

WEATHER



WEDNESDAY — Partly sunny. Highs between 65 and 70. Northwest winds between 10 mph and 20 mph.



THURSDAY — Partly cloudy. Highs in the 60s. Lows in the upper 30s to lower 40s.

Commonwealth TIMES

INSIDE

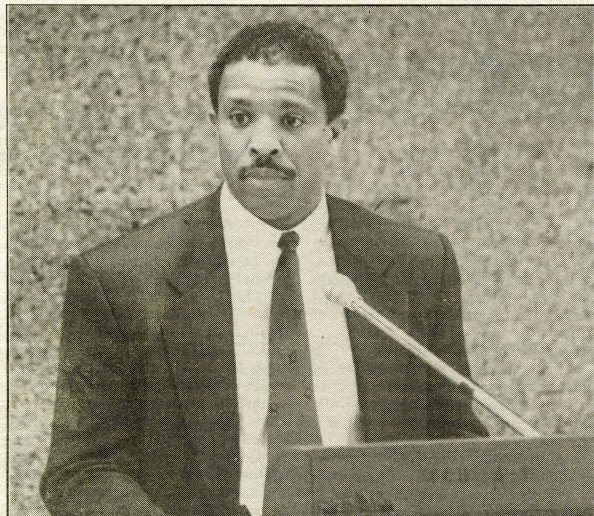
• Bonjour! The French Film Festival returns to VCU. See Spectrum for the calendar of events. See page 12.



WEDNESDAY, March 22, 1995

The Student Press of Virginia Commonwealth University

Vol. 26, No. 61



Bill Buckman/Commonwealth Times

SAFE OR SCARED? — David Hicks, Richmond's commonwealth attorney, talks about how to feel safe in a city. Hicks participated in last night's Fifth Annual Richmond Area Development Archives Lecture.

Panel discusses perceptions of urban safety

Tara Slate Donaldson
CT STAFF WRITER

A McDonald's on the corner ... People coming and going in the afternoon ... Luxury cars parked outside next to palm trees.

Do these images make you feel safe or scared?

Gut reaction vs. reality was the topic of the last night's Fifth Annual Richmond Area Development Archives Lecture.

Diane L. Zahm, associate in research at Florida State University, spoke about issues of crime, planning, design and prevention in the urban environment at the lecture, "Safe or Scared."

Zahm showed slides of urban areas and asked the audience to give their reactions to each picture — whether the area made them feel safe or scared.

Although the majority of the audience said the image of McDonald's was a familiar and reassuring picture, in reality the particular restaurant was located in the highest crime neighborhood of Tallahassee, Fla.

She also showed pictures of a rundown neighborhood, strewn with litter and weeds. Most of those in attendance agreed the picture made them feel scared, but Zahm said the neighborhood shown was a low-crime area and

CRIME continued to page 4 >

Wilder may join VCU faculty

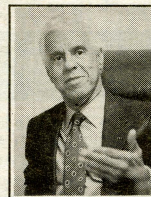
James McMahon
CT STAFF WRITER

VCU's recently formed Center for Public Policy soon may be adding former Gov. L. Douglas Wilder to its faculty.

Robert D. Holsworth, director of the center, said while there is a possibility Wilder may join the faculty, nothing is definite.

Should Wilder decide to accept a position with the university, he would not be a tenured faculty member but may teach part time. This could include courses open to students from both campuses and possibly from other area campuses as well.

"We've discussed (with Wilder) the possibility of team-teaching with another faculty member and opening up a course to VCU students and possibly students from



L. Douglas Wilder

other area universities," Holsworth said.

Holsworth added that Wilder would not be paid from state funds, but instead from private funds received by the university.

The Center for Public Policy was established July 1, 1994, and is a campuswide center combining both the Academic and MCV campuses.

The center, Holsworth said, is intended to highlight VCU's confidence in various public policy areas, while conducting research on public policy issues. The center also participates in the public policy training for public officials.

Included in the center is the Survey Research Laboratory, which conducts polling and research, the Transportation Safety Training Center and the Virginia Center for Urban Development.

Bringing in someone with Wilder's recognition, Holsworth said, would help strengthen the reputation of the new center.

"If Governor Wilder is here on faculty,

WILDER continued to page 4 >

Flu season gone but not forgotten

Laurence Wallace
CT STAFF WRITER

Since the flu season has ended and spring is underway, students and university health service workers are breathing a sigh of relief.

"At this point, hopefully, we are at the end of the season," said Dr. David Nelson, a physician at the University Student Health Services who saw the flu season peak in February.

"Students are a lot more susceptible to the flu because stress and a lack of sleep breaks down the immune system," said Jeff Wilson, a VCU sophomore. "Students shouldn't neglect their health as much."

Monique Lewis, another VCU sophomore who has been sick to some extent since December, said, "Any environment with a lot of people makes you more susceptible."

"Students with the flu should rest instead of trying to keep going — although our classes require us to."

Class attendance policies, she said, make it tough for students to get the rest they need and add to some students continually being ill.

The flu often is confused with other cold viruses. But the flu has a distinct set of symptoms including fever and generalized weakness and malaise.

"There are a lot of viruses that imitate the flu, but you won't get the high fever if it isn't the flu," said Cynthia Holmes, a registered nurse at University Student Health Services in Gladding Residence Center.

The flu, like most viruses, has to run its course, Holmes said. Typically the flu lasts from five to 10 days, though the "rundown" feeling may persist. People with the flu need plenty of rest and should drink a lot of fluids because of the excess fluid loss it causes.

Sometimes the flu is treated with Amantadine, an antiviral medication that must be taken within 48 hours of the onset

FLU continued to page 4 >

Angelou to speak at VCU's 1995 Commencement

Melanie Irvin
CT NEWS EDITOR

Maya Angelou, who became only the second poet in U.S. history asked to write and recite original work at a presidential inauguration, will speak at VCU's 1995 Commencement.

Graduation activities are scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. May 20 at the Richmond Coliseum.

Angelou recited "On the Pulse of the Morning" at Bill Clinton's 1993 inauguration.

VCU President Eugene P. Trani said a committee of faculty, students and members of the Board of Visitors made a series of recommendations for the Commencement speaker, with Angelou at the top of the list.

"I think it's an excellent opportunity for the univer-

sity," Trani said. "Commencement is the one activity that's shared by all students at the university, and if it's done well, it's the one activity that will be remembered by all students."

Diana Scully, director of VCU's Women's Studies Program agreed.

"I'm very excited," she said when asked about Angelou's speech. "I've ordered my cap and gown, so I'll be at graduation. ... Whatever she says she'll say it with great insight and dignity, and I'm sure she'll be inspirational."



Maya Angelou

SGA president proposes constitution amendments

Sherry Jones
CT NEWS EDITOR

After several months of discussing possible changes to its constitution, the Student Government Association Executive Committee Monday heard several recommendations from the group's president.

Although SGA President Cathaleen Bryant did not have her proposals in written form, she did ask the committee for suggestions and recommendations before the constitutional amendments go to the full senate for action.

Some of her proposals include:

SGA continued to page 4 >

WORLD/NATION



• Killer caught in Okla.-N.Y. controversy executed

MALESTER, Okla.—A two-time killer who was at the center of a tug of war between former New York Gov. Mario Cuomo and Oklahoma's former governor was executed by lethal injection early Monday.

Thomas Grasso, 32, was pronounced dead at 12:22 a.m. In 1993, then-Oklahoma Gov. David Walters lost a court battle with Cuomo about whether the killers should be put to death in Oklahoma or forced to serve a New York prison sentence first.

Republican George Pataki vowed during his successful campaign against Cuomo last year that he would send Grasso back to Oklahoma and reinstate the death penalty. Within days of taking office, Pataki ordered Grasso transferred to Oklahoma. Based on one of his last statements, Grasso's ex-wife was charged with helping him in one of the killings.

• Gunmen in Algeria wound reporter, kill her sister

ALGHERS, Algeria—Gunmen seriously wounded one of state television's few female reporters and killed her sister Monday, another sign that women and journalists have become targets in Algeria's 3-year-old civil war.

No group immediately claimed responsibility for killing Houria Hammadi, 36, and wounding Rachida Hammadi, 32. One of Algeria's most violent fundamentalist Muslim groups, the Armed Islamic Group, recently threatened to kill journalists unless they stopped working.

The Armed Islamic Group and other groups accuse state-run media of collaborating with the military-backed government to suppress Muslim groups fighting to establish an Islamic state.

• Ferguson opens hearing with 3 1/2-hour statement

MINEOLA, N.Y.—The man convicted of killing six people on a commuter train began a marathon sentencing hearing Monday with a long, rambling statement in which he argued unsuccessfully that the verdicts be set aside.

Colin Ferguson spoke for 3 1/2 hours, telling Judge Donald Belfi the guilty verdicts on six counts of murder and 19 counts of attempted murder should be overturned because of the "publicity and hostility" his trial created.

Ferguson shot up a Long Island Rail Road train on Dec. 7, 1993. The hearing is expected to last three days. He faces multiple life terms.

VIRGINIA



• Bacteria kills student

NORFOLK—D. A. Taylor, 16, a junior athlete at Norfolk Academy, has become the second student to die from a meningococcal bacteria that health officials think was spread at a track meet in Alexandria last month.

The first student to die from the infection was a 15-year-old student from Episcopal High School in Northern Virginia.

A third student infected by the same strain, Norfolk Academy senior Hannon Wright, is home and likely won't suffer any long-term damage, his family reports.

• Hampton police looking for Best jewelry thieves

HAMPTON—Police are searching for two thieves who stole a large amount of jewelry from a Best Products store.

While a woman distracted a clerk by asking several questions, her accomplice crawled behind the display counter, unlocked two jewelry display cases and pocketed a large number of diamond rings and bracelets, said police Lt. Ed Davis.

Best Products would not disclose the dollar value of the heist, but Davis called it a "very substantial amount of jewelry." The company is offering a \$10,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of the suspects.

RICHMOND



• Two men charged in 2 shooting deaths

Two South Richmond men were arrested Monday and charged with murder stemming from two separate shootings within 12 hours of each other in the Jefferson Village Apartment complex last week.

Kevin Thomas Evans, 20, of the 2500 block of Brady Street, has been charged with several counts related to the death of Atoi Shearin.

According to police warrants, Evans faces one count each of premeditated murder and malicious wounding and two counts each of use of a firearm and possession of a firearm after having been convicted of a felony.

Evans, an auto mechanic, is accused of fatally shooting Shearin and wounding his brother, George Shearin, Thursday about 8:35 p.m. in the 6200 block of LaMar Drive.

George Shearin remained in stable condition at MCV Monday night.

Authorities also charged Kevin Dion Tisdale with use of a firearm and first degree murder in the death of William J. Morris, of the 3000 block of Laurel Brook Tisdale, 21, of the 100 block of LaBrook Drive, is unemployed.

Police said Morris, 20, was in the 6300 block of LaMar Drive when he suffered a fatal neck wound about 8:30 a.m. Friday.

A police official said last week the two murders may be related.

Tisdale, whose mother is a secretary for the Richmond Police Department, was being held without bond in the city lockup Monday night. Evans was being held in lieu of \$160,000 bond. They were to appear yesterday in Richmond General District Court, Manchester Division.

CAMPUS



• Philosopher to speak on moral issues

Peter Singer, world famous philosopher who specializes in moral issues relating to the sanctity of life and to the status of animals, will present "Deciding that a Life is No Longer Worth Prolonging," from noon to 12:50 p.m. Wednesday, April 26, in the Ben Johnston Auditorium, 305 N. 12th St., on VCU's MCV Campus. Singer will address the question of how the quality of a patient's life should be taken into account in life and death decisions.

He also will present "Ethics and The Sanctity of Life" from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the Commons Theater. Singer will argue against traditional views of the sanctity and value of life.

— Compiled from news sources.

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The CT is accepting applications for all positions. The deadline is 5 p.m. Thursday, March 30, and interviews will be Friday, March 31. Paid positions include all section editors, associate editors, production assistant, photography chief and assistant, business manager, advertising director, business assistant and circulation director.

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Sound Off!

Who do you think will win the NCAA men's basketball tournament?



"I don't know ... I don't even know who's playing."
— **Daniel Dove**
24, info. systems

"Do I really care? I don't really care, actually."

— **Tracy Reeves**
22, dance and chor.



"I like Maryland — just because I think they have a lot of good players. I think they have a good offense and defense."

— **Jerome Jenkins**
18, phy. therapy

"I like Massachusetts. For one, they've got a great coach ... and I think they're due for a win."

— **Mike Cancino**
27, P.E. and health



"I'd like to say Maryland because they're probably my favorite team. But I highly doubt they will. I'd have to be with UCLA."

— **Jim Wilson**
19, elementary edu.

"Most definitely Maryland is going to represent ... because the simple fact: Virginia is booty."

— **Pinkii Price**
21, theater



Photos by Stacy L. Reed/Commonwealth Times

Press secretary explains Allen's Assembly failures

Sherry Jones
CT News Editor

"The press always takes the side of David. If you have an opportunity to pull Goliath down, then that makes a better story," said Ken Stroupe, Gov. George Allen's press secretary, about his duties of dealing with the media during this year's General Assembly session.

During a Virginia government and politics class last night, Stroupe explained that the media often sides with the underdog.

Coming into the session, Allen seemed likely to emerge victorious. By the end, however, Democrats had successfully gutted the bulk of Allen's agenda.

Stroupe also conceded that some mistakes were made in getting his boss' message out to Virginians.

"I do take a measure of responsibility for that because I do think there were a number of things we could have done to better explain the budget cuts," Stroupe said.

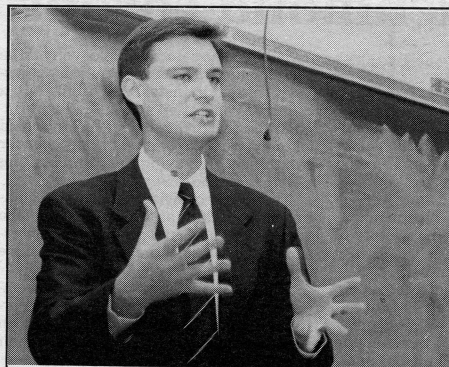
Part of the problem with conveying the governor's message, he continued, stemmed from the assumption that Virginians would naturally understand the benefits of a tax cut.

Giving Democrats credit for better publicizing their actions, Stroupe said this seemed to rejuvenate the Democrats during the recent session.

"Perhaps what we should have done," he said, "is started a little earlier in the process."

Shrugging off criticism, he said Allen solicited Democrat input by making his budget-cut proposals available to them in early December of last year. Perhaps, he added, this wasn't soon enough.

In addition, Stroupe said he expected some objection to Allen's proposals, but was surprised at the overwhelming oppo-



Scott Bass/Commonwealth Times

sition that surfaced.

"We could have done a better job in setting the tone," he said, adding that the Democrats seemed to oppose Allen's legislation on a partisan basis.

Responding to a question about the passage of welfare reform with the help of Democrats, Stroupe said the governor's welfare-reform package was a result of Allen's Empowerment Commission. This meant the recommendation already had been looked at by both Republicans and Democrats.

"It became obvious to us," Stroupe said, "that what we were seeing was a redefinition of everything that we had been working for."

"I tried as much as I could to get the message out there, but we were fighting a mountain lion at that point."

Now in his late 20s, Stroupe said he's always had an interest in politics and knew from the beginning he was a Repub-

LOSING GRIP — Ken Stroupe, Gov. George Allen's press secretary, discusses last night the outcome of this year's General Assembly session. He said Allen's "common sense" proposals were drowned in the political currents of Virginia's legislature.

lican.

"Some would argue it's society," he said, "but I would argue I was born Republican."

A graduate of Bridgewater College, Stroupe told the class it is essential for them to work for what they want.

"All you gotta do is get out there and work for it," he said, adding that politics is a self-made game.

A big part of being successful in politics, Stroupe said, is getting to know the right people, but it's up to the individual to initiate those contacts.

"You take the opportunities that are offered to you, and you build on those," the press secretary said.

Rising to his current position, Stroupe said he had to do some grunt work, but in the end the long hours paid off.

"You create your own future," he said, adding that he's not sure what his future has in store.

Gilmore leads sexual-assault forum at W&M

Evelyn Terry
CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

"Alcohol is a clear warning sign to everybody to be very, very cautious" and "no means no."

These are just two of the messages Virginia Attorney General James S. Gilmore III and a panel of speakers delivered to a group of about 100 students who attended a sexual-assault forum at the College of William and Mary.

"Just because you know each other," Gilmore said, "doesn't give you a license to assault or rape — particularly if the person is saying 'no.' That's got to be accepted. It's got to be taken seriously."

Concerned about the impact domestic violence and sexual assault have on children and families, the Family & Children's Trust Fund of Virginia has sponsored a series of sexual-assault forums at which Gilmore speaks on college campuses this spring. He is scheduled to visit VCU April 17.

Making campuses safer

Gilmore said the purpose of the forums is not to try to tell anyone how to run their lives but to make campuses — where social situations often involve alcohol — safer.

The attorney general encouraged students to ask questions and express their concerns so he could respond and take this

information back to Richmond to push for programs to help students.

"These (campuses) are good places to awaken the notion that people can say no, and people can have control over their own lives," Gilmore said, adding that he's troubled about the environment in Virginia and on campuses where women are being victimized.

Victims' Bill of Rights

As an advocate of victims' rights, the attorney general's legislative package for the 1995 General Assembly included amending the state's constitution with a Victims' Bill of Rights and called for expanding the state's Victim-Witness Assistance programs into more communities.

"I'm a believer in victim's rights, and I think by appearing here is an extension of that," Gilmore said before he talked with the students about a booklet published by the attorney general's office in conjunction with FACT.

The booklet, he described and offered to the students, deals with the facts of sexual assault, the law involved in such cases (including rights and remedies of the victims), risk-reduction tips, as well as who to turn to and what to do if a sexual assault should occur.

This led to a student asking about ways to avoid victimization.

Donna Haygood-Jackson, a member of the panel and the sexual assault response

coordinator for the campus counseling center at William and Mary, responded to the student.

"You can reduce your risk, but it's not going to prevent unnecessary situations that still happen," she said.

Another panel member, Kate McCord, education and volunteer coordinator for the Avalon House, a rape crisis center and domestic violence shelter in the Williamsburg area, elaborated on Haygood-Jackson's answer.

"To avoid being victimized," she said, "trust your intuition — your gut feelings. If something feels weird, get out. ... Listen to the person you may be dating. If a person says 'no,' obviously you take it as a no."

Importance of verbal intimacy

McCord emphasized the correlation between alcohol and substance abuse and being a victim.

"It frightens me that people your age," she said, "are not uncomfortable being physically intimate, but when it comes to being verbally intimate, (you) think there's no way. Practicing being verbally intimate can help prevent sexual assault."

"Hold your friends and peers accountable for their behavior and call them on it."

A female student said she's getting the message that if both parties are intoxi-

GILMORE continued to page 4 ►

Tom Clancy talks politics at the Richmond Forum

Scott Bass
CT NEWS EDITOR

Best-selling espionage and techno author Tom Clancy came to Richmond Saturday night armed with a message: The good guys won the Cold War.

"We won the great world war," Clancy proclaimed to a 5,000 plus Richmond Forum audience packed into University of Richmond's Robins Center. "Democracy defeated the forces of darkness."

The renowned author of best-sellers "Hunt for Red October," "Patriot Games," "Clear and Present Danger" and, most recently, "Debt of Honor," lectured the audience for about an hour and took questions during the second half of the forum session.

He offered a lesson in history, calling on the crowd to take part in their government.

"If you don't like it, change it," Clancy said. "The country belongs to us."

An apathetic populace deserves what it gets, he said, citing crime as an example.

"Crime happens in America because we tolerate it," he said, fielding a question about using technology against crime. "As far as using high-tech equipment to deal with crime — the electric chair is low-tech."

Famed for his knowledge of military technology and intelligence networking, Clancy said "smart bombs" could be used to effectively take out enemy leaders such

as Saddam Hussein. Technology should be used to efficiently achieve military objectives, he said, instead of killing off a country's population.

"I like destroying things," Clancy said jokingly. "The government's only good for two things: destroying things and taking people's freedom away."

The author criticized current presidential policy-making as "the same people who gave us Vietnam and gave us the depression and malaise of the '70s are the same people still making policy."

He said the elections this past November, wherein Republicans gained a majority in Congress, indicated that American citizens were beginning to take back their country.

"We really did it," he said of the Republican takeover. "It showed American citizens saying enough is enough. Let's try something different."

Regional conflicts such as those in Bosnia and Chechnya, he said, have absolutely no effect on this country's national security and don't require U.S. involvement.

"It's a very primitive form of argument fought with high-tech weapons," he said, pointing to the Russian-Chechen dispute.

Clancy added that, since the end of the Cold War, the United States has occupied sole superpower status, unprecedented in world history.

"We've given the world peace," Clancy said of America's triumph over the Soviet Union. "America's legacy to the whole world is peace and democracy."

CRIME

continued from page 1

not unsafe.

"Our feelings of security are not always based in reality," she said. "Very often we focus on crime, but that is not the real issue. It is our gut reaction to things that is the most important."

Zahm said the first step in securing high-crime areas is to clean up neighborhoods.

"When you ask people in bad neighborhoods what are the biggest problems in their lives, crime and drugs are not at the top of the list," she said. "People are most bothered by quality-of-life issues like trash, litter, stray cats and dogs and weeds."

People do not commit crimes in areas where there is high pedestrian traffic, she added.

If we can encourage people to know their neighborhoods, to know the people in them and to know when strangers are hanging around, crime in those areas will decrease dramatically.

WILDER

continued from page 1

he would provide instant national and statewide exposure for the center," he said.

Wilder's history of supporting higher education, Holsworth said, should translate into a desire to work with the students, possibly having students assist him in his work.

"Governor Wilder has a strong interest in students and has always said that the students should always be the main priority of the universities," Holsworth said.

The center, he continued, intends to

A panel responded to Zahm's remarks. David Hicks, Richmond's commonwealth attorney, Jay Malcan, crime prevention policy analyst for the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services, and William Spell, vice chairman of the Richmond Urban Design Committee were on hand to discuss Zahm's comments and how they apply to Richmond.

"The type of places you don't feel safe are where there are no ownership such as open fields, overgrown lots and trash piles," Hicks said. In areas where there is no clear ownership, he said, drug deals and violent crimes flourish.

Malcan cited Monroe Park as an example of an area near VCU's campus that has seen a decrease in crime.

"This campus has really changed for the better. There's still work to be done — there always is," he said.

In the late 1970s, Monroe Park was so dangerous an FBI agent was mugged while returning from class one night, Hicks said. Today, crime in the park is almost nonexistent.

bring in other prominent figures on the national and state levels to serve on its advisory board. The plan is to have the board established by the end of the summer, he added.

In addition, if Wilder joins the center, Holsworth said, there has been talk of holding symposiums in which Wilder would invite nationally prominent figures to come and discuss certain public policy issues.

Holsworth added that VCU is converting its Ph.D. in public administration to a doctorate in public policy.

Provided Wilder decides to accept the position, it would still be subject to final approval by VCU's Board of Visitors.

FLU

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of flu symptoms and continue taking for 48 hours after symptoms have stopped.

Aside from taking medication and drinking a lot of fluids, Nelson emphasized the importance of rest in the recovery process.

"Rest is the best thing a person who has the flu can do," Nelson said.

"Wash your hands often and stay away from people who have the flu (to avoid catching it)," Holmes said. "Just use good general hygiene because of the way it's spread."

An infected person spreads the virus by coughing, nose

blowing, sneezing, sharing drinks, kissing and hand-to-hand contact. Although many people think the flu virus can be caught by sudden changes in the weather, Holmes said there is no proof of this.

"There is no scientific evidence that abrupt changes in weather cause any increase in illnesses," said Holmes.

Wilson thinks getting vaccinated isn't very effective as a preventative measure, especially in his case. Wilson was vaccinated for the flu in October but got it shortly afterward.

"I wouldn't rely too heavily on it (a vaccination)."

In addition, he thinks the University Student Health Services could improve in distributing more information about the flu.

"There's still a stigma for male survivors on campus and in communities," she said. "Until we can address the components of what it's like to be a male survivor, they'll continue to come forward in a more quiet fashion."

McCord said both males and females are helped at Avalon.

"We cannot shelter males ... (but) we do offer individual counseling for males," she said, also indicating that more males are offering their services either as a crisis companion or as help-line assistants.

Resources available

The booklet mentioned by Gilmore lists such resources as campus sexual-assault services as well as local rape crisis centers and YWCAs. Among other resources are The Virginians Aligned Against Sexual Assault in Ivy, 804-979-9002, and the Virginia Lawyer Referral Service in Richmond, 1-800-552-7977.

A final concern expressed by a female student focused on the point that the people who abuse others do not attend sexual-assault forums.

Gilmore said the students present at the forum must carry the message to their peers and must be cultural leaders in the process of changing the climate, changing the culture and changing people's way of thinking about being sexually responsible.

The last spring forum will be April 17 at VCU. Additional campus forums are being planned for the fall of 1995.

SGA

continued from page 1

- forming a judicial committee to interpret the constitution when problems arise;
- creating a legislative action committee to handle issues relating to Virginia's legislature;
- maintaining old senators as advisers to the organization;

- appointing a presidential press secretary to handle media relations;
- establishing a discretionary funds account for the president;

- converting the publicity committee into the elections committee and then electing a vice president of publicity.
- Bryant said she thinks these changes will make SGA more effective in its governance, while at the same time defining the responsibilities of SGA more clearly.

L. Victor Collins, interim director for student activities who also advises SGA, agreed with the need for changes in the constitution.

"The more finitely you can define the roles and responsibilities of all the positions, the better off you'll be," he said.

Also, Vice President Jonathan Bartee said that he would like to amend the constitution to call for a popularly elected president and vice president.

"Maybe it would increase accountability," Bartee said, adding that it at least would provide for more competition.

Currently, these two positions are voted on by the incoming senate at the end of each academic year.

Sen. Charlie Bryan, ad-hoc coordinator, said he is concerned certain groups might manipulate the system to get their representative elected.

Bartee countered his argument, saying there are no safeguards against this now.

"I think it's a good point, but that problem already exists," he said. "Any group can control the senate. It's pretty easy if they get organized."

In addition, the group reviewed proposals from Sen. Thomas House, chairman of the publicity committee, for amending the constitution.

All of these recommendations will go to the full senate next week for discussion and possible action.

At that time, the senate can vote on the amendments or table them for further investigation, Bryant said.

GILMORE

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cated, the male is held responsible for his sexual conduct, but the woman is not.

Gilmore said neither a man nor a woman is in a position to use good judgment when alcohol is involved and directed a question concerning the law to a fourth member of the panel, Deputy Attorney General Walter S. Felton Jr., who also is an assistant professor of law on leave from William and Mary.

Felton said if consent can be proven beyond a reasonable doubt a crime is considered not to have been committed.

"Just because a woman has, for instance, been drinking does not equate consent," Felton said. "But when you bring the difficult factor of drinking in, it sometimes clouds the proof that is necessary."

Males are victims, too

Another student, a female resident assistant, brought up the fact that males as well as females are victims of sexual assault.

"The only problem I've had as far as sexual assault (concerns) males that have been sexually assaulted," she said, "and they feel they can't come forward because they feel they don't get the same support as females."

Haygood-Jackson said male survivors do come forward but in a quiet fashion.

OSH KOSH

MEN'S WEAR



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I Love What You Do For Me

Brian J. French

More O.J. than a Florida Orange Grove

I give.
I spent the last four months avoiding the O.J. trial like the flesh-eating virus.
Fat chance.

There are times in one's life when it becomes obvious that the struggle is futile. Just let it take you quietly, without pain or retaliation.

I have done so.
Despite each and every sane fiber of my spirit screaming at me to maintain my intellectual equilibrium, I have decided to forgo the high-fiber cerebral diet and concede to the pork rinds of current news: O.J.
Knowing now that resistance is impossible, I offer to you, fellow O.J. addicts, a handful of musings about everyone's favorite No. 32.

Innocent until proven that the trial started: Huh?

What this means basically is that O.J. Simpson is now guilty.

Forget the fact that the defense has yet to call their first witness, let alone that the jury isn't within three months of going to the deliberation room. O.J. is now officially guilty.

Funny. From the moment O.J. was caught by 3,000 helicopters that just happened to be hovering over the Santa Monica Freeway, many of us wanted it to be known that he was innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

Every syllable of our mantra was resonated with proper and distinctive gusto. Simpson *must* be found innocent *unless* found guilty *beyond a reasonable doubt*.

Never mind that when Ted Bundy or Jeffery Daumer were first apprehended, we demanded that the authorities bypass the holding cell and courtroom and transport him directly from the police cruiser to the gas chamber.

O.J. isn't like that. He's a made-in-the-USA hero who couldn't have possibly done it. He deserves the benefit of the doubt. That's what the justice system was built upon.

But then ... The damn trial itself actually starts. Marcia Clark brings out her prize witnesses, dresses down F. Lee Bailey in front of 38 television cameras, and suddenly we have O.J. going to the chair and Clark on a pedestal.

Free O.J.!!! becomes *Hang O.J.!!!* seemingly in a matter of minutes.

Let's we forget, however, that the basis of the American judicial system remains unchanged: You are innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. End of

story.

We have yet to hear the defense's "Dream Team" call a witness to the stand. We have yet to hear Lance Ito give the jury their final instructions before doing battle. We have yet to complete the trial.

That seems to be forgotten by many among my peers, who believe the trial should be stopped and the prosecution awarded a TKO.

But one important distinction should be made between a prize fight and the O.J. trial: The prosecution is the only side allowed to land uppercuts so far; the defense can only counter-punch for now. When Bailey, Robert Shapiro and Johnny Cochrane get their licks in, *then* would be the time to complete the scorecards.

Uh, oh; they're saying the R-word again: Yep, race plays a role in this trial, and how the public perceives it.

But forget for a while about the defense allegation that Mark Fuhrman is a blatant racist who planted the bloody glove at the murder scene.

And for that matter, ignore any Rodney King/Reginald Denny parallels some will inevitably draw.

The focal point of this rambling deals with the racial chasm over belief of guilt or innocence.

Specifically, two separate polls have listed white belief of O.J. guilt at more than 60 percent. The same polls have black belief of O.J.'s innocence at more than 60 percent as well.

This means ...

Any number of things actually: Are whites being prejudicial? Are blacks trying to protect "one of their own?"

According to Watergate's very own G. Gordon Liddy, now a talk show host representing the slavery-wasn't-so-bad brand of conservative, the latter rings true.

Liddy read an E-mail from right-wing activist Mona Cherin one day, as she spoke of how wrong it was for blacks to hold onto the myth the O.J. is innocent and urged them to join everyone else in crucifying him. Liddy agreed. I don't.

There is a racial barrier here, but blame cannot be placed. Who knows? There are likely prejudicial players on both sides, but categorizing isn't doing anyone any good.

And O.J.'s guilt or innocence shouldn't be determined through a poll, anyways. This is a trial, not an election.

Let's just forget the damned polls and surveys, kick back, and watch as the rest of the story is told.

Revena M. Bey

Why Whine When You Can Take Action?

Why is it that some student leaders would rather belly ache about problems on campus than take a stand? Recently there was a meeting of organizational representatives to come and voice their opinion on the problems they are having with space requests. Although I have personally heard countless numbers of people complaining about the procedures, lack of space, costs, Janet Howell (reservations manager of the reservation office), etc., there were only three people at the meeting.

I fail to see why these same students didn't show up to voice their opinions and help come up with a resolution for campus problems. Is it more convenient to "flip your lip" about the problems at VCU than to actually do something about it as a group?

Space reservations are a huge problem for some organizations at VCU. For example: Why are organizations

not immediately notified if their space is cancelled for whatever reason? Why, since there is limited space in the commons and more than a hundred student organizations on campus, is the Franklin Street Gym not made available to student organizations for parties, step shows, large gatherings, etc. Why must students put up with "attitude" when addressing staff in the reservations office? Why is it easier for outside organizations to get space at VCU than it is for VCU student organizations? There are so many questions, but who has the answers?

The problems with space reservations will continue to exist here at VCU if the students do not take a stand and see what can be done. All you need to do is follow the leads that are given and campus life at VCU can be made easier for everybody. But if you don't, you will always have something to complain about.

Erin E. Hierholzer

Flying the Coop — Graduation is Upon Us

Spring is here and my little red engine has gone in reverse. Instead of saying "I think I can, I think I can," the tiny voice inside of me, which is getting progressively louder as this week progresses, has started saying, "I no longer care to do this, thank you."

No, this is not a self-esteem problem or a bout of apathy. My self diagnosis has turned up a scary case of "seniorism."

This is a well-known phenomenon that hits many collegiate seniors right after their Spring Break.

For my last undergraduate Spring Break of all time, I decided to break with my tradition of visiting Richmond and actually do something to fit the season. For two weeks (we left a tad early) a traveling companion and I drove across our great nation. Our vehicle was a 1983 Honda Civic. Our budget was near nil. To put it lightly, it was great.

Despite our rather primitive traveling conditions, I have now found myself aching to be gone again. I have one small problem. Well, actually I have 33 problems. That is the number of school days (excluding weekend days) left in this semester.

While my recent trip may have given me a more potent case of "seniorism," I know I am not alone in

carrying this virus. There is my roommate, who verbalized the feelings of thousands of seniors with her thought, "I just want to drink a beer."

Then there is Heather, also a soon-to-be graduate. She has found herself completely unable to study for her exams.

"Erin," she said to me about 12:30 Monday night as we were talking on the phone, successfully avoiding the four exams that between us we were to take the following day, "I'm just so over this. I've been on the phone since seven, calling everyone I know to avoid my books."

"Maybe it's the weather," I replied. While nice weather may cause a bout of "seniorism" to last longer than the average case, this is not the cause of the disease.

Just a few short months ago I wrote a column lamenting my imminent graduation. I desperately wanted to avoid the catastrophe of the "Real World." No longer. It's not that I no longer enjoy collegiate life—I like my classes and still revel in a trip to our friendly Taco Bell Express.

But I just see myself somewhere else, something that a few months ago I did not envision at all. And so, while I may regret it later, I am ready to fly the proverbial coop.

Commonwealth TIMES

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The Commonwealth TIMES welcomes readers' letters. We reserve the right to edit all letters for grammar, style and space. Letters should not exceed one single-spaced typed page and must be submitted by noon Thursday to be considered for publication the following week. Letters must be signed and include a daytime phone number.

Our offices are located in room 1149 of the General Purpose Academic Building; our campus mailbox number is P.O. Box 842010.

The editorial section of the Commonwealth TIMES is a forum open to all members of the Virginia Commonwealth University community. Students, faculty and administrators are encouraged to submit editorials expressing their opinions and concerns about university issues. All submissions to the editorial section must include a daytime phone number where the writer can be contacted. The opinions expressed are those of individual writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Commonwealth TIMES or VCU.

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| 1/2 stick butter | 1 tsp pepper |
| 1 tsp Worcestershire (if you like) | 1 tsp salt |

Cook macaroni in 5 cups salted, boiling water for 15 minutes or until al dente. Drain. In a separate pot, melt butter and mix in flour over low heat. Then, stir in milk until smooth. Add cheese, salt, pepper and Worcestershire. Stir well. Smother macaroni. Serves 4.



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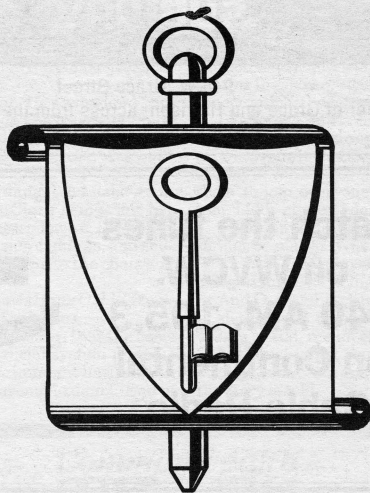
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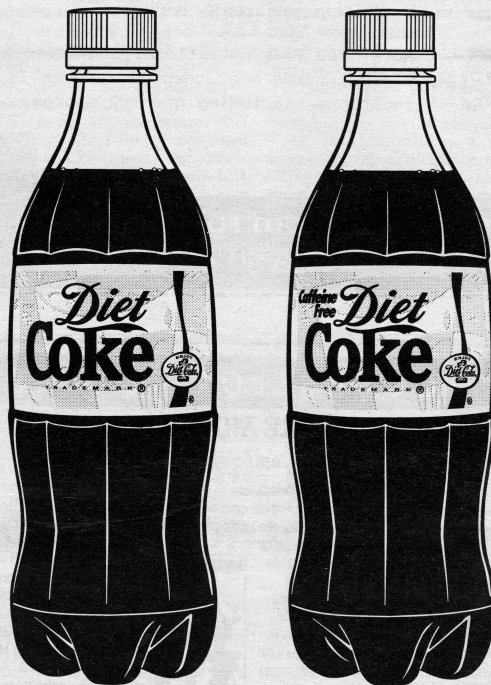
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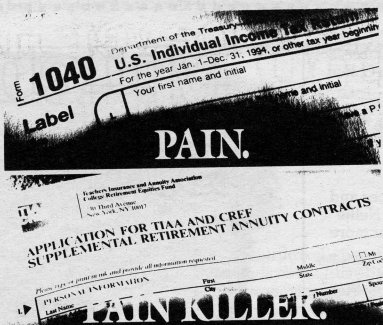
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Application materials may be picked up from and returned to the MCV Gym, the Cary Street Recreational Complex, or the Outing Rental Center. Interviews planned from April 17th through April 21st.

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

Concert: Tesla at Norfolk's Boathouse. For tickets, call Ticket Master at 262-8100.

The Richmond Opera presents "La Boheme" at the Carpenter Center. For tickets, call 262-8100.

Workshop: Women's Services and University Counseling Services present "Eating Disorders and Body Image" at 3:30 p.m. in the commons Capital Room D.

Discussion: "Principles on World Peace" will be in the commons Metro Room at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call 828-3648.

Alpha Kappa Alpha presents "Myths of the Black Woman" at 7 p.m. in the commons Capital Room D. For more information, call 828-3648.

Concert: Saffire - The Uppity Blues Women play at 10 p.m. at Memphis. Admission is \$6. For information, call 783-2608.

THURSDAY, MARCH 23

Concert: Emmet Swimming plays the Flood Zone. For information, call 643-6006.

Lecture: APB/Lecture Committee presents Emily Kimball at noon in the commons Commonwealth Room A. For more information, call 828-3648.

Lecture: The School of Social Work and the Dean's Office present "Current Welfare Reform" at 12:30 p.m. in the Commons Theatre. For more information, call 828-3648.



Photo courtesy of Paramount Pictures

Sharon Stone stars in "The Specialist." The film will be shown Friday and Saturday nights at the Commons Theatre.

New Student Programs presents an academic success program at 3:30 p.m. in the commons Capital Room C. For more information, call 828-3648.

Counseling Services presents "How to Write That Paper" at 3:30 p.m. in the counseling office. For more information, call 828-3648.

Women of Color Film Festival: Women's Services and University Counseling Services present "Mitsuye & Nellie" at 5 p.m. in the Business Building Auditorium. For more information, call 828-3648.

APB/Common Ground Committee presents a Jazz Hour at 5 p.m. in Common Ground.

Phi Beta Sigma presents a Salute to Black Women at 7 p.m. in the commons Capital Rooms A & B. For more information, call 828-3648.

Performance: Theatre VCU presents "Tales of the Lost Formicans" at 8 p.m. in the Shafer Street Playhouse. Admission is free with VCU I.D. and \$5 to \$6 without. For reservations, call 828-6026.

Workshop: Alpha Gamma Delta presents "Risk Management" at 10 p.m. in the commons Forum Room. For more information, call 828-3648.

FRIDAY, MARCH 24

The Miss Teen All American pageant deadline is today. For more information, call (304) 242-4900.

Concert: Reba McEntire plays the Roanoke Civic Center. For tickets, call Ticket Master at 262-8100.

The Richmond Opera presents "La Boheme" at the Carpenter Center. For tickets, call 262-8100.

Poetry Reading: APB/Lecture Committee presents "A Tribute to Mystical Women" at noon in the Commons Plaza. For more information, call 828-3648.

APB/Special Events Committee presents a poetry reading at noon in Common Ground. For more information, call 828-3648.

Concert: APB/Concerts Committee presents Smokehead and Krell at 5 p.m. in Shafer Court. For more information, call 828-3648.

The Richmond Symphony presents the Great Big Yard Sale at 6 p.m. at 4009 Fitzhugh Ave. Admission is a \$5 donation at the door. For more information, call 788-4717 ext. 3300.

Symposium: The art history department presents "New Scholars/New Ideas" at 6 p.m. in the Business Building Auditorium. For more information, call 828-3648.

Film: APB/Film Committee presents "The Specialist" at 7 p.m. in the Commons Theatre. Admission is free with VCU I.D. and \$3 without. For more information, call 828-3648.

The Richmond Area Association for Retarded Citizens sponsors the "Celebration" dance for youths and adults with mental retardation at 7:30 p.m. in the Social Hall of the Chamberlayne Heights United Methodist Church, 6100 Chamberlayne Road. Admission is a \$1 donation at the door. For more information, call 358-1874 or 883-6405.

Performance: "Tales of the Lost Formicans" continues. See March 23 listing.

Women's Coffeehouse: Women's Services and University Counseling Services present poetry, dramatic readings, song and dance at 8 p.m. in Common Ground.

Film: APB/Film Committee presents "Wes Craven's New Nightmare" at 9:30 p.m. in the Commons Theatre. Admission is free with VCU I.D. and \$3 without.

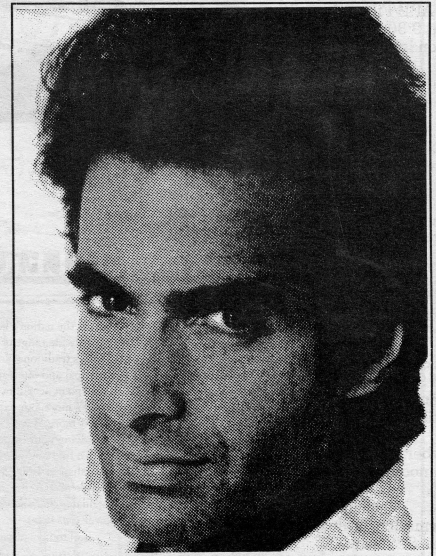


Photo courtesy of the Richmond Coliseum

BEYOND IMAGINATION: David Copperfield comes to Richmond Sunday. The master illusionist will perform twice at the Richmond Coliseum.

SATURDAY, MARCH 25

Concert: Reba McEntire plays the Hampton Coliseum. For tickets, call Ticket Master at 262-8100.

The Richmond Symphony presents the Great Big Yard Sale at 9 a.m. at 4009 Fitzhugh Ave. Admission is a \$1 donation at the door. For more information, call 788-4717 ext. 3300.

New Student Programs presents a workshop on student success at 9 a.m. in the commons Capital Room C. For more information, call 828-3648.

Exhibit: Student Art Space presents an exhibit by Christopher Saunders at 10 a.m. in the Art Gallery. For more information, call 828-3648.

Arts Council of Richmond presents the 7th Annual Children's Book Festival from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Short Pump Elementary School. Admission for the pre-festival breakfast is \$3.50 for children and \$5 for adults.

Strawberry Hill presents the Big Flea Market from noon till 7 p.m. For information, call 431-9500.

The Gellman Room Concert Series presents Thompson & Blake, a local flute and guitar duo, at 3 p.m. at the Richmond Public Library, 101 E. Franklin St. There is no charge. For information, call 780-4514.

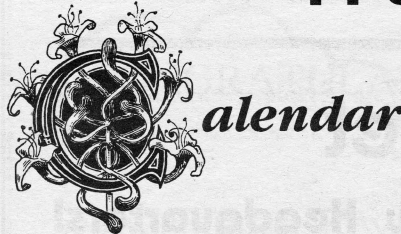
Film: APB/Films Committee presents "Wes Craven's New Nightmare" at 7 p.m. at the Commons Theatre. Admission is free with VCU I.D. and \$3 for all others.

Festival and Dance: International Student Union presents a dance at 7:30 p.m. in the commons Commonwealth Ballroom.

Concert: 4HIM with Kathy Troccoli perform at 7:30 p.m. at the Grove Avenue Baptist Church. Admission is \$13.50 in advance or \$15 the day of the show. For information, call (800) 804-4TTX.

Performance: "Tales of the Lost Formicans" continues. See March 23 listing.

SPECTRUM
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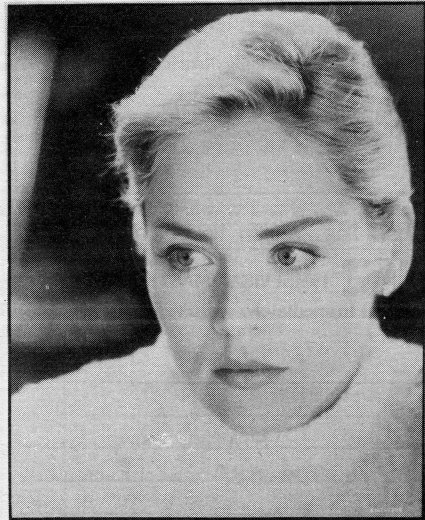


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Women of Color Film Festival: Women's Services and University Counseling Services present "Mitsuye & Nellie" at 5 p.m. in the Business Building Auditorium. For more information, call 828-3648.

APB/Common Ground Committee presents a Jazz Hour at 5 p.m. in Common Ground.

Phi Beta Sigma presents a Salute to Black Women at 7 p.m. in the commons Capital Rooms A & B. For more information, call 828-3648.

Performance: Theatre VCU presents "Tales of the Lost Formicans" at 8 p.m. in the Shafer Street Playhouse. Admission is free with VCU I.D. and \$5 to \$6 without. For reservations, call 828-6026.

Workshop: Alpha Gamma Delta presents "Risk Management" at 10 p.m. in the commons Forum Room. For more information, call 828-3648.

FRIDAY, MARCH 24

The Miss Teen All American pageant deadline is today. For more information, call (304) 242-4900.

Concert: Reba McEntire plays the Roanoke Civic Center. For tickets, call Ticket Master at 262-8100.

The Richmond Opera presents "La Boheme" at the Carpenter Center. For tickets, call 262-8100.

Poetry Reading: APB/Lecture Committee presents "A Tribute to Mystical Women" at noon in the Commons Plaza. For more information, call 828-3648.

APB/Special Events Committee presents a poetry reading at noon in Common Ground. For more information, call 828-3648.

Concert: APB/Concerts Committee presents Smokehead and Krell at 5 p.m. in Shafer Court. For more information, call 828-3648.

The Richmond Symphony presents the Great Big Yard Sale at 6 p.m. at 4009 Fitzhugh Ave. Admission is a \$5 donation at the door. For more information, call 788-4717 ext. 3300.

Symposium: The art history department presents "New Scholars/New Ideas" at 6 p.m. in the Business Building Auditorium. For more information, call 828-3648.

Film: APB/Film Committee presents "The Specialist" at 7 p.m. in the Commons Theatre. Admission is free with VCU I.D. and \$3 without. For more information, call 828-3648.

The Richmond Area Association for Retarded Citizens sponsors the "Celebration" dance for youths and adults with mental retardation at 7:30 p.m. in the Social Hall of the Chamberlayne Heights United Methodist Church, 6100 Chamberlayne Road. Admission is a \$1 donation at the door. For more information, call 358-1874 or 883-6405.

Performance: "Tales of the Lost Formicans" continues. See March 23 listing.

Women's Coffeehouse: Women's Services and University Counseling Services present poetry, dramatic readings, song and dance at 8 p.m. in Common Ground.

Film: APB/Film Committee presents "Wes Craven's New Nightmare" at 9:30 p.m. in the Commons Theatre. Admission is free with VCU I.D. and \$3 without.

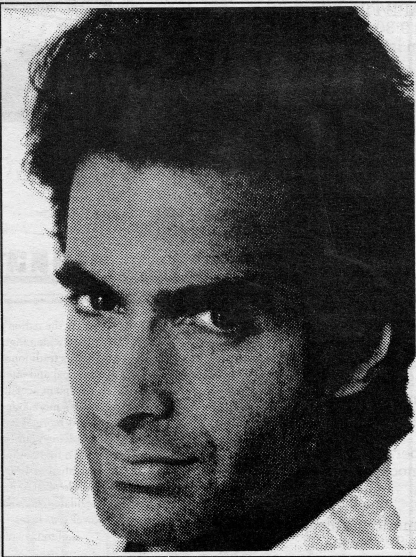


Photo courtesy of the Richmond Coliseum

BEYOND IMAGINATION: David Copperfield comes to Richmond Sunday. The master illusionist will perform twice at the Richmond Coliseum.

SATURDAY, MARCH 25

Concert: Reba McEntire plays the Hampton Coliseum. For tickets, call Ticket Master at 262-8100.

The Richmond Symphony presents the Great Big Yard Sale at 9 a.m. at 4009 Fitzhugh Ave. Admission is a \$1 donation at the door. For more information, call 788-4717 ext 3300.

New Student Programs presents a workshop on student success at 9 a.m. in the commons Capital Room C. For more information, call 828-3648.

Exhibit: Student Art Space presents an exhibit by Christopher Saunders at 10 a.m. in the Art Gallery. For more information, call 828-3648.

Arts Council of Richmond presents the 7th Annual Children's Book Festival from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Short Pump Elementary School. Admission for the pre-festivity breakfast is \$3.50 for children and \$5 for adults.

Strawberry Hill presents the Big Flea Market from noon till 7 p.m. For information, call 431-9500.

The Gellman Room Concert Series presents Thompson & Blake, a local flute and guitar duo, at 3 p.m. at the Richmond Public Library, 101 E. Franklin St. There is no charge. For information, call 780-4514.

Film: APB/Films Committee presents "Wes Craven's New Nightmare" at 7 p.m. at the Commons Theatre. Admission is free with VCU I.D. and \$3 for all others.

Festival and Dance: International Student Union presents a dance at 7:30 p.m. in the commons Commonwealth Ballroom.

Concert: 4HIM with Kathy Troccoli perform at 7:30 p.m. at the Grove Avenue Baptist Church. Admission is \$13.50 in advance or \$15 the day of the show. For information, call (800) 804-4TTX.

Performance: "Tales of the Lost Formicans" continues. See March 23 listing.

Film: APB/Films Committee presents "Specialist" at 9:30 p.m. in the Commons Theatre. Admission is free with VCU I.D. and \$3 for all others.

SUNDAY, MARCH 26

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Performance: "Tales of the Lost Formicans" continues. See March 23 listing.

Family Entertainment: David Copperfield performs at 5:30 p.m. and 9 p.m. at the Richmond Coliseum. Tickets cost from \$19.50 to \$34.50. For information, call 780-4970. For tickets, call 262-8100.

Film: APB/Alternative Films Committee presents "The Road to Wellville" at 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. in the Business Building Auditorium. Admission is free with VCU I.D. and \$2 for all others.

Mary Kate Creasey presents "Introduction to Tarot Card Reading" at 7 p.m. in the Rhoads Hall multi-purpose room.


MONDAY, MARCH 27

Social: Commons College and APB present an Oscar Night Celebration at 9 p.m. at the Common Ground.

TUESDAY, MARCH 28

The deadline to apply for the Mrs. Virginia America pageant is today. For more information, call (304) 242-4900.

Mary Kate Creasey presents "Introduction to Basic Astrology" at noon in the Commons Plaza.



March Campus Paperback Bestsellers

Remember when?

The Brady Bunch makes its big-screen debut

Bill Bucco
CT STAFF WRITER

Hollywood's penchant for placing profit over originality stands out in films based on television shows. Theoretically these movies represent low risk. Film executives know before they begin that the audience possesses an affinity for the subject. Pre-existing characters and settings simplify production, so creators can devote their time and energy to ensuring a quality movie. How can you lose?

Ironically, most of these movies are horribly unexciting. After the first hour, novelty and nostalgia fade and the story line sags. You can set your watch by it. Suddenly you understand why the show's original episodes ran for only a half hour. Car 54, where are you? Who cares?

Most television movies attempt to ignore their small-screen natures in favor of achieving a true cinematic experience. Trying to be bigger than they are, they wind up shallow, empty satires of themselves.

Director Betty Thomas (Lucy Bates from "Hill Street Blues") must have seen the potential for "The Brady Bunch Movie" to end up this way, especially given the campy style of the subject. So, instead of making the television show look like a movie, Thomas makes the movie look like a television show. The Bradys take themselves very seriously. Everything in the movie looks and feels just like it did 20 years ago. Even the music is the same.

The plot centers around the Bradys' need to raise \$20,000 in taxes in order to save their house from being auctioned. References to several episodes from the TV series, such as Peter's changing voice and vacations to Hawaii and the Grand Canyon, cleverly spice up the simple story.

Out of the entire cast of look-alikes, Christine Taylor, who plays Marcia, comes the closest to the original character. Every look, sound and movement carbon-copies the original character. Either Taylor is an incredible method actress, or she's Maureen McCormick's twin sister.

Jennifer Elise Cox, who plays Jan, steals the show with her adolescent angst and jealousies, a refreshing contrast to her sweet, smiling siblings. Other cast members include Shelly Long as Carol and Gary Cole as Mike.

The twist of "The Brady Bunch Movie" is that although the Bradys have stayed the same, the world around them has changed. Pearl Jam replaces the Monkees and grunge replaces groovy.

It is uncomfortable to see the Brady kids in school with wide collars and bright colors. This contrast makes clear a sad reality and illustrates the most important point of the movie - in the year 2015, when we watch "Melrose Place," we will wince at the fashions of today just as we wince at the Brady's. Did we ever look like that?

The Bradys are not embarrassed. They know that within the confines of their own time and place they really were happenin' in a far-out way.

'Mi Vida Loca,' hardly crazy

C. Brandon Dingess
CT STAFF WRITER

ZZZZZZZZZZ.... Oh, I'm sorry, I was just napping through Allison Anders' "My Vida Loca," translated in English to "My Crazy Life." The film, recently shown at Grace Street Cinemas, deals with Latin gang members. Better bring your pillow for this one though, for this film has a slow start that keeps getting slower.

"Mi Vida Loca," which just had its U.S. premiere at the Sundance Film Festival, tells the story of two lifelong Chicana friends, "Sad Girl" (Angel Aviles) and "Mouseie" (Seldy Lopez), who become bitter rivals when they fall in love and have children with the same guy. The movie is set up against the backdrop of Latin street gangs, male and female, and looks at their rituals, obsessions and the way they conduct their illicit business.

Now I don't need constant gun fights or outer-space chases to keep my attention, but this movie leaves a lot to be desired.

If the film had some witty dialog to break up its slow pace or better acting than it just might be less painful to watch. Ander, director of the film, didn't use any real actresses here, substituting them instead with actual gang members in much of the movie who in turn deliver lackluster performances.

Most of these "gang members" look like gorgeous models and do not come across as very convincing or likeable.

You may be asking yourself if I liked anything about this film. There is some nice imagery happening throughout the feature that shows the gritty side of Los Angeles, particularly the Echo Park area.

The life of a gangster is looked upon as being nonglamorous and luckily, none of the characters are portrayed as heroines; if they were it would most certainly destroy the message the film was attempting to convey. Unfortunately I did not catch that message.

My advice to movie-goers is not to see this film for more than a buck. Instead save your money to rent "Blood In, Blood Out," a film that deals with Latino gangs in a much more convincing manner.

1. "Seinlanguage," by Jerry Seinfeld. (Bantam, \$5.99.) Observations on life's pleasures and ordeals.
2. "Disclosure," by Michael Crichton. (Ballantine, \$6.99.) A sexual harassment case in a West Coast electronics firm.
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-Compiled by The Chronicle of Higher Education

t o t h e other

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—Compiled by The Chronicle of Higher Education

French Film Festival Calendar of Events

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

Teleconference with Maurice Dugowson, director of "La Poudre aux Yeux," at noon in the basement of Cabell library.

Film: "Genial, Mes Parents Divorcent" at 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. at Grace Street Cinemas.

THURSDAY, MARCH 23

Official Reception for "Friends of the VCU French Film Festival," sponsored by Peter Kirkpatrick of the Department of Foreign Languages and Benard Braem, cultural attache from the French Embassy at 5 p.m. at the Anderson Art Gallery.

Film: "Neuf Mois" at 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. at Grace Street Cinemas.

FRIDAY, MARCH 24

Teleconference with Patrick Braoude, director and actor of "Genial, Mes Parents Divorcent" and "Neuf Mois." Time to be announced.

Film: The world premiere of "Ils ont tue Jaures" at 5 p.m. at Grace Street Cinemas.

Film: "Le Bateau de Mariage" at 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. at Grace Street Cinemas.

SATURDAY, MARCH 25

Teleconference with Jean-Pierre Ameris, director of "Le Bateau de Mariage," at 1 p.m. in the basement of the James Cabell Library.

A roundtable discussion on the "100 Years after the Birth of Cinema: Vitality and the Distribution of French Cinema" at 2 p.m. in the basement of the Cabell library. Speakers include Peter S. Kirkpatrick, director of the VCU French Film Festival, Robert Tregenza, cinema parallel and U.S. distributor of Foreign Films, Jean-Louis Leutrat of the Universite de Paris III, Suzanne Liandratt-Guigues of the Universite de Paris I and Jean Roy, French journalist and grand reporter at Cannes Film Festival.

Film: "Le Peril Jeune" at 5 p.m. at Grace Street Cinemas.

"La Vis" and "Helas Pour Moi" at 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. at Grace Street Cinemas.

SUNDAY, MARCH 26

Teleconference/interview with Jean-Luc Godard, director of "Helas Pour Moi." Time to be announced.

*All films are in French with English Subtitles except for "Ils ont tue Jaures."
*Free parking across from Grace Street Cinemas in the VCU "LL" Lot.

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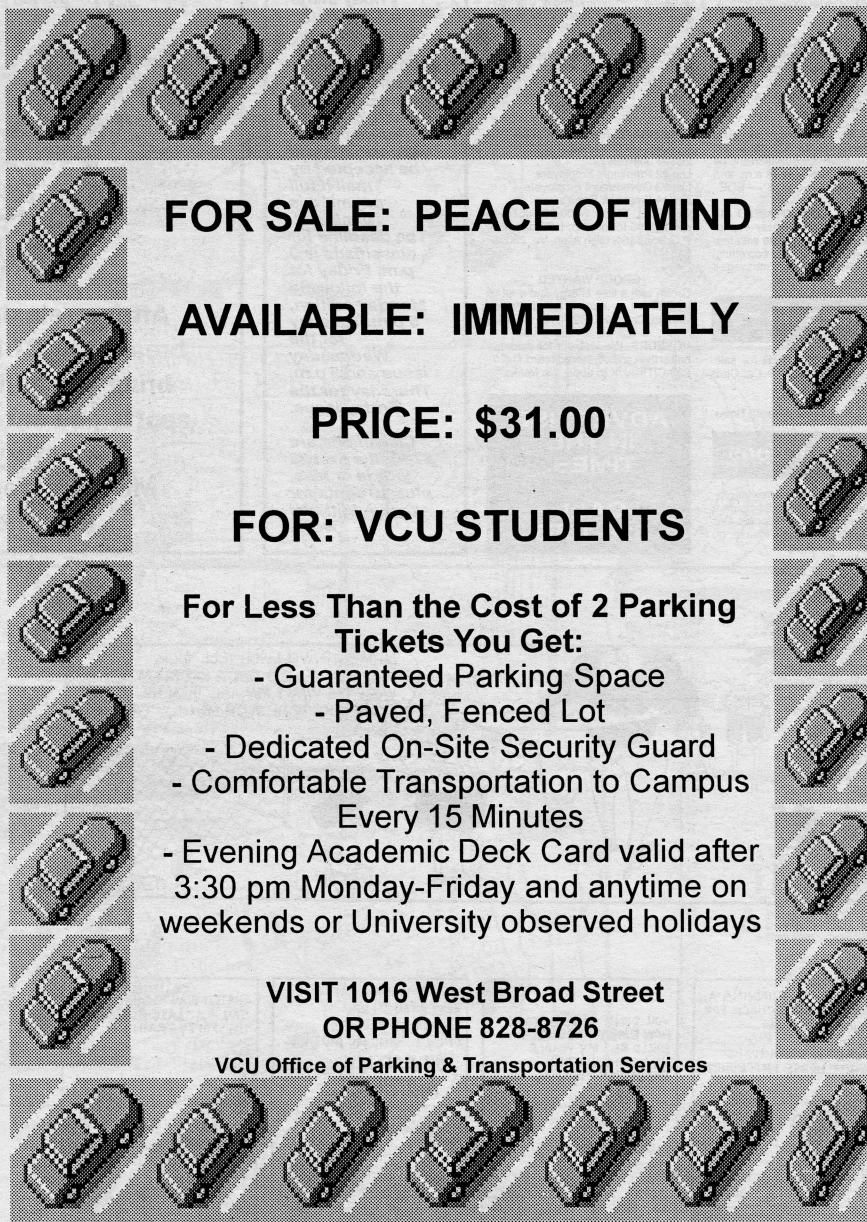
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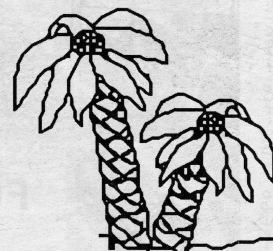
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Classifieds are \$7 for the first 25 words or less, plus 10 cents for each additional word.

WE'RE BACK!



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by Richard Torrey



THATCH
by Jeff Shesol



SHERMAN'S LAGOON
by J.P. Toomey





EMERSON'S NEIGHBORS
by Jason & Andy



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by Shawn Newlun



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 by Angela Wingle

SKIDDOO
 by JW Kennedy

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WORK
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GLUM
 by Eddy Harrington


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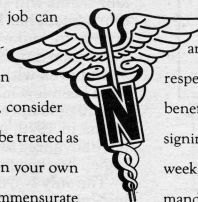
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EAST

Deacons 1-2 punch to deliver knockout in East

Coveh Solaimani
CT SENIOR WRITER

Wake Forest, Oklahoma State, Tulsa and Massachusetts all will come together in East Rutherford, N.J., this weekend to decide which team will take the plane ride to Seattle.

In Friday's first game, the Deacon Deacons will face the Cowboys. Wake Forest is the No. 1 seed in the East with a 26-5 record.

The Deacons are one of the tournament's hottest teams after winning the Atlantic Coast Conference regular season title and conference tournament. During the season, Wake Forest defeated North Carolina twice and Virginia three times.

Oklahoma State enters the NCAA East Regional semifinals with a 25-9 record. The Cowboys started the season slowly but picked up the pace as the year went on. After defeating Alabama handily in the second round, Oklahoma State has thoughts of pulling the upset.

If the Cowboys are to slip by Wake Forest, their star player, "Big Country" Bryant Reeves, will have to control the paint and Deacon counterpart Tim Duncan. Even if that does happen, Oklahoma State will then have to shut down All-American Randolph Childress to survive.

In the ACC tournament the senior guard put his teammates on his back and carried

them to the title, scoring a tourney-record 107 points. Behind Childress and Duncan, Wake Forest will throttle the Cowboys and meet the winner of the Tulsa-Massachusetts game.

Tulsa comes into the game with a 24-7 record and, along with Georgetown, is the lowest seed remaining. The No. 6 seed Golden Hurricane made the clock strike midnight for Old Dominion's "Cinderella" in the second round and are looking to do more damage.

With Shea Seals and Alvin "Pooh" Williamson, Tulsa has a strong backcourt. For Tulsa to have a chance, the duo will have to play like they did against ODU—combining for 50 of the team's 64 points.

Massachusetts is the No. 2 seed and have a mark of 28-4. Throughout the season the Minutemen were in the Top 10 and even held the No. 1 spot for a couple of weeks.

The Minutemen are led by a dominating frontcourt with Atlantic 10 Player of the Year Lou Roe and Marcus Camby controlling the painted area. The two potential lottery picks should have little trouble leading their team into the regional final.

The East Regional final should be one of the NCAA tournament's most exciting games.

Both Wake Forest and Massachusetts have similar styles. Each team plays a

PREDICTION

Midwest Regional Semifinals
Wake Forest 82, Oklahoma St. 70

UMASS 93, Tulsa*0

Midwest Regional Final
Wake Forest 69, UMASS 68

half-court game relying on their defense to control tempo.

Duncan should be able to neutralize the Minutemen's big guys, so whichever team plays stronger from the perimeter will win. Childress will have to shoot well from behind the arc as will backcourt mate Rusty Larue if Wake Forest is to win.

For Massachusetts, guards Gerald Padilla and Carmelo Travieso will have to be able to knock down the three to keep the Minutemen in the game.

The contest will be close throughout and will probably come down to the final shot. Childress will hit a three at the buzzer to give the Deacons the win—sending the people back in Winston-Salem into jubilation.

WEST

Sophomore centers are best of the West

Terry Scanlon
CT STAFF WRITER

March Madness is in full swing and we are down to the Sweet 16. Sixteen dreams remain alive, but after this weekend only four teams will still be in contention. The tournament has been loaded with enough drama to make the usually stoic John Thompson dance with joy.

But even with all the excitement there have been few major upsets. For only the second time since the NCAA began seeding teams in 1979, all of the top eight seeds have advanced to the round of 16. The West region has been virtually upset free.

The only two upsets, according to seeding, have been Texas (11) over Oregon (6) and the No. 5 seed Mississippi State Bulldogs humbling No. 4 Utah, 78-64.

UCLA avoided being the first top seed to bow out of the tournament on Sunday. Senior guard Tyus Edney drove 94 feet and drained a short jumper, all in 4.8 seconds, to send upset-minded Norm Stewart and Mizzou packing.

As a matter of fact, that is the only game in the West region so far to be determined by fewer than five points. Expect that to change this weekend as a couple of sophomore centers—one on the rise and the other already an established superstar—lead their teams to the regional final and battle for a spot on the dance card in Seattle.

Everyone who knows anything about college hoops in this area has heard about "no ordinary" Joe Smith. Smith, an All-ACC first team selection, has posted outstanding numbers this season: 20.9 ppg., 10.2 rpg, 2.8 bpg.

Meanwhile, hiding out in the small media market of Starkville, Miss., waits the 6-10 hero for Mississippi State, Erick Dampier, who also is a first team conference (SEC) selection, has received very little ink in comparison and has played on national television only a few times despite being in one of the top conferences in the nation.

For the past ten days or so I have been telling everyone that will listen to me that the player who will emerge from this tournament as a big time pro prospect is MSU's Dampier. Not only is he tall and wide (255 lbs.), but he can get off his feet in a hurry. He is one of those big guys who not only blocks a ton of shots, but alters countless others.

The Bulldogs, however, are not a one-man team. Junior guard Darryl Wilson is the backcourt leader who, with the help of forward Marcus Grant, spreads out the defense by knocking down the three.

MSU has gone from doormat to contender in nine seasons under Richard Williams.

The Bulldogs lead the nation in opposition field-goal percentage and will, in all likelihood shut down the overrated O'Bannon brothers and UCLA. (I know. Yeah, I'm the same guy who picked the Chargers in the Super Bowl. But it's different this time. I'm going against the team from southern California.)

The Bulldogs already have defeated two of last year's Final Four teams—Arkansas and Florida, shut down Kentucky in Rupp Arena and have advanced further in the tournament than any other MSU team.

In College Park, Gary Williams has worked his own miracles. He has done

what Bob Wade was not able to do. He has brought the Terrapins back to national prominence.

The Terrapins' basketball program died with Len Bias. But with their second straight trip to the Sweet 16 and not a senior in the starting five, it is safe to say that the Terps are back to stay.

This Maryland squad has a legitimate shot at the title and will most likely be heading north to Seattle following two wins this weekend in Oakland.

The Terps have more than just a dominating center. The backcourt duo of Duane Simpkins and Johnny Rhodes can light it up from downtown. And the frontcourt tandem of Exree Hipp and Keith Booth help take a little pressure off Smith down low by providing their share of scoring and rebounds.

Rhodes is a future NBA starter because he not only can shoot from the way outside, but also can drive the lane, rebound, play good pressure defense and can shoot free throws.

History says that sleepers do not emerge from the West region. Seton Hall (No. 3 seed) in 1989 is the only team to emerge from the West that was not the first or second seed.

This weekend will be different. Both top seeds will fall on Thursday and set up a helluva a matchup between Dampier and Smith on Saturday.

The Terps' experience and depth will carry them into the Final Four and from there, anything is possible.



PREDICTION

Midwest Regional Semifinals
Miss. St. 74, UCLA 65

Maryland 91, UCONN 90 (OT)

Midwest Regional Final
Maryland 77, Miss. St. 70

It's put up time for the Razorbacks

Brian W. Whitson
CT Sports Editor

As the travelers on the road to Seattle have dwindled to 16, most of the action in the Midwest region has kept up to form. Of the four teams that will meet in Kansas City, anyone could be cutting the net come Sunday.

Kansas, Virginia, Memphis and Arkansas are the survivors of the first two rounds, and with the exception of Memphis, most agree the other three teams were expected to make it this far.

Arkansas (29-6), the defending champion, is living on borrowed time. The Razorbacks squeaked by 79-78 in the first round against Texas Southern and then got a gift in overtime to beat Syracuse, 96-94. Its been a long season for coach Nolan Richardson. After last year's terrific run through the tournament, many expected the Razorbacks to dominate. They have at times, but like we saw early in the year against Massachusetts, they also can be normal.

With all that said and done, Richardson has relatively the same team as last year, and Arkansas can beat any lineup in the tournament. I think the team needed some close games early to keep focused—and this team has been there before.

When the game is on the line, Richardson can give the ball to Scotty Thurman and Corliss Williamson and tell them to go out and win it.

The Razorbacks will meet No. 6 seed Memphis Tigers in the NCAA Midwest Regional semifinals. The Tigers (24-9) dismantled Metro Conference champion Louisville in the first round and then finished off Purdue 73-71, the Big Ten's only remaining team in the tourney.

Memphis is a good team that plays tenacious defense. It's not that big of a surprise the Tigers have made it this far, but the party is over for fans in Tennessee. The Razorbacks are too big, too strong, too fast and too much for Memphis.

The other regional semifinal showcases two of the most disciplined teams in the tourney. Both Kansas and Virginia play the type of unselfish game that is needed in the later rounds of the Big Dance.

Virginia's senior forward Junior Burrough has been playing like an All-American the last month, and it seems as though he's accepted the role as the go-to guy in the clutch.

The Cavaliers (24-8) breezed through Nicholls State in the first round but were tested in a 60-54 overtime victory against Miami (Ohio). Everyone knows of the tough defense the squad from Charlottesville can play, but what has separated this year's team from past seasons is the Cavaliers' offense.

When the Cavs are hot, they're explosive. But when they go cold, it gets really ugly. Against Miami, the team could muster up little offense besides Burrough's play in the paint.

With the semifinals in Kansas City, the Jayhawks should be favored to make it to

Seattle. Kansas (25-5) is a complete team that won't hurt itself with stupid mistakes. Coach Roy Williams is the master of making sure his team is ready to compete and if Virginia goes on one of its offensive dry spells, the Jayhawks could blow this one wide open. Look for Kansas to move on to the regional final in a close game.

So who will be cutting down the nets on Sunday?

Both Arkansas and Kansas have experience in the tourney but the Razorbacks will overcome the hometown crowd and advance to Seattle.

Like I said before, Arkansas' close games before should help motivate a team that had little motivation throughout the year. The Razorbacks kind of floated through the regular season waiting for the tournament to come and now it's time for them to put up or shut up.

Look for them to put up and win big against the Jayhawks.

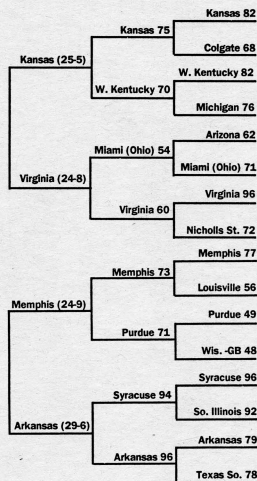
PREDICTION

Midwest Regional Semifinals
Kansas 75, Virginia 69

Arkansas 78, Memphis 67

Midwest Regional Final
Arkansas 84, Kansas 72

MIDWEST



When Georgetown met Carolina in Birmingham

Gage Harter
CT Executive Editor

John Thompson keep dancing.

At the postgame press conference after Georgetown (21-9) defeated a valiant Weber State team in the second round of the NCAA tournament, Thompson said he would keep dancing if his team keeps winning.

This writer thinks Thompson should invest in tap shoes.

Maybe some Carolina blue leathers.

Bet the rent on it.

Georgetown six better than the overrated Tar Heels.

Why?

Very simple.

The Hoyas are quicker, bigger and have yet to play a good game. Georgetown holds opponents under 40 percent shooting and force more than 20 turnovers per game. When the boys from D.C. shoot better than 40 percent, they win.

Many experts consider North Carolina's (26-5) starting five the best in the country. That's a fair argument considering dynamic sophomore duo 6-6 Jerry Stackhouse and 6-10 Rasheed Wallace don the baby blues.

But Stackhouse and Wallace will not win the game for Carolina. Just like 6-1 Allen Iverson and 6-9 Othella Harrington won't win it for Georgetown.

It will be players like UCLA's Tyus Edney, or Memphis' David Vaughn or Georgetown's Don Reid who will win the

game.

So who does that leave us.

Dante Calabria, Donald Williams and Jeff McInnis for Carolina and 6-9 Don Reid, 6-9 Jerome Williams, 6-4 John Jacques and the bench for the Hoyas.

We won't include Carolina's bench because Pat Sullivan is coming back from major surgery, Pearce Landry is an intramural walk-on and Serge Zwikker ... well enough said about the big guy.

If we look at the game from a personnel point of view, it is clear Georgetown has the edge.

From a tactical standpoint, Carolina must attack Georgetown's 2-3 extended zone. The Hoyas will be determined to take away the threes and will leave Harrington to guard Wallace mano a mano. Wallace probably has the edge inside, but he first has to get the ball.

This is where good coaching comes in. Dean Smith does less with more.

Two of his three titles were won after the other team made crucial mistakes. In 1982, Georgetown's Fred Brown's errant pass to James Worthy sealed Carolina's win, and in 1993, Michigan's Chris Webber's timeout gave Carolina the victory.

Smith should have seven or eight rings by now.

The other game — yawn — Kentucky (27-4) will easily cruise past Arizona State (24-8) after the Wildcats connect on 19 of 33 three-pointers.

ASU's weakness—no size up front and

poor free-throw shooting—are bad weaknesses to have against Kentucky. Other than Mario Bennett, the Sun Devils do not have anyone to stay with Kentucky's big men. Also Kentucky can go 12 deep while the Sun Devils play only seven players.

If ASU lets Kentucky play its helter-skelter style, it will be a blowout early and a good time to barbecue the burgers.

After the emotional and inspirational win against Carolina, Georgetown will not have enough to compete against Kentucky. The Wildcats will give coach Rick Pitino his second trip in the last three years to the Final Four.

This year's Kentucky team might be better than the one led by Jamaal Mashburn two years ago. Kentucky can go outside with 6-1 Tony Delk, 6-7 Rodrick Rhodes and 6-4 Jeff Sheppard; and inside with 6-9 Walter McCarty, 6-9 Andre Riddick and 6-8 Jared Prickett. This team has the potential to go all the way in Seattle.

PREDICTION

Midwest Regional Semifinals
Kentucky 92, Arizona St. 74

G'Town 72, UNC 66

Midwest Regional Final
Kentucky 84, G'Town 75

SOUTHEAST



CURVE BALL
Q. Who was the last player to score 50 or more in an NCAA Tournament game?
 A. In 1987 Navy's David Robinson scored 50 points against Michigan.

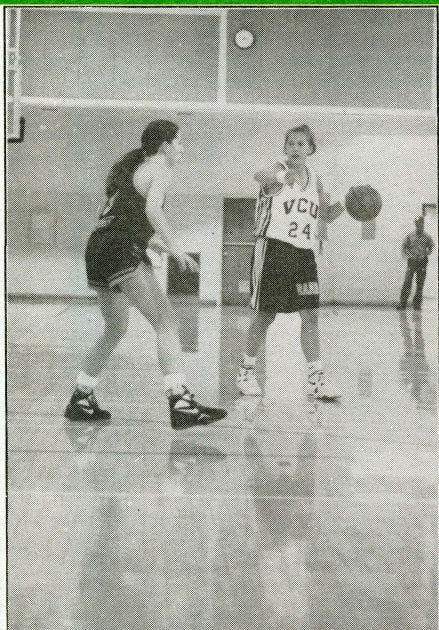
SPORTS

Forget replacement baseball, y'all, it's the Sweet 16!
 Our staff of experts break it down, region-by-region. Pages 18-19.

WEDNESDAY, March 22, 1995

Commonwealth TIMES

Vol. 26, No. 61



File Photo

YOU GO THAT WAY — The Lady Rams are headed to Amarillo, Texas, for the 27th Annual National Women's Invitational Tournament. It will mark the first time the women's basketball program has been invited for postseason play.

Lady Rams are NWIT bound

First ever post-season tournament for women's team

Terry Scanlon
 CT STAFF WRITER

The motto for the Lady Rams this season has been "on a mission." For a team that was 3-24 the year before, the phrase may seem vaguely optimistic. But with a 19-8 record and a fifth place finish in the Metro Conference, the VCU women's basketball team is headed to post-season play for the first time in the program's history. The mission is nearer to being complete.

Thursday afternoon the fourth seeded Lady Rams are playing the University of Massachusetts in the first round of the National Women's Invitational Tournament at the Civic Center in Amarillo, Texas.

The 27th NWIT is an eight-team tournament played over a three-day period. Each team plays three games to determine the first through eighth places. Texas A&M is the top seed.

The team is "very, very excited to be going to post-season play," said VCU head coach Susan Walvius.

Walvius is impressed with her team's seeding. "That is a real honor. I am a little surprised we were seeded above UMass," Walvius said.

UMass, 18-9, finished second in the Atlantic 10. The Minutewomen will be a challenging matchup for the Lady Rams, shooting 47.4 percent from the floor.

VCU enters the NWIT as the fourth best scoring defensive team allowing 56.2 points per game and are holding opponents to a 37.7 field goal percentage.

Walvius is impressed not only with UMass, but with the other seven teams.

27th Annual National Women's Invitational Tournament

Amarillo, Texas
Thursday March 23
 Game 1: #4 VCU (19-8) vs. #5 Massachusetts (18-9), 1 p.m.
 Game 2: #3 Notre Dame (19-9) vs. #6 Pacific (20-12), 3 p.m.
 Game 3: #2 Clemson (19-10) vs. #7 Northwestern State, La. (23-6), 6 p.m.
 Game 4: #1 Texas A&M (18-9) vs. #8 East Tennessee State (20-7), 8 p.m.
Friday March 24
 Game 5: Game 1 loser vs. Game 4 loser, 1 p.m.
 Game 6: Game 2 loser vs. Game 3 loser, 3 p.m.
 Game 7: Game 2 winner vs. Game 3 winner, 6 p.m.
 Game 8: Game 1 winner vs. Game 4 winner, 8 p.m.
Saturday March 25
 Game 9: Game 5 vs. Game 6 loser, 1 p.m.
 Game 10: Game 5 winner vs. Game 6 winner, 3 p.m.
 Game 11: Game 7 loser vs. Game 8 loser, 6 p.m.
 Game 12: Game 7 winner vs. Game 8 winner, 8 p.m.
 (Championship)

All Lady Rams games will be broadcast on AM 910.

"They have all had successful programs. It is a tough field and we're going to have to play well," Walvius said.

The NWIT is considered to be a building block for women's basketball programs. Four teams from last year's NWIT field (Toledo, Tulane, Oklahoma and New Mexico State) made the NCAA tournament this season.

"We have to be in a post-season mentality before we go up (to the NCAA tournament)," Walvius said. "You need to think of yourself as a team that is supposed to go to post-season."

The Lady Rams are one win away from their first 20-win season under Walvius, and only the second ever. The 1986-1987 team went 21-8.

"All season long we have talked about having a 20 win-plus season," Walvius said.

MARCH MADNESS



NCAA Tournament produces crazy results and déjà vu surprises

James McMahon
 CT SENIOR WRITER

The Super Bowl can't touch it. College bowl games, not a chance. The World Series, not even when they decide to play it.

The National Collegiate Athletic Association tournament, appropriately called "March Madness," has become the single most exciting sporting event of its time.

The first two rounds of this year's edition of the drive to the Final Four had many of us catching our breath—and some early round favorites catching an early plane for home.

Six overtime games in the first two rounds kept fans and players alike on the edge of their seats. There was none bigger than in the East Region where the 14th seed Old Dominion Monarchs stunned the third seed Villanova Wildcats in a triple-overtime thriller. Petey Sessoms and Mike Jones led the Monarchs to the 89-81 victory, knocking out the heavily favored Wildcats.

Not to be outdone, the Miami of Ohio (yes, Ohio!) Redskins surprised the Arizona Wildcats, pulling away late to a 71-62 victory in a Midwest Regional opener. The first round loss was the third in four years for the Wildcats. The Redskins fell short against the Cavaliers of Virginia, 60-54, in yet another overtime game.

The 13th seeded Manhattan Jaspers proved their worthiness of an at-large bid into the tournament (are you listening Bobby Cremins) with a 77-67 victory against Oklahoma, the fourth seed in the Southeast.

Another first-round upset signaled the end of an era as Weber State upset Michigan State, 79-72, ending the coaching career of Jud Heathcote. An emotional scene followed the loss as Heathcote and State players held back tears and expressed disbelief at the loss.

Weber State, seeded 14th in the Southeast, experienced the same feeling two days later losing to Georgetown on a last-second basket.

The defending champion, the Arkansas Razorbacks, returning all five of their starters from last year, fought back upset bids in both their first-and-second round games. The Razorbacks squeaked past Texas Southern in the first round 79-78 and survived an overtime thriller against Syra-

cuse 96-94 in the second round.

The Sweet 16 promises to be one of the best and most competitive in recent memory. Third-round headliners include Virginia-Kansas in the Midwest, Maryland-Connecticut in the West, North Carolina-Georgetown in the Southeast and Wake Forest-Oklahoma State in the East.

The fourth round has the potential to showcase some big-time matchups, none bigger than in the Southeast where Kentucky and North Carolina are on a collision course for that regional final. Best bets for the Final Four: Kansas out of the Midwest, Massachusetts from the East, UCLA out of the West and Kentucky from the Southeast.

Other March Madness Notes:

Biggest Surprise: Weber State ending Heathcote's coaching career with a first-round upset of Big Ten power Michigan State. Heathcote, who led Michigan State to its only title in 1979, saw his career end several games sooner than expected in his final tournament with the Spartans.
Runner up: CAA champion Old Dominion shocked Big East champion Villanova in the first round, pulling out a triple-overtime thriller. Villanova was a dark horse favorite for many following its strong performance in the Big East Tournament.

Biggest Disappointment: The Big Ten took six teams into the tournament but none survived the first two rounds, including early round upsets of Michigan State and Purdue, this year's conference champion. In fact, the best performance from the Big Ten schools came from Bobby Knight who delivered one of his infamous post-game press conference tirades.

Déjà vu: Anyone who saw Georgetown's John Reid's tip-in of Allen Iverson's airball as time ran out in Sunday's second-round victory over Weber State couldn't help but be reminded of the miracle win by N.C. State in the 1983 tournament final.

Chris Webber Award: Goes to Syracuse's Lawrence Moten, whose call for a timeout when his team had none left resulted in a technical that helped Arkansas force overtime and an eventual victory over the Orangemen.

What About Us: VCU was the only team in the Metro not to be invited to post-season play. Tulane, Louisville and UNC-Charlotte made it into the NCAA tournament, while Virginia Tech, Southern Mississippi and South Florida received bids to the National Invitational Tournament. And we wonder why we were kicked out of the Metro. (Sorry couldn't help it.)