

COMMONWEALTH TIMES

Summer Issue 1979



Jon Richardson

Selling Baseball
To Richmond

BEFORE YOU GO BACK TO SCHOOL, TAKE A MINUTE TO TAKE THIS TEST.

1. You finally get a date with that knockout in your Political Science class, you're going out in 15 minutes and you've got \$2.59 in your pocket. What do you do?

- A. Borrow \$10 from your roommate (that brings the grand total to \$84.50).
- B. Spend the evening at Burger Chef.
- C. Call off the whole thing and drop Poli Sci.
- D. Stop by the 24-hour Cash Flow* teller in the Hibbs Building and get the cash you need.

2. In a moment of genuine insanity, you fork over a \$50 down payment on a new watch for that certain someone. The check should be bouncing any minute now. What do you do?

- A. Sell Blood.
- B. Consider a part-time job.
- C. Consider a full-time job.
- D. Go directly to the Cash Flow teller at Hibbs and transfer \$50 from savings to checking.

3. It's 3 a.m., you've been up all night cramming for finals when suddenly the munchies attack. Dial-A-Pizza is open, the banks are closed and you're flat broke. What do you do?

- A. Borrow \$5 from your roommate (bringing the grand total to \$89.50).
- B. Break into the candied yams left over from Mom's care package.
- C. Hold out for powdered eggs when the cafeteria opens.
- D. Dash over to the Cash Flow teller at Hibbs.

4. You're in the weekly poker game. It's five-card stud and you're holding three ladies. The clown across the table just raised your bet, you're out of chips and you think he's bluffing. What do you do?

- A. Fold.
- B. Cheat.
- C. Put up your '79 Fiat.
- D. Excuse yourself from the table, cut out for the Hibbs Building and get the cash to call his bluff.

5. Tickets for the Dire Straits concert go on sale first thing in the morning. It's 10 p.m. now and there's already a line. If you don't get some money fast you'll be sitting up in the rafters. What do you do?

- A. Sell your books.
- B. Find a scalper and pay the price.
- C. Forget the concert and wait for the "live" album.
- D. Grab your sleeping bag and Cash Flow card and drop by Hibbs on your way.

6. It's Sunday, mid-terms are over, and everybody's heading for the mountains. Everybody but you, unless you come up with some cash in a hurry. What do you do?

- A. Stay home with a cold six-pack.
- B. Forget it. Your roommate cut you off at \$89.50.
- C. Sell your roommate's books.
- D. Cash Flow at Hibbs, one more time.



ANSWERS: The answer to all the questions above is the card below. What every student on this campus needs is a way of getting to the bank without actually going to the bank. A place where they can get cash on the spur of the moment. And carry on any routine banking transaction 24 hours a day, seven days a week, without setting foot off campus. If that sounds a little too good to be true, wait till you get back to VCU this fall. While you're away for the summer, we're busy installing a 24-hour Cash Flow* teller in the Hibbs Building. And the simple key to using it is the Cash Flow card you see here and a Personal Identification Number no one sees but you. To get everything you need, including an application, stop by the Virginia National office nearest you or fill out and send in the coupon. That way, by the time you get back to school you'll be holding all the cards with one card. The Cash Flow card from Virginia National.

VIRGINIA NATIONAL BANK Member FDIC © 1979

State _____ Zip _____
City _____
Address _____
Name _____

SEND TO:
Mr. Marvin Daniel, Marketing Officer
Virginia National Bank
707 East Main Street, Richmond, VA 23219
Quick, send me everything I need to get a Cash Flow card.



CRUCIAL FACTS

The *Commonwealth Times*, a news magazine serving the Virginia Commonwealth University community, is published every Tuesday—except during vacations and examination periods—by students of VCU.

Our offices are located in the Millhiser House, 916 W. Franklin Street, Richmond, VA 23284. Telephone: (804) 257-1058.

The subscription rate is \$5 per year. Please allow three weeks for delivery. Address all correspondence concerning subscriptions to the circulation manager.

The opinions expressed in the *Commonwealth Times* are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of VCU or the *Times*.

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The *Commonwealth Times* is a member of the Virginia Intercollegiate Mass Communications Association, and is printed by Herald-Progress Printing, Ashland, VA. Press run: 10,000.

The *Commonwealth Times* is partially funded by VCU Student Activities Fees.

Summer Issue, 1979

COVER: Photos and Design by Rob Sauder

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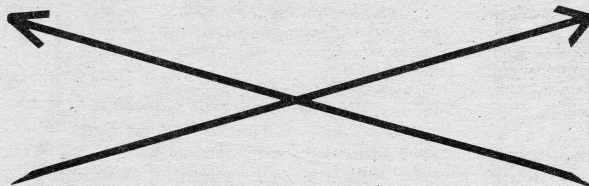
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"Everyone knows that damage is done to the soul by bad motion pictures."

—Pope Pius XI.
Vigilanti cura, 1936

COLLEGE CAMPUS COMMENTS



"THE purpose of the Student Government organization is to maintain and strengthen a democratic relationship between the student body and the faculty, and to provide freedom in individual and group action as long as that action contributes to the welfare of the college."

Wigwam, 1950
Richmond Professional Institute,
College of William and Mary

LOCAL SCENE LACKS CONTINUITY

THE *Commonwealth Times* is approaching its tenth anniversary. In the fall of 1969, Richmond Professional Institute's *Proscript*, a twice-weekly magazine, gave way to this: VCU's potpourri. The days of college protest are over for the present, and we aren't exactly the activist students of yesteryear. We aren't so apathetic that we don't notice the university either, like the *Commonwealth Times* of a few years ago. No, we walk some thin line between immersion in the baseness of school politics, to a little more diffuse look at what's around us—nothing less than everything urban, the beauty and the mess. Staffs of the *Commonwealth Times* past share this dilemma with us: which way to lean, what to cover, what the readers want. It's not a breeze, and we're often in the middle of controversy, but we are still here—thriving like weeds in parking lots.

The threat of activism is gone, and that legacy of VCU's past may be diminishing: Perhaps VCU's image has transcended "Hippie University," and is rising to more sophisticated heights with a buzzline on concerns for the eighties. Things are mellow here, with cool jazz and the elegant charm of disco wisp through the halls of dormitories. Students daily come closer to the legendary "New Era of Respectability," leaving behind the fishy rejection of American values of a decade ago, instead embracing the unharnessed power of the uninhibited human will. Even the *Commonwealth Times* has lost its radical punch, and now is merely an annoyance through the chain-mail defense of the university elite, those policy-making standard bearers of charm and discreet social

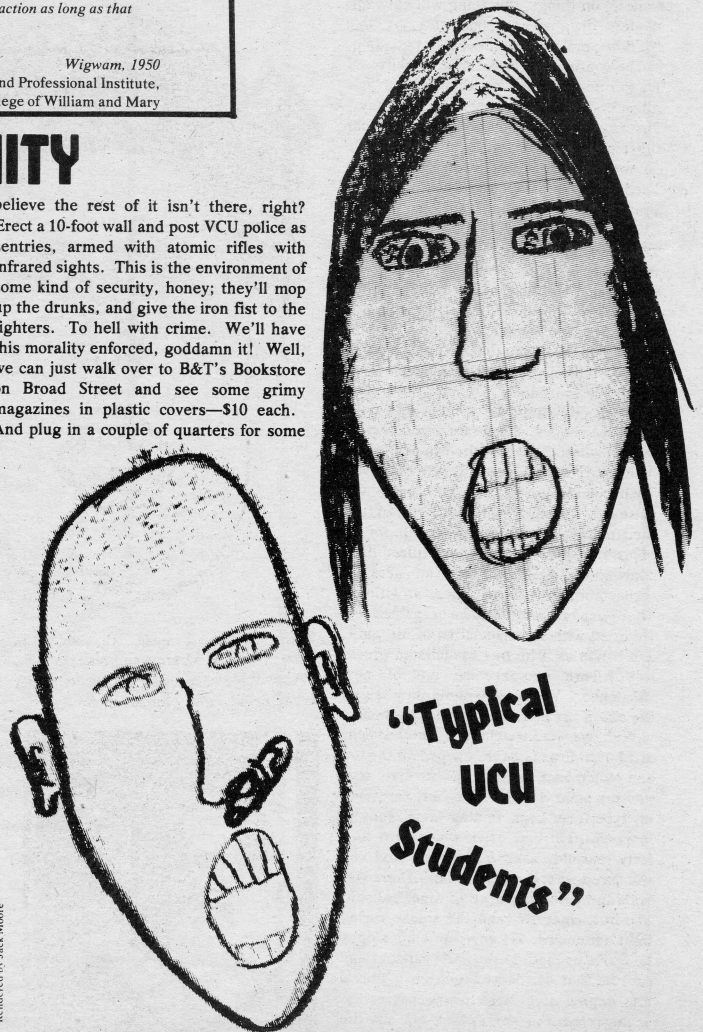
manners destined to knock the socks off our contemporary expression. It's all faded to a dull thud on campus. The Physical Plant workers are finally taking it easy for a change, and frankly, we're so bored we don't know what to do with ourselves.

While there may be a large collection of reading material in the library, the drunks and fights and police assaults on Grace Street are prolific examples of a faceless temper in the human soul, blind aggression flamed by hot spirits on the street-corner. No, this is not your blind interpretation of what goes on anywhere, this is not like fountain water ladled down your throat. These are the confused ravings of a typewriter-addicted wretch with an abundance of time....Thinking of the hot nights and fights on Grace Street, of student life for students whose heads are reeling with the frenzy of youth, of all the potential for human expression in a twisted Grace Street bar crowd.

This is the environment VCU grew up in, in all its squalor, with filthy insects crawling up the arms of malnourished and mistreated children with guilty consciences. This is the urban chaos mandated us by the General Assembly, and the university is contemptuous of it. What future is there in filth, ignorance, street waifs, gangs, organized crime? The traditional degenerate VCU youth is being wiped off the polished slate of academia—and it's so clean, we can't see ourselves because of the polish.

There really is ivy in front of the President's House, and it's real ivy too, so look out. We're in the city, but to hell with it. We can put up a front, and eventually

believe the rest of it isn't there, right? Erect a 10-foot wall and post VCU police as sentries, armed with atomic rifles with infrared sights. This is the environment of some kind of security, honey; they'll mop up the drunks, and give the iron fist to the fighters. To hell with crime. We'll have this morality enforced, goddamn it! Well, we can just walk over to B&T's Bookstore on Broad Street and see some grimy magazines in plastic covers—\$10 each. And plug in a couple of quarters for some



Rendered by Jack Moore

Ivy—An evergreen climbing plant, growing in hedges, woods, on old buildings, rocks, and trunks of trees.

flicking skin, and a few squirts of wisdom, holy water. This is no two-bit production, and it's taken us 10 years to get here—but it took Grace Street a hell of a lot longer. I pity all the art students who aren't allowed to experience *that* depravity close up. We can have some extravagance, but let's keep it social, and not something different. I think we students have something to be proud of, and it's not our money they want. I'll take my shirt off and show you my scars, if you'll show me yours. Something you'll adore, for sure. The tedium of working on things, this thing will kill your average drug user in about 10 years, and we'll be smoking like a burning tenement.

The confusion is wearing grey skirts. I try to remember the last thing I read. It's all so boring, and I'm not helping it any. Just tired, slinking around looking at what other people are doing, looking suspicious so some police officer wants to beat my head in with a leaden stick, just pound my brains to a bloody pulp. This is no fiction. This is the once-civilized man screaming and foaming with terror at the claws of useless insignificance tearing his soft belly with zest....Ho, ho, so you thought I was some sort of pussy, but I'm nobody's fool....Six inch blade...four inch blade...two inch blade. Shoot to kill...you'll have to shoot to kill. The insane gleam, the razor teeth, the snorting.

Everybody shuts the window and pulls down the shades. Inside they're doing I'll tell not what. They put their hands on his body. He couldn't keep still. He quivered. Their hands tormented him. He was extremely upset. They took it in, all of it in their roaring ovens, punishing him for all of his transgressions. He bastardized their conventions, tried to give an aura of respectability to his relentless agitation. They gave him more than he bargained for. He cried with the ejaculation of his guilt, and it was as if he had assimilated grace, was reborn and become full of new substance. With maidenhair they wiped the oil off his feet, and he blessed them.

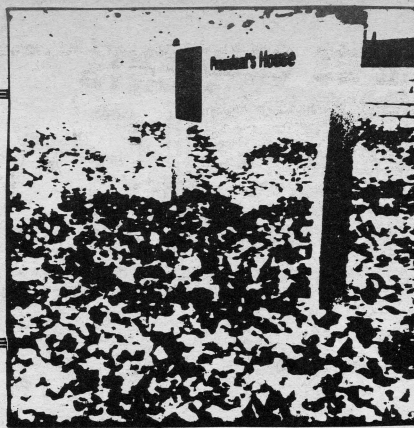
Well, we were watching it on television, and I went to get a beer. I wiped off the top and pulled back the tab. A little foam shot into my palm. I sat next to her, caressing my typewriter keys, finding them ready to respond. He had never made love to a forty-year-old woman before, and he wondered what it would be like. There was nothing worse than wasting time, bullshit. She lit a cigarette, and the smoke curled from her nostril. He gave her a big sloppy kiss. He opened up the VCU catalog, and said he had decided on getting a liberal arts degree at a large urban university, sequestered from the audacity of city life like a cemetery. I've got a thatch of ivy

ready for a little academic probing, she said.

It was cocktail hour in Mad King's. Jim always wore his jacket at dinner, whether ladies were present or not. It was simply good manners, and he was no uncultured specimen. He sipped his glass of chablis, and forked a few tender baby peas into his mouth, wiping himself meticulously with a soft cloth napkin. Suddenly he needed to move his bowels and regurgitate simultaneously. He felt paralyzed. The waiter rushed over and shook him, but it was



already too late...a mess. He expired in embarrassment. There was great clanking of forks on plates as other patrons felt their savage blood calling for an encore. ☆ ☆



Our college experience helps us relate to others



SHORTS



Tim Wright

City Council Adopts Human Rights Ordinance

In a long-awaited decision, Richmond City Council changed the city code on May 29 to include a chapter on human rights. The ordinance was first proposed by the Human Relations Commission last summer. In its final amended version, the paper set the city's policies on human rights as they pertain to definitions, housing practices, city contracts, credit practices and functions of the Human Relations Commission.

Several citizens and group representatives spoke in favor of the ordinance, including the Baptist Ministers Conference, the International Association of Professional Black Firefighters, the Richmond Urban League, the League of Women Voters, and the Richmond Gay Rights Association. Most of the speakers noted the absence of certain parts of the original paper. Two major categories were omitted from protected classes—sexual orientation and ancestry.

Others spoke in opposition to the proposal, among them Carlton Moffat of

the Chamber of Commerce. Moffat stated that no need had been displayed for the measure, and said it would only serve to hurt small businesses. A representative of the Retail Merchants Association also spoke in opposition.

The ordinance passed in a 5-4 vote.

In other business, Council approved the city budget for the 1979-80 fiscal year, which includes over \$210 million in the general fund and over \$30 million in the capital improvements fund. Council held public hearings for the proposed budget during the months of April and May.

Councilman Wayland Rennie announced his plans to leave Council by the end of August. Rennie noted health factors, his desire to spend more time with his family and his real estate business as reasons for his decision. Rennie represents the second district, which includes part of the Fan. Council will have the task of appointing a second district resident to fill that vacancy.

—Suzette Poupore

Duvall Replaces Furhmann In Student Affairs

After seven years as an administrator here, Dr. Steven D. Furhmann has decided to leave VCU. Dr. William H. Duvall, associate dean of student services, will replace Furhmann as assistant to the vice president for student affairs on July 1.

Furhmann said he is leaving VCU to "walk the Appalachian Trail." He also cited a lack of "intellectual stimulation" at VCU and in Richmond, a desire to travel and "to spend some time in the wilderness" as reasons for his wanting to leave. He also said that it was bad for senior administrators to become dependent on or dominant in an organization, and that a change of leadership was necessary.

Furhmann said he was active at VCU as an "organizational change agent or gadfly for change." He came to VCU in 1972 as assistant dean of student life. He has served as assistant to the vice president for student affairs for two years, although the position was not officially created until the 1978-79 academic year.

While Furhmann has no definite plans concerning what he will do when he finishes traveling, he would "pretty much always work as an educator."

Duvall views his new job as a "combination of what I have been doing all along, and some of what Steve did." Some of the roles that he thinks will be included in his new job are fiscal administrator for the office of Student Affairs, key contact person for the Student Affairs staff, and liaison between the student affairs division and the university personnel office.

—Steve Landes

Price To Fill New Position

The new position of assistant vice president for academic affairs, approved by the Board of Visitors at its May 17 meeting, will be filled by Dr. William C. Price from the University of Illinois at Chicago Circle.

According to Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Wayne C. Hall, the position was created because "all the academic support units were transferred to academic affairs." Price will be handling these services, including admissions, registrar's office, university libraries, special services, the Center for Improving Teaching Effectiveness, general studies and audiovisual services.

Price, who will receive a salary of \$40,000, was chosen from a pool of approximately 280 applicants, according to Hall. Hall said the university was looking for qualifications such as a doctorate, and teaching and academic experience.

The new academic officer has more than 20 years of experience in education administration and teaching, with emphasis in the areas of admissions and registrar operations, and in the field of management of data processing systems.

Before accepting this position, which

begins July 1, Price was director of admissions and records and associate professor of education at the University of Illinois. His previous administrative experience was gained at the University of Oklahoma, at the University of Missouri, and in the public school systems of Missouri.

—Sue Higginbotham

Library Disposes Of Books

VCU's James Branch Cabell Library has quietly thrown away a number of unwanted, damaged books, according to an anonymous source.

The source said that two library employees were directed by another staff member to "put the books in crates so they wouldn't be seen by anybody." The books were then put into the library's dumpster. "The entire dumpster was filled to the rim with books," the source said.

While the library disposes of books every year, the source said, it usually sends its unwanted books to prisons and various organizations.

Janet McNeil, head of the library's collections department, said that the books disposed of were "damaged textbooks" not from the library's collection. However, the source said that not all the books were textbooks and that they did not seem too damaged to be used, but were just "old and boring."

—Sue Higginbotham

Other Campuses Questioning Own Student Governments

Questions concerning student government are arising on other campuses around the nation as well as on our own.

According to the *National On-Campus Report*, 73 percent of the voting students at Northwestern University have chosen to find alternatives to student government. They elected a candidate who promises to handle this "alternative" reform more seriously than he did his campaign.

The student government elected last year at the University of Wisconsin-Madison never viewed their responsibility with any seriousness. Although the "Pail and Shovel Party" duo is seeking re-election, many objections have been raised against these types of humorist officials. This was made evident recently when a quorum of the senate called for the impeachment of their vice-president.

The University of Georgia's Student President Harold Mulherin not only ran on an abolitionist platform, but also made good his campaign promise. The student government was abolished completely by a two-to-one margin. Mulherin suggests that since its power to distribute student fees has been retracted, the senate has been "unnecessary" and its existence has presented a "waste of \$36,000." While the

old government's judicial branch will function as a separate operation, Mulherin will move ahead with more pressing concerns, like beer sales on campus.

United Press International reports that Minnesota Twins outfielder Bombo Rivera didn't bother to campaign—he didn't even accept a nomination—but he got 971 write-in votes in the University of Minnesota election for student body president. Rivera, who probably wasn't aware of last week's elections, got nearly 400 more votes than two other university students who did campaign. Rivera was supported by a

group called the Committee for Student Apathy. Sue Gjense, who won the election with 1,158 votes, said Rivera's showing "is too bad. It shows what a significant number of students think about student government."

According to the *NOCR*, student interest seems to be improving elsewhere. In April, Dartmouth held elections for 32 positions on a newly organized Undergraduate Council. Ninety-three applicants vied for these positions in order to form the first student government in 11 years. And at Virginia Tech, a recent student government write-in campaign for "Nobody" received only 2 percent of the vote.

—Catherine D. Stinson

Committee Releases Recommendations For Health Services

Recommendations for improving the student health service were released last month by the Student Health Services Advisory Committee in its interim report.

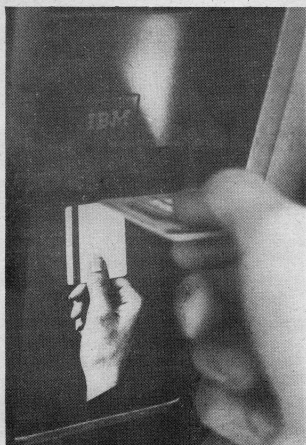
One of its recommendations—increasing the student health services fee from \$29 to \$36—has already been followed up by action of the University Assembly, which agreed to the increase at its last meeting.

Steve Furhmann, assistant to the vice president for student affairs, and chairman of the committee at the time the report was released, said that while there was "considerable support for an improved health service," the other recommendations were now at a "discussion phase," and would not be acted on immediately.

The recommendations included employing a physician to direct a university-wide service; requiring all full-time students to enroll in the service (currently, the enrollment is mandatory only for dorm residents on the academic campus, and full-time medical campus students; encouraging other students to enroll; and concentrating infirmary services on the academic campus.

The 16-member committee has been meeting since last November, when it was organized by Vice President for Student Affairs, Dr. Richard I. Wilson. Dean of Student Services Phyllis Mable became chairwoman of the committee this month, replacing Furhmann, who is leaving the university July 1.

—Sue Higginbotham



DAVID FROSTO

Automatic Cash Flow Bank Installed In Hibbs Building

When First and Merchants closed its branch at the corner of Harrison and Floyd last year, VCU students were left without a bank in easy walking distance. This situation will change by July 1, when Virginia National Bank opens a Cash Flow branch on the first floor of the Hibbs Building.

Since Cash Flow is a totally mechanized banking system, it will be open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. According to Virginia National's Marketing Director Marvin Daniel, the system can handle from 90 to 95 percent of all banking transactions.

Representatives from the bank will be on campus during Summer Orientation, Advising, and Registration to open student accounts. It will take two to three weeks for new members to receive the plastic card necessary to activate the keyboard. To guard against the use of stolen cards, members will also have individual identification numbers.

To open a checking account, students must have a \$50 minimum balance. There will be a \$2 service charge on accounts with average monthly balances under \$100.

Lou Saksen, VCU's director of facilities planning and construction, cited the unit's on-line computer system as its strongest advantage. This feature enables students to get an "up to the minute" balance on their savings or checking accounts by pushing a button.

Another advantage of the Cash Flow system is that students will be able to pay utility bills through the computer. Members can withdraw or deposit any amount and transfer funds from one account to another.

Janet Northen, a spokeswoman for Virginia National's marketing department, said the bank was interested in VCU since "there's no competition in the Fan."

—Terry Atkinson

Donations



by Sue Higginbotham

While alumni of VCU may support the university in many ways—encouraging promising students to apply here, praising the university, and pushing the legislature to give funding—the “only real measure” of their support is “how much money they are giving to VCU,” says Director of Alumni Activities James Dunn.

Dunn runs VCU's Annual Giving Fund, where those who give money to the university are encouraged to continue contributing year to year.

Dunn said the annual fund is operated as if it were 12 separate funds, one for each of VCU's schools. Graduates of the 12 schools are encouraged to support their particular school.

Most of the gifts, Dunn said, are restricted by the donors “to a particular purpose” or restricted to use in a particular school. “We are required when we accept a gift to follow the [donor's] restrictions,” Dunn said. “Money that is restricted to the schools is spent by the deans; unrestricted money is spent by the president.” Last year, donors selected about 400 ways for their money to be used.

Dunn said the money is spent “through the usual process of requisitioning, purchasing and auditing” as is the rest of VCU's money.

Some donor-placed restrictions cannot be accepted by the university, Dunn said, for reasons of legality (placing discriminatory stipulations on the recipient of a scholarship, for example) or impracticality. Dunn mentioned one instance when “someone sent us a check to establish a law school, and we really weren't planning on a law school—and \$10 wouldn't do it, anyway.” In these cases, Dunn said, the university will talk with donors to “turn their contributions into something we can do.” Because of these talks, Dunn said, very few contributions have to be returned to the donor.

Ralph M. Ware Jr., director of development for VCU, noted that “in addition to money, people want to give us things”—known as “gifts in kind.” Dunn said that the problem here was determining whether

the gifts were of any value to the university. “A lot of times people will have things that mean a lot to them that they just don't want to toss...but [are] not valuable to the university.” In this case, Dunn said, the university will try to direct the gifts elsewhere.

Ware said that sometimes VCU must “search out the motives for someone's gift...part of our job is to make sure we don't get trapped.” Ware used as an example some donors who begin to make large contributions at about the time that their children are applying for admission to

VCU. Dunn added that “this doesn't happen very frequently” and said that in such cases one “can't compromise the university's position by taking a gift.”

Dunn said that alumni who give to the university must “recognize that the institution made some sort of contribution to the success they're enjoying” and recognize that their own education was funded at least partially through others' money. “Alumni have got to have these kinds of realizations before they're inclined to give,” Dunn explained.

The alumni activities office solicits this

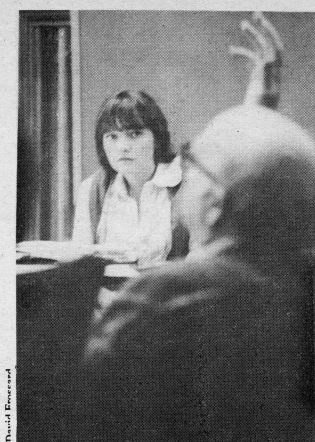
money through direct mailings to its alumni, but Dunn believes other activities, such as the mailing of *VCU Magazine* to alumni, may have a greater effect in drawing donations. “They cause alumni to be more aware of the university,” he said.

The amount of most cash gifts, according to Dunn, falls between \$10 and \$25. The average gift, however, is \$36, since larger donations cause a skewing in the line. Dunn said that for the 1977-78 academic year, 43.4 percent of the gifts went to the academic campus, 56.6 percent to the medical campus. Donors gave larger amounts to the medical campus (72.75 percent of the amount given) than to the academic campus (27.75 percent).

Dunn said that VCU received \$836,000 in donations for 1977-78, a figure which excludes the grants and federal funding that is included in the “Gifts, Grants, and Contracts” section of the VCU financial statement. While this figure is only 0.5 percent of the total amount of university funding, Dunn said it is this money that “permits the university to do things that are innovative and experimental. The private money of a state institution is what makes for the great things it can do.” Dunn mentioned the mass communications department's broadcasting equipment and the participation of business students in the Emory Games at Atlanta (a yearly competition for business students sponsored by Emory University) as examples of things that were made possible through private support.

Like other state-supported colleges, Dunn said, VCU has only recently begun to actively seek contributors. The alumni-giving program was set up in 1971—“a very new program,” Dunn said.

Dunn said that while many private schools depend on donors for their operating budgets, state colleges did not begin to be concerned with donations until about 20 years ago. At the same time, Dunn said, private schools have sought federal dollars. “It's a balancing-out process,” Dunn said. “It would be very interesting to find a university that had enough money.” ☆ ☆



Committee Presents Revised Student Government Constitution To University Assembly

Ad Hoc Committee Chairwoman Terry Atkinson listens as Dr. Ives Townsend raises a point during debate.

by Steve Landes

An Ad Hoc Committee created by the University Assembly to revise a constitution for a proposed student government presented the final product to the assembly June 18. If put into effect this fall, the constitution and the Academic Campus Student Association it represents would replace the present board system under the Council on University Student Affairs.

The Ad Hoc Committee met twice weekly from May 14 until June 11 to revise the constitution. The constitution was first drafted by a student group known as the Retreat Task Force, which was assigned this task by a retreat composed of students on the academic campus. The document presented to the University Assembly was the seventh draft of the constitution since first being drafted by the RTF.

Over the five week period the Ad Hoc Committee met, one controversial topic was the method of ratification of the

document. The committee finally agreed on the statement that "this constitution shall become effective upon approval by: A. The University Assembly and the Board of Visitors; B. A majority of Academic Campus students voting in a referendum in conjunction with the initial election of Senators in the fall semester of 1979 as a part of the spring pre-registration process."

Another topic discussed by the committee was the number of senators needed to constitute a quorum during senate meetings. Dr. Stephen Lenton, associate dean of Student Services and committee member, reminded the committee that the old student government abolished itself because of its inability to obtain a quorum. The committee decided to place in the constitution that the senate needed only a simple majority of its members to constitute a quorum.

The major part of the document is devoted to the student senate and its committees. The senate will be made up of 33 members that are elected from seven constituencies: the School of the Arts, the School of Arts and Sciences, the School of Business, the School of Community Services, the School of Education, the School of Social Work, and those students not affiliated with a school. Chairmen of all senate standing committees serve as ex-officio members of the senate also. The two officers of the senate are its presiding officer and its secretary.

The senate standing committees are grouped into two types: coordinating committees and operating committees. The coordinating committees are the Executive Committee (composed of one senator from each constituency, including the president) the Appointments Committee, and the Inter-Committee Council, which is

composed of the chairmen of each of the senate standing committees. The operating committees are the Judiciary Committee, the Funding Committee, the Services Committee, the Media Committee, the Programming Committee and the Recreation Committee. Each committee will be composed of at least three senators, and students who are appointed by the Appointments Committee. The Inter-Committee Council and Executive Committee are intended to provide checks and balances of power for each other and facilitate communications.

The constitution differs in several ways from the present board system here. Unlike the present system, every student who pays student activity fees on the academic campus will be a member of the student association, including employees who are not faculty members or administrators who pay student activity fees when taking a class. At student senate and senate committee meetings anyone in the university community has the right to speak briefly if the agenda permits. Fifty students signing a petition can propose an amendment to the constitution. Students may also appeal actions of committees within one week of the committees' action.

The Ad Hoc Committee was appointed by President Edmund F. Ackell, and was composed of students Terry Atkinson, Suzette Poupore, Mike Fuller, Barb Gorski, and Tom House; administrators Lenton, Phyllis Mable, dean of Student Services, and Kenneth Ender, coordinator of Student Activities; and faculty members Dr. Keith Crim, professor of philosophy and religion, Dr. Ives Townsend, professor of human genetics, and Dr. Alan Brice-land, professor of history.

☆☆



Wrecking Crews Demolish Temple

Used in turn, as a Presbyterian church, the Scottish Rite Temple, the Gaslight Theatre and a cafeteria for VCU, the Temple building recently went through yet another change—demolition. Temple will be replaced by VCU's Performing Arts Center, to be completed in 1981.

Photos by Charles Sugg





by Ben Blake

Parker Field stands on North in Richmond, close enough to In to echo the backfire of tractor- they gear down for the toll- the kindest thing one can say about is that it is not ostentatious.

There is no impressive skylin subway. Beyond the left field past the freeway is the green Holiday Inn. Three blocks from field bullpen squats a gray, structure called the Arena, motorboat shows and three-round boxing matches.

Parker Field, the Arena, and lot full of police cars and yell trucks are all owned by the Richmond. The city leases Park the Richmond Braves baseball yearly basis.

Last year, more than 200,000 money to get into Parker Field the Richmond Braves play. Those people constituted the seventh attendance in the minor league 26 Triple-A minor league cities. Richmond is 20th in size.

Which is surprising for two First is Richmond's reputation a baseball town." According to claim to know, the city's fans support for a winning team, and ignore a marginal or losing team the Richmond Braves are a sub the major league Atlanta Braves the Milwaukee Braves, form Boston Braves), a team itself three cities in 30 years, that finished first in the National League 1958, and boasts such stars Royster, Rowland Office and a small content named Bob Horner.

Two hundred thousand people thin across the city, equals R

David Frossard



David Foxford

Jon Richardson

Promoting baseball for a better Richmond

by Ben Blake

Parker Field stands on North Boulevard in Richmond, close enough to Interstate 64 to echo the backfire of tractor-trailers as they gear down for the toll booth. The kindest thing one can say about its exterior is that it is not ostentatious.

There is no impressive skyline and no subway. Beyond the left field fence and past the freeway is the green glow of a Holiday Inn. Three blocks from the right field bullpen squats a gray, tar-roofed structure called the Arena, useful for motorboat shows and three-round amateur boxing matches.

Parker Field, the Arena, and a vast oily lot full of police cars and yellow dump trucks are all owned by the city of Richmond. The city leases Parker Field to the Richmond Braves baseball club on a yearly basis.

Last year, more than 200,000 people paid money to get into Parker Field and watch the Richmond Braves play. Those 200,000 people constituted the seventh-best paid attendance in the minor leagues. Among 26 Triple-A minor league cities, of which Richmond is 20th in size.

Which is surprising for two reasons. First is Richmond's reputation as a "bad baseball town." According to those who claim to know, the city's fans show tepid support for a winning team, and entirely ignore a marginal or losing team. Second, the Richmond Braves are a subsidiary of the major league Atlanta Braves (formerly the Milwaukee Braves, formerly the Boston Braves), a team itself ignored by three cities in 30 years, that has not finished first in the National League since 1958, and boasts such stars as Jerry Royster, Rowland Office and a second rate malcontent named Bob Horner.

Two hundred thousand people spread thin across the city, equals Richmond's

entire population. 200,000 people comes close to matching the best yearly attendance in Richmond baseball history.

Braves' general manager Jon Richardson is pleased with these figures. He is pleased with Richmond and pleased with the Braves organization. In fact, he seems pleased with everything. Jon fills me in (rapid-fire Adirondack patois). We are sitting in box seats behind home plate watching batting practice late in the afternoon.

"Well first, we've got a very good working relationship with the city," he

says. "But it wasn't always that way. In 1976, the Braves were about ready to leave Richmond. The general manager at the time thought that the city wasn't treating the Braves well in proportion to other clubs in the league."

"They had long, closed-door sessions with City Manager Bill Leidinger, and came out with an agreement at three o'clock in the morning. What it finally came down to was the toilet paper issue—who was going to pay for the toilet paper. But the city of Richmond and the Braves have had a very good working

arrangement since that agreement was signed. The city has enjoyed it because we've drawn more people."

Richmond has been a schedule stop for minor league teams since 1884, but had the Braves left town in 1976, the loss would have damaged Richmond's shaky baseball rating beyond repair. Most remember the Richmond Virginians, elegant farm team of the Yankees, a team owned by what-must-have-been-a-gentleman named Romeo Champagne. When fan interest declined in the early '60s, Mr. Champagne packed up his farmhands and moved to Toledo, and



Tim Wright

Richmond was without professional baseball for a year.

Luckily, fan interest was waning in Milwaukee, so the Braves marched south to Atlanta, bumping their Triple-A farm team from that city to Richmond. What followed were the greatest years in Richmond baseball as the new R-Braves took the International League flag in 1967.

But during the early '70s, a series of mediocre teams in Braves uniforms trooped through Parker Field—old hacks playing out their years in the minors, young hotshots having risen as high as they could rise. The Braves were generally wiped on by the rest of the International League and attendance dropped to one-quarter of the 1967 record—around 50,000 in 1975, an average of less than 800 per home game. Local sportswriters began writing obituaries.

So the city wasn't happy. Richmond collects an amusement tax on every ticket sold, and not many tickets were being sold. And the cost of maintenance at Parker Field was disquieting, considering the fact that only 10 percent of its seats were in use at any time.

And the Atlanta Braves organization wasn't happy. Most minor league clubs are independently owned and operated by local groups or individuals who affiliate their teams with a major league club, which in turn supplies them with players. But Atlanta and its farm system, from Richmond to Greenwood, N.C., are owned by one man: Ted Turner. "the eccentric millionaire."

On a business level, this means that whatever money the Richmond Braves make is logged in an account at headquarters in Atlanta. The R-Braves' operating expenses come out of this account.

But when the team needs more money

(Continued on page 15)

Jon Richardson

Promoting baseball for
a better Richmond



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Contemporary Art In (or nearby) The Virginia Museum

by Marty Croll

Richmonders have watched as the outside world has persistently breathed vitality into their city: restoration, revitalization, liquor-by-the-drink—signs that a sleepy, Southern fortress was being shaken awake. Yet in the eyes of many art bugs, Richmond's most powerful and able vehicle—the Virginia Museum—has lagged.

Soon after Dr. R. Peter Mooz took over the museum three years ago, he closed the large modern world gallery there and made the space part of a gallery with little emphasis on the 20th century. Later, he and several artists from VCU squabbled over censorship in regard to the museum's contemporary one-man shows—a long-standing museum tradition—and Mooz eventually canceled the shows.

But in early May, the museum opened its Institute of Contemporary Art with an exhibit by New York pop artist Allan D'Arcangelo. Mooz plans for future Institute exhibits to mirror work of the present to the past 20 years, art that speaks now but may never speak again, art whose real value is hard to pinpoint hanging among masterpieces of time-proven worth. And the fact that the Institute is contemporary, in its design and in its ultimate message, is the very reason no one knows what direction future exhibits will take: because "contemporary" changes—every day.

The Institute is being pushed as a self-contained program operating from the museum building which—museum officials are quick to point out—will have its own membership and walk-in entrance. And though the physical space was prepared in a matter of months, the time between Mooz's conception of the idea to its execution took much longer.

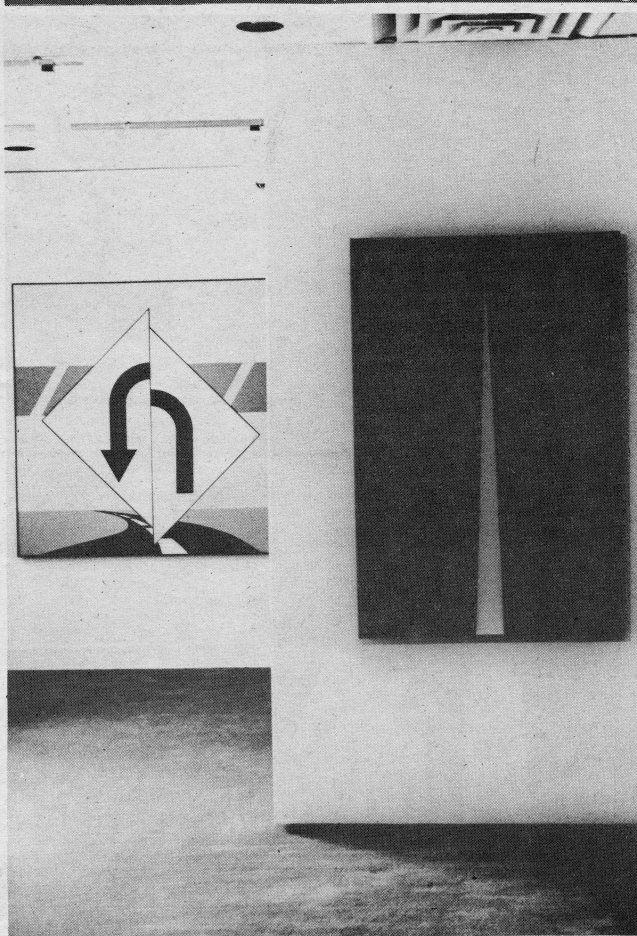
Mooz had just taken over the museum and was on his way to a museum chapter meeting in Danville when he first visualized a rough idea of the ICA. Since his arrival, Mooz had tried to more efficiently organize spaces in the museum, and he had empty space downstairs after the exhibit once housed there was moved to a new wing in 1976.

The contemporary art space Mooz envisioned would be directly below the Virginia living artists sales gallery, and to connect the two would take only a staircase. (They eventually decided that a very compact spiral could afford easy access between the contemporary areas.)

Museum officials first had to work out a budget, which required money from somewhere. "One reason why we wanted separate memberships was because of the additional sources of revenue," said Julia Boyd, supervisor of the ICA sales gallery. While officials awaited a federal matching-funds grant to come through they were all the time working up programs, figuring transportation and insurance costs on

The Institute of Contemporary Art "will help us avoid the problems associated with hanging today's works in our galleries next to the proven masterpieces of the artistic ages."

—Dr. R. Peter Mooz, Virginia Museum Director, at the ICA christening



planned exhibits and so on.

"Then we had to figure the design of the gallery," said Boyd. "Like Dr. Mooz said, it was like starting a whole new museum." The ICA was to be in an old part of the museum (built in 1954), and to revamp heating, air-conditioning, lighting and other physical considerations meant delays.

Boyd is convinced that the final product, the ICA, is flexible enough to house contemporary art. Partitions in mid-room are moveable, able to slide back and forth and into each other to create corners. Some walls are removable, and others can be slid in front of windows to block outside light.

Spotlights slide on tracks. "People have told us it's a lot like a New York museum," one museum official said smugly.

Mooz sees the ICA as an answer to a fine-art museum's problem: How does the Virginia Museum properly recognize non-established artwork and its creators while still remembering that the present is a tiny portion of the art-history panorama? "This area," Mooz said at the ICA's christening, "will help us avoid the problems associated with hanging today's works in our galleries next to the proven masterpieces of the artistic ages."

Shows planned at the institute are a series of one-person, group and thematic

exhibitions, from Virginia, Southeast and national artists in contemporary and traditional media. The two shows after the D'Arcangelo show closes July 1 will both feature Virginia artists.

"We know some state artists are a little wary of what we are doing here," Will Gaines, head of the museum's programs division, was quoted as saying, "but I think we will prove ourselves."

Though other cities that have made the ICA concept successful are much bigger than Richmond—Boston, Chicago and Philadelphia have ICAs—Boyd feels certain the Virginia Museum's attempts will pay off. "Richmond is a very active arts center," she said. "Virginia Commonwealth University has an arts program and there is an inundation of students who are interested in contemporary art. And there is the faculty there, and I've seen an increasing interest on the parts of buyers, collectors and corporations in the area of contemporary art."

One Richmond art critic commented that contemporary art bugs in the city were scarce at the May opening of the D'Arcangelo exhibit. He concluded that Richmond's contemporary art lovers are taking a wait-and-see attitude in view of the museum's uncertain approach to contemporary art.

"We do want to work with everybody," said Gaines. "We will work under the auspices of the museum, with that level of professionalism, the integrity, and because of that, we feel we can do things that others can't. We can get shows that other local galleries might not be able to get." Gaines put into this category arranging more cooperation with other galleries in the area and with Virginia artists, and mentioned a "gallery-hopping night" when all galleries open a show on the same evening. Boyd adds that "The museum wants to support [contemporary art] in a very positive way in the city. We want to educate the public. The more they have a chance to see, the better."

ICA officials, in planning about six months in advance, purposely left holes in ICA scheduling for spontaneity, Boyd said. "When you're showing contemporary art, in six months, what is contemporary might not be contemporary. The normal museum curators have the schedule into 1981 right now."

The ICA is open to the public during regular museum gallery hours from 11 am to 5 pm Tuesday through Saturday, from 1 to 5 pm on Sundays, and during evening performances at the Virginia Museum Theater, next to the ICA on the bottom level of the museum. Eventually the ICA will have its own entrance and thus the ability to be open when the museum is not. ☆ ☆

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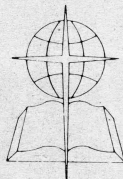
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Sun. 24		26		27		28		29		30
Single Bullet Theory	Moore & Perrin		Brad Smiley		Snuff		Snuff		Snuff	



Confessions of a Tiddlywink Master

Satire by
Jack Moore

Well, Doc, it all started back in high school when my best friend, Tom, made the varsity basketball team. You see, Tom and I had known each other for years, and even though we were best friends, we were very competitive. We were sort of opposites, I guess. Tom was always so outgoing, you know, and could always have just about any girl he wanted. Me, I was always shy and reserved, and if anybody at school knew me, it was usually because I was Tom's friend.

So this one afternoon I was walking home from school and Tom came running up to me from behind to tell me about making the team. Well, I was really happy for him, you know, but at the same time I felt this hunger inside me, and I thought, "Well, why can't I be on some sort of team and be popular like Tom?"

All of a sudden this real foxy cheerleader tapped Tom on the shoulder and asked him real sweetly if he would carry her books for her. Now Tom never carried any school-books home, but he agreed, because he really couldn't have said no to such a doll. Well, they went on ahead of me, arm in arm, and Tom called back over his shoulder, "My first game's this Friday. Why doncha come watch me play?" I said I would.

So Friday came around, and all of Tom's friends were there to cheer him on. I mean everybody was there. Every time Tom would score, the whole side of the gym would just explode. Then, with two seconds to play, Tom hit the winning basket from about 20 feet away.

People were still talking about that basket the following Monday, and it was like the whole school was Tom's friend. Well, this made me more determined than ever to somehow make a name for myself. I remember Tom laughing about it. "Face it, man," he told me, "some people got it, and some people ain't." Well, I guess I knew he was right, 'cause I wasn't really the athletic type. Like, I wasn't tall enough to play basketball, and I wasn't fast enough to run track, and I wasn't big enough or dumb enough to play football. I suppose I'd just about given up on being a hero, until

one day I stopped by my locker and looked down the hall toward the gym.

There was a whole bunch of people crouching down, flipping something in the air. I went to check it out, you know, and I realized that they were playing tiddlywinks. I kind of laughed, 'cause I hadn't seen anyone play tiddlywinks since I was a little kid. I saw a couple of those little plastic discs lying unattended, so I figured I'd give it a try. There was a little cup in front of me, you know, and I flipped the little disc right into it. Everybody turned around when they heard the wink hit the cup, and I heard someone shout, "What a tiddly!"

It turned out to be the coach of the newly-formed tiddlywinks team. He introduced himself as Coach Andre, and through his heavy Latino accent he told me that he hadn't seen shooting like that since the days of the legendary Ted Tittle. He begged me to join the team.

Well, at first I didn't know what to say, I mean, it happened so suddenly. But I thought "Hey, this might be my big chance to be famous, like Tom, and win the adulation of my peers!" I told Coach Andre that I'd give it a try.

We practiced every day for the next week, and each day my tiddly technique improved. Tiddlywinks are kind of like riding a bike, you know: once you learn how, you never forget. I got my form down to where I could hit the cup from ten feet away every time. Most of the other players were Latino, like Coach Andre, and I was

giving them pointers on how to give the wink a backspin, you know, so it would go farther. Even Coach Andre hadn't heard of that one. Well, by the time our first match came, I was convinced that our team was invincible.

I was right. The other team stood in awe as we tiddled three, four, even five in a row without missing the cup. As for myself, I don't think I missed once, but it wouldn't have mattered if I had. For the first time, I could honestly say I felt important, you know, like Tom.

Needless to say, we won that match, and the next one, and pretty soon we were the only undefeated tiddlywinks team in the state. People began noticing us, and attendance at our matches boomed. It was kind of strange, hearing people applaud and cheer us on every time our tiddlies went in, but I enjoyed it.

Then one day, while I was walking home from school, a soft female voice said, "Goodness, these books are awfully heavy. Do you think you could carry them for me, please?" I turned to find that same gorgeous cheerleader with that same foxy smile. Even though I had a bunch of books in my hands, I said I would. She said she saw our last match and thought I was the best-looking guy on the team. Then she took my arm and looked back behind and laughed. I looked back, too, and there was Tom, walking by himself.

Tom didn't talk to me for a long time after that, but that episode wasn't the only reason. Tom had been kicked off the

basketball team for smoking pot, and I think he resented the fact that I was getting so much attention all of a sudden. He was also flunking out of school, and his parents had threatened to kick him out of the house. But I was having such a good time, you know, so I didn't worry about Tom too much.

Well, we finished our season undefeated, and that cheerleader was always there. You know, the classic high school scene where the girl waits at the guy's locker, and then they walk home together. I'd always thought it was kind of cliché, but it's a lot different when you're doing it, I suppose. Anyway, Coach Andre was concerned that I was spending too much time with her and not enough time preparing for the state tournament, which was only a week away. I told him not to worry, that I'd always kept tiddlywinks foremost in my mind.

Then it happened. I woke up in the middle of the night in agony. My thumb was red and swollen. I rushed down to the emergency room with my folks. The doctor confirmed my deepest fear. It was the tiddlywinker's nightmare: a hangnail.

I called Coach Andre the next morning to tell him my tiddling days were over. He was angry at first because he thought the cheerleader had done it, but I calmed him down and said that even though I couldn't play, I'd go to the tournament and cheer the team on from the bench.

That was one of the saddest days of my life, because the team was eliminated in the first round, and I knew that they could have won, if only I'd been able to play. After the match I bade a tearful farewell, and hung up my tiddlywinks forever.

When I got back home I found a note on the door. It was from the cheerleader. She said that she didn't want to see me anymore, now that I was just another face in the crowd. I called Tom, and he laughed and told me that she'd given him the same line the minute he'd been kicked off the basketball team. We talked for a long time, and afterwards I couldn't have cared less about that cheerleader, or tiddlywinks. ☆ ☆

Top 40 Radio

Britain beats America hands down in a side-by-side comparison

by Mike Ventrella



Jon Richardson



Tim Wright

(Continued from page 11)

for equipment and salaries than it takes at the gate, that money comes from somewhere else in the organization, or from Ted Turner's pocket. The Richmond club was losing money, and Ted began howling and fuming and throwing drinks at parties and firing people.

A general shake-up followed. Turner replaced his GM in Atlanta with Bill Lucas, and the GM in Richmond with Richardson. The Braves got together with Bill Leiding in those momentous marathon meetings.

Apparently the Braves weren't all that anxious to leave Richmond, and Richmond wasn't quite ready to ride them out on a rail. Thus baseball in Richmond was saved, by a margin as thin as toilet paper.

This is Richardson's third year in Richmond. In three years, attendance at Parker Field has quadrupled to near-record levels. Perhaps the increase is due in part to the revival of interest in baseball; attendance records are breaking all over America. Perhaps it is something more. Jon?

"The three major ingredients it takes to draw people, and we've had them all working for us, are good weather, competitive ball clubs and promotion."

The weather was good in '77 and '78; this year it has been lousy. And attendance is still running ahead of last year's. Jon?

"We started becoming more competitive in '76. We started getting number one draft choices because they were finishing last in Atlanta. So we were getting good ballplayers up through the system."

Yes, and the Braves have not yet finished higher than fourth, winning the Governor's Cup last year only because they got hot during the championship series. And this year, the Braves are back to form, stumbling around in second division, adjusting to a new manager, hitting like grandmothers at croquet. Yet attendance figures continue to rise.

(And no, I can't come down on Jon and the Braves like that. Manager Tom Burgess has been given the reins of a young, exciting team—median age around 23. These younger men take disappointments harder, like getting cut by the big team on the last day of spring training, and it takes them longer to stop sulking and start playing ball. To unsettle things further, Atlanta is wallowing in the cellar as usual, and in desperation, they are rushing farmhands into the breach faster than the British did in 1917.

(But on the whole, Richardson's pitching has been outstanding. Larry Owen has done a commendable job behind the plate, and Jerry Maddox is setting the tone for IL third basemen.)

But it's not the team alone, nor is it the weather, that has quadrupled attendance

at Parker Field in three years. Jon Richardson knows he has to get people to watch baseball, and Jon Richardson knows how.

"We know we've got a certain amount of fans who'll come out here no matter what, but we can't make it on that—we've got to include the community. So we aim certain promotions at different segments of the community."

He rattled off a list of special "nights" that include every corporation, loose association, special interest group, small political party and religious cult in the metropolitan area. There's "Merchants' Night" (where subscribing merchants give away complimentary tickets to customers), "Victory Night" (where a Braves' victory grants each fan in the park free admission to the next game), and "Two-Bit Beverage Night" (every Thursday) which ought to please just about everyone. It seems almost impossible to go to Parker Field and not get something for free.

The object is to get people into the ballpark, and hope they'll see something they like so they'll return. "Something about their experience that night hopefully was good. And when they come back the second time or the third time, they've gotten to know the players—and now we're selling the ballplayers, we're selling the game. You become a fan in spite of yourself."

And if you don't go to Parker Field, Parker Field comes after you. Richardson has his players popping up all over town, making more personal appearances than those of any other minor league team. His college-age "interns" pound doors, drumming up interest, with the season ticket count soaring as a result—from 98 in 1976 to over 800 this year.

Because of the surge in attendance and ticket sales, Richardson has made Parker Field look better than it has in years—the diamond looks lush and professional, the seats are freshly painted and clean. It ain't Yankee Stadium, but it doesn't cost \$6 to get in either. In fact, Braves baseball might be the best entertainment bargain in town. Richardson has created a sort of carnival atmosphere in Parker Field—corny at times, with punks popping cups and blowing these stupid orange horns—but always colorful. It's probably the only place in town where, any night of the week, one can drink beer and yell and scream and insult people without getting arrested.

"I work for the fans," says Jon. "My job is to create baseball interest in Richmond and develop fans, and have people come out here and have a good time." Jon will make sure you get your money's worth.

☆☆

If there's one thing I envy the British for, it's their Top 40 chart. If I lived in England, I wouldn't be ashamed to admit that I listen to their equivalent of WLEE. This week's British chart, for example, has Blondie, Ian Drury, Dr. Feelgood, Generation X, Kate Bush and Elvis Costello all in the Top 20. The closest we "cultured" Americans get to that is Blondie's "Heart of Glass," the dance tune which is not the kind of Blondie song that typically tops the British charts. (And Blondie's an American band. How sad to be rejected by one's own country.)

A few recent British arrivals would please even the most snobbish American listeners.

Kate Bush is a young vocalist/writer/keyboardsist who can do things with her voice no human has ever done. Her latest LP, *Lionheart*, is now available in the stores. Listen to either of her albums and you won't be able to do anything without humming "Coffee Homeground," "Kite," or "Them Heavy People." She's not rock, she's not jazz, she's not folk.... I really can't classify her except as "good." But try to find her on your radio.

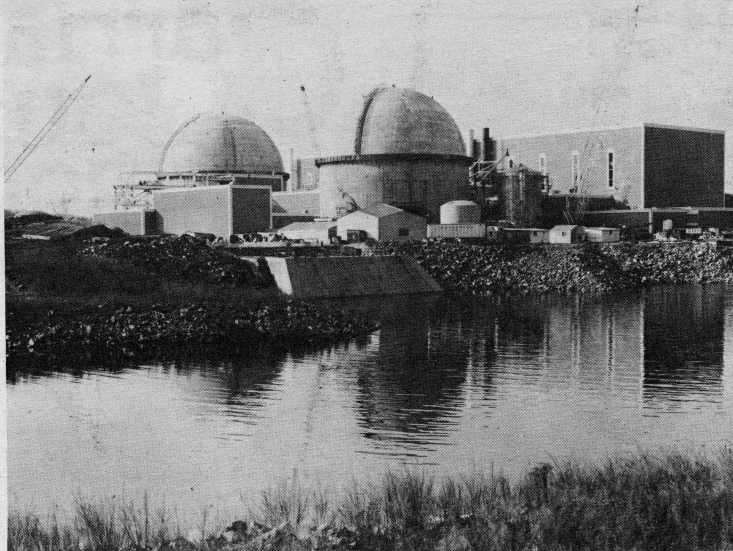
Joe Jackson is an up-and-coming hero whose first LP, *Look Sharp!*, is gaining popularity. Jackson writes tunes that remind one of the fun sing-a-long tunes of the rock 'n' roll '60s, but with the lyrics of the '70s. His love songs are *real* love songs, not the Pablo Cruise crap, like, "Ohh, baby, I can't live without you," that only two-dimensional people relate to. Jackson sings of something that is in all of us: the frustrations of no love and the problems of relationships. "Happy Loving Couples" are no friends of his. He sighs in agony as "Pretty Girls are Out Walking with Gorillas" down his street. He wonders "Is She Really Going Out With Him?" And when he tells us that "Fools In Love Are Zeros," he still assures us in a low voice that "I Should Know Because This Fool's In Love Again." "I can't live without you," indeed!

The big man in the U.K. now is none other than the best living Elvis himself, "The King" Costello. He's catching on here at home, too. (His latest, *Armed Forces*, did make it into the U.S. Top 10.) Though *Armed Forces* doesn't pack the punch of the first album or the cleverness of the second, it has to its credit a hook in

every song. "Accidents Will Happen," which has been released here, should be a big hit. (But it won't. See? Now you've gotten me all pessimistic.) "Oliver's Army" ("If you're out of luck or out of work, we can send you to Johannesburg") made it around the world, and "Moods For Moderns" and "Senior Service" could even be (gasp) dance hits if the bass drum was turned up to an adequate pain level. This album should please pop fans for its catchiness, new wave fans for its lyrics, and '60s fans for its... '60s.... (By the way, for all you Beatles fans out there: The bridge in "This Year's Girl" of the second LP was stolen from "You Won't See Me," and "Party Girl," on *Armed Forces* borrows from "You Never Give Me Your Money." But, hey, the Fab Four won't be back. You gotta settle for second best.)

Two other "new" groups from the Isles are worth more than a mention. The Fabulous Poodles' *Mirror Star* is a collection of four songs from their first LP (released in England) plus some new material. The Fab Poos and producers John Entwistle and Muff Winwood present a package that is humorous, clever, catchy, but lacks the enthusiasm, emotion and energy of The Boomtown Rats' *A Tonic For The Troops*. Like the Poodles, the Rats, who are actually from Ireland, ("I hate Ireland"—Bob Geldof, head Rat) have included a few songs from their first LP to make a striking debut in America. (The first LP bombed primarily because Mercury records promoted them as a punk band.) You just can't help loving a band whose members include a towering singer who resembles Jagger; a drummer who looks like the boy next door; a bassist who is shorter than your kid sister; and a keyboardist who wears pajamas all the time ("Except when I'm asleep"—Johnnie Fingers). These guys have had five huge hits in jolly ole England—"Rat Trap," "Joyce's on the Street Again," "Like Clockwork," "Mary of the 4th Form," and "I Never Loved Eva Braun"—but nothing here.

Ah, but I'm just an old softie with his memories. I'll never see any of these guys on the American charts. But maybe, if we all work together, we can build an intelligent world where our children's children can listen to the type of music we hear only in obscure, dingy record stores. *



The site of controversy, VEPCO's North Anna nuclear power plant.

Anti-Nuclear Protest Latest of VEPCO's Troubles

by Wayne Lewis

Several VCU students took part in a protest against nuclear energy at the Virginia Electric and Power Company's North Anna nuclear power station, 40 miles northwest of Richmond, on June 3. The protest was organized by The Virginia Sunshine Alliance, a coalition of eight citizen's groups throughout the state which advocate alternatives to nuclear power. The protest was staged to coincide with other demonstrations in the United States and in other western world countries.

One hundred and nineteen people were arrested at the demonstration, after blocking a road which leads to the plant's switching yard. At that point the protesters were already several hundred feet into the VEPCO property. The Virginia Sunshine Alliance discussed its plans with VEPCO and police in advance of the protest, indicating that several members planned to be peacefully arrested at the site. The Louisa County Sheriff's Department and the Virginia State Police made the arrests peacefully, escorting the participants to nearby vans while other demonstrators cheered them on. The vans drove a short distance to a processing area where the arrested were photographed, and given summons to appear in court. Those who did not sign summons were taken to the Louisa County jail.

The protest is the latest of several problems VEPCO has had with its nuclear power program this year. VEPCO first became interested in nuclear energy in 1952. That year Stanley Ragone, then an engineer and now VEPCO president, was assigned to explore the potential of nuclear energy. Under Ragone's direction, VEPCO participated in the construction of the Carolinas-Virginia experimental reactor at Par Hill, S.C. The reactor was part of an Atomic Energy Commission program to demonstrate to private investor-owned utilities the potential of nuclear power plants. The reactor was completed in 1963,

was shut down in 1968, and later dismantled.

In 1966 VEPCO started working on a site across the James River from Jamestown, six miles southeast of Williamsburg. VEPCO installed two 822 megawatt Westinghouse pressurized water reactors at what became the Surry power station. The first reactor went into operation in 1972.

In 1970 VEPCO started work on the North Anna power station site. While construction workers were working on the site of the first reactor, VEPCO discovered a "geological feature" which was identified as a chlorite seam. Later, just after construction-permit hearings had been completed for two Babcox and Wilcox reactors to be built in addition to the two Westinghouse reactors under construction, VEPCO announced that the chlorite seam was actually on a fault exactly under the reactor site. By then VEPCO had already committed over a billion dollars to the site. In the ensuing court battle, VEPCO was fined for making "12 material false statements" about the reactor site, and paid one of the largest fines that a private investor-owned utility has ever received.

The Surry power station has also been a center of controversy in recent years. Just after the plant opened, a serious over-pressurization occurred in the primary

cooling system, causing the release of radioactive gases. The gases contained small amounts of radioactive substances which can cause serious problems if ingested by humans. The radioactive substances release high energy subatomic particles which can make subtle changes in the cells of living tissue. Scientists have determined that these changes can cause either cancer or genetic defects when these particles collide with DNA in the nucleus of a cell.

Just after the accident at the Three Mile Island power station in Pennsylvania the government estimated that up to six people could contract a latent cancer and die because of the possible ingestion of radioactive particles which escaped the plant site.

Minute amounts of these particles normally escape nuclear power plants as a consequence of normal reactor operation. They either escape past electrostatic preprecipitators similar to those used to clean exhaust from coal-fired plants, or find their way through various filtering systems used to filter water used to cool the reactor. According to *VEPCO's Lemons*, a publication produced by the Potomac Alliance, a Washington based anti-nuclear group, all of the 13,000 acre Lake Anna travels through the Unit 1 reactor every 17 days to cool it. Unit 1 is the only operational

reactor of the four planned at the site. Hanover County gets some of its water used by the public from the North Anna River, downstream from the plant.

While nuclear power has become controversial, according to VEPCO figures, rate payers saved over \$75 million by generating electricity from nuclear plants instead of coal in 1975. Also, smaller amounts of soot from coal-fired plants have entered the atmosphere since VEPCO's nuclear power plants have been in operation.

But the VEPCO plants have not always been available. The Surry plant, for example, has been shut down unexpectedly for a variety of reasons. Once, an operator at the controls of one of the reactors at Surry sneezed, fell back in his chair and hit a key control button that shut the whole plant down. The plant was shut down for several hours causing the rate payers to pay \$30,000 an hour in added expenses. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission suggested that VEPCO take the casters off the chairs in the plant's control room.

VEPCO has also had to take one of the Surry units off line for a six-month repair job to the unit's steam generators. The generators developed leaks two years after the plant went into operation. After the first unit is completed, VEPCO will replace the steam generators in the other Surry unit. The \$127 million repair job costs rate payers \$300,000 a day in increased fuel costs.

VEPCO had to take the other Surry unit off line early because portions of a back up emergency cooling system might not withstand a major earthquake. According to federal government maps, there have been 18 earthquakes in Virginia since the 1700s. However, both units have been taken out of service because of problems peculiar with nuclear power facilities only.

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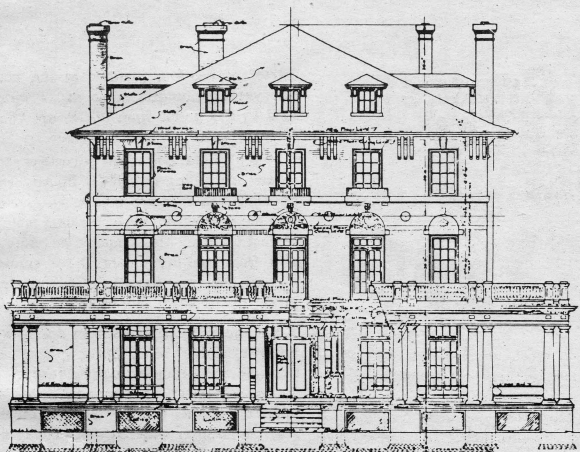
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For Sale

Must Sell! Furniture, stereo, fan, lamps, books, refrigerator, bookcases, cameras, and more. Everything must go by June 28. Call and ask, 288-3569.

Jobs

Bored? Disgusted? Sitting home and watching TV all day? The *Commonwealth Times* needs bored and disgusted people to come to our offices at 916 W. Franklin and watch TV all day long. Previous writing experience helpful, but not necessary. We will train truly talented TV watchers for a career in professional journalism.

Wanted: Someone to build wooden cabinet (2x2x2 ft.) with sliding shelves. Contact Randy at 355-4876.

Attention

Richmond Lesbian and Gay Pride Day, June 23. Motorcade at 11 am starting at Azalea Mall. Picnic lunch at Byrd Park. Bring your own: food, music, games. Dance at Sheraton Motel, 9 pm, Monroe Room. \$5—\$3 donation.

A showing of Barbara Hammond films. Lesbian-feminist films including *Dyketactics*, *Superdyke*, and *Women I Love*. June 24, 7:30 in room 115 Life Science Building. Donation.

Have a delicious summer!

CALENDAR

Bounce those balls, boys! Basketball tournaments will take place June 19, 20, 25, 26 and 27 at 6 pm in the Old Gym. The finals will take place on July 2 and 3.

Movies! Movies! Movies! to erase your summer doldrums...**The Goodbye Girl** is coming to the Business Building Auditorium June 20 at 8 pm and 10 pm. Admission is 25 cents. On June 24, you can see **Enter the Dragon** at the BBA on July 5 with shows at 8 pm and 10 pm. Admission is 25 cents. Same time, place and admission for **What's Up Doc?** on July 11. and for **Cooley High** on July 17. To climax the rousing filmfest, **Cool Hand Luke** will be shown July 31 at 8:30 pm in the BBA, and admission is free.

Jogging every Wednesday through July 11 in Monroe Park at 7:30 pm.

Swimming every other Tuesday night from June 26-July 24 at the VCU pool at 10 pm for all you water babies.

Disco Down—Our own Shafer Court will be decked for a disco party at 9 pm on June 28, July 21 and August 3. Bring your high-heel sneakers.

Volleyball tournaments will take place July 9, 10, 11, 16, 17 and 18 at 6 pm in the Old Gym.

Marathon and All Sports Day July 13 at 2:30 pm in Monroe Park. See you there.

Three new art exhibits are on display at the Richmond Public Library, 101 E. Franklin St. In the front lobby are display cases by Pine Camp Recreation Center. The Gellman Room display includes a show by the James River Art League and the second floor Gallery displays paintings by Richard Bland.

New Summer exhibit at St. Paul's Church, 9th and Grace St. The exhibit is by Anne Legge and is on display from 8:30 am to 4 pm daily.

Ray Charles returns to Richmond, Friday June 29 at 8 pm at the Mosque. Tickets are on sale at the Mosque. For information and advance reservations call the American Revels box office, 782-1923. All seats are reserved.

Last day for summer degree candidates to submit graduation applications to their advisors for August degrees is July 6.

Summer sessions end August 11.

Conferral of degrees for August graduates August 25.

"Alfred Maurer: The Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden Collection," an exhibition of 17 paintings revealing this American artist's radical shift from a late 19th century figurative style to modernism, is open at the Smithsonian's Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden and will continue through August 12. The Hirshhorn Museum, located on Independence Avenue at 8th Street S.W., is open seven days a week from 10 am to 9 pm. The nearest Metro stations are Smithsonian and L'Enfant Plaza.

The Family and Children's Service of Richmond offers several classes this summer: **Overcoming the Blues**, Assertiveness, Calorie Awareness, Coping With Stress, Sexual Awareness and more. Fees for classes are adjustable to need and income. For more information and registration call 282-4225.

B.B. King will appear at the Carter Barron Amphitheater Tuesday, June 26, at 8 pm in Washington, D.C.

Count Basie and His Orchestra will appear at the Chrysler Hall in Norfolk, June 24 at 8 pm. General admission in advance is \$8.50 and \$9.50 the day of the show. Also appearing at Chrysler Hall June 27-30 is the **Summer Broadway Series**—live on stage **4 Girls 4, Guys and Dolls, The Mitzi Gaynor Show**, and **Here It is Burlesque**. For information phone 441-2161.

An exhibit of 15 photographs by Garry Winogrand is being shown in the Anderson Gallery through July. About half of the exhibits are urban scenes. Hours are from 10 am to 4 pm Monday through Friday at 907½ W. Franklin St.

Sesame Street has moved to the Smithsonian National Museum in Washington this summer until Labor Day. This is an actual Sesame Street set, along with all the Sesame Street characters.

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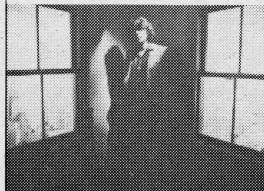
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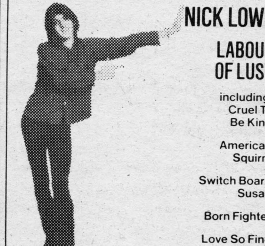
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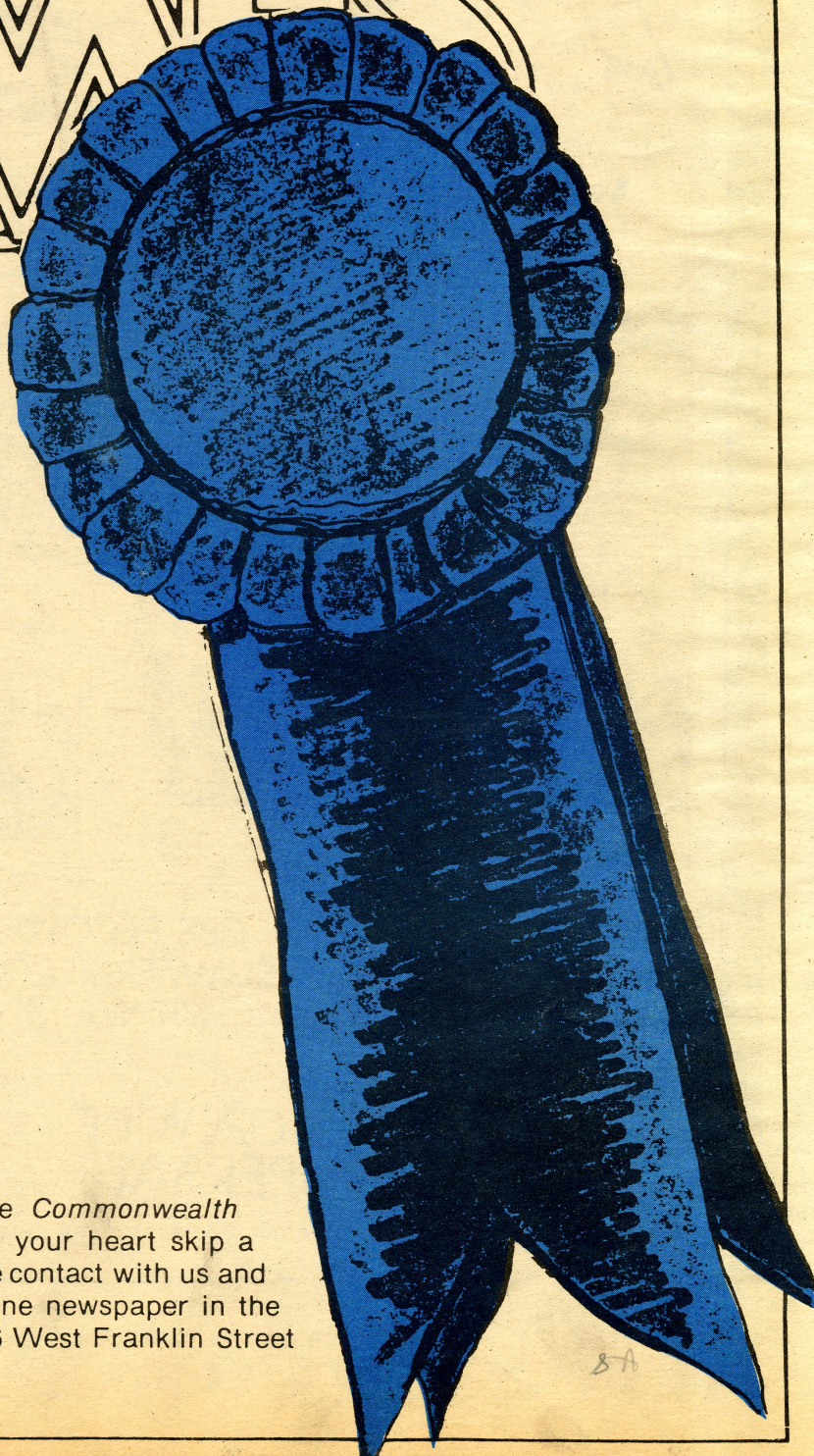
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