whether or not they completed their bachelor degree."

On Feb. 24, 1977, the subcommittee appeared before the ICAC and reported that 15 players had received undergraduate degrees, and one a masters degree as well. According to a record of the meeting, "both Dr. Watts and [ICAC member Richard] Obenshain expressed their concern over the erroneous information and suggested that appropriate steps be taken to set the record straight."

"I really don't know how these stories got started, or who starts them," Watts later offered, "but I guess some people wanted to make more out of this than was there."

To the contrary, further investigation (apparently not reported on by the subcommittee) revealed that fifteen players did indeed graduate over the years in question, but that only two men, Charlie Booker and Tom Motley, were regular starters. Another graduate, Mike Fling, was a starter until arthritic knees prematurely ended his playing career. Also on the list was Ollie Jackson, listed as having played in 1968, who received an Associate degree the previous year in "General Studies."

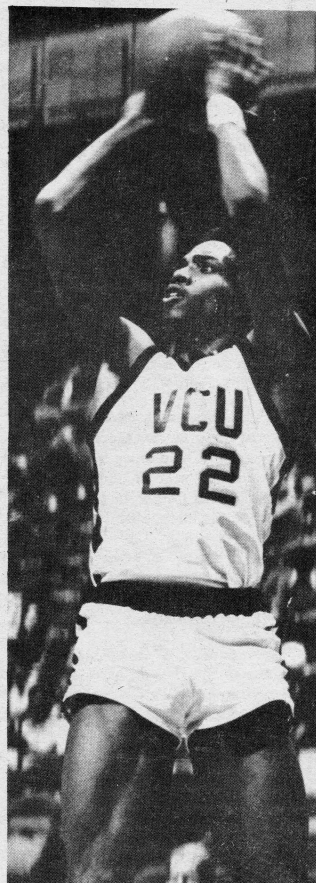
Of the remaining 12 players, ten were on the squad for one year or less.

Of far greater concern is the fact that only one present player, Tim Binns, even bothered to apply for graduation. The other five Ram seniors, Tony DiMaria, Chip Noe, Ronald Payne, Gerald Henderson and Wes Carmack, failed to submit their applications by the Jan. 20 deadline. The Registrar's office also found that Henderson was not even on record as having attended VCU last semester. This, as was hastily pointed out, did not necessarily mean that he was not a student, only that he was not on file as a student.

Henderson, unfortunately, could not be reached by press time, but the obvious question still remains: Why aren't there more scholars on scholarship?

To his credit, new Head Coach Dana Kirk has been monitoring his players' classroom performance, and Dr. Watts has contacted several former players to see if they could be encouraged to complete the requirements for graduation. Whether or not these efforts will produce more graduates, only time will tell; but it's pretty clear that the only degree Watts' subcommittee earned was the third.

☆☆



File photos

Former coach and Athletic Director Chuck Noe (above), and Gerald Henderson (below).

CALENDAR

Tuesday

Every Tuesday night at the United Campus Ministry, 700 W. Franklin (next to Rhoads Hall), there is a **free dinner and program**. They have varied speakers and lots of good discussions. Starting time 5:15 p.m. From 7:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. there is Folk group practice.

Try starting the week off with a couple of good movies. The Biograph offers two during their International Film Festival; **Knife in the Water** and **Shadows of Forgotten Ancestors**. The Biograph, 814 W. Grace Street.

For **Minority students** interested in Medical or Dental School a recruiter from the College of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey will be here to speak to you today at 2 p.m. in room 201 of the Life Sciences Building.

The Jewelry by C. James Meyer, an assistant professor of Crafts at VCU is on **display** at the William Carreras Diamonds Ltd. in the downtown F&M Plaza. Today is the last day to glimpse his handcrafted materials. Carreras Diamonds is open from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Every Wednesday morning at 7:30 a.m., the VCU faculty and staff get together for brief twenty minute **devotions** followed by coffee and donuts. It takes place at the Pace Methodist Church and United Campus Ministry, Next to Rhoads Hall. Come on Down.

The first of **several seminars** to increase effectiveness of managers and supervisors will be held today from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the conference room of the Management Center in the School of Business Building, 1015 Floyd Avenue.

Mark of Zorro is being shown free tonight at 10:00 p.m. in the Business Building Auditorium. Sponsored by VCU film committee.

Ever wonder what Gay people are like? Come to the **Gay Alliance of Students** meeting on Wednesday nights at 9:30 in the McCabe House, 901 Floyd Avenue.

Thursday

Every Thursday, 7-8:00 p.m., at Pace, 700 W. Franklin, is choir rehearsal to sing **The Christian Folk Musical, Celebrate Life!** It is fun! We need sopranos, altos, tenors, bases and anything in between. If you like to sing, please join us. All are invited.

The University of Richmond Players present **Scapino**, tonight at 8:15 p.m. at the Camp University Fine Arts Center. For more information and reservations call 285-6397 from 8:30 to 5 p.m.

Men's and Women's **Regional and Eastern Swimming Championships** today through Saturday, away. For more information call 770-4003 or 770-2720.

See **A Touch of Evil** and **Special Section** at the Biograph now through Sunday. 353-3978.

Crack The Sky in the Business Building Auditorium 8 p.m. Tickets are on sale at 901 Floyd, \$2.50 students and \$3.50 gen. public.

Friday

Rafael Druian will be the guest conductor and soloist with the Richmond Sinfonia today and tomorrow at the Scottish Rite Temple at 8:30 p.m. For more information, call 788-1212.

Saturday

Spring Vacation begins at noon today and ends Sunday March 12 at 8 a.m.

The Empire Theater will present two performances of **Hay Fever** today at 2 and 8 p.m. For more information call 782-1976.

The first **VCU Men's baseball** game will be played against Hampden-Sydney (home game) at 3 p.m.

Sunday

Lutheran Campus Ministry has a **worship service, Free dinner and a program** every Sunday night, 5:30 p.m. Everyone's invited. Lutheran Campus Ministry 1603 Monument Avenue.

The **Barter Theater**, "Hay Fever" playing at the Empire Theater at 2 p.m. today only. Tickets are \$5, \$6 and \$7. Call for tickets at 782-1911.

Monday

Art, Literature and Religion in Medieval France will be the theme of a symposium to be presented at Randolph Macon College today through Wednesday. The public is invited to attend free of charge. For further information call 798-8372, ext. 238.

Kaleidoscope

By Cece Brooks

Now that cramming for those midterms is finally over and vacation time approaches how about giving campus entertainment attractions a thorough going-over before going away or whatever?

Try starting the week off with a couple of good movies. The Biograph offers **Knife in the Water** and **Shadows of Forgotten Ancestors**, until Wednesday. The Biograph theater is located at 814 W. Grace Street. Also on Wednesday, **Mark of Zorro** is being shown at 10 p.m. in the Business building auditorium. Free Admission.

This weekend VCU athletes are in **Regional competition**. Men's Wrestling will be holding their regional wrestling championships all day at William and Mary College. The women's and men's **swimming teams** are having their Regional Championships Eastern Swimming Championships.

Before taking off, here are some reminders of things to do before leaving.

... The **last day to process a change of major** for the fall semester on the academic campus is also March 3.

... Entries for the **Miss Richmond Pageant**, sponsored by ichmond Pageants Inc., must be in by March 4. For more information and forms, phone Mrs. Theakston 798-7089.

... The **last day to drop a course with a grade of "W"** on the MCV campus is Friday March 3.

... **Spring vacation begins at noon on both campuses Saturday March 4** and ends Sunday March 12 at 8 a.m.

... Summer advance registration begins on the academic campus Monday March 6.

Some other things to think about over vacation are: Contests. **Writers you can win \$100, \$50, or \$25** in cash and book prizes for best short story, humorous essay or other short pieces between 250 and 1100 words if you enter the Collegiate Creative Writing Contest, whose deadline is April 25. For rules and official entry forms, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to International Publications, 4747 Fountain Avenue, Department C-3, Los Angeles CA 90029. Also for the writers: you can contribute to a **literary forum**. Bring a typed copy of your writings to 323 Hibbs or 433 Hibbs. We want to publish your work, whether it's poetry, prose, creative or critical analysis.

... If you are an undergraduate college student who is a photographer or picture editor you are invited to compete in the **annual Joseph Ehrenreich National Press Photographers Association Scholarships** contest for 1978. Two \$500 scholarship prizes will be awarded. Applicants need not be journalism majors but must show aptitude and potential in the making or use of photographs in communication and must intend to pursue a career in journalism. The deadline is April 1.

... **Scholarships**. The Italian Class offers scholarships of \$500 each for their 1978 Summer Program at the University of Perugia to students enrolling Italian classes at VCU. For more information see or call Dr. Antonio Musullo Room 311, Foreign language dept., VCU. 901 W. Franklin Street, 770-7241.

CLASSIFIEDS

Classifieds are put into the paper based on a first come, first serve basis. If your classified did not appear in this week's paper please submit another one. The deadline for the

March 14th issue will be Thursday, March 2nd at noon.

Send or drop your classified by at the

Commonwealth Times, 916 W. Franklin St., Richmond, 23284

Roommates

Roommate: to share nice new 2 br. southside apt. with male. Need someone by March 1, live now till then "Free". Rent \$110.00 plus 1/2 util. Call days 358-9167, after 6 p.m. 745-3715.

Wanted: 3 bedroom house or apt. with yard in or near the fan, for June 1st. Must allow pets. Call 359-2346 or 359-5153, leave name and number.

Nice 5 BR Apt for sublease. Va. Museum area. \$200/mo incl heat & water 358-3282.

Need female roommate to share 2BR apt near MCV. Rent & util. & phone approx \$90 mo. Immed. occupancy. After 6: 222-5708.

Fan Apt. and female roommate needed. Prefer 2 bedroom apt. and reasonably quiet roommate. Call Donna after 4 p.m., 745-1287 or leave message at 266-0723.

Looking For Male to share apartment in the fall, an upperclassman either Jr. or Sr. Would like to start looking as possible, hopefully close to VCU. Call Howard at 359-0794 or 770-6589.

Have very nice apartment overlooking Meadow Park on Park Ave. Have a bedroom open for non-smoking individual at \$85/month plus \$7.50 utilities. 355-6323, Mary or Karin.

Wanted: Person to share 3 bedroom house in upper fan (2500 block Floyd Ave). Call 359-1594 after 6 p.m.

Female Roommate: wanted to share warm and sunny 2 br. apt. Park Ave. call Carol 358-2756.

Female Roommate to share clean 2-bedroom apt. off Staples Mill, \$95/mo. incl. heat. Util. about \$15/mo. per person. Air Conditioned, pool, tennis courts. Convenient to I-64 and MCV. 770-4525 day, 266-2241 home.

Misc.

Wanted: Windshield for Audi 100LS 1970-73. Call 788-8170.

Laurel's Honor Society of VCU is now accepting applications for spring semester. For more info and an application inquire at the Ask-It Booth or see Phyllis Mabel, 913 W. Franklin or Jocelyn Owens, Cabanis Hall MCV.

Got a Problem? Come to Union Ministries, 700 W. Franklin on Thursdays from 1-3 p.m.. Ask for Anita.

Empty Vita? Get community experience volunteer receptionist needed for planned parenthood clinic, Friday nights 6:45-9:30, phone 353-5511 days, 265-4567 nights.

Handyman-Moving, minor carpentry, yard work, home improvements, odd jobs. Call Andrew nights, 355-6220.

Experienced female blues/jazz singer would like to join band or vocal ensemble. call Claudia at 355-9026.

Easy \$\$\$ — Let me record your Dave Gardner albums or sell them to me. Will pay you either way. Day: 770-4050, Night: 233-4611, ask for Doug.

Want to get away for the weekend? Meet new friends? Talk about what is important to YOU? Join us for a Christian retreat at Camp Hanover, March 31 and April 1, for only \$9. Sponsored by VCU Campus Ministries. Call Carter at 644-1744 or 643-5229.

Grace Place's extravaganza of homecooked meals, our own jack flash will amaze you each night with gourmet cuisine to titillate your taste buds and tickle your tummy. Full wine list and imported beers. Open all day 11:30-9:00. Grace Place, 626 W. Grace St. above the organic food store.

Guide positions available May through October with Wilderness Voyagers Inc. Guided River Trips. Must be 18 years of age or older, have current Red Cross Advanced First-aid and Senior Lifesaving cards, previous experience in working with people, and paddling experience. For additional information contact the placement office at 412-329-4752.

Trip to Mexico, July 17-August 19, 1978. It is a work-study-travel seminar including two weeks in orientation and two weeks of service in Mexican communities. For information call Brenda at 644-1744 or 643-5229. For application contact Rev. Walter A. Whitehurst, 916 Lake Dr., Bedford, Va. 24532, no later than March 1.

Make good money part time—campus representative needed for fun and easy to sell product—no gimmicks—proven campus winner—we show you how—send name, address, phone no., school, year of graduation along with self-addressed stamped envelope to The Magical Fantasy Co.; 136 Lakeshore Dr.; Marlboro, Ma. 01752.

Picture and Fashion magazines needed for fan area rest homes. If you have any to donate call Michelle at 355-2990.

Lost: Texas Instrument TI-30 Calculator in blue case in Rm. 1116B Bus. Bldg. If found, return to: Dennis Jarvis, 821 W. Franklin St., Scherer Hall A202, Richmond, Va. 23284, 355-9668.

All Students are invited to the writing lab for writing assistance! Located in 330 Hibbs, the lab is open each day (8-3) and Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday evenings (6-9).

Wanted to Buy 1976 J.R.R. Tolkien Calendar. Call 770-2122 days, ask for David John.

Anyone interested in joining or assisting the newly formed debate team, please call 276-2853.

Attention all art and fashion design students! Interested in displaying or selling your work in a local shop?? Call Mrs. Hall (VCU Graduate, 1972) at 321-7077, Mon-Fri 10-7 and Sat. 9-6.

The VCU English Club is presently soliciting writings for the English Department's literary magazine, the Literary Forum. Contributions may be prose or poetry, creative or analytical. Manuscripts should be typed and taken to either 323 or 433 Hibbs. The English Club meets every Thursday at 12:50. Meeting sites are 433 Hibbs unless otherwise announced. The March agenda includes a poetry workshop and a medieval dinner. We encourage all interested parties to attend.

My name is Roger Clayton Siora and I am a federal prisoner at the federal correctional institution in Morgantown, W. Va. My interests are: reading, writing poetry & SHORT STORIES, WEIGHT LIFTING, MUSIC, ETC. I'd like to correspond with anyone. Mr. R.C. Siora #00801-103, Box 1000—G Unit, Morgantown, W. Va. 26505.

For Sale

For Sale: Panasonic Stereo/Cassette/Radio. Listed "Best Component System" by consumer reports. 276-2853 or 355-3517.

Nice folk guitar w/hard case (Lyle Hummingbird) in good cond. \$110 nego. Call Teri-Kay at 355-9697.

Wanted to buy am-fm stereo radio or stereo cassette unit; either must be in dash unit. Also looking for CB radio or any description just cheap! Call 353-4714 after 8 p.m. or 649-6341 days, ask for bill.

Free Puppy-part Dalmation-part Bird dog?? Free to good home. Pleasant disposition. Affectionate, unless you can provide reasonable companionship to lovable animal please do not respond. Ask for Kathy or "Midge", 355-6329 anytime.

Convertible Buick special 215 V8, #7 insp. good running cond., great for restoration. \$200. Glen 770-7321.

Canon FTb chrome body; Canon Macro Lens FD 50 mm 1:3.5 with Canon Life Size Adapter. Like new, bargain prices. Omega enlarger B22, complete beginning darkroom equipment. 355-0523.

Honda 74 CB550-4 great running cond. needs pipes and back tire, otherwise exc. cond. Fitted cover, two helmets, padded S-bar, luggage rack, crash bars, shop manual \$800. 770-7321, Glen.

Puppy—6 mos. old female—available to any good home. Has had full vet care. 358-2444.

For Sale: Full size brown couch. Well used, but still quite functional and in sturdy condition; \$5. Call 353-3547.

For Sale: VW Station Wagon, rebuilt engine, just tuned new battery, FM stereo 8 track, \$1,000. 1989 Toyota Corolla, new engine, new trans, new radiator, new gas tank, AM-FM radio, reclining bucket seats, \$1,295.00. Rick Ryder, 1491 A. Brownleaf Dr. Phone 272-4243.

'87 Jumper' Plymouth Barracuda, runs good, recent inspection, automatic with power steering, \$700 or best offer. Call 276-6743 after 5:30 p.m. or anytime weekends.

For Sale: 2 Honda 350cc cycles. 1 runs good and the other for parts. Excellent buy for both at only \$300. Call Kenny after 6:00 at 644-6168.

For Sale—Couch, full size, brown, vinyl, brand new. 358-2444. **For Sale**—Leather boots, size 9, barely worn, 358-2444.

For Sale: 1967 Pontiac Catalina, 4 door, V-8, auto trans, power steering/brakes, A/C, radio. Exceptionally strong and dependable. Very clean, new tires, tune-up, shocks, card, muffler/pipes, etc. Don't pass this excellent car up or you'll be saying "wow, I could've had a V-8." \$600.00 or best offer. Call John. 843-6384.

For Sale: Custom built, king size waterbed. Less than 1 year old. Frame is brown. Great condition, \$115.00. Call 353-9664. (Keep trying if not home).

Rides

Are you going to New York City with a van or station wagon during spring break? If you can make a stop in Brooklyn to pick up 2 small pieces of furniture and deliver to me in Richmond, I will help you out with your transportation expenses. Call 740-5759 after 5 p.m.

Ride Needed: to Phila. area leaving after 10 p.m. March 3. Call 358-8937.

Ride needed Friday March 3 to Danville, Va. Able to leave after 12 p.m. Willing to help with gas. Call Nancy 358-2097.

Wanted people to go on one day ski trip to Wintergreen on March 3. Call Cheryl or Neil at 353-1859.

Help Stranded in Va. over spring break, unless you can provide ride to my southern beach. Call 358-9837. Leave anytime, will help with expenses.



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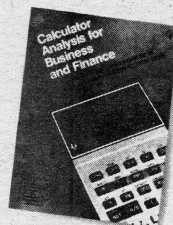
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