COMMONWEALTH

Volume 20, No. 24

April 11 - 17, 1989



Offering Great Food and Exciting Job Opportunities!

Whether you're looking for Super Fried Chicken, tresh made-to-order Pizza, garden fresh salads, homestyle soups, or fresh frozen yogurt, if it's great food, it's at Ukrop's.

And we have part-time positions with flexible hours available for students!

and J.C. Penney

Ukrops where people and food Come first

288-5815

call us at 379-7301 for more information





APPLICATIONS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED TO WORK AT THE CARY STREET RECREATIONAL COMPLEX, STUDENT ACTIVITIES OFFICE, AND UNIVERSITY STUDENT COMMONS DURING THE 89-90 ACADEMIC YEAR. POSITIONS ARE AVAILABLE FOR SUMMER 89 AS WELL. PICK UP AN APPLICATION AT THE COMMONS INFORMATION DESK OR THE CARY STREET RECREATIONAL COMPLEX. CAREFULLY READ THE ENTIRE INFORMATION PACKET AND RETURN THE COMPLETED APPLICATION BY APRIL 14, 1989.

OR

STOP BY THE JOB FAIR INFORMATION TABLE IN THE COMMONS LOBBY ON APRIL 11, 11-2 PM.





THE RAMPAGES 1/071 1989

To order your RAMPAGES yearbook please send a check or money order to:

VCU Yearbook Committee Box 3028 Richmond, VA. 23284-3028

\$30.00 for book, if you wish to pick it up - pick up location to be announced.

\$32.50 to mail directly to your permanent address (FALL DELIVERY!)

Upon reception of your request, a receipt will be sent to you.

For further information or any questions, contact us at 367-9501.

ROOM& BORED?

Turn on to off-campus living, where it's so much better than cramped, gloomy rooms. You can really stretch out and enjoy life at these exciting communities, where non-stop social activities and revved-up recreation set the pace. Plus modern kitchens, air-conditioning and carpet! Meet you at the hot-tub!

Call 329-6666 Today!





Exit 1-95 at US 301, then south to Azalea Avenue. East on Azalea to Wilkinson, then left to entrance. Rental office at 5701 Pony Farm Drive.





CONTENTS

NEWS

GLSA

Gay/Lesbian Student Alliance sponsors week of educational programming.

page 4

Co-op

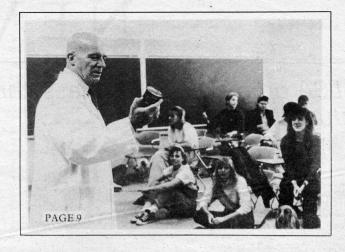
Co-op program offers exciting opportunities.

page 5

Nuclear

Meltdowns. Radioactive waste. Bombs. Nuclear Energy. The School of Mass Communications sponsors conference on reporting nuclear issues.

page 7



EDITORIAL

Talk Talk

Taking a look at the need for dialogue between VCu and the Oregon Hill community.

page 19

City of Crime

An indepth look at the state of chaos snowballing in the nation's capitol.

page 20

Changes in attitudes

A casual trail of thought on the favors of spring.

page 19



SPORTS

Baseball

Pitcher Tony Helmick throws a fastball, curve ball, change up and cut fastball to hold opponents at bay.

page 17

Tennis

Men post their second win this season while women have an unbeaten week.

page 18

COVER

John Shafer as Holofernes (left) and Jon Cook as Nathaniel (right) in Theatre VCU's production of Love's Labours Lost.

Photograph by Kathy Laraia.

FOLIO

Theater

Lynn Follmer concludes a three part series on the preparation for the VCU production of Shakespeare's "Love's Labours Lost.

page 11

Music

New York's Too Much Joy experiment with their sound on a new album. Folio Editor Luke Funk takes a look at $Son\ of\ Sam\ I\ Am$

page 12

Satire

Bruce Cahoon's wild imagination weaves a story of a man who is in search of his lost thumbs. Perhaps, though, there is something deeper meaning in the words.

page 14

NEWS

GLSA promotes awareness through education

By Michael Trotti

Education within the community is a goal that both the Gav Lesbian Student Alliance at VCU and the Richmond Virginia Gay/Lesbian Alliance hope for.

To begin realizing this goal, the GLSA sponsored a week of programming for the VCU community last week. The program, "Awareness Through Education: Understanding Our Spirit," featured a play on the AIDS experience, a forum on homosexuality, a fashion show and information tables in the Student Commons.

The Wednesday evening forum presented a variety of experiences within the gay and lesbian community. A panel of six GLSA members described their different experiences and backgrounds.

One member's appearance on the panel was her first public "coming out;" for another it followed four years of involvement with the organization. Some spoke of always feeling confortable with their sexuality, while others described a period when they believed the feelings they had were wrong.

The format of the discussion was a very informal "rap session," with stories, jokes, comments and questions coming from most of the 30-person audience.

One participant spoke of the hostility he faced as a gay freshman in the VCU dorms. "In 1984, my roommate followed me to the meeting (of the GLSA) to find out if I was gay. I was the Rhoads Hall homosexual.

He spoke of the people who had given him so many problems about being gay. "Now, I see these same people at gay

Another freshman said, "I told my roommate that I was lesbian; she doesn't care. Five people on my hall know and they all don't care."

This mixture of positive and negative reactions to gays and lesbians ran throughout the discussion. The topics included personal image, VCU, discrimination on the job and adoption.

Members hoped the events would educate the community. "The negative has been portrayed long enough," said Douglas D'Urso, president of the organization.

When many people think of homosexuality, they often think of negative personal stereotypes and AIDS. "It's time to get to the positive, through awareness and education. It's time to start portraying a more positive attitude, not to be afraid. Only then will we realize that it's no big deal. That we're all people," said D'Urso.

The public response to events the Alliance has sponsored in the past has been mostly postive, said D'Urso, who has been involved with the group for four

years.
"The films we've sponsored with the



Gay Lesbian Student Alliance sponsors a week of programming.

Kathy Laraia—Commonwealth Times

Alternative Films people have been well attended," he said. "The only negative reactions were in the office space" in the Commons. There were two instances of offensive graffiti on their property and verbal confrontations as well. The group recently received in the mail a schedule of their Awareness Week's events with 'time to die' scrawled across it.

D'Urso said that "having the office space was positive, giving the group visibility. It tells people that gay people are not afraid to sit in the office. People just come up to us and ask 'What do you do?" The answer, he said, was that the "GLSA is like any other type of organization, we're just centered on gay and lesbian concerns. We deal with educational activities, legal rights, career planning,

D'Urso has seen the group change and grow considerably in the last four years. He feels the group is in a transitional period now. "Things have changed. Our budget has grown from \$25 to \$3,000. We've gained a real positive visibility, with the office space and dealing with the community and the school."

The transition of the group might be helped along by people like Christopher Hoffner, who arrived at VCU this past semester. "One of the reasons I came here was because the gay community was so open," he said. He came from rural Pennsylvania, and said "the Richmond community, being more urban, is more open-minded. There are valuable resources in the area that no one has tapped into, and part of the mission of the GLSA is to tap into them.

One of the ways Hoffner hopes to use thes resources is for a gay/lesbian weekend retreat conference. Tentatively scheduled for next November, it would be the region's first such effort, and should attract students from Maryland, North Carolina and across Virginia.

There are a number of other groups in the Richmond area that focus on gay and lesbian concerns. Among them is the Richmond Virginia Gay/Lesbian Alliance (separate from the GLSA), which is also in transition. It is moving from being a lobbying group to becoming focused on education. The issue for Will Hall, the leader of the Richmond group, is broad: "What matters is people taking responsibility for this planet, whether it's gay/lesbian issues, the environment, whatever."

While there are many positive aspects to the reaction of the Richmond community to gay and lesbian issues, there remain problems for the gay community, some of them fundamental.

"Many active members of the gay community have moved over to the AIDS issue," said Hall, "but here in Virginia, there's also a basic problem with human rights."

Hall sees the Richmond Alliance as becoming a center for documenting bias crimes (crimes based on prejudice) against gays and lesbians. In many cases these crimes are not reported, Hall said.

"Other minorities involved in bias crimes are covered by civil rights laws. Gavs and lesbians are not," Hall said.

Ian Lewis, a resident in the VCU area, was the victim of one such crime. Late one night last month, Lewis stopped on his way home to ask a transvestite why he was working the streets. A car pulled up, and four men yelled "fag" and shouted obscenities at him.

Lewis said, "I tried to just put my head up and ignore them. I started walking home. They jumped out of the car and started beating me with pipes." There was no way they would know whether he was gay or straight. They attacked simply because he spoke to a transvestite. could have happened to anybody," he

Shorter financial aid process in future

By A. J. Harmon Staff Writer

Thanks to a new computer system called FAMS (Financial Aid Management System), students who receive aid no longer have to go through the lengthy process for the aid to be credited to their university accounts.

Charles Kinder, director of financial aid, said FAMS checks to be sure students meet the necessary requirements, such as having enough credit hours and making satisfactory progress in school.

Installment of FAMS began two years ago. Last year, Kinder said there were a lot of "starts and stops" as financial aid personnel learned to use the system and improvements were added to it.

"It will be an evolving system for the next two or three years," Kinder said. "Eighty-five percent of what we need has been installed." His department plans to buy more software to make the process run even smoother.

After determining eligibility, the financial aid personnel manually matched each student with the different types of aid, Kinder said. The computer decides the type of aid students can receive, such as Pell Grants or Guaranteed Student Loans, which previously was done individually by the financial aid office.

The system determines whether students meet requirements and electronically credits their university accounts.

For instance, the Guaranteed Student Loan Program that once took two to three months now can be completed in two to three weeks because of the new system. Once a student has accepted the loan a computer program completes an application and prepares it for mailing.

After the recipient signs the application and completes the recommendations, the system notifies the selected bank to make the loan so the bank can cut and mail the check directly to the university.

Another aspect is that the computer helps the university speed up the verification process by identifying students selected for verification. The system automatically keeps track of this process, reminding personnel of the student information needed to complete the procedure.

'Although the system helps alleviate some of the stress involved with the verification process," Kinder said, "the computer does not select students for it."

Co-op program supplements educational experience

By Charlyne H. McWilliams Staff Writer

Every other Monday students go to the Commons to hear co-op participants talk about their experiences in the program and the effects these experiences have on their lives.

"I think the meeting was a good first step in finding out about the co-op program," said Gene Chiodo, a mass communications major who attended one of the recent orientations.

Thère were 14 students at the March 27 meeting, representing English, art, mass communications, marketing, psychology and other disciplines.

Robert Curby, a co-op participant who works for the Naval Surface Warfare Center, told the group that the alternate job program was good for him because it prevented him from getting bored with working or going to school. Working at the center, he said, provides him work experience he could never get in the classroom.

Curby, a computer science major, interfaces the computers on aircrafts one semester and attends school the next.

The alternate program isn't as popular as the parallel program, said Cheryl Melton, director of the co-op program, because students aren't willing to leave school for a semester. In the parallel program students go to school and work at the same time.

Company representives sometimes attend the orientations to talk about their companies and to tell students about the positions and benefits available.

Eleanor Gree, one of the coordinators for co-op, said some companies offer students full tuition, books and salary. In return the student works one semester for each semester of tuition paid.

A cooperative education student must be at least a sophomore with a 2.5 GPA and have completed one semester at VCU.

Green said that a student also needs to be flexible, confident, willing to move outside Richmond and have the standard qualifications.

Melton and Green said the co-op program offers job opportunities for students in any major. They place most of the students who come to co-op, Green

said, and have convinced companies to create jobs in areas where there weren't any.

LOOKING FOR WORK THIS SUMMER?

We can open doors for you.

Working as a Manpower Temporary means lots of new opportunities. We offer FREE word processing training. You can upgrade your skills or learn new ones. New skills that can open lots of doors career-wise.



Don't pass up an opportunity like this. Call today.

MANPOWER'

James Center-TowerIII 1051 E. Cary St. Suite 102 Richmond, VA 23219 (804)780-1800

New director for co-op program appointed

By Charlyne H. McWilliams Staff Writer

More women in the 1980s are going into careers outside the home, as well as being homemakers. Cheryl Tilley-Melton, the newly apointed director of VCU's Cooperative Education Program, is one of those women.

Melton came here as coordinator for the co-op program in 1982 and became assistant director in 1985.

She also supports women in leadership roles and taking risks to get there. And this, said Melton, is the reason she applied for the iob.

"It was the next logical step," Melton said after being acting director for a year.

Before coming here, she worked 11 years with Richmond public schools as career coordinator and adult education specialist. She also taught a career awareness class at Binford Middle School for four years.

The 1971 VCU graduate said she was



Cheryl Tilley-Melton, new director of VCU's Cooperative Education Program

"floundering about to high school," but while taking distributive education she found a role model in its coordinator, Robert Pettit. It was Pettit, she said, who encouraged her to go to college and to go into education.

"He saw something I didn't see in myself—leadership potential," and her ability to persuade people, said Melton.

Along with having leadership qualities, Nadine White, secretary for the co-op program, described Melton as easy to work with and enthusiastic about the program. Her enthusiasm rubs off on everyone around her, White said.

The co-op program is a liaison between the business industry and the education world. Melton said her job is to facilitate that cooperation.

Some of Melton's goals are to reach more students about co-op opportunities, to expand job opportunities to other locations around the country and to help it become an international program.

Another change Melton said she would like to see is more popularity in the alternate job program, where the student goes to school one semester and works the next semester, in contrast to the parallel program, where the student goes to school and works at the same time. The parallel program is more popular with students, Melton said, because they don't want to leave school for a semester to work.

The recently remarried mother of two is acting vice-president for the Virginia Association for Cooperative Education, the professional organization for co-op programs throughout the state. She also was appointed by the Richmond school board to the Vocational Advisory Council, which helps make decisons on how to operate vocational programs in Richmond schools.

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Charles Ruch and Vice Provost Howard Sparks of continuing studies and public services chose Melton in March to direct the co-op program.

"I love what I do because I meet interesting people and I get to travel a little," Melton said. The native of Henry County said she was lucky to get jobs in something she was interested in — education.



Two-for-one dinner specials Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

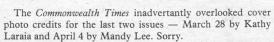
Check Calendar for this week's Rock-N-Roll events.

1718 E. Main St. (In Hysteric Shockoe Bottom)

Cover Notes



28 Ap



HEALTH BRIEF

By Hue Anh Nguyen

Hay fever (allergic rhinitis) is a common allergic condition affecting people who are sensitive to pollen, dust, grass and/or other particles in the air. Generally the causative agent is a type of grass, tree, flower, or wee pollen. Most individuals are sensitive to only a specific single pollen; thus, the condition is most likely to occur seasonally in the spring, late summer or fall months. Some victims, however, are affected by a dozen or more different pollens.

Pollens act as allergens, which cause the body to release an excessive amount of histamine. Histamine can produce symptoms like congestion, swollen nasal

membranes, watery, itchy eyes, itching and obstructed breathing (asthma). Hay fever can be extremely uncomfortable and sometimes debilitating, but it is rarely dangerous. Approximately 10 percent of the U.S. population is affected by hay fever. All races and both sexes are equally susceptible.

Although the symptoms of a summer cold and hay fever are easily distinguishable, they are sometimes confused. Unlike the conditions that the names suggest, hay fever does not bring on a fever while a

Also, colds usually do not last more than seven days and are accompanied by a thick, yellow nasal discharge. Hay fever usually lasts during the entire pollen season and the nasal discharge is clear and watery. Certain medications may also cause nasal stuffiness which should not be falsely attributed to hay fever. These include overuse of decongestant nose drops or sprays, Reserpine and Propranol (drugs for hypertension), and aspirin.

Diagnosis of hay fever is made when there is a pattern of recurrence during the pollen seasons. Diagnosis may be confirmed by a trial period with a potent antihistamine, which often may help the symptoms in a matter of a few hours. About 80 percent of all hay fever victims only need antihistamines for treatment. Antihistamines are available in many dosage forms: tablets, capsules, injectables, nose and eye preparations, and creams for the skin.

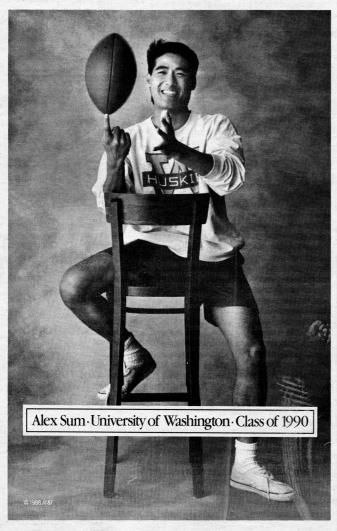
Antihistamines may cause drowsiness and patients should exercise caution when operating a car or performing other activities that require mental alertness. Terfenadine, a non-sedating antihistamine, is available by prescription only; it is the only antihistamine available that does not cause drowsiness. Antihistamines may also cause a dry mouth and an upset stomach. Taking antihistamines with food will help the stomach irritation.

More complex treatment is required for those victims who are affected by many pollens throughout the season. In such a case, the physician needs to search for the specific cause by performing different tests. One simple test is called a scratch test, in which different pollen extracts are rubbed on the skin for observation of typical allergic reactions such as redneess. swelling and itching. The eye test and the intracutaneous test are more invasive but also more sensitive. In these tests, dilute amounts of various pollen extracts are injected in the skin or dropped in the eyes. Once the offending allergens have been identified, serum containing extracts of the allergens are prepared. The victim will then be desensitized prior to the pollen season with increasing doses of the serum on a regular weekly or biweekly basis. This allows the body to gradually accomodate to the allergen. Thus, when the pollen season arrives the allergic symptoms should be suppressed. This method is not totally effective in all victims, but it does offer annual prophylaxis for many suffers.

In a few severe cases, the anti-inflammatory action of steroids such as Prednisone, Prednisolone, or Corticotrophin is needed to control the symptoms. Thes medications are powerful substances and they should be used only to offer temporary relief. Prolonged use may increase the risk of undesirable side effects.

The best treatment is obviously avoidance of the causative pollen. Try to stay indoors if the pollen count is high. Other treatments may include drug therapy with antihistimines, steroids or immunotherapy (allergy shots). If you think you may have hay fever, seek medical treatment. The condition is generally not dangerous but it may lead to asthma or nasal and sinus infection if treatment is ignored.

66I wasn't rubbing it in-I just wanted Eddie to know the score of last night's game. 99



Go ahead and gloat. You can rub it in all the way to Chicago with AT&T Long Distance Service. Besides, your best friend Eddie was the one who said your team could never win three straight.

So give him a call. It costs a lot less than you think to let him know who's headed for the Playoffs. Reach out and touch someone

If you'd like to know more about AT&T products and services, like International Calling and the AT&T Card, call us at 1 800 222-0300.





Conference brings light to nuclear issues

By Kattie Sharrar

"A decade since Three Mile Island... three years after Chernobyl...on the eve of the greenhouse effect..." comes the Mass Communications Conference on reporting nuclear issues.

The conference, an annual event for the past fifteen years, brings in speakers with various expertises to discuss a specific issue relevant to journalists and mass communications students. With the increased interest in nuclear energy, the theme of this year's conference will focus on the current questions surrounding the use of nuclear energy and the media's manner of reporting it.

Besides the anniversary of many famous nuclear incidents, nuclear energy recently came to the forefront with the discovery of room temperature nuclear fusion. The discoverers claim that this method of producing nuclear energy would eliminate the high temperatures and radioactive waste produced during the current methods of production.

However, the scientists who discovered this method of room temperature nuclear fusion released their information through the press, rather than through the scientific community. Ted Smith, associate professor of mass communications, explained that since journalists tend to know only surface information about scientific issues, they cannot verify whether the discovery is valid or not. Usually, scientists verify their discoveries through a system of peer review before the information is released to the general public.

In this case the general public was presented the issue before it went before the scientific community. Smith hopes that all students, not just mass communications students, will attend the conference to gain a better understanding of the issues surrounding nuclear energy. He believes that this is an issue which concerns all of us.

The conference opens Wednesday, April 12, with a presentation of the basic issues surrounding nuclear energy. David Heacock, a superintendent of engineering at Virginia Power's North Anna Power Station, will discuss the basics of nuclear energy.

Les Ramsey, director of nuclear programs for Science Concepts, Inc., will look at the world trends in nuclear energy production. Ransey has extensive experience in nuclear energy training programs and public education activities.

Wyatt Andrews, Moscow Bureau Chief for CBS News during the Chernobyl accident, will discuss his experiences reporting Chernobyl. Andrews is currently the White House correspondent for CBS News.

This first morning session will be held from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the Business Building Auditorium.

On Wednesday afternnon from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., Professor Ted White will moderate a presentation of the pros and cons of nuclear energy.

Carl Goldstein, vice-president for media and public relations for the U.S. Council for Energy Awareness will present the case for nuclear energy. Goldstein was editor and managing editor of Nucleonics Weekly from 1964 to 1969. He has also held other editorial positions with other nuclear energy groups and some major national newspapers.

Scott Denman, director of the Safe Energy Communication Council, will present the case against nuclear energy. His organization is supported by other environmental action groups, including the Sierra Club and the Environmental Action Foundation.

Goldstein and Denman are both leaders for their side of the issue. They have never been on the same stage together.

The conference continues on Thursday, starting with a session at 9:30 a.m. on the various energy options available.

Dr. Gil Brown, a professor of nuclear engineering at the University of Lowell, will look at the health and safety risks of generating energy. His overview will include not only nuclear but other energy sources, such as fossil fuels and solar power.

"The solar alternative" will be explored by Scott Sklar, executive director of the Solar Energy Industries Association. Dr. Stephen Dean, president of the

Fusion Power Associates, will investigate the fusion alternative. Fusion has enjoyed increased interest lately, with the recent discovery of room temperature fusion.

The last session of the conference will address the specific concerns of the press and the public.

Dr. S. Robert Lichter, co-director for the Center for Media and Public Affairs, will look at nuclear news. Lichter is also the author of *The Media Elite*, one of the definitive studies of journalism.

Ted Smith, associate professor of mass communications, will look at the public opinion about nuclear energy. Beverly Orndorff, science writer for the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, will explain the problems specifically related to science journalism.

All conference events will be held in the Business Building Auditorium.

Public school teacher to be one-year professor

By Gene J. Chiado Jr.
Staff Writer

Returning to college might be the farthest thing from Sharon Charles' mind after teaching eighth grade science classes for 18 years, but this past fall Charles did just that when she became the School of Education's teacher-in-residence.

Charles, who taught for one year in Ohio and 17 years in Hanover County, is the first area teacher to participate in this program, which was established in the fall of 1988.

The program allows public school teachers to leave their natural teaching environments by entering a university setting for a one-year, non-tenured appointment.

Charles, selected from a pool of candidates, has been everything her professors expected and more, said Richard Rezba, associate professor of science.

"You can't do any better then Sharon Charles," Rezba said.

Charles said she is being exposed to many talented and gifted professors at VCU, which helps her study, question and learn from some of the best education professors in the field.

"It has been a refreshing change to work in a room full of students where everyone wants to learn and are striving to become good teachers," Charles said. "I guess the whole experience has really been enlightening."

Her duties during the one-year appointment are much the same as any VCU professor. She teaches two courses a semester, supervises student teachers, advises students and attends committeee meetings, besides fulfilling other responsibilities.

After her residency, Charles plans to return to her Hanover classroom to share her experiences and renewed enthusuasm with her school and its students.

Rezba sees the program as a two-way street because both VCU and Charles benefit.

First, he said the program allows the School of Education to fill a gap in its staff with a top-notch teacher. Second, he said it gives education students the opportunity to hear firsthand accounts of what teaching in the modern classroom is like. Third, Rezba describes the Teacherin-Residence Program as a way for teachers to develop and polish their teaching techniques.

Charles also views the job of teaching college students as a challenge and as a way to improve her teaching skills.

"I've had to use every trick I know when I teach here, plus I've picked up a few," Charles said. "This has really been challenging."

Funding for this year's Teacher-in-Residence Program came from a late summer retirement in the School of Education.

"We had a late retirement last year and there wasn't time to conduct a nationwide search for a top-quality professor. So, we filled the position with the teacher-inresidence," said Alan Mcleod, chairman of the Division of Teacher Education.

Teachers-in-residence are paid their annual salaries and benefits by their school divisions, but VCU reimburses the school division while the teachers are at VCU. Also, the teacher receives a tuition waiver from VCU for one course per semester.

Meanwhile, the process of selecting the second teacher-in-residence is now in progress. The funding for next year's program has not yet been allocated, but the School of Education is trying to find a way to finance it.

"It's something that has been in the works for a while and now it's a reality," said McLeod. "We just hope it continues."

Reporting Nuclear Energy Issues

1989 Mass Communications Conference

Wednesday, April 12 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Welcome by Dean Elske v. P. Smith. First discussion about nuclear energy, moderated by Dr. Jack Haberstroh. Presentations by David Heacock, Les Ramsey and Wyatt Andrews concerning basic concerns and information about nuclear energy.

1:30-3:30 p.m.

Pro and con discussion moderated by Professor Ted White. Carl Goldstein represents the case for; Scott Denman presents the case against. This presentation is the first time these two men have been on the same stage together.

Thursday, April 13 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Health and safety risks of various energy alternatives presented by Dr. Gil Brown, Scott Sklar and Dr. Stephen Dean. Moderated by Dr. David Kennamer.

1:30-3:30 p.m.

Issues related to the specifics of reporting nuclear issues. Moderated by Dr. Robert Bohle. Presentations by Dr. S. Robert Lichter, Dr. Ted Smith and Beverly Orndorff.

All events will be in the Business Building Auditorium.

New research facility provides important resource

By Hue Haquang Staff Writer

A man, appearing to be a student and too young to be a faculty member entered Robert Reilly's Economics 202 section before class started. He smiled and then said, "Don't worry, you're not in the wrong room.

"I'm Dr. Davis," he continued. "I'm conducting an experiment in the Economics Experimental Lab and I need volunteers for my experiment. You will be paid \$3 for showing up and more based on the decisions you make during the experiment.

"You have the chance to make a lot of money - I can't say how much - but you will be paid in cash."

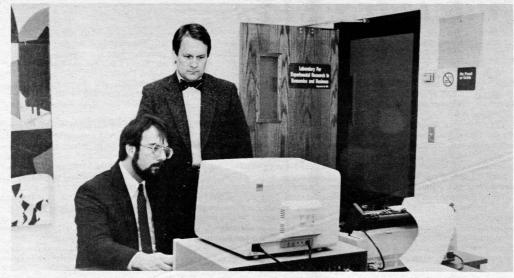
Davis' experiment is available bacause of Reilly and Micheal D. Pratt, associate professors of economics, who established the Laboratory for Experimental Research in Economics and Business.

"IBM provided us with the initial equipment," said Reilly, the lab's director. "But we have updated the facilities with the university's help.'

Pratt, the associate director of the lab and head of the economics department come this fall, called the lab "a very important resource for researchers."

According to a VCU publication, the lab is the first of its kind to employ the IBM PC Network as a tool for testing economic theories in a controlled setting.

Historically, economic researchers gathered data by observing behaviors of individuals and organizations in the real



Economics Experimental Lab provides "important resource for researchers."

Kathy Laraia

world. Because this type of field research is time-consuming and costly, the experimental research lab provides such researchers alternative methods to test the accuracy of their general and complex

Having the lab in the business school, Reilly said, makes VCU a frontier participant in experimental research with the best schools in the country.

In its more than two years in operation, the lab has provided results for several published articles. For example, Cadmus Publishing printed a dozen of the working papers series, and Wheat First Securities funded a number of top speakers at VCU.

Reilly and Pratt are researching for General Motors and about 30 people in the economics department are conducting experiments in the lab.

Just as an author refuses to discuss a novel in progress, Douglas D. Davis, assistant professor of economics, refused to elaborate on his experiment.

He said discussing his incompleted research "will cause people to secondguess his theories." Future experimental participants, he said, could come to his experiment with preconceived notions.

Student Profile:

Samantha Shotwell, Panhellenic president

By Katie Sharrar

Samantha Snotwell enjoys being

Shotwell, incoming president of the Panhellenic Association, pledged Alpha Sigma Alpha sorority when she transferred to VCU from Radford University in the fall of 1987. She was impressed with the friendliness of the sororities at VCU. Although the sororities at VCU still compete with each other during rush, the sororities and fraternities do not have the keen, animostic competition that existed all the time at Radford, she explained.

When she joined Alpha Sigma Alpha, Shotwell saw the appeal of being a part of the Greek system.

"Being a part of a Greek organization is a good way to learn about your inner self and what you can accomplish," Shotwell commented. "Being in a Greek organization gives you those opportunities.

'For the past year and a half, it's made me mature a lot in the sense of taking on more responsibilities and working better with others," she said. "It's taught me leadership.'

From her year and a half experience with Alpha Sigma Alpha, Shotwell feels ready to lead the Panhellenic Association.

"It's young and I see Panhellenic as having a lot of potential," Shotwell said.

Shotwell would like to see the Panhellenic Association have the same level of respect that the Interfraternal Council, or the IFC, has. She hopes to do this by utilizing the Panhellenic Association as the governing body of the sororities while maintaining unity between the organiza-

"But I would like to see all Greek women on this campus unified," Shotwell said. During her term, Shotwell hopes to open up lines of communication between the Panhellenic sororities and the other sororities on campus

The biggest event that the Panhellenic Association sponsors is its formal rush in the fall. The planned formal rush helps keep rushing procedures fair.

Shotwell explained that this is one of the areas where unity between all sororities could be increased. If all sororities participated in at least the information night of formal rush, then the rushees would be able to look at all the options, she explained.

Shotwell believes that the Greek system contributes a lot to the campus

"We do things and try to do things that improve the campus and improve ladership and education throughout," Shotwell said. "A lot of peers don't understand that."

Although sterotypes still exist, Shotwell believes that they are more the exception than the rule.

"I think that the people who are behind the Greek system, who are the leaders, are extremely smart and serious about what they are doing," she said.

She would like to see the progress continue.

Don't compete with a Kaplan student be one.

Why? Consider this: More students increase their scores after taking a Kaplan prep course than after taking anything else.

Why? Kaplan's test-taking techniques and educational programs have 50 years of experience behind them. We know students. And we know what helps boost their confidence and scoring potential.

So if you need preparation for the: LSAT, GMAT, MCAT, GRE, DAT, ADVANCED MEDICAL BOARDS, TOEFL, NURSING BOARDS, NTE, CPA, INTRO. TO LAW. SPEED READING, or others, call us.

Why be at a disadvantage?



285-3414 5001 W. BROAD ST.

NEWS BRIEFS

Memorial fund presents first award in fall

The Barbara Ellen Powers Memorial Fund has topped more than \$10,000.

The fund, established by friends and family of Miss Powers, will provide scholarships to "deserving art students who show financial need," said John Bryan, director of development of the School of the Arts

"More individual people have sent gifts for this fund than any other fund for the VCU School of the Arts," Bryan said.

The first scholarship, taken from the interest earned on the amount collected. will be awarded this fall. Although the details for selection have not yet been determined, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Powers, Miss Powers' parents, will be involved in choosing the recipient.

"We're really proud that we have a fund that will provide money for people like Barbara," said Bryan. "She was such a good person, an exemplary student and someone a lot of people loved."

Miss Powers died May 12, 1988, after a man repeatedly stabbed and left her lying at 2 a.m. in the 100th block of North Plum Street.

Originally from Fairfax City, Miss Powers, a VCU senior, lived in the Fan area and would have received her bachelor of arts degree last semester.

A reward fund of about \$2,700 to find the person who killed Miss Powers will be merged with the scholarship fund in November of 1989, said Martha Haxall Holzgrefe, an MCV pharmacy student who was a friend of Miss Powers.

Most donations for this fund came from Fan citizens and VCU faculty.

-By Jacquelyn Johnson

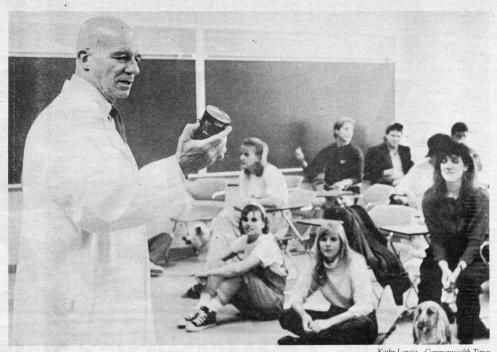
Research Fair

The Valentine Museum and the Virginia Council for the Social Studies wil cosponsor "The Central Virginia Resource Fair: An Introduction to Area Historic and Cultural Offerings," April 15 from 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m., with registration at 9:00

Speakers and panelists will address issues such as identification of national trends in social studies and what museums and other cultural resources are doing to meet educators' needs. Over 20 representatives from area resources, ranging from the Richmond Symphony to Colonial Williamsburg to the Virginia state capital, will be available to answer questions and provide material concerning what their facilities have to offer.

Among the distinguished speakers are Daniel Jordan, executive director of Monticello, and Professor Pat Duncan from the division of teacher educaton at VCU. Educators from central Virginia and VCSS members from all over the state will be attending,

Participants will be given a tour through the Valentine Museum and Wickham-Valentine House and invited to visit the nearby John Marshall House and the White House of the Confederacy. Lunch will be served in the Wickham-Valentive House garden. For more information call the Public Programs Assistant Capri Hall at 649-0711.



Kathy Laraia—Commonwealth Times

Dogs, dogs everywhere...

Dr. Jack Haberstroh of the mass communications advertising department tested the validity of the claims of Grand Gourmet dog food last Thursday. Grand Gourmet says that dogs are "picky" and will choose the "best" dog food. Haberstroh's students brought their pets to class to determine how picky their canines really

WRITING CONTEST

Win \$50 for Poem, Story or Literary Analysis.

Typed submissions are due by April 17, 1989. Rules are posted on Hibbs 314 door.

Open to all students





WRIES NEEDED!

THE COMMONWEALTH TIMES IS LOOKING FOR ENTHUSIAS-TIC, RESPONSIBLE PEOPLE TO COVER, INVESTIGATE, REPORT, ETC. ON VCU EVENTS AND 4 · NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY · OPENINGS AVAILABLE IN ALL SECTIONS CHIMINITIANS · OPPORTUNITY TO GAIN VAL-UABLE REPORTING EXPERIENCE FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact the C.T. at 367-1058 or stop by 916 W. Franklin St. (second floor).

FOLIO

VCU THEATRE

Production ready for Wednesday opening

By Lynn Follmer Staff Writer

Frantic students are racing around in corsets, a stage manager is trying unsuccessfully to get them calmed down and in place at the same time, and the director waits out front, probably biting his nails or talking a mile a minute, but to himself. This is the scene audiences don't see just before the curtain goes up at the Hodges Theatre on Wednesday.

The play: "Love's Labours Lost." The author: William Shakespeare. The director: Dr. Kenneth Campbell. The cast: nervous wrecks.

"It's scary. Theater is a no-win art form," said cast member Benjamin Chowney. Chowney originally came to VCU to major in graphic art but became a theater major and hopes to follow a career in theater.

"If you don't have stage fright, you've got to wonder whether or not you are still sensitive to the audience," agrees David Marsh, a 25-year-old graduate student in the cast.

These two students captured a whole cast's feelings about opening night. Perhaps an actor's biggest fear is going on stage and having a whole show fall apart around him, no matter how prepared he thinks he is.

And this production is even better prepared than most. Due to the difficulty of the script, students began rehearsing the show in January, which gave the actors almost four months (instead of the usual six weeks) to get the play ready.

A potential problem in rehearsing too long is that a play "goes stale" and the actors tire of it. Too many late rehearsal nights can make even the most enthusiastic actor ready for the end. This was not the case here, however.

"He's made the rehearsal period very relaxing because we haven't been here every night which is real nice," said Chowney about Dr. Campbell. "We spent the first three weeks just sitting looking over the script," interjected Jon Christianson. This was important, Dr. Campbell felt, so that the cast would understand every aspect; therefore, audiences would better understand the show. It seemed the cast worried that potential viewers. would be put off by the age of Shakespeare's play and the resulting extra effort needed to understand it.

Sally March, a sophomore, feels that people shouldn't even think about how long ago the show was written. "There are things about people that never change," she said.

Marsh agreed. "There is a good and very funny story here."

Althogh "Love's Labours Lost" was one of Shakespeare's first plays and was written in the early 1590s, the director has opted to set it in 1913. The students feel as though it is pretty modern.



David Krasner as Boyet

"It's like fraternity boys meeting sorority girls," said one cast member. "And they want to get laid and the girls won't let them." Are you sure this is Shakesneare??

Nonetheless, the show is ready to go and the actors are greatly anticipating opening night. For no matter what happens, the feeling of togetherness and excitement is one that can't be matched. "It's like Christmas," explained CeCi Stephens.

The real glory is getting out there and 'giving it your all.' The lights, sets, and costumes only add to the thrill of performing for an audience. It's a feeling that is difficult to explain and even harder to forget. The only way to get that feeling back is to go out and perform, again and again

"Love's Labours Lost" will be performed at the Hodges Theatre, 922 Park Avenue, April 12-15 and 18-22 at 8:00 p.m., and April 16 at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are available at the box office before the show and are free to VCU students.



Clockwise: Benjamin Chowney, David Marsh, Pam Good and Ceci Stephens

m	
Tricia Burke	Katherine
Benjamin A. Chowney	Berowne
Jon Cook	Nathaniel
ratty Cooper	Moth
C.C. Courtney	Mercade
William Fecke	
Pamela Good	
Michael Klahre	
David Krasner	Boyet
John P. Kristiansen	Longaville
Helen Lindberg	Maid
Sally K. March	Jaquenetta
Andre' Marrero	Dumaine
David Bolton Marsh	
Joseph P. Mason	
Frank Minor	Forester
Shawna Payne	
Amy Riddick	Maria
John Wayne Shafer	Holofernes
Ceci Stephens	Princess

Good music, bad personality

By Luke Funk Folio Editor

The Washington Squares popped up on the music scene in 1987 with their self-titled debut album. They toured extensively throughout the United States and Canada and quickly gained a following for their folk influenced music.

The band, however, was full of contradictions. They contantly spoke of their



beatnik influence and dressed with the garb of that '50s clique, complete with black sunglasses and berets.

They beat their beatnik-ness into the ground. Their press kit talked about beatniks. Their interviews talked about beatniks. Their pictures were all with beatnik garb. They beatniked themselves almost to death.

They haven't given up the beatnik clothes but at least they have matured enough to downplay what they described as more than a gimmick. Guitarist and vocalist Laureen Agnelli said, "You have to change sometimes...it's O.K. for people to change a little bit."

That downplay was probably for the better because it allowed their music to shine through and become the focus for the band and the media.

Now the band has come out with a follow-up album entitled Fair and Square and the band has concentrated on modernizing folk music for the 1980's and beyond.

The album has a much more refined sound than the first one and is much more appealing to the average listener than their first effort.

Just before the album was released the band played a show at the Jade Elephant and gave the crowd a dose of their new songs. Songs such as "Neil Cassady" and "Fourth Day of July" were received well.

They also gave the audience a taste of their influences, with covers of Lou Reed's "Sweet Jane," the Jefferson Airplane's "Somebody to Love" and the traditional folk version of "House of the Rising Sun."

The band still has a problem that became apparent in the early stages of their first set, though. They need to let their music speak for itself and not anything else. The band made ridiculous comments like, "Back in the '60s when you could get good acid, this was big."

They also took several opportunities to insult and ridicule the crowd and the geographic location of Richmond. The band's final insult came after the show when Agnelli asked bassist and vocalist Tom Goodkind to join her in an interview. Goodkind's response was, "For Christ's sake, its only a college newspaper."

The band doesn't realize that they are not firmly established in this area or they just don't seem to care. There is a potential market for their sound and they are a very competent trio, but they will be destined for mediocre sales if they do not realize

that their biggest potential market lies in the college music scene.

If the Washington Squares are taken for face value as a musical group, they

should appeal to a large following. If music, not attitude, is all you care about when you buy a record, I recommend Fair and Square.

Unique arrangements



By Luke Funk Folio Editor

Four guys from New York got together in high school and started a band. It happens to a lot of kids in New York. But how many of these bands actually survive? Not many do. One that did is Too Much

I had never heard of Too Much Joy when someone asked me to listen to their second album Son of Sam I Am.

I found the band to be sarcastic, irreverent and actually very good. Their most impressive accomplishment and what really stood out when I first listened to the album was not how they played their music or what the words say but how the band experimented with vocals

on the album.

Their singing can be described as a mix between the Dead Milkmen and They Might Be Giants, with a bit of Lou Reed thrown in for good measure. In fact, Lou Reed was one of their early influences. On Son of Sam I Am, though, they ridicule Reed for "hawking scooters and American Express" in the song "Hugo!"

A good example of the band's unique vocal arrrangements is on "Song for a Girl." The three vocalists interchange different tones and harmonies while an almost hidden harmonica wails in the background, tying together the seemingly disjointed voices.

The album starts out with "Making Fun at Bums," billed as a socially conscious effort about a boy who used to make fun of bums but is now homeless. The lyrics could have had potential but end up as strong as cardboard: I've got a real cool poster / but no wall to hang it on / and I've got this evil head / but no wall to bang it on. The music for the song is upbeat, though, as it is on much of the album.

Too Much Joy shows diversity in their selections, from an L.L. Cool I cover ("That's a Lie") to "1964", a rock oriented peice.

Their humor is manifested on "Clowns," a sarcastic masterpeice that lampoons just about every institution but the Church. I have nightmares filled with clowns / and you're there too / You have a

See Joy page 15

music

By Luke Funk and Maureen O'Haire Staff Writers

Some big names will be coming to Richmond in the comming weeks and several of them will be appearing at VCU.

Tonight (Tuesday) the Replacements will appear at the Richmond Mosque in support of their latest release, Don't Tell A Soul. It will be interesting to see if the band slows down some of their earlier music to mesh closer with the more pop-oriented material they have been releasing. Cellar Door Concerts is presenting the band and WVCW has given extensive publicity to the show, including ticket giveaways.

Speaking of WVCW, the station now has a progressive music night at Famous Frank's. Every Thursday disc jockey Rick Pfamatter will host the event.

Shafer Court shows are 0-2 against the weather but the VCU Concert Committee will try again this Friday afternoon when the Red Hot Chili Peppers are scheduled to bring their heavy-funk sound to the outdoor stage. If the weather doesn't cooperate the show will be moved to the Cary Street Gym in the evening.

The Flood Zone is presenting the New Orleans Radiators on Wednesday, April 12, for a show to benefit the Blue Flamingo Theatre. The Flood Zone is also welcoming Guadacanal Diary on April 28.

Album Briefs



Madonna Like a Prayer

Most people want to hate Madonna no matter what she does. The snobbery has lessened over the years since people are realizing the most notorious pop superstar of the '80s is obviously going to be around for quite a while. Madonna's new album Like a Prayer is incredibly interesting and painfully sincere. It's not all hype, so give it a chance.



Graham Parker Live! Alone in America

Graham Parker and his electric guitar should be enough to keep just about any sensible person happy. That's exactly what you get on this album. Parker reaches all the way back to "Black Honey" and carries you up to "Don't Let It Break You Down." The only flaw with the album is that it's all too predictable.



Rosanne Cash Hits 1979-1989

Another greatest hits collection from someone you never knew had any hits. Well, whether you knew it or not Johnny's little girl has had plenty of hits and now they are in a neat little package ready for mass consumption. Hits include "Seven Year Ache," "My Baby Thinks He's a Train" and "Tennessee Flat Top Box," along with two new songs. Refreshing.

CORNERSTONE THEATER COMPANY

PRESENTS

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

In Association with Theatre IV





April 13-15 and 20-22 at 8:00 P.M. With Saturday matinees at 2:30

Tickets are \$8. Student rush tickets are \$5, available for all performances. For ticket information call Theatre IV at 344-8040

"Radically rambunctious ... eccentric ... It works."

Robert Merritt Richmond Times-Dispatch

"This stuff is brilliant...the Bard himself would be mighty pleased at the intelligence and soaring theatricality Cornerstone has brought to the task of turning 'Dream' into genuinely living theatre in the late 1980's...frequently breathing."

Roy Proctor The Ricmond News Leader

Poiuy ponders his problem

By Bruce Cahoon Staff Writer

Poiuy was a normal guy, He lived a normal life. He lived inside a normal house And yearned he for a wife. Until one morning he woke up And much to his surprise. He had no thumbs. As far as he could see with his own eyes.

Contemplating thoroughly His problem while in bed. He realized there was a note Attached to his forehead. He took it off unfolded it, With the fingers he had left, To find out what had happened In the night while he had slept.

"Poiuy I have snuck in, In the middle of the night. To amputate your thumbs With my amateur surgeon's knife. If you ever want to see them Alive and well again. Follow my directions and do not vary them."

"Treat this like a normal day,

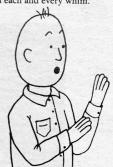
As normal as can be. Go through your morning ritual, Things you do usually. Down in the old old factory In a safe against the wall," Your thumbs are safely locked away In a jar of alcohol."

Deciding it would be best To search out his missing parts, He pushed back his thick coverings, And his day he tried to start Rising from his bloody bed Preparing for the days events He started on his quest, And this is how it went.

Poiuy tried to put on a shirt, But buttoning was no hope. He tried to take a shower But he couldn't hold the soap. He went to use the bathroom But the paperwork was hard. He wanted to eat a pickle But the cap was on the jar.

He had to wear some loafers 'cause he couldn't tie his shoes. He wanted to clip his nose hair But the clippers he couldn't use. He tried to type a letter But he couldn't make a space, No matter what he tried to do He just felt out of place.

Frustrated and half-naked, Lying on the floor. Thinking of the surgeon, Hating him more and more. Fantasizing of the things He'd liked to do to him. Insanely chuckling harder With each and every whim.



One by one Poiuy'd cut off All the surgeon's toes After much harsh prolonged pain He'd amputate his nose. He'd make him watch 'The Cosby Show' For seven hours straight Then take his vegetated brain And use it as fish bait.

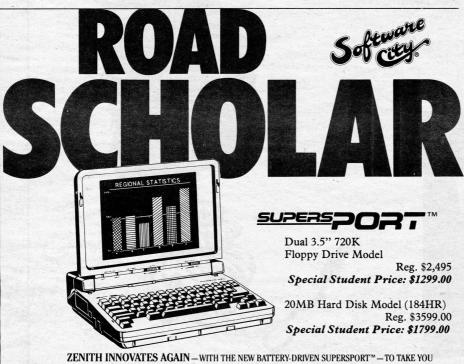
Regaining his composure Letting hate slip from his mind Poiuy started on his quest, His thumbs he had to find. Walking out towards his car In the parking lot, His expectations were cut short His door he couldn't unlock.

Walking to the factory, In coat, shoes, and underwear. He waved to someone that he knew About his hands forgetting to care. The friend he ran off screaming Coughing and retching and such. After that frightening and fate-filled day He didn't call Poiuy very much.

Finally having reached the factory Poiuy entered to find his thumbs. The combination was on the safe This saved a lot of trouble.

Fishing for the chewing gum He'd been smackig on the way. He took it, stuck his thumbs back on and had a happy day.

Until a month later when he woke up with the frontal lobe of his brain missing. Disabling his decision making processes, he now can't decide whether or not to get out of bed where, to this day, he still lies.



ZENITH INNOVATES AGAIN — WITH THE NEW BATTERY-DRIVEN SUPERSPORT™ — TO TAKE YOU

Small, lightweight, flexible and economical. Ideal for spreadsheets, word processing and more. That's the new SupersPort from Zenith Data Systems - today's leader in battery-operated portables.

FLEXIBLE COURSE SCHEDULE. Whatever your agenda, the SupersPort's modular configuration easily adapts to your computing style. With a detachable battery for easier portability-An AC adapter/recharger that plugs into any outlet. MS-DOS® to run virtually all PC/XT compatible software. And 640K RAM Plus the SupersPort comes in your choice of dual 3.5" 720K floppy drive or 20MB hard disk models. For flexible desktop performance anywhere on campus

CARRY SOME GREAT HOURS THIS TERM. Hours of battery power, that is. For greater productivity everywhere your studies take you. Thanks to Zenith's comprehensive Intelligent Power Management a system that lets you control how your battery power is consumed. So you won't waste valuable energy on components and peripherals not in use.

EASY COLLEGE READING. The easiest. After all, the SupersPort features Zenith's renowned dazzling backlit Supertwist LCD screen for crisp text and superior readability. And its CRT-size display is one-third larger than most competing portables for enhanced viewing. The screen even tilts back 180-degrees so it lies flat to accommodate a desktop monitor.

TO CATCH THE NEW SUPERSPORT PORTABLE PC AT A SPECIAL STUDENT PRICE, VISIT YOUR ZENITH DATA SYSTEMS CAMPUS CONTACT TODAY:

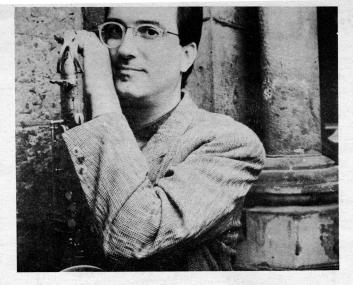
Pick up a Zenith Discount Package from the Academic Computing Department. VCU: 367-6650 MCV: 786-9843



THE QUALITY GOES IN BEFORE THE NAME GOES ON

PC XT is a registered trademark of IBM Corp. MS-DOS is a registered trademark of Microsoft Corp. Special pricing offer good only on purchases directly through Zenith Contact(s) lit. 3 above by student faculty and staff for their own use. No other discounts apply, Limit one portable per, onal computer per individual in any 12-month period. Prices subject to change without notice.

© 1988, Zenith Data Systems



Concert Roundup

Compiled by Luke Funk Folio Editor

Grammy award winner Michael Brecker, a tenor saxophonist, performs with the University of Virginia Jazz Ensemble on Saturday, April 15, 8:15 p.m. in U. Va.'s Cabell Hall Auditorium.

Brecker, whose early influences include

Cannonball Adderly, Miles Davis, Charile Parker and John Coltrane, is an undisputed virtuoso whose imagination is complemented by dedication, discipline, and over two decades of experience on concert stages and in recording studios. He has recorded two award-winning albums under the MCA/Impulse label. His 1987 album "Michael Brecker" won

both the *Down Beat* and *Jazziz* "Jazz Album of the Year" award and was nominated for two Grammy Awards. He was voted Best Instrumentalist at this year's Grammy Awards for his latest release "Don't Try This at Home."

Brecker trained on clarinet and alto saxophone before settling on the tenor. In the late '60s he formed Dreams, a breakthrough ensemble featuring acoustic and electric jazz instruments. By the early '70s he was recording and touring widely, his "Brecker sound" becoming a major force in jazz and rock as he played with John Lennon, Diana Ross, Lou Reed, Billy Joel and Bruce Springsteen. He has worked on over 500 albums with his identifiably full-throated, soulful sound.

Also appearing as guest artists on the concert program will be drummer Robert Jospe, guitarist Tim Reynolds and keyboardist Butch Taylor, who will perform with Brecker in a small combo. Tickets to this concert are \$8 for students and \$10 for the general public. Due to limited seating in the auditorium, advance purchase of tickets is recommended.

Concerts here at VCU include the VCU Wind Ensemble, conducted by Dr. Terry Austin, at the Performing Arts Center on Friday, April 14 at 8 p.m.

Also, the VCU Symphony Orchestra under the direction of David Commanday, will present its final regular concert of the year on Thursday, April 27 at 8 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center Concert Hall, 922 Park Avenue. The program will feature the winners of the 1989 VCU Concerto Competition performing solo selections with the orchestra.

big red nose / and stupid floppy shoes / You're becoming one / I can see the signs / I hate clowns / almost as much as I hate mimes.

The most striking element of the New York quartet's sound is their bizarre lyrics, which often come across as existing simply for the sake of rhyming. Normally it would be hard to justify this but Too Much Ioy makes it work.

Their song subjects are also a bit obscure for a band striving for the college and Top 40 markets. An example of this is "Bad Dog." a song about masturbation.

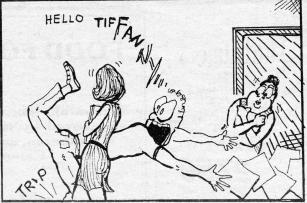
"Bad Dog," a song about masturbation.
"Kicking" will probably be the most acceptable song to the radio crowd, with its simple, steady beat and catchy lyrics. Midway through the song a powerful drum comes into play and livens up a song that might otherwise come across as mediocre.

The band might have some problems getting on the radio for two reasons: They start out several of their songs with talking introductions and they manage to slip in four-letter words into most of their songs. The reason for this is elusive. Perhaps they are trying to establish new boundaries for what will be accepted on commercial radio.

Too Much Joy is currently playing gigs with Athens, Ga.'s Love Tractor. Both bands will be at Rockitz on April 14. Ed. note: Does Love Tractor play any other cities besides Richmond?.

The album should prove to be a worthy investment and great music for a party or to play in a car during the summertime.

















RESERVE OFFICERS' TRAINING CORPS



YOUR FIRST STEP TOWARD SUCCESS IS THE ONE YOU COULD TAKE THIS SUMMER.

At Army ROTC Camp Challenge, you'll learn what it takes to succeed — in college and in life. You'll build self-confidence and develop your leadership potential. Plus you can also qualify to earn an Army Officer's commission when you graduate.

Army ROTC Camp Challenge. It may be just what you need to reach the top.



ARMY ROTC

THE SMARTEST COLLEGE **COURSE YOU CAN TAKE**

Contact Military Science Dept. at 786-1977

"Irecommend Diet Center to all my friends.

Susan Saint James



There are a lot of diets out there, but here's why I think Diet Center's the best Lose fat, not muscle. Research shows 92% of the



weight lost on the Diet Center program is excess fat, not water or lean body Eat real food. No expensive prepackaged meals required

No contracts. You'll stick with Diet Center because it

You'll feel the difference."



NOW SAVE 50% on membership

900 E. Main Street Ground Floor 783-1277 412 Libbie Avenue 288-8446 (THIN)

Students, Here's Your Assignment:

OFIND A FURNISHED APARTMENT

There are some things they just don't teach you in school. Like how to find an affordable, furnished apartment that's convenient to school, with utilities included, plus color TV, free continental breakfast, night security, swimming

pool, lounge, restaurant, hair salon, bus service, and laundry facilities... as well as optional maid service, cable TV and parking.

If you need a little help with this assignment, just call The Park Hotel Apartments at 644-PARK (644-7275). Short- and long-term rentals available, 30-day minimum lease. Located at *per person, double occupancy Franklin & Belvidere.



Thalhimers

DIRECTIVES® PERMANENT WAVE OR REVLON® RELAXER INCLUDES HAIRCUT, SHAMPOO AND STYLE

WITH STYLIST OF THE DAY

SAVE 10% ON ALL SERVICES WITH YOUR VCU/MCV STUDENT OR FACULTY I.D. CARD

Expires April 29, 1989.

Essanelle Salon, Downtown, 343-2232; Westmoreland, 257-7111; Azalea, 266-0070; Cloverleaf, 745-9111; Walnut, 733-3150.



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

A monthly lecture and luncheon series sponsored by the Catholic, Episcopal, Lutheran, and United Methodist **Campus Ministries**

> for students, faculty, staff and friends of VCU

> > features

Dr. Robert Clifton, Dean, MCV Student Affairs

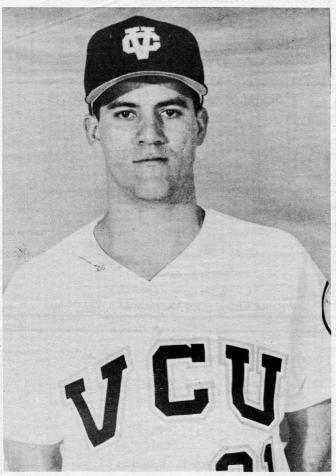
Topic: "Judicial Affairs"

Tuesday, April 18, 12:15-1:15 at Pace Memorial United Methodist Church 700 W. Franklin St., next to Rhodes Hall

A light lunch will be served

SPORTS

Pitcher tosses Rams into winning season



By Jennifer L. Williams Staff Writer

Tony Helmick has won more games already this season than he won all last spring.

Helmick, a right-handed pitcher for VCU's baseball team, has been doing his best to insure that the Rams continue to win, at least when he's on the mound.

Helmick, a junior, is 4-1 this season with a 3.52 earned run average. His ERA was 2.18 before he pitched against the Richmond Spiders.

Last Tuesday VCU went to play at the University of Richmond, a dangerously small ballpark. To add to the threat of home runs flying out left and right, there was a strong wind blowing out towards the outfield. Helmick had the assignment to pitch to the Spiders. Although he was removed from the game and did not receive the eventual victory to his credit, he pitched as well as he could.

"It was important to keep the ball down and runners off base," Helmick said. "I had to just try to throw strikes. With the wind blowing out, if you get the ball up over the plate, a routine fly ball could have gone out."

The Rams won the game 14-11 and Ricky Morris picked up the win in relief.

But that is just the latest in a series of games that show that Tony Helmick has returned as an influential pitcher for VCU's staff. He has won one game in each of VCU's conference series this year, beating Old Dominion and UNC-Charlotte. He is the No. 3 starter in the three-man rotation used for conference games. This is an important role, as the third game often decides the difference between winning or losing two out of three in a series.

"The conference games are the most important," Helmick said. "Our goal is to get into the Sun Belt tournament and to get an at-large bid for the NCAA tournament."

Helmick throws a fastball, curveball, changeup and cut fastball. He says that he has not changed anything in his delivery or approach to pitching between this season and last. This is surprising since last season he finished at 4-6 with a 6.01 ERA. The difference may be his confidence level on the mound.

"I'm just trying to throw more strikes," Helmick said. "Trying to get ahead of the hitters and not walk very many. The walks are usually the runs that score."

Helmick does not take much credit for his success on the hill. He says that his teammates, especially catcher Adam Knicely, have a lot to do with it.

"Adam is doing a great job behind the plate and in calling the pitches," Helmick said. "I feel comfortable with him back there. The defense is also doing an excellent job behind me. They've been turning lots of double plays and making some great plays."

Helmick has 30 strikeouts in 38.1

innings pitched. As he continues to get the call to try to hold opponents at bay, he will be fine-tuning his new and improved technique.

As the Rams roll on towards the end of the season and whatever it brings, Tony Helmick will be there contributing.

"I'm just working on doing my best to help out the team," he said.

Baseball Notes

With the Rams off to a hot 18-4 start, the weather continues to put a damper on things as the rain has now washed out a total of 14 games.

Losing several key Sun Belt matchups with UNC Charlotte caused the Rams to fall out of the national polls, but they remain atop the nation in team earned run average.

The Rams have a 2.58 ERA and have six shutouts to their credit. The outstanding pitching is just as strong in the bullpen as it is among the starters.

The VCU bullpen has been outstanding this year, turning in a 0.84 ERA in the first 20 games. Opponents are hitting a paltry .156 against Ram relievers.

Reliever Danny Flanagan has collected two saves and two wins; he has an ERA of 2.20. Ricky Morris, the stopper out of the pen, has three saves, is 2-1 and has a 1.15 FRA.

Among the starters, Jerry Dipoto has 34 strikeouts in 49.1 innings of work with an ERA of 2.55 and a 3-1 record. Tony Helmick, 4-1, 3.52 ERA and 30 strikeouts in 38.1 innings; Melvin Hornsby, 2-0, 0.61 ERA and 12 Ks in 14 innings; and David Sartain is 2-1, 2.83 ERA and 31 Ks in 35 innings.

Adam Knicely is handling the duty of catching all of this pitching. He is also contributing at the plate, as well as behind it, batting .286 with 17 stolen bases.

Defensively the Rams are fielding at a

.973 clip and have turned 27 double plays. The keystone combination of shortstop Tim Barker and second baseman David Ziara is as smooth as any middle infield duo in college baseball.

Barker and Ziara are the Rams' key offensive sparks as well. Barker has a .351 batting average with 19 RBI and 23 steals. Ziara is batting .326 with 19 RBI and 22 steals.

Cleanup hitter Juan Serrano has raised his average to .356 and leads the team in RBI with 24.

Senior Scott Banton continues to tear through opponents' pitching, with a .365 batting average. He is also fielding .979 in center field, a large area to patrol in The Diamond.

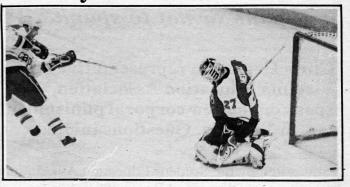
Left fielder Eddie Hiner is also carrying a big part of the offense, hitting .319 while starting every one of the 22 games.

The Rams' Tony Helmick has been named this week's player of the week. Helmick scattered four hits and four walks to lead the Rams to a victory over UNC Charlotte. He one-hit St. Joseph's and tossed seven shutout innings against UNCC.

As we went to press, it was reported that VCU had split a doubleheader with Jacksonville on Saturday evening.

The Rams play host to the Soviet National Team in an exhibition at 3 p.m. on Friday, April 14 at The Diamond. The Richmond Braves will take on Columbus at 7 p.m. following the exhibition.

Hockey action



Washington Capitals Michael Pivonka gets a goal past Philadelphia Flyers goalie Ron Hextall in the first game of the Patrick Division semifinal playoffs last Wednesday night. The Capitals overcame a two-goal deficit to defeat the Flyers 3-2 in the Capital Centre in Landover, Md. The Flyers' Brian Propp scored two of the Flyers three goals in the third period of game two to lead Philadelphia past Washington 3-2 and even the best of seven series at 1-1. Washington traveled to Philadelphia for the weekend for games three and four.

Sports Briefs

Athlete of the Week

After winning four of five matches playing in the No. 1 spot, senior Mark Troxell has earned player of the week

Troxell had straight-set victories against Virginia Military Institute, Atlantic Christian and UNC Charlotte and took a three-set duel at Duke. His only loss came to Washington and Lee's John Morris, who is ranked No. 6 in the country

"His game has really turned around since coming back from our Florida trip,' said tennis coach Eric Wammock. "He is playing good solid tennis now and seems to be getting stronger with every match."

Troxell is 5-2 after the Florida trip and has raised his season record to 6-8. Troxell is the only returning player from last year's team.

He was a four-time All-Prep League selection at St. Christopher's here in Richmond and finished third in the National Interscholastic Tournament as a senior.

Golf Notes

VCU finished fifth in a tough 14-team field at the Augusta Tournament in Georgia two weekends ago. The Rams trailed Oklahoma, Arizona State, Augusta and Colorado.

Jerry Wood, a sophomore from Martinsville, led the Rams with a 73-74-77--224, which was good for eighth place overall. Freshman Chris Quick finished 15th with 77-74-77--228. Senior Mickey Moore turned in a 75-76-79--230 to tie Tommy Joyce, 77-77-76--230. Junior Mike Grant finished with a 79-80-79--248. The Rams traveled to Chapel Hill, North Carolina for the University of North Carolina Tournament last weekend.

Men's Tennis Notes

The men's tennis team posted its second win of the season with a 5-4 victory over

VMI. The Rams feel to Duke, Washington and Lee, Atlantic Christian and UNC Charlotte.

The No. 2 seed, freshman Joe Sharma from Toronto, won once in singles and teamed up with Troxell to score two wins at the No. 1 doubles position.

"I am not looking for wins right away, but improvement in play," said coach Eric Wammock. "Wins will come down the road

'Joe is playing very good tennis. Although his record doesn't indicate how much he has improved, he is now playing up to his potential."

This week the team travels to Virginia on Wednesday and then returns home to close out the season with matches against . William & Mary, George Washington, Radford, and Old Dominion.

Women's Tennis Notes

The women's tennis team went unbeaten last week with wins over Randolph-Macon, Lynchburg, and Radford to boost its record to 11-4.

"The victories came from an outstanding team effort," said coach Eva Bard. "Every one is starting to play to her potential. We are playing solid tennis and having fun in our matches.

"The doubles team of Lesley Iones and Karen Metzler (both freshmen) has scored several big victories this year, the latest being against Radford to break a 4-4 tie and give us the win."

Jones-Metzler are 6-2 in the No. 3 spot, the best record of any doubles combination. Jones also holds the best singles record: 10-2, 9-5 at the No. 5 spot and 1-0 at No. 4.

Junior Janina Fox had three wins in one week, one at No. 6 and two at No. 4.

The Rams will play host to Old Dominion today (Tuesday) and then travel to face Maryland-Baltimore County and Howard later in the week

To spank or not to spank...

Chris Daniels, a representative of the Virginia Education Association, will speak on the new corporal punishment law in Virginia. Questions invited.

Sponsored by the Student Education Association Oliver Hall Room 4084 Tuesday, April 18 7 to 9:30 p.m.

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS WHO NEED

Financial Aid Regardless of Grades or Parental Income.

- We have a data bank of over 200,000 listings of scholarships, fellow-ships, grants, and loans, representing over \$10 billion in private sector
- funding.

 Many scholarships are given to students based on their academic interests, career plans, family heritage and place of residence.

 There's money available for students who have been newspaper carriers, grocery clerks, cheerleaders, non-smokers. . . etc.
- Results GUARANTEED

For A Free Brochure (800) 346-6401



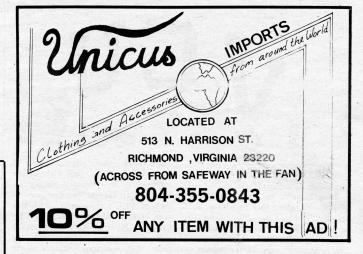
CARRIAGE HOUSE BOOK SHOP

402 N. HARRISON ST. (ACROSS FROM STUFFY'S) 353-7151



"An Old Fashioned Bookshop"

WHERE BROWSERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME



College Students:

FUNDS

are now available for your

EDUCATION

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN RECEIVING Scholarships, Fellowships, Grants'

YOUR ELIGIBILITY IS GUARANTEED!

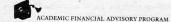
reguardless of financial status or academic performance.



FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL: 1-800-283-8328

A NATIONAL SERVICE COMMITTED TO HIGHER EDUCATION

se funds DO NOT require reimbursement



EDITORIAL

Speaking of dialogue, talk is cheap

By Tracy E. Ebbert Guest Columnist

Goodness gracious, Mr. Poe, we haven't seen so much interest in neighborhood dialogue since "All in the Family" went off the air. Seems like all anybody wants to do since VCU's Master Site Plan was revealed during the last week in March is dialogue, dialogue, dialogue. Or, as they say in Oregon Hill, talk, talk, talk.

Thomas Poe, director of university relations at VCU, is very interested in dialogue. He says he'd welcome dialogue with concerned citizens. Poe spent four years in public relations for A.H. Robbins, and he really knows the value of expressing an interest in dialogue.

"Expressing an interest in dialogue" is an odd sort of notion, calling to mind a deliberate, theatrical script. Talk, though, is the shorter, Anglo-Saxon, low-tech version of dialoguing.

Talk is what people do in Oregon Hill. They talk during supper on Pine Street. Perched on the graceful 19th century italic porches of Cherry Street, people in Oregon Hill talk. They talk about the kids and the weather and they talk about politics. Real talk sounds different than dialogue, and it leaves you feeling as satisfied as a Wednesday night pancake supper.

The Save Oregon Hill Organization (SOHO) has tried to talk with the university for the entire two years the university has been drawing its Master Site Plan. SOHO members made numerous requests that they be included in the planning stages. According to Poe, this kind of dialoguing wasn't necessary during the planning stages inasmuch as the university was "dialoguing internally" with its various factions during that time. (See, "dialogue" can be a verb, too - no wonder its all the rage!)

Actually, according to Poe, when the Site Plan was presented to the neighborhood associations during the third week in March, the time was still not appropriate for community involvement. The Site Plan was merely being presented (like a play, with characters and dialogue) to the neighborhood leaders. Now, after this presentation, the university has deemed it appropriate for the neighborhoods to enter into dialogue.

Dialogue, according to the Oxford English Dictionary, is a verbal interchange. It requires both transmitting and receiving, at alternate times, from each party. It requires, in other words, that each party listen to the other at some point. When one party is not included, what's going on is not dialogue. One doesn't have to be a college graduate, a script-writer or a public relations genius to figure out when dialogue becomes monologue.

While this seems to be a fairly simple dynamic, alas, two weeks after the Master Site Plan was announced to the neighborhood association, there still seems to be more energy expanded on expressing interest in dialogue than in actual dialogue. This is what really gets their goat over in Oregon Hill - nobody's talking.

Leaders of SOHO say they would like to talk about three specific items:

1) Could the Board of Visitors' approval of the Site Plan be delayed until the fall, so that the neighborhoods have a little more time to talk about their options and concerns? Not "internal dialoguing," just talking about the options a neighborhood might have when its only laundromat, drugstore, hardware store and 7-Eleven are targeted for inclusion in a campus

2) Could the university share with

It might behoove the university to consider the big picture. It's not a show at all.

SOHO the parts of its Site Plan that were referenced but not included in the presentation in March? If they're going to dialogue, they'd like to be reading off the same script.

3) When does the university Board of

Visitors meet? Could it really be in May? Certainly the university would not present this Site Plan for final approval to its distinguished board less than six weeks after the scenario was presented to the affected citizens!! Why, that's hardly time for a dress rehersal, less time to get the citizens' show on the road!

The university directed citizens to address comments in writing to Tom Poe. Several individual citizens have done so. No answers have been forthcoming as of press time. Dialogue, as an exchange of information, stops when one party simply does not reply.

Expressing an interest in dialogue, on the other hand, can continue indefinately, and to do so creates the illusion of cooperation. One wonders if the interest is in real communication or in the furtherance of plot, creation of characters, or merely spinning the projector, using up film, taking up time. At this point, of course, the value of dialogue diminishes,

or as they say on Oregon Hill, talk is cheap

Maybe the problem goes deeper than a mere unwillingness to reply to hard questions. Perhaps the university feels that the neighborhoods are merely bit players in its big picture show. Maybe that's why the dialogue seems to be occurring on just one side. Maybe that's why the script seems to have been written singlehandedly rather than by a process of collaboration.

If it is indeed the case that the real

people, living in real homes, who support local businesses and pay real taxes, do not fit into the university's big picture show, it might behoove the university to consider the very big picture. It's not a show at all.

In the very big picture, affordable lower-income housing is not merely a theatrical set for a land-use consultant's conceptualization of the perfect urban university. A neighborhood like Oregon Hill is a real place where real people live and breathe and have their being. In the very big picture, talk in the neighborhood can be translated into grassroots political movements of surprising force. One of the things they still talk about in Oregon Hill is the way Earl (and Chuck, of course, and God rest Sen. Willie's soul, he was there too) went down and got Gov. Dalton to stop the university from condemning the neighborhood the last time it went land shopping.

Virginia Commonwealth University has stated three basic institutional goals: teaching, research and community service. In the very big picture, Oregon Hill's survival as a vibrant community, bordering and supporting the university, may be more important to the furtherance of those goals than any number of new buildings.

If you want snappy neighborhood dialogue, petition your local television stations to bring back "All in the Family." If you want to talk, the community is listen-

Warm days bring reborn youth

By Zachary Reid

With spring acting like it is here to stay, time has come for me to let all those fainthearted winter fans know just what the change in season means. It is more than a mere day obscured in late March, but rather a complete change in the way you go about doing things. Gone are those awful football games, political arguments and staying inside because it is too cold to do anything else. Here upon us now are warm days, pleasant nights and a reborn

Spring brings with it a sense of being free. After months of confinement and loneliness you can run around without a worry in the world. Even if you have a lot to worry about, spring tends to let you forget about your problems and do what you want, at least for a while.

Spring means a lot of different things to different people and what follows, in particular order, is what it means to me.

It means baseball is back. Spending a warm night at the ballpark with a couple of friends is like no other experience. Hearing the solid crack of a well-hit ball leaving the bat or the distinctive pop of a nice fastball hitting the catchers mitt can quiet any conversation. The reasonable pace of the game allows you to enjoy a good cigar (or even a bad one) while trading the most trivial of statistics with fellow fans. You can argue why you think the Yankees will finally win again and warn the die-hard Orioles fan not to be too overly optimistic about an opening day win. You can discuss your idea of what should be done in certain situations and bask in glory when it is done or curse when your advice is unheeded.

It means pulling out your shorts and putting away your socks. You can let your legs breathe and show off that ghostly white skin before everyone else has a tan. Running around in your favorite bermudas and a T-shirt goes a long way in making you feel years younger and a lot more carefree.

It means being able to go out and not worry about just where you are going to put your jacket once you get there. Having to lug a cumbersome coat with you at a party can dampen the fun.

It means being able to go inside and not having your glasses fog up on you. I know it happens to everybody who wears specs, but I still feel a little embarassed entering a room full of people and not being able to see one of them.

It means going back to my parents house and spending the night in the hammock, watching the river flow and listening to Jimmy Buffett on an old tape player. Throw in a good friend or two. and this is as close to heaven as I will ever

It means leaving your windows open ALL the time. A good breeze coming into a dimly lit room, and any night seems like the best night you ever had.

It means going to the beach at night. There is a section of Virginia Beach (and I'm not saying what section!) that is just beautiful after dark. You can take a long walk up and down the shore or lay out a blanket and gaze at the stars for hours. Given the right company, this is the second closest I will ever get to heaven.

It means taking off for the weekend and going sailing. This I have as yet to really do, but someone I know quite well just bought an 18-foot cat boat and I plan on spending some quality time on it. (I included it here because I have spent a lot of time thinking about it when I should have been studying.)

It means taking a day off of classes and going to the river. This is a must for every VCU student before they graduate. For those of you that have been, you know it is not a long trip, just down Carry Street

See Spring Fever page 21

Metropolis seized by urban terror

By John Sylvester Staff Writer

Washington, D.C.

It's an image which shall be engraved into the memory of future generations as the epitome of our democracy's troubles. These afflictions should no longer be approached as temporal. The cancer must be cut away, yet the surgeons on Capitol Hill refuse to soil their gloves, even as they wallow in one of America's most tumorous districts. We need this administration to show decisive leadership instead of congressional mumblings (specifically about declaring martial law in our nation's

Although D.C. is by no means the only chaotic flood zone, it's perhaps the most poignant example of the urban terror that has seized our communities. It's a terror that erupts from the hellish mix of drugs, guns and the infamous mismanagement of urban officials like Washington Mayor Marion Barry. Under Barry's administration, Washington has become a bloody quagmire not unlike the primordial swamp upon which it was built. Bulllets whizz through the humid D.C. air like the mosquitoes that originally dominated the area before it was seen by Lafayette. Lafayette knew the danger of the diseased insects before he was commissioned to draw up the basic blueprint for D.C.; could he have envisioned the plague that now creeps through his aging project?

Even now it's hard to believe the violent insanity of D.C. No longer are gang members killing rival criminals. Random splashes of gunfire squeezed off by these gangs seem to inevitably hit innocent civillians who have the audacity to take a walk or even play on the junglegym. Obviously the shootings are presntly confined to particularly impoverished areas of the city, but statistics show an alarming upsurge in citywide violence, which has extended its ugly reach to the surrounding suburbs.

Let's now turn our attention to the wellsprings of the deadly crisis gripping the District Of Columbia. Even to the casual observer it's apparent that the problem centers around the insatiable demand for narcotics in our society. The illegalization of drugs has caused the black market to flourish. To rephrase the sentence: The government has outlawed a single branch of consumer products, and therefore willfully and knowingly created an entire anti-system (or culture) predicated on illegal if not wholly violent

This violence could not be carried out to its present extent however, were not sophisticated weapons also available at a whim to absolutely every citizen (or illegal alien, as the case may be). I can't imagine, for instance, that over 127 people would be dead this year, already in D.C. alone, were drug dealers reduced to bare-knuckle brawling or throwing beer cans at each other. George Bush has miserably failed in his mock blow against the proliferation of automatic rifles in this country by banning the AK-47. Could it be the fact that Bush himself is a card-carrying member of the NRA? Where's the beef, George? It's piling up in front of the White House in the form of corpses, created by regular gunfights in the streets.

Where has control of the city gone? How is it that Barry hasn't been ousted from his soiled (to be euphemistic) post as mayor of the murder capital of the nation? Practically every major official in his administration has been indicted or convicted of a felony. Numerous companies that have formerly been or are presently contracted to do work for the city are involved in litigation concerning drug-related offenses or conflict of interest cases. The mayor's back and hands are sore from so much back-slapping (rumors have spread throughout D.C. for years that his nose is beginning to look raw as well; his alleged drug addiction is blamed).

Should education be blamed for the crisis in D.C.? Education itself shouldn't but the hypocrisy of Ronald Reagan's "Just Say No" program should, to a certain extent, bear most of the responsibility. How many of us really believed that Nancy could persuade an entire generation to abstain from drugs without a penny from her husband to back her up? While Reagan threw money at defense, citizens threw their cash at drug dealers and said, "More, please."

I urge America to rethink its priorities. Guns, not drugs, should be most the most

viciously sought and stamped out. Education must be more fervently supported but let's not simply throw money at the problem. Let's THINK about it first something our education system hasn't been able to perpetuate. How many of my readers, for instance, know what the Second Ammendment entails? I urge our communities to be less reticent in opting for change in governmental structure when they are faced with insurmountale bureaucracy. I know for certain that Marion Barry prays daily that you won't say a word.

LETTERSLETTERSLETTERSLETTERSLETTERS

Both Sides

To the Editor:

I am writing in response to Michael Snapp's column "Saying 'No' to sex unitl marriage" in the March 28-April 6 edition of the Commonweealth Times. I would like to set the record straight so that students who are interested in this topic will have had access to both sides of the issue and be better able to make decisions

I am a Peer Sexuality Educator for the University Student Health Services and have been for the last three years. During those years I have spoken to over a thousand students and have yet to come across anyone who did not think the program presented was relevant. In fact, my experience has been that the majority of students request more programs and information related to the topics we provide information on...

The programs currently being offered cover the topics of sexually transmitted diseases, AIDS, communication and contraception. For Mr. Snapp's benefit I would like to add that these topics are done on a request basis and he, as well as anyone else, "will have to look hard for dates, times and locations" of these events unless he/she is a member of the group making a request for the presentation. Also, I would like to note that the contraception program we provide covers the following methods: ABSTINENCE, THE PILL, CONDOMS, DIA-PHRAGMS, and VAGINAL FOAMS, JELLIES, FILMS AND SUPOSI-TORIES. I personally have spoken on these issues countless times.

The next issue that I would like to adress is that VCU University Student Health Services does not "endorse casual, premarital or promiscuous sex among the student body." The Peer Sexuality Education Program is designed to train volunteers and enable them to provide information about AIDS, safer sex, contraception, sexually transmitted diseases and intimacy. With this information, we hope that students who are trying to make a decision about whether or not to become sexually active will have some idea of what becoming sexually active means (responsibilities, consequences and risks involved) or the alternatives to intercourse (abstinence, kissing, masturbation, touching, etc.). Our philosophy is that this information allows students to make a more informed decision about their sexuality, rather than making unwise decisions based on peer pressure or ignorance.

A third issue I would like to adresas is the safer sex dance that over 200 students attended. The purpose of the dance was, once again, to INFORM students about safer sex issues, including abstinence. Contrary to what was stated in Mr. Snapp's letter, information was provided on abstinence and staff members were available to answer questions concerning this Of course he would not know this since he declined the offer to atend the dance himself and answer students' questions in person.

Students who are interested in the areas of AIDS, contraception (including abstinence), sexually transmitted diseases and communication and who would like to set up a presentation should contact the Office of Health Promotion at the University Student Health Services, 367-1212. Again, the Peer Sexuality Program is designed to provide information which will allow students to make informed, healthy decisions for themselves.

Sincerely, Lisa Aberle Peer Sexuality Educator

The Winner Is

Click. The calculator is off for another year. I have completed another tax form. Again, I have sent money to fuel a wasteful and inefficient federal government. But what can I do?

What if citizens paid taxes to the government agency that they thought most deserved it. What would happen if I could send all of my tax money to the Peace Corps?

Several things would happen. The individual would be dollar voting for the department that he saw as paramount to the functioning of government. People who don't vote might begin to take a stronger interest in government.

The agencies in the federal government that the people thought to be trivial would weaken or die out.

In this paradigm, the federal agencies would compete for the public funds by proving their effectiveness. The government would be more accountable for every dollar it spent.

Democracy is too beautiful an ideal to be a rhetorical buzzword. The government should try to empower the people as the Founding Fathers intended.

> Sincerely, Scott A. Haugh

Black Alaska

If you happened to look in Monday's issue of the Times-Dispatch you may have come across an open letter to the public written by the chairman of the board of Exxon Corporation. This letter stated that Exxon had acted "swiftly and responsibly" to correct the deeply tragic ecological nightmare in Alaska.

It's amazing isn't it, that a corporation of this size can publish an untruth of this magnitude when the same article states that "several hundred people" have been secured to clean up a disastrous oil spill that will affect this environment for thousands of years and cause untold pain, death and damage to animal life, as well as possible extinction of some animal and plant species.

The enormous number of dollars spent on printing this national disclaimer should have been spent to employ more people to clean up the spill and prevent further damage to our fragile planet.

> Marty Watkin Jonathan Romeo

Inside The Law

To the Editor:

I am glad that Allison Skaggs is so informed as to what goes on in a police department ("Police officers at armslength with the law"). I am so sorry she had the "misfortune" of meeting up with "screaming sirens and blue lights in the worst of all places." To me, the worst of all places is where the sirens and lights are needed the most! Many drivers have been pulled over and had license and registration "demanded" of them and been told to fix that crack in their headlight. Those same drivers should consider themselves lucky that they were not issued a summons for improper equipment. Fractured headlights are not as "criminally offensive as homicides, rape and child abuse" but they are more frequent, just as misdemeanors are generally more frequent than felonies. Furthermore, does Ms. Skaggs realize that police departments are broken down into different divisions that handle different problems, from the traffic division to the vice division?

Police officers do not try to contol us, they only monitor our behavior. If someone is breaking the law he is infringing on the rights of others, either directly or

See More Letters page 21

More Letters

(from page 20)

indirectly. Police officers do not "prowl" the alleys searching for vehicular offenses; they patrol their beats and monitor wrongdoings, and when they find something wrong they must act on it. It is their job. I personally feel better knowing that in a city like Richmond, we are patrolled and watched constantly.

I am unhappy to hear that Ms. Skaggs personally knows police officers who smoke dope. However, Ms. Skaggs should have done a little research for her article and not based it all on opinion and she would have discovered that less than 2% of all police officers are involved in illegal activities. She asks how can one administer the law if he isn't living within its perimeters, I ask how can one criticize something she obviously knows nothing about? I am glad she also knows "exactly" what the problem with the police force is. Maybe she should be the city manager since it is obvious she is omniscient

Ms. Skaggs also does not seem to realize that writing tickets is part of the policeman's job, just as making misdemeanor arrests is. She also griped about the whole city receiving parking tickets while a murder is committed. Does she know that the police department employees support officers whose job it is to write tickets, because they take some of the burden of enforcing parking problems off of the other officers? Also, pay your meters; it is the law no matter whether the streets have been paid for or not!!!

I agree with Ms. Skaggs that violent crimes need to be stopped, but she seems to put all the burden on police officers to do just that. The simply cannot! They are understaffed (Ms. Skaggs, where did you get your information that there are enough

Spring Fever

(from page 19)

over the Huguenot Bridge and the first exit. It is easy for a whole day to slip away while playing on the rocks and riding down the rapids. No skill is required, just a quest for adventure and a good spirit.

It means spending the day in Moroe Park playing Hacky Sack, throwing a Frisbee or watching everyone else.

It means heading out to the Diamond for a VCU baseball game. This is another must for our faithful student body. The games are free and the team is good.

It means smiling for no reason other than that it is a nice day. You smile even on the way to an Econ test. You may lose tht smile once you get there, but at least you had a pleasant trip to class.

It means no more theme parties. The idea may be nice, but not many people ever take them seriously. The early crowd may all be dressed in pimp and whore attire, but by the time the late crowd gets there, you end up looking silly.

It means it is time to quit messing around and prepare yourself for finals. I hate to include it here, but I know from repeated personal experience that it is true. And what a bad time to have to study.

And it means wishing I had that 1972 Cadillac convertable I have wanted for a long time. Yeah, the two-door model with the rust spots and a trunk big enough to house a family of eight. And yeah, the one that will suck all my money away through the gas tank. But I would love it just the same. Big, open and free. And that is what spring is all about.

police officers to cover every square city block?!), underpaid and need more equipment to facilitate their job functions. They work lousy shifts, are often in court on their days off or after they have already worked a midnight shift, they work week nds and holidays and have little time to spend with their families. Police officers are always on duty, even if they are not on

I'm sorry, but we do not have a bunch of "all flash, high and mighty Miami Vice cops" trying to fight crime

patrol.

Police officers do not just arrest some one for no reason. Has Ms. Skaggs ever heard of probable cause? I am sorry, but we do not have bunch of "all flash, high and mighty Miami Vice cops" trying to fight crime. What we do have are real men and women who work long hours to help keep the citizens of this city safe. They protect and serve the community to the best of their ability and they have little community support or cooperation. How many times have police officers gotten to the scene of a crime only to hear "I didn't see a thing." How can they be expected to solve crimes with little or no evidence and little community cooperation?

I too see police officers at Dunkin'

Donuts and 7-Eleven, but don't you think they deserve a break? Most other professions get a break during their work days, so why critcize officers for doing the same? I too have seen police officers sitting in the parking lot and I am so glad that Ms. Skaggs knows exactly what the officers are doing —"just chatting the midnight shifts away." Did she ever stop to think that they could be finishing paperwork or passing on information about previous calls? The world is not going to fall apart because police officers drink coffee or talk to each other while they are on duty. Nor can the American taxpayers complain that their tax money is buying the coffee. Doesn't Ms. Skaggs realize that police officers are taxpaying citizens too and that they contribute to their own salaries, just as every other taxpayer in America does.

The jails are not overflowing with "victims of circumstance," but with criminals that the police and the courts have put there. There are problems with law enforcement officers just as there are problems with any other profession in the United States. Police officers

are good guys to some and bad guys to others. Most of all, police officers are real people who work a real job and do an outstanding job, considering what they have to work with. Ms. Skaggs should look into the ride-along programs many agencies offer to the public so she can learn more about what actually goes on every day in a police department. Maybe then she will be able to write an informed, knowledgeable piece about police work, rather than an abrasive, opinionated, uniformed article on her perceptions of police officers and their duties.

Sincerely, Lori Anne Rogers

International Week

Sponsored by the International Student Union

Monday, April 10

EXPO '89! Includes shows, tables with souvenirs, dances and music from different parts of the world.

Tuesday, April 11

International Food Festival. Sample differnt foods and sweets from different parts of the world. EXPO '89 continues.

Wednesday, April 12

International Art Exhibition. Organized with the help of international art majors.

Thursday, April 13

International Language Day. Display of samples of works written in different languages, including books, poetry and alphabets.

Friday, April 14

Fas hion S how. International costumes modelled. Business Building Auditorium from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Saturday, April 15

Banquet followed by a blow-out party. Banquet will be held in the Baptist Student Union starting at 5:30 p.m. Dance in the Common Ground, from 8:30 p.m. until midnight.

Look for International Week events and displays at the Commons from 10 to 4 p.m.

Commonwealth Times

Executive Editor
Mike Carosi

Managing Editor
Anne Kinnaman

News Editor Katie Sharrar

Assoc. News Editor Erika Johnson

National Affairs Editors Ceci Costanzo Brady MacDonald

Folio Editor Luke Funk

Sports Editor Denise Wood

Editorial Editor Nik Ashburn

Assoc. Editorial Editor Kimberly Ford

Calendar Editor Maureen O'Haire

Copy Editor
Jay Hawkshead
Kathy Underwood

Chief Photographer Kathy Laraia

Assoc. PhotographerBob Helber
Mandy Lee

Production & Design Tito Chazo

Ad Production Kelly Hofler

Classifieds Manager Kelly Hofler

Business Manager Suzanne Willis

Ad Manager Steve Skinner

Accounts Manager
Laura Marakowits

Distribution James Rucker

The Commonwealth Times, a newsmagazine serving Virginia Commonwealth University and its surrounding community, is published weekly, except during holidays and examination periods, by students of VCU.

Offices are located on the second floor of the Millhiser House, 916 W. Franklin St. The mailing address is Box 2010, Richmond, Va. 23284-2010. The telephone number is (804) 367-1088.

All contents are copyright 1989 by the Commonwealth Times and may not be reproduced in whole or in part without the express written permission of the Commonwealth Times. The opinions expressed in the Times are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect those of VCU or the Times.

The Times is a member of the Virginia Collegiate Press Association. The Times is printed by Hopewell News Printing, Hopewell, Va. Press run is 10,000.

The Times is partially funded by student activity fees.



Apartment to sublet

1 bedroom, living room, kitchen and bath \$275/month includes heat 3131 Hanover Ave. Call James at 367-1058

Summer Sublet

1 bedroom apartment in Oregon Hill Renovated and furnished Quite street with garden and front porch \$325/month Call Anne at 367-1058

Hey Angela:

Thanks for the visit. You are now 'Assoc. Baby.' Your pals: Mike, Nik, Leo, Eva, Heather, Tito and yes, Paul. You all come back now, ya hear?

Classifieds Classifieds Classifieds

Attention

ADOPTION Loving couple, unable to have children, seeking infant to adopt. We can help with medical and legal expenses. Call Terri and Ted collect 703/759-2762.

ADOPTION: Happily married couple wants very much to adopt newborn. We offer a warm, loving, secire home. We can pay your expenses. Strictly legal and confidential. Call Laura and Bill collect. 804-296-2771.

ADOPTION: Happily married couple unable to have children wants to share a warm and doring home with an infant. We will pay medical, legal and birth related expenses. Call George & Barbara collect (703)573-5640.

ADOPTION: Are you pregnant but not yet prepared to raise a child? Prehaps we can help one another. We are a stable, childless couple seeking to adopt a baby. (my wife is a VCU Alumnus) We can help with legal and medical expenses. Legal and confidential. Please call collect:

Bets & Fred 703-550-0238

Downtown Area-Newly renovated historic homes to rent with central air/heat and all appliances. Walk to MCV/VCU. Henshaw Realty 643-0920 or 360-4228. Near VCU, Studio apartment. Store front with basement. Kitchen/bath 1000 sq. feet. Renovated. Secure. References, 407 Hancock St.

HISTORIC AREA—Newly restored house to rent. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, central heat/AC, washer dryer, dishwasher. Walking distance to VCU. 358-9181.

WEST END--2 female non-smokers to share 3-bedroom townhouse. Master bedroom/bath, \$168; Room \$146. Deposit, 1/3 utilities, references. 273-0384.

FOREST HILL-PARK AREA 1 large, sunny bedroom and living room, eat-in kitchen, full bath, seperate entrance. \$350 + utilities.

For Sale

A T T E N T I O N — — GOVERNMENT SEIZED VEHICLES from \$100. Ford, Mercedes, Corvettes, Cheveys. Surplus Buyers Guide. 1-602-838-8885 ext. A-7474.

Beautiful, New Stromeyer & Eppo women's suits, sizes 8 & 10 with shirts from Britches. Suits cost me \$275 you can have them for \$100. 262-5725.

Government Homes From \$1 (U Repair) deliquent tax properties and repo's. For current lists call 805-644-9533 ext. 613. also

Help Wanted

National Property Management Company has part time and full time positions in outside marketing, leasing and management training Positions available in Richmond, Raleigh and Washington, DC area. Salaried positions with excellent benefits. Please call 285-2275 and ask for Debbie Vaughan.

Models wanted for photography work in Richmond Tri-City area. Some film/video work. Modeling, dancing, or theatre experience preferred but not required. Call Micheal NeSmith at (804)458-4050.

Looking for a fraternity, sorority or student organization that would like to make \$500-\$1,000 for a one-week on-campus marketing project. Must be organized and hardworking. Call Jill or Corine at 1-800-592-2121.

COURIER WANTED
ADVERTISING AGENCY
NEEDS STUDENTS TO RUN
ERRANDS IN THE RICHMOND AREA MUST HAVE RELIABLE HOURS AND TRANSPORTA-TION. CALL JULIE BARRY AT

CO-ED COUPLE to work in Tandem selling marketing re-search information systems. Outside sales in homes of middle to upper income families. Call L. Lovingstine Jackson at 783-2543.

Cruise Ship Jobs Now Hiring Men and Women. Summer and Career Opportunities (Will Train). Excel-lent Pay Plus World Travel. Hawaii, Bahamas, Carribbean, etc. CALL NOW! (206)736-7000 ext. 1006J (Call

SUMMER JOBS OUTDOORS in beautiful Va. mountains or near Eastern Shore at camps for disabled persons. Need males females as camp councilors, lifeguards and activity leaders in horseback riding A&C, music/dance, outpost camping. Challenging but fun! CES, Box 5496, Roanoke, VA 24012.
1-800-542-5900. Financial Office Needs Part Time People. Earn \$5-10/hr. Casual Working Atmosphere. Need No Experience, Will Train,

ZIG-8345.

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT
FISHERIES. Farn \$6000-/week in
cannery. \$8,000-12,000+ for two
months on fishing versel. Over 8,000
openings. No experience necessary.
Male or Female. For \$2-page
employment booklet, send \$6,95 to
M&L Research Dept. 408, Box
\$4008, Seartle, WA 98124-30 day,
anconditional, 100% money back
gluarantee.

guarantee. NURSES-TRY SUMMER CAMP NURSING at our camps for disabled children and adults in beautiful Va. mountains or near Eastern Shore. Full or part summer options, sal-ary/rm/bd, great outdoor recreation opportunities. Easter Seal, Box 5496, Roanoke, VA 24012, 1-800-542-5900.

Services

LASER PRINTER USERS!! HP LASER PRINTER USERS!! HP and Apple laser printer toner cartriges can be recycled! Huge \$\$ savings. Satisfaction guaranteed. For details call RANDMONT at 1-800-332-3658.

PREGNANT? We Care. Free Professional Pregnancy Counciling. Explore All YOUR OPTIONS. Help with medical expenses. You may help chose your baby's adoptive parents. Children's Home Society. Call Toll Free 1-800-247-2888.

Resumes: Quick service . . . typed or typeset...updates while you wait... free kits, evaluations and storage... professional staff writer. AESOP Services, 644-9525.

I Want To Type Your Paper. \$3 per page, Fast service, clean copy, call 367-1058, ask for Anne.

DRIVER AND VAN AVAILABLE 10 YEARS EXPERIENCE, WILL HELP PACK AND CARRY. \$25 FOR FIRST HOUR, CALL 358-3099.

For Rent

CALENDAR



Harlem Renaiaance exhibit at Va. Museum

TUESDAY the 11th

Jade Elephant Bar and Band Night Mosque The Replacements with Tommy Keene

TheatreVirginia "Tomfoolery" through the 15th. Call367-0831 for more details.

Va. Museum "Harlem Renaissance: Art of Black America," includes works by Aaron Douglas, Palmer Hayden, Meta Warrick Fuller and William H.

Last Stop Gallery "Double Exposure-East Coast Photographers,"works by Edward Sherman and Glenn Saffo Richmond Comedy Club Local talent

night Rockitz Randall B.'s Dance Night Shockoe Slip Cafe Cheap Date Night 1708 E. Main Works by Rith Boldaun

and Elizabeth King. A Gallery Space Paintings by Wayne Fitzgerald and Mark Scala.

Jetty The Pursuit of Happiness in Va.

WEDNESDAY the 12th

Grace Street Gallery Taylor Dabney presents photographs of Greece. Call 648-0515.

Rockitz House Music Party Jade Elephant Loud Ladies Night Student Art Space "A Child," an exhibition of paintings by Sarah John-

Floodzone Radiators from New Orleans

Hand Workshop "City Woodworks," furniture, sculpture and carvings by 25 local artists

Bird in Hand Dance Night Richmond International Airport Art at the Airport features works by VCU

graduate students. Shockoe Slip Cafe Big City Library Tavern Spectrum

Richmond Comedy Club Tony Vicich with Richmond's Jack King through the 15th. Above Shockoe Slip Cafe, call 745-3166 for info.

Jade Elephant Cain Razors and Tweed

THURSDAY the 13th

Bird in Hand Willies 9:30 Club Scruffy the Cat Artspace 1306 Paintings by Roomy Pak and paintings, books and sculptures by VCU graduate Mitzi Humph-

Va. Museum Six life-sized, bark-covered figures by Tom Czarnopys Va. Museum 1989 Va. Youth Art

Shockoe Slip Cafe Wild Kingdom Library Tayern Dance Night Boathouse Third World and the Wailers at 8 p.m.

Va. Museum Night for New Films presents 'From these Roots" and "Langston Hughes: The Dream Keeper." Call 367-6588 for details Rockitz Ten Ten

FRIDAY the 14th

Shafer Court Red Hot Chili Peppers and Rosebud, FREE

Boathouse Til Tuesday Newgate Prison Rio

Comedy Club Joe De Lion, Paul Ricks and Coco Leigh Fri. and Sat. at Matt's British Pub. Call 643-JOKE.

Commons Theatre "Friday the 14th: Part VII" at 8 p.m. and "A Nightmare on Im Street: Part IV" at 10:30 p.m. Jade Elephant Dumptruck from Bos-

ton and Silent Boys Floodzone NRBO

New Horizon Cafe New Potato Caboose Shockoe Slip Cafe Doug Clark and the Hot Nuts(I think it's Don's brother). Farmers Market Inn Motivator's

VCU Performing Arts Center VCU Wind Ensemble at 8 p.m. Rockitz Love Tractor - again.

SATURDAY the 15th

Jade Elephant Flipside Mosque Michael Martin Murphey with the Richmond Symphony Pops at 8

State Fairgrounds Strawberry Hill Horse Race

Rird in Hand Dance Night Commons Theatre "A Nightmare on Elm Street: Part IV" at 8 p.m. and "Friday the 13th: Part VII" at 10:30

Shockoe Slip Cafe The Ledge Farmers Market Inn Motivator's New Horizon Cafe AAE VCU Performing Art Center The Opera Studio of VCU will present"Cosi Fan Tutte" by W.A. Mozart, VCU Symphony Orchestra will accompany. Sat. and Sun. at 8 p.m. Call 367-6046 for

SUNDAY the 16th

details

Jade Elephant Sunday Showcase Shockoe Slip Cafe Sunday Splash

Business Building Auditorium "The Idiot" at 6 p.m. and "Night of the Shooting Stars" at 8:30 p.m. Jetty Drivin' and Cryin' in Va. Beach

Van Ryper's Neville Brother's, Connells and Indecision

MONDAY the 17

Jade Elephant Open Jam Night Shockoe Slip Cafe Progressive Night Rockitz Funk-A-Rama

VCU Student Commons Dr. Abu-Rabi will speak on "Islam and the West: Dialogue or Confrontation" at 7:30 p.m. in room D.

UP AND COMING

April 21 Jade Elephant Miracle Legion

May 13 Boathouse Tom Tom Club



Dumptruck at the Jade on Fri.

COME AND GET THE HIGH PRICES BEING PAID FOR YOUR USED TEXT BOOKS AT THE NEW VIRGINIA BOOK COMPANY 404 NORTH SHAFER STREET

\$\$\$\$\$ \$\$\$\$\$\$\$ \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$



** JUST ONE BLOCK NORTH OF SHAFER COURT **





SALE! SALE!

SAVE SAVE SAVE SAVE

"ASK ABOUT OUR FREE BOOKS"